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DOLOR DAVIS

known

A Sketch of his Life

San Francisco

WITH A

RECORD OF HIS EARLIER DESCENDANTS

BY

HORACE DAVIS

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DOLOR DAVIS.

I HAVE taken great pleasure in collecting the scanty and scattered fragments of the history of Dolor Davis, because I owe to him my life and my name. While his career presents no heroic features, his sturdy energy and patient industry amidst the hardships of subduing a wilderness are a type of those enduring qualities which have distinguished his descendants to this day. In pursuing my object I have carefully examined all the avenues of information within my reach, and append a list of those which proved of service to me. In doing this I wish to express my especial indebtedness to the "Willard Memoir" by Joseph Willard, and the sketch of the life and family of Dolor Davis published in the "Barnstable Patriot" May 26th and June 2d and 9th, 1863, by Amos Otis, an antiquarian who had the true love for his work. My thanks are due to the many gentlemen who have kindly aided me in my search. The results, indeed, are meagre, but I hope they may stimulate the zeal of other grateful descendants of this worthy man, and that their labors may bring to light new materials and help to clothe this skeleton of dates with flesh and blood, and give us the lineaments of the living man.

He was not a person of distinction, but an humble house carpenter or builder, who divided his time between his trade and the more common business of farming; and to the demands of his trade we may probably attribute, in part at least, his frequent change of residence, as the new settlements offered greater opportunities of employment than the older towns.

The first record I have of Dolor Davis is from the town records of Cambridge, Mass., of August 4, 1634, where, among other grantees of land on the west side of the river, we find "granted Dollard Davis, there 25 acres." A meagre outline of his previous life can, however, be made out with tolerable certainty from the facts in our possession. He was born not far from 1600, perhaps a little earlier, and was, I think, a native of Kent, England. This is probable because, first, his wife was from Kent; second, his associations in New England were mainly with Kentish men; and third, the name of Davis is very common in Kent, especially in that district called the Weald.

Mr. Savage, in his "Genealogical Dictionary," admits the probability of Davis's Kentish origin, but states that Dr. Palfrey assures him that the names of Davis's ancestors are to be found on the stones in the graveyard at Benefield, in Northamptonshire. A careful search by the Rev. Edward M. Moore, the courteous rector of that parish, has disproved this statement, and Mr. Moore's letter to that effect is to be found in the January, 1880, number of the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register."

My brother, Judge Bancroft Davis, has also caused the following contemporary records to be searched, namely: the wills proved in the Archdeacon's Court, Canterbury; wills proved in Rochester; wills proved in London; calendars of wills proved in the Archdeacon's Court at Canterbury; wills proved in the Consistory Court at Canterbury; persons assessed to the king's subsidies in Kent; — but in vain. The records yield plenty of persons named Davy, Davies, and Davis, but no Dolor.

This singular name is variously spelled in the New England records as Dolor, Dolar, Dolard, Dolor, Dolore, Dollard, Dolerd, Dollerd, Dollar, Doler, but no clew is found to its origin; whatever may have been its source DOLOR was the form recognized by this family. It was pronounced "Doller," as we learn from its various corruptions, and from its pronunciation in Barnstable, where the name was preserved in the family for several generations.

Dolor Davis married, probably about 1624, Margery Willard, daughter of Richard Willard, of Horsemonden, Kent. The original record of her christening may be seen to-day on the parish register of Horsemonden, dated November 7, 1602, she being then probably only a few weeks old. Much interesting information about her father's family may be found in the Willard Memoir, from which I have taken a few facts of especial value to us, as giving some idea of Davis's connections in England.

Richard Willard — "Yeoman," as he styles himself in his will, that is, owner of the lands he farmed — was thrice married, and had children by each wife.

Among those by his second wife, Margery, were Margery, christened 1602, and Simon, christened 1605; among the children of the third wife was George, christened 1614. These three emigrated to New England.

Richard Willard died in February, 1617, and his widow very soon followed him. He left a considerable estate, mainly in lands, and his will is printed in full in the Willard Memoir, copied from the registry of the Consistory Court of the Lord Bishop of Rochester. I extract those portions mentioning his daughter Margery:—

“Item, I geve and bequeth vnto my fower daughters namely Mary Elizabeth Margery and Catherine, all my household stufe & implemēts of housholde (not before willed nor bequethed) beinge in fower pts equally devydede by my executor,” etc.

“The disposicon of my sayd lands and tenemēts is as followeth that is that I do will geve and bequeth to Margerie & Catherin & to their heires for eu’r my mesuage barn cloase ij gardines & orchards w^{ch} I bought of Wood,” etc.

“Itm I do will & bequeth vnto my said fower daughters the yerely pfecte of all my said mesuage & lands untill Symon Willard my sonn shall come to his full agee of xxij^{ty} yeres equally to be devided between them & to be payed vnto as they shall come to their seurall ages of xxj^{ty} yeres,” etc.

The will appears to be signed by Richard Willard in person. In it he mentions “Mary now wife of John Davy my syster in Lawe.” It is worthy of notice that Dolor Davis’s oldest two children were named John and Mary. Possibly this may point to a previous connection between the two families.

Margery Willard married Dolor Davis, as above stated, probably about 1624, being, say, twenty-two years of age. We have no record of this marriage nor of the birth or baptism of her children (except Ruth the youngest), three of whom were born in England: John, about 1626; Mary, about 1631; and Elizabeth, about 1633. A careful search among the parish registers of Kent might disclose Davis's place of residence and give us the exact dates of his marriage and the births of these children.

What fortunes befell this young family, what experiences turned their faces toward the new world, we have no means of knowing. Simon Willard, Margery's brother, three years younger than herself, grew up to manhood, inheriting the father's lands, married, and had children. How or why he disposed of his landed estate we do not know, but early in 1634 he embarked for Boston with his family, landing in May, 1634. The name of the vessel and the port from which she sailed are utterly lost. Dolor Davis came about the same time, leaving his family in England, and tradition has always averred he came in the same vessel with Willard.

They made their first settlement in "the New Towne," now Cambridge, Mass, where the town records of August 4, 1634, contain these grants:—

"Granted Symon Willard on the west side of the River one hundred acres.

"Granted John Bridge there 75 acres.

"Granted Tymothy Tomlins there 10 acres.

"Granted Dollard Davis there 25 acres."

Having selected his new home, Davis apparently

sent for his family to follow him ; and on April 17, 1635, among the persons taking passage on the Elizabeth, Wm. Stagg, master, from London, we find the names of "Margaret Davies, aged 32; John Davies, 9; Marie Davies, 4; and Elizabeth Davies, 1," — there can be little doubt these are the wife and young children of Dolor Davis, — and of the seventy-six passengers on the Elizabeth it is worth noting that a very large proportion are traced to the county of Kent. John and Mary Davis reached mature years, married, and settled in Plymouth Colony, as we shall see presently, but of Elizabeth we have no farther trace.

