

Gc  
929.2  
P254pa  
1385633

GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 00859 1734







GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY

OF

LEWIS B. PARSONS.

(SECOND.)

---

PARSONS - HOAR.

---

PARSONS—Springfield, Mass., 1636.

HOAR—Gloucester, England, 1632.

---

ST. LOUIS:  
Press of Perrin & Smith Printing Co.,  
217-219 Olive Street.

In verifying names, dates and other facts connected with two or three hundred years of the past, in a country new, where the forms of an old civilization are not found, and where, too, time is absorbed in supplying daily necessities, one who has not had experience can form no correct idea of the labor incident thereto—in an endless correspondence, in examination of old Records, and in seeking to reconcile a conflict of views constantly arising. In what I present herein, while I have spent much time and labor in many ways and places to secure correctness, I deem it very possible others may find I am far from infallible.

It has been by me a cherished hope and belief for many years, that the descendants of the family of which I write, now so numerous and holding positions so highly reputable in the various professions and avocations of life, would, by a union of effort, prepare and publish complete genealogical histories, English and American, of both lines of descent.

But having passed the grand climacteric of four score years, as I can no longer expect such a result, I have decided, in order to preserve what little information I have secured, to publish for *private* circulation in my immediate family, such facts as I have been able to gather of their ancestral lines, and such other incidents of family life as might be of interest to the few in that circle, *but of no importance to, and not designed for the general public*; trusting also, that what little I give, may stimulate to further and more successful efforts.

Change of Name—I was christened "Lewis Parsons," and such it was till I commenced the practice of law at Alton, Ill., in 1844, when at the request of my father I assumed his full name, Lewis Baldwin Parsons, and my name was so changed on the triennial catalogues of Yale and Harvard.

LEWIS B. PARSONS.

Flora, Illinois, January 1, 1900.



## ENGLISH FAMILY OF PARSONS.

---

In regard to families of this name, now numerous in England, I have copied the following in substance from the New England Historical and Genealogical Register of Boston (a very valuable and reliable magazine for those interested in genealogical studies) of date July, 1847:

“Though this name is a very ancient one in many parts of England and Ireland, it does not appear that there has ever been any attempt to collect even the materials for a history of the English family, notwithstanding there have been many individuals among them of great distinction, as knights, baronets and noblemen.”

In 1290, one Walter Parsons was a resident of Mulso, Ireland, where the name is still extant. In 1481, a Sir John Parsons was Mayor of Hereford. Robert Parsons, born in 1546, a graduate of Oxford, and a man of eminent abilities, becoming a Catholic and Jesuit, established an English college at Rome and another at Valladolid in Spain. He wrote several books, one of which excited so great an interest that Sir Philip Sidney attempted an answer. In 1556, one Francis Parsons was Vicar of Rothwell, where there was a wood called “Parsons’ Wood.”

Bishop Gibson in his edition of “Camden’s Britannia,” remarks, “The honorable family of Parsons have been advanced to the dignity of viscounts and more lately Earls of Ross.” Ross Castle, Ireland, is still the seat of the same family, as it was of the eminent astronomer of that name and rank.

In 1634, Thomas Parsons was knighted by Charles I. His arms are still retained by his descendants in London, among whom were Sir John, Lord Mayor of London, in 1704.

and Sir Humphrey, Lord Mayor of London in 1731 and 1740, and also by some families in the United States.

The coat of arms granted Sir Thomas Parsons is described thus: "He beareth gules two cheverons ermine, between three eagles displayed Or. By the name of Parsons. Crest—an eagle's leg, erased at the thigh, standing on a leopard's head—gules."

From this last family, it is believed, have descended many of the name of Parsons in this country, and that by a moderate expenditure of money and labor the English connection could be clearly traced.

Prof. Theophilus Parsons, of Harvard University, in presenting the writer in 1867 with a copy of his memoirs of his father, Chief Justice Parsons, wrote in it, over his name, "From your friend and kinsman," and stated that his family came from the same place in England as did that of Cornet Joseph, only at a later date, emigrating first to the Barbadoes and thence to Gloucester, Mass.

---

## AMERICAN FAMILY.

---

The first of the name in America is believed to have been Joseph Parsons, known as "Cornet Joseph," at Springfield, Mass., where on July 15th, 1636, he appears as a witness to the deed of cession by the Indians of that place, then called Agawam, and a large extent of country adjacent, made to William Pyncheon and others, for the consideration of 18 yards of wampum, 18 coats, 18 hatchets, 18 hoes and 18 knives,

a copy of which deed can be seen in the recorder's office at Springfield, Mass.

At that time Parsons was a youth of seventeen years, as appears by his testimony at the March term of court at Northampton in 1662, on proof of said deed. This deed was made but sixteen years after the Mayflower anchored at Plymouth and but six years after the first settlement of Boston. The exact date of Parsons' coming to America is not now known, nor the home of his ancestors in England. Maunsell's "American Ancestry" states that he came over with William Pyncheon, the leader of the Springfield colonists, who was one of the patentees of the grant to the Massachusetts Bay Company, and a fellow-passenger with Winthrop, who came over in 1630. It is also of tradition that he was a protege of Pyncheon, which his lifelong intimate social and business relations, both with him and his son, Captain John Pyncheon, would seem to confirm. From Burt's monograph, I extract much of the following information: In 1646 Joseph's brother Benjamin, known by record as "Deacon Benjamin," first appeared in Springfield, where by his ability and great purity of character in public and private life he soon exerted a wide influence in laying the foundation of a Christian State. The sometimes mooted question of the relationship of Joseph and Benjamin Parsons would seem conclusively settled by the testimony of William Pyncheon and the investigations by Mr. Henry M. Burt, of the ancient records of Springfield.

