CHARLES
E.
WIGGIN
1813-18

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Jany 8th 1889

Wright Genealogy

pp 72-145

1813

Charles E. Wiggin

James Henry Wiggin, comp.

(see p. 135)

1888

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GEO. F. CROOK
PRINTER
MUSIC HALL BOSTON

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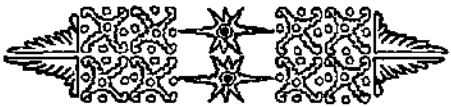
Biography



BIOGRAPHICAL INTRODUCTION

THIS memorial is published by the family of CHARLES E. WIGGIN, to show their love and respect for him who has left us. It is designed for those who esteemed and appreciated one who was never happier than when engaged in some labor of love for his friends or for the unfortunate.

CHARLES EDWARD WIGGIN was born November 29, 1813, in a part of Newmarket, New Hampshire, then known as the New Fields, which has since been separated into a town called South Newmarket.

He came to Boston August 31, 1828, when he was nearly fifteen years old.

His first home after marriage (1840) was at 70 Prince Street; but after a few years he removed to the house on Sheafe Street, now numbered fifteen; and there the family resided till the summer of 1876, when they removed to 9 Woodville Square, Roxbury, where Mr. WIGGIN died.

He was the fifth of seven children, and was the last survivor of them all. There were two sisters: Deborah Barker, who married Daniel Rundlett Smith, of the same town; and Ann Martin, who never married.

His four brothers were; Henry Pike, of Exeter, New Hampshire; James Simon, a prominent merchant and shipowner, — who however bore the name of Simon Pike, until after his settlement in Boston; Jeremiah Tilton, a New Orleans merchant; and Robert Pike, a well-known Boston business man.

Among his ancestors were men of mark and character. He came in direct line from Governors Thomas Wiggin, of New Hampshire, and Thomas Dudley and Simon Bradstreet, of Massachusetts, in the following order:

1. Governor Simon Bradstreet married Anne Dudley, daughter of Governor Thomas Dudley.

2. Andrew Wiggin, son of Thomas, married Hannah Bradstreet.

3. Simon Wiggin (Captain) probably married his cousin.

4. Simon Wiggin (Lieutenant) married Susannah Sherburn.

5. Simon Wiggin (Esquire) married Hannah Marble.
6. David Wiggin married Mehitable Pike.

Captain Thomas Wiggin, the first of the name on this Continent, came to New England about the year 1630, and was a man of large influence, as he was the leader of the New Hampshire Colony (then called the Dover Plantations) from 1633 to 1636, when he was succeeded by George Burdett. He continued however for many years to be prominent in affairs of the Colony.

A Puritan in his religion, Thomas Wiggin did not find himself in sympathy with many of the early settlers in the Piscataqua region of New Hampshire, who were Church of England people. As Proprietary Governor this led him into affiliation with the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and a partial union therewith. Thus Governor Wiggin became closely associated with the Massachusetts magistrates, and this association induced frequent journeys to Boston. These journeys doubtless led to the family acquaintance, which culminated in the union of his son Andrew with Governor Bradstreet's daughter Hannah.

To their second son the young couple gave the name of his maternal grandfather; and thus the name of Simon came into this branch of the Wiggin family, from which it has disappeared only with the present generation.

According to one account, not well verified, the other Wiggin boy also married a Bradstreet girl; but if so she must have died soon after, as her name does not appear in the records.

It is unnecessary to dwell upon the life of Charles E. Wiggin,—"known of all men" who enjoyed his acquaintance,—for he was not a reserved man, but free in conversation about life and affairs.

His death was quiet and peaceful, the fitting termination of a well-rounded and useful life. In the early afternoon of March 12, 1888, he suddenly called his wife, who was sitting at the corner window of their chamber. She came to the side of the easy-chair, which, unable to lie down night or day, he had almost constantly occupied for more than a year. Though the doctor believed otherwise, Mr. Wiggin, for some reason to us unknown, felt sure that the earthly end had come.

"Rebecca," he said, "I am going!"

"I hope not, Charles!" was her reply.

"Yes!" came from his lips; "and there are some things I wish to say. Get paper, and write."

His request was complied with, and to his dearest friends he sent messages of affection. He mentioned each by name, adding, "Give them my love, and God bless them."

Then came a pause. With a smile he lifted his head and said: "Only think, Rebecca! In a few minutes I shall be with our two Marys, our little Jerry, and your dear mother." There followed a few more messages of love, an expression of gratitude to those who had cared so tenderly for him during his illness, and a reference to the unity which had existed between his wife and himself during their long married life.

Then he began a message to his younger son,—"Tell Arthur—!" but the words died on his lips. Death had come; and so suddenly that there was no time to summon his sons to the Highlands from the store at the North End.

"Can you not finish?" cried Arthur's wife, who was bathing his forehead. A shake of the head signified his inability to

speak. With uplifted finger he traced a sentence on the broad palm of his left hand.

"Is it *Love to all?*" inquired Lizzie.

A smile and nod showed that he was understood.

There came a quick gasp and all was over with him for this world. Out into the future world went the soul of him whose last thoughts were of others, whose last utterance was an expression of love for friends and kindred. He had been surrounded by those who ceaselessly watched the ebbing life-tide for long months. Let us hope that he was met on the other side by loved ones gone before, there to dwell with them in one of the many mansions not made with hands.

Mr. Wiggin was buried on Thursday, March 15. The relations and other immediate friends gathered at the house at one o'clock, where Scriptures were read and a prayer offered by his pastor, Rev. O. P. Gifford. At two o'clock there was a longer service at the Warren Avenue Baptist Church, of which he had been so long a member, since 1842. Indeed until his last long illness he was seldom absent from his pew on Sunday, and never happier than when that pew was full.

Solemn music was sung by the quartet of the church. An address by Mr. Wiggin's old friend, Rev. S. F. Smith, D.D. (the author of our national hymn, America) was followed by an address and prayer by the pastor; after which scores of elderly friends took their farewell of the lifeless clay.

At the grave, in Mount Auburn Cemetery, Mr. Gifford read part of the burial office, and offered prayer. Then Charles E. Wiggin was laid away to rest, as he had wished, so near his old friend Benjamin Pitman, — who but a few weeks before had been interred in the adjoining lot, — that the old friends might clasp hands, if still in the earth-life.

Funeral

ADDRESS

BY REV. S. F. SMITH, D.D.

I ESTEEM it a privilege to speak a few appreciative words in honor of my friend, almost a lifelong friend, whom I have known only to esteem and love. It was said by Daniel Webster, that the soil of New Hampshire was so covered with rocks that it was impossible to raise anything else, and so the people built churches and schoolhouses, and raised men; and this is one of the men whom the State of New Hampshire thus raised,—a true man, a manly man, noble in stature and form, and even nobler in mind.

Had he enjoyed the early privileges of education which have fallen to the lot of many, I know not to what attainments of intellectual character he might not have risen, nor what high office, connected with the government of this country, he might not have filled; but from all I have seen and known of him, I am sure that he was worthy of the love and esteem of all who knew and

served him, — worthy to be presented as a pattern and model to the young, of what a Christian father and husband ought to be.

I have often thought of him with approbation, on account of the great generosity of his heart, — a mighty heart, imbedded in a mighty form. He was always seeking out means and ways of doing good to others, bringing them into circumstances of prosperity, making them happy and useful. Any of you, gentlemen, who have known him in the sphere of public life, are aware how often and often he has trod his weary way up the steps leading to the offices under the gilded dome of the Statehouse, or wended his way to City Hall, in order that he might do some friendly service to the poor, the neglected, or the necessitous; you know that his hand and heart were always open to show to those around him that his Christianity was not in form and profession only, but a deep-set principle, working itself out in many forms of goodness. Often he would hurry away to carry to a newspaper (generally The Traveller) some article he had written, — not for his own sake, but prompted solely by the desire to help some struggling man or woman, to plead the

cause of some deserving object of his benevolence, to set afoot or promote some public improvement, and thus to confer upon Boston, of which he was both fond and proud, some lasting benefit. He was always asking how he could confer a favor.

He was known, especially during the dark days of the country's struggle, twenty-five years ago, as a man of true patriotic spirit. There was a pulsation in his heart, beating in harmony with the pulse of the public interest and necessity. Never was there wanting a word, when he could speak it, to promote the interest of country; there was never a word of praise, that could be uttered in favor of a patriotic soldier, but he was the man to speak that praise. and utter words of admiration, gratitude, and love.

Time and again, during his period of vigor and health, he was ready to leave home on the public holidays, that he might travel up into New Hampshire and deliver a Fourth-of-July or Decoration Day address, that he might stimulate our citizens to gratitude for the blessing of our beloved land.

His heart was always moved with affection for the young. Children whom he knew —

and many whom he did not know by name, or perhaps even by sight — seemed dear to him. He saw in them the future men of this country. the senators, representatives, the mayors, and other leaders in our land.

He always had for the young a word of encouragement and advice. After removing to Roxbury he took a deep interest in one of the schools — one of the large schools — of that district. As I am told, it was his habit to offer premiums, of two or three books a year, to boys who there exhibited the greatest proficiency and punctuality.

As long as he was in health and strength it was his custom to be present on these occasions, and to add to his liberality words of wisdom. On the very last occasion, Washington's Birthday of the present year, when the annual presentation of gifts from his liberality was made, he wrote what was, perhaps, the last letter that came from his pen, in that peculiar chirography with which many of you have been familiar. In this letter he spoke of his friendship for the boys, his wish to be with them, and his desire to add a stimulus to their ambition and success.

He promised, after the gifts of the present year had been distributed, to make similar

gifts next year; and it will fall upon his executors, on February 22, 1889, to fulfil the promise of their dead friend to the boys of the Dudley School.

Well has it been said, and it may be appropriately repeated of Mr. Wiggin's sick-room:

> The chamber where the good man meets his fate
> Is privileged above the common walks of virtuous life,
> Quite on the verge of Heaven.

This was not because he made it conspicuously a scene of religious conversation, but because he was so patient, so cheerful, so hopeful and resigned, so loving a companion and associate, so utterly devoted to his friends, so desirous that they should keep coming to cheer him in his solitude. Though he lay or sat in his large chair for over fifteen months, he must have felt, for his was an intelligent mind, that he was sitting face to face with death, and only waiting for the great hour to strike. He maintained the same remarkable cheerfulness, the same readiness to converse on all common topics interesting to him in the days of his health. He showed not only how a Christian can live, but also how a Christian can die.

I have said that if he had enjoyed the larger opportunities for education which fall to many in these later days, I know not to what attainment he might not have aspired, and aspired successfully. I remember this concerning him, that his place of business often became a hall of criticism, for the discussion of history and poetry.

One might almost call it a hallowed place to business men, because so many sacred recollections are connected with it.

During these interviews I have heard him talk, not only with intelligence, but frequently with keenness of perception, upon points you would not expect to hear mentioned in a place devoted to secular pursuits. His store became a kind of exchange, where you might often meet old friends and associates, traders and antiquarians of the North End, and find choice bits of information concerning men, things, and localities, fast losing their hold on the present generation.

As he was fond of literary criticism, there, as in a literary bureau, you might often hear valuable discussions about famous speeches, hymns, songs, and authors; after which, like a true man of business, he would turn again, as if refreshed, to his mercantile duties.

He was a man of great executive ability, seeing his way through difficulties, and determining his methods of action with promptness and decision.

I have known this also, that as a merchant he was a man of integrity and uprightness, — not grasping for the largest profit to be obtained in every sale, not seeking continually to fill his own coffers through traffic; for his was a life unselfish. He was a man to be loved, a man to be honored, a man to be trusted. Now, when he has been taken from us, the question comes to me, as I look over this congregation of elderly men, who have known him in the walks of business and the other daily pursuits of life, and I ask: Is he gone from us, never to be restored? Does death end all? In the language of Joseph Cook, "Death does *not* end all."

Perhaps you will say: If all the gases and solids and fluids of the human body are taken apart and restored again to their original dust, to be taken up again into other organisms, can he be restored to us again? Is it not presumption to stand up in the church and say, "I believe in the HOLY GHOST, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the resurrection of the

body, and the life everlasting"? No, it is not presumption. We are Christians, and Christianity opens to us a life beyond this life, a glory, not perhaps to him, but to *us* yet to be revealed.

Let me give you a parable. In the house of a chemist there was an exceedingly beautiful cup, beautiful in form, beautiful in the heraldry marked upon it, beautiful in its proportions. One day a careless servant, in passing a jar full of nitric acid with that cup in his hand, accidentally dropped the cup into the jar. The acid instantly attacked the silver, which was at once dissolved. There was nothing left that looked like the silver cup. The beauty was gone, the form was gone. Could it be restored again? Yes! The chemist will tell you that if a handful of chloride of sodium be thrown into that mixture, the acid will have a greater affinity for the sodium than for the silver, and will instantly leave the silver, and amalgamate with the chloride of sodium, the silver falling to the bottom of the jar; whence it can be taken up, melted, put again into the proper mould, carved, and then bossed and polished and restored to more than its original size and beauty. Can

science do such things, restoring that which is apparently destroyed and of no further use? Then may we not say spiritually: Is there anything too hard for Me, saith the LORD?

You may regard it as right that a few words be addressed especially to this company of afflicted friends, whom my heart bears in reverent and affectionate sympathy. Such words belong especially to the pastor of the family of our departed brother; but you will allow me to say: What consolation there is in reflecting upon all that he was in life, upon the honorable, upright Christian life which he was permitted to live; what consolation there is in the divine promises. A new book of these promises is now open to you who are specially concerned in this day of affliction.

I will be the Father of the fatherless, and the GOD and Judge of the widows in My holy habitation.

Such words were never yours before, but they are the words of GOD addressed to you today.

Fear not, for I am with thee. Be not dismayed, for I am thy GOD. I will strengthen thee, yea, I will help thee, yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of My righteousness. When thou passest

through the water thou shalt not be drowned; neither shall the floods overwhelm thee. When thou passest through the flames they shall not thee burn, neither shall the flame kindle upon thee; for thy Maker is thy husband, the LORD of Hosts is His name.

With this consolation we shall lay away our dear friend, whose body now sleeps in that casket before us, but whose spirit has triumphantly ascended to his place in the Heavens, to be with his FATHER and our FATHER, with his GOD and our GOD.

So JESUS slept; GOD'S dying SON
Passed through the grave, and blessed the bed.

ADDRESS

BY REV. O. P. GIFFORD.

BY the Records we find that our brother was baptized, with his wife and mother-in-law, by Rev. Baron Stow, May 22, 1842. I first entered into his life in the spring of 1879. Needing for the house some articles which he had for sale in his store, I there made his acquaintance and friendship. He was always at my disposal, to point out to me the mysteries of Old Boston, to go with me up and down the important streets, stopping before the large business-places, and describing to me the growth and development of our city during the years past. Every quaint building and historic landmark was known to him. He felt that he was "a citizen of no mean city," and took a worthy pride in its past history and present prosperity. I soon learned that this interest in places grew out of their relations to people. Each street and building was of interest, because of some human life. This man or

that had been born or had wrought in the place.

I was struck then with one thing, that he had, by his association with human life, become able to meet the needs of everyone with whom he came in contact. Again and again, as I entered his store, I found there, waiting for him, men who were in need of help, showing what that place of his was for broken-down humanity, — men who repelled me, men whose faces were autograph-albums of sin, men whose very countenances bespoke a life of vice.