On June 4, 1635, Dolor Davis placed on record in the "Proprietors' Records" the grant of land mentioned above as granted on the town records August 4, 1634, and in addition a house-lot in "the New Towne." The Proprietors' Records read thus: —

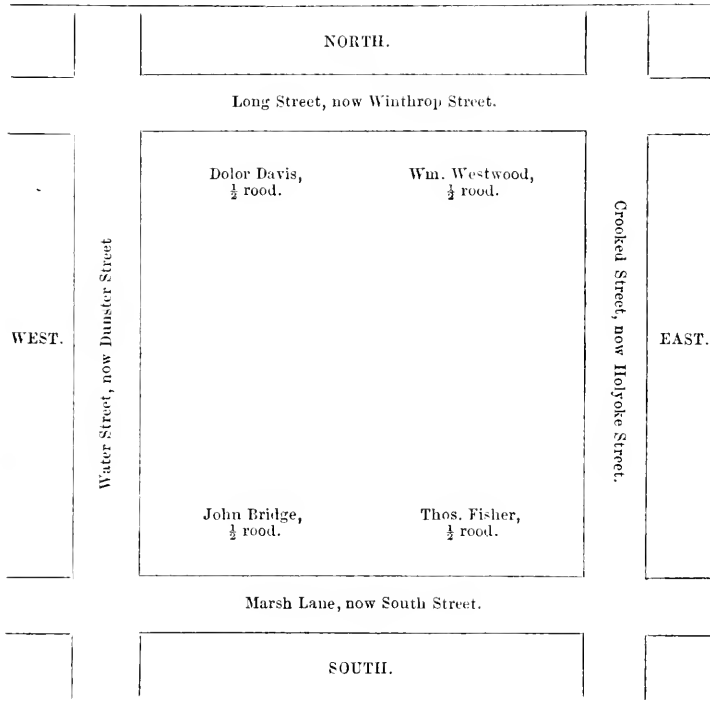
"Grant to Dollard Davis June 4 1635 one house-lot of half a rood more or less; Water Street northwest John Bridg southwest, William Andrews northeast, William Westwood east."

"More, upon the west side of Charles River twenty and five acres; Charles River on the East, Symon Willard south, John Bridg north, the common southwest."

The house-lot is easily identified to-day, lying between Harvard College and Charles River, as by the plan on next page.

On the arrival of his family it would seem he secured a lot within the palisade erected about the "New Towne," and probably built himself a dwelling-house. Cambridge had been settled in 1629, and in 1635 contained perhaps about sixty or seventy fami-

lies, being just then the seat of government of the colony. It was not, however, a contented community and its troubles reached a crisis in 1635-36, when over half its settlers abandoned it, a large part emigrating with Rev. Mr. Hooker to Hartford, while many others were scattered among the outlying set-



tlements around Boston. The different views of the cause of these troubles may be read at length in the Willard Memoir, in Paige's "History of Cambridge," and in Palfrey's "New England."

Whatever may have been the causes of discontent, Davis and Willard soon left Cambridge. In August,

1635, they sold their "out-lots" across the river, the transfer being recorded in the Proprietors' Records.

"D. Davis to Richard Girling 25th of August 1635. Know all men that Dollerd Davis for and in the consideration of ten pounds paid have sold unto Richard Girling, mariner, all the right he hath in five and twenty acres of land lying on the bounds of the Newtowne, on the west side of Charles River, to him the said Richard and his heirs forever. Dated as above written."

Same date as above Simon Willard sold Girling his adjoining lot, one hundred acres. Davis disposed of his town lot to Willard, of which transfer we have no record; and Willard, about 1639, sold it to Edward Mitchelsen, "one dwelling house and garden" (Willard Memoir). Willard then pushed out into the wilderness and became, in 1636, one of the first founders of Concord, Mass. Davis is generally supposed to have gone with him; and Amos Otis says: "In 1635 he was one of the first settlers and one of the proprietors of the lands in Concord;" but I can find no trace of his being there before 1655. If he went there his stay must have been very short, for we soon find him in Plymouth Colony. Otis continues: "In 1638 he was of Duxbury." On the other hand, the Willard Memoir says that on leaving Cambridge he joined his brother-in-law, George Willard, and was with him in Scituate early in 1639. I can find no positive verification of these two statements, though both are not improbable. Willard was certainly in Scituate in 1639, and Davis might naturally be led to join him.

Turning, however, to the "Plymouth Colony Rec-

ords," vol. viii., we find that "Dolord Davis" took the oath of fidelity to the government in Duxbury at a very early period, probably between 1636 and 1639. This oath was required of all persons coming to reside in the colony. And on March 5, 1638, he was propounded for freeman at the General Court of Plymouth Colony but not accepted. (Plym. Col. Records, vol. i.) This fixes the date of his removal to Duxbury as early as 1638, and is probably what Otis refers to.

The records also show the two following grants of land. On April 6, 1640, at a Court of Assistants held at Plymouth, Dolor Davis and seven others were granted the lands lying on the northwest side of Northhill in Duxbury, with the lands by Christopher Wadsworth's farm and the meadows there to be divided amongst them . . . and to "have liberty to sett corne at Namasacussett," and to mow grass for their cattle there, and to build a house on the south side of the brook there.

August 31, 1640, the same Court of Assistants granted Dolor Davis fifty acres of land on Namasacusset River in Duxbury with a proportion of meadow.

It must have been about this time that he joined the church at Duxbury, of which he retained his membership till 1648, long after his removal to Barnstable, as we shall see hereafter. He seems to have contemplated a permanent settlement at Duxbury, but if so he never accomplished it. He may well have desired a settled home, for his young family was increasing and must have taxed all his powers

to keep the wolf from the door; the children were now four or five in number: John, thirteen years of age, Mary about nine, Elizabeth six or seven if still living, Simon, born perhaps in Cambridge, about four, and possibly Samuel, still an infant. With all these incumbrances he made another move, and we find his name among the inhabitants of the new settlement at Barnstable in 1640.

The church in Scituate had been divided by dissensions concerning baptism, and the Rev. John Lathrop with his followers resolved to found a new settlement by themselves; accordingly they moved with their families into the wilderness and settled the present town of Barnstable in 1639. The particulars of this migration may be found in Deane's "History of Scituate," and Freeman's "Cape Cod." These men were mainly from Kent, England, which I suppose attracted Davis to their company. Amos Otis says: "He probably came to Barnstable in 1639, with the first settlers, though he did not make it his permanent residence until 1642 or 1643. He was a carpenter and a master-builder. His son John was also a carpenter, and his sons Nicholas, Simon, and Samuel probably assisted their father. This fact furnishes an explanation of his frequent removals from place to place. In the new settlements he found more employment than in the older." It will be noticed that Otis calls Nicholas Davis of Barnstable a son of Dolor, though he is nowhere else reckoned as such. Of this I shall speak hereafter. To sum up all we know of Dolor from 1636 to 1642, it seems that he parted company with Simon Willard, left

Massachusetts Colony, and migrated to the South Shore in Plymouth Colony. He joined the church at Duxbury and acquired some land there, but the early records of that place being lost, we know nothing more about his relations to it. Probably during these seven years he shifted his residence from place to place as each offered better employment at his trade.

On May 3, 1641, Davis's brother-in-law, George Willard of Scituate, a young man twenty-six years of age, having spoken disrespectfully of the magistrates, was bound over at the Court of Assistants of Plymouth Colony, to appear before the General Court. Thomas Chambers, Dolor Davis, and John Twisden, all of Scituate, "planters," were his sureties, Chambers for twenty pounds and Davis and Twisden jointly for the same amount. They appear to have been all released from their bonds, for some cause not stated. George Willard, apparently disgusted at the rigid discipline of the church, soon afterwards moved, it is said, to Maryland. It will be noticed that Davis signed the bond as a planter of Scituate. (Plym. Col. Records, vol. ii. See, also, Deane's Hist. Scituate, and Willard Memoir.)

At a General Court held at Plymouth, March 1, 164 $\frac{1}{2}$, Dolor Davis signed a verdict as one of a jury of twelve men in the case of John Barnes. (Plym. Col. Records, vol. vii.)

By 1643 he had become a fixed resident of Barnstable and is returned in August of that year with "his sonnes" among the list of "the males that are able to bear armes from 16 yeares to 60 yeares."

(Plym. Col. Records, vol. viii.) At the end of this list appear the names of John and Nicholas, seemingly in a supplementary list; these were probably the "sonnes" intended, as Simon and Samuel were still small children. Speaking of the connection between Dolor and Nicholas, Otis says: "Many circumstances show that they were near relatives; Nicholas was a favorite name with descendants of Dolor, who joined the Quakers; and the house-lots of Dolor and Nicholas were parts of the same original lot; and other circumstances have induced me to call Nicholas the son of Dolor."