For some years subsequent to his signing the Indian deed as witness, the name of Joseph Parsons does not appear in the public records, as would naturally be the case, he being then but a youth of seventeen years, and it is thought probable that he may have removed to Hartford, Conn., as the records there show that on November 26, 1646, O. S., he married Mary Bliss, the daughter of Thomas Bliss, of that place, who was the son of Thomas Bliss, of Belstone Parish, in Devonshire, England, a family soon after, and to the present time, among the most prominent in Springfield. The Springfield records show that in 1646 Joseph Parsons was elected Town Surveyor, "a very responsible position in a wilderness where

first lines for an entirely new organization for ownership, for roads and all civil divisions were to be made, and a very honorable office to be voluntarily given to a young man of twenty-six years." In 1647, Joseph Parsons, as one of the forty-two land owners of Springfield, was assessed a tax of 11s 9d. In 1650 he was elected Overseer of Fences, arising, no doubt, from his office of Surveyor.

In 1651 he was elected a Selectman, "the highest office in the gift of the people for conduct of town affairs, a place of great honor and trust for a young man." In 1662 he, with others, having purchased "Noltwog," now Northampton, and a large extent of country around, from the Indians, removed there, where he was elected a Selectman, and was often re-elected in subsequent years; in fact, it would appear from the records that his time was so much taken up by town and church affairs, and at such sacrifice of his private business that at a town meeting, February, 1656, "It was agreed that Joseph Parsons, paying 20 shillings, shall be freed from any office in the town of Northampton for one year."

In 1655, Joseph Parsons, for the sum of 12 pounds sterling per annum, purchased of William Pyncheon a monopoly of the Connecticut River beaver or fur trade, in which, as appears from his accounts with Pyncheon, recently published, he was for many years largely and successfully engaged—balances on settlement at times reaching \$2,000 to \$3,000, "a large sum for a wilderness town 240 years ago."

In settlement of those accounts, the Cornet's autograph was annexed, and when in Springfield in 1844, Judge Morris, who then owned the books, now in the Springfield Library, cut out one (June 29, 1661) and presented to me, which I gave to my father, who, in his will, left it to me, and which I now possess.

He seems to have early begun the acquisition of land, as when twenty-seven years of age he owned six tracts at least. When the town of Hadley was purchased of the Indians, he held a prior Indian claim which was excepted from sale and which he subsequently sold to the inhabitants for a considerable sum. At Northampton several grants were made to him,

no consideration being mentioned, and he continued while there to purchase "until he became the largest or second largest land owner in the Connecticut Valley." He also owned two valuable lots in Boston, a residence and storehouse on the harbor, which his family sold after his death at a large sum for those times.

In 1668, a saw mill being a necessity, a grant of 20 acres of land was made, but the grantee failing in his contract, Parsons purchased it and made it a success.

In 1664, the Indians desiring to build a fort, Parsons was one of a committee to fix the conditions, among which were that the Indians "should not work on the Sabbath day, and should not pawaw at the place or get drunk."

"It is probable that Joseph Parsons had a more intimate acquaintance with the Indians than any other inhabitant, as his trading with them had taken him to their villages, up and down the Connecticut Valley, and it was this intimate relation that made him so invaluable when any transaction was to take place with them. It also gave him an extended acquaintance with the country and the most valuable lands."

"In the spring of 1671, Joseph Parsons, with three others, went on an exploring expedition to what is now Northfield, Mass., and there concluded a bargain with the Indians for a valuable tract of land of 10,560 acres on the Great River (Connecticut)."

In 1896 I visited an old Colonial house in Northampton, then owned by Mr. Josias Parsons, who was nearly ninety years old and was a descendant of Cornet Joseph. The house was built 152 years previous to that time and was then in good condition and occupied by Josias Parsons, a nephew. The land was purchased by the Cornet, and has ever since, together with land in "the meadows," been owned by his descendants.

His military record is best shown by an extract from the "Register of the Officers and Members of the New Hampshire Society of Colonial Wars." viz: "Parsons, Cornet Joseph, 1618, 1683, member Captain John Pyncheon's Hampshire County Troop, King Philip's War, 1672-1678, appointed Cornet Hampshire Troop, October 7th, 1678. Member of the

Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company of Boston, 1679; served in the early French and Indian Wars, Colony of Massachusetts Bay. He was a partner with William Pyncheon in the fur trade of the Connecticut Valley and was the chief founder of Northampton, Massachusetts."

Cornet Joseph Parsons was pre-eminently a business man, with the courage and enterprise which peculiarly fitted him for taking a leading part among the settlers of this new country. Savage says that he was "the most enterprising man in the Connecticut Valley for a quarter of a century." And Burt, in his monograph, says that "With perhaps a single exception he was the most prosperous and successful of any of the settlers and acquired a handsome property, the largest unless it be that of John Pyncheon, of any one in Hampshire County, an evident indication of his foresight and enterprise." The public records of his day, as well as contemporary writings still in existence, testify to his remarkable activity and force of character. That he was a man of integrity and justice in his dealings is shown by the trust reposed in him in the frequent transactions with the Indians, necessary in connection with public matters, as well as in his extensive private enterprises, which brought him in contact with them throughout the entire Connecticut Valley, while the numerous offices which he was chosen to fill during his long life, the duties connected with which seem to have been always satisfactorily performed, testify to the regard which his fellow colonists had both for his ability and his integrity.

In all those traits of character which were peculiarly necessary for the founders of this new civilization, he seems to have been a worthy companion among those who have made New England known and honored.