For years he had a Sunday-school class at the State Prison, and was punctual at his post every week. Sometimes, when convicts came from those prison walls, having served their time, he took them into his own home, fed them, sheltered them, and gave them needed clothing, until he had procured them some place of employment.

A lady once visited Mrs. Booth, wife of the General of the Salvation Army. In the course of their conversation she asked Mrs. Booth what the Salvationists meant by *practical holiness.*

Mrs. Booth was holding a little child in her arms. She responded, "Do you see that little girl?"

"Yes! One of your grandchildren?"

"No, she has been adopted from an orphanage, and I care for her as I did for my own children. I treat her in all respects as I would my own flesh and blood. That is what I mean by *practical holiness*."

I think our brother left us a heritage of practical holiness. He believed that a Christian should be the salt of the earth, the light of the world, standing in CHRIST'S stead to the needy and afflicted.

Once, coming down from the City Hall, he found in his store some men who were in need. He learned that they had no credit at the stores, — that they could not get the money which was their due, because of the laws of the State. He then set in motion that new law which was productive of the weekly payment system for labor. This law was the outgrowth of his loving heart, and he was justly proud of his part in its adoption. He did not see why, if men had earned their money, the city should have the use of i without interest; and he brought about change which would send their pay at onc into the pockets of the laboring-men.

He found in his prison-work that youn boys, convicted of their first offences, were

sent to universities of crime, to mingle with men old in sin; and while the State paid the bills, these young criminals came out practised offenders. He sought to remedy this evil, and worked hard to establish a place of confinement for young criminals only. I remember standing by his side, pleading with him under the gilded dome of the Statehouse. Chiefly through his instrumentality, this reform was finally accomplished; and there is not now one, even of those who fought the bill most bitterly, who would be willing to have young men, convicted of their first crime, thrown into the companionship of those lifelong offenders.

I remember that he used to lay before me, in his sick-room, plans for some needed reform, and say: "I have not the strength now, brother; but when I can get up to the Statehouse, I want you to be there with me, for here is another class needing help." That, friends, is what I call *practical holiness.*

I came into contact with him more in the sick-room than ever before. I shall never forget that one day, while passing through the city, I went out to the Highlands to see how he was getting along. On my arrival at the house I found the friends were in the

garden, talking and gathering flowers. He was alone in the house. As I pushed open the door I heard singing in the room above, and stopped to listen. This man was all alone, singing at the very top of his voice,

From whence doth this union arise.

He was waiting on the LORD who "giveth songs." This was the House of GOD and the very Gate of Heaven. Unless a man were in close communion with GOD he could not sing like that when sitting all alone. When strength went from him, he sat there waiting patiently; but he showed his public spirit by being twice helped from his chair to the polls, on our last State and City election-days. He felt, when the time came for new officers, that his vote was needed, although he had not slept lying down for months. He had the friends take him down to the front door, where a hack awaited him, and, weak though he was, he was carried to th. polling-place, and deposited his last votes as a citizen of the Commonwealth. If we had more men in the country of this class, we should have less need for complaint.

His public spirit was remarkable. Once a minister, of another nationality, reading

the Governor's Thanksgiving Proclamation, omitted the closing invocation, "God save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts." Immediately after service Mr. Wiggin hastened to the pulpit, trembling with excitement. "Sir, you omitted the closing words! You omitted the closing words!"

I remember well my visit to him on the last exhibition-day of the Dudley School, the school in which he was so much interested. We were talking of the boys, when two of them came from the school with a bouquet. The gift seemed like an inspiration. Mr. Wiggin was lying back in his chair, when those two young lives entered the room. Then he sprang up, with flushed cheeks, and addressed those boys as if they were kings. With all the courtesy of the old school he bowed, gave them a practical talk about improving their opportunities while young, waved them adieu, and turned again to his conversation with me. As our brother who preceded me has said, Mr. Wiggin saw in every boy a leader of the coming generation. He had a spirit like that of the old master Trebonius,—Martin Luther's teacher,—who always bared his head whenever he met a schoolboy. The

prophetic shadow of the coming reformer seemed to lie across his path when a lad crossed it.

I remember once being in his room when he turned to me, and said for the first time: "Pastor, the next time you call, I think you had better pray with me. Maybe not today, for do you know I think that when a man has strength, he ought to do his own praying; but when his strength is gone, I think the pastor ought to pray with him." Before I left, however, I knelt and prayed with him.

I am told that though he was sick fifteen months, during that time not able to lie in bed, he began every morning with prayer for his family. He lifted his voice to God that the boys, going out into the busy turmoil of the great city, might be kept pure and innocent; and at night, when they came back again, he lifted thanksgiving to God that his boys were brought home to him once more.

His disease was such that his hands were badly swollen; and towards the last of it, when he could not feed himself, when the servant brought from the room below the needed food, he would bow his head and

say grace, so thankful that he could eat; and this when, with those useless hands lying in his lap, he must take the meat fed to him by another.

When he felt the time growing shorter and shorter, as he saw the shades of darkness approaching, CHRIST seemed to draw nearer and nearer to him. When at last he saw that his time had come, he began to pray for his friends, naming them over one after another, — sitting there in his chair, and waiting for GOD's own hand to draw the soul from the tired body. He sent his love to this one and that, naming them over one after another, and then stopped. Friends by his side said, "Can 't you finish the sentence?" He said No; and raising one hand, with the finger of the other he wrote on the extended palm, "Love to all." Then the great soul went out to meet Him whose name is Love.

They laid him in a large upper chamber, whose window opened toward the sun-rising. The name of the chamber was Peace.

It has been a great blessing and privilege to me to have met such a man. I have often watched the electric light in your offices and

streets, and the other day it was my privilege to trace the light back, and go from the dynamo down to the great pulsing engine. It has been my privilege to watch our friend in his public life, and enjoy his kindness.

His steady watchfulness for the needy will long be remembered. This man's secret of power lay in his religion. He was pure in his family life, he was honest in his business life; he was essential to mankind, because CHRIST was formed in him the hope of glory. It is a great pleasure to you, my friends, to have the memory of such a man; and for you, my brothers, my wish is that a double portion of your father's spirit may rest upon your lives, and his religion be the religion of your father's sons.

Resolutions

RESOLUTIONS

EARTHENWARE AND GLASSWARE ASSOCIATION.

BOSTON, March 15, 1888.

DEAR SIRS: I duly received your note, informing me of the death of your father. I asked the Secretary to notify the members of the Association of the fact, and also ask their attendance at the funeral services. I have also appointed a committee to prepare resolutions to be presented at our next meeting.

I regret exceedingly my inability to be present at the church today, but I had a special engagement at that hour, which, owing to the lack of telegraph facilities, I was unable to postpone.

I have known your father since 1844, and my earlier recollections of him are of a very tender nature. I remember with much gratitude how, on many occasions, he said kind and cheering words to me, more than forty years ago. Among the many places whither

I was sent to find various articles was his store, and although an entire stranger to him, he greeted me so cordially, and interested himself so much in my welfare, that the homesick and hard-worked lad felt that in him he had a true friend.

We did not meet often in later years, but I have had the highest regard and esteem for him. Extending to you my most sincere sympathy, I remain cordially yours,

RICHARD BRIGGS.

BOSTON, March 29, 1888.

DEAR SIRS: At the meeting of the Association, on the 27th, resolutions upon the death of your esteemed father were adopted, with many expressions of profound respect and affectionate regard. I hand you herewith a copy of same. With renewed expressions of sympathy, I am sincerely yours,

EDWARD C. BURRAGE
Secretary.

BOSTON, March 27, 1888.

AT a meeting of the Earthenware and Glassware Association of Boston, held this date, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas it has pleased GOD to remove by death our late friend Charles E. Wiggin, therefore

Resolved: That by the death of Mr. Wiggin we not only lose a personal friend, an honorable merchant, a man of strict integrity, and a business associate for more than half a century, but that the community loses a public benefactor, inasmuch as he was always prominent in charitable work, was prompt to act in cases of need, and did much to alleviate the sufferings of his fellow-men, — and his loss will be keenly felt by those who have been recipients of his favors in times of distress.

Resolved: That we tender our warmest sympathies to his bereaved family, who, by this sad affliction, have been deprived of a kind and loving husband and father.

A true copy, attest, EDWARD C. BURRAGE
Secretary.

ROXBURY ASSOCIATION.

AT a meeting of the Roxbury Association, held March 15, 1888, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted:

Whereas Almighty GOD, in His infinite wisdom, has removed from our midst a kind and loving father, an affectionate husband, and a true and generous friend, therefore be it

Resolved: That it is but a just tribute to his memory to say that Boston laments the loss of one who was always ready to proffer the hand of aid and the voice of sympathy to the needy and distressed; that society mourns the departure of an active member, whose utmost endeavors were constantly exerted for its welfare. — of one who was a true friend and companion to all who knew him, a citizen whose upright and noble life was a standard of emulation to his fellows.

Resolved: That we tenderly convey to you our heartfelt sympathy in your hour of bereavement, and devoutly commend you, for consolation, to Him who doeth all things well.

W. S. HODSDON
Secretary.

North End Savings Bank.

At their meeting, March 21, the Trustees of the North End Savings Bank passed the following vote:

Whereas, since our last meeting, the death of Charles E. Wiggin has deprived this board of one of its oldest and most honored members, be it

Resolved: That the trustees of this bank have heard with sincere sorrow of the death of Mr. Charles E. Wiggin, who, as one of its original corporators in 1870, and also in the capacity of a trustee for every successive year since that date, has given his services carefully and faithfully to promote its interests and those of its depositors, and whose friendly presence and hearty greeting at the meetings of this board will be sadly missed by his associates thereon. Identified, as he had been, during a long life, with the business of one of the principal avenues of the old North End, Mr. Wiggin has left behind him a reputation for strict integrity and honor, which will cause his memory to be long and respectfully cherished, as will also those noble impulses of his heart, which made him always ready and active in every good cause of philanthropy and charity.

Resolved: That this testimonial be entered upon our records; that a copy be sent to Mr. Wiggin's family, and that the clerk cause the same to be inserted in the Boston Evening Traveller.

A true copy of the record, attest,

WM. C. WILLIAMSON
Clerk.

Private Letters

LETTERS

FROM REV. R. T. SAWYER.

BROCKTON, MASS., March 27, 1888.

DEAR FRIENDS: The paper which you so kindly sent, containing the sad announcement of your father's death, came to hand in the very midst of our busy Kirmesse, when everyone and everything was absolutely in demand. Accept my thanks for your remembrance.

I feel that I am personally afflicted. Your father was a good friend to me, and I can never forget the many kind offices that he has shown in my behalf. Though belonging to a church the antipodes of mine, he was never dogmatic with me, but always Christian. I well remember the first time that I saw him, and when, at his late residence, he told me that he remembered his first seeing me. Our natures were so different that each found a new element in the

other. I looked to him as a wise counsellor and faithful friend.

I recognized in him a man of judgment, of business sagacity, and versatility of talent, with a great love of literature. In my judgment he had a decidedly English tone of mind, with a delight for genealogy. He taught me anew that truth is stronger than fiction. Many personal reminiscences which he gave me were worthy of record. But above all else, as it seemed to me, was his native largeness of heart, for his life was outside himself. He lived for others; and what a vast number, whom he has helped in various ways in a busy life, rise up and bless his name!

I shall treasure his memory. His type is not repeated in all my wide acquaintance. For such a man to die would be indeed an impeachment of the Creator, were it not that immortality opens before the exalted and imperishable soul. He passed his first Easter in Heaven; and amid their sorrow and sense of loss, may his bereaved family still find Easter joy in their hearts.

Most sincerely yours,

ROYAL T. SAWYER.

From Judge Clark.

Manchester, N.H., March 14, 1888.

Dear Mr. Wiggin: I am much surprised and saddened at the death of your father and my cousin. Though sick, I did not suppose he was so near the close of life. It is the common lot, which sooner or later comes to us all; and yet death, though near, is always a surprise.

Convey to all his friends the expression of my deep sympathy in their affliction, and my appreciation of the value of his friendship and the purity of his life.

I should come to his funeral tomorrow if I were able, and it were safe for me to do so; but it is not. I have been confined to my house with a persistent cold for two or three weeks, and have not gone to my office, unless compelled to do so for some business that could not be done elsewhere. So from my home, as you leave your dear father to his final and peaceful rest, I bid him a final farewell; but ever, while life lasts, shall I cherish his memory.

With sadness and sorrow I am yours,

DANIEL CLARK.

FROM LEVERETT M. CHASE.

MY DEAR FRIENDS: I wish to say a word about your father, who has so recently left us. I knew him intimately, and greatly loved and respected him, when in health, as a cordial, loving, faithful friend, as an efficient and honorable business-man, as one whose mind, might, and strength were constantly seeking to render brighter and better the lives of his fellow-men, as a man of marked intellectual force, high conceptions of truth and duty, resolute courage, unspotted purity, manly independence, great strength of purpose, and, withal, having the simplicity, tenderness, and trust of a child. Though an earnest worker in the world he was not *of* the world, and kept himself "unspotted from the world;" but during his long sickness he best displayed the strength and beauty of his nature.

It was my privilege to call on him more than one-hundred-and-twenty times during his illness. It is not enough to say I never heard one single complaint or murmur, nor yet a single petulant, selfish, or even despondent word. He seemed not to think of himself, or to be mindful of his own bitter

and protracted suffering. Rather his whole thought was how best to reclaim the erring, comfort the afflicted, lift up the fallen. For fifteen months I watched him passing through the dark valley. He was not merely resigned, patient, and trustful. He walked close beside the Good Shepherd, and his soul was animated and strengthened by the Great Comforter. His great heart was full of joyful hope and lofty cheer, as though he had already crossed the river and dwelt where there "is no more death, neither sorrow nor crying, neither any more pain."

One of his most beautiful and strongly marked traits was his love for the young. He saw the man in the child, and was keenly alive to every influence that affected the child's welfare. He saw the greatness and infinite possibilities of every human soul. He possessed, in an unusual degree, qualities that gained the confidence and affection of the young. He took a warm interest in the school of which I am the master, and addressed the pupils on public holidays, commanding their attention and stimulating them to noble lives. It was his custom to present several valuable books, each Washington's Birthday, to pupils who,

during the year, had shown particular fidelity. After his address, he almost always came to me to inquire about some poor boy whose condition indicated poverty, and many a warm suit of clothes was bestowed by him upon such as were proper objects of charity. No name is more dear to the Dudley boys than your father's, and they unaminously voted to name one of the trees, planted last Arbor Day, the Charles E. Wiggin Maple, — the other two being named for the Hon. Marshall P. Wilder and Miss Lucretia Crocker.

I proffer my cordial sympathy for your great loss. I thank God that I have been privileged to know and hold goodly fellowship with such a man. He rests from his labors, and has entered upon his reward. Let us remember his virtues, and seek to emulate them, hoping to meet him in Heaven. Faithfully yours,

LEVERETT M. CHASE.

From H. J. Paul.

South Newmarket, N.H., March 15, 1888.

Dear Friends: I do sincerely sympathize with you in the loss you have sustained in the death of your father. I was greatly shocked at the news. I have been planning a trip to Boston for some time, and had promised myself that I would go and see my friend Charles E. Wiggin, — a friend whom I had learned to love and respect more and more, as I knew him better. Too late! and I feel so sorry now I did not see him when I was there in October; but he was quite miserable then, and I hoped he would be better when I next came; but it was not so to be.

I can hardly realize that we are never to see him again in our little village, which he loved so well, and where he delighted to come. How warmly he greeted anyone from South Newmarket, who called on him when in Boston. His place can not be filled, and I am proud to claim him as a fellow-townsman by birth, if not by residence.

