

WOODBIDGE FAMILY.



## GENEALOGY OF THE WOODBRIDGE FAMILY.

By Miss MARY K. TALCOTT, of Hartford, Ct.

THE compiler of the following genealogy is fully aware of its incompleteness; but as no account of this family has yet appeared in print, she hopes that these pages will supply a brief record of its earlier members until a fuller account is printed. More complete details of the families of John,<sup>3</sup> Benjamin<sup>3</sup> and Timothy,<sup>3</sup> are much desired by the compiler, and especially of the descendants of Timothy's sons, Timothy and Ashbel, and she will be much obliged by any further information.

1. Rev. JOHN<sup>2</sup> WOODBRIDGE was born at Stanton, near Highworth, Wilts, in 1613. His father, the Rev. JOHN<sup>1</sup> WOODBRIDGE, of Stanton, who married a daughter of the Rev. Robert Parker, an eminent non-conformist author and divine, is said to have died about 1637. The son was sent to Oxford, says Cotton Mather, but on requirement of the oath of uniformity, left the university. He came to New England with his uncle, the Rev. Thomas Parker, in 1634. He settled at Newbury, Mass., where he was the first town clerk, and held the office till Nov. 19, 1638, when Edward Woodman was chosen his successor. In 1637, 1640 and 1641, he was deputy from Newbury to the General Court. The Court appointed him, in 1637, "surveyer of the armes at Newberry;" and in 1638, and again in 1641, a commissioner to hear and determine small causes in that town. In 1643 he kept school in Boston. About 1639 he married Mercy, daughter of Gov. Thomas Dudley. He was ordained minister over the church at Andover, Oct. 24, 1645. In 1647 he went to England, where he was appointed chaplain to the Parliamentary Commissioners treating with the king at the Isle of Wight. He was afterwards minister at Andover, Hants, and Barford St. Martin's, Wilts, from which last parish he was ejected at the Restoration. In 1662 he was driven from a school in Newbury, by the Bartholomew Act, and in 1663 returned to New England, reaching Boston, says Savage, in the Society, July 27th. He became assistant to his uncle Parker at Newbury, Mass., but was dismissed from that charge Nov. 21, 1670, in consequence of church dissensions. He was an Assistant of the Massachusetts Colony in 1683 and 1684. He d. Sunday, March 17, 1694-5, at Newbury. His wife d. July 1, 1691. Their children were:

- i. SARAH, b. June 7, 1640; was dead in 1691, leaving five children.
- ii. LUCY, b. March 13, 1642; m. first, Oct. 2, 1667, the Rev. Simon Bradstreet, of New London, Ct., and was mother of the Rev. *Simon<sup>3</sup> Bradstreet*, H. C. 1693, minister of Charlestown, Mass.; m. second, Capt. Daniel Epps. [She was the ancestress of Rev. William Ellery Channing, D.D., Richard H. Dana, the poet, and many other distinguished personages. See REGISTER, viii. 316-20; ix. 117-20. Ed.]
3. iii. JOHN, b. about 1644.
4. iv. BENJAMIN.
5. v. THOMAS, b. about 1648.

- vi. DOROTHY, m. Oct. 1679, Mr. Nathaniel Fryer.
- vii. MARY, [m. Samuel Appleton, of Ipswich. He d. Aug. 16, 1693; she d. June 9, 1712.]\*
- viii. ANNE, d. at Roxbury, unm., Feb. 28, 1700-1.
- 6. ix. TIMOTHY, b. 1656, at Barford St. Martin's, Wilts.
- 7. x. JOSEPH.
- xi. MARTHA, m. Capt. Samuel Ruggles, of Roxbury. Three of their sons were ministers, viz.: Rev. Samuel<sup>3</sup> Ruggles, H. C. 1702, minister at Billerica; Rev. Timothy<sup>3</sup> Ruggles, H. C. 1707, minister at Rochester; and Rev. Benjamin<sup>3</sup> Ruggles, Y. C. 1721, minister at Middleboro', and afterwards at New Braintree.