From all the information I have been able to obtain by much correspondence and examination of records, the following is a correct genealogical statement, so far as now known, of that branch of the line of descendants of Cornet Joseph Parsons, under consideration. For further information in regard to individuals, as also for some historical items, notes in

the margin will refer the reader to papers where the same may be found.\*

- I. Cornet Joseph Parsons, born in England about 1618; died at Springfield, Mass., Oct. 9, 1683; married November 26, 1646, Mary Bliss, of Hartford, Conn., born in England, 1620; died at Springfield Jan. 29, 1712.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Joseph, 2d, or "Esquire," born 1647; died at Northampton Nov. 29, 1729.
2. Benjamin, born Jan. 22, 1649; died June 22, 1649.
3. John, born Aug. 14, 1650; lived in Northampton and died there April 15, 1728; married Sarah, daughter of Lieutenant William Clark, Dec. 3, 1675; died April 19, 1728; had eight children. He was a Captain in King Philip's Indian War.
4. Samuel, Lieutenant, born Jan. 23, 1652; removed to Durham, Conn., in 1709 and died there Nov. 12, 1734; married Elizabeth Cook, 1677; died Sept. 2, 1690; married (2) Rhoda Taylor in 1691. Had fourteen children.
5. Ebenezer, born 1655, the first white child born in Northampton; killed in battle with the Indians at Northfield, Sept. 8, 1675.
6. Jonathan, born June 6, 1657; died Dec. 1694; married Mary, daughter of Nathaniel Clark, April 5, 1682. Had seven children.
7. Daniel, born April 30, 1659; died young.
8. Mary, born June 27, 1661; married Joseph Ashley, Oct. 16, 1685, who died May 19, 1698. Married (2) Joseph Wiliston. Had three children; died Aug. 23, 1711.
9. Hannah, born Aug. 1, 1663; died April 1, 1739; married Pelatiah Glover, Jan. 7, 1687, who died Aug. 22, 1737. Had eight children.

---

\* For a much more detailed and interesting history of Cornet Joseph Parsons and his descendants, the reader is referred to a genealogical history by President Albert Ross Parsons, of Garden City, N. Y.

10. Abigail, born Sept. 3, 1666; died June 27, 1689; married John Colton, Feb. 19, 1685. Had two children.

11-12. Esther and Benjamin, born and died Sept. 11, 1672.

13. Hester, born Dec. 24, 1674; died 1760; married Joseph Smith, of Springfield, Sept. 15, 1698. Had one child.

Joseph Parsons, "Esquire," as his name appears on the public records and as it may still be seen on his tombstone in the Northampton Cemetery, which, with that of his wife, I had recut in 1897, was born in 1647 and was the oldest son of "Cornet" Joseph Parsons.

"During his long life of eighty-two years, he was conspicuous as a public man, in affairs of church and state. For some years he was a Justice of the Peace under the old English forms, with their rights and duties, and was said to have been the last of the kind in New England. In 1711 he was commissioned by Governor Dudley as Captain of a foot company in the Hampshire Regiment commanded by Colonel Partridge and was active in the military service of the colony.

In civil life he was often a Selectman of the town, as he was also for more than twenty-three years a Judge of the County Court. He was elected a representative to the General Court at Boston many times, the last being in his seventy-seventh year, and he often served on important committees. As illustrative of the times, it is of record that serving on a committee to manage the funeral of Joseph Sheldon, a member of the General Court from Suffield, he audited among other bills one for 12 shillings for a coffin, and 2 pounds 15s for wine. His business interests were large and extended over a wide territory. He was owner of both grist and saw mills in Northampton and Deerfield, and was largely interested in the iron business at Suffield and Southfield.

The record of the New Hampshire Society of Colonial Wars states that he served in King Philip's War, was one of the earliest lawyers in Western Massachusetts, was Judge of the Hampshire County Court for twenty-three years and was deputy to the General Court for fourteen years, twelve from Northampton and two from Springfield.



- II. Joseph Parsons, 2d, or "Esquire,!" born 1647, died at Northampton, Nov. 29, 1729; married, March 17, 1669, Elizabeth, daughter of Elder John Strong, ancestor of Governor Caleb Strong, born at Windsor, Conn., Feb. 24, 1648; died at Northampton, May 11, 1736.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Joseph, 3d, born June 28, 1671, Harvard College, 1697, Minister; died at Salisbury, Mass., 1739; married Elizabeth, daughter of Dr. John Thompson, of Roxbury.

2. John—known as Lieut. John—born Jan. 11, 1673-4, died Sept. 4, 1746; married Sarah, daughter of Rev. Hope Atherton, of Hatfield, Dec. 23, 1696, who died Feb. 12, 1729. Had ten children.

3. Ebenezer, Captain, born Dec. 31, 1675, died July 1, 1744; married Mercy Stebbins, Dec. 15, 1703, who died Nov. 1, 1753. Had nine children.

4. Elizabeth, born Feb. 3, 1678, died April 17, 1763; married Ebenezer Strong, Jr. (2d wife), 1706-7. Had six children.

5. David, born Feb. 1, 1680, died in 1737 at Malden, where he was a minister, Harvard College, 1705. His son, David, Harvard College, 1729, was first minister of Amherst, Mass.; married daughter of Gideon Wells, of Weatherfield.

6. Josiah, born Jan. 2, 1682, died April 12, 1768; married Sarah, daughter of Isaac Sheldon, June 22, 1710; died Dec. 14, 1738. Had nine children.

7. Daniel, born Aug. 18, 1685, died Jan. 27, 1774; married Abigail Cooley. Had eight children.

8. Moses, born Jan. 15, 1687; lived at Durham, Conn., and died there Sept. 26, 1754; married Abigail Ball, Jan. 16, 1710; died Dec. 4, 1760.

9. Abigail, born Jan. 1, 1689, died Aug. 17, 1763; married Ebenezer Clark, Dec. 10, 1712. Had eight children.

10. Noah, born Aug. 15, 1692, died Oct. 27, 1779; married Mindwell, daughter of Benjamin Edwards, Jan. 17, 1712, who died 1775. Had eleven children.