Few lives leave behind such a record as

your father's, of goodness, charity, and everything that goes to make true nobility.

May your life be full of happiness and peace; and when your time shall come, may you be crowned—as your father will be—with blessings from all who knew him.

Sincerely yours,

H. JENNESS PAUL.

Obituary

OBITUARIES

BOSTON TRAVELLER: MARCH 13, 1888.

MR. CHARLES E. WIGGIN, for many years a successful merchant, and well known throughout life as a practical philanthropist, died at his residence on Woodville Square, Roxbury, yesterday afternoon, at the age of seventy-four years, after an illness of fifteen months, in which heart-disease brought on an attack of dropsy, the latter terminating fatally. Mr. Wiggin was born at South Newmarket, New Hampshire, November 26, 1813, and came from a family which was prominent in the Revolutionary annals of his native State, his grandfathers on both sides having fought in the Continental ranks. He was also directly connected by descent with Governor Bradstreet.

In 1828 Mr. Wiggin left his native place and came to Boston, with a determination to push his fortunes in the New England metropolis. He took rooms at the North End,

and entered the crockery-store of Samuel B. Pierce, on Union Street, as a clerk, subsequently taking a similar position in the crockery-store of Robert Briggs, on Union Street, and then on Exchange Street, the late Abram French being a clerk there at the same time.

In 1833, when Mr. Wiggin was twenty-one years of age, he formed a partnership with Edward Chamberlain. This partnership was dissolved about a year after it was formed, and in April, 1835, Mr. Wiggin leased the store Nos. 147–149 Hanover Street, corner of Marshall, where he continued to carry on the crockery business up to the time of his death, fifty-three years next month, a term rarely exceeded by any business house.

Mr. Wiggin resided on Sheafe Street, at the North End, for over thirty years, moving to Roxbury in 1876. In 1840 he married Rebecca C. Hadaway, a sister of John T. Hadaway of the surveyor's office at the Boston Custom House. He had five children, three sons and two daughters. Of these a son and a daughter died when they were quite young. The other daughter married Joseph D. Sawyer, of Sawyer, Burt, & Manning, of New York and Boston, and

died some eight years ago. Two sons, Charles E. Wiggin, Jr., and Arthur C. Wiggin, survive, and are members of the firm of Charles E. Wiggin & Sons. Mr. Wiggin joined the Baldwin Place Baptist Church in his younger days, and retained his membership when that church was removed to the South End, and formed the nucleus of what is now known as the Warren Avenue Baptist Church. In his earlier days Mr. Wiggin was a member of the Rifle Rangers, a military company long since extinct. Although always taking an active interest in politics, and being prominently identified with many political movements, he could never be induced to take office, with a single exception, when he served for several years on the School Committee.

He was the originator, one of the original trustees, and all through life was warmly interested in the success of the North End Savings Bank, 57 Court Street, having been the drafter of the original petition to the Legislature for its act of incorporation. He was a man of philanthropic impulses, and was never weary in doing anything that would contribute to the advantage of the convicts at the State Prison, many of whom

will hear of his death with feelings of sincere sorrow and regret.

For many years he was a Sunday-school teacher at the prison, and his efforts in behalf of prisoners, both for their worldly and spiritual welfare, were constant and unremitting. Mr. Wiggin was out of the house for the last time on election-day, when, as was his custom, he voted the Republican ticket.

He remained cheerful and conscious to the last, and when it was seen that dissolution was near, he named over several intimate friends, and in a few kind words desired to be remembered to them. Among those so named were several of his friends of The Traveller staff, who had known and esteemed him for his many beneficent acts. Mr. Wiggin was for many years a contributor to the columns of the Traveller, and frequently called the attention of the public to some deserving case of charity, some needed reform, or some other desirable change, in communications signed C. E. W.

Mr. Wiggin was a careful manager, and in his business was quite successful, having accumulated a handsome property.

He had four brothers. The oldest, Henry

P., never left his native county. The next, James S., was a Boston merchant, who successively engaged in trade with New Orleans, Miquelon, Mauritius, and the West Coast of Africa, and represented the old Whig party in the Legislature through several terms. Jeremiah T. entered into business in New Orleans, under the style of Wiggin & Davenport. Robert Pike was a Boston merchant.

BOSTON TRAVELLER, MARCH 13, 1858.

THE late Charles E. Wiggin was one of the great company of the sons of New Hampshire who have made Boston their home, and have helped to make this city what it is. He took a lively interest in its affairs, its schools, its churches, its charities, and in all the institutions that have given it a good reputation abroad and made it a desirable place for residence. He had a large acquaintance, and always delighted in doing favors for his friends and in securing help for the unfortunate and needy; and his death removes a face and form that have been familiar in public gatherings for half a century.

BOSTON TRAVELLER, MARCH 16, 1888.

THE funeral of Charles E Wiggin took place Thursday afternoon, at the Warren Avenue Baptist Church. There was a large attendance of mourners to testify the great loss which the community and the church have sustained in the death of this philanthropic gentleman. Among those present were trustees from the North End Savings Bank, with which Mr. Wiggin was long identified, and representatives from the Boston Earthen and Glassware Dealers' Association; three of his nephews, — Rev. J. H. Wiggin and Daniel G. Wiggin, of Boston, and Hon. Charles E. Smith, of New Hampshire; ex-Senator Col. J. P. Jordan; John T. Hadaway, of the surveyor's department; Masters Russell and Thomas, representing the Dudley schoolboys; Edwin A. Remick, J. F. Beal, John A. Nowell, A. J. Tibbetts, Hezekiah Chase, Reuben Crooke, George E. Learnard, John C. Pratt, William Parkman, Samuel P. Hopkins, Nathan L. Eaton, and James M. Moore.

Rev. O. P. Gifford, pastor of the church, read Scriptural selections; and the church quartet, Mrs. E. Humphrey-Allen, soprano,

Mrs. Posse, contralto, Mr. Frank G. Lunt, tenor, and Mr. Frank H. Young, bass, rendered impressively Cast thy Burden on the Lord, In the Cross of Christ I Glory, and other selections which were favorites with the deceased.

Rev. S. F. Smith, D.D., author of America, the life friend of the deceased, delivered the eulogy. He spoke of Mr. Wiggin's fine personal presence and noble spirit, of his practical wisdom and ability, of his generosity, and his readiness to assist the poor wherever he found them. He also gave reminiscences showing the worth of the deceased.

The following gentlemen officiated as pallbearers: B. W. Dunklee, Joseph Sawyer, Jesse Wadsworth, Clinton Viles, Leverett M. Chase, W. Rowland Norcross.

Mr. William H. Learnard, a lifelong friend of the family, had charge of the funeral arrangements. The remains were taken to Mount Auburn and placed in the family lot. The floral tributes were chaste and beautiful.

BOSTON POST, MARCH 14, 1888.

THE death of Mr. Charles E. Wiggin at his residence in Roxbury, Monday afternoon, will be regretted by a vast number of people, many of whom knew him only through his acts of philanthropy. Mr. Wiggin was born in South Newmarket, N.H., November 29, 1813. He was always very proud of the fact that he was a lineal descendant of Governor Simon Bradstreet of Massachusetts, a Wiggin having married a daughter of the Governor, and taken her to his New Hampshire home.

In 1828 deceased came to Boston a poor boy, and entered the crockery-store of Samuel B. Pierce, on Union Street, as a clerk, subsequently taking a similar position in the crockery-store of Robert Briggs, the late Abram French being a clerk there at the same time. In 1833, when Mr. Wiggin was twenty-one years of age, he formed a partnership with Edward Chamberlain. This partnership was dissolved about a year after it was formed, and in April, 1835, Mr. Wiggin leased the store, 147 and 149 Hanover Street, where he carried on the crockery business up to the time of his death, a term

of fifty-three years — rarely exceeded by any business house.

Mr. Wiggin was the originator and one of the original trustees of the North End Savings Bank, 57 Court Street, having been the one who drafted the petition to the Legislature for its act of incorporation.

For many years he was a Sunday-school teacher at the State Prison, and his efforts in behalf of the prisoners, both for their worldly and spiritual welfare, were constant and unremitting.

He was a personal friend of Charlotte Cushman, and took a natural pride in their intimate acquaintance. In earlier days he was a member of the Rifle Rangers, a company now extinct, and he also served for many years on the School Committee.

Mr. Wiggin joined the Baldwin Place Baptist Church in his younger days, and retained his membership when that church was removed to the South End and formed the nucleus of what is now known as the Warren Avenue Baptist Church.

He resided on Sheafe Street, at the North End, for over thirty years, removing to Roxbury in 1876.

BOSTON JOURNAL, APRIL 13, 1888.

MR. CHARLES E. WIGGIN, for many years a well-known dealer in crockery and paper-hangings in this city, died at his home in the Highlands last Monday, after an illness that lasted several months. Mr. Wiggin had a wide circle of acquaintances, and his name was also familiar to many who had never met him personally.

He took a deep interest in the affairs of his adopted city, and was often unofficially prominent in matters affecting its welfare. The same degree of interest was also bestowed upon his native town of South Newmarket, N. H., the more commendable in that he had left that village sixty years ago, to settle in Massachusetts. . . . Two years ago he was called upon by the citizens of South Newmarket to deliver the oration on Decoration Day.

Both of his grandfathers were captains in the Revolutionary War, — one of them for six years, until he saw his country free, having enlisted his company in the very house in that town which now belongs to Mr. Wiggin's nephew, Hon. C. E. Smith.

YARMOUTH REGISTER, MARCH 17, 1888.

MR. CHARLES E. WIGGIN . . . died at his home in Boston last Monday. Mr. Wiggin had a wide circle of acquaintances. . . . He took a deep interest in the affairs of his adopted city, and was often unofficially prominent in matters affecting its welfare.

. . . . . .

Mr. Wiggin was deeply interested in public movements connected with benevolence and reform, and did more than any other man in the agitation which led to the establishment of the Massachusetts Reformatory Prison. He was also a man of very helpful character, and aided many in business and social efforts, both by counsel and material assistance. Many struggling young men and women are indebted to his hearty and kind interest.

. . . . . .

By marriage Mr Wiggin was allied with a Barnstable family, the late Captain James and Mr. Daniel Crocker being connections.

AMERICAN ART JOURNAL, N. Y., MARCH 31, 1888.

In the death of Charles E. Wiggin, March 12, age seventy-four, the actors of Boston lose a familiar face. Though a member of the Baptist Church, and not for many long years a theatre-goer, he knew more actors than many a newspaper man, and was the special friend of Charlotte Cushman, George Spear, and Joseph Proctor. Many a poor and unfortunate man found him a present helper into needed work, and he was always the prisoner's friend.

CHICAGO STANDARD, MARCH 22, 1888.

Mr. Charles E. Wiggin died in Boston, March 12, aged seventy-four. He was a member of the Baldwin Place Church in his younger days, and removed with that Society to Warren Avenue. He was a leading merchant of Boston. He was a man of philanthropic spirit, teaching a class many years in prison. He was a contributor to The Traveller for many years.

BOSTON ADVERTISER, MARCH 14, 1888.

MR. C. E. WIGGIN . . . died at his home on Monday, after an illness that lasted several months. Mr. Wiggin had a wide circle of acquaintances, and his name was familiar to many who had never met him. He took a deep interest in the affairs of his adopted city, and was often prominent in matters affecting its welfare. . . . Both of his grandfathers were captains in the Revolution — one of them for six years, until he saw his country free, having enlisted his company in the very house in that town which Mr. Wiggin frequently visited throughout his life. . . . A man most highly appreciated where he was best understood, Mr. Wiggin leaves many friends. His acts of kindness to individuals needing assistance were numerous. . . . He had been in business for fifty-three years.

BOSTON BUDGET, MARCH 18, 1888.

DEATH has removed a well-known citizen and business-man of many years' standing, Mr. Charles E. Wiggin. He had transacted business in the angle of Hanover, Union, and Marshall Streets for more than fifty years, and was a prominent North End resident for a good portion of that time, living for over thirty years in Sheafe Street. He was a very energetic and public-spirited man, the promoter of many religious and charitable movements, and a true friend to many unfortunate and friendless persons, who will sadly miss him. Always cheerful, hopeful, and sympathetic, he was the life of social and religious circles,—a man of pronounced opinions, yet always tolerant and just. He was a prominent member of the Warren Avenue Baptist Church, from which he was buried on Thursday.

BOSTON TRANSCRIPT, MARCH 13, 1888.

MR. CHARLES E. WIGGIN, for many years a crockery-dealer at the corner of Hanover and Marshall Streets, died Monday. Mr. Wiggin was born in Newmarket, New Hampshire, but came to Massachusetts over sixty years ago. He was a lineal descendant of Governor Simon Bradstreet, who was chief magistrate of Massachusetts from 1679 to 1686. Both of his grandfathers were captains in the Revolutionary War. . . . A man most highly appreciated where he was best understood, Mr. Wiggin leaves many friends. His acts of kindness to individuals needing assistance were numerous, and in religious matters he was somewhat prominent. For many years he was a Sunday-school teacher at the State Prison.

BOSTON GLOBE, MARCH 17, 1888.

CHARLES E. WIGGIN, a veteran business man of the North End, who died last Monday, was on Thursday buried from the Warren Avenue Baptist Church, which he joined in 1842. The present pastor officiated, together with an old friend, Rev. Dr. Smith, eighty years of age. There were more than one hundred of Mr. Wiggin's old-time friends present, ranging in age from seventy to ninety. The minister reviewed Mr. Wiggin's life, and told how he had always befriended young men from the country, and of the interest he took in the inmates of the State Prison.

Genealogy and History

THE FAMILY

As Charles E. Wiggin was descended directly from Governor Thomas through his son Andrew, this sketch must mainly devote itself to this line; but remembering Mr. Wiggin's fondness for family records, and his pride in the facts they reveal, considerable latitude has been allowed, especially in the use of facts which have recently come to the knowledge of the compiler of this little book; while recent dates are very fully given, for the sake of having them set down while they are accurately known.

For these notes the compiler is greatly indebted, as references here and there indicate, to the following sources:

1. Notes by Levi P. Wiggin, of Exeter, New Hampshire, and Boston, Massachusetts, who is preparing a full Wiggin Genealogy.

2. The Exeter, Newmarket, and South Newmarket Directory and History, for 1872, compiled by J. L. Beckett, and published by Dean Dudley, 8 Congress Square, Boston.

3. Four valuable articles, published in The Dover Enquirer for 1869, April 8, 15, 22, and 29, as part of a long series, under the general title, Historical Memoranda. The authorship of these articles is attributed to Rev. A. H. Quint, D.D., residing in Allston, Massachusetts.

4. A Memoir of Sir Christopher Gardiner, written by the Hon. Charles Francis Adams, and published in 1883.

5. Documents published in the Volumes of the Massachusetts Historical Society, to which access was very kindly given by the courteous Librarian, Dr. Samuel A. Green, and his assistant.

6. The old family Bible, which came into the glad possession of Charles E. Wiggin, not many years before his death. This Bible was printed in London, from 1609 to 1612, just before the King James Version was issued, and was doubtless brought from England by Governor Thomas and his wife.

