

A  
WISWALL LINE

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Ten Generations in Descent

from ELDER THOMAS WISWALL  
of Dorchester, Massachusetts  
1635

to JAMES BOIT WISWALL  
Wakefield, Massachusetts  
1925

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Compiled by Clarence Augustus Wiswall

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
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## Foreward

Gleaning from such historical records as are available, as well as from contemporary sources, the family history here set forth leaves much to be desired. The length of time which has elapsed since the first landing of the progenitors of this line on these New England shores as well as the loss of many of the original documents relating to the period covered, has made the task more difficult.

In attempting, however, in this imperfect manner to portray the character and accomplishments of some of those who have preceded us in our native land, endeared to us through their toil and privation, it is with no sense of vain glory, but with a deep reverence for that divine power whose guiding hand directed our forefathers in all their ways.

Landing on the shores of a new continent which consisted of an almost unbroken wilderness whose only inhabitants were hostile savages, a home must be provided and sustenance procured, the church established and laws for their government proclaimed.

Active in the affairs of church and state, taking the freeman's oath, performing every public and private duty when called upon, leading the

military forces to repel the attacks of their savage foes when danger threatened, even at the expense of life itself; in later years responding to the call to take up arms against the unjust enactments of the mother country; aiding with wise counsel, tendering to the utmost of their means, pledging assistance to the impoverished government until liberty is finally secured; and in succeeding generations fulfilling the duties of citizenship and helping to maintain a government of "law and order", has been the chronicle of the line of ancestry here so briefly set forth.

May the lives of those who follow in the footsteps of our pioneers be brightened, our liberties preserved for all time, and the blessings of a free and prosperous people be our portion till time shall be no more.

*Clarence Augustus Norvall.*

## ELDER THOMAS WISWALL

The earliest permanent settlement on that part of Massachusetts Bay called Dorchester, was made under a Charter granted by King Charles I of England, confirming the Patent of Massachusetts colony dated March 4th, 1629.

The first to arrive under this Charter were those who came in the Mary and John, numbering 140 persons, landing on May 30th, 1630; and as many of the settlers came from Dorchester, England, they gave this name to their new home.

In the year 1635 there arrived in Massachusetts many ships with passengers from England and the Dorchester Plantation attracted its full share of their number.

Besides those who came with Mr. Mather in "The James" from Bristol, in 1635, the names of Dorchester settlers are found in four other vessels from London the same year.

Among the names listed in Dorchester in what is called the second emigration from England, is found that of Thomas Wiswall and his brother John. They left several brothers in England and are supposed to have come from Smith-fould in the County of Lancaster. That they were men of deep religious conviction is shown by their prominence in church affairs, both serving as Presiding Elders.

Thomas was accompanied by his wife, Elizabeth, and his son, Enoch, who was born two years previously. He joined the church the year following and in 1637 was a grantee of land in the Dorchester settlement.

Dorchester  
Town  
Records Page 100

He undoubtedly was a man of substance as his property investments showed, and also a person of education which his letter written to the General Court, now on file in the Massachusetts State Archives, plainly evidences.

That he also was a believer in the higher branches of learning is shown in the education given his son Ichabod, who attended Harvard College, and afterwards became the first Minister at Duxbury, and who likewise was famous as an astrologer and mathematician as well as noted divine; also his son Noah, prominent in military affairs and later killed in battle at Wheelwright's Pond, N. H., in desperate conflict with the French and Indians, was a man of advanced education. Thomas Wiswall was soon active in town affairs and took a prominent part in all the public concerns of the new settlement. He identified himself in the work of the church on committees for establishing a public school, said to be the first in New England and in laying out the roads and boundaries of the town.

In 1644 he also served as one of the selectmen of the town, again filling the same office in 1652, and took the freeman's oath in 1654.

This same year, possibly prompted by a desire for more land for himself and numerous family, he removed to what is now Newton, then called Cambridge Village, till changed Aug. 27th, 1679.

There were but twenty residents in the Village at the time of his settlement. In addition to these twenty were twelve young men of the second generation, including his son Noah.

One of his sons, two grandsons, two great grandsons and others of later generations were graduates of Harvard College. Still others were graduates of Yale and Dartmouth.

Of the natural features of Newton, mention should be made both of its land and water. Newton has three large ponds. Wiswall's, covering about 33½ acres, Hammond's and Bullough's Ponds. We find the following statements recorded concerning the first and second.

April 1, 1634. There is 1,000 acres of land and a great Pond (Wiswall's Pond) granted to John Haynes.

Wiswall's Pond near the Center, and Hammond's Pond near the easterly part of the town, were so called in remembrance of two of the early and prominent settlers of the town, Thomas Wiswall, the first ruling Elder of the church, and the first settler upon the banks of the one, and Thomas Hammond the first settler upon the borders of the other.

Elder Thomas came into the town from Dorchester in 1634 and died here in 1683. Hammond came in 1650 and died in 1675. Both were pioneer settlers and substantial pillars of the plantation. The descendants of both have been numerous in the town and country and highly respected.

For nearly two centuries these ponds have been naturally and properly known by these names.

They have become part and parcel of the historical facts of the place and ought to be forever known by these names.

His homestead in the Village consisted of 300 acres including the Pond which bore his name. His house was upon its south bank, now owned by Mr. Luther Paul. His land was on the northerly part of the Haynes farm, being part of the grant of 1,000 acres made by the General Court to Gov. Haynes in 1634.

The Wiswall house was built in 1674, and was the first house on the shore of the Pond or anywhere near it. It was situated on a high bank above the water, and had pleasant views of the Pond through the intervening trees.

The Elder's mansion is thus described in the inventory of his estate "lower lodging room—chamber over—fire room—chamber over—and the cellar."

It was large for that early period, and divided into comfortable rooms. It was the only house in the neighborhood for many years, and, excepting so much of the land as Elder Wiswall saw fit to clear, was surrounded by forest. The body of water adjoining soon came to be known as Wiswall's Pond, a name which it kept for almost one hundred and fifty years.

The Elder had seven children, two of whom, Ichabod, born in 1637, and Noah, born in 1638, achieved distinction, the former as a clergyman, the latter as a soldier. Ichabod—educated at Harvard College—was ordained pastor of the Duxbury Church in 1676, and was agent for the Plymouth Colony, in England, to obtain a new charter, in 1689. This brought him into a diplomatic controversy with the Reverend Increase Mather, who was exerting himself to obtain a charter that would unite Massachusetts, Plymouth, and Maine under one government. Mather was successful, but Wiswall proved himself a worthy opponent and a devoted representative of the interests of Plymouth.

Before he came to Newton, Wiswall was a prominent citizen and town officer of Dorchester. His experience in town government soon brought him to the front in Newton, which, it should be



remembered, was then a part of Cambridge and known as Cambridge Village. With the assistance of John Jackson, probably the first settler in Newton, he soon began active measures for a separation from Cambridge in the matter of church dues. His efforts met with strong opposition from Cambridge for several years, but he held his ground, and in the end succeeded to the full extent of his wishes. In the new parish then created, he performed the duties of elder, assistant pastor, and catechist.

And here, doubtless, he had many a bout with his valiant second wife, she that was born Isabel Barbage, of Great Packington, in Warwickshire, and who, after his death, strove against his sons for her dowry. To quiet down the spirited widow, the magnates of the settlement, Prentice, Bond, and Trowbridge, assembled in committee, and finally got her under discipline, Prentice, the stern old trooper, compelling her to retract certain rash assertions, and then dryly counselling her "to set a watch before her mouth, and keep the door of her lips."

In 1657 he and his wife conveyed to his son Enoch of Dorchester his homestead in Dorchester which formery belonged to Mr. Maverick.

The Dorchester Church records state he was dismissed from the Church 5, 4, 1664 for the beginning of a church at Cambridge Village. Also 11, 7, 1664 was dismissed his wife. He and his wife then became members of the new church.