III. Daniel Parsons, born at Northampton, August, 1685, died at Springfield Jan. 27, 1774; married Abigail Cooley, June 2, 1709, born Feb. 22, 1690, died June 8, 1763.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Daniel, born Feb. 13, 1710; married Esther Stebbins.
2. Aaron, born June 2, 1712; died Aug. 4, 1795.
3. Noah, born Nov. 17, 1714.
4. Abigail, born April 24, 1718; married Benjamin Horton.
5. Miriam, born Oct. 9, 1721; married James Warriner.
6. Gideon, born Nov. 11, 1723.
7. Abner, born Nov. 12, 1725.
8. Eunice, born Aug. 27, 1728; married Abel Hancock.

IV. \*Aaron Parsons, born June 2, 1712, died at Springfield, Aug. 4, 1795; married Mercy Atkinson, Oct. 2, 1732, born 1713, died July 11, 1750.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Mercy, born 1733, died 1750; married Abner Sikes.
2. Lucy, born 1735, died —; married Joseph Adna Abbott.
3. Aaron, Sergeant, born Feb. 14, 1736, died Feb. 20, 1799.
4. Reuben, Deacon, born 1739, died 1799; married Margaret Granger.
5. Zenas, born 1740, died 1818; married Isabella Woodbridge.
6. Charles, Captain, born Sept. 17, 1742, died March 8, 1814.
7. Elijah, born 1744, died 1776; married Eunice Caldwell.
8. Miriam, born 1746; married Captain Enoch Chapin.
9. Eli, Lieutenant, born 1748; wounded in battle Oct. 4, 1777, died at Oswego, N. Y.
10. Silence, born July 11, 1750.

\* "He was a member of Luke Hitchcock's Company in the French War which was in service from April 3, 1755, to January 3, 1756, and which was in the battle near Lake George, N. Y., between the English Colonial Army under General Johnson and the French Army under Baron Dieskau. In this battle Noah Grant, great-grandfather of General U. S. Grant, was killed."

- V. Charles Parsons, Captain, born at Springfield, Mass., Sept. 17, 1742, died at Williamstown, Mass., March 8, 1814. Second Lieutenant in Second New York Regiment, Oct., 1775. First Lieutenant, Feb. 21, 1776. First Lieutenant in First New York Regiment, Nov. 21, 1776, to rank from Feb. 21, 1776. Captain Lieutenant Sept. 1, 1778. Captain, March 26, 1779, served to June, 1783. He was stationed with his company at Ticonderoga and up the Mohawk at Fort Schuyler during the summer of 1780; participated in the sufferings of the troops at Valley Forge, was wounded in the battle of Monmouth, and was finally present at the surrender of Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. Was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati. He married Lucy Baldwin, Jan. 30, 1785, born June 30, 1753; died Oct. 8, 1818.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Charles, born 1785; one child, a daughter.
2. Ebenezer, born 1788; died young.
3. Isaac, born 1789; emigrated to Canada.
4. Lucy, born 1791; married John Anderson; had five children.
5. Lewis Baldwin, born 1793; married Lucina Hoar.
6. Walter Chamberlain, born North Adams, Mass., March 30, 1795; died June 17, 1859, at Middletown, N. J. Was sea captain and farmer. Married, March 28, 1829, Mary Moreford, born Dec. 6, 1800; died March 23, 1875.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Lucy Moreford, born Sept. 27, 1832, died in Germany, Aug. 10, 1870; married William Wurdeman, civil engineer, Jan. 23, 1859.
2. Charles Baldwin, born Monmouth, N. J., July 3, 1835; married, Jan. 20, 1868, Elizabeth M. Bergen, born Oct. 3, 1848. Enlisted November, 1861, in First New York Engineers and served with distinction till close of the rebellion, July, 1865, on staff of Major-General Terry as Inspector, on that of General B. F. Butler as Engineer, and as Chief Engi-

near Twenty-fifth Army Corps, on staff of Major-General Weitzel, participating in the battles about Charleston, S. C., and Petersburg, Va. Retired with the rank of Captain and Brevet Major. Had two children—Walter B., Colgate University, 1893; Jennie, born Nov. 2, 1874; died Dec. 2, 1874.

3. Lydia S., born May 7, 1838; married Sept. 26, 1866, Thomas B. Roberts, who served in the Cavalry, 1861 to 1864. Has three children—Walter, Lucy and Raymond Parsons, the latter Colgate University, 1897.

7. Marshall, born 1797; died 1813.

VI. Lewis Baldwin Parsons, born Williamstown, Mass., April 30, 1793; died at Detroit, Mich., Dec. 21, 1855; was a successful merchant, a man of uncommon energy and force of character, of rare catholicity in his religious views, as also in the breadth of his charities, and was the founder of Parsons' College, Iowa. Married Lucina Hoar at Homer, N. Y., Nov. 10, 1814, born at Brimfield, Mass., Oct. 31, 1790; died at Gouverneur, N. Y., Oct. 3, 1873.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Octavia, born in Scipio, N. Y., Oct. 27, 1815; died Dec. 25, 1881; married August, 1838, William Erastus Sterling, born June 4, 1801, died March 5, 1861; a merchant of Gouverneur, St. Lawrence County, N. Y.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Maria Ely, born July 22, 1839.

2. Emily, born July 3, 1842; married John Doud, May 15, 1867. Children: Wm. Sterling, born May 1, 1868, died Aug. 17, 1868. Elizabeth Sterling, born Oct. 3, 1870. Robert Parsons, born June 5, 1879.

3. Fanny Jerusha, born July 11, 1844.

4. William Erastus, Jr., born Dec. 6, 1846, died April 20, 1858.

5. Anna Lucina, born Aug. 5, 1848, died Feb. 7, 1871.

6. Lewis T., born Oct. 7, 1851; married June 26, 1884. Elizabeth Borden Nichols, born Nov. 25, 1853. One child—Ruth Hastings, born June 4, 1890.