I might add here that Nicholas had a son named Simon. From all these facts it is likely they were near relatives, but not father and son. Nicholas had died before Dolor made his will, but it will be observed that no mention is made therein of him or his family.

On March 24, 164 $\frac{1}{2}$, the Rev. John Lothrop entered in his Records of Barnstable Church the baptism of "Ruth, daughter of Dollar Davice." (N. E. H. & G. Reg. vol. ix.) This completes the list of his family, five living children all duly clad in Scriptural names,—passing by the fine old ancestral inheritance of Richard and Margery, and even the strange cognomen Dolor, which seems melancholy enough to suit the most austere taste even in those sober days. All these five children married and became heads of families, as we shall see.

June 4, 1645, he was sworn in as a member of the Grand Inquest of Plymouth Colony, and is marked as being "sick." The same day he was propounded

to the General Court, with twenty-four others, to become freemen, and on June 2, 1646, he was admitted as a freeman. (Plym. Col. Records, vol ii.)

August 27, 1648, Rev. John Lothrop makes this entry on his records: "Dolor Davis and his wife being dismissed from the Church at Duxbury was joynd to ours." It seems singular that they should have made Barnstable their home for over five years (perhaps eight), without severing their connection with Duxbury church; possibly he still retained his property in Duxbury and thought he might some day return to it.

March 15, 1648^s, his son John, then about twenty-two years old, was married at Nausett, by Mr. Prince, to Hannah Lynnell. They settled at Barnstable.

June 3, 1652, at a General Court of Election, "Dolare Davice" was chosen a surveyor of highways for Barnstable, and June 6, 1654, at a similar court "Dolar Davis" was chosen constable. (Plym. Col. Records, vol. iii.)

June 15, 1653, his daughter Mary, being about twenty-three years old, was married by Thomas Hincley to Thomas Lewis.

In 1655 Davis left Barnstable with his family and moved to Concord, in Massachusetts Colony, where he remained eleven years, and where his three younger children married and settled. Before entering on this new scene, let us pause a moment and take a brief look at his condition in Barnstable. Margery, his wife, was still living, while of his children John and Mary were married and settled in Barnstable, and already four little Davises with one

Lewis called him grandfather. His three younger children, born in America, Simon, Samuel, and Ruth, ranged from twenty years of age down to twelve, and went with him to Concord. He had acquired a snug little property of land in and about Barnstable, amounting to one hundred and twenty acres or more, in detached parcels. His house-lot, says Otis, "was the most northerly on the east side of the ancient mill-way discontinued in 1669. . . . His house stood not far from the water-mill built by the first settlers on the spot where the present mill stands."

I visited the place last summer. The dam and mill were easily found, being well-known historic land-marks. The dam is built of huge rounded bowlders, and may not unlikely be in part Davis's own handiwork. The pretty creek, widening out lower down into Barnstable Harbor, the old mill, the moss-covered dam, and the glassy pond above it, the brilliant green of the meadows, and the sober colors of the sand dunes shutting out the ocean beyond, — all form a quiet, lovely landscape, which must be very much the same as in 1655, when Dolor looked out upon it from his humble cabin on the gravelly knoll above the old mill.

What induced him to leave these peaceful scenes, and at his time of life try the wilderness again, can only be a matter of conjecture, but it is certain that during the next three years he sold his property on the Cape, and, buying land in Concord, Mass., moved thither with his family, and became interested again in the fortunes of an entirely new settlement at Groton, near Concord.

At some time, the exact date of which is unknown, William Martin, Richard Blood, and eight others (Dolor Davis not being among them) petitioned the General Court of Massachusetts Colony for a grant of land at what is now Groton, Mass. On the 25th of May, 1655, this petition was granted and Mr. Deane Winthrop, Mr. Jno. Tinker, Mr. Thomas Hincley, Dolor Davis, and four others were appointed selectmen of the new settlement for two years. Thomas Hincley, who does not appear again, that I am aware of, in connection with the history of Groton, was a man distinguished in the annals of Barnstable, and was afterwards Governor of Plymouth Colony. This petition is printed in Mass. Col. Records, vol. iii.

On August 20, 1655, Roger Draper of Concord, husbandman, conveyed to Dolar Davis of the same town, husbandman, consideration not specified, divers parcels of land in Concord amounting in all to one hundred and fifty-two acres, including his house and house-lot. This deed was witnessed by Josiah Willard and James Hosmer, and was acknowledged before Simon Willard "23^d of 12th mo. 1657" [23d February, 1658]. It was recorded February 18, 1666, and can be seen at the East Cambridge Registry of Deeds. This property appears to have become Davis's Concord homestead, of which I shall speak presently.

There are printed in the "Plymouth Colony Records," vol. vii., two receipts signed by "Dolar Dauis, of Concord," the one dated May 9, 1656, in favor of Nathaniel Bassett of Marshfield, for one cow and yearling, valued at five pounds ten shillings, and the

other, dated April 9th, in favor of Peregrine White of Marshfield, for one cow and calf, valued at five pounds five shillings. These appear to be part payments for property at Barnstable, sold by Davis to Abraham Blush of Barnstable; and John Wittram of Scituate is authorized, as Blush's agent, to "give the said White and Bassett a discharge." The deed to Blush will appear hereafter. This Peregrine White is noted as the first person of European descent born in Plymouth Colony.

In a petition dated "Boston 16th 3^d mo. [May] 1656," the selectmen of Groton, Dolor Davis among them, asked for the remission of three years' taxes, alleging as a reason the remoteness of their position, their small numbers, and the difficulty of maintaining a minister; they also asked for the appointment of a new surveyor. Their request was granted. This document may be found in N. E. H. & G. Reg., 1879. Davis does not, however, appear to have made any permanent settlement at Groton, as his name is not found in connection with that place after this date. Hincley's name is not signed to this petition.

In 1658 the sale of the Barnstable lands to Blush was completed, and on July 17th of that year the conveyance was made in the following terms: "Dolar Davis late of Barnstable, house carpenter," in consideration of "three score and fifteen pounds sterling in corn and cattle to him paid by Abraham Blush of Barnstable, plantor," conveyed to him his house-lot and sundry other parcels of land within the precincts of Barnstable, amounting in all to forty-six acres; also three little parcels of land at "Stoney Cove field,"

in all eight acres. The deed is signed by Dolor Davis in autograph signature as all his other instruments are, and is witnessed by "Elizabeth Blood" and Thomas Abon. Elizabeth Blood was undoubtedly the daughter of Major Simon Willard, wife of Robert Blood of Concord, and niece of Margery Davis, Dolor's wife. The acknowledgment is as follows: "This deed of sale was acknowledged by Dolor Davis and Margery his wife the 17th of the 5th mo. [July] 1658, before me Simon Willard." This fixes the execution at Concord. It was acknowledged a second time by Dolor Davis alone before Thomas Hineley, Assistant, February 16, 1667, undoubtedly at Barnstable after his final return thither. These acknowledgments are interesting, as bearing on the life of Margery Davis. The first is the only mention of her by name that I have ever seen among the original documents on this side of the Atlantic. She was living in 1658, but in 1667 she had probably gone to her rest. The deed to Blush is recorded at Plymouth. Davis also owned sixty acres "butting Easterly upon ye Indian Pond" at Barnstable. This, says Amos Otis, "he sold to Mr. Thomas Allyn, who resold the same 22 Feb. 1665 to Roger Goodspeed." I do not know Otis's authority nor the date of the conveyance, but Davis is recorded on the Barnstable town records as owning the land in 1651, and I presume the sale took place between 1655 and 1658.

