

# JOHN PREBLE OF MACHIAS

(1771 — 1841)

AND HIS DESCENDANTS

*BY*

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SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

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## *By Way of Explanation*



The story that is told in the following pages speaks for itself without any extended introduction.

To assemble such meagre information as we have of certain of our Preble ancestors; to connect them with their predecessors; to call the roll of the descendants, incomplete though it may be; and to preserve this material in permanent and accessible form—these in brief are the objects which I have had in view in the preparation of this pamphlet.

Indulging the hope that at some future time a more complete edition may be prepared and that the matter here presented may lead to the discovery of the desired information and also to the completion of the list of descendants, I am requesting that my numerous cousins of varying degrees of relation and from known and unknown localities send to me the additional information, corrections and suggestions which they will readily see are needed. Personal visits will be especially appreciated.

My home address is 13 Maple Avenue, Winter Hill, Somerville, Mass.

WILLIAM PREBLE JONES.

March, 1929.

# *John Preble of Machias*

(1771-1841)

## *and His Descendants*

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### *His Origin A Mystery*

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Our ancestor, John Preble, who was born at Machias, Maine, about 1771 and died at New Gloucester, Maine, in 1841, was a mystery man. And so far as his immediate antecedents are concerned he will probably always remain a mystery.

We know that he was a skilled carpenter and farmer and lived most of his life in the town of New Gloucester, a score of miles north of Portland; that he was twice married; that he had two children by his first wife, Sarah Collins, and nine by his second wife, Esther Collins, sister of his deceased first wife. We know all of the children's names, when they were born and died; also about his grandchildren, his great-grandchildren and still further down the line.

But who were his parents is the problem that we would like to solve. Having that information, it would be a simple matter to trace our lineage back to the immigrant ancestors of all the Prebles of America, — back to Abraham Preble and his wife, Judith Tilden.

Assuming the correctness of the family tradition and supplying the most plausible and probable link that is missing, the line of descent would be: from Abraham, through his son Benjamin, through the latter's son Jedidiah, and through his son John the senior, to John the junior, of

Machias, our known ancestor who, we are led to conclude, was the son of John senior. Only the most intangible evidence, however, supports this conclusion. No documentary evidence, no official records, no church records, no family-Bible records exist to prove our claim. At best, it rests only upon a family tradition and the logic of events.

The mere absence of records, however, is of no particular significance and proves nothing to the contrary. From a genealogical standpoint it is a misfortune. But there are plenty of instances where tradition is even more reliable than recorded history, and a great deal of so-called history, especially Bible history and ancient history generally, is nothing more than recorded tradition.

In the early days on the Maine frontier, the science of vital statistics had not been developed. Our ancestors were more interested in the struggle for existence than they were in the study of genealogy. They were engaged in cutting down the forests, clearing the land and building stone walls, houses and barns, or perhaps in building ships and sailing the Seven Seas, and incidentally rearing large families of children, rather than in writing genealogical treatises. There were no legal requirements then for keeping public records of births, marriages and deaths. Church records were only occasionally kept. If some enterprising town clerk or some diligent clergyman did keep a few such records on his own initiative, his successor stored them in his attic or his barn and when the house or barn was burned the records shared the same fate. Possibly some family Bible may have recorded the information which we so much desire, but the likelihood of finding it after the lapse of 160 eventful years is extremely small.



### *Some of the Early Prebles*

The early history of the Preble family is treated in interesting detail in the volume entitled "The Preble Family in America, 1636-1870," which was published in the latter year by Captain George Henry Preble, afterward rear-admiral in the United States navy. To his book we are indebted for much of the historical matter pertaining to the Preble family which is here briefly outlined.

Abraham Preble, the immigrant ancestor, came over

from England with "the men of Kent" and settled in Scituate, Mass., about 1636. Soon afterward he married Judith Tilden, daughter of Nathaniel Tilden, member of a very ancient family in the county of Kent, England, who had come to these shores as early as 1628. After his marriage, Abraham Preble moved across Massachusetts Bay to York, or Georgiana, as it was called, in the province of Maine, and soon became a leading citizen in the affairs of the colony.

Nine children were born to Abraham Preble and Judith Tilden. Their sixth and youngest son Benjamin, born about 1657, married Mary Baston, daughter of Thomas Baston, and had three sons and three daughters. He died at York, March 25, 1732, in his seventy-fifth year. Brigadier-General Jedidiah Preble was the youngest child of Benjamin and Mary.

In his genealogy of "The Preble Family in America, 1636-1870," George Henry Preble, the author, says: "Jedidiah Preble, a grandson of Abraham Preble and Judith Tilden, the common ancestors of all of the name in America, was born in York, in the Province of Maine, A. D. 1707."

Jedidiah settled in the ancient town of Falmouth, now Portland, about 1748. His first wife was Martha Junkins, daughter of Alexander Junkins, of Scotland Parish, Old York, whom he married March 21, 1733. Four sons and one daughter were the result of this union. For his second wife he married May 9, 1754, the young widow, Mrs. Mehitable Roberts, daughter of Captain Joshua Bangs, formerly of Harwich on Cape Cod, who bore him five sons and two daughters.

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Long and illustrious was the career of Brigadier-General Preble, who served the colony in many public offices, including representative, councillor, senator and judge, till his death in 1784. He took part in the siege and capture of Louisburg, Cape Breton, in 1745, receiving his promotion to captain as result of that campaign. In 1755 he held the rank of major under Colonel Winslow during the celebrated expedition for the removal of the French Acadians, the distress arising from which has been so beautifully pictured in Longfellow's "Evangeline."

A family tradition says that he was present at the siege of Quebec and near General Wolfe when he fell, September 13, 1759, and that he was wounded on the Plains of

Abraham, but George Henry Preble thinks there may be a doubt on the latter point. His military activities, however, were an important factor during the greater part of his life. He was also a large owner in lands and shipping, and in many other ways was one of the foremost men in the colony, particularly in the troublesome times just preceding the Revolution.

"On the fifth of October, 1774," says the author of the Preble genealogy, "the house of representatives of Massachusetts met at Salem and resolved itself into a Provincial Congress and on the eighth adjourned to Concord. They took the government of the province into their own hands and made vigorous preparations for the approaching contest. On the 27th of October, General Jedidiah Preble, General Artemas Ward and Colonel Pomeroy were chosen general officers of the Provincial forces and General Preble was chosen to the chief command. This appointment he was forced to decline on account of ill health and advanced age, and it was then bestowed upon General Artemas Ward, who at a later period was superseded by Washington."

In his diary under the date of August 7, 1775, General Jedidiah Preble tells of a visit to General George Washington, then in command of the American army besieging Boston, with headquarters at Cambridge. "Waited on General Washington," he says, "who received me very politely. I drank a glass of wine with him. He said he was sorry he could not accommodate me with a lodging and asked me to dine with him the next day." The next day's entry says that he breakfasted with General Putnam and dined with General Washington. It will be remembered that at that period Washington's headquarters was in the Vassall house at Cambridge, now known as the Longfellow house.

On Wednesday, August 9, 1775, he says, "I dined with General Putnam, the colonel and four captains of the riflemen who arrived this day with three companies. . . . Waited on General Lee, drank a glass of wine with him. He told me he was much obliged to me for the honor I had done him by that visit. I set forward, soon heard a brisk firing at Bunker Hill."

As General Charles Lee's headquarters was in the old Tufts house on Sycamore street, Somerville, it is probably there that the Brigadier drank his wine with General Washington's erratic and sometimes insubordinate lieutenant.