2. Philo, born in Scipio, N. Y., Feb. 7, 1817, died at Winchenden, Mass., Jan. 23, 1896; married June 27, 1843, at Moscow, N. Y., Ann Eliza Barnum, born Sept. 14, 1822; died at Detroit, Mich., April 25, 1893.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Frances Eliza, born Oct. 12, 1848; married Sept. 26, 1882, William Fitzhugh Edwards, who died Oct. 27, 1897.
2. Lewis Baldwin, born Aug. 7, 1850; married Harriet M. Streeter. Children: Anna Helen, born Sept. 29, 1874. Margaret Elwood, born Jan. 4, 1876. Josephine McKee, born Dec. 26, 1878.
3. Edward Levi, born April 3, 1853.
4. Kate Eugenia, born June 28, 1854; married, Feb. 5, 1880, Arthur Clifford, of New Bedford, Mass., Harvard University, 1874, who died Feb. 26, 1881; child, Charles Parsons Clifford, born Oct. 23, 1880.
5. William Swain, born June 6, 1856; died Aug. 6, 1857.
6. Julia Norton, born Dec. 31, 1857; married June 11, 1891, William Edminston Boynton, Harvard University, 1876.
7. Mary Lucina, born Oct. 10, 1860; married April 22, 1885, Frederick Grout Chidsey. Children: Frederick Parsons, born March 11, 1886. Helen, born July 8, 1887.
8. Grace Douglas, born Feb. 13, 1863.

3. Lewis B. Parsons, born Genessee County, New York, April 5, 1818.
  - A. B. Yale College, 1840.
  - A. M., in course, 1843.
  - LL. B. Harvard University Law School, 1844.
  - City Attorney of Alton, Ill., 1846-1849.
  - Attorney, Treasurer, President of the Ohio and Mississippi Railroad, 1854-1878.
  - Captain of Volunteers, October 31, 1861.
  - Colonel, April 4, 1862.
  - Brigadier-General, May 11, 1865, on autographic order of President Lincoln for special services.
  - Brevet Major-General for "meritorious services," and

mustered out April 30, 1866; term of service, four and a half years.

Democratic candidate for Lieutenant-Governor of Illinois in 1880, with U. S. Sen. Lyman Trumbull, candidate for Governor.

Delegate to Democratic National Convention, nominating Grover Cleveland for President in 1884.

President Illinois Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, 1895-8.

Member of the Grand Army of the Republic; of the Society of the Army of the Tennessee; the Society of the Sons of the Revolution; the Society of the Colonial Wars and Companion of the Loyal Legion.

Married, 1st, Sarah Green Edwards, St. Louis, Mo., Sept. 21, 1847, born Sept. 13, 1820; died May 28, 1850.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Lewis Green, born Aug. 3, 1848; Yale University, 1872; died at Denver, Colo., Jan 29, 1875.

2. Sarah Edwards, born May 15, 1850; died at St. Paul, Minn., May 10, 1873.

Married, 2d, Julia Maria Edwards, St. Louis, July 5, 1852, born June 8, 1830; died June 9, 1857.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Julia Edwards, born Sept. 13, 1854.

2. Charles Levi, born March 31, 1856.

Married, 3d, Elizabeth Darrah, New York City, Dec. 28, 1869, born June 25, 1832; died at Scarborough, Me., Sept. 2, 1887.

4. Lucy Ann, born Jan. 11, 1820; died May 9, 1851; married at Gouveneur, N. Y., Charles S. Cone, merchant. One child, Charles S. Cone, Jr., born Dec. 16, 1851, died Feb. 17, 1882; married, 1st, Mary Cromwell, May, 1871—one child, Harry Cromwell, born Sept. 4, 1874, died June 16, 1882; married, 2d, Caroline Mills, Feb. 27, 1878. Children: Ruth Parsons, born Feb. 17, 1879. Sterling, born June 18, 1881, died Jan. 8, 1883.

5. Harriet Matilda, born March 22, 1822; died Aug. 22, 1823.
6. Charles, born Jan. 24, 1824; married Martha A. Pettus, born March 23, 1830; died Feb. 13, 1889.
7. Levi, born Jan. 24, 1826; died at St. Louis, Mo., April 9, 1850.
8. Emily, born June 11, 1828; died Dec. 17, 1833.
9. George, merchant and banker, born in Gouverneur, N. Y., Jan. 2, 1830; married, Oct. 23, 1855, Emily Lycett Barnum, born April 30, 1830. Children: Willis Edwards, Presbyterian clergyman, born Oct. 26, 1857; married Dec. 24, 1884; Ellen Effie Topping, born June 9, 1859; George Frederick, born Aug. 25, 1859; married Oct. 29, 1895; Margaret Graves, born Feb. 6, 1869, one child, Emily Frances, born Dec. 3, 1897.
10. Helen Maria, born July 19, 1834, died Aug. 6, 1863; married, Nov. 16, 1858, George B. Boardman; one child, Charles Parsons, born Oct. 5, 1859. Congregational clergyman in Iowa; married July 30, 1884, Florence Adele Banker, born March 3, 1862. Children: Charles Willis, born Dec. 10, 1885. John, born March 12, 1887; Helen Marian, born March 31, 1889. Douglas Leonard, born Feb. 16, 1891.

# GENEALOGY OF LEWIS B. PARSONS,

(SECOND,)

IN THE MATERNAL LINE OF HOAR.

---

What is known of the English ancestry of this family, as also much that is known of its early history in America, is derived from researches made in both countries by Hon. Geo. F. Hoar, United States Senator from Massachusetts, and was published in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register for January, April and July, 1899, entitled "The Hoar Family in America, and its English Ancestry," and is by permission reprinted herein.

The earliest record noticed is in 1170.

"From Burke's Dictionary of Landed Gentry, p. 577, we find that 'William le Hore' (as the name was often written) was one of the Norman Knights who invaded Ireland in 1170, and obtained grants of land in Wexford, where he established a family. The pedigree in the visitation of the country begins with Thomas le Hore, who held the manor by the service of 'keeping a passage over the Pillwater as often as the session should be held at Wexford.' He had three sons, one of whom, David, was high sheriff in 1334."