So in 1658 he had left his home in Barnstable, disposed of his property there, bought a homestead in Concord, and moved thither with his wife and three younger children, leaving John and Mary on the

Cape; while the list of freemen in Barnstable in 1658 no longer contains the name of Dolor Davis. (Plym. Col. Records, vol. viii.) We can only imagine the causes of this move. It might have been the poverty of the soil at Barnstable, or the desire to be nearer his brother-in-law, Major Simon Willard, though Willard himself moved from Concord to Lancaster in 1659. Davis may have been induced to join the Groton settlement by the presence of his friend Thomas Hincley, or by the prospect of more employment at his trade of house-builder; whatever may have been the cause, it resulted in his withdrawing his means from Barnstable and buying the Roger Draper farm at Concord, which he retained to his death.

Shattuck says, in his "History of Concord," "Dolor Davis was one of twenty who had lands granted them in Concord in 1659, and was employed as a carpenter." Again, "Roger Chandler and 20 others of Plymouth Colony had a grant of 400 acres of land in Concord in 1658; was employed by Dolor Davis." (This Chandler is mentioned in Davis's will.) Hoping to find the original source of these items, and to get further knowledge of Davis's life there, I have examined carefully the early records of Concord and the Shattuck MSS. in Boston, but without success. The old records make frequent mention of "Dolar Davis' lands," in giving metes and bounds, but nothing more. The remaining years of his life in Concord are a blank except for the marriages of his children and the births of their offspring. On the 12th of December, 1660, Simon, then twenty-four years old, married Mary, daughter of James Blood of Concord, and set-

tled there. December 3, 1663. Ruth Davis married Stephen Hall of Concord; and January 11, 1665, Samuel married, at Lynn, Mary Meddowes. All these marriages may be found on the Concord records, and Samuel's on the records of Lynn besides. On both these sons he settled lands in Concord.

I visited Dolor's farm in Concord, which is now owned by Mr. Abel Davis Clarke, a lineal descendant of Dolor, and has remained in possession of his family for two hundred and twenty-five years. It is very pleasantly situated about one and a half miles from the village on the road to Lowell; the house is modernized but some portions bear marks of great age in the low ceilings and huge hewn oaken beams. A shallow well near the house, now disused, is very likely as old as the earliest settlement, and a depression in the ground by its side may possibly mark the spot where stood the original house of the sturdy old pioneer. Across the valley, half a mile to the north-west, stands an old red house in which Simon Davis is said to have lived and died; while four miles away, towards Bedford, Samuel Davis's farm is still owned by his direct descendants. Mr. C. E. Davis of Concord has in his possession some interesting relics, obtained from the old red house occupied by Simon; a plain old oaken chest marked S. D., and portions of an elaborately carved chest of English oak, which may have come over with Dolor.

Some time during his residence in Concord, I suppose, his wife Margery died, and the old man, being left alone by her death and the marriages of his three younger children, turned back to the home of his middle life, and removed to Barnstable. During his

stay of ten years or more at Concord he had never become a freeman of Massachusetts Colony, and, so far as I am aware, had not severed his connection with Barnstable Church, though that might possibly not be a matter of record. This is more singular because he retained his Concord real estate to his death, except what he settled on Simon and Samuel. The town records of Barnstable give us the date of his return thither. In 1666 "Dolar Davis" and nine others were admitted as inhabitants of that town. On February 16, 1667, as before stated, he again acknowledged the conveyance to Blush, this time before Thomas Hincley, Assistant, undoubtedly at Barnstable, and as his wife did not join in this document, I infer that she had died since the previous acknowledgment in 1658. On the 5th of April, 1670, the town records contain a list of inhabitants entitled to the use of meadow-land, in which list appears the name of "Dollar Davis."

After his return to Barnstable he married Mrs. Joanna Bursley, born in England 1620, daughter of Rev. Joseph Hull and widow of Captain John Bursley of Barnstable. The exact date of this marriage is unknown, but it took place probably in 1671. Freeman's "Cape Cod" gives on different pages two dates for the death of Bursley, 1660 and 1670, but as "Mr. John Bursley" is included in the list of inhabitants just mentioned, his death must have occurred after April 5, 1670. This places the marriage of Davis to Mrs. Bursley approximately in the latter part of 1671. There was no offspring by this marriage.

On the 13th of September, 1672, the old man made the following will: —

“I, Dolar Davis of Barnstable in the Colony of New Plymouth being weak and crazy in body but of perfect mind and memory do make this my last will and testament in manner and form following.

“First I commit and commend my soul into the hand of God my Heavenly Father in Christ Jesus hoping in his full grace, and when it shall leave this body he will receive it to himself into his heavenly kingdom. And my body I commit to the Earth to be decently buried therein believing there will be a Resurrection thereof at the last day. The charge of my Burial to be borne by my Executor hereunder expressed.

“For the outward Estate which I have to dispose of, I having already given my Son Symon and Samuel their full portions and deeds for their Lands which I have settled on them, I do hereby bequeath to my dear and loving wife Joanna five Pounds which I have due to me by bill to be paid at Mr. Brattles in Boston and four Pounds to be payed by my Executor to her during the term of four years after my decease in English Comodities or otherwise as my wife and my said Executor shall agree, in case my said wife live so long. I do also hereby give and bequeath to my eldest son John my house and barn and outyard with several parcels of Land lying in Concord in the Colony of the Massachusetts hereafter mentioned, Viz: all my land about the said house bounded by the highway down by the Brook and by the land given to my son Symon and butting on the South River containing by estimation twenty acres more or less, as also a piece of upland and meadow containing six acres more or less near my son Symon's house, bounded by the highway on one side and by the twenty acres on the other side. As also thirteen acres of upland more or less, adjoining to my seven acres of meadow on one side, which said seven acres of meadow are also hereby bequeathed to him, which said upland and meadow is bounded with James Bloods land on the one side, my son Symon's four acres

more or less on the other side, and the West bounded by the twenty acres; as also thirty-two acres of upland and Swampyish meadow compassed about with Richard Temples land on three sides and bounded with Thomas Batemans land on the other side; as also five acres of upland fenced in bounded by John Heald's Field on the one side, my son Symon's land on another side, and the Highway on a third side, and butting on the South River, which said five acres my will is, are hereby bound over and engaged for the payment of the four Pounds for the said four years. In case my Executor refuse to pay the said four Pounds for the term aforesaid then, my said wife shall have power to sell the said five acres only I do hereby reserve the use of my said five acres to my son Samuel for the next crop in in the year one thousand six hundred seventy three. My will also is that in case my said five acres be not sufficient to improve the said four Pounds for four years to my said wife, that then a piece of Pasture Land is hereby added thereto on that account and engaged to her to dispose of for her satisfaction, which said Pasture Land is part of the twenty acres about the house, bounded by the South River on one side, a little Brook on another side and Samuel Hunte on a third side, and the field lots below on the other side. My will also is that my son Symon shall have another crop after this years from that piece of my land that lies near his house, for which he is to pay to me my Executor or assigns twenty shillings.

“I do also bequeath to my son John a bill of four Pound due to me from Roger Chandler of Concord to satisfy for the Charges of my coming from Barnstable to Concord and to provide his son Joseph who came to attend me. I do also bequeath to him all my Carpenters tools and my serge suite and cloake. I do also bequeath to my son in law Lewis my cloth suite and coat and hat and to my daughter Mary his wife a cow which is at present in my son Samuel's keeping, as also fifty shillings the half of a Bill of five

Pounds due to me from my son Samuel. As also all my bedding, pewter and brass and other household stuff now in my dwelling house at Barnstable. Also I do give and bequeath to my daughter Ruth Hall besides what she hath received from me, a cow which her husband hath at present in his keeping, as also fifty shillings the other half of the aforesaid Bill due from my son Samuel, provided that her husband or herself pay five shillings for me to William Butterick. I do also give to the poor of the town where it shall please God that I die whether at Concord or at Barnstable the sum of ten shillings to be payed to the Deacons of the Church there by my Executor. I do also hereby constitute and appoint my said son John the sole Executor of this my last Will and Testament, and my loving and respected friends William Butterick, Richard Hassell, and Thomas Browne the overseers thereof.