2. Rev. BENJAMIN<sup>2</sup> WOODBRIDGE, D.D., brother of John,<sup>2</sup> was born in Wilts, England, in 1622; was the first graduate of Harvard College. On his return to England, he succeeded the famous Dr. Twiss at Newbury; was ejected in 1662, but continued to preach privately; d. at Inglefield, Berks, Nov. 1, 1684. He published a number of works, and had a high reputation as a scholar.

3. Rev. JOHN<sup>3</sup> WOODBRIDGE (*John,<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>*) grad. H. C. 1664; began preaching at Killingworth, Ct., in 1666; ordained minister there April 7, 1669; married, Oct. 26, 1671, Abigail, daughter of Gov. William Leete; resigned his pastorate at Killingworth in 1679; in the same year was installed over the church at Wethersfield Ct., where he remained until his death about 1691. Children:

- 8. i. JOHN, b. about 1678.
- ii. DUDLEY, H. C. 1694; m. Dorothy, dau. of Joshua Lamb, of Roxbury; commenced preaching in Simsbury, Ct., in 1695; ord. there Nov. 10, 1697; d. Aug. 3, 1710.
- 9. iii. EPHRAIM, b. 1680.
- iv. MERCY, m. Rev. Benjamin Ruggles, of Suffield, Ct.

4. Rev. BENJAMIN<sup>3</sup> WOODBRIDGE (*John,<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>*) was invited to preach at Windsor, Ct., by a minority of the church, about the end of the year 1667; ordained over a church formed by the withdrawal of dissatisfied members from the old church, March 18, 1669-70. He remained there, in the midst of many dissensions, until May, 1681. Married, June 3, 1672, Mary, dau. of Rev. John Ward, of Haverhill. She died Oct. 11, 1685. He preached at Bristol, R. I., 1681-6; and at Kittery, Me., in 1688.\* In 1691 he resided at Portsmouth, N. H., and in 1694 at Newcastle. He was called, in 1698, to Medford, where he was the minister for about ten years. Married second, at Hingham, Aug. 31, 1686, Deborah, widow of Henry Tarlton, and dau. of Daniel Cushing, who survived him. She was born Nov. 18, 1651. He d. at Medford, Jan. 15, 1709-10.† Children:

\* She is named in her father's will, as his daughter Mary Appleton. Coffin, in his "History of Newbury," gives the date of Mary's birth as 1652, but the Rev. Lucius R. Paige, D.D., in a record of the early generations of this family, compiled by himself, has 1662 as the date, and he has placed her as the youngest child; but he cannot readily refer to his authority. Perhaps a Mary was born in 1652 who died young, and another child was given that name. We learn from Mather's "Magnalia" (vol. i. p. 596, ed. 1853), that the Rev. John Woodbridge had twelve children, one of whom died young.—Ed.

\* It seems from Backus's "History of the Baptists," i. 503, and Williamson's "History of Maine," i. 570, that a Mr. Woodbridge was minister at Kittery, about 1682. This could not have been the Rev. Benjamin, but possibly may have been his brother, the Rev. Timothy, who settled that year in Hartford.—Ed.

† For biographical sketches see Lane's "Manual of the First Congregational Church in Bristol," pp. 54-64; Stiles's "History of Ancient Windsor," pp. 171-90; and Brooks's "History of Medford," pp. 203-8.—Ed.

- i. ELIZABETH, b. at Windsor, Ct., April 30, 1673; d. at Exeter, N. H., Dec. 6, 1729; m. first, June 19, 1694, Rev. John Clark, H. C. 1690, of Exeter, N. H., by whom she had: 1. *Benjamin*, b. June, 1695; 2. *Nathaniel*, b. Dec. 10, 1697; 3. *Deborah*, b. Nov. 3, 1699, m. Oct. 2, 1718, Dr. Thomas Deane (see REGISTER, ix. 93, for descendants); 4. Rev. *Ward*, H. C. 1723, b. Dec. 12, 1703, d. May 6, 1737, minister at Kingston, N. H. She m. second, Rev. John Odlin, of Exeter, Oct. 21, 1709, by whom she had: 5. *John*; 6. Rev. *Elisha*, H. C. 1731, of Amesbury; 7. Dr. *Dudley*; 8. Rev. *Woodbridge*, H. C. 1738, of Exeter.
- ii. BENJAMIN, who d. young.
- iii. Hon. DUDLEY, b. Sept. 7, 1677; H. C. 1696; d. Feb. 11, 1710; of Barbadoes. Children: 1. *Dudley*; 2. *Benjamin*, b. 1709, killed in Boston, July 3, 1728, aged 19 yrs. 2 mos. (see Sargent's "Dealings with the Dead," i. 550); and perhaps others.
- iv. BENJAMIN, b. Oct. 12, 1680.
10. v. Rev. SAMUEL, b. about 1683; having died June 9, 1746, aged 63.