The first of whom we have any definite knowledge is :

- I. Charles Hoar, Senior, and his wife, Margery, of Gloucester, England. The will of Charles Hoar, Senior, was dated May 29th, 1632, a copy of which is published herein. He was a man of wealth and position and was at one time Mayor of his native city. He had four chil-



dren, two sons and two daughters. One of the daughters married Thomas Hill, alderman, and Mayor of Gloucester in 1640. The other married Leonard Tarne, a man of distinction and wealth, and sheriff of Gloucester in 1630, an office of much responsibility and distinction in those times. Among his possessions was the noted Raven Tavern, stil standing, which he devised to trustees; also another property, for the benefit of the poor. Of Thomas, the younger, little is of record. The elder son—

II. Charles Hoar, Junior, married Joanna Hinksman, became a man of substance, and much respected in his native city, as would appear by the fact that he was one of its aldermen from 1632 to 1638, and sheriff in 1634, and also that his name is found in the council minutes with "gentleman" or "generosus," affixed to it, an evidence then of rank. His will published herein, was found by Senator Hoar in "Doctors' Commons," and is dated September 25, 1638. "He had a large estate, both in lands and money, as he bequeathed considerable sums and disposed of lands at several places as provision for his wife and younger children." The will directs that his "sonne Leonard shalle be carefullie kept at school and when he is fitte for itt, he shalle be carefullie placed at Oxford, and if ye Lord shalle see fitte, to make him a minister unto his people, that all ye charge thereof shalle be discharged out of ye profit which it shalle please God to send out of the stock." His house is still standing on Southgate Street, occupied by the printing house of the Gloucester Chronicle. In the original records of the Heralds visitation of Gloucester, 1623, are the arms of Hoar of Gloucester, S. A., "An eagle double headed displayed within a border engroined," which may still be seen in the old burying ground at Concord, Mass., on the gravestone of Daniel Hoar, born 1680; died, 1773.

Not long after the death of her husband, and about

1640, Joanna Hinksman, wife of Charles Hoar, Junior, with all her children except Thomas, came to America and settled near Boston. She died Sept. 21, 1651. Children:

1. Thomas, was baptised in the Church of St. Mary du Crypt, Gloucester; lived and died in England.

2. Margery, married in England, 1st, John Matthews, Dec. 25, 1633; 2d, Rev. Henry Flint, and died March 1686-7.

3. John.

4. Daniel.

5. Leonard, born about 1630; died Nov. 28, 1675. Graduated at Harvard College in 1650; was a minister; returned to England in 1653, preached a number of years, received the degree of M. D. at Cambridge, England, 1671; returned to America and was made president of Harvard in 1672; died in Boston, Nov. 28, 1675, and now lies buried beside his mother at Quincy. His wife was Bridget, daughter of Lord John Lisle, one of the regicide judges of Charles I., who was one of Cromwell's favorites and one of the Commissioners of the Great Seal. At the restoration of Charles II., his property was confiscated; he fled to Switzerland, "and was assassinated at Lausanne, as he was going to church, by two Irish ruffians inspired by the expectation of a generous reward from some member of the royal family in England." His wife, Alice, was arraigned before the infamous Judge Jeffries on a charge of high treason and was beheaded after most cruel treatment.

6. Joanna.

Margery was ancestress of John Quincy Adams. Joanna married Edmund Quincy, of Braintree, ancestor of Josiah Quincy, President of Harvard College.

III. John, born in England, died at Concord, April 2, 1704; married Alice, born —, died at Concord, June 5, 1696. John lived first in Scituate, "was one of the Cohasset partners, distinguished for his bold and independent mind and action," a man of wealth and affairs for those days, a prominent figure in public life and a great friend of the Indians, with much influence over them.

### CHILDREN.

1. Elizabeth, married, Dec. 23, 1675, Jonathan Prescott.
2. Mary, married Benjamin Graves, Oct. 21, 1668.
3. Daniel, born at Scituate, 1650.

IV. Daniel, born at Scituate, 1650; married Mary Stratton, July 16, 1677.

### CHILDREN.

1. John, born Oct. 24, 1678; died March 1, 1764.
2. Daniel, born 1680; Lieutenant; died 1773; married Sarah Jones, 1705; died Feb. 8.
3. Leonard; Captain; born 1682; died April, 1771.
4. Jonathan, a soldier, died at "The Castle," Oct. 26, 1702.
5. Joseph, died at sea, 1707.
6. Benjamin.
7. Mary, born March 14, 1689; died June 10, 1702.
8. Samuel, born April 6, 1691.
9. Isaac, born May 18, 1695.
10. David, born Nov. 14, 1698.
11. Elizabeth, born Feb. 22, 1701.

V. Leonard Hoar, Captain, one of the eight original settlers and proprietors of the town of Brimfield, Mass., born 1682; married Esther Bowman, who was baptised at Cambridge, Mass., Oct. 19, 1683. Captain Leonard died at Brimfield, April, 1771, where his gravestone may still be seen. He was active in political affairs, as is shown by the Brimfield records.

### CHILDREN.

1. Joseph, Deacon, born at Concord, Dec. 5, 1708.
2. Daniel, born at Concord, May 7, 1710; died July 9, 1738.
3. Leonard, Jr., born Oct. 29, 1711.
4. David, born Feb. 23, 1713.
5. Charles, born Dec. 25, 1714.
6. Edmund, born July 19, 1716.

7. Esther, born April 7, 1719.
8. Mary; married Samuel Colton, Feb. 19, 1751.
9. Nathan; married Miriam Colton, May 21, 1751.