Jedidiah Preble was reputed to have been the first white man to ascend to the summit of Mount Washington and, according to the story, "he went up the mountain and washed his hands in the clouds." He was tall, like many of his descendants, of commanding presence, standing full six feet in height, and a man of great strength and endurance.

When his first wife was buried in March, 1753, his intimate friend, the "town school master," Stephen Longfellow, grandfather of the poet, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, officiated as one of the pall-bearers. Many years later, in February, 1777, General Preble was one of the pall-bearers at Mrs. Stephen Longfellow's funeral. In fact, the Preble and Longfellow families were intimately associated as neighbors and friends for several generations. The poet's brother Stephen married a daughter of Hon. William Pitt Preble, a great-great-grandson of Abraham Preble, and one of the foremost of his descendants. An uncle of the poet, Lieutenant Henry Wadsworth, for whom he was named, met a heroic death in the harbor of Tripoli in 1804 while serving under the famous Commodore Edward Preble; and the poet himself and the son of the Commodore were life-long friends. Also Admiral Preble was an intimate friend of various members of the Longfellow family.

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The children of Brigadier-General Jedidiah Preble by his first wife, Martha Junkins, are listed in the Preble genealogy as follows:—

"Jedidiah, born ————— at York; married Miss Avis Phillips, of Boston; died of exposure consequent upon shipwreck.

"Samuel, born at York, died in the West Indies, unmarried.

"John, born at York; married Sarah Frost, of Machias, November, 1783; died December 3, 1787.

"Lucy, born at York; married Jonathan Webb, of Boston, 1763.

"William, born at York, went to sea and never heard from after."

Of the seven children by the second marriage, the fourth was Edward, born August 15, 1761, who had a most

eventful life and became the famous Commodore Preble, one of the most honored names in the history of the United States navy, and who waged the successful war against the Tripolitan and Algerian pirates in 1803-4. His flagship at the time was the famous U. S. S. Constitution. The fifth child was Captain Enoch Preble, born July 2, 1763, a renowned Portland sea captain, who in turn was the father of Captain George Henry Preble, a naval hero of the Civil War, afterward promoted to rear-admiral, and author of the Preble genealogy, a history of the American flag and other notable historical works.



### *John Senior and John Junior*

John Preble, the third son of Brigadier Jedidiah by his first wife, and the one from whom it is extremely likely that we are descended, was born at York, Maine, in 1742. In three different places in the volume, the author says that John "married Sarah Frost, of Machias." Where he gives a more extended account of John, he says that John "was married by John Allan, Esq., to Sarah Frost, of Pleasant Point on the Schoodic River, then called Plantation No. 1, and now the town of Perry, Maine, November, 1783, and died of consumption at Portland, Maine, December 3, 1787, aged forty-five.

"John Preble was an Indian interpreter, having made himself familiar with the Indian dialects, and was truck master for the supply of the Indians, by appointment of the government of Massachusetts, at Fort Pownal (now Fort Point) on the Penobscot River, from 1770 to 1775.

"In June, 1776, the General Court made provision for stationing a company of soldiers at Falmouth, Maine, for which they sent ten cannon. The company was enlisted in the neighborhood to serve until December, and the command given to John Preble. In June, 1777, he was appointed lieutenant-colonel of the St. John expedition of which John Allan, of Machias, was the colonel and Colonel Little the brigadier."

The only child by the marriage of John Preble and Sarah Frost was Lucy, who married John Mahar in 1803, bore him ten children, and died October 10, 1845.

According to this account John Preble was more than forty-one years old when he married Sarah Frost. Whether or not he had a previous marriage and children by that marriage are facts that we do not know, but we must assume that he had.

Certainly he led a roving life, spending many years in the forest with the Indians, living and trading with them, and becoming an adept at their language, also serving in the army in different capacities and at widely different stations along the coast. That he remained all this time without any marital affiliations, in blissful bachelorhood, seems improbable, if we judge human nature in the middle of the eighteenth century from the standpoint of the twentieth.

Our present contention is that John Preble of Machias, born about 1770 or 1771, our known ancestor, who always claimed to be a grandson of Brigadier-General Jedidiah Preble, was in all possibility a son of John senior, by a marriage many years prior to that with Sarah Frost.

The same thing is very likely true in the case of Reuben Preble, who is mentioned more in detail later in this chapter.

Both were orphans and both were "grandsons" of Brigadier-General Jedidiah Preble.

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What we really know about the claim of John Preble, of Machias, is contained in a few sentences in the appendix of George Henry Preble's volume, particularly in the following paragraph contributed by my uncle, Edward Perkins Preble, son of Nathaniel C. A. Preble, who was the youngest child of John Preble, of Machias:—

"John Preble claimed to be a grandson of Brigadier-General Jedidiah Preble, but was never heard to say who his father or mother were. He used to relate that he was left an orphan when very young and was taken into the family of his grandfather, the Brigadier, who designed to give him a college education; but showing no special inclination to study, he was finally bound apprentice to a carpenter."

Supplementing and strengthening the above statement by Edward P. Preble, at the same time diminishing to some degree its value, is this note by "G. H. P.," the author of the genealogy:—

"If a grandson of Brigadier Preble, he must either have been a son of William, who went to sea and was never heard from, and of whom we have no other account; or, as is most probable, of John (the third son of Jedidiah) who married Sarah Frost of Machias, November, 1783, by a prior marriage of which we have no account. John, senior, died December, 1787, which would make the age of this John sixteen at the time of his decease.

"There is a vague tradition at Machias, that John, senior, was married by a Catholic priest, while it is certain by the record that he was married in 1783 to Sarah Frost, by John Allen, Esq., and left one child by her, named Lucy, who inherited his estate.

"My father, Captain Enoch Preble (who was a son of Jedidiah by the second marriage) often talked about the members of his father's family, but never, that I can remember, made any allusion to such a child being one of its inmates."

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The foregoing statement by Edward P. Preble, who was born in 1845, four years after the death of his grandfather, John Preble, of Machias, must have been made from information obtained from his father, N. C. A. Preble, and his aunts, Sarah (Preble) McIntire and Betsy (Preble) Eveleth, who were the only children of John of Machias living at the time of the publication of the volume in 1870. That statement and the note by "G. H. P." represent and explain the accepted family tradition. Any other documentary proof that may have existed has long since disappeared.

My grandfather, Nathaniel C. A. Preble, and Admiral George Henry Preble, it may be remarked in passing, were life-long friends and always regarded themselves as cousins or, more accurately, second cousins, as they belonged to different generations. The former was a great-grandson and the latter a grandson of the Brigadier. It was the former's son, Edward Perkins Preble, who served as captain's clerk under George Henry Preble, aboard the gunboat *Katahdin*, which the latter commanded in 1862, during Farragut's famous campaign on the lower Mississippi, including the passage of the forts below New Orleans,

## *Reuben Preble Another Mystery*

Another "fatherless" grandson of Brigadier-General Jedidiah Preble, it appears, was Reuben Preble, who was born in 1778, and who claimed to be a nephew of Commodore Preble, in other words, a grandson of the Brigadier. The same uncertainty that characterizes the paternity of John of Machias surrounds Reuben. The similarity of their stories indicates that they were probably brothers, and it certainly tends to strengthen our contention in regard to John of Machias.

Some twenty-five or more years ago, on the genealogical page of the Boston Transcript, a correspondent, above the signature "R. A. S.," sought information concerning a marriage previous to 1783 of Colonel John Preble (born in 1742 in York, Maine, died 1787 in Portland), son of Jedidiah Preble.