5. THOMAS<sup>3</sup> WOODBRIDGE (*John*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) m. June 12, 1671, Mary Jones, dau. of Ann, second wife of Capt. Paul White, of Newbury, Mass., by a former husband. He was a captain; d. March 30, 1681. His widow m., about 1695, Joseph Coker. Children:

- i. PAUL, b. Feb. 12, 1673.
- ii. MARY, b. Feb. 20, 1675.
- iii. THOMAS, b. Jan. 28, 1677.
- iv. JOHN, }
- v. BENJAMIN, } twins; b. Feb. 24, 1679.

6. Rev. TIMOTHY<sup>3</sup> WOODBRIDGE (*John*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) grad. H. C. 1675; became minister over the first church in Hartford, in 1682, but was not ordained pastor until Nov. 18, 1685. He m. Mehitabel,\* dau. of Hon. Samuel Wyllis, of Hartford, and widow of his predecessor, Rev. Isaac Foster, and also widow of Daniel Russell, of Charlestown. The time of her death is unknown, but he had probably a second wife, a Mrs. Howell, and he certainly married in 1716, for his last wife, Abigail, widow of Richard Lord, of Hartford, and dau. of John Warren, of Boston. He was one of the ten principal ministers of the colony named as trustees, and authorized by the General Assembly to found Yale College, in 1699; was Fellow of the College from 1700 to 1732, and was offered the rectorship, after the resignation of Rector Cutler, in 1722, but did not accept. He was also a prominent member of the Saybrook convention, in 1708. Died at Hartford, April 30, 1732. His widow died Jan. 1, 1754, æt. 77. Children by first wife:

11. i. TIMOTHY, bapt. Oct. 3, 1686.
- ii. MARY, bapt. June 19, 1692; m. May 7, 1724, Hon. William Pitkin, governor of Connecticut, 1766-69, and judge of the superior court thirteen years; d. in East Hartford, Feb. 17, 1766. Children: *William*,<sup>5</sup> member of the council of safety, during the Revolutionary war, judge of the superior court; Rev. *Timothy*,<sup>5</sup> Y. C. 1747, minister of Farmington, Ct., m. 1753, Temperance, dau. of Rev. Thomas Clap, D.D., president of Yale College; *George*,<sup>5</sup> colonel in the revolution, clerk of the superior court fifty years; *Ashbel*,<sup>5</sup> Y. C. 1755; *Epaphras*.<sup>5</sup>
- iii. RUTH, bapt. Aug. 18, 1695; m. Rev. John Pierson, of Woodbridge, N. J.; d. 1734.

\* The mother of Mehitabel Wyllis was Ruth Haynes, dan. of Gov. John Haynes and Mabel Harlakenden, his second wife, whose pedigree and descent from the English kings have often been referred to in the pages of the REGISTER. See vol. xvii. p. 95.

- iv. JOHN, bapt. Jan. 31, 1697 ; bur. Feb. 6, 1697.
- v. SUSANNA (probably child of second wife), bapt. Feb. 6, 1703 ; m. Aug. 7, 1728, Richard Treat, son of Thomas Treat, of Glastonbury, who was b. May 14, 1694 ; probably the clergyman of that name who graduated Y. C. 1719.
- 12. vi. ASHBEL, bapt. June 10, 1704.
- vii. THEODORE (son of third wife), bapt. June 23, 1717 ; d. young.

7. JOSEPH<sup>3</sup> WOODBRIDGE (*John*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) m. May 20, 1680, Martha, dau. of Ezekiel Rogers, of Ipswich, Mass. Children :

- i. JOSEPH, b. May 7, 1687.
- ii. JOHN, b. Feb. 13, 1690 ; H. C. 1710.
- iii. NATHANIEL, b. Jan. 28, 1696.
- iv. MARGARET, b. 1698.