VI. Joseph, Deacon, born at Concord, Dec. 5, 1707; died at Brimfield, Nov. 7, 1797; married Deborah Colton, May 10, 1736; died January 8, 1800.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Lucy, born June 4, 1737; married John Sherman, Nov. 23, 1758.
2. Deborah (?), born January 28, 1739; died Feb. 4, 1779.
3. Joseph, Jr., born June 22, 1740.
4. Esther, born April 20, 1742; married Simeon Keep, July 21, 1768.
5. Deborah, born Sept. 19, 1744; married James Stebbins, Jan. 10, 1765.
6. Samuel, born July 24, 1746; died May 10, 1828.

VII. Samuel, Lieutenant, born July 24, 1746; married Dorothy Hitchcock, at Brimfield, July 1, 1773; moved to Homer, N. Y., and was one of its first settlers, January, 1779. He died May 10, 1828, at Homer, N. Y. His wife died Feb. 29, 1813.

#### CHILDREN.

1. Flavia, born May 26, 1774; died Dec. 9, 1806.
2. Jacob, born Jan. 21, 1777; married Cyrene Munn, 1800; died September, 1820.
3. Rachel, born March 28, 1779; married Rowland Lacy; died May, 1817.
4. Lucy, died in May, 1817.
5. Gideon, born March 25, 1781; married Electa Wadsworth, April 29, 1807; died April 29, 1857.
6. Samuel, born June 4, 1783; married Rhoda Chamberlain; died 1844.
7. Chester, born June 5, 1785; married Peggy Blodgett.
8. Asa, born October, 1787; married Anna Hannum, November, 1812.

9. Lucina, born Oct. 31, 1790; married Lewis B. Parsons, Nov. 10, 1814.

10. Martin, born Feb. 11, 1793; married Paulina Parks.

11. Calvin, born June 10, 1795; married Anna Hoar, of Brimfield.

VIII. Lucina Hoar married Lewis B. Parsons, Nov. 10, 1814; died Oct. 3, 1873. Children: See the record of the paternal line.

---

## GRAVE STONES.

I sought in vain at Springfield, where he was buried, for the grave of Cornet Joseph Parsons. I found in the records of that place his death entered as follows:

“Cornet Joseph Parsons was sick’d and died October 9th, 1683.”

The tombstone of his eldest son and my ancestor, Joseph 2d, as also that of his wife, I found at Northampton, inscribed as follows:

“Here lieth the body of Joseph Parsons, Esquire, who deceased November ye 29, A. D. 1729, aged 83 years.”

“Here lieth the body of Mrs. Elizabeth Parsons, relict of Joseph Parsons, Esquire, who died May ye 11th, A. D. 1736, aged 89 years.”

Visiting their graves recently, and finding the inscriptions becoming obliterated, I had them recut.

In 1844 I found at Springfield the graves of my ancestors Daniel and Aaron Parsons. Subsequently all graves were removed to give place to a railroad, since which I have only found the grave stones of Aaron and his wife, the inscriptions of which are as follows:

“In memory of Mr. Aaron Parsons, who died August 4, 1795, aged 83 years.”

“In memory of Mercy, wife of Mr. Aaron Parsons, who died July 9th, 1750, in the 37th year of her age.”

In my maternal line of Hoar, I found at Brimfield, Mass., the grave stone of Captain Leonard Hoar, but too defaced to be legible. The inscription of that of his son, my ancestor, is: “Sacred to the memory of Deacon Joseph Hoar, who died November 7th, 1797, in the 89th year of his age.

“Refrain, my friends, dry up your tears,  
I must lie here till Christ appears.”

The grave stone of my grandfather, Lieutenant Samuel Hoar, is in Homer, N. Y.

The grave stone of Daniel Hoar, the brother of Captain Leonard, is in the old Concord burying ground. The inscription is surmounted by a coat of arms—a double-headed eagle—and the words “Paternal Coat Arms,” and is as follows:

#### LIEUT. DANIEL HOAR.

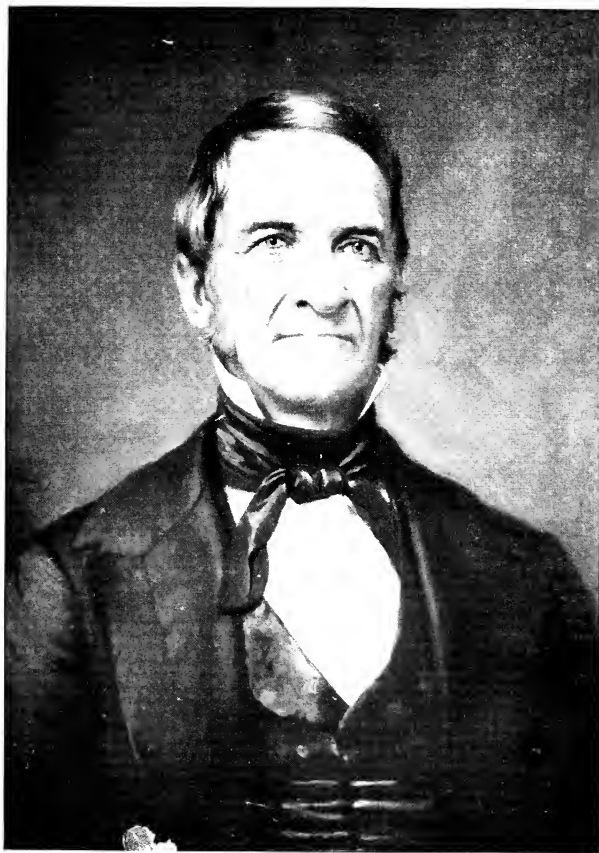
Obt. Feb'r ye 8th, 1773, Aetat 93.

By Honest Industry and Prudent Economy he acquired a  
handsome Fortune for a Man in Privet Carrecter. He  
enjoyed a long Life and uninterrupted state  
of health, Blessings that ever  
attend Exersies and  
Temperance.  
S. N.

Here's the last end of mortal story.

He's Dead.