On the day of the ordination of John Eliot, Jr., as pastor of the First Church he was ordained Ruling Elder or Assistant Pastor, in inspecting and disciplining the flock. The monument in the Center Street ground gives the date July 21, 1664.

Smith's  
History Page 196

60 In 1660 the first Meeting House in Cambridge Village was erected.

In October 1662, John Jackson and Thomas Wiswall petitioned the Court for a new line separating the Churches.

In 1662 the Committee above named settled the bounds between Cambridge and Cambridge Village so far as related to the matter of Ministerial Support.

Newton was incorporated as a town in 1679, when it separated from Cambridge.

It was usually called New Cambridge till 1691, whereby order of the General Court it was called Newton.

47 Elder Wiswall, in 1668, was appointed to catechise the children at the new church of the village, the first church having been organized in 1664.

141 Elder Wiswall or his heirs gave part of the land used for the training field at Newton Center.

161 In 1671 a committee reported to Cambridge it was needfull there should be an open highway four rods wide from the Boston bounds through the Wiswall farm to the Falls.

206 The old Cemetery on Center street is the oldest in Newton, and was established as such about 1669. The first meeting house in Cambridge Village was erected in the old burial place the same year. A monument inscribed with the names of the first settlers has been erected by 43 of the descendants of the men it commemorates. This was dedicated in September 1852.

His name appears among the first free holders in a list of 63 names in 1679—also his son Noah.

Dissensions having arisen in the Church the following letter was written the Court in answer to a communication from them.

See "County Court Records, Vol. 3"

"Camb. Village 18, 4, 1670

"To the Honored Court now sitting at Charlestown.

May it please you—yours of Apr 5, 1670, I received, and after serious perusal and consideration did communicate it unto the Church. But with grief and shame may we say we had no comfortable return to make. But so it came to pass that the 19th of April we gave the former Council the trouble to come again who having heard both sides did confirm your former Council; and yet it will not obtain. But may it please you the next 4th day, if the Lord will I intend to move the church again, and in the mean time rest

Your humble servant

Thomas Wiswall"

He had four sons and three daughters with upwards of thirty grandchildren.

39

His last wife was Isabella Farmer widow from Ansley, England, who died 21 May, 1686 at Billerica.

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He died intestate Dec. 6th, 1683 aged 80 years. There is no monument to his memory, unless the Pond be such. It was his, and has for two centuries been known as "Wiswall's Pond".

The inventory of his estate specified £340, 207 acres of land and 4 Bibles.

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There is no record of the deeds of his farm.

His successors were his son, Capt. Noah Wiswall, 1684; grandson, Lieut. Thomas Wiswall, 1690; great grandson Capt. Noah Wiswall, 1720.

### CAPT. NOAH WISWALL OF NEWTON.

Capt. Noah Wiswall, son of Elder Thomas, was born in Dorchester in 1638, and was well educated. He married Theodosia Jackson, Dec. 10th. 1664. They had two sons and six daughters.

Jackson's  
History of  
Newton

At the death of his father he inherited part of his original grant of land which was held in succession by his son, Thomas, and grandson Noah.

Bodges'  
K. P. War  
Page 448

He early identified himself with the military affairs of the town, holding the rank of Captain.

Dec. 24th, 1676, he received credit for services in King Philip's War.

62

Noah Wiswall and others were chosen a committee by the village to settle the dividing line between Cambridge and the village. This award was dated July 27th, 1677.

At the session of the General Court, commencing May 8, 1678, a petition was presented, signed by Capt. Noah Wiswall and others, asking for a separate township from Cambridge.

At a town meeting held on the 30th of January 1681-2. it was voted that Sergeant John Ward and Noah Wiswall should commence a new Record Book and copy all that was of moment from the old book. It is not known who filled the office of Town Clerk previous to 1694 but probably it was Capt. Noah.

He was Selectman in 1685, and Assessor in 1686. In 1687. he and John Ward were joined to the Selectmen to treat with the Selectmen of Cambridge, to lay out a highway from the Meeting House, through the lands of the Cambridge proprietors, to the Falls.

In 1688 he was chosen one of a committee by the inhabitants to join the selectmen to make a rate for the Minister.

The number of male settlers in Newton found upon the records to the year 1690—was 54. Of these twelve had died, but many had left numerous descendants who had made settlements in the town, adding materially to the number of inhabitants.

Jackson's  
History Page 11

All those of military age were enrolled in the Colonial Militia and served at various times in the different Indian outbreaks.

In the command of the Military Company at this time was Capt. Noah Wiswall.

In the only authentic account of the engagement in which he lost his life, Niles Indian Wars, published 1746, but a bare outline of the events are given and much is left to the imagination; however from contemporary records much of interest can be deduced.

That hostilities were impending can be inferred from the original order now on file to the Gunsmith's of Charlestown dated Nov. 1688, for the repair of all arms for the use of men in his Majesties service under the command of Capt. Noah Wiswall; and when the order finally came a year and a half later, to take up arms against the French and Indians who were devastating our frontier settlements, they were prepared to perform their duties.

The Company was composed, as far as we now know, of the young men of Newton, though they may have been drawn from the surrounding villages. A little light is shown on their membership from the petition of two of their numbers,

Thos. Hapgood of Marlboro, and John Prentis of Newton, who probably went as Physician, for compensation for wounds received in the fight in which Capt. Wiswall was killed.

In retrospect, on that July morning, in response to the call to arms we can see the Company assembled ready for the march, armed with their flint lock muskets. As the last goodbyes are said the line of march is taken and they set off on their long and perilous journey into what was then a wilderness, against their cunning and savage foes. That they realized the seriousness of their undertaking, many past experiences must have warned them, and that the leave-taking were filled with forebodings, later events do not leave in doubt. All were leaving behind their friends and relatives, some wives and children. Among them was the commander of the expedition who was accompanied by his son, John, who perished with him in the subsequent encounter.

Leaving his farm of some two hundred acres to the guidance of his wife and children, two sons and six daughters, most of them of tender age, well may the parting have been a lingering one before the last spoken word or farewell look. When days afterwards reports of the fatal encounter came back from the survivors, who, after a long and valiant contest against superior forces were obliged to retreat and leave their fallen comrades in the field of battle, where they lay at the mercy of their savage foes, no record of their grief and sorrow is recorded in the annals of that day.

The early history of our country is filled with events such as here portrayed, that later generation might reap the benefits of the heroism and

sacrifice made by the pioneers of our present civilization. The sufferings and dangers undergone by our forefathers may well prove to be an inspiration for succeeding generations to build an enduring structure of law and liberty for all the people of this land they so well served.

In 1689, the General Court appointed Capt. Prentice and Capt. Noah Wiswall to gather up the arms belonging to the Indians, at Natick, which had been pawned to several persons.

In August, 1689, Capt. Wiswall and some Indian Auxiliaries were sent out under conduct of Lieut. Flagg who went as far as Lake Winnepesaukee. They found the enemy and lodged with them two nights, as they were afterwards told by some captive Indians whom they had with them.

Niles' History of  
Indian Wars  
Page 210

On July 4th, 1690, a court was called at Portsmouth, N. H., and it was agreed to send Capt. Wiswall with a considerable scout to scour the woods as far as Casco, and to send with him one of the other Captains and four score stout able men. The lot fell on Capt. Flagg, and that Lieut. Davis should take a detachment of twenty-two men from Wells. They took their march from Quochee into the woods.

Page 218

July 6th Capt. Wiswall and Floyd sent their scouts early in the morning to see whether they could discover any traces of the enemy. They vigorously pursued and over-took them at Wheelwright's Pond and a bloody engagement followed. Capt. Wiswall, Lieut. Flagg and Ensign Walker and fifteen men were slain and others wounded. Capt. Floyd continued the fight for several hours; his tired and wounded men drew off and he soon followed them.