Its record-pages have been somewhat defaced by time and water, but many entries are in such good black ink as to be almost as legible as when first written. A single leaf however was years ago partially torn out by a vandal hand,—probably by some foolish woman who wished to conceal the record of her age. It is noticeable that a few of the dates in this Bible differ from those cited by other writers quoted, but the ancient record is probably correct. This Bible is not the Authorized Version, first issued in 1610; but it is probably a copy of the Geneva Bible (one of the latest, if not the very last, of the eighty editions of that remarkably tenacious translation — and also somewhat altered, containing the Apocrypha, which the early editions did not contain) as it was published by the Company of Stationers, London, and the Printer to the King, *cum privilegio*, Robert Barker, to whom was transferred, in 1576, the patent of monopoly issued to James Bodleigh in 1561. Unfortunately the general titlepage is lost; but on the titlepage of the Psalter — which is placed at the beginning, with the Sternhold and Hopkins metrical version of the Psalms —is the date 1609. The New Testament

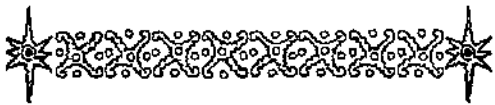
claims to be from the Latin version of Theod. Beza, with his notes, and its titlepage bears the date of 1611. At the close of the Index of definitions and subjects is still another date, 1612. As the Genevan Version was a favorite with the Puritans, whose brethren had made its acquaintance during their exile in Switzerland, and liked its anti-monarchical flavor, it is wholly in accord with the character of Governor Wiggin that he should select it for his family-Bible, instead of the royal translation; for although James I did not like the theological politics of the Genevan Bible, it was a long time before the Authorized Version fully superseded the older versions in popular use.

The name of Wiggin is common only in New Hampshire, and is seldom met with, in this country, out of New England. The neighboring town of Stratham has for nearly two centuries been the seat of the family, and I am inclined to think that at this moment more than half the inhabitants of that ancient town are the lineal descendants of Thomas Wiggin, who was the first of the name in this country, and probably the ancestor of all who now bear it,—at least in the Northern States.—*Dover Enquirer, April 8, 1869.*

Stratham was chartered in 1716, and the first legal town-meeting was held the same year. The population is now about eight-

hundred. The Wiggins were among the earlier settlers; and until nearly the present time descendants of the family occupied the homestead of their forefathers.

Timothy and Benjamin Wiggin, descendants of the earliest settlers of Stratham, came to Boston and engaged in mercantile business. Later they engaged in manufactures, in the early days of such enterprises; and after a few successful years went to London, and established a banking-house. Both died with unspotted reputations. Their business was continued by their children; and one branch, called the Asiatic, European, and American Banking-house, was, in 1872, represented in New York by Augustus Wiggin. — *Exeter Directory.*



1—GOVERNOR THOMAS WIGGIN

IN the direct order of lineage there comes first the Founder of the family in America.

Captain Thomas Wiggin came to New England about the year 1630, and was appointed Agent, and Superintendent of the Dover Plantation, in 1631. The next year he was sent by the colonists back to England, to secure more ample means for the advancement of the infant colony. He returned in 1633, bringing with him a number of families, "some of them men of property and of some account for religion," together with "some of no account," as one record adds. He remained at the head of the colony until 1636, when he was succeeded by George Burdett; but he continued for a number of years to be prominent in the affairs of the colony. His wife's first name was Catherine, but her full maiden name has not yet been ascertained. They were probably married in England, on his return thither in 1633. They had two sons, Andrew

and Thomas, and one daughter, Mary. Andrew was born about 1635, and Thomas five years later, as is shown by their respective depositions, taken in 1700, and still preserved. Governor Wiggin died in the year 1667, or thereabouts.

The following extended account of him is from The Dover Enquirer, for April 8, 1869:

This gentlemen came to New Hampshire in 1631, as agent of the Proprietors for the Upper Plantation, embracing Dover, Durham, and Stratham, with part of Newington and Greenland. After spending a year or two here, he returned to England on the business of the Province, and by his "good testimony," as Governor Winthrop says, in behalf of the Massachusetts Colony, did much to avert the evils that threatened it from the enmity of Gorges and Mason.

On his return to New Hampshire he brought with him "a considerable number of families from the West of England, some of whom were of good estates." . . . Mr. Leveredge, a worthy Puritan minister, accompanied him; but the colony did not then feel able to support him, and he went to Massachusetts.

Governor Wiggin was continued at the head of the Plantation, under the Lords Say and Brook, until the people of Dover, instigated by Burdett, displaced him, and elected that factious demagogue and immoral minister for their Governor.

Upon the union of this province with Massachusetts, Wiggin was appointed a magistrate. He was a Deputy to the General Court, from Dover, in 1645; and from 1650 to 1664 was one of the Assistants—the only one at that time from New Hampshire. He was one of the principal men of the province during

his life, and seems to have enjoyed much of the confidence and respect of the community.

He did not, however, escape envy and abuse; but he found himself sustained not only by his own consciousness of good intentions, but by the good opinion of those who knew him, and by the tribunals to which an appeal was occasionally made, even then, for the punishment of libellers and the vindication of the object of their attacks

In 1655 Philip Chesley was presented "for reproachful speeches against the worshipful Captain Wiggin;" and, being found guilty, was sentenced to "make a public acknowledgment three times,—first at the head of the Train band, and at the two next public meeting days at Dover, when Oyster River people shall be there present,—or be whipped ten stripes and pay a fine of £5."

In the History of New England, to 1680, by the Rev. William Hubbard, of Ipswich, he cites the Grant of Council, November 3, 1631, to the Laconia Company, who had sent over Captain Neale as Governor in 1630, and speaks of Shrewsbury Proprietors, who employed Captain Wiggin to carry on the settlement begun by the Hiltons.

[See a paper by Charles Deane, in Proceedings of Massachusetts Historical Society, for 1876, page 364.]

Hubbard speaks (page 217) of a contest between Captain Walter Neale

and Captain Wiggans, employed in like manner to begin a Plantation higher up the River, for some of Shrewsbury, who, being forbidden by him, the said Neale, to come upon the point of land [claimed

by Neale for his employers] that lieth in the midway between Dover and Essex, Captain Wiggan intended to have defended his right by the sword; but it seems both the litigants had so much wit in their anger as to wave the battle, each accounting himself to have done very manfully in what was threatened; so as in respect, not of what did, but what might have fallen out, the place to this day retains the formidable name of Bloody Point.

This point, still so called, is situated opposite Dover.

In the work called The First Planting of New Hampshire, written by John S. Jenness, and published in 1878, (page 39-70), we read of

one Captain Thomas Wiggin, a stern Puritan, and the confidential friend of Governor Winthrop of Massachusetts Bay. . . . We find Wiggin writing from that place [the banks of the Piscataqua] * to Governor Winthrop, in October, 1631, persuading the latter to take revenge on a party of Indians, for a murder committed on Walter Bagnall, called *Great Wat*, at Richardson's isle. . . . [Winthrop] thought best to sit awhile.

According to Jenness, Wiggin's whole life was spent in maintaining the title of Massachusetts Bay, under the charter of 1625.

Again he says:

Shortly after the quarrel with Captain Neale, Captain Wiggin went out to England in 1632; and forming a company of *honorable men*, as Winthrop

* In this connection it is interesting to learn that several Indians gave *Three-in-one* as the meaning of Piscataquay, from the fact that three rivers there unite.

calls them, succeeded, with their aid, in purchasing from Hilton and his Bristol associates the entire Hilton Point, at the price of £2150.

Among the purchasers were Lord Say and Lord Brook. Captain Wiggin was appointed manager for the new company, and returned to New England with reinforcements and supplies, and also with a *godly minister* [Mr. Leveredge], arriving at Salem, Massachusetts, October 10, 1633.

He at once took steps "to submit this territory to Massachusetts jurisdiction." In November he wrote to Winthrop about a stabbing case. If death should ensue, he wanted the party tried in Massachusetts. Winthrop replied that if "Pascataquack lay within limits, as supposed," he would try him.

The next year Wiggin wrote to the Governor of Massachusetts, offering jurisdiction over criminals "at the river." Winthrop says that "the governor and assistants thought not fit."

The purchase practically failed. Wiggin could not deliver the territory according to the bargain. Edward Hilton, a Churchman and Royalist, was his chief opponent; and the Plantations united to resist Wiggin's designs, and baffled him. One contempo-

raneous writer speaks of him contemptuously as *old Wiggins*. There was really a petty revolution. Governor Wiggin was deposed from his proprietary governorship. An independent government was set up by the Combination (so called), and Burdett was made governor.

In this connection the following note — from pages 29 and 30 of Hon. Charles Francis Adams, Jr.'s Monograph on Sir Christopher Gardiner — is gladly reprinted:

This personage was one of the strong men of early New England history, — a typical Puritan. The exact time of his coming over is not known, and very possibly it was with Winthrop. In any event, he from the beginning stood high, not only in Winthrop's confidence, but in that of Lord Say and Sele, Lord Brooke, and other leaders of the Parliamentary party in England. Almost immediately after the settlement at Boston was effected, questions of boundary, under the conflicting grants of the Council for New England, began to present themselves. Under one of these grants a settlement had already been effected at Piscataqua, in New Hampshire. The Massachusetts Bay Company contended that, under the proper construction of the charter of 1629, their boundary reached a parallel of latitude drawn three miles above the most northerly point on the Merrimack River. This, of course, included the settlement on the Piscataqua.

Either Captain Wiggin was sent to New Hampshire by the Massachusetts magistrates as a suitable person to look after their interests in that quarter, or he went there to explore the country with a view to its settlement. In October, 1631, he had certainly

been there some time, and in correspondence with Winthrop, for on the 22d of that month the latter received a letter from him in relation to the murder of Walter Bagnall by the Indians, at Richmond Island. The next year (1632) Wiggin, who lived at Hilton Point, was in collision with Captain Neale, the Governor of the Lower Plantation for the Laconia associates (Mason and Gorges), on the question of jurisdiction. Wiggin then, acting in concert with Winthrop, went out to England, and induced certain leading men among the Puritans to buy up the so-called Hilton Patent of 1629/30. It was while he was in England on this business that Wiggin wrote the letter to Downing . . . Returning to New England with reinforcements and supplies the next year, Wiggin landed at Salem, October 10, 1633. He at once established himself with his people at Hilton's Point, or Dover, where he was Governor for a number of years. As such he exerted himself to bring the towns on the Piscataqua under the jurisdiction of Massachusetts, which was effected in 1641 and 1643. . . . For over thirty years he was the mainstay of the pretensions of Massachusetts Bay in the region of the Piscataqua. For fourteen years he held the office of Assistant to the Governor of Massachusetts Bay, and is said to have been the only Piscataqua man ever chosen to that position. A strong Puritan and Commonwealth Man, he passed his life among Episcopalians and Royalists, in endless contention with them.

In the Lowell Institute Lectures of the Massachusetts Historical Society, pages 127–162 is an account, by Samuel F. Haven, of various land-grants, including the one contested by Thomas Wiggin; and in the Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society for 1876 (pages 364, 365) are interesting facts.

In 1641 the inhabitants of Strawberry Bank defied "Captain Wiggins to bring his Pattent to this present Court." A blue spot on the map indicates the tract of land given to Captain Wiggin and his partners. This tract was three miles square, along Exeter River, a territory now included in the town of Stratham, and extending to the beautiful outlook of Sandy Point.

Here is still to be found the cellar of the Squamscott House, built by Thomas Wiggin in 1650. In 1651, soon after building the house, he bought, of Thomas Lake, a large interest in the Squamscott Patent, which was allotted to Wiggin and his partners, who soon after yielded their share to him.

Captain Wiggin was buried near his home, in a field sloping towards the bay,—almost on the boundary-line. There also were buried the members of his family. The recent owner of the spot was a lineal descendant of Captain Thomas. The gravestones are all gone, but great oaks and maples grow there. This leads one historian to remark that Thomas Wiggin, being like Joshua the son of Nun,—who led the children of Israel into a new land,—it was fitting that, like Joshua, he should be buried "in the border of his

inheritance in Timnath-serah, which is in Mount Ephraim, on the north side of the hill of Gaash." (JOSHUA xxiv. 30.)

In his historical monograph on Sir Christopher Gardiner, the Hon. Charles Francis Adams, Jr., says that for certain facts he is indebted to a letter from Thomas Wiggin, of Piscataqua, to Emanuel Downing, of the Inner Temple, London,—Governor Winthrop's brother-in-law. This letter was written in Bristol, England, "the last of August, 1632." In it Thomas Wiggin has much to say about the marriage of Thomas Purchas, who settled on the Androscoggin River, near Brunswick, Maine, to Mary Grove.

It appears that Gardiner had been in Bristol, where he indulged in "unstinted denunciation of Governor Winthrop, the magistrates, and the people generally of Massachusetts," declaring them to be "traitors, and rebels against his Majesty."

Later, in the same monograph—for a copy of which the compiler is greatly indebted to the author—Mr. Adams further states that Captain Wiggin at once wrote to Emanuel Downing, who acted as agent for the Massachusetts Company, the letter already referred to, wherein he told Downing

what Gardiner was about, and suggested that means should be found "to stop the fellow's mouth."

Fortunately we are able to read this letter, or rather these letters, for ourselves, the Hon. James Savage having found them in London, and published them, with other historic papers, in the Collections of the Massachusetts Historic Society, third series, volume viii, page 320, as Gleanings for New England History. Mr. Savage places the letters in the order here followed, though apparently the last should be first. He also supplements them with the following comment:

> This letter [the second] is evidently written in a hand different from that of the signer; but his signature varies materially from that of the prior letter, addressed to Downing, which is the same with the body of *that* letter. Was one letter written by the father, and the other by the son? If so, this letter is from the son.

In this surmise Mr. Savage must have been in error, inasmuch as Governor Wiggin was not married till 1632 or 1633, and these letters must have been written soon after his marriage, if not before.

LETTER ONE.

BRISTOLL last of August 1632.

WORTHYE SIR,—Althought I am not knowne unto you, yet I cannot but sertifie you of the carrage of an unworthy person, on Sir Cristofor Gardner which is lately arrived here in Bristoll out of New England. He is a man I suppose you have herd of, for I am informed he hath in London two wives; about two years and some odd months he went from them both with a harlot into New England, where he remayned some spasse of tyme, before they had intelligence what he was. But in the ende on Isake Allerton cominge over, which testified to the Governor and Assistants that he had spake with on or both of his wives, this Gardner, understanding soe much, fearing he should be called in question, fled, thinking to have gon to the Duch plantation, and soe to have freed himselfe from them, but they speedely making after him, by the helpe of the natives of the country apprehended him and brought him backe, and he remayned with them some spasse of tyme. And then on Purchess, a man who liveth in the estern part of New England, comminge to the Massatusets, there did he marrye with this Gardner's wench, and take her awaye and this Gardner both with him; which was done about 12 months since, where this Gardner remayned ever since, till the 15th of August last he apeared here in Bristoll, where he doth most scandeslye and baselye abuse that worthye Governor Master Winthrop with the Assistants and enhabitants who lyve under him, reporting that they are noe lesse than traytors and rebels against his Majestye, with divers others most scandols and aprobious speches,

which on mye owne knolage is most falce, and sayth furthermore, that he was droven to swime for his lyfe, because he stoode for the King's cause. But the truth is, it was doutinge that they would have hanged him for his abigumie.