*L. B. Parsons*



# RECOLLECTIONS OF LEWIS B. PARSONS.

---

BY HIS SON, CHARLES PARSONS.

---

ST. LOUIS, MO., May, 1893.

REV. DR. CRAIG,  
President of Parsons College, Iowa.

Dear Sir:—My recollections of my father date from a very early period of my life. His personality was so strong both physically and mentally, that his every characteristic is indelibly impressed upon my memory. Born at Williamstown, Mass., April 30, 1793, at about the age of fourteen years he went to Troy, New York, and became a clerk for a merchant by the name of Webb. In 1811, he had removed to Manlius, New York, and was clerking for one John Meeker, as I find by a letter I have, written to him by his father, Captain Charles Parsons. Subsequently he went to Homer, Cortland County, where he resided some years and first met my mother, Miss Lucina Hoar. Here he at one time decided to secure an education, with a view to becoming a clergyman, and studied under Rev. Mr. Walker, until he was obliged to abandon his purpose on account of severe dyspepsia, from which he ever after suffered greatly. Having saved some money, he purchased a stock of goods and opened a store at Scipio, Cayuga County, N. Y., just at the close of the war of 1812. On the return of peace, so great was the decline in prices, that, in common with most merchants, it swept away all his earnings, and left him embarrassed with debts which it took years of labor to discharge. Returning to Homer, he was employed as a clerk at

a salary of some \$400 until he became a partner in the firm of Dickson & Keep. Dickson was grandfather of President Andrew D. White of Cornell University, and Keep was the father of Albert Keep, so long President of the great Northwestern Railroad. Having accumulated a few thousand dollars, he removed to Gouverneur, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., in 1829, where for years he was actively and successfully engaged in mercantile pursuits, and where he exerted a strong influence in building up the town and church. I recall his paying for a long period one-tenth of the salary of the minister. In fact, long before that time, and for the rest of his life, he made it a sacred duty to contribute at least one-tenth of his income to Church and charitable purposes. Among other work, he was instrumental in building up a flourishing academy which was for many years a prominent feature in the educational work of that section of New York. In fact, it is not too much to say that he was the prime mover in this work, and that without his active aid it would not have been effected. He afterward settled in Perry, where he lived many years. In 1845 my father retired from business, and in 1848 removed to Buffalo, N. Y. A short time before this, however, his health being greatly impaired, he spent the winter in Texas, visiting St. Louis and the lower Mississippi en route. Purchasing a horse, he rode 800 miles through that State, then recently admitted into the Union. While there he wrote letters which were full of interesting incidents, and coming from a country so new, and then attracting so much attention, were published and read with interest. While residing in Buffalo my father visited me for several months at Keokuk, Iowa, where I had settled, and where he became much interested in that State. Foreseeing the greatness of its future and the influence and power it was to exert on the destinies of the country, he decided to do what he could to aid in giving a wise direction to its moral and educational development, and hence arose his decision to devote a large share of his property to the cause of education there. In the autumn of 1851, in traveling extensively through Michigan he contracted malarial disease so strongly that he never recovered from its effects, and in fact then planted the seeds

of the complaint from which he suffered greatly until he died at Detroit in 1857.

In religion my father was a Puritan of an enlightened stamp, but as firm in his sense of duty and as unfaltering as any of Cromwell's men in its performance. The ruling principle of his life was to do good; first, in the proper raising and education of his family, and second, in efforts for the progress of truth within the sphere of his influence, and in giving of his means to spread the knowledge of God through the world; and as one of the great means to such an end he was ever a most devoted friend and contributor to Home and Foreign Missions. His faith in the ultimate triumph of right over wrong, of the good over the bad, of God over the devil, was absolute. No doubts ever came into his mind in this regard; to this end my dear mother always gave him great assistance. She was a mother in Israel, indeed, full of piety, of a most intelligent nature, loving and affectionate; she was a woman to be loved, had friends wherever known, and not an enemy ever.

In person, my father was of good height, about five feet ten inches, with a high forehead, impressive presence, an active, sanguine temperament, energetic and industrious to the highest degree, an easy and ready speaker; and I can but think had he been able to follow his original design of becoming a clergyman he would have stood well in the profession. Though decided in his convictions as to public questions, he never entered political life beyond his county, where as President of the Board of Supervisors he acted with his usual ability and impressed his strong personality upon his colleagues in matters of local importance. A strong Whig, he was no great believer in universal suffrage, not subscribing to the idea that all wisdom rested in the masses. I well recollect, when I was quite young, his reading to us the then famous Jack Downing letters, during Jackson's administration, and his enjoyment of the humorous account of the "Kitchen Cabinet" at the White House. During the agitation of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill, introduced by Douglas, he took a great interest in the subject and denounced it as a breach of faith and honor on the part of the South, as the Missouri Compromise was regarded as a

settlement forever of the question of taking slavery north of the south line of Missouri. Still, he was not an abolitionist, standing firmly on the compromise of the Constitution, so long as abided by on the part of the South. While regarding all slavery with abhorrence, he considered the whole country as responsible for its origin, and as only to be got rid of by gradual emancipation or colonization by the consent and at the expense of the whole country.

It was my father's custom at morning family worship to have each read a verse in turn from the Bible, which was read in course from Genesis to Revelation. In those days, Sunday began at sunset on Saturday, when all work ceased. Sabbath evening prayers were always prefaced by an inquiry of the children as to what they could recollect of the two sermons they had heard. We were allowed to take pencils and paper to church, to aid our memories, but were always expected to give some account of what had been said. Generally my father made some remarks on the subjects treated of at the church service, in all of which he was well versed, and being a fluent talker, of fine conversational power, even as children we were generally quite interested. At other times, at our meals, he would entertain and instruct us upon various subjects, and as there were then in the country no daily newspapers, and as books were more rare than now, his lessons in a conversational way were full of interest, and