Speaking of Colonel John Preble, this correspondent says that "he is the only son mentioned as living in General Preble's will of February, 1784, of the four sons by his first wife. John Preble (1771-1841) of Machias, Maine, always claimed that he was a grandson of Brigadier-General Preble; and Reuben Preble (1778-1830) of Richmond, Mass., claimed that he was a nephew of Commodore Preble (1761-1807), who was the son of Brigadier Jedidiah; that he ran away from his cruel step-parents, his father having died when he was a young boy. The second wife, Sarah Frost (1765-18—), of Perry, Maine, whom John Preble married in 1783, married a John Carew after the death in 1787 of Lieutenant-Colonel John Preble.

"This coincides very closely with the story told by Reuben Preble of his early life. All other grandchildren of General Preble can be traced, and John Preble (1742-87) is the only one who could have been the father of these two boys who were born in 1771 and 1778."

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In November, 1906, I received a letter from Robert Atwater Smith, then connected with the War Department at Washington, obviously the same "R. A. S." of the Transcript genealogical page, amplifying the information contained in his newspaper communication. His interest in the problem was on account of his wife, who was Anna Preble Fiske Moore, born in Springfield, December 5, 1851,

daughter of Stillman Moore and Mary A. Preble. This Mary A. Preble was born March 15, 1821, at Canaan, N. Y., and was the daughter of Reuben Preble, born at Portland, 1778.

Mr. Smith, in his letter, says that Reuben Preble, who used to claim that he was a nephew of Commodore Edward Preble (son of Jedidiah Preble), "stated that when he was a boy about ten years of age he ran away from his home, being very cruelly treated by his step-parents," etc.

"I am inclined to think," adds Mr. Smith, "that very likely the name of the father of the mother of John (1771-1841) and of Reuben (1778-1830) was Reuben; your ancestor John being named for his father, Colonel John Preble, and Reuben for his mother's father. Before this time I have not found the name of Reuben in that branch of the Preble family. It may be a clue toward learning the name and ancestry of Lieutenant-Colonel John Preble's first wife."

The writer of the letter further suggested a search of the papers of Admiral George Henry Preble which were placed in the possession of the New England Historic Genealogical Society in Boston for additional information obtained after his book was published in 1870. Acting on this suggestion I have made the search, but without obtaining any of the desired result.



### *Probably Children by an Earlier Marriage*

Here we have the picture: the senior John Preble and the junior John Preble, the former born in 1742, the latter in 1771, when the "father" was 29 years old, and Reuben in 1778, when he was 37. The senior John did not marry Sarah Frost till he was more than 41 years old, after a long and eventful career among the Indians and in the army and up and down and along the coast and into the interior. Then there was the tradition in Machias that the elder John was married by a Catholic priest; also we have the oft-repeated story that he married an Indian woman, perhaps of the Passamaquoddy tribe, a story that is not at all incredible when we observe certain family physical traits and complexions; and the well-known historical fact that the Jesuit priests had long been active in their missionary work among the Indians and on the frontier, coupled with the civil marriage of John Preble and Sarah Frost of

Machias in 1783 by John Allan or Allen, Esq. We also have the generally accepted fact that John the junior was born in Machias.

Right here let me add that some years ago I wrote to the town clerk at Machias and learned that there were no records in that town of the Prebles early enough to cover the period of John's birth in 1771.

Sarah Frost apparently lived in Machias or at least in that vicinity; and inasmuch as all the early settlements in Maine were along a narrow fringe of the sea coast and all communication was by water and almost all of our male forbears were as much at home on the water as they were ashore; and inasmuch as John the senior was something of a traveled man, it can easily be surmised that he was in and about Machias long before he ever married Sarah Frost, and that his first wife, if there was an earlier one, was from that town or from the immediate neighborhood. We have the fact that he was associated in 1777 in a military command with John Allan, of Machias, who apparently was the gentleman who performed the civil marriage of John Preble and Sarah Frost in 1783. In those days in the New England colonies marriages were usually performed by the civil magistrates.

It is also easy to fill in the picture or to piece out the narrative with the details, some of them suppositions and others established facts, like this, that John the senior actually had a wife who bore him a son in Machias in 1771 or thereabouts, and possibly another son born in Portland in 1778; that he named one of the boys after himself; that in their wandering from place to place the wife finally died from privations; that the children, like many a motherless child in the present enlightened and civilized age, never knew the luxury of a real home; that they were batted around from pillar to post, and now and then dumped on their willing or unwilling relatives; that the younger John spent some time in the home of his step-grandmother and his grandfather, the Brigadier, who died, however, when the lad was only thirteen; that the prosperous old grandfather had suggested an education for the child, but from his incessant wanderings the boy did not feel the call of books and that finally the aged grandfather bound the lad out to a carpenter; that meanwhile the father, the elder John, had remarried and settled down into a family life and that the boy or boys were not wel-

come in the new household; that the elder John died three years later; that his widow Sarah afterward married again and still there was no place or welcome for this husky young John nor for the other orphan lad Reuben, who may have been his younger brother.

Such is the picture, based on the hypothesis that John, the younger of that name, could have been descended only from John the elder. It is the most likely story and the only one that seemed possible to George Henry Preble, with the greater knowledge of family history that he possessed. Personally, however, I fail to see at this late date, why it was not within the range of possibility that he could have been the son of William who went to sea and was never heard from, or of Samuel who died in the West Indies. Our present knowledge of their careers, of course, is so scant that almost any conjecture now might seem plausible.

Nevertheless, I incline strongly to the picture previously outlined and am willing to accept it in its entirety. True, our case is not sufficiently proved to enable the descendants of John Preble of Machias to join the various colonial or other patriotic societies through the Preble line. If they are desirous of connecting themselves with Sons or Daughters of the Revolution, for example, they will have to try it through some other lines of their ancestry.



### *John Preble of Machias and the Collins Ancestry*

Whatever the mystery connected with the parents of John Preble, of Machias, there is a great deal of certainty connected with the antecedents of his "better half," or to be more accurate, his "better halves," and their descendants.

The exact date of the birth of John Preble of Machias is uncertain. As generally stated it was about 1771, because when he died in 1841 he was seventy years old, and that would make the time of his birth either 1770 or 1771. Where he spent his boyhood and young manhood, as we have already seen, is a matter of doubt. Brought up in the family of the Brigadier and apprenticed to a carpenter, he

must have been in and about Portland, building houses or barns or perhaps ships, possibly also following the sea for a while as most of the boys did at that period, with some experience at farming, till he finally arrived in New Gloucester. One of the family traditions that his grandfather, the Brigadier, bought for him the farm in New Gloucester, I cannot credit, for the reason that the Brigadier died when John of Machias, the grandson, was only thirteen years old.

As far as we know, his family life was all spent in that town. His first wife was Sarah Collins, daughter of Ebenezer Collins, of New Gloucester, whom he married June 16, 1794. The Collins clan, like several other of our ancestral families, were among the early settlers of the town, which was founded and named by families who had migrated from old Gloucester on Cape Ann.

There were two children by the first marriage: John, who was born September 9, 1796, and Sarah, who was born the following year and died in infancy. Shortly afterward the young mother died. For his second wife he married on December 27, 1798, her sister Esther, who was born in 1773. Esther bore him five sons and four daughters. She died at New Gloucester, February 5, 1835. The husband survived her six years, dying July 13, 1841.

From Charles P. Holmes, a great-grandson of John Preble of Machias and a resident of New Gloucester for most of his life, I learn that the John Preble house is still standing and is in a remarkable state of preservation, considering its age and the number of different families that have occupied it during the last thirty years. The house is little more than half a mile from Upper Gloucester Village on the main road to East Poland. About 300 yards from the house, and close to the road, is the old "Gully Brook Spring," so-called, the waters of which are icy cold even on the hottest days of the year. This is the spring where John Preble and his family obtained their water during the long years that they lived here. The water is still pure and is used by many of the neighbors and other people traveling that way.