Page 224

In the Spring of 1690, depredations were perpetrated by the French and Indians, in the eastern part of Massachusetts, Maine and New Hampshire. In the beginning of May, about five hundred French and Indians were discovered around Casco (Portland). Casco was attacked, and Maj. Davis carried captive to Canada. Capt. Noah Wiswall, Lieut. Gersham Flagg and Ensign Edward Walker, with a company of Infantry, marched for the security of Casco. They arrived at Portsmouth July 4, where a court was called, and it was agreed to send Capt. Wiswall to scour the woods as far as Casco, with one other Captain and four Sergeants. Several Captains desired to go with Capt. Wiswall, and they cast lots to know who should go, and the lot fell to Capt. Floyd; and Lieut. Davis, with twenty-two men from Wells, joined them. They took up their march from Cocheco, into the woods. On the 6th of July, Capt. Wiswall sent out his scouts early in the morning, found the trail of the enemy, and overtook them at Wheelwright's pond, and a bloody engagement followed. Capt. Wiswall, Lieut. Flagg, and Serg't Walker, and fifteen men, were slain, and others wounded. Capt. Floyd continued the fight for several hours; his tired and wounded men drew off, and he soon followed them. There is a tradition that Capt. Noah had a son, John, who belonged to his Company and fell with him in that action. His estate was appraised by Capt. Thomas Prentice, James Trowbridge, and Ebenezer Wiswall. Inventory, £437, 7s. Wid. Theodosia m. Dea. Samuel Newman, of Rehoboth, and d. Nov. 1725 upwards of 80.



Part of his land was inherited by his son-in-law, Joseph Cheney. In 1678 conveyed fifteen acres to John Prentice. The old homestead bounded west on Centre Street, near the Pond was afterward bought by Luther Paul.

(8)

His widow had ninety acres and his son Thomas ninety-five acres. His son, Thomas, bought out the other heirs and took the homestead in 1698 and purchased the widow's thirds in 1703.

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## Addenda

"Fisk's History of the U. S.—Page 162"—says  
"In 1689 Louis XIV sent Count Frontenac to be Gov. of Canada and with orders to conquer New York. Owing to trouble with the Indians in Canada, however, his schemes dwindled into a frontier raid.

"In February 1690 a small party of French and Indians sent out by Frontenac surprised the village of Schenectady and massacred sixty of the inhabitants.

"About a month later another of his parties laid waste the village of Salmon Falls, N. H., and shortly after Fort Royal standing in what is now a part of the City of Portland, Maine, met a similar fate."

It was no doubt one of these marauding parties with whom Capt. Wiswall had his conflict.

## *HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CRYSTAL LAKE*

Capt. Noah was a selectman in 1685, and an assessor in 1686. In the spring of 1690 Indian depredations became frequent in the vicinity of Casco Bay. As captain of a company of infantry, Noah was sent to the front. He overtook the enemy at a place called Wheelwright's Pond. An engagement followed, in which Capt. Wiswall, with seventeen of his troops, was killed. His bravery received public recognition some years afterwards, when the General Court granted to his heirs several hundred acres of land at the foot of Wachusett Mountain.

Crystal Lake  
Page 17

This record of service to the community was repeated by the grandsons and the great grandsons. For example, the martial instinct was so strong in Captain Noah Wiswall of the fourth generation that he could not resist the battle-cry even in extreme old age. On the day of the battle of Lexington his eagerness to "see what the boys were doing," as he expressed it, led him so near the firing-line that he received a serious wound in the hand and returned home a hero, carrying as proof of his valor the captured rifle of his nearest enemy. His age at the time of this exploit was seventy-six. This sturdy descendant of the original Wiswall tore down the ancient dwelling of his great grandfather in 1744 and replaced it with a more modern house, parts of which remained intact until very recent times.

This brief sketch of the Wiswall family will suffice to show that the first settler on Crystal Lake was not only a man of parts himself, but also the progenitor of many excellent people who afterwards tilled the hills and valleys of which he was once almost the sole lord and master.

## Addenda

### CAPT. NOAH WISWALL

Page 558  
Vol. 4  
Military Rec.  
Archives  
State House

"To the Gunsmiths of Charlestown—

Order for the repair of all arms for the use of men in his Magestys service under the command of Capt. Noah Wiswall.

Dated November, 1688. Jos. Wade, Maj.

Original order on file—

Page 637  
Vol. 4  
Military Rec.  
Archives

Petition of Thos. Hapgood of Marlboro to Gov. Dudley—

For compensation for wounds received in the fight in which Capt. Noah Wiswall was killed.

Dated November 13, 1703-Nov. 17, 1703

5£ awarded.

Original Petition on file—

Page 642  
Vol. 71  
Military Rec.  
Archives

Petition of John Prentice of Newton—

For compensation for wounds received in the fight in which Capt. Noah Wiswall was killed. Was "laid up for three years, probably disabled for life and growing worse", and with a family to support.

Dated Newton July 19, 1710—

October 26, 1710—House of Rep.

Resolved

That the sum of 10£ be paid as full Compensation.

Original Petition on file—"

## LIEUT. THOMAS WISWALL OF NEWTON

Lieut. Thomas Wiswall, grand son of Elder Thomas Wiswall was born in Newton Feb. 28th, 1666: m. at Newbury, Hannah Cheney, July, 1696, and took the homestead of his father.

Smith's  
History (1)

Their family consisted of three boys and four girls. He was active in the military company of his Town serving with the rank of Lieutenant.

He was Highway Surveyor in 1694; Constable in 1699; Selectman, in 1706 and 1707.

The Records of New Camb. 1696 states he was paid 6/8 for killing a wolf.

52

May 8th, 1703 he joined in giving a right of way, for divers consideration, and especially in consideration, of a verbal agreement made by his grandfather Elder Thomas, between the "Great Meadows" and the Sherburne Road.

Jackson's  
History (6)

44

He sold 43 acres land in 1705 to Andrew Hall for £22.

(7)

He bought of the other heirs the homestead of his father, Capt. Noah in 1698 and purchased the widow's thirds in 1703. This homestead was probably the southerly part of the Elder Wiswall farm. He sold to Samuel Hyde three quarters acre land on the northerly side of the great pond. The wid. of Capt. Noah had ninety acres, and son Thomas, ninety-five acres. In 1733, Nathaniel Parker, and the other heirs of Capt. Noah Wiswall, petitioned the General Court for a grant of land, in consideration of the services of their father in the Indian war. The House of Representatives voted that fifteen hundred acres be appropriated in Lunenburg and Rutland, east of Wachusett Hill, to be divided among the officers

Jackson's  
History

and soldiers who were in the fight on Lamphrey river, and to the representatives of Capt. Noah Wiswall. Four hundred acres to Lieut. Gersham Flagg; three hundred acres to Ensign Edward Walker; and one hundred and fifty acres to each of the soldiers. The Council voted to non-concur with the doings of the House, but finally reconsidered their vote, and concurred in Dec., 1733. He died 1709, æ. 45. Wid. Hannah married David Newman of Rehoboth, June, 1719. Caleb Stedman, of Rox., was administrator of his Estate: Inventory, 1707. Ninety-five acres land divided to wid. Hannah Newman, her thirds, and to Thomas, Ichabod, Noah, and Nathaniel Longley. To oldest son Noah, the buildings and thirty-seven and a quarter acres; to Thomas and Ichabod sixteen and a half acres, on the N. side partly by the Great pond; Mrs. Hannah, eighty and a half acres on the N. side of the road and house. Nathaniel Parker bought out the heirs and widow's thirds, and took part of the land of Capt. Noah Wiswall.

### *CAPT. NOAH WISWALL*

Capt. Noah Wiswall, son of Lieut. Thomas Wiswall, was born in Newton September 7, 1699.

He married Thankful Fuller in 1720, who was born on December 23, 1704 and died 1745. They had six sons and eight daughters.

His second wife was Deliverence Kenrick, of Brookline, to whom he was married in 1752. There is no record of any children by this marriage. Probably the captain was satisfied with the family he had by his first wife, seeing that it consisted of fourteen stalwart sons and daughters.