“In witness hereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

“Signed and sealed in the presence of THOMAS BROWNE.

“Know all Men by these Presents that I Dolor Davis of Barnstable in the Colony of New Plymouth do ratify and confirm this my last Will and Testament, which is signed and sealed in the presence of Thomas Brown above mentioned, only I do further declare that I do give unto my son John Davis twenty acres of Woodland which is by the twenty-seven acres which belongeth unto twenty men, or did belong unto them in the Town of Concord in the Colony of the Massachusetts which land is not mentioned in my Will above written. As also I do give my red mare unto my wife Joanna, which is not before disposed of, this thirteenth of September in the year of our Lord one thousand, six hundred, seventy and two.

“DOLOR DAVIS and a seal.

“Signed and sealed in the presence of

“NATHANIEL BACON, JUN.

“SAMUEL BACON.”

“ This will above mentioned was acknowledged by Dolor Davis to be his last Will and Testament, according as it is witnessed in both places and sealed before me.

“ NATHANIEL BACON, *J. P. Court.*”

“ This Will was proved at the Court held at Plymouth the second of July 1673, and is manifest to be the last Will and Testament of Dolor Davis deceased; and John Davis the reputed son of the said Dolor Davis is allowed and approved by the said Court to be the sole Executor to the Estate of the said Dolor Davis deceased. A Testimony relating to the abovesaid written Will, was showed in the Court held at Plymouth the second of July 1673, and by the said Court ordered to be here recorded as abovesaid.”

It will be observed that all the real estate bequeathed in this will lies in the town of Concord, and is left entirely to his son John, though burdened with certain charges. He says, “ I have already given my son Symon and Samuel their full portions and deeds for their lands which I have settled upon them.” He speaks of his “ dwelling-house in Barnstable,” but only disposes of his “ bedding, pewter and brass and other household stuff,” contained in it to his daughter Mary Lewis. Whatever real estate he had acquired at Barnstable since his return he must have disposed of before making this will, and very likely to his son John, as we know from Otis that John afterwards owned the dwelling-house which had been his father's. Indeed, the spot where it stood has always been in the possession of John's descendants and is to-day, though the old homestead was torn down long ago.

The most singular feature of the instrument is the

small provision made for his "dear and loving wife Joanna." The only solution I can suggest is either that he had settled something on her before making his will, or that she was amply provided for by her first husband, Bursley, and his sons. Bursley died intestate, leaving a handsome estate in lands. Joanna's right of dower in these might well have made her independent. The old man survived the making of this will only a few months. In June, 1673, his long and restless life came to an end, and he was gathered to his fathers. He died in Barnstable at the ripe old age of eighty, if Otis is correct, though I hardly think he was so old as that, and was probably interred in the old burying-ground west of the town, but no stone marks his last resting-place. The inventory of his estate bears date June 19, 1673, and on July 4th, same year, the court ordered Mr. Hincley to "take the oath of Joannah Davis widdow" to its correctness. She was still living in 1683 on the old Bursley homestead in Barnstable.

Davis left five children, each the head of a family, and thirty-four grandchildren. The will copied above was proved July 2, 1673, and is spread upon the probate records at Plymouth. His son John was accepted as sole executor, and took out ancillary letters of administration on the estate in Massachusetts Colony. The Willard Memoir states the value of Dolor's real and personal property within the "bounds of Concord" to have been £125 5s. 7d. As this represented only the bequest to his son John, his entire estate in the prime of his life, prior to making his settlements upon his other children, must have been very considerable for those early days.

Amid all this dry detail of dates and transfers of property we gain but little insight into the real character of the man, or of his relations to his neighbors and his family. We discern dimly the figure of a pioneer, bold and hardy to encounter the privations of frontier life, restlessly moving from place to place, yet withal industrious, patient, and frugal, accumulating a moderate independence in property, providing carefully for the wants of his family, and with affectionate forethought dividing his substance among his children during his own life that they might begin the race with a fair start.

He was possessed of some education, as we may judge from his close relations with such men as Willard and Hincley, while his signatures are always autographs at a time when the art of writing was by no means universal.

It is a little singular that among those persons nearest to him, George Willard, his brother-in-law, was at variance with the church and emigrated to Maryland; Nicholas Davis, reputed to be his son or brother, was obliged to remove to Rhode Island, where he joined the Quakers; while Dolor's second wife, Joanna, was daughter of Rev. Joseph Hull, who was driven from Plymouth Colony for preaching without a license, and sister of Capt. Tristram Hull, who was fined for befriending Quakers. Coupling these facts with his long delay in joining Barnstable Church, I have suspected that he did not sympathize fully with the rigid discipline of the church, and that his failure to become a freeman of Massachusetts Colony during his long residence there, and his depart-

ure from that Colony, might have been owing to a dislike of the still sterner church-rule maintained there; but this may be mere imagination.

Amos Otis says:—

“Perhaps among all the families which came to New England, not one can be selected more deserving of our esteem and unqualified approbation than that of Dolor Davis. As a man he was honest, industrious, and prudent; as a Christian tolerant and exact in the performance of his religious duties; as a neighbor kind, obliging, and ever ready to help those who needed his assistance; and as a father and the head of his family he was constantly solicitous for the welfare of all its members, cultivating those kindly feelings and amenities of life which render home delightful.”

Otis is dead, and I do not know from what source he drew the lines of this pleasing picture, but I have always hoped that an examination of his papers in Yarmouth Library would reveal to us some glimpses of Dolor's home life. My brief search elsewhere has brought to light some original documents, and has disclosed many points of his history hitherto unnoticed or unknown. I have been sufficiently rewarded by the pleasure the search has given me.

In the hope that some abler hand may push the inquiry farther, I print these crude results from a reverent desire to renew the memory of my sturdy ancestor.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION.

Sketch of Dolor Davis's life, by Amos Otis, in *Barnstable Patriot*, 1863.

Willard Memoir, by Joseph Willard.

Plymouth Colony Records.

Massachusetts Colony Records.

New England Historical and Genealogical Register.

Savage's Genealogical Dictionary.

Paige's History of Cambridge.

Deane's Scituate.

Freeman's Cape Cod.

Shattuck's Concord.

Winsor's Duxbury.

Butler's Groton.

Davis Family Record, by C. H. S. Davis.

The following manuscript records I have also consulted : —

Cambridge Town Records and Proprietors' Records.

Barnstable Town Records.

Concord Town Records.

Plymouth Registry of Deeds and Probate Records.

Middlesex Registry of Deeds and Probate Records.

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Hon. George Marston, New Bedford.
F. G. Kelley, Esq., town clerk of Barnstable.
James A. Gillis, Esq., Salem.
Robert B. Hull, Esq., New York.
Anson Titus, Esq., Weymouth.
Mrs. Ann E. Fiske, Northborough.

RECORD.

IN this record I have given a brief sketch of each of the children of Dolor Davis, a complete list of his grandchildren, and a catalogue as full as I could make it of his great grandchildren, who bore the name of Davis, besides a few bearing other names. Below this I have not tried to go except with the Northborough branch; but I have many hundreds of names and dates which I shall be glad to furnish to the genealogist who has the zeal to finish the work.

DOLOR DAVIS.

Born in England about 1600, d. in Barnstable, Mass., June, 1673. Married 1st wife in England about 1624,

MARGERY WILLARD,

Daughter of Richard Willard of Horsemonden, County Kent, England; baptized November 7, 1602; d. in Massachusetts between 1658 and 1672; 6 children. Married 2d wife in America,

MRS. JOANNA BURSLEY,

Dau. Rev. Joseph Hull, and widow Capt. John Bursley; she was b. 1620; d. after 1683; no children by this marriage.