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Ebenezer Collins, the father of Sarah and Esther, died about 1804. His father was also Ebenezer Collins and was born in 1698. The father of the elder Ebenezer was Ezekiel Collins, born in Salem, February 23, 1665, married Elizabeth

Riggs in 1692, and died December, 1744, nearly eighty years old. Ezekiel's father was John Collins, junior, who was born in 1636, probably in Salem; married March 9, 1659, Mehitable Giles. The marriage ceremony was performed by Major Hathorne, a name which has a peculiar Salem significance. Mehitable was then about 22 years old, she having been baptized in the First Church of Salem April 2, 1637. For a period they lived in Gloucester, but later, I believe, returned to Salem, the husband dying in 1677.

Mehitable Giles was the daughter of Edward Giles by his wife Bridget, the widow of \_\_\_\_\_ Very, whom he married about 1634-5 and who brought into the new family several children by her first husband whom she married about 1619. Edward Giles arrived in this country about 1633, was admitted a freeman of the colony of Massachusetts Bay, May 14, 1634, settled later in Salem, where he received a grant of land in 1636. He died previous to 1654. His widow Bridget lived till 1680, dying at the age of four score.

The parents of John Collins the younger were John Collins, born in England in 1604, and his wife Johanna. They came with other early settlers to Salem, where he had a grant of land, in 1643. He was made a freeman in 1646, served as selectman several years and removed to Gloucester in 1658, and died March 25, 1675. Thus we have in brief the Collins line back to the immigrant ancestors.

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As New Gloucester, Maine, is one of our ancestral homes, so old Gloucester on Cape Ann was the home of many of our still earlier ancestors, who lived there for several generations. From Old Gloucester a number of Cape Ann families in the middle of the eighteenth century sailed across the bay to the Maine coast, pushed their way inland through the wilderness and established a new town which they named in honor of their former abode.

Elizabeth Riggs, the wife of Ezekiel Collins, was a native of Old Gloucester. She was born April 22, 1672, daughter of Thomas Riggs, an early settler of Gloucester, and Mary Millet, who was born at Dorchester, August 21, 1639, married June 7, 1658, and died January 23, 1695. Thomas Riggs was town clerk of Gloucester for fifty-one years, and died February 26, 1722, at the age of ninety. He was a scrivener by occupation, and was an exceedingly

valuable man in the town, more than half of whose male inhabitants and most of the female inhabitants at that early period could not read or write.

Mary Millet's father was Thomas Millet, who came to New England in the ship Elizabeth and first settled in Dorchester in 1635 when he was 35 years old. Her mother was Mary Greenaway, who was 29 years old when she came with her husband to Dorchester. They removed to Gloucester in 1655. Thomas Millet died about 1676 and his wife on September 27, 1682. Thomas Millet was the ancestor of the famous American painter Millet, who went down with the Titanic after striking the iceberg in mid-ocean in 1912.

Mary Greenaway, the wife of Thomas Millet, was the daughter of John and Mary Greenaway, who came several years earlier to this country.

John and Mary Greenaway or Grenoway—there were various spellings of the name—by one of those strange coincidences of nomenclature, came over in the good ship Mary and John, a vessel of 400 tons. This ship, which was a very large one for the time, sailed from Plymouth, Eng., and was the first of the fleet to reach the Massachusetts coast in the great Puritan migration of 1630. After a passage of 70 days she arrived off Nantasket Point, now Hull, on May 30, old style, two weeks before Governor Winthrop arrived off Salem. From one of the passengers we learn that "the word of God was preached and expounded every day during the voyage. The number of passengers was 140." A day or two later the passengers and their "famished cattle" were landed at Rock Hill (Savin Hill), Dorchester. This was more than three months before the founding of Boston proper, which by the present style of dates was September 17, 1630.

John Greenaway was past the prime of life when he came to the new country. "He was a millwright by trade and was much respected by his fellow townsmen," according to the "History of the Town of Dorchester." He was the first person admitted a freeman in that town.

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"Besides the right of suffrage," says William Dana Orcutt, in his book entitled "Good Old Dorchester," "the freemen enjoyed advantages in the division of the lands,

and were members of the General Court, until the representative system began."

It must be remembered that the settlement of the new colony was by a specially chartered company and only the stockholders at first had the right to vote. This privilege was soon afterward extended to the freemen, who of necessity were also church members, and thus early in the history of the colony there was a semblance of our modern popular government. The first application for the right of freeman was made October 30, 1630, and twenty-four of the 108 were settlers in Dorchester, John Greenaway heading the list of twenty-four.

Freemen were required to be church members by the passage of an order, May 18, 1631, at the second General Court held after the arrival of Governor Winthrop and the transfer of the charter to New England, which provided that "to the end the body of the commons may be preserved of honest and good men, no man shall, for the time to come, be admitted to the freedom of this body politick but such as are members of some of the churches within the limits of the same."

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One of the early settlers of Dorchester and supposedly a fellow-passenger on the same ship with John and Mary Greenaway, was Bernard or Barnard Capen, the ancestor of Miss Bessie T. Capen, late of Northampton, the lifelong friend of my mother, Ellen F. (Preble) Jones. He was described as "an old man on his arrival, and died November 8, 1638, aged 76 years."

Many other interesting details could be related of our ancestral history on the Collins side of the Preble-Collins family, some of which will be given in a later chapter. A few of them are briefly set forth here in order to place in a more permanent form valuable material which I have gathered in past years and which hitherto has existed only in scattered memoranda; and also to suggest a few of the ancestral names to those of our relatives who may be interested to pursue the study further.

By way of illustration it might be stated here that one of the descendants of Nathaniel Tilden, whose daughter Judith was the wife of Abraham Preble, was the late Governor Samuel J. Tilden of New York, founder of the Tilden library and in 1876 the Democratic candidate for the presidency.

## *Descendants of John Preble of Machias*

A score or more years ago I prepared a list of the descendants of John Preble of Machias with the invaluable assistance of my mother, the late Ellen F. (Preble) Jones, who was personally acquainted with most of her relatives, especially those of the older generation, and who attended to a great deal of the correspondence. The list was practically complete at the time it was made, in the fall of 1907, and was reasonably accurate. I had several typewritten copies made, which were sent to various relatives for their information and verification, and it was my hope to have the list printed in permanent form. But good intentions are too often neglected in this busy, workaday world, and the list, once fairly correct, is now decidedly out-of-date. A new generation has come into existence, and there have been many births, marriages, changes of residence and deaths during the intervening years. To bring that list up-to-date would be a considerable undertaking which I still hope some time to accomplish. Meanwhile, with this explanation and apology, I am printing that list at the present time, practically as it was originally made, to serve as a basis for future amendment. I have endeavored, however, to make the necessary additions and changes in that portion which pertains to the descendants of my grandfather, Nathaniel C. A. Preble. Such additions will serve as a guide for the additional information wanted from the other branches of the family.

I have also made a few other additions,—in the lists of descendants of Betsey, Charles and Samuel, children of John Preble and Esther Collins.

In the following list, as will easily be seen, I am treating John Preble, of Machias, as the founder of the family. We will call him No. 1. His children are No. 2; his grandchildren No. 3; his great-grandchildren No. 4, and so on.