8. Rev. JOHN WOODBRIDGE (*John*,<sup>3</sup> *John*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) grad. H. C. 1694 ; became minister at West Springfield, Mass., June, 1698 ; m. Nov. 14, 1699, Jemima, dau. of Rev. Joseph Eliot, of Guilford ; d. June 10, 1718. Children :

- i. ABIGAIL, b. Dec. 20, 1700 ; m. John Mixer, of West Springfield.
- ii. JOHN, b. Dec. 25, 1702 ; Y. C. 1726 ; minister at Poquonnoc, Ct., 1731 ; m. Tryphenia, dau. of Rev. Benjamin and Mercy (Woodbridge) Ruggles, Nov. 24, 1729 ; left Poquonnoc in 1736 and settled at South Hadley. His wife d. Jan. 10, 1749, and he m. in 1750, Mrs. Elizabeth Barnard.\* Died Sept. 10, 1783. Rev. *John*<sup>7</sup> Woodbridge, D.D., of Hadley,† who d. in 1869, was his grandson.
- iii. JAHLEEL, b. Dec. 11, 1704 ; d. April 27, 1705.
- iv. JEMIMA, b. June 30, 1706 ; m. Mr. Nicholson, of New Jersey.
- v. JOSEPH, b. Feb. 10, 1707. Judge of Probate, Stockbridge ; m. May 10, 1730, Mrs. Elizabeth Barnard, and dau. of John Merrick. The late Rev. Jonathan Edwards Woodbridge, and Rev. George Woodbridge, D.D., of Richmond, Va., were descended from him. For other descendants, see Miss Jones's "History of Stockbridge," pp. 137-41.
- vi. TIMOTHY, b. Feb. 27, 1709 ; d. May 11, 1775 ; m. Abigail, dau. of Samuel Day, of West Springfield ; superintendent of Indian affairs and judge of the court for Hampshire County.
- vii. BENJAMIN, b. Feb. 4, 1711 ; d. March 23, 1711.
- viii. BENJAMIN, b. June 12, 1712 ; Y. C. 1740 ; became in 1742, first pastor of the church in Amity, Ct., afterwards named Woodbridge in his honor ; d. Dec. 24, 1785.

9. Rev. EPHRAIM<sup>4</sup> WOODBRIDGE (*John*,<sup>3</sup> *John*,<sup>2</sup> *John*<sup>1</sup>) grad. H. C. 1701 ; became minister of the first church in Groton, Ct., in 1704 ; m. May 4, 1704, Hannah, dau. of James Morgan ; d. Dec. 1, 1725. Children :

- i. DOBLEY, b. April 21, 1705 ; H. C. 1728 ; physician in Stonington ; m. Sarah, dau. of Isaac Sheldon, of Hartford ; d. Oct. 4, 1790. His grandson, Hon. William<sup>8</sup> Woodbridge, of Detroit, governor of Michigan and U. S. Senator, m. Julia, dau. of John Trumbull, author of *McFingal*. (See Walworth's *Hyde Genealogy*, page 922, for this family.)
- ii. PAUL, b. March 12, 1708 ; lived in South Kingston, R. I.
- iii. AUGUSTUS, b. Oct. 29, 1710.
- iv. HANNAH, b. Feb. 9, 1714.
- v. MARY, b. Oct. 27, 1719.
- vi. OLIVER, b. Dec. 3, 1723.

\* Miss Jones, in her "History of Stockbridge," p. 134, says, "His second wife was Miss Clark, of Belchertown."—ED.

† A memoir of this clergyman, by the Rev. Sereno D. Clark, was published in 1877, by Lee & Shepard, of Boston, under the title, "The New England Ministry Sixty Years Ago."—ED.