I could desire, that you would youse some menes to stope this fellos mouth. Yf I weare sertayne that his 2 wives ar yet alyve, I should be willinge to do mye best that the lawe might be exicuted upon him. Where they lyve, I knowe not, but in London I hear they ar. I would desire you, that you would enquire, whether they ar, and whether they are yet alyve, and let me understand your minde in it. In the meane whylle I shall doe my best to take offe his falce aspersions which I hope I shall doe amonge honest men, and for others it matters not. Master Wintrop did tell me, he had write to you and to Master Umfris conserning me. I determine to come and may bee to bee with you. There was an oulde acquayntance of mine, which was with me of late, on Lance, a marchant taylor now living In Gloster, which since my first acquayntance with him hath ben in some parts of the West Indes or the Careebo Ilandes, and as he pretendes to me hath goten expectance of a sertayne stabell commoditye which will bee verye benificiallye for New England, where he desires to goe and to plant it there. I hope he is an honest man, which makes me to give some credit to him. I wished him to talk with Master Humfris and yourselfe about it, & yf you can finde any probibillitye, which I dout not but you will, In discoursinge with him, you maye doe well to *furdor* him the Best you maye, for I assure you stabell commodityes is the thinge they want there. I shall not *need*, I dout, declare the happy prosedinge and *welfare* of New England, but I dout not but you have hard it from others. But this I maye saye, the Lord hath ben verye grasious unto them, and it is a wonder to me to see what maters theye have done In soe smalle a tyme. Thusse desiringe

the Lords blessinge to bee upon you and all thosse that unfaynedly desire his glorye I humbellye take my leve and rest.

Yours to command & all love
THOMAS WIGGIN.

Addressed
To his worthye frend
Master Downinge att his howse
In flete Strete nere
fleete Cundit
dde
LONDON

LETTER TWO.

RIGHT HONO[ble]

Havinge lately bin in New England in America, and taken notice both of some comodities and advantages to this State wch that contrie will afford, and there havinge visited the plantations of the English and amongst the rest that especially in the Mattachusetts (being the largest best and most prospering in all that land) I have made bold to inform yo'r hono'r of some observations wch I have taken both of the contrie and that Plantation.

As for the contrie it is well stored with goodly Timber and Masts for shippinge, and will afford Cordage, Pitch and Tarr, and as good hempe and flax as in any pte of the world, growes there naturally fitt for cordage and sayles, whereof this kingdome will soone finde the benefitt, if the plantation proceed awhile without discouragemt, as hitherto it hath done.

For the plantatation in the Mattachusetts, the English there being about 2000 people, yonge and old, are generally most industrious and fitt for such a worke, having in three yeares done more in

buyldinge and plantinge then others have done in seaven tymes that space, and with at least ten tymes lesse expence.

Besides I have observed the planters there, and by theire loving just and kind dealinge with the Indians, have gotten theire love and respect and drawne them to an outward conformity to the English, soe that the Indians repaire to the English Governor there and his deputies for justice.

And for the Governor himselfe, I have observed him to bee a discrete and sober man, givinge good example to all the planters, wearinge plaine apparell, such as may well beseeme a meane man, drinkinge ordinarily water, and when he is not conversant about matters of justice, putting his hand to any ordinarye labour with his servants, ruling with much mildness, and in this particular I observed him to be strict in the execution of Justice upon such as have scandalized this state, either in civill or ecclesiasticall government, to the greate contentmt of those that are best affected, and to the terror of offendors.

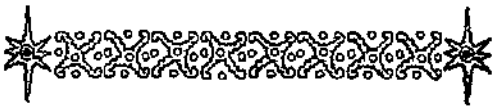
Of all wch. I myselfe havinge bin an eye witnesse am the rather induced to present the same to yo'r hono'r, to cleare the reputation of the plantation from certain false rumors and scandales, wch. I perceive since my retorne to England some persons, ill affected to the plantations there, have cast abroad, as namely one Sir Christopher Gardiner, whoe leavinge two wives here in England, went with an other yonge woman into New England, there, being discovered by letters from England, he was seperated from his wench. A second is one Moreton whoe (as I am Informed by his wife's sonne and others) upon a foule suspition of Murther fled hence to New England, and there falling out with some of the Indians, he shott them with a fowling peice, for wch and other misdemeanours, upon the Indians complaint, his howse by order of Court there, was destroyed and he banished the plantation. A third

was one Ratcliffe whoe as I am crediblie informed, for most horible blasphemy was condemned there to lose his eares, whoe with the former two, and some other the like discontented and scandalous persons, are lately retorned hither, seekinge to cover the shame of theire owne facts, by castinge reproaches upon the plantation, doe addresse themselves to Sir Ferdinand Gorges, whoe by theire false informations is nowe projectinge howe to deprive that plantation of the priviledges graunted by his Ma'tie and to subvert theire government, the effects whereof will be the utter ruine of this hopefull plantation, by hinderinge all such as would goe to them, and drivinge those already planted there either to retorne, or disperse into other places, wch I leave to your grave judgm't myselfe being none of their plantation, but a neighbour by, have done this out of that respect I here to the generall good. I have bin too briefe in this relation in regard I feared to be over troblesome to yo'r hono'r. Soe I take leave and rest

Yo'r honors humble servant,

The XIXth daye of November 1632. THO. WIGGIN

To the right hono'ble S'r John Cooke knt, principall Secretary to his Ma'tie and one of his highnes most hono'ble privie councell. These d'r.



2—ANDREW WIGGIN

ANDREW WIGGIN, oldest son of Captain Thomas, was born about 1635. He married, June 3, 1659, Hannah, daughter of Governor Simon Bradstreet, of Andover, Massachusetts. Andrew Wiggin at one time owned nearly all of the town of Stratham, on the easterly side of the Squamscot River; and the farm is still reputed one of the finest in New England, being at present owned and used as a stock farm, by Benjamin D. Whitcomb, of Boston.

On the fourth of June, 1663, Thomas Wiggin, and Catherine his wife, gave to their son Andrew, "in consideration of his late marriage with Hannah, daughter of Simon Bradstreet, of Andover, Esquire," a deed of "all that our land" called or known by the name of Quamscutt, being three miles square, or thereabouts.—*Dover Enquirer, April 8, 1869.*

In 1663 Andrew and Hannah Wiggin, of Quamscot, sold land; and in 1680 John Cutt willed to his son John Cutt "all the land I bought of Mr. Wiggin, being 160 pole by the water side, and extending three miles back into the woods."

Hannah Bradstreet was not only Governor Bradstreet's daughter, but, through her mother, she was the granddaughter of Governor Thomas Dudley, and niece of Governor Joseph Dudley. Her mother, Mrs. Anne Dudley Bradstreet, 1613—1672, was the authoress of many poems (See Griswold's Female Poets of America) and known as the Sappho of New England, and also as the Tenth Muse, because the first to publish a small volume of verse in this country; and she wrote the following quaint lines about her children:

I had eight birds hatch't in the nest;
Four cocks there were, and hens the rest.
I nurs't them up with pains and care,
For cost nor labor did I spare;
Till at the last they felt their wing,
Mounted the trees and learned to sing.

In those ancient days in Stratham strict rules were adopted in regard to Sunday worship, one of which was, as we learn from the Exeter Directory:

When the cometey have seatid the meeting house every person that is Seatid shall Set in those Seats or pay five shillings Pir day for every day they set out of there Seates in a disorderly manner to advaince themselves higher in the meeting house.

An exception to this rule was made in the case of Mr. Andrew Wiggin, who had

"Leberty to set in what seat he pleaseth." Evidently Andrew had a strain of characteristic independence, which has not died out of the Wiggin blood.

Andrew Wiggin was not much in public life, but in private life he appears to have been much regarded, and considered as a sort of Patron of Squamscot. As such, and especially as a man regarding his own interests and the interests of the colonists, he occasionally came into collision with Mason and his friends, with whom he and his family were not at all times on the best of terms.

Walter Barefoot was one of Mason's friends, and was so connected, by marriage, with the Wiggin family, as to make the ill-will, which was now and then stirred up between them, peculiarly bitter. In June, 1667, Barefoot entered a complaint against Wiggin for beating and bruising him in the public highway. and robbing him of a pistol, and several writings "of great concernment." Both parties were bound in recognizance to appear at the next Court — one to prosecute and the other to answer.

In September there was a solemn trial, which left the whole case and the whole Court very much in the dark, as appears from the record which reads in this wise: "The Court find that the charge is not proved in all the particulars of it; but finding that the said Andrew Wiggin thrust the said Barefoot into a gully, and did after that in another place, upon some words passing between them, turn towards said Barefoot and face him; and suddenly thereupon both were seen upon the ground scuffling, the said Barefoot demanding his pistol of said Wiggin, which said Barefoot said he had taken from him, and which this Court doth suspect the said Wiggin did take from him,—the Court judges the said Wiggin to have broken the peace."

They sentenced him to pay a fine of ten pounds (which they immediately after reduced to five) and

the costs. On another charge, more immediately affecting his domestic and moral character, which the malice of his enemies, about the same time, brought against him, he was triumphantly acquitted, even by a Court which was rather prone to suspect without cause, and convict without evidence

. . . . . .

In his will Mr. Wiggin mentioned several of his grandchildren, and made some provision for them, extending his affection and care beyond those existing, to those in *esse;* and particularly provided that "if Andrew hath another son his name shall be Thomas, and be bred a scholar." The provision, however, was void, for Thomas, the son of Andrew, lived not to become a scholar; and although from that time to this there have been multitudes of the descendants of Governor Thomas who bore his name,—active, honest, and industrious men, like their ancestor,—no Thomas Wiggin has yet been "bred a scholar," or had his name inserted in the catalogue of an American College.

Dover Enquirer, April, 8, 1869.

The children of Andrew and Hannah Wiggin were eleven: Thomas, Simon, Hannah, Mary, Andrew, Bradstreet, Abigail, Dorothy, Sarah, Jonathan, and one other. The elder Andrew died in 1710, age seventy-five. His wife died about three years before.

In the old Bible the names of Abigail, Dorothy, Sarah, Jonathan, and the "one other" do not appear; but perhaps these names were on the missing fragment of the leaf, and belong to dates 1677, 1678, 1680, 1682, 1683, on the remaining fragment;

for of Mary's name only the letter *y* is left; and of Andrew's, only *ew*. There can be no question that another fragmentary name stands for Bradstreet.

1. Thomas, the eldest son of Andrew, was born March 5, 1662 [March 28, 1661, in the old Bible]. He married Martha Dennison, a daughter of John Dennison, of Ipswich, and granddaughter of Major-general Daniel Dennison, and Patience his wife, who was a daughter of Governor Dudley. The mother of Mrs. Wiggin was Martha, a daughter of Deputy-governor Symonds, of Massachusetts. Mr. Thomas Wiggin died in early life, leaving but one child, Hannah.—*Dover Enquirer, April 15, 1869.*

2. Of the next son, Simon,—evidently named for his maternal grandfather,—more hereafter.

3. Andrew's daughter Hannah, born August 10, 1666, married Elder William Wentworth's son Samuel. As she died before 1701 she is not mentioned in her father's will; but her son Samuel, a Boston merchant, received a legacy, and died in 1715.

4. Mary, born March 22, 1667/8, married Captain Jeremy Gilman, of Exeter; and one of her descendants, Colonel Samuel Gilman, was trustee of Governor Wentworth's estate, when that gentleman left the country.

5. Judge Andrew, son of Andrew, and

grandson of the Governor, was born January 6, 1671/2 and was twice married. His second wife—Jacob Freese's widow, of Hampton, originally Rachel Chase—he married January 4, 1737. He was often in public affairs and was for several years Speaker of the House of Representatives and Judge of Probate for the Province.

For some time he was on the Bench of the Superior Court, but whether by appointment as Justice of that Court, or as a special Justice, is not certain. His name is not in Mr. Adams's list of the judges, but in several of the old dockets of the Court he appears to have been present as a Justice. Judge Wiggin died about the first of the year 1756. His will was proved on the sixth of February in that year. — *Dover Enquirer, April 15, 1869.*

The Judge's children were Hannah, Martha, Abigail, Mary, Mercy, Jonathan, Bradstreet. Jonathan Wiggin had six children, including a son of the same name, born January 19, 1740, who had the title of Captain, was a member of the Legislature, and was thrice married.

6. Bradstreet, Judge Andrew's youngest son, married Phebe Sherburne, by whom he had six children. The widow of Andrew (May 5, 1737—September 16, 1778.) survived him fifty-six years, dying January 24, 1834, aged one hundred, leaving one-

hundred-and-fifty descendants, including eighty-eight greatgrandchildren. This Mrs. Andrew Wiggin, born October 6, 1733, was Mary Jewett; and her mother was Anna, a daughter of Jonathan Wiggin. Before her marriage with Andrew Wiggin, Mary was the widow of Walter Weeks.

7. Abigail, daughter of Andrew and Hannah Wiggin, born September 14, 1678; married William French of Stratham.

8. Dorothy, born October 14, 1680 married a Gilman.

9. Sarah, born January 6, 1682, married William Moore, and lived in Concord.

10. Jonathan, born March 11, 1683, died in 1738, leaving several children.

11. The compiler conjectures that the one child unknown was born November 28, 1677, and died in early infancy, as another child was born in less than ten months after.

Here we step aside from our regular line to consider the fortunes of a marked member of the family, Thomas, the other son of the Governor, born in 1640.

It is stated by Abbot, in his history of Andover, that Anne, a daughter of Governor Bradstreet, married Mr. Wiggin of Exeter. Unless Andrew married two sisters, which we think hardly probable,

L. OF C.

Anne was the wife of Thomas Wiggin; but if so, she was his first wife, and probably died without children. The mother of his children was Sarah.

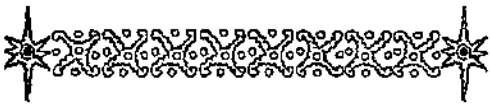
In a deed from Walter Barefoot to Thomas Wiggin, dated June 27, 1762, the grantor speaks of the grantee as his brother, and again as his brother-in-law. The tradition is that the wife of Thomas was a strict observer of Christmas and other festivals, and a zealous friend of the Church of England. She might have been a sister of Barefoot; but her husband, if a brother, was not a very constant friend of Walter.

While Barefoot was Deputy-governor, and Mason, then the Governor, was residing at Barefoot's house, prosecuting his claims as Proprietor, Thomas Wiggin and Anthony Nutter, "a tall big man," called to see him; and after supper, being in the kitchen, Wiggin treated the Governor with so little deference that the latter ordered him out of the house. Instead of going, he told Mason that he (Mason) had no business in the Province, owned not a foot of land in it, and never should own any; whereat the Governor was so much provoked that he opened the door, and took Wiggin by the arm to thrust him out; but Wiggin being, as the Governor afterwards deposed, "a big strong man," took Mason by the collar, threw him upon the fire, and held him there until he scorched his feet and stockings, and his periwig.

Upon Barefoot's interfering in behalf of Mason, Wiggin released Mason, who was sufficiently roasted, and thrust Deputy Barefoot under the forestick; in which operation two of Barefoot's ribs were broken and one of his teeth knocked out. A servant brought Mason his sword, but Nutter snatched it out of his hands, and laughed at the sufferers, while Wiggin was toasting them.

Mr. Wiggin was of Dover, but in the latter part of his life resided at Sandy Point, where it is supposed his father died, and where he also died in 1700, or early in 1701. His children were:

1. Catherine, who married Robert Tufton, and after his death became the wife of her cousin, Captain Simon Wiggin.
2. Sarah, wife of Henry Sherburn.
3. Susanna, who married a Johnson.



3—CAPTAIN SIMON WIGGIN

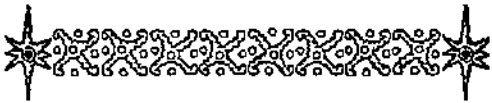
SIMON, the second son of Andrew, was born April 17, 1664/5. The name of his first wife has not been ascertained. Their children were Hannah, Deborah, and Simon. He also married Mrs. Catherine Mason; and this second wife outlived him, Captain Simon dying about the year 1720, while she lived till the year 1738.