Children of Dolor and Margery (Willard) Davis.

Born in England.

1. John, m. Hannah Lynnell; 12 children.
2. Mary, m. Thomas Lewis; 4 children.
3. Elizabeth, d. young.

Born in America.

4. Simon, m. Mary Blood ; 7 children.
5. Samuel, m. 1st, Mary Meddowes ; 7 children ; m. 2d, Ruth Taylor ; no children.
6. Ruth, m. Stephen Hall ; 6 children.

JOHN DAVIS, son of Dolor and Margery, b. in England about 1626, m. March 15, 164₉^s, Hannah, dau. of Robert Lymnell of Barnstable. Davis lived in Barnstable, and d. there 1703 ; was a farmer and house-carpenter. His name appears frequently in Barnstable town records in connection with transfers of real estate, negotiations with Indians, and in other capacities. He took the oath of fidelity at Barnstable, 1657 ; was surveyor of highways in 1656, 1671, 1672, 1675, and 1677 ; sole executor of his father's will, 1673 ; on grand inquest, 1682 : he owned considerable real estate at various places and settled portions of it on his sons during his own life. His will is dated May 10, 1701, and speaks of his wife as living, also of sons John, Benjamin, Samuel, Dollar, Timothy, and Jabez, of daughters Mercy, Ruth Lymnell, and Mary Hincley ; also of Hannah Jones's five children, son John's four eldest sons, granddaughter Mary Goodspeed, and grandson Joseph Davis. Will proved April 9, 1703. Amount of inventory, £268 12s. 4d.

Children of John and Hannah (Lymnell) Davis.

1. John b. January 15, 16₅₀⁹ ; lived in Barnstable ; rem. 1710 to Falmouth, d. there 1729, leaving a handsome estate ; 12 children. He m. 1st wife February 2, 1674, Ruth Goodspeed ; m. 2d wife February 22, 1692, Mary Hamlin ; she d. November, 1698 ; m. 3d wife 1699, Hannah, widow of Nathaniel Bacon.

2. Samuel, b. December 15, 1651, lived in Barnstable; d. 1711; unmarried.
- Twins.* { 3. Hannah, b. January 3, 165 $\frac{3}{4}$; m. March 18, 1681, Jedediah Jones; lived in Barnstable; 5 children, perhaps more; she d. probably before 1701, certainly before 1718.
4. Mary, b. January 3, 165 $\frac{3}{4}$; m. 1st, 1676 or 1677, Benjamin Goodspeed; 1 child; m. 2d, November 24, 1697, John Hincley; she d. between 1711 and 1718.
- Twins.* { 5. Joseph, b. June, 1656; m. March 28, 1682, Mary, dau. of James Claghorn; lived at Chequaquet. He d. about 1690; she d. 1706; 4 children.
6. Benjamin, b. June, 1656; d. 1718; unmarried.
7. Simon, b. July 15, 1658; d. young.
8. Doller, b. October 1, 1660; m. August 3, 1681, Hannah, dau. David Lynnell; lived in Barnstable; rem. to "South Sea"; will dated March 2, 1719, mentions 8 children but no wife.
9. Jabez, m. August 20, 1689, Experience, dau. David Lynnell; 10 children; he d. 1710.
10. Mercy, d. unmarried 1733, aged about 70.
11. Timothy, m. March 7, 1690, Sarah, dau. Edward Perry; he was living 1718; 6 children; lived in Rochester, Mass.
12. Ruth, b. 1674; m., 1695, John Lynnell; lived in Hyanis; 7 children; she d. May 8, 1748.

GRANDCHILDREN OF JOHN AND HANNAH (LYNNELL)
DAVIS.

Children of John, son of John (3 wives).

1. John, b. last of November, 1675; d. middle of August, 1681.
2. Benjamin, b. September 8, 1679.
3. John, b. March 17, 1684.

4. Nathaniel, b. July 17, 1686.
5. Jabez, baptized May 10, 1691.
6. Shobal, b. July 10, 1694.
7. James, b. March 24, 1696.
8. Ebenezer, b. May 13, 1697.
9. Nicholas, b. March 12, 1699.
10. Jedediah, b. June 5, 1700.
11. Desire, b. May, 1705.
12. Noah, b. September 7, 1707.

Children of Jedediah and Hannah (Davis) Jones.

- Shubael, b. before 1695.
 Simon, b. before 1695.
 Isaac, b. before 1695.
 Timothy, b. before 1695.
 Hannah, b. before 1695; and perhaps more.

Child of Benjamin and Mary (Davis) Goodspeed.

- Mary, b. January 10, 1677; m. Ichabod Hincley.

Children of Joseph and Mary (Claghorn) Davis; all born in Barnstable.

1. Simon, b. June 19, 1683; m. 1st, May 12, 1725, Elizabeth Lumbert; no children. He m. 2d, June 5, 1740, Priscilla Hamlin; she d. April, 1751; 4 children.
2. Mary, b. June 19, 1685.
3. Joseph, b. April, 1687.
4. Robert, b. June 13, 1689; rem. to Rochester, Mass.; m. Mary —; 3 children.

Children of Doller and Hannah (Lynnell) Davis.

1. Shubael, b. April 23, 1685; m. September 15, 1720, Hopestill Lumbert.
2. Thomas, b. August, 1686; d. young.
3. Hannah, b. December, 1689; living in 1719.

4. Stephen, b. September, 1690 ; m. March 12, 1730, Desire Lewis ; 4 children. He d. December 7, 1756.
5. Thankful, b. March, 1696 ; living in 1719.
6. Daniel, b. July, 1698 ; m. Mary — ; 4 children.
7. Job, b. July, 1700 ; m. December 22, 1724, Mary Phinney ; 8 children. He d. April 4, 1751 ; she d. aged 90.
8. Noah, b. September, 1702 ; m. May 7, 1724, Hannah Fuller ; 5 children.
9. Remember Mercy, b. October 15, 1704 ; living in 1719.

Children of Jabez and Experience (Lynnell) Davis ; all born in Barnstable.

1. Nathan, b. March 2, 1690 ; m. November 24, 1714, Elizabeth Phinney ; 4 children.
2. Reuben, b. March 2, 1690.
3. Samuel, b. September 25, 1692 ; rem. to Connecticut.
4. Bathsheba, b. January 16, 1694.
5. Isaac, b. April 23, 1696 ; d. 1718.
6. Abigail, b. April 26, 1698 ; m. September, 1718, Joseph Hamlin.
7. Jacob, b. October, 1699.
8. Mercy, b. February 6, 1701.
9. Ebenezer, baptized June 23, 1706.
10. Solomon, b. September 4, 1706 ; m. Mehitabel Sturtevant of Sandwich ; rem. thither.

Children of Timothy and Sarah (Perry) Davis.

1. Nicholas, b. October 28, 1690, in Sandwich ; a Quaker preacher, lived in Rochester ; d. October 7, 1775 ; m. 1st, Mary — ; 2 children. Married 2d, Hannah — no children. Married 3d, Ruth — ; 5 children.
2. Hannah, b. September 17, 1692, probably in Rochester, Mass.
3. Sarah, b. March 18, 169—, probably in Rochester, Mass.
4. Rest, b. September 17, 1700, probably in Rochester, Mass.

5. Peace, b. April 14, 1702, probably in Rochester, Mass.
6. Dorcas, b. September 10, 1704, probably in Rochester, Mass.

The Barnstable branch may be traced farther in Amos Otis's sketch. See "Barnstable Patriot," 1863.

MARY DAVIS, dau. of Dolor and Margery, b. in England about 1631; m. in Barnstable June 15, 1653, Thomas, son of George Lewis of B. He was born in Eng., res. in Barnstable till 1668; freeman June 1, 1658; Surveyor of Highways, 1668; rem. to Falmouth, proprietors' clerk there and a prominent citizen. Mary Lewis was living in 1672. Savage identifies this man with Thomas Lewis of Swansea; Amos Otis says Lewis of Swansea was a different person, and he is undoubtedly right. See "Barnstable Patriot," January 2, 1866.