10. Rev. SAMUEL<sup>4</sup> WOODBRIDGE (*Benjamin,<sup>3</sup> John,<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>*) grad. H. C. 1701; ordained first minister of the church in East Hartford, Ct., March 30, 1705; m. Dec. 9, 1707, Mabel, dau. of Daniel Russell, of Charlestown, step-daughter of his uncle, Rev. T. Woodbridge, and widow of Rev. John Hubbard, of Jamaica, L. I. She d. about 1722, and he m. second, Mrs. Content, widow of Benjamin Bull, Esq., of Newport, R. I. He d. June 9, 1746, and his widow d. July 28, 1758. Children:

- i. WARD, b. 1708; d. 1728.
- ii. SAMUEL, b. 1711; d. 1719.
- iii. ELIZABETH, b. 1714; m. — Little; d. 1754.
- iv. DEODATUS, b. 1716; Y. C. 1736; removed to Lewiston, Pa.
- v. MABEL, b. 1718; m. Dr. Nathaniel Little.
- vi. RUSSELL, b. 1719; m. Anna Olmsted; d. 1782. The Cheney brothers, of Manchester, Ct., the noted silk manufacturers, are descended from him.
- vii. SAMUEL (second wife's son), b. 1732; d. in East Hartford, July 4, 1794.

11. Rev. TIMOTHY<sup>4</sup> WOODBRIDGE (*Timothy,<sup>3</sup> John,<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>*) grad. Y. C. 1706; became minister at Simsbury, Ct., 1712; m. Dorothy, dau. of Joshua Lamb, and widow of Rev. Dudley Woodbridge. Both of the Messrs. Woodbridge, and also Rev. John W. of West Springfield, were engaged in an association for working a large copper-mine, in that part of Simsbury now Granby, and were by this business involved in vexatious law-suits and other complications. Mr. T. Woodbridge also had difficulties with his parish, but remained in Simsbury until his death in 1742. Children:

- i. TIMOTHY, Y. C. 1732; tutor at Yale, 1737-39; ordained colleague pastor with Rev. William Williams over the church in Hatfield, Mass., in 1740; d. June 3, 1770.
- ii. HAYNES, m. Dec. 27, 1742, Elizabeth, dau. of Samuel Griswold, of Windsor, Ct.; had six children.
- iii. MARY, m. Hon. George Wyllis, secretary of state of Connecticut, 1735-95.

12. Rev. ASHBEL<sup>4</sup> WOODBRIDGE (*Timothy,<sup>3</sup> John<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>*) grad. Y. C. 1724; ordained minister at Glastonbury, Ct., in October, 1728; m. Nov. 17, 1737, Jerusha, dau. of William Pitkin, of East Hartford, and widow of Samuel Edwards, of Hartford; Fellow of Yale College, 1755-58; d. Aug. 6, 1758. His widow d. July 31, 1799. Children:

- i. ASHBEL, b. October, 1738; d. Aug. 15, 1758, being then a member of Yale College.
- ii. SAMUEL, b. Jan. 22, 1740; Y. C. 1763; minister at Eastbury, Ct., June, 1766; dismissed 1767; chaplain in the army during part of the revolutionary war; afterwards settled in West Hartland, Ct., as a farmer, preaching occasionally; m. 1779, Elizabeth Goodman, of West Hartford; d. July 23, 1797.
- iii. ELIZABETH, b. Oct. 1741; d. in infancy.
- iv. TIMOTHY, b. March 15, 1744; Y. C. 1765; minister at Whitestown, N. Y.
- v. HOWELL, b. March 17, 1746; m. Nov. 26, 1778, Mary, dau. of Ebenezer Plummer, of Glastonbury; colonel in the revolutionary army, and often representative for his native town in the Connecticut legislature; d. June 13, 1796.
- vi. THEODORE, b. Jan. 10, 1748; m. Nov. 13, 1783, Esther, dau. of Ebenezer Plummer; major in the revolutionary army; removed to Pennsylvania.
- vii. WILLIAM, b. Feb. 2, 1750; d. March 2, 1750.
- viii. ELIZABETH, b. Aug. 17, 1751; d. young.
- ix. WILLIAM, b. Sept. 14, 1755; Y. C. 1780; first preceptor of Phillips Academy, Exeter, and m. there, Elizabeth, dau. of Dea. Samuel Brooks; d. at Franklin, Ct., March 27, 1836. *William Channing<sup>6</sup> Woodbridge*, the geographer, was his son.