Following in the footsteps of his father and grandfather, he took a prominent part in military affairs attaining the rank of Captain and seeing service in the French and Indian Wars.

In 1744 he took down the ancient house built by Elder Thomas and built the front of the house as it now (1880) stands on the same spot chosen by the Elder.

He gave the land on which was erected the first Baptist Meeting House on the east side of the Pond.

His certificate of baptism reads as follows: "Newton, September 9, 1754—This may certify to whom it may concern, that I, Thos. Green baptized Noah Wiswall, John Hammond, Thos. Parker, all of said Town.

I say, baptized by me."

Thos. Green.

In May, 1753, the year before this he, (Noah) and others, addressed a memorial to the town meeting, praying that they might be exempted

from paying a Ministerial tax for the support of the Clergymen of the Town because they were conscientious Baptists and paid a tax elsewhere.

The town voted their petition be not granted.

At a Town Meeting held May 12, 1755, the matter of building a new pound was taken up for debate, accepting for the purpose Mr. Wiswall's offer of a piece of land.

September 29, 1768—Noah Wiswall and others were appointed a committee to make a draft of such rules and orders for regulating the work house as said committee shall think best, and lay the same before the Town for their Acceptance at the next public meeting of the Town.

He also served as Selectman of the Town three years from 1756.

At the Battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775, he served as a volunteer on the Alarm List of the East Newton Co., commanded by his son, Capt. Jeremiah. They marched twenty-eight miles that day. He was the oldest man from Newton in the action that day, and was wounded in the hand by a bullet.

Two others of his sons, Ebenezer and John, and some of his sons in law were in the same Co. Dr. John King was one.

S. F. Smith's Life of Rev. Mr. Grafton, (page 211) states that Capt. Noah was in the battle of Lexington. Two of his sons, and some of his sons-in-law were in the East Newton company, commanded by his son, Capt. Jeremiah. "After the company had marched for Lexington, he started on foot and alone, to follow them, saying, 'I wish to see what the boys are doing.' Standing with some Americans not far from the field,



three British soldiers came in sight; he immediately pointed them out to his companions, saying, 'If you aim at the middle one, you will hit one of the three.' They did so, and were successful; the other two fled. As he held out his hand, pointing towards the Britons, a musket ball passed through it. He coolly bound up the hand with his handkerchief, picked up the gun of the fallen regular, and brought it home as a trophy."

He was seventy-six years old. It may seem incredible that a man of his years could have performed the march and endured the fatigues of that day, but the roll of the East Newton company, in the battle of Lexington, now in the office of the Secretary of State, of Massachusetts, and sworn to by the captain of that company, before Judge Fuller, shows that he was with the company, and not only he, but Ebenezer Parker, then seventy-three years old, and Dea. Jonas Stone, Dea. David Stone, Dea. William Bowles, and several other aged men, were volunteers in the ranks of the company on that day. Their sons were there, and they could not stay at home. His sons, Samuel, Ebenezer and John were in the army.

On Wednesday, July 5, 1780, the members met at the house of Mr. Wiswall for the purpose of being publicly recognized as a Church of Jesus Christ and the First Baptist Church of Newton.

Here was the first home of the Baptist faith in Newton; and in the Wiswall living-room the church received its effective organization. Oftentimes, of a summer's day, the adherents of this belief assembled under the great trees before the homestead, and listened to the deep doctrinal counsels of their elders, or the spiritual sermons of visiting pastors.

September 21, it was voted to give "Noah Wiswall" forty pounds, quarterly, for the use of his house where the church first held their meetings.

The first Meeting House was erected on land given by him on the border of Wiswall's Pond at the easterly part fronting on the road.

The vote to build the house is dated Jan. 17, 1781.

He died in Newton June 13th, 1786.

Gleaning from such Historical records of the times that have come down to us, he was a person of prominence in the community.

Inheriting a part of the original grant of land to his grandfather, he doubtless was engaged in farming. Active in Military affairs as commander of the Militia Company in the French and Indians Wars, serving the Town in public office, donating land for general use, and largely instrumental in establishing the first Baptist Church in the community, he was highly respected and honored throughout the many years of his life in his native place.

## Addenda

When Dr. John King, a veteran of the Revolution, rode into Newton, to succeed to the practice of Dr. John Cotton, the people at Mitchell's Tavern recommended him to board at Captain Noah Wiswall's. But Miss Sarah Wiswall, the captain's daughter, took great displeasure thereat, and exclaimed: "*Everybody* is sent to our house." Perhaps it was to get sufficient opportunity to punish the intruder that she married him, and lived with him for thirty-seven years, until Death came to call her away, leaving five stout boys.

## CAPT. JEREMIAH WISWALL OF NEWTON

Jackson's  
History

Page 438

3

Capt. Jeremiah Wiswall, was born in Newton October 27th, 1725.

He married Elizabeth, daughter of Lieut. Robert Murdock, Jr., December, 1750 and took the homestead of Murdock, at Oak Hill.

Three boys and three girls were born to them. His wife died August 19th, 1769.

With his large farm of some 200 acres and his numerous family of children, some of whom were of tender age, he no doubt felt the pressing need of another helpmate. He accordingly married in November, 1770 as his second wife, Hannah, daughter of William Marean, and by her raised an additional family of three sons and two daughters.

Smith's  
History  
of Newton

328

(3)

333

(4)

At a town meeting held December 20, 1773, he was appointed one of a committee of fifteen to confer with the inhabitants of the town as to the expediency of leaving off buying, selling or using any of the India teas.

January 2, 1775, he was one of a committee chosen to enlist thirty-two men for Minute Men, and to add as many more as they think necessary for officers; and that they meet once a week during the Winter season for half a day, for exercise and all that attend shall be paid eight pence each. A Province tax was voted and he was chosen collector.

On April 19, 1775 there were three companies of infantry in Newton, the East Company, West Company and a Company of Minute men.

The East Company was commanded by Capt. Jeremiah Wiswall. The roll of the company as returned by him contained the names of seventy-six men who were in the Battle that day and who marched twenty-eight miles. Among them were the names of his father, Capt. Noah, and two brothers, Ebenezer and John; also his son, Samuel.

On the morning of that memorable day was heard the signal guns which announced that the British troops were on the march towards Lexington and Concord, where the Provincials had stored a quantity of supplies and ammunition. Soon after daybreak, warned by a messenger on a speedy horse he issued orders for his Company to meet upon the parade ground forthwith. This command was promptly executed and before eight o'clock they were on their march to join their Regiment at Watertown Meeting House. This was Col. Thomas Gardner's Regiment of Militia.

From thence they took their march for Lexington and Concord. They encountered Lord Percy's reserves at Concord and continued to hang upon the flank and rear of the British troupes till night. During the conflict, his father, Capt. Noah Wiswall, who was then seventy-six years of age, and was serving as a volunteer in the Company, received a British musket ball through his hand, as he was cheering on the boys. But coolly binding it up he continued to encourage them throughout the day till the contest over they finally reached home, he bearing as a trophy, the musket of a fallen enemy.

Truly a remarkable instance of endurance for a man of his years to cover in one day a distance of twenty-eight miles on foot.

Jackson's  
History Page 185  
(5)

On the 4th of March, 1776, at the request of General Washington, he marched with the East Co. forty-seven men to take possession of Dorchester Heights where they remained in camp till Boston was evacuated by the British.

Smith's  
History Page 365  
(7) 193

March 14, 1777, he was one of a committee to hire soldiers for the war.

In June, 1777, he was appointed one of a committee to remove Tories from the Town.

Smith's  
History 366  
(6)

March 21st, 1777, he lent the Town Treasurer to help pay the soldiers, £45.

370 He also served (at one time) as Selectman, seven years from 1772.

A committee appointed in March, 1779, to audit the accounts of the military committee, reported as follows:

Smith's  
History 371

Capt. Jeremiah Wiswall has received of the Treas. £33.

Col. Benj. Hammonds' account of money received in 1780 and 1782 for the purchase of beef for the army says:

Received of Capt. Jeremiah Wiswall (collector)	
" " " "	£2717-7s.
" " " "	£600
" " " "	£207 -6s.

May 31, 1782 granted an order to Capt. Wiswall for £9-407-1s-4d for money advanced to purchase beef for the army.

(9) 197

Dec. 1784 voted Jeremiah Wiswall and others be a committee to audit the accounts of the commissioned officers and the committee for hiring soldiers.

He was one of the original twenty-nine proprietors of the South Burial Ground, laid out in 1802. His name appears in the list of lot owners, also his son, Jeremiah, Jr.

Smith's  
History Page 278

His name is among the list of free holders in 1798, one-half house \$285.00, 16 acres \$587.00.

(10) 314

He died January 26, 1809, aged eighty-four years.

His widow died November 1811, aged sixty-six years.

## Addenda

King's Hand  
Book of  
Newton

Page 322

The Oak-Hill country is a region beloved of the sunshine, amid whose perfumed quietude flourish the feathery blooms of the golden-rod, constellations of white and purple asters, and all the glorious company of New England's Floral regalia.

Page 322

Here on the quiet Bald-Pate Meadows, where his father-in-law, Edward Jackson, had bequeathed him a hundred acres of land, Thomas Prentice made his home, back in the seventeenth century, and brought up a family of sturdy and valiant sons. Another of the pioneers was Captain Jeremiah Wiswall, son of the famous Noah Wiswall, who settled here in 1750, and had a great family. This valiant yeoman was a captain of minute-men at Lexington and Dorchester Heights, but escaped the angry bullets of our British brethren, waiting on earth until the year 1809, when he passed away, at the venerable age of eighty-four.

Acquiring by marriage, to the daughter of Lieut. Robert Murdock, a large estate which he diligently cultivated, he also found time to devote to public affairs. Joining the Military forces of his native Town at an early age, as so many of his forbears had done, at the outbreak of the Revolution, he was in command of one of these companies. While beyond the age of great activity at this period, he at once responded to the call to arms and lead his Company to the conflict at Lexington. Relinquishing the more arduous duties of the field to younger men, he applied himself to the public and financial matters



inseparable from the struggle in which the colonists were engaged.

That he was a man of means is evidenced by his contributions to the Town Treasury and the positions he held on various committees. Throughout the continuance of the war he was engaged in furthering the interests of the Patriotic cause by procuring enlistments in the army, and raising funds to carry on the contest. He afterwards assisted in auditing and settling the military accounts of the town which occupied much time for some years after peace was declared.

Serving for a quarter of a century after hostilities had ceased, he saw the government established on a firm and enduring foundation to which his many years of public service had assisted.

In his declining years surrounded by his numerous family and reflecting on the events of the stirring past, it must have been a source of gratification to realize the part, however humble, he had taken to create the new republic which had arisen on this Western continent.

## Addenda

Record of Capt. Jeremiah Wiswall.

Taken from Mass. Archives, State House.

(1)

"A list of Officers commissioned for the 1st Reg. June 1771.

A list dated Newton Sept. 17, 1771 recommended for a comm. as Lieut., Capt. Benj. Hammond's 2nd Newton Co.

Rank. Lieut. Capt. Hammond's, Col. Wm. Brattle's Reg."

April 19, 1775—In command of East-Co. of Newton at Lexington and Concord.

Jackson's  
History of  
Newton

Page 458

March 4, 1776—Marched with his Co. to Dorchester Heights.

## THOMAS WISWALL OF NEWTON

Thomas Wiswall, son of Capt. Jeremiah, was born on the old homestead of his father at Oak Hill, Newton, January 5th, 1775.

In early manhood he captured the heart of Sarah, daughter of the somewhat lordly and patrician Trowbridges whose line extended back to the wealthy English merchant, and who long were prominent in Colonial government. Their marriage occurred in 1803. Her striking figure and pleasing features with her gracious manners and kindly spirit endeared her to all her family and friends. The family consisted of five sons and two daughters who reached maturity.

In early life he learned the trade of carpenter and as such worked on the construction of St. Mary's Church at the Lower Falls. He afterwards removed to Falmouth, Maine, where his daughter, Hannah, was born, Dec. 28, 1806. At a subsequent date he went to Exeter, N. H.

The first paper mill on the Exeter River, next above King's Falls, some two miles from Exeter, was built in 1777. This property was conveyed in 1813 to Col. Enoch Wiswall of Watertown, Massachusetts, who transferred it, in 1815, to his brother Thomas. He operated it successfully in conjunction with Isaac Flagg, manufacturing book and news paper until his death. He owned two-thirds of the stock and Flagg owned one-third. His residence was near the mill and consisted of a large, white painted frame house, and here several of his children were born, among them his son, Augustus. In February, 1833, the

mill was burned but was rebuilt the same season with improved equipment.

On Sunday, June 11, 1911, the writer, while on a visit to the old mill site and homestead at Exeter, Mr. Jeremiah Dudley then in his 92nd year, who was an old resident and lived near, gave the following account of my grandfather, whom he remembered well:

He said he was not a "large man", being of medium height and somewhat spare build with light hair and blue eyes. He also said he was slightly lame. That he was the practical man in the mill, looking after the making of the paper while Flagg delivered the manufactured product with teams to the newspaper offices in the surrounding towns, going as far as Lowell and Portsmouth and even he thought as far as Boston.

Flagg claimed one-half interest, which was allowed, though there was some question as to how he obtained so large a portion.

After Thos. Wiswall's death, which occurred April 27, 1836, his son Otis assumed his place in the business for some time, but finally Flagg gained the entire possession of the property, as was supposed by the poor business judgment of Otis, and very much to the financial disadvantage of the heirs.

The aforementioned Jeremiah Dudley also gave the following description of my grand mother, Sarah Wiswall:

"She was of more than medium height, of a full figure with a very fair complexion and handsome features, blue eyes and light hair. She was of a very amiable disposition and much loved in the community."

She died at the home of her son, Thomas, in Dover, August 3rd, 1848, and was buried the following Saturday by the side of her husband in Exeter. She was brought on the cars from Dover. Many of the townspeople were at the depot on arrival and formed a procession to the church yard.

## *AUGUSTUS CURTIS WISWALL*

Augustus Curtis Wiswall, was born at Exeter, N. H., June 24th, 1823. After attending the district school, he entered Phillips Exeter Academy.

At the age of 17 years he had completed his school course at the Academy.

Filled with a love of adventure natural to boys of that age and with a desire to see something of the world, his mind turned towards a sea-faring life.

His father having died a few years before, his mother was left with a family of five sons and two daughters of whom he was the youngest. With a mother's natural affection, especially for her youthful and orphan son, we can well imagine her feelings of apprehension at this expressed desire. But after careful consideration rather than thwart his ambition, she gave a reluctant consent.

Leaving home, he journeyed to Boston and put up at the Sailors Home kept by Mr. Buffum, where he stayed several days.

Residing in Newburyport at this time, was an old family friend, Capt. Coffin, with whom he expected to sail. However, he not being ready to start, after visiting him several days, he again returned to Boston. Noticing at the wharf a fine new ship of 500 tons burden named the "Republic" which had just completed loading a cargo of ice, and ready to sail for Calcutta, he was accepted by the captain and signed up for the voyage, his consular certificate duly secured.

The following Sunday morning, Sept. 5, 1840, in command of Capt. Cotting, they accordingly

set sail from the Port of Boston on their long voyage.

This was the era of the famous clipper ships, manned by American-born seamen, and whose sails whitened the seven seas.

"The anchor heaves. The ship swings free:  
The sails draw full—To Sea, To Sea."

"Old Song."

This voyage out and back lasting nearly a year, was the first of a series replete with hardship and adventure, little anticipated, at its beginning, and which was to last for the ensuing three years.

After a short stay at home the ship was again loaded with a cargo of salt and soon set sail.

Reaching the Isle of Mauritius, while at anchor in the lower harbor, the cargo took fire and the ship was totally consumed with its contents. The burning ship illuminated the whole harbor for a great distance, a spectacle of awe, as the flames spread to the sails and the tall masts.

Having lost all their personal effects they were sent home by the American Consul, where they eventually arrived some months later. His spirit of adventure still unsatisfied he made several other voyages.

The one which proved to be his last as a sailor was in a vessel with a general cargo for South America. Having set sail, they in due course arrived off the coast of Brazil, when some of the lawless members of the crew getting beyond the control of their officers, rose in open mutiny. Rushing forward with drawn knives they attacked and murdered the captain and first mate and seized possession of the ship. He, remaining

loyal, was badly wounded by a knife stab in the side, but his life was spared on condition that he navigate the ship's boat to land, being the only one left capable of doing so. To this he agreed and the mutinous crew then destroyed the ship.

They accomplished this by scuttling the ship, boring holes through the bottom by which it soon sank beneath the waves, thus removing the evidences of their crimes. Previous to this the long boat had been launched, the survivors assembled and at a safe distance saw their ship slowly submerged in the depth of the ocean.

Left alone in their small boat at the mercy of the waves as they rose and fell on the restless waters, with naught in sight but sea and sky; their plight was a desperate one. Though suffering severely from his wound, he took the tiller and with the others at the oars they set their course for the nearest land. Experiencing great distress from the fierce rays of the tropic sun by day and the chill air of night they slowly pursued their toilsome way towards the unknown shore, and while exposed to great hardship and danger the pangs of hunger and thirst increased their suffering.

Days elapsed ere they finally descried in the distance the long reach of glistening sands comprising this inhospitable coast.

Finally the shore was gained and beaching their boat, the emaciated and exhausted survivors of this ill-starred ship, hope and courage reviving, sought relief.

Soon they spied some native huts in the distance, whose inhabitants fled at their approach supposing from their strange and unkept appearances they were spectres.



Noticing a kettle containing some variety of food cooking over an open fire, they immediately seized it and after partaking of its contents, were somewhat revived. After resting for a day or more the party separated and he with one other made their way by land to Rio Janeiro after days of wandering and privation. Applying to the American consul for relief as shipwrecked sailors they were given transportation home by a returning sailing vessel. He thus finally arrived in Boston in a destitute condition without money or suitable clothing. Sending word of his distress to his brother, Thomas, at Exeter, the latter went to his relief at the Sailors Home where he was stopping. Providing him with a proper outfit they returned home to Exeter where his mother and the family greeted him as one lost to them for all time.

This harrowing experience so affected him and left such a deep impression on his mind he decided to definitely abandon the sea as a means of a livelihood. He never spoke of it in after life and only after his death did his wife reveal this tragic occurrence. To his brother Thomas, on his reaching Boston, where he found him at the sailors' home penniless and who assisted him to reach home, did he relate these events. As the guilty sailors had long since scattered to unknown parts, it was useless to institute any further investigation and he thought best to let the matter rest in forgetfulness.

In 1846, he went to St. Louis, Mo., and clerked in a store returning in November to Dover, N. H., and worked in the paper mill of his uncle, C. P. Moses.

He afterwards went to Newton Lower Falls and

was employed in the Paper Mill of Rice & Garfield. In 1852, he went to Buffalo Paper Mills, N. C., and took charge of a mill as superintendent, remaining about a year. Resigning his position he returned home, to which no doubt the chief attraction was the charming Ellen Frances Hill, then in her eighteenth year; they were soon married, October 17, 1853. Her oval face and fair complexion with large expressive hazel eyes might well prove an irresistible magnet to his responsive nature. Her placid disposition and even temper were never ruffled and in all their future years of married life no harsh word was ever spoken or note of discord marred the current of their lives. To him she was always the "Nellie" that he had wooed and won in all the bloom of early life.

Shortly after their marriage they went out to Columbus, Ohio, to go into business with his brother George, in a store. This not proving to his liking, he returned to Newton Lower Falls the next summer and again went to work in the mill of Rice & Garfield in the manufacture of paper.

In May, 1855 removed with family to Lawrence, Mass., and was employed in the Russell Mill, operating the paper machine.

Seeing but little chance for advancements in this position and with a growing family to provide for, and being thoroughly versed in the manufacture of paper he decided to seek another field.

Again being offered a position as Superintendent of the mill at Buffalo Paper Mills, N. C., he accepted, and in the Spring of 1856 took charge.

He shortly built a dwelling house and the fol-

lowing year brought out his family from Newton Lower Falls, Massachusetts.

His family at this time consisted of his wife and two small children under four years of age. Arriving at Charlotte at this time the terminus of the railroad, it was necessary to proceed the remainder of the distance by stage coach; this was as far as Shelby, which was their destination, a distance of 50 miles. This was over rough corduroy roads laid over a red clay soil in which the coach often sank hub deep. Much of the way was through dense forests, fording the creeks, and with a few sparse settlements at intervals to break the monotony of the trip. Truly a toilsome experience for a young woman in her early twenties with two babies to provide for.

After a few days' rest, they removed to Buffalo Paper Mills, a small settlement on Buffalo Creek three miles from town where they occupied the small but comfortable house he had newly constructed for their residence. This they occupied for several years.

In 1860 moved to Lincolnton and bought one-fourth part of the paper mill on the South Fork of the Catawba River from A. R. Homesley. Operated the mill under name of Oats, Wiswall & Co., till 1862. Then formed partnership with A. R. Homesley & P. Z. Baxter under style of A. C. Wiswall & Co., under which name the business was conducted till 1866.

He then bought out Homesley & Baxter and sold one-half interest to Mr. Wm. Tiddy and continued the business under firm name of Wiswall & Tiddy.

During the four years of the Rebellion he operated his mill continuously making to a large

extent writing paper and envelopes for the Confederate Government as he had virtually the only mill in the South capable of doing the work successfully.

Being a Northern man by birth and training he was naturally not in sympathy with the principles of Sedition, but by a strict attention to his own business and avoidance of all political discussion he was not interfered with, more particularly as his product was essential to the government.

Disbelieving in slavery he owned no negroes, hiring those he needed from their masters; neither did he invest money in Confederate Bonds as so many did.

He bought land largely, owning at the close of the war nearly one thousand acres besides the mill property and a substantial residence in town.

While acting in a very cautious and prudent manner it was well known among certain of the negroes and one or two loyal men that his sympathies were with the North. On one occasion he was informed by them that two Union officers were concealed in a hut in the cane brakes on the river, having escaped from their rebel captors at Charlotte. He, in conjunction with a loyal Englishman, a friend of his living near, named Marsh, arranged for their safety. They supplied them with two mules with proper outfit and by traveling nights, lying in hiding by day, they eventually made their way over the Blue Ridge Mountains, and through Tennessee into the Union lines. Had this been known, serious consequences would have resulted. A letter is still extant written by one of these officers after the war, giving a detailed account of their adventures.

In the Spring of 1865, just before Lee's surrender his wife and three small children set out to reach the North, having been away from friends and relatives nearly ten years.

Reaching Black River in Virginia after a long and tedious trip by rail, owing to its worn out condition, the women and children were ferried across from the Confederate lines to the Union side, no men being allowed to leave the South at that time.

Procuring a guide with a horse and open wagon they finally made their way into Portsmouth. There the Provost Marshal took charge of them as refugees and promptly landed them in jail. But on making known the fact they were well supplied with money in gold coin, were shortly afterwards released and after several days delay eventually arrived home in Massachusetts.

The following year the family again returned to their home in North Carolina.

In 1867 and 1868 he was a member of the Legislature, as a representative from Lincolnton.

In 1869 he sold his interest to Mr. Tiddy and returned with his family to Newton Lower Falls.

He then bought the water power and buildings known as the "Foster Mill" on Washington Street on the lower dam, from Thomas Rice, Jr., for \$10,000.00 and continued the business of manufacturing paper till his death in 1880.

January 1st, 1875, he admitted as a partner his son, Clarence A., and changed the firm name to "A. C. Wiswall & Son".

In 1873 in connection with Geo. Frost and Wm. Page he built a mill for the manufacturing of book paper at Packer's Falls, Newmarket, New Hampshire, at a cost of \$75,000.00.

This enterprise did not prove successful and at the expiration of two years he retired, meeting with a very serious financial loss.

The loss and worry attending this undertaking no doubt had much to do with the breaking down of his health, and from which he never afterwards fully recovered.

He was naturally a man of fine physique, 5 ft. 8 inches in height and weighing 165 lbs. He was of a very fair complexion with blue eyes and light hair inclined to be curly round the edges.

He was a very genial, companionable man, a good singer and an entertaining talker, having been a great reader and seen considerable of the world, especially in his younger days when he was a sailor.

He was a member of St. Mary's Church and for some time a vestryman. His death occurred on June 25, 1880, leaving a wife and five children to mourn his loss.

He was of an even temper not easily ruffled, an affectionate husband and a kind and indulgent father, and when he died he left no known enemy but a wide circle of loving friends, the universal opinion of whom was, "he was a good man".

"Higher praise than this hath no man".

## Address

### ELLEN FRANCES HILL

Feb. 20, 1835-Aug. 12, 1924.

For nearly 90 years was granted her the span of life.

Serene and tranquil she glided down the stream of time.

No unkind word was ever spoken nor was wish of ill for any one.

For more than half a century she lived in her home beside the River Charles.

Interested in her children by whom she was surrounded, grand-children and even great-grand-children, as well as friends and relatives, her mind was always keenly alert to passing events.

A great reader, she kept fully abreast of the times, always enjoying her home, and with her garden ever in season filled with many blossoms.

To the end, having no serious bodily ailments, she retained all her faculties except her hearing.

Pursuing her daily course until four days of her passing away, no lingering sickness was her portion.

Calm and placid in life she seemed at last like one who slept in peaceful quietude.

Beautiful in life, beautiful in her repose, a source of love and inspiration to all who knew her.

Accompanied by her family and friends, embowered with fragrant flowers, on an August afternoon of radiant sunshine she was placed at rest.

## CLARENCE AUGUSTUS WISWALL

Born in Newton, Mass., Oct. 30th, 1854.

The family removed to North Carolina when he was an infant and where his early years were passed. At the age of fifteen years they again returned to Newton Lower Falls where his father had purchased a mill for the manufacture of paper.

After attending the Grammar and High Schools of Newton, at the age of 18 entered the mill of his father to learn the process of making paper.

At the death of his father in 1880 he assumed control of the business which was conducted till 1892 when he sold the mill.

March 1st, 1881, married Harriet M. Boit of Newton. Dark-eyed and vivacious, a graduate of the Newton High School and Boston Normal School, and a teacher in the public schools in Boston, and whose eldest sister afterwards attained fame and wealth as the originator and developer of one of the largest knit goods mills in the country, she proved a worthy helpmate.

Two sons, Thomas A. and Augustus C., and two daughters, Clare E. and Marion E., were born and all grew to maturity.

In 1894 bought the paper mill property in Bradford, Vt., which was conducted for some years until afterwards sold.

In 1901 moved to Reading, Mass., and in 1908 in conjunction with his son, Augustus, established in Wakefield a plant for the manufacture of paper boxes.



## Addenda

Clare E. Wiswall, born January 8, 1882. Graduated from Wellesley High School in 1900. Married Clinton W. Crafts October 9, 1907. Two daughters were born to them, Eleanor B., June 23, 1910, and Jeanette W., June 24, 1915.

Thomas A. Wiswall, born in Wellesley Hills, Mass., July 28, 1883. Graduated from Wellesley High School in June, 1900, and entered Dartmouth in the Fall, and was graduated in the Class of 1904. Taking up the profession of medicine he secured his degree of M. D. and established himself in Falmouth, Mass., as a physician in the highest repute and with a large and growing practice. April 17, 1912, married Elizabeth Claire Cable, and two children were born to them: Elizabeth B., July 5, 1913, and Harriet M., August 14, 1914.

Marion E. Wiswall, born November 9, 1886 and married Lawrence W. Crafts September 15, 1905. A daughter, Dorothy Wiswall, was born July 15, 1906.

## *AUGUSTUS CURTIS WISWALL*

Born in Wellesley, Mass., Jan. 8th, 1885.

Graduated from the Wellesley Grammar School and the Reading High School.

Entered Dartmouth College and was a student for two years.

Commenced business as a manufacturer of paper boxes in 1908 at Wakefield, Mass.

Sept. 8, 1913, married Alice Frances Griffiths, who was of sturdy English lineage, and thus as the centuries rolled by the Anglo-Saxon strain again mingles in the line of ancestry here set forth. May the links of the chain be strengthened and increased in the years to come, by

James Boit Wiswall  
son of Augustus C. Wiswall,  
Born July 8, 1916

The tenth generation in direct line of descent  
from the Puritan Elder Thomas Wiswall.

## Addenda

Dorchester Town Records relating to Thos. Wiswall, Fourth report, Record Comm. City of Boston, 1880:

Jan. 2nd, 1637—Thomas Wiswall

28

To have 2 "akers towards fox poynt".

March 18th

The porportion of "necke" (land) which each man is to have according to the rule agreed on for deciding the same— (5 acres 6 rods)

The proportion which each man is to have of the "Lower Pasture" and other land according to the same rule of decision for "every" on the side the River—(5 acres 6 rods)

March 18th.

Thos. Wiswall—To view the field next where he dwells.

32

Feb. 13th, 1638

Is appointed to mark all the cattle according to a former order to that purpose.

38

1 of 1 Mo. 1641

44

It is ordered that all the fences about the home lots shall be put in good order before the 20th of this inst month under penalty of 2 s for each neglect

Thos. Wiswall to view them.

-The 24th of the 7th month 1644—

52

At a Town Meeting the 7 men underwritten were chosen to order the affairs of the Town till the 1st of the 9th month in the year 1645 and to have full powers to make orders to bind the Town as former 7 men have had, except in giving and

disposing of land, till other instructions be given them by the Town—

Thos. Wiswall—(and 6 others)—Also elected Selectman this year.

Page 54 17 Day of the first month 1645—

Thos. Clark of Boston sold unto Thos. Wiswall of Dorchester  $3\frac{1}{2}$  acres of land, be it more or less, with one barn and other things mentioned in a deed bearing date with these records

57 Appointed on Committee for building Meeting House

14th 1st mo. 1645.

It is ordered that a rate of 250 si shall be made for the building of a new meeting house and that the Raters chosen are—

Thos. Wiswall—et. al.

58 Md that the 20th day of the 8 mo in the year 1646 Richard Williams of Taunton in N. E. sold unto Thos Wiswall of Dorchester in N. E. all his Lott and Accommodations in Dorchester aforesaid, as they are expressed in an indenture bearing date with this record.

Witnessed

By John Wiswall being  
Moderator of 7 men

59 Whereas, Thos. Wiswall et. al. were appointed by the selectmen of Dorchester to lay out a town way towards the fresh Marsh—this way was laid out the 9th of the 10th month 1650:

Thos Wiswall et. al.

8—12 M. 55

73 It is agreed by and between the Selectmen of

Dor. in behalf of the Town and Thos Wiswall and his son Ichabod as follows:

First that Ichabod with the consent of his father shall from the 7th of March next ensuing unto the end of 3 full years shall instruct and teach in a free school in Dor. all such children as shall be committed to his care, in English, Latin and Greek as shall be capable. Also to instruct in writing such as shall be able. It is understood that all such children as are entered shall know their letters and be able to spell some. Also that the school house shall be kept in good order and comfortable both in summer and winter.

2nd That the Selectmen of Dor. Shall pay or cause to be paid unto Ichabod or his Father by his assignment the full sum of 25£ yearly, two thirds in wheat pease or barley, merchantable, and one third in Indian (corn), at or before the 1st of Mch. each year, at price currant.

2nd of 12 Mth 1646.

Page 75

For the final determination and ending of all matters in controversy concerning the fence about the great lots, the captain neck, the 6 acre lots and other proportions it is agreed to leave the same to the arbitration of Mr. Isach Heath, John Johnson, Wm. Parks, and to abide by their decision, signed

Thos Wiswall, et. al.

A true acct. of the fence of the great lots and the manner of laying it.

78

John & Thos Wiswall 5-Rods 9-ft-1/2

79

Year 1652--Elected one of the Selectmen--

85

The 9th of the last month 56.

The names of such as are appointed to view the fences in the Common fields for this year 57:

The lot behind Thos Wiswall, John Wiswall, Wm Clarke

85 At a town Meeting the first of Dec. 1656:

86 Thos Wiswall desired 14 bushels of Indian corn in part of pay for his son's teaching school, which Mr. Jones ordered him to take at Dedham.

Thos Wiswall was here desired in behalf of the school that a floor be laid over head in the school house and a study be made in it for the use of the schoolmaster provided 5s towards it, and timber in his lot for Joice.

102 At the meeting of the Selectmen the 14: (10) 1660 Thos Wiswall had a bill given him to receive of the Constable eighteen shillings and six pence in satisfaction for loss of the price of Indian corn which he received for that which was due to the Schoolmaster.

104 Whereas the Inhabitants of Dorchester have formerly ordered consented and agreed that a rate of 20£ per annum shall issue and be paid by the said inhabitants and their heirs from and out of a certain portion of land in Dor. called Thomsons lland for and towards the maintenance of a school in Dor. aforesaid.

And that upon experience it is found to be a matter of great labor and difficulty to collect the rent from so many persons who ought to pay the same, who hold title to land in said lland, being no less than six score or thereabouts, and inasmuch as the said rent of Twenty pounds when it is duly collected and paid is not of itself sufficient for a school without some addition thereto.

For the augmenting therefor of the said rent and to the intent that the same may be more readily collected and paid—It is hereby ordered and all the present inhabitants of Dor. aforesaid whose names are hereunto subscribed do for themselves and their heirs Covenant consent and agree that from henceforth the said Iland and all the benefits and profits thereof and all their rights and interest in the same shall be wholly and forever bequeathed and given away from themselves and their heirs into the Town of Dor. towards the maintenance of a free School in Dor. aforesaid for the teaching of children and youth in good literature and learning.

And to the intent that a better maintenance of a free school may arise from and out of the said Iland, it is therefore the mind of the present donors that the said Iland shall from time to time be let assigned and set over by the inhabitants of Dor. for such yearly rent as shall in common estimation amount to the full valuation of said Iland.

And to the intent that the good intention of the present donors be not penetrated—

It is hereby ordered that the said Iland shall be let assigned and set over only to such Tenants as shall by land or otherwise sufficiently secure the payment of the rent thereof and for avoiding the trouble that might arise from collecting the rent from too great a number of Tenants, it is hereby ordered that the said Iland shall never be let out to so many Tenants as shall number above ten at one time.

In witness whereof the present inhabitants have hereunto subscribed their names the Seventh day of the Twelfth month in the year 1641—

Memorandum—That before subscribing to these presents the donors aforesaid did further agree and declare that it was their mind and true intention that if at any time there shall happen to be a vacancy and want of a School Master by means of death or otherwise, yet the rents and profits arising from said Iland shall be applied only for the use and maintenance of the school and for no other purpose.

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Thos Wiswall et. al.

304 At a town meeting the 19: 3: 1651

Thos Wiswall requested that he might have liberty of passage to his own lot through his own fence on the side next the highway between the pound and nico; it was granted him a rod breadth.

307 An account of the Rates gathered in the year 1651 for the use of the Town of Dor.—Disbursed as follows:

308	—	It. to Thos Wiswall	2i	s	d
			04	- 05	- 10

312 The 29 day of the 9 Mo:52

At a meeting for the choice of Town Officers for the year ensuing there is chosen for surveyors for the highways.

Thos Wiswall et. al.



## Addenda

John Wiswall. Brother to Elder Thomas.

In the Old Granary Burying ground next the  
Park Street Church, Boston, is the following in-  
scription on a head stone:

Here lies buried  
The body of John Wiswall,  
servant of Jesus Christ.  
Elder of the first  
Church in Boston.  
Aged 86 years.  
Departed this Life  
The 17 day of August  
Anno Dom. 1687.

# *MILITARY SERVICES IN COLONIAL WARS* *WISWALL FAMILY*

- Bodges' H. P.*  
*War* Page 448      Capt. Noah Wiswall—Born 1638.  
Dec. 24, 1676—Credit for Military services in King Philips War.
- Niles History*  
*Indian Wars:* Page 210  
*Published 1746*      July 6, 1690—Killed in battle with French and Indians at Wheelwrights Pond, Lee, N. H.
- Jackson's History* Page 436      Lieut. Thomas Wiswall—Born 1666.  
Lieut. in Newton Military Co.
- Mass. Archives*      Capt. Noah Wiswall—Born Sept. 7, 1699.  
July 29, 1740—Appears on a list of men sworn to Boston in expedition against the Spanish West Indies under Capt. Stephen Richards.  
Feb. 1, 1747—Appears on Muster Roll sworn to Boston in a Co. of His Magestys service.  
Wounded in hand by musket ball at battle of Lexington, April 19, 1775—
- History of Lexington* Page 212      Capt. Jeremiah Wiswall—Born Oct. 27, 1725.  
June 1771—A list of officers commissioned for the 1st Middlesex County Reg. of Militia. Sept. 17, 1771—Comm. as Lieut. in Capt. Benj. Hammond's 2nd Newton Co. Col. Wm. Brattles Reg.  
April 19, 1775—In command of East-Co. of Newton at the battle of Lexington and Concord.  
March 4, 1776—Marched with his Co. to Dorchester Heights.
- Jackson's History of Newton* Page 438
- Bodges' King Philip War* Page 418      Lieut. Jeremiah Fuller—Born Feb. 4, 1658.  
Dec. 24, 1676—Credit for military services.

Lieut. James Trowbridge—Born 1636—Roster of Middlesex Reg. 1676—

Bodges' History  
King Philip  
War  
Page 474

Capt. Daniel Cookin.

Lieut. James Trowbridge.

Also Representative to the General Court.

Lieut. Griffin Craft—Born 1600. Sept. 10, 1653—Confirmed as Lieut. of Military Company, Roxbury. Feb. 21, 1675—Resigned his Comm.

Craft's History  
Page 83

Lieut. Samuel Craft—Born Dec. 12, 1637. Lieut. in Military Company—Roxbury.

Craft's History  
Page 35

Lieut. Moses Craft—Born Sept. 29, 1703. In Capt. Wm. William's Co.—Col. Choate's Reg. Served at siege and capture of Louisburg 1746.

Craft's History  
Page 83

Dec. 29, 1763—Comm. as Lieut. for the first Reg. Militia in the Co. of Middlesex—Capt. Joshua Fuller's Co. Col. Wm. Brattle's Reg.

Muster Roll—  
Mass. Archives  
Page 71  
Vol. 99

Capt. Samuel Hill—Born Feb. 18, 1671—Died Aug. 4, 1755. See "Bodge's Indian Wars". List of Capt. Penhallow's Company, April 5, 1723—

Original list in writing.

Solomon Hill—Born Aug. 4, 1754—Died Nov. 13, 1803. Served in militia in War of Revolution.