Children of Thomas and Mary (Davis) Lewis.

1. James, b. March 31, 1654; rem. to Falmouth; m. there, March 27, 1679, Eleanor Johnson; 10 children.
2. Thomas, b. July 15, 1656; rem. from Falmouth to Eastham; m. Jane ——. He d. March 19, 1718; 5 sons, 4 daughters.
3. Mary, b. November 2, 1659.
4. Samuel, b. May 14, 1662.

ELIZABETH DAVIS, dau. of Dolor and Margery, b. in England about 1633; probably died young.

SIMON DAVIS (Lient.), son of Dolor and Margery, b. in America about 1636; m. December 12, 1660, Mary, dau. James Blood of Concord, b. July 12, 1640. Lient. Davis settled in Concord; was Deputy 1689, 1690, 1692, and 1705, and held other responsible positions; was in command of the troops after the wounding of Capt. Wheeler at Brookfield, 1675; freeman Mass. Col. March 21, 1689; d. June 14, 1713, æt. 77; grave-stone now standing in Concord; original will on file at East Cambridge, made June 24, 1710, proved July 3, 1713, and bearing his autograph; a better autograph may be seen on the Concord records 1689, attesting election of town clerk. Wife Mary and 7 children mentioned in will as still living, also grandson Samuel Hunt. Like his father and brother Samuel he had divided most of his real estate among his sons before his death.

Children of Lieut. Simon and Mary (Blood) Davis.

1. Simon (Doctor), b. October 12, 1661; m. February 14, 1689, Elizabeth, dau. Henry Woodhouse of Concord. She d. November 12, 1711. He m. 2d wife October 19, 1714, Mary Wood. 9 children by first wife.
2. Mary, b. October 3, 1663; m. May 28, 1691, at Concord, Deliverance Wheeler of Stow.
3. Sarah, b. March 11 or 15, 1665; m. November 13, 1695, at Concord, Thomas Wheeler of Concord.
4. James, b. January or June 19, 1668; m. 1701, Ann Smedley. He d. September 16 or 18, 1727. She d. June, 1760, in her 79th year. 8 children.
5. Elener, b. October 22, 1672; m. at Concord, May 14, 1699, Samuel Hunt; 1 child, perhaps more.
6. Ebenezer, b. June 1, 1676; m. Dinah —; 7 children; and, I think, m. 2d wife Mrs. Sarah French, widow of William French of Billerica. She d. October 15, 1751, age 74 years. 3 children.
7. Hannah, b. April 1, 1679; m. at Concord, April 1, 1701, Samuel Blood.

GRANDCHILDREN OF SIMON AND MARY (BLOOD) DAVIS,
BEARING THE NAME OF DAVIS.

Children of Dr. Simon and Elizabeth (Woodhouse) Davis.

1. John, b. November 19, 1689; m. December 17, 1713, Abigail Dudley. He was a physician at Concord; d. November 16, 1762. 6 children.
2. Simon, b. September 7, 1692; m. June 1, 1719, Hannah Brown; 5 children, perhaps more.
3. Henry, b. February 23, 1694.
4. Elizabeth, b. March 28, 1695; d. November 15, 1706.
5. Mary, b. November 8, 1701.
6. Samuel, b. March 6, 1703.
7. Eleanor, b. March 4, 1705.
8. Peter, b. September 25, 1707; probably rem. to Rutland, Mass.

Children of James and Ann (Smedley) Davis.

1. James, b. October 14, 1701; d. August 22, 1727.
2. Ruth, b. September 16, 1703.
3. Thomas, b. November 25, 1704; m. 1725, Sarah Jones. She d. April 27, 1783, aged 74. He d. November 18, 1786. 9 children.
4. Joseph, b. January 18, 1707.
5. Ann, b. March 18, 1709.
6. Benjamin, b. April 13, 1712.
7. Zechariah, b. May 31, 1715.
8. Esther, b. September 9, 1717.

Children of Ebenezer and Dinah (—) Davis.

1. Ebenezer, b. March 29, 1701.
2. Eliazer, b. March 4, 1703.
3. Josiah, b. February 4, 1705.
4. Simon, b. February 23, 1707.
5. Dinah, b. July 22, 1710.

6. Phineas, b. February 19, 171 $\frac{2}{3}$; rem., 1743, to Milford ;
3 children.
 7. Ellen, b. May 1, 1715.
- Children of Ebenezer and Sarah (French) Davis (second wife.)*
8. Sarah, b. July 14, 1723.
 9. Lydia, b. September 7, 1724.
 10. Josiah, b. September 20, 1726.

SAMUEL DAVIS, son of Dolor and Margery, birth unknown; m. at Lynn, January 11, 1663, Mary Meddowes. She d. at Concord, October 3, 1710. He m. 2d wife October 18, 1711, Ruth Taylor. She d. August 6, 1720. Davis was freeman March 21, 1689. He settled in that part of Concord which afterward became Bedford, and his homestead is owned by his descendants to-day. He is my lineal ancestor, and I visited his farm on the back road from Concord to Bedford, about three miles from Concord, on the edge of the river meadow. A well is there which he is said to have dug. Mr. Benjamin J. Davis, the owner of the property, kindly loaned me some ancient deeds, dating from 1694 to 1712, and containing signatures of Samuel Davis and some of his family. From these I learned that he was still living March 15, 1714, and had already settled upon his sons most of his land during his own lifetime. His name sometimes appears on the Concord records, but he took little part in public affairs. In his deeds he styles himself husbandman and yeoman. The date of his death and place of burial are unknown.

Children of Samuel and Mary (Meddowes) Davis.

1. Meroy, b. October 27, 1666; d. December 18, 1667.
2. Samuel, b. June 21, 1669; m. at Concord, March 2, 1697, Abigail Read of C.; she d. January 13, 1709; 6 children. I think he m. 2d wife about 1710, Mary Law; 4 children; lived in Bedford.

3. Daniel, b. March 16 or 26, 1673 ; m. at Concord, April 27, 1699, Mary Hubbard ; 8 children ; lived in Bedford. He d. February 11, 1741 ; she d. February 2, 1769, aged 87.
4. Mary, b. August 12, 1677 ; m. April 26, 1699, John Stearns.
5. Eleazer, b. July 26, 1680 ; m. at Concord, May 7, 1705, Eunice Potter ; lived in Bedford ; 7 children. He d. August 10, 1721.
6. SIMON (Lieut.), b. August 9, 1683 ; m. 1713, Dorothy — ; moved to Rutland about 1720. He d. February 16, 1763 ; she d. July 21, 1776, in the 84th year of her age. Both are buried in Holden graveyard. They are my ancestors. 8 children.
7. Stephen, b. March 30, 1686 ; m. March 26, 1713, at Concord, Elizabeth Fletcher ; 5 children or more ; lived in Bedford.

GRANDCHILDREN OF SAMUEL AND MARY (MEDDOWES)
DAVIS, BEARING THE NAME OF DAVIS.

Children of Samuel and Abigail (Read) Davis.

1. Abigail, b. January 27, 1698.
2. Mary, b. November 18, 1700.
3. Samuel, b. October 3, 1703.
4. Jacob, b. July 8, 1707.

The above names and dates are found on the Concord records. Shattuck's "Concord" adds: —

5. Eleazur, and
6. Stephen, neither of whom are on the records.
7. John, born September 22, 1711.

Children of Samuel and Mary (Law) Davis (second wife).

8. Lydia, b. December 4, 1713.
9. Martha, b. August 11, 1716.
10. Deliverance, b. November 27, 1722.

Children of Daniel and Mary (Hubbard) Davis.