This second wife was Catherine, widow of Robert Tufton, who took the name of Mason. She was originally Catherine Wiggin, daughter of Thomas Wiggin, and granddaughter of Governor Thomas. Prior to her marriage with her cousin, Captain Simon Wiggin, he entered into a sort of marriage contract with her, duly recorded in the County Records. By this contract, dated October 29, 1703, he agrees to take her "out of pure love," and "without anything beside her person," and relinquishes all claim upon the property of her first husband.

. . . . . .

In her will she spoke of her daughter Elizabeth, wife of Walter Philbrick, and of her grandsons John Tufton, Thomas Tufton, and Tufton Philbrick.

Dover Enquirer April 15, 1869.



4—LIEUTENANT SIMON WIGGIN

THIS Simon, the third child and only son of Captain Simon, was born August 12, 1701, and married Susannah Sherburne, born March 13, 1703. The date of marriage has disappeared from our Bible, but the birth-dates remain. Their children were:

1. Simon, of whom more in the next section.

2. Sarah, born March 4, 1734, married William Perkins, of Newmarket.

3. Susannah, born April 18, 1738, married a Presby, of Newmarket.

4. Hennery (as the Bible has it) was born May 8, 1740, lived in Newmarket and Tuftonborough, and was twice married. The first wife, a Shute, had no children. The second wife, a Herrick, had four children.

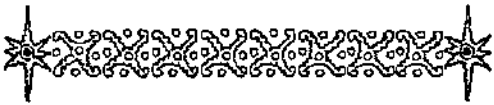
5. Thomas, born September 11, 1742, married a Jewell, and died in the Revolutionary Army, 1777.

5. Mary (or Nancy), born July 19, 1744, married Harvey Moore.

7. Joseph was born April 28, 1748, and lived in Concord.

The order of these names differs somewhat from that given by Mr. Levi Wiggin and the writer in the Dover Enquirer; but the Bible record is unmistakable.

Lieutenant Simon died August 11, 1757; and his wife on July 9, 1763.



5—ESQUIRE SIMON WIGGIN

HE was the eldest son of Lieutenant Simon, and was born September 11, 1731, by Bible record (March 4, 1734, by other accounts), and married, July 22, 1756, Hannah Marble, of Bradford, Massachusetts, who died November 9, 1811, aged seventy-five. He is described as a quiet man, of few words, but possessing much real dignity of character.

He was active in town matters, and represented Stratham in the Legislature, when its sessions were held in the adjoining county-town of Exeter. He headed the list of local Patriots who subscribed money to carry on the Revolution, and whose names appear in a document still preserved among the archives at the Statehouse in Concord. Esquire Simon died October 11, 1823, and was buried in the old graveyard adjacent to the Congregational (Trinitarian) Church. On his gravestone is this tribute:

AN AFFECTIONATE FATHER
AND
A TRUE FRIEND TO HIS COUNTRY

The Squire had nine children:

1. Betsey (Bety, in the Bible) was born September 10, 1757, and died young.

2. Simon, called sometimes Esquire or Captain, was born January 5, 1759. He was noted for his old-time manners and assumption of dignity. His name is written several times in the old Bible, once with the addition:

Simon Wiggin his book,
bought January 20, 1772.

Possibly this refers to an auction-sale, after the death of some member of the family. Here is another boyish entry, for the old Squire would hardly have written thus:

Simon Wiggin
His Book
GOD Give
Him Grace
THERE IN
To Look and
WHEN THE
BELL FOR HIM
DOTH TOLE
THE LORD HAVE
MERCY ON HIS SOUL

Mrs. Rebecca Wiggin remembers him — when she first visited South Newmarket, the summer of her marriage, 1840 — as still living at the home of his brother David's wife; and this must have been just before his death. Daniel G. Wiggin also remembers him well.

This younger Simon married Joanna Thurston, of Exeter, born September 15, 1765, by whom he had two children: *a* — William Henry, who married Mary Ann Shackford; *b* — Sarah Jane, born in 1799, who was in her youth adopted by her mother's brother, then living on Beacon Hill, Boston, in a house which had to be removed after the Statehouse was built and the hill lowered. She is still living (1888) unmarried, in Wrentham, Massachusetts, full of years and piety, a staunch adherent of the Episcopal Church.

Julia Wiggin, an older daughter of this Simon, was born May 20, 1777, and lived always in Stratham, where she died some ten years ago, about a century old. The old Bible was long in her possession, but in the Centennial year, 1876, she transferred it to her cousin, Charles E. Wiggin. By virtue of a compact of her Aunt Clark with the Squire,—for her grandfather was always her

high-minded guardian,—Julia was for many years the recipient of an income from the Clark sons.

3. Anna, or Nancy, born April 15, 1760, married Noah Robinson, a native of the same town, born May 7, 1757. He was the son of Jonathan Robinson, and a possible descendant of Rev. John Robinson, the noted pastor of the Pilgrims in Holland, who was prevented from coming to Plymouth with those of his flock who landed on the famous Rock. In early life Noah worked as farmer and blacksmith with his father; but in 1776 he entered the Revolutionary Army, serving in Captain Winborn Adams's Company, in the Second New Hampshire Regiment, of which Enoch Poor (made a General the next year) was then Colonel. In the same company was Parker Morgan, whose son afterwards married Robinson's eldest granddaughter, Sarah Ann Robinson. Morgan and Robinson soon became great friends, and in after years loved to talk over their early experiences. Noah was soon promoted to a captaincy, and discharged his duties with fidelity and vigor. Both he and Morgan were under Washington at Valley Forge, and endured a famine, broken, at

the end of five days, by the arrival of a few barrels of salt pork, which they hastened to devour raw. Sometimes they confiscated chickens from a neighboring farm. Once, when a chicken had been given Noah by Morgan, the Captain hid it in a hole under some camp-furniture in his tent; and when the farmer came to demand justice, boldly ordered every tent to be searched, beginning with his own. Needless to say that not a feather was found. Subsequently Morgan went to sea in the privateer Buccaneer, or General Mifflin, still accompanied by Robinson, as Commander of Marines. Just before his departure Captain Noah was united to Nancy Wiggin. After capturing thirteen British vessels, and undergoing a peculiarly interesting adventure in the Bay of Biscay, where their cruiser captured, with the aid of a sudden wind-squall, a British ship-of-war, — Robinson returned to New Hampshire, bringing a French mirror (still preserved in the Robinson family), a bridal dress (until lately preserved in the Swasey family), and other gifts. He found himself already the father of a babe, named Noah, after its absent father. So runs the tale, though the difficulty of reconciling dates and voyages throws

some doubt upon it. At anyrate this child was born at his Grandfather Wiggin's homestead, in Stratham, and therefore we record more particulars about him hereafter. The next children were born in Epping; but having an enterprising disposition, Robinson soon removed his family farther north, to New Hampton, where he settled on a large farm, and built, on the brow of a high hill, a spacious homestead, still in the Robinson family, and at present (1888) occupied by one of his many grandsons, Thaddeus Pulaski Robinson, son of Thomas S., — a name retained through four generations. Captain Noah was pensioned in 1807, on account of a wound in the breast. He died on Saturday, February 10, 1827, aged seventy, and was buried on the following Wednesday, Rev. Mr. Farnsworth preaching a sermon from the text "Watch therefore!" MATTHEW xxv. 13.

Some particulars about Captain Noah, not altogether accurate, may be found in Volume iii, 1880, of The Granite Monthly, published at Concord, in an article called New Hampton Men in the Revolution.

Nancy Wiggin Robinson was a very bright woman, as an old diary, kept by her, abun-

dantly testifies. Doubtless it was she who scribbled thus in the family Bible in her early womanhood:

Nancy Wiggin is my name
and with my hand I write the same.

She died August 18, 1804, and was buried the next day (a common entry in the family records), a sermon being preached by the Rev. Mr. Hibbard, on JOB iii. 17. A large concourse of people gathered, for Captain Noah—or Squire Noah, as he was often called—was greatly loved and respected, though his will was law, both in his family and the neighborhood, and he was a man born to command.

The children of the union of Nancy Wiggin and Noah Robinson were as follows:

a. Colonel Noah was born October 5, 1782, and died in Biddeford, Maine, February 15, 1856. He was at first largely engaged in general trade and manufactures, especially of potash and lumber, on the shores of Lake Winnipiseogee; but this business being broken up by the stagnation following the War of 1812, he later lived in various places, everywhere commanding respect by his refinement, dignity, honor,

and mechanical skill. He had a fitting mate in Nancy Wadleigh, of Meredith, who died in Nashua, September 2, 1854, aged sixty-six.

Colonel Noah's children were:

First. Sarah Ann, born 1806, married Charles Morgan, of Meredith, born 1799, to whose Record Book we are indebted for some important historic facts. She still lives in Saco, where her husband died in 1882, There are two sons: Eustis Parker, born 1828, was twice married, and resides in Saco, having one living child, Clara Augusta, born 1870. Charles Carroll, born July 25, 1832, married October, 1858, his cousin, Marianna Robinson Gove (born October 8, 1832), of Toledo, Ohio, who died in 1873, leaving one daughter, Anne May, born in 1859.

Sarah Ann and Charles Morgan had two daughters: Sarah Elizabeth, born 1830, married Hiram Mygatt Goodrich, of Nashua, in 1851, and has no living children; Helen Frances, born in 1834, married, in 1855, Dr. Henry Funsen Aten, and died in Dedham, 1863, leaving two living children, Marion Baldwin, born in 1858, and Helen Morgan, born in 1863.

Second. Mary Jane, born 1808, married Elisha J. Carpenter, of Methuen, Massachusetts, who died in 1868. She died in 1874, leaving one surviving child, James Robinson, born 1841, who married, 1873, Abby Charlotte Lockwood, of Boston, since deceased.

Third. Enoch Poor, born 1810, and named for his uncle, went to Prattville, Alabama, and married, in 1839, Hardenia Rogers, who died in 1874. He lives in Texas, having three surviving sons, the eldest of whom, Thaddeus Pulaski, served courageously in the Rebel Army.

Fourth. Nancy Wiggin, born 1812, married George W. Gove, of Kensington, New Hampshire. He died in Ohio, in 1873, and she died in 1855. One daughter was the wife of C. C. Morgan, above mentioned.

Fifth. Caroline Augusta, born 1814, married in 1856, Rev. Horatio Quincy Butterfield, D.D., of the Orthodox Congregationalist Church, now President of Olivet College, Michigan. No children.

Sixth. Hannah Elizabeth, born 1816, married, in 1868, her cousin, General John Wadleigh, of Meredith, and has no children. General Wadleigh died in 1873.

Seventh. Martha, born in 1819, died in infancy.

Eighth. Alphonso Jerome, born in 1821, studied at Dartmouth College, taught, and finally became a successful Boston lawyer. He has always been noted for his interest in genealogy, and is now living, unmarried and retired, with his widowed sister, Mrs. Wadleigh, in Middlesex, Massachusetts.

Ninth. Julia Maria, born 1823, married; in 1852, William Alvin Miles, of Alabama, deceased, by whom she has one surviving son.

Tenth. Thaddeus Pulaski, born 1825, after a varied life in California and elsewhere, studied medicine, married (in 1860) Fanny Smith, of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, and finally settled in Newton Centre, where he died, in 1874, greatly beloved, and leaving one child, Mary, born in 1868.

At one time Colonel Noah directed the State muster of militia, on the broad fields near his father's great farmhouse at New Hampton; and doubtless the officers assembled convivially in the curious apartment in the second story, which is convertible into chambers for every-day use, by lowering the panelled wooden partitions, made to

swing upward against the ceiling, where they are held in place by stout iron hooks, when the hall is needed for social purposes.

Leaving Colonel Noah's line, however, we must return to his brothers and sisters, the immediate family of Captain, or Esquire Noah, who, it may be here mentioned, is said to have been the seventh son of the seventh son.

b. Nancy Wiggin Robinson, born in Epping, October 4 or 5, 1784, died June 3, 1792.

c. Enoch Poor was born in Epping, December 6, 1786, and died in Meredith, September 3 or 5, 1807, unmarried. As General Poor was at the defeat of Burgoyne, where Robinson fought as Captain, and had been his Colonel when Robinson first enlisted, it is easy to see that military attachment led Captain Noah to thus christen the next son born after the eldest, who perpetuated his father's name.

d. Sally Wiggin was born at Epping, August 16, 1788, married John Swasey, of Meredith, and died in Claremont, October 11, 1852, leaving no sons, and only two grandchildren: George M. Colvocoresses

and Henry Swasey (the latter still living) through the marriage of her daughter Anne with Captain Alden Partridge, the renowned military instructor, of Norwich, Vermont, who died in 1854. Of the other five daughters: Lydia and Frances died unmarried, the latter in 1873. Charlotte married General ——— Phelps, of Colebrook, Connecticut. Adaline married Captain Colvocoresses, of the United States Navy, a refugee, in his childhood, from the Turkish massacres in Greece at the time of the revolution there. He died by assassination, at Bridgeport, Connecticut, in the year 1872. Sarah Jane still lives at the cottage home in Claremont.

e. Marquis De Lafayette, (commonly called Mark) was born at New Hampton, March 30 or 31, 1790, and died February 12, 1863, leaving descendants, by marriage with Susan Hull, of Meredith.

The following interesting facts are communicated by C. C. Morgan, Esq:

The patriotic source of this name is not far to seek. Tradition says that Lafayette came from France—perhaps on his last military visit to America— about the time of Captain Robinson's return from privateering; and in the bestowal of the name the family evidently believed Marquis to be a part of the hero's name, and not merely his title.

Marquis Robinson was noted for his immense strength. With no special training he could lift a ton. In assisting his brother Noah in making potash he would lift a cask weighing five-hundred pounds, as readily as an ordinary workman would lift a cask of nails. He could hold a cask of cider and drink from the bunghole. When an oaken sill was wrongly laid, in raising his father's long, new barn, and a dozen men and two horses were assembled to turn the timber about, Mark told them to stand aside and he would do the job. He accordingly lifted the heavy timber upon his knees, and deliberately turned his body about till the sill was reversed and could be laid in its proper place. His love of freedom led him to resist the first New Hampshire law against liquor-selling without a license, and though not previously engaged in that traffic, he at once announced that liquors could be bought of him. Fifteen indictments were found against him; but there was talk about the necessity of calling out a regiment to arrest this Samson. A friend however declared that Robinson was a law-abiding citizen, who would give himself up peaceably; and so it proved. As a result, though he pleaded his own case, with the aid of John P. Hale, he was convicted, and his estate irretrievably damaged thereby. His father's sword, which had belonged to the elder brother Noah, — who had received it when commissioned Colonel of the Twenty-ninth New Hampshire Regiment, and sent it to Boston to have a new hilt made of thirty milled dollars, — came into Mark's possession, and still remains in Fayette's family. Among Mark's children were: Darius, whose son George M. holds an important position on the Boston police force; Fayette, a prosperous provision-dealer in Manchester, whose children and grandchildren still reside in that neighborhood; Rufus K., a Boston grocer, still living in that city, where his son also resides.

f. Simon Wiggin was born at New Hampton, February 19, 1792, and became a grocer in Boston. He married, October 6, 1816, Hannah Taylor Danforth (October 9, 1797—October 8, 1843) of Billerica, a descendant of Thomas Danforth, so long Deputy and Assistant with Governor Simon Bradstreet, Robinson's ancestor, and called (by Dr. Lucius R. Paige, the historian of that town) the strongest man who ever lived in Cambridge. S. W. Robinson married again, April 4, 1847, Mrs. Elizabeth Greenough Little (*née* Stone), widow of Samuel Little, of Bucksport, Maine, and retired to Lexington, where he died October 16, 1868, his widow dying there also, August 17, 1883. His estate, adjoining the ancient graveyard, where rest the ashes of the Revolutionary Patriots, now belongs to his oldest grandson, James Henry Wiggin. Though born in Concord, Massachusetts, March 27, 1795, his second wife was reared in Billerica.

Mr. C. C. Morgan says further:

A few facts show how closely connected were the names of Wiggin and Robinson from the earliest times. In 1709, when it was proposed to set off that part of Exeter known by the name of Winnicut, and incorporate it as the town of Stratham, Wiggins were among the fifty-one who signed the petition;

while Jonathan and David Robinson were among the nineteen who presented a counter petition, on the ground that some who wished to be at charges for the new town "would probably become town charges," However, the separation was affected in 1716, and David Robinson was elected the first townclerk. One of these Robinsons was probably the grandfather of the Captain who married Nancy Wiggin.

Inasmuch as S. W. Robinson bore both our family names, Simon and Wiggin, he is more fully spoken of here. He did not come to Boston till he had already reached manhood, and soon after entered into the grocery business with Mr. Cumings, in a store on Hanover Street, opposite Charter, and lived in a wooden house next-door, at the corner of Salutation Street. In 1836, after the death of his partner, Mr. Robinson removed his store into the wooden building, no longer standing, at the lower end of Prince Street, opposite the old Charlestown Bridge, at the corner of the newly constructed Causeway Street; the family having moved into a brick house which he purchased on Sheafe Street, now numbered nineteen. Gradually he withdrew from the business, which passed into the hands of his friend and associate, George B. Swasey. He was a member of the City Government and of

the School Committee, and was sent to the Legislature both from Boston and Lexington.

In religion he was a devout Liberal, and was connected with the Second Church (Unitarian), then located on Hanover Street, during the ministry of Henry Ware, Jr., Ralph Waldo Emerson, and Chandler Robbins. When the old brick church was replaced by a gothic edifice of freestone, 1844–1845, both himself and his son-in-law, J. S. Wiggin, were on the Building Committee. Mr. Robinson was also Parish Treasurer, and pondered with great sorrow the declining interests of the society.

After his location in Boston he became strongly interested in Free Masonry, his diploma from Mount Lebanon Lodge bearing the date of February 14, 1820, when he was under thirty years of age. The next year he was exalted to the Royal Arch Degree, in Saint Paul Chapter; and in 1825 or 1826 was admitted to the Orders of Knighthood, in Boston Encampment. From 1837 to 1839 he was High Priest of the Grand Chapter, being publicly installed in the old Temple. He was also Commander of the Grand Encampment of Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

This interest never flagged while life lasted. Though buried without Masonic recognition, he was then the Senior Past Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts, having filled that office from 1840 to 1847. He received all sorts of fraternity honors, rising to the second office in the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, then consisting of only nine members, to whose fellowship he was admitted in 1851, having received the Scottish rites five years before.

After serving from 1861 to 1865 as Lieutenant Grand Commander, under Commander Raymond, he was elected Most Puissant Sovereign Grand Commander of the Supreme Council of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite, for the Northern Masonic Jurisdiction of the United States, an office from which he retired in 1867, the year before his death.

During the Anti-Masonic excitement he remained firm in his allegiance, and when the old Temple was built, at the corner of Temple Place and Tremont Street, he held the official purse, and left on record his joy at the completion of this important structure. He received honorary membership from Mount Lebanon Lodge, March 12,

1849; from De Molay Encampment, October 27, 1858; and in 1868 from the Grand Orient of Brazil, — notification of the last honor being sent by the hand of Brother Goodall, who was unable to deliver it before Mr. Robinson's death.

In the troubles which followed the erection of a new Temple, corner of Boylston and Tremont Streets. in connection with the Scottish Rite, Mr. Robinson sided very strongly with the now extinct Nassau Hall party; but he lived to see the healing of this breach. and would today rejoice in the restoration of the Charity Fund, by the aid of his old friend, William Parkman. A fine portrait of Mr. Robinson hangs in the honorable northeast corner of the great Boston lodgeroom, while a family photograph represents him in the regalia of the highest degree; and the lodge in the town of Lexington bears his venerated name. His signature appears in various Masonic books which sought his approval, and in the interests of the Order he undertook long journeys.

Some of these dates are kindly furnished by the writer of the following letter, William Parkman, himself an old Mason of national

reputation, who sat with Brother Robinson in many bodies:

> Of my own knowledge I could fill a small book with biographical incidents, to show his marked fidelity of character as a man and a Mason. He was a conscientious and sincere Mason,—not a profound esoteric scholar, but a man who thoroughly appreciated and loved the institution, and who, next his church, believed what Masonry teaches. He was a thoroughly honest man and without guile. Modest in his nature, genial in his habits, he was favored with strong friendships, which have been severed only by death and the lapse of time. I knew him thoroughly; and in all my experience I have never found a truer Nature's Noblemen. I could write pages of reminiscences which would redound to his credit.

On December 30, 1868, a Lodge of Sorrow, in Robinson's honor, was held in the asylum of the Cosmopolitan Sovereign Consistory, New York, the funeral ceremonies being conducted by the Lodge of Perfection. A eulogy (containing sundry statistical errors) was delivered by Albert G. Goodall, and for sixty days the altars and tools of the Order were draped with the violet badge of mourning. These proceedings were published, and contain a letter from R. M. C. Graham, 33°, characterizing Robinson as the Venerable Patriarch of the Order. The writer adds:

As the recognized head of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite in this Jurisdiction, the self-sacrificing spirit evinced by him, in effecting the Union of Councils long estranged, renders his name doubly dear to the Fraternity; and the remembrance of this act alone will serve as a shining light in all time to come.

Though the most persevering of men, he was also exceedingly versatile. Not only did he so early acquire a modest fortune that he could retire from active business at fifty, but his intellectual abilities were remarkable in a man of his limited education. His handwriting is as clear as print, yet round and easy, and his spelling was singularly accurate. He was moreover very skilful with his hands, — shingling his own house, building a shed, cultivating his farm; while for recreation he would play the flute or win a game of checkers. He could serve as Superintendent of the Sunday-school, make a straightforward speech, and write a good clear letter to the papers, when political excitement led him so to do.

In politics he was at first a Whig, but was opposed on principle to the Antislavery movement, and to the war which followed; yet he had served as private and adjutant at Portsmouth, in the War of 1812, and his widow obtained a pension after his

death, though he never received the commission to which his duties entitled him.

Benevolence led him, in old age, to join his wife in knitting socks for his grandchildren and the poor; and for the wife of one grandson he knitted a sontag, or woollen bodice, after her marriage.

S. W. Robinson's four children were:

First. Sarah Elizabeth, August 6, 1817—January 21, 1877, of whose children there is a further record in connection with the name of her husband, James S. Wiggin.

Second. John Brooks, born May 30, 1819 who, after a mercantile life, in Boston (Fisher & Co.) and New York, lives retired at Littleton Common, Massachusetts. He married, November 24, 1841, Sarah R., the daughter of Major Osgood; but only one child, out of three, is living: Francis Fisher, born February 9, 1845, who also has one child, John Brooks Robinson, by marriage with Nelly Hall.

Third. Henry Bridge, born October 3, 1821, died March 27, 1825.

Fourth. Hannah Amanda was born on December 22, 1823, died February 7, 1856. She first married, October 27, 1841, Charles Herbert Neally, of Meredith, New Hamp-

shire, a Boston merchant, who died December 24, 1844, aged twenty-nine, leaving one child, Amanda Robinson, born August 24, 1843, now, by marriage in 1863, Mrs. Charles Augustus Clapp, of New York City (E. P. Dutton & Co.). She has one daughter, Emma Louise, born September 13, 1864, — the wife of Joseph Smith, a New York broker, — who also has one child, born in 1884. Mrs. Amanda Neally subsequently (in October 1847) married Willard W. Codman, a noted Boston dentist, by whom she had one child, Edward Brooks, born February 10, 1851, now probably deceased in India. Dr. Codman died in 1877, leaving his third wife — Ellen Train, married in 1857 — a widow.

Returning once more to the list of Squire Noah Robinson's children:

g. Finley Williams, born February 18, 1794, married Priscilla Pratt Marston, of Meredith, and died leaving many descendants. Among his children: Thomas W., Charles, ex-Alderman Josiah Shepard, John H., and George I. were all Boston merchants; Rosamond Marston married William Butterfield, deceased, of The Concord

Patriot. Isaiah Marston is on the Boston police.

h. Thomas Simpson, born December 12, 1796, married Nancy Marston, a sister of Finley's wife, so that their children are double cousins. Here we have another peep at the Revolutionary sympathies of Captain Noah, as the man for whom this boy was named was the one other citizen of New Hampton who had served prominently in the Patriotic Army. Among Thomas's children are Thaddeus P., who lives on the old homestead, and Noah, a trader in Lynn and Boston.

i. In the foreign names of Thaddeus Pulaski, born May 14, 1799, we find another patriotic indication. The second name came from the exiled Pole, who died in our Revolutionary War; but as the Count's prefix was Casimir, the question arises, Whence the other name, Thaddeus? It has even been surmised that the mother, or some other relative of a romantic turn, borrowed it from the popular old novel, Thaddeus of Warsaw. Unfortunately for this theory, Jane Porter's story did not appear till four years after this first (but not last) T. P. Robinson was born; and

the name was probably bestowed in honor of another Polish nobleman, who faithfully served the Colonial cause, Thaddeus Kosciuszko. The boy became a lawyer, and went to Wheeling, Virginia, when he married Mary Zane,—a descendant of the family which once owned the whole territory thereabouts. He died of cholera, May 23, 1833, leaving one child, Claudine. His widow subsequently married a McLean, by whom she had other children, and is still living. Claudine married Bolivar Ward, by whom she has had five sons: Woodville P., deceased in early manhood; William Henry, a trusted conductor on the Old Colony Railroad; James B.; Charles Settle, printer; Hill; and a daughter, Marion.

The mother of these nine children died August 18, 1804, "at forty-five minutes past nine," as we read in the old Robinson Bible. Her husband subsequently married Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, of Portsmouth, by whom he had four children. Though they do not belong to the Wiggin line, it may be proper to add that these Robinson children were: *a*. Nancy Elizabeth, June 8, 1806—January 20, 1827;

b. George (Jerry Osborne) Washington, born February 23, 1808, a Boston merchant, living for the past forty-five years at Lexington; *c.* Mercy Chase, born August 9, 1810, the wife, first, of Dr. Isaiah Straw, and, second, of his brother, Thomas Salter Straw; *d.* John Rogers, of California, born July 23, 1814. These children all have descendants, except Nancy.

Their mother died April 17, 1824; and Noah Robinson married a third wife, Widow Rosamond Taylor, of Sanbornton, whom he left a widow, February 10, 1827, dying in his seventy-first year.

Esquire Noah had done his country some service on the fields of Saratoga, Princeton, Trenton, Monmouth, and Brandywine, and was buried in the small graveyard near his home. Several years after his burial his grave was for some reason reopened. The weight of the coffin excited so much surprise that the lid was removed, when the body — with the exception of the feet, which had decayed — was found to be petrified, while the head, perhaps by some accident in the examination, was broken off.

Returning now to the children of Esquire Simon Wiggin:

4. Sarah, born June 5, 1762, married Daniel Hilton, of Newmarket, and was the mother of Nancy and Charlotte, — the latter the wife of Dr. Odell, of Stratham.

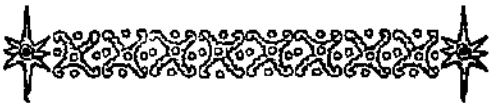
5. Hannah, born September 24, 1764, married John Smith, of Exeter.

6. Betty (the second), born September 4, 1766, married Benjamin Clark, and became the mother of Daniel Clark, of Manchester, N. H., — formerly United States Senator, and at present Judge in the United States District Court, — and of David Clark, of Lawrence, Massachusetts, afterwards postmaster in Manchester.

7. Of David, whose name is scribbled all over the family Bible, more hereafter.

8. Jane, born May 20, 1771, married Bradbury Robinson, of Greenland, N. H., and Corinth, Maine, a relative of her sister Nancy's husband, Noah. Her name is no longer legible in the old Bible.

Among the Robinsons of Stratham was a large family of boys, among whom three bore the Scripture names, of fiery furnace fame, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, the first of whom acquired wealth as a successful Boston merchant.



6—DAVID WIGGIN

HE was the second son and seventh child of Esquire Simon, was born June 17, 1769, and lived in South Newmarket, near the Stratham bridge. He married Mehitable Pike, daughter of Captain Robert Pike. Their children were Henry Pike, Deborah Barker, Simon Pike (afterwards called James Simon), Ann Martin, Charles Edward, Jeremiah Tilton, and Robert Pike. David was a man of amiable and sociable disposition, and died in 1849, in South Newmarket, in the house of his daughter, Deborah Smith.

1. HENRY PIKE, of Exeter, married Charlotte McCoy, also of Exeter, and died leaving one child, Daniel Gilman, born in 1828, who married Sarah Clark of Newmarket. They have one child, Emma, born in Melrose, and married, July 16, 1881, to Nathaniel C. Howe, of Haverhill, Massachusetts.

II. DEBORAH, a woman of very marked character and strong religious instincts, born July 15, 1805, married Daniel Rundlett Smith, generally called Squire Daniel, and lived on their farm, midway between South Newmarket Village and Epping Corner, till her death, September 13, 1882.

Two sons were born of this marriage. Daniel Edwin Smith, a man of sterling integrity, was born May 26, 1828, and died December 27, 1883, passing his life on the paternal farm. In June, 1858, he married Harriet D. Sanborn, by whom he had three children: Hattie Lincoln, born November 6, 1860; Flora Edwin, born in January, 1864, and married to Edward Hersey; Charlie, born March 28, 1865, dying in August of the same year.

December 22, 1867, D. E. Smith married his second wife, Susan Emma Harriman, by whom he had three children: Herbert Wiggin, named for his deceased second-cousin, and born March 3, 1870; William Howe, born February 28, 1872, died May 5, 1881; Daniel Rundlett, born April 3, 1875.

Deborah B. (Wiggin) Smith's other son, Charles Edward (named for his uncle, C. E. Wiggin), born January 5, 1831, married

Ann Augusta Burley, of South Newmarket, December 7, 1865, but they have no living children. C. E. Smith now owns and occupies the place in South Newmarket, formerly called the Elm House, which belonged to his grandmother, Mehitable Wiggin; but he once resided in Dover, joined the Sons of Pythias there, and represented that district in the State Senate.

III. JAMES SIMON (or Simon Pike), born, January 22, 1808, went at an early age to Newburyport, and then to Boston, where he was associated with the firm of Wiggin & Copeland, and later with the firm of Robinson (George W.), Wiggin & Co. (Bradley N. Cumings). Besides his shipping affairs, as stated on page 6, he was interested in the Suffolk County Flour Mill, on its establishment in Boston, in the manufacture of lard-oil, and in the Lowell Felting Mills.

J. S. Wiggin married, August 11, 1835, his second-cousin, Sarah Elizabeth Robinson (August 6, 1817 — January 21, 1877), eldest child and daughter of Simon Wiggin Robinson, whose mother, Nancy (or Anna) Wiggin, of Stratham, — a sister of David Wiggin (VI.), — married Noah Robinson,

who, after serving in the Revolution, by land and sea, removed, as a pioneer, from Epping, New Hampshire, to New Hampton in the same State. A more extended account of Captain Noah is given in the list of Esquire Simon's children, page 108 ff.

Mr. Wiggin's places of business were on India Street and Lewis Wharf. For a year after his marriage he and Sarah boarded with Father Robinson, on the north side of Sheafe Street, and then set up housekeeping on Foster Street, in the lower of two brick houses, still standing on the west side, and built by Colonel Samuel Aspinwall. About the year 1842 they removed to No. 22 Sheafe Street, the brick house on the easterly side of the Martin Bates estate, where the Ingraham School was soon after built. In 1847 they removed to No. 1 Franklin Square (now James Street), corner of Brookline Street, while the South End was in an unfinished condition, with neither Cochituate water, gas, nor good sidewalks. There they continued to reside — spending part of their summers on their country place, Buffalo Head (known also as the Rowley Place), Wrentham — till losses of business and fortune led to Mr. Wiggin's

retirement, about 1870, to Lexington, where his wife died with cancerous consumption in 1877.

During his career he was greatly interested in politics, serving several terms in the House of Representatives, — where he was prominent in opposition to the Prohibitory Law. As far back as 1840 he was a bannerman in the Harrison campaign, but at the time of Buchanan's election, 1856, before the outbreak of the Civil War, he left the disintegrating Whig ranks and joined the Democratic forces. A few years before his wife's death he returned to his native place, where he died, October 31, 1881, in the home of his sister Ann, leaving one child, James Henry, born May 14, 1836, the younger children, John Robinson, (July 2, 1839 — September 4, 1841), Charles Herbert (September 20, 1842, — May 14, 1861), Caroline Leonard (November 1, 1844 — June 14, 1849, having died young.

J. H. Wiggin, the compiler of this memorial, was educated in the Eliot and Dwight Schools, Boston; Partridge's Military Academy, Norwich, Vermont; Pembroke Gym-

nasium, New Hampshire; Park Latin School, Boston, under David B. Tower; Tufts College; graduating at Meadville, Pennsylvania, Theological School, in June, 1861. In 1850 he went on a year's voyage to Malacca Straits and Java, in the Barque Edwin, with Captain George Meacon, of Beverly; and in 1863–1864, with his mother, he made the tour of Continental Europe, going as far as Egypt, Turkey, Greece, and Hungary.

In 1862 he was ordained to the Unitarian ministry, in Springfield, while supplying the Montague (Massachusetts) parish. After preaching awhile in Lawrence, 1864, and in Marblehead, 1865, he was settled, 1867–1873, over the First Parish in Medfield, where his boys were born, and subsequently in Marlboro, over the West Church. During these years he was active in sectarian work, as Secretary of the Norfolk Conference and the Norfolk Sunday-school Society. For ten years he was a Director of the Unitarian Sunday-school Society, and in the summer of 1875 he temporarily edited The Liberal Christian, the denominational organ then published in New York. In 1876, having relinquished parochial

duty, he removed to South Boston, but continued to supply the pulpits of East Marshfield, Tiverton (Rhode Island), Chelsea, (two years), Revere (one year) till 1880, when, believing that his Radical opinions did not justify a longer continuance in his chosen work, he bought his present residence, at No. 27 Hammond street, on the old dividing line between Boston and Roxbury, and devoted himself to musical and dramatic criticism, index-making, editing, proof-reading, and other literary pursuits, working from 1881 to 1883, at the University Press, Cambridge, the head of that institution being his intimate friend, John Wilson, Jr.

James Henry married, November 21, 1864, Laura Emma Newman, of Brattleboro, Vermont, born January 12, 1844, fourth daughter of George and Lydia (Lee) Newman; and they have three children: Carrie Newman, born October 29, 1865, and married, November 21, 1888, to Walter Leonard Keith, of Cleveland, Ohio; Albert Henry, born February 21, 1868, now in the Bank of the Commonwealth; Langley Wilson, born December 23, 1872.

IV. ANN MARTIN (David's daughter) was born in 1810, and lived all her life in the old tavern at South Newmarket, where she died in May, 1884, and was buried from the Universalist Church. She was a woman of strong disposition, great shrewdness, and wide benevolence.

V. Of CHARLES EDWARD, the chief subject of this memoir, more hereafter, page 141.

VI. JEREMIAH TILTON (see page 6) was born March 20, 1816, and died unmarried, of consumption, in Valetta, the seaport of Malta, whither he went to regain his health, January 4, 1844. His body was brought home for burial in his brother James's lot, on Fir Avenue, Mount Auburn, in the following May. Jerry was an amiable man and greatly beloved. He went in the Uncas, Captain Wilson, in the autumn of 1843. The ship was detained in Boston a day after she was expected to sail. That night Jerry slept at the house of his friend, C. H. Neally, on North Bennet Street, near Wiggin Street, (then called Short Street), and the old Eliot School. He devoted part of the evening to writing a farewell letter to his mother, — a letter full

of affection toward her and gratitude to his friends, who had provided him with every delicacy then to be procured for an ocean voyage. The compiler, (then seven years old) remembers his own contribution to the wonderful box of this dear uncle, — a toy nutmeg-grater. Much good was expected to come to Jerry from the voyage; but he only lived a few days after his arrival, and a strange hand wrote to his brother James a full account of his death. Over his grave is the motto:

A JUST WEIGHT AND BALANCE
ARE THE LORD'S.

VII. ROBERT PIKE (see page 6) was born about 1818, and died unmarried, in Bedford, Massachusetts, April 1, 1863. He was a man of acute business ability, but of peculiarly sensitive disposition, — a trait increased by the loss of one eye in early life, which necessitated his wearing a green shade. His long letters to his mother, still preserved, are full of affection and right feeling.

The mother of these seven children, Mehitable (Pike) Wiggin, was born April 20, 1784; and died September 25, 1861,

aged seventy-seven, in the house where she had lived forty years, and had worked hard to rear her large family.

Among the old papers left by their Sister Ann was recently found the following letter, written fifty years ago, perhaps by Charles's hand, — when he was twenty-five, James was thirty, and Robert twenty years old:

BOSTON, Dec. 30, 1838.

DEAR AND AFFECTIONATE MOTHER: Enclosed you will please find fifty (50) dollars; and by the merchandise cars, to leave here on Monday next, we shall send you a barrel of nice flour, and a few other little matters.

This letter will probably reach you on the first day of the coming year, and we respectively and unitedly wish you, our Mother, a very Happy New Year, and hope that you will accept the above (contributed by us equally) as a trifling token of our continued love and affection.

We hope, dear Mother, that you will be spared to see many very Happy New Years in this world, and that each succeeding one will find you happier than the previous; and finally when you are summoned from this, to that world where years shall come and go no more, that you may enjoy such happiness as this world can never afford us.

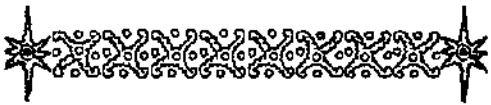
We remain your affectionate sons,

JAMES SIMON WIGGIN,
CHARLES E. WIGGIN,
ROBERT P. WIGGIN.

To our Mother,
from her three sons
in Boston.

P. S. We are all well. Robert said you had another pair of gloves for me. If so I shall give them to James. They are real warm and good.

CHS.



7—CHARLES EDWARD WIGGIN

THIS gentleman, whose death has occasioned this volume, was born November 29, 1813. May 9, 1840, he married Rebecca Crocker Hadaway, of the North End of Boston, and died March 12, 1888. Their children were:

1. MARY REBECCA, who died in 1845.

2. JEREMIAH TILTON, who also died young, in 1846.

3. CHARLES EDWARD, JR., born March 18, 1848, married Lizzie Frank Meserve, of Roxbury, January 14, 1875, by whom he has two children: Arthur Meserve, born November 13, 1875; and Mary Locke, born July 29, 1880.

4. MARY LOCKE, born September 21, 1850, married Joseph Dillaway Sawyer, June 10, 1872, and died in West Newton, October 16, 1879, leaving three children: Ethel, born July 30, 1873; Joseph, born June 18, 1875; Harold Stewart, born in 1878, died in 1882.

5. Arthur Crocker, born October 23, 1853, married Sarah Elizabeth Chadwick, June 17, 1885; by whom he has one son, Charles Beal, born September 12, 1886.

Further comment on Chas. E. Wiggin's busy life would be superfluous here; but it should be added that a few years before his death he associated his two sons with him in the business which they still continue. Both these gentlemen are members of Zetland (Masonic) Lodge, Boston, and reside at Woodville Square, Roxbury, — Arthur at his mother's, Number 9, and Charles in his own house a few doors away, Number 19. Both are interested in politics, being active members of the Republican Party, and both have held commissions as Justices of the Peace. Charles was educated in the Eliot and Latin Schools, and has been worthily elected his father's successor as trustee of the North End Savings Bank. Arthur was educated at the Eliot School and at Chauncy Hall. Few men of their age are more worthy of the esteem in which they are universally held.

A few extracts from sundry yellow letters are so many loopholes, through which we

obtain glimpses of the sentimental side of Charles Wiggin's nature.

As a life-long Whig and Republican he would have rejoiced, in 1888, over the election of Harrison to the presidency, as he rejoiced over the triumph of Harrison's grandfather, forty-eight years ago. Writing a letter of condolence to his Sister Deborah's husband, over the death of an aged member of the Smith family, in the spring of 1840, the young but already ardent politician sings the praises of General William Henry Harrison, and the hopeful national outlook, if the hero of Log Cabins and Hard Cider should be elevated to the White House.

On Wednesday Evening, October 28, 1846, Charles writes to his mother:

We are all glad to hear, through Mr. Speed, that you reached home in safety.

Our little Jerry is not so well as when you left. His other lung is no doubt affected, and he suffers more in his breathing. Dear little boy! We have still hopes that God will be pleased to spare him. Still, as God is all-wise, and knows what is best for our good, we feel to bow before Him, and say, "Thy will be done."

James's family are all well. Little Herbert [his brother's youngest boy, three years old] is doing nicely.

A fortnight later, November 11, he writes:

By Robert you have heard of the death of dear little Jerry. He now sleeps quietly by the side of

his dear little sister, and his uncle and namesake. We have his likeness, taken after he died. It is very good. He was the sweetest little creature, after being laid out, that you ever saw. All that sad, painful look, that he had while living, left him, and he looked just as if he were only asleep.

At this time the younger children, Charles, Mary, and Arthur, were not born; and so he adds:

You know what it is to lose *one* child [his brother Jerry] but you do not know what it is to lose *all*. We have none now.

December 12, 1860, he writes to his brother:

It gives me much pleasure to say that Mother Hadaway [always an honored inmate of the household, after her daughter's marriage] is getting on finely, — comes down to breakfast, sits up all day, and seems in quite good health, for her. Poor William [her son] is, we fear, near his end, — does not leave his bed often, if at all, and now takes as food only a little jelly, and is very weak indeed. Poor fellow, with a good big heart! he will soon pass away.

For some reason this letter was not sent at once; and he adds, on the same sheet, January 2, 1861:

Poor William has gone, was buried a week ago at Woodlawn, in Chelsea. He went suddenly at last.

May 15, 1861, he writes about his nephew, then aged eighteen, who, for nearly all his life, was an invalid, suffering from scrofula, rupture, and spinal deformity:

You will be surprised to know that poor little Charles Herbert lies beyond all his sufferings. He is no more in this world. Poor little dear! He suffered dreadfully! Most all the time [for several weeks] he has been obliged to be upon his knees, —until last night, when he gently passed away to another and better world.

Henry was down this A.M. to tell us of it. James wants you to come down to attend the funeral, which will be at three o'clock, on Friday next.

In his burial address, page 28, Pastor Gifford alludes to a hymn sung by Mr. Wiggin in his last days. About the merits of these verses he often argued with friends who did not find them accurate or poetic; but Dr. Baldwin's lines were dear to the singer's heart, and so have their place here:

THE UNION OF SAINTS.

FROM whence doth this union arise,
  That hatred is conquered by love?
It fastens our souls in such ties,
  As distance and time can 't remove.

It can not in Eden be found,
  Nor yet in a Paradise lost;
It grows on Immanuel's ground,
  And Jesus' dear blood it did cost.

My brethren are dear unto me,
  Our hearts all united in love;
Where Jesus has gone we shall be,
  In yonder blest mansions above.

Why then so unwilling to part,
  Since there we shall all meet again;
Engraved on Immanuel's heart,
  At a distance we can not remain.

Oh when shall we see that bright day,
  And join with the angels above,
Set free from these prisons of clay,
  United in Jesus's love.

With Jesus we ever shall reign,
  And all his bright glories shall see,
Singing "Hallelujah! Amen!"
  Amen! Even so let it be.

PARTING WORDS

NOBODY can be more sensible of the imperfections of this compilation than its scribe. He might aptly quote the old hymn:

> Yet hindrances strew all the way.

Among them may be mentioned: the recurrence of such names as Jonathan and David, Simon, Bradstreet, Noah, Thaddeus, Mercy, through successive generations; the uncertain spelling of proper names, even by their bearers; absolute changes in these names (Hannah, for instance) between childhood and maturity; absence of complete and specific records; the reluctance of some persons to furnish family facts; uncertainty as to the real source of many memoranda; the diversity of dates where records are accessible, as in the case of Squire Simon Wiggin's wife, — one account placing her death in 1811, while another declares that

she survived her husband a few weeks, and died in 1823.

We have an illustration of genealogical snags in one fact, recently brought to light, through the publication of various ancient records, in The Andover (Massachusetts) Townsman, for November 2, 1888. The record of Andrew Wiggin's marriage, in 1659 (see page 93), was thus recorded:

> JUNE 3. Mr. Andrew *Wirkin* and Mrs. Hanna Bradstreet, by Mr. Bradstreet.

The editor, C. C. Carpenter, adds the following comment:

> This name is known to be Andrew *Wiggin*, and yet it was written, in the original, *Wirkin*, thus proving the supposition of the note in last week's issue, in regard to Mr. Wirkens (misprinted in the note, *Wickens*) there mentioned. We have also a letter from Mr. J. H. Wiggin of Roxbury, confirming the same:

> My direct ancestor, Governor Thomas Wiggin, of New Hampshire, often spelt by his contemporaries, Wiggans, &c., was fourteen years an Assistant with the Governor of Massachusetts Bay, and brought about the union of New Hampshire with that Colony. His term doubtless covered the year you mention (1650), when he was often in Boston, and also in Andover, because his son Andrew married, in 1659, Hannah Bradstreet. As only magistrates officiated at weddings in those days, I think that Thomas Wiggin was the magistrate intended.

Another instance of the difficulty of ascertaining correct data led to an error on page 121. Later information shows that S. W. Robinson was first elected Grand Master in 1845, not 1840.

On the Robinson side we may look for full and useful information in the Genealogy, now in preparation, by Charles E. Robinson, Esq., 140 West Forty-fifth Street, New York City.

> Kinsfolk, accept our parting song;
> Though life is short, the *name* is long.

Not pretending to be a complete Genealogy, this brochure only gathers together a few fragments, which may of use in some larger work. Meanwhile, please regard it as a tribute to the worth of him who one day — when driving by the old Stratham Cemetery, in company with the wife of his nephew, Charles E. Smith — pointed out the place where lay the dust of his ancestors, and said, in characteristic words:

Some day we will come and see about it.

NOV 30 1945

G. F. CROOK PRINTER MUSIC HALL BOSTON