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### *Family of John Preble of Machias*

(1) John Preble; b. Machias, Me., about 1771; d. New Gloucester, Me., July 13, 1841. He married first Sarah Collins, daughter of Ebenezer Collins, of New Gloucester, Me., June 16, 1794; she died 1797. His second wife was Esther Collins, sister of Sarah Collins (b. 1773), m. December 27, 1798; she died February 5, 1835, at New

Gloucester, Me. Presumably all of the children were born at New Gloucester.

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Children of John Preble (1) by Sarah Collins:

(2) John Preble; b. Sept. 9, 1796; m. Sally Lawry; d. Aug. 11, 1840.

(2) Sarah Preble; d. an infant.

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Children of John Preble (1) by Esther Collins:

(2) Sarah Preble; b. Aug. 9, 1799; m. Israel True McIntire, Nov. 26, 1841; had no children; d. New Gloucester, Me., May 27, 1876. She was the "Aunt Sally" famous in the family for her skill in pie-making.

(2) Betsey Preble; b. at New Gloucester June 3, 1801; m. June 5, 1831, Moses Eveleth (who was born at New Gloucester 1790 and died there Sept. 13, 1849); she died, Brockton, Mass., Aug. 11, 1886, buried in the Preble family lot at New Gloucester, Me.; had three children.

(2) Ebenezer Preble; b. 1803; m. Fanny Getchell; d. Jan. 23, 1838; had three children.

(2) Rebecca Preble; b. Jan. 18, 1805; m. William Stinchfield, Dec. 6, 1832; d. Dec. 13, 1858; had three children.

(2) Edward Preble; b. Oct. 5, 1807; m. Sarah Platt; d. Jan. 3, 1838; left no children.

(2) Charles Preble; b. July 12, 1809; m. Sophronia Merrill, Sept. 21, 1835; d. Feb. 10, 1882; had two children.

(2) Abigail F. Preble; b. Dec. 9, 1811; d. April 3, 1837; unmarried.

(2) Samuel L. Preble; b. Dec. 12, 1814; m. Susan Rowe; died Oct. 4, 1869, by drowning near Glen House, White Mountains, N. H.; had two children.

(2) Nathaniel Coit Allen Preble, b. at New Gloucester Aug. 4, 1816; m. Aug. 28, 1841, Sarah Bartlett Eveleth, his second cousin, who was b. at New Gloucester, May 29, 1817. He died at Somerville, Jan. 2, 1875, and she died at Somerville, Jan. 18, 1876; had eight children. She was the daughter of Perkins Eveleth and Lydia Collins True. Her maternal grandmother was ———Collins, sister of Sarah and Esther Collins, who were married to John Preble of Machias.

*Descendants of John Preble (2), Eldest Child  
of John of Machias*

(3) Huldah Jones Preble; b. April 25, 1819; d. Sept. 9, 1840; unmarried.

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(3) Esther Preble; b. Jan. 24, 1821; m. at 12 Spring Street, Boston, Joseph G. Ball, May 5, 1845; d. Oct. 23, 1856, at New Gloucester, Me.; she left two children, namely:

(4) Esther Elizabeth Ball; b. Boston, Sept. 6, 1849; m. Ewen R. McPherson, of Cambridge, Nov. 28, 1872; has one child (5) Ross McPherson, of New York, b. in Cambridge, May 31, 1876, who m. Virginia Wisschusen, at Rowayton, Conn., Oct. 1, 1907.

(4) Joseph Appleton Ball, b. cor. Federal and Purchase Streets, Boston, Nov. 15, 1854; m. Annie B. McPherson, of Cambridge, sister of Ewen McPherson, Sept. 29, 1880; has (5) Joseph Norman Ball; b. Sept. 7, 1881; Edith Preble Ball (5), b. Sept. 26, 1884 (who m. Herbert Adams Treat, Apr. 24, 1907 at Windemere, Wayne Co., Pa.); (5) Bertha Buckner Ball, b. Sept. 18, 1886; Harold Appleton Ball (5), b. Jan., 1898. Joseph A. Ball lived at Windemere, Wayne Co., Pa., in 1907.

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(3) Sarah Preble; b. March 5, 1823; m. Richard Dyer Sept. 22, 1846, and died Aug. 9, 1882; they had four children:

(4) Andrew F. Dyer, b. Oct. 28, 1850; m. Ida McKinnon, Nov. 5, 1899.

(4) Sarah J. Dyer; b. Jan. 12, 1854; m. James F. Fuller, Dec. 24, 1877; has Charles F. Fuller (5), b. Dec. 1, 1878.

(4) Frank H. Dyer; b. June 22, 1855; d. Oct. 28, 1899.

(4) Richard N. Dyer; b. July 30, 1865; m. May A. McWilliam, Apr. 15, 1891; d. Sept. 19, 1893.

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(3) Naomi Preble; b. Nov. 4, 1824; d. Dec. 10, 1839; unmarried.

(3) John Preble; b. July 22, 1826; d. Sept., 1878; unmarried.

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(3) James Preble; b. Sept. 28, 1828; m. Mary E. Josselyn, Oct. 28, 1852; d. Aug. 6, 1877; had four children:

(4) Adelaide Preble; b. Nov. 6, 1853; m. Henry H. Wetherbee; had two children: (5) Ralph W.; b. Aug. 18, 1886; d. Sept. 7, 1887, and (5) Chester P.; b. Oct. 7, 1891; residence, Jamaica Plain.

(4) Esther Preble; b. July 17, 1856; d. in Boston, March 28, 1869.

(4) James C. Preble; b. July 8, 1860; m. Sarah R. McNevin; had (5) James R. Preble; b. Dec. 7, 1884; m. Mary Ella Adams May 14, 1906, had one child of sixth generation; and (5) Esther Preble; b. Aug. 28, 1886, d. Oct. 9, 1886.

(4) John H. Preble; b. Dec. 2, 1869; m. Annie M. Nelson; had three children (5) John Nelson Preble, b. Apr. 14, 1895; (5) Roger Warren Preble, b. Aug. 25, 1896; (5) Esther Emily Preble, b. Apr. 13, 1901.

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(3) Calvin Preble; b. Jan. 25, 1831; d. Sept. 20, 1832.

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(3) Rachel Preble; b. Aug. 20, 1832; living at date (Aug., 1907) in Fairfield, Me.; unmarried.

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(3) Charles Edward Preble; b. July 10, 1834; d. Nov. 1, 1858; unmarried; buried in N. C. A. Preble's lot in Mt. Auburn.

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*Descendants of Betsey Preble (2), Daughter  
of John of Machias*

(3) Charles Preble Eveleth; b. Feb. 8, 1834; d. Apr. 28, 1835.

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(3) Helen Eveleth; b. in New Gloucester, Mar. 20, 1837; m. Augustus T. Jones, of North Bridgewater

(now Brockton), Dec. 2, 1860; d. in Brockton, May 9, 1875; had two children:

(4) Bertha Eveleth Jones; b. Sept. 7, 1866; m. June 13, 1894, at Brockton, Edward Dwight Blodgett of Cortland, N. Y., newspaper editor who died at Cortland, July 3, 1926; has two children: (5) Eleanor Dickinson Blodgett b. at Cortland, Aug. 18, 1896; and (5) Edward Eveleth Blodgett, b. at Cortland, July 24, 1903. Residence in 1929, 10 Reynolds avenue, Cortland, N. Y. Eleanor received her B.A. degree from Wellesley College in 1919 and her master's degree in 1928 from New York University, where she is now instructor in English. The son Edward is connected with the Glen Falls (N. Y.) Post Star.

(4) Elizabeth Lee Jones; b. Sept. 25, 1868; m. June 9, 1897, John Howard Field, of Brockton; has three children; (5) Helen Eveleth Field b. at Brockton March 19, 1900; m. Howard Ladd Taylor, June 18, 1924; has one son (6) Philip Taylor, also daughter, (6) Barbara Lee Taylor, b. March 19, 1929, and lives in Brockton. (5) John Howard Field, Jr.; b. at Brockton, May 17, 1903, m. Clara Nye Smith, Oct. 6, 1928, and lives in Springfield, Mass. and (5) Elizabeth Field, b. at Brockton, Nov. 12, 1907; m. Duryea Elwell Elmendorf, May 31, 1927, and lives in Cleveland, Ohio. Parents' address, 77 Broadway, Bangor, Me.

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(3) Moses Edwin Eveleth; b. July, 1845; d. in New Gloucester, Apr. 22, 1862, from disease contracted in the Civil War, at the age of 16 years, 10 months.

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*Descendants of Ebenezer Preble (2), son of  
John of Machias*

(3) Salome Preble; died young.

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(3) Elizabeth or Betsy Preble; b. ———; m. Benjamin McIntosh; d. Dec. 26, 1885; had no children.

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(3) Frances Preble; b. 1836; d. 1861; unmarried.

*Descendants of Rebecca Preble (2), Daughter of  
John of Machias*

(3) Florinda Stinchfield; b. March 16, 1836; m. Silas Bickford; d. Dec. 28, 1906; had seven children.

(4) Rosetta Victoria Bickford; b. Dec. 9, 1856; d. May 5, 1880; unmarried.

(4) Silas Curtis Bickford; b. Apr. 17, 1859; m. Carrie Oliver, Jan. 23, 1890; had three children: (5) Katherine, b. Aug. 16, 1893; (5) Andrew Oliver, b. Nov. 25, 1894; (5) Charles Norman, b. May 20, 1896, all natives of Hubbardston, Mass.

(4) Sumner Holmes Bickford; b. Dec. 27, 1860; m. Emma Vincent, Aug. 11, 1883; had three children: (5) Mina Grace, b. Feb. 15, 1885, at New Gloucester; (5) Everett Sumner, b. May 6, 1894 at Brewer, Me.; (5) Onalee Othelia, b. June 29, 1902, at Orrington, Me. Residence, Orrington, Me.

(4) Pembroke Davis Bickford; b. Oct. 4, 1862; m. Helen Carr, Aug. 26, 1884; m. for his second wife Annie Elizabeth Cowlshaw, of Meriden, Conn., Oct. 13, 1888; had (5) Holly Irene, b. June 11, 1889, at Meriden, Conn.; (5) Gladys May, b. Mar. 21, 1891, at New York City, and died July 23, 1891. Residence, New York City.

(4) Nellie Frances Bickford; b. June 23, 1864; d. Aug. 12, 1879.

(4) Elvira Mabel Bickford; b. Oct. 13, 1869; m. Miles G. Chute, Nov. 24, 1887; had four children, (5) Guy Meredith, b. June 20, 1890, at New Gloucester, Me.; d. May 20, 1903, at Lynn, Mass.; (5) Karl Murray, b. July 10, 1894, at New Gloucester; (5) Ralph Merton, b. Jan. 17, 1898, at Exeter, N. H.; (5) Stella Louise, b. March 5, 1901, at Stoneham, Mass. Family residence, 8 Wilson street, Lynn.

(4) Alice Maud Bickford; b. Aug. 12, 1875; d. Sept. 30, 1886.

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(3) Mary A. Stinchfield; b. June 21, 1837; m. John Henry Jordan, July 6, 1856; was still living at Raymond, Me., in 1907.

(4) William H. Jordan; b. June 2, 1859; lived at Raymond, Me.

(4) Clara M. Jordan; b. Jan. 12, 1862; m. Frank C. Wilson, March 18, 1885; d. June 19, 1891; had Ernest C. Wilson (5), b. Nov. 21, 1887; Perley J. Wilson (5), b. Apr. 28, 1891.

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(3) Frances Ellen Stinchfield; b. Mar. 17, 1845; m. Charles Cole, 1866; d. at Raymond, Me., Nov. 28, 1906.

(4) Lillian R. Cole; b. May 25, 1867; m. Francis Hubbard Witham, May 21, 1898; d. Feb. 17, 1904; had one child, Lillian Cole Witham (5), b. Feb., 1904.

(4) Charles Henry Cole; b. Feb. 7, 1869; m. Celia E. Leighton, May 23, 1896; had four children and lived in East Raymond, Me.

(4) Mary E. Cole; b. Apr. 11, 1871; d. May 16, 1871.

(4) William S. Cole; b. June 11, 1872; m. Angie Libby Jordan, Aug. 22, 1898. Has three children and lived in East Raymond, Me., in 1907.

(4) Lucie P. Cole; b. March 9, 1874; was a teacher in Gray, Me.; m. Stephen Morrill, June 29, 1907; resided 56 Congress street, Portland, Me.

(4) Ira Nevens Cole; b. Jan. 26, 1879; m. Josephine Leighton, Sept. 22, 1906; lived in Raymond, Me.

(4) Hewett Dexter Cole; b. Jan. 20, 1882; m. Jennie Cummings, June 12, 1906; has one child and lived in Gray, Me.

(4) Robert Cole; b. Dec. 11, 1883; d. Dec. 19, 1883.

(4) Gardner W. Cole; b. May 28, 1887; was a student at Bowdoin College in 1907.

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*Descendants of Charles Preble (2), Son of  
John of Machias*

(3) Henrietta F. Preble; b. at New Gloucester, Me., Dec. 5, 1836; d. at New Gloucester, Me., Mar. 5, 1884.

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(3) Georgianna F. Preble; b. at New Gloucester, Me., Feb. 4, 1839; m. Andrew G. Holmes, of Charlestown, Mass., June 3, 1862; d. at South Portland, Me., Apr. 28, 1907; had two children:

(4) Mary Louise Holmes; b. Sept. 7, 1864; m. Herbert E. Blake, Nov. 26, 1885; d. July 24, 1927; had four children: (5) Florence Etta Blake, b. July 29, 1887; m. Frederic W. Houston, who is connected with the Lawrence Trust Company, of Lawrence; address, Box 686, Lawrence, Mass. (5) Marion Eva Blake; b. Aug. 3, 1889; m. John Chamberlain, of Poland, Me.; lives in New Gloucester; had seven children: (6) Allen who died \_\_\_\_\_; (6) Norinne, who married Arthur Snow, of New Gloucester, and has two children of the seventh generation; (6) Herbert; (6) Ralph; (6) Walter; (6) Florence Louise, who died in infancy, and (6) Louise Geraldine. (5) Arthur Roscoe Blake; b. July 7, 1891; m. Kate Christian, who was born in Furness, Lancashire, Eng.; has one child of the sixth generation; address, corner Stafford and Farmington avenues, Forestville, Conn. (5) Walter Holmes Blake; b. Sept. 26, 1896, unmarried; address, Hotel Beloin, New Britain, Conn.

(4) Charles Preble Holmes; b. Aug. 15, 1867, at New Gloucester; unmarried; has been town clerk of New Gloucester; now resides in Terryville, Conn.

(3) Abbie B. Preble; b. May 21, 1842; d. at New Gloucester, Me., Sept. 7, 1874; unmarried.

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*Descendants of Samuel L. Preble (2), Son of  
John of Machias*

(3) Calista A. Preble; b. July 4, 1844; unmarried; lived in Auburn, Me., in 1907. She was burned to death three or four years ago in Atascadero, Calif.

(3) Esther B. Preble; b. Dec. 5, 1845; unmarried; lived in Auburn, Me., in 1907. Living in 1929 at Atascadero, Calif.

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*Descendants of Nathaniel Coit Allen Preble (2),  
Youngest Child of John of Machias*

(3) Ellen F. Preble; b. Boston, Aug. 26, 1842; m. June 18, 1866, William Edward Jones, who was b. in Boston, Nov. 9, 1842, served during the Civil War in the Eleventh Mass. Light Battery, and was drowned at Wal-

pole, N. H., July 26, 1872. For 40 years she was a Boston school teacher and died Mar. 4, 1913, at Somerville, where she had lived since 1869.

(4) Edward Lincoln Jones; b. Somerville, Feb. 17, 1867; d. at Northampton, Mass., Sept. 8, 1903; m. Emma Burckes, of Somerville, May 9, 1895. She died May 27, 1911. They had three children: (5) Rebecca Preble Jones; b. Winchendon, Mass., Apr. 25, 1896; m. in New York City, Sept. 6, 1921, George Daniel Butler, Yale graduate, who was in the ambulance service in France during the World War; has two children: (6) George Daniel Butler, Jr., b. in Newark, N. J., Apr. 13, 1923; (6) Robert Jones Butler, b. in Englewood, N. J., June 25, 1928; resides, 153 Highwood avenue, Leonia, N. J. (5) Robert Burckes Jones; b. Northampton, Oct. 8, 1897; m. Lois Keith Bateman, daughter of Dr. Frank E. and Sophie Bateman, of Somerville, Sept. 16, 1922; has three children; (6) Natalie Reed Jones; b. Dec. 13, 1924; (6) Eleanor Preble Jones; b. Nov. 14, 1926; (6) Sylvia Bateman Jones; b. Jan. 23, 1929; all three children born at the Copp Hospital in Cambridge; residence, 51 Woods road, West Medford, Mass. (5) Laura Eveleth Jones; b. Northampton, Nov. 9, 1902; m. at Cambridge, June 14, 1922, Edward Irving Cooper, son of Frank Irving Cooper, architect, and Anna Wellington Cooper, nee Sawyer, of Wayland, Mass.; Edward was graduated from Harvard, 1913; was lieutenant in the Air Service during the World War; has daughter (6) Eveleth Irving Cooper; b. at New Haven, Conn., Aug. 20, 1926, and son (6) David Wellington Cooper; b. at New Haven, Mar. 21, 1928; residence, 58 St. Sulpice road, Montreal.

(4) William Preble Jones; b. Somerville, Mass., Apr. 22, 1869; m. Martha Gertrude York, daughter of James Monroe York and Nellie Eunice (Buzzell) York, of Somerville, Sept. 26, 1896. Children: (5) Helen Eunice Jones; b. Somerville, Jan. 22, 1898; (5) Edith York Jones; b. Somerville, Aug. 24, 1899; m. Lieutenant Nelson Hathaway Seaver, son of Llewellyn D. and Mary (Cole) Seaver, of Roxbury, Mass., June 15, 1918; he graduated from Harvard College 1917; was first lieutenant in 304th Infantry of the 76th Division in United States army in France; has three children

(6) Nelson Hathaway Seaver, Jr.; b. in Boston, Mar. 25, 1919; (6) Priscilla York Seaver; b. in Boston, Aug. 19, 1922; (6) Norman Johnson Seaver; b. in Medford, May 14, 1928; resides, 46 Dartmouth street, Somerville. (5) Martha Preble Jones; b. in Boston, Mar. 13, 1916. William Preble Jones is probation officer, Somerville District Court; former newspaper editor; chairman Local Draft Board 1917-1919; resides at 13 Maple avenue, Somerville.

(4) Arthur Eveleth Jones; b. Somerville, Mass., Apr. 24, 1871; m. Harriet Gertrude Andrews, July 19, 1898, daughter of Seth Andrews and Harriett Jones Andrews; lives at 196 Jackson street, Lawrence; has one son (5) Arthur Sewell Jones; b. Whitman, Mass., Sept. 11, 1899. Arthur E. Jones is president of the Treat Hardware Company of Lawrence, Mass. His son, a graduate of Amherst College in 1922, is employed by the New England Telephone and Telegraph Company at Worcester as district traffic superintendent; address, 115 Pleasant street, Worcester.

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(3) Edward Perkins Preble; b. Boston, Jan. 22, 1845; served in the navy and army in Civil War, and at time of death was Assistant Adjutant-General, Mass. G. A. R.; d. Wilmington, Mass., May 26, 1906; m. Marcia A. Alexander, of Boston, Sept. 15, 1868; she died at Woburn, July 28, 1919; had three sons:

(4) Edward Alexander Preble; b. Somerville, June 11, 1871; m. Eva August Lynham at Washington, D. C., Dec. 29, 1896. She was b. at Richmond, Va., daughter of John Andrew Lynham and Elizabeth Catharine (Hardwick). He is biologist in U. S. Department of Agriculture. Residence, 3027 Newark street, Cleveland Park, N. W., Washington, D. C.; had three children; (5) Dorothy Marcia Preble; b. Washington, Nov. 26, 1897; d. November 28, 1897. (5) Marjorie Elizabeth Preble; b. Washington, Oct. 12, 1900; m. Maurice Anson Thorne, Oct. 1, 1924, son of William Bennett Thorne and Elizabeth Carrier Thorne, has two children: (6) Stephen Lee Thorne; b. in South Bend, Ind., Nov. 13, 1926; and (6) Elizabeth Hardwick Thorne, b. in South Bend, June 27, 1928; live at 409 Peashway street, South Bend. (5) Evelyn Morgan

Preble; b. Washington, Nov. 25, 1905; m. William Francis Walter, Jr., son of William Francis Walter, M. D., and Loretto Buckley Walter, of Washington, June 24, 1925; has one son (6) Edward Preble Walter, b. Aug. 26, 1926, in Washington; lives at 3027 Newark street, Washington.

(4) Harry Allan Preble; b. Wilmington, Mass., Dec. 4, 1873; m. August 31, 1898, Mary Belle Curtis, of Woburn, Mass. Children: (5) Clarence Edward Preble; b. at Medford, Mass., Sept. 17, 1899; m. Jennie Erickson, of Woburn, June 6, 1923; has one son (6) William Edward Preble, b. May 6, 1926; resides at Glen Ridge, N. J.; (5) Allan Curtis Preble; b. at Woburn, Jan. 18, 1905; (5) Donald Frederick Preble; b. at Woburn, Oct. 2, 1910; (5) Kenneth Lawrence Preble; b. at Woburn, Jan. 7, 1919. Family residence, 7 Newbridge avenue, Woburn.

(4) Alfred Emerson Preble; b. Wilmington, Mass., Aug. 11, 1880; m. Sept. 5, 1906, Edith May Snelling at Wilmington; had three children: (5) Zenaida; b. Portsmouth, N. H., Oct. 19, 1907; died at Springfield, June, 1911; (5) Norman Preble; b. Springfield, May 10, 1911; (5) Grethel Preble, b. Somerville, Nov. 26, 1920; resides at 73 Prospect street, Wakefield, Mass., where he is teacher of science in the local high school.

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(3) Sarah Abigail Preble; b. Jan. 12, 1848; m. William P. Hill, Sept. 17, 1867. She d. at Somerville, Mar. 4, 1916; he d. at Somerville, July 5, 1912.

(4) Willard Converse Hill; b. at Melrose, Mass., June 7, 1868; m. Clara A. Laycock, of Somerville, June 7, 1893. Children: (5) Converse Hill; b. Somerville Apr. 26, 1895; was in ambulance service in France during World War; m. Audrey Broderick Bolton, of Newton, Sept. 22, 1923; had two children: (6) Shirley Bolton Hill; b. June 12, 1925; (6) Converse Hill, 3rd; b. Aug. 9, 1927; d. Aug. 10, 1927. (5) Stanley Hill; b. Somerville, Dec. 18, 1896; wounded in July, 1918, while in the ambulance service on the French front during the World War, and d. Aug. 14, 1918; buried in France. Was awarded his Dartmouth A.B. degree while in France; received Croix de Guerre and Medaille Militaire;

American Legion Post in Lexington named in his honor.  
(5) Edith Dorothea; b. Somerville, Nov. 12, 1901; m. Winthrop Harold Bowker, of Brookline, June 14, 1928. Willard C. Hill and son, Converse, are in the insurance firm of Elmer A. Lord & Co., 145 Milk street, Boston; family residences in Lexington.

(4) Edith Lillian Hill; b. Melrose, Mass., May 14, 1870; d. Somerville, July 2, 1880.

(4) Allen Philip Hill; b. Somerville, Dec. 16, 1881; m. Cora Jane Garland, June 28, 1919; had two children: (5) William David Hill; b. Aug. 20, 1920; (5) Sarah Augusta Hill; b. Feb. 27, 1922; d. March 13, 1922. Residence, 7 Euston street, Brookline.

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(3) Mary Louisa Preble; b. Boston, Jan. 31, 1850; d. Boston, July 8, 1857.

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(3) Lydia True Preble; b. Boston, June 14, 1852; m. Ezra D. Souther, Nov. 28, 1872. He died in Somerville, Feb. 16, 1898. She died in Somerville, Nov. 23, 1921.

(4) Allan Bartlett Souther; b. Somerville, Nov. 9, 1873; m. Jennie Mae Coleman, of New Oxford, Pa., Dec. 3, 1903; resides at Early Heights, Anne Arundel Co., Md. For many years past he has been an instructor in the engineering department of the Baltimore Polytechnic Institute.

(4) Blanche May Souther; b. Somerville, July 12, 1876; m. Everett Laurens Way, of Chelsea, Feb. 1, 1899. Children: (5) Katharine Souther Way; b. Somerville, Dec. 16, 1899; d. December 20, 1899; (5) Robert Souther Way; b. Somerville, May 25, 1903; (5) Esther Preble Way; b. Somerville, Sept. 28, 1907. Residence, 14 Pembroke street, Somerville.

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(3) Harriet Isabella Preble; b. Boston, Nov. 13, 1854; m. Charles A. Keyes, of Somerville, May 15, 1878.

(4) Ralph Preble Keyes; b. Somerville, Dec. 16, 1879.

(4) Bertha Eveleth Keyes; b. Somerville, Sept. 27, 1881.

(4) Louis Gosnold Keyes; b. Somerville, Oct. 7,

1883; m. Nov. 15, 1905, Carrie Munroe Whiting, of Cambridge. Children: (5) Russell Preble Keyes; b. at Cambridge, May 17, 1907; m. Mary Elizabeth Stetson, Nov. 23, 1928, and resides in Egypt, Mass.; (5) Winsor Whiting Keyes; b. Apr. 25, 1909; (5) Edith Madeline Keyes; b. March 15, 1912. Family residence, 66 Nashua street, Woburn.

(4) Richard Amos Keyes; b. Somerville, Feb. 2, 1888; m. Carrie Alfield Nelson, of Somerville, Sept. 11, 1915; has three children: (5) Ruth Martha Keyes; b. Oct. 6, 1916; (5) Dorothy Bertha Keyes; b. Oct. 1, 1918; (5) Marilyn Sara Keyes; b. June 22, 1925; all the children were born at the Symmes Hospital in Arlington, Mass. Richard A. Keyes is clerk of committees, Somerville City Hall; residence, 343 Alewife Brook Parkway, Somerville.

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(3) Frederick Allen Preble; b. Boston, June 6, 1857; m. Helen Etta Stillson, Oct. 6, 1880, daughter of Daniel C. and Eleanor Stillson. Mr. Stillson was the inventor of the famous Stillson wrench known all over the world. They had three children. Family residence, 55 Tennyson street, Somerville.

(4) Frederick Stillson Preble; b. Somerville, Nov. 11, 1881; d. Dec. 31, 1887.

(4) Robert Allen Preble; b. Somerville, Nov. 6, 1884; d. Jan. 4, 1888.

(4) Eleanor Chapman Preble; b. Somerville, Apr. 4, 1889. Eleanor is a teacher in the Boston public schools.

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(3) Caroline Eveleth Preble; b. Boston, Aug. 9, 1859; m. Milo R. Whitaker, of Somerville (b. 1857), Nov. 29, 1883; has three children; family residence at Norton, Mass.

(4) Sarah Bartlett Whitaker; b. Somerville, Sept. 6, 1884. She is principal of the Northampton School for Girls at Northampton, Mass.

(4) Joseph Wood Whitaker; b. Somerville, Nov. 27, 1885; m. Lena Margretta Cobb at Forest Hills,

Boston, June 7, 1910; has two children: (5) Martha Hathaway Whitaker; b. March 5, 1911, and (5) Joseph Wood Whitaker, Jr.; b. May 15, 1917; both born in hospital at Jamaica Plain; residence at Norton.

(4) Helen Hathaway Whitaker; b. Somerville, January 29, 1894; married Philip Ambrose Gavin, at Norton, June 28, 1919; has three daughters, (5) Phyllis Whitaker Gavin; b. in Taunton, March 26, 1920; (5) Sarah Catherine Gavin; b. in Taunton, July 27, 1922; (5) Mary Helen Gavin; b. in Norton, April 23, 1926, residence at Norton.

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It will be observed that in the foregoing lists there are several instances where the place of birth is at a hospital in some other city or town than the place of residence of the family. Giving the exact place of birth is not from a mere desire to be punctiliously accurate, but to avoid possible future complications or misunderstandings.

Before going to press, these pages have been read by my uncle, Frederick A. Preble, of Somerville, son of Nathaniel C. A. Preble; also by my cousin, Mrs. Bertha Eveleth Blodgett, of Cortland, N. Y., granddaughter of Betsey Preble; and by my cousins, Willard C. Hill, of Lexington, and Edward A. Preble, of Washington, D. C., grandsons of N. C. A. Preble.

They have also been read by my friend, Dr. Wallace Preble, of Cambridge, who has done a vast amount of research work in connection with the Preble genealogy, and, if I remember correctly, it was through his desire to obtain the names of John Preble's descendants that I was induced to prepare the original list in 1907. So that in a way, he may be regarded as the remote cause of this present publication.

Dr. Preble is our distant relative, a very distant relative, in fact, as far as blood connection is concerned. His line of descent from the immigrant Abraham Preble comes through the first son who was known as the "Great" Abraham, on account of his ability and almost infinite number of offices he held in the colony; while our line is from Benjamin, the sixth son of the first Abraham. From the "Great" Abraham, Dr. Preble's line is through Samuel, then Colonel Esaias, to Judge William Pitt Preble and William Pitt Preble, Jr., who died a few years ago about ninety years old, father of Dr. Preble. It was the doctor's aunt, Mariana Preble, who married Stephen Longfellow, Jr., brother of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, as previously mentioned in the text.



*John Preble*  
*of Machias*

(1771—1841)

*And His Descendants*

BY

WILLIAM PREBLE JONES



SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS

1929