1. Jonathan, b. February 15, ¹⁶⁹⁹/₁₇₀₀; prob. rem. to Rutland, Mass.
2. Daniel, b. September 29, 1701; prob. rem. to Rutland.
3. Mary, b. November 28, 1703; d. November 3, 1709.
4. Ephraim, b. January 27, 170₆⁵; prob. rem. to Rutland.
5. Nathan, b. March 31, 1708; prob. rem. to Rutland.
6. Amos, b. April 8, 1711; rem. to Grafton, Mass.
7. Josiah or Joseph, b. July 9, 1713.
8. Nathaniel, b. November 3, 1715.
9. Mary, b. April 4, 1719.

Children of Eleazer and Eunice (Potter) Davis.

1. Eleazer, b. March 5, 170₆⁵; d. 1748.
2. Hannah, b. October 18, 1707.
3. Timothy, b. December 8, 1709.
4. Sarah, b. March 23, 17₁₂¹¹.
5. Eunice, b. December 8, 1716.
6. Rebecca, b. May 12, 1719.
7. Abigail, b. May 16, 1721.

Children of Simon and Dorothy (—) Davis.

1. SIMON, b. May 17, 1714; lived in Rutland; m. Hannah Gates, of Stow. He d. April 9, 1754; she d. January 7, 1761, aged 46; 11 children. They are my ancestors.
2. Israel, b. August 31, 1717; lived in Holden; m. December 11, 1739, Mary Hubbard. He d. September 2, 1791; she d. November 17, 1800, aged 80; 6 children.
3. Joseph, b. July 16, 1720; Harvard College, 1740; minister at Holden, 1742-1773; d. March 4, 1799; 3 children, perhaps more.
4. Elizur; 5 sons, 4 daughters.

5. Oliver, m. Mary, dau. Thomas Read ; lived and died in Princeton, Mass.
6. Dolly, m. — Brown ; lived in Maine.
7. Martha, m. — Smith ; lived in Holden.
8. Azubah.

Children of Stephen and Elizabeth (Fletcher) Davis.

1. Elizabeth, b. January 11, 1713.
2. Tabitha, b. September 12, 1717.
3. Philip, b. May 11, 1719 ; d. June 11, 1719.
4. Philip, b. May 8, 1721.
5. Jonas, b. September 4, 1723.

RUTH DAVIS, dau. of Dolor and Margery, baptized at Barnstable March 24, 1644 $\frac{1}{2}$; m. at Concord December 3, 1663, Stephen Hall, of C. He rem. to Stow in 1685, was representative there in 1689, thence to Medford, and finally, in 1699, to Connecticut.

Children of Stephen and Ruth (Davis) Hall.

1. Samuel, b. in Concord December 8, 1665 ; lived in Stow.
2. Stephen, b. 1667 ; lived in Medford, then in Charlestown, where he died November 7 or 8, 1749, aged 82 ; m. 1st, Grace, dau. Thomas and Grace Willis ; she d. November 12 or 19, 1721 ; m. 2d wife, Martha Hill ; m. 3d wife February 5, 1739, Anne, widow of Joseph Nowell ; 6 children by first wife.
3. Ruth, b. in Concord January 12 or 21, 1670.
4. Mary, b. in Concord June 1, 1677.
5. Elizabeth, b. in Stow April 7, 1685.
6. Sarah, b. in Stow June 19, 1688.

Some branches of this family may be traced farther in Brooks's "History of Medford," and in "N. E. H. & G. Reg." 1859 and 1861.

NORTHBOROUGH BRANCH.

The Northborough Branch is descended thus:—

Dolor Davis m. Margery Willard.
 |
 Samuel Davis m. Mary Meddowes.
 |
 Simon Davis m. Dorothy ——.
 |
 Simon Davis m. Hannah Gates.

Children of Simon and Hannah (Gates) Davis.

1. Elizabeth, b. January, 1735; d. young.
2. Hannah, b. March, 1736; m. before 1761, Jonathan Knight, Jr.; rem. to Leicester, Mass; lived to advanced age; children.
3. Miriam, b. June, 1738; m. before 1761, Jabez Fairbanks; lived in Sterling; children.
4. David, b. January, 1740; m. Abigail Brown; lived in Paxton to great age; a deacon; 8 children.
5. Elizabeth, b. June 19, 1742; m. August 25, 1760, John Reed; lived in Rutland; she d. August 20, 1769; children.
6. Simon, b. April 17, 1744; d. in infancy.
7. Mercy, b. June 6, 1745; m. ~~Abigail~~ Bellows; lived in Paxton; she d. July 30, 1811; children.
8. Simon, b. August, 1747; d. December 28, 1760.
9. ISAAC, b. February 27, 1749; rem. to Westborough; m. 1st, May 21, 1772, Anna, dau. Samuel Brigham of Westborough, b. October 29, 1753. He rem. 1781 to Northborough; 11 children by 1st wife; she d. April 24, 1803. He m. 2d wife December, 1804, Mrs. Susanna (Baker) Harrington; she d. January 11, 1816. He m. 3d wife October, 1816, Mrs. Elizabeth (Baker) Thurston, sister of his second wife; she d. March 29, 1850. He d. April 27, 1826; deacon; representative in Legislature 7 years.

10. Samuel, b. January 15, 1751; rem. to Oakham; a deacon; d. July 12, 1817; married and had children.
11. John, b. September 13, 1752; m. Phebe Stearns; lived in Paxton; colonel in militia; she d. March 3, 1800 [or March 30, 1811]; children.

Children of Isaac and Anna (Brigham) Davis.

1. Phineas, b. September 12, 1772; m. October 29, 1793, Martha Eager, b. in Paxton November 26, 1773. He lived in Northborough; d. November 3, 1834; she died February 26, 1854; 11 children.
2. Joseph, b. February 28, 1774; m. 1st wife April 25, 1799, Lydia Ball, b. February 26, 1776; 9 children; she d. April 4, 1822; m. 2d wife October 7, 1823, Lydia Cogswell, b. January 28, 1784; 2 children; she d. October 24, 1840. He lived in Northborough, a prominent citizen; d. October 23, 1843.
3. Anna, b. June 19, 1777; m. January 18, 1810, William McFarland, b. January 5, 1758; lived in Worcester; he d. October 9, 1839. She d. February 11, 1857; 1 child.
4. Isaac, b. September 23, 1779; m. December 2, 1801, Polly, dau. Seth Rice, b. February 9, 1782; lived in Northborough; she d. March 14, 1852; he d. March 31, 1859; 12 children.
5. Sarah Breck, b. August 6, 1782; m. 1st husb. April, 1802, Daniel Bellows; 2 children; he d. January 1, 1823; m. 2d husb. December 20, 1824, Willard Snow of Paxton; 1 child; he d. July 13, 1846; she d. November 5, 1865.
6. Samuel, b. January 22, 1784; m. August 31, 1809, Mrs. Elizabeth Eleanor (Moore) Godfrey, b. January 4, 1782; lived in Mount Vernon, Me.; 6 children; she d. September 5, 1846; he d. January 7, 1852.
7. JOHN, b. January 13, 1787; graduated at Yale, 1812; m. March 28, 1822, Eliza, dau. Rev. Aaron Bancroft,

- b. February 17, 1791 ; lived in Worcester ; was Governor of Massachusetts, and Representative and Senator in the U. S. Congress. He died April 19, 1854 ; she d. January 24, 1872 ; 5 children.
8. Hannah, b. December 10, 1789 ; m. July 10, 1813, Daniel Dunton ; she d. October 18, 1816 ; 2 children.
9. Eliza, b. October 15, 1794 ; m. February 10, 1816, Cyrus Gale, b. October 7, 1785 ; lived in Northborough ; 2 children ; she d. February 18, 1821. Gale m. again and d. 1880.
10. Rebecca, b. July 8, 1796 ; d. July 14, 1796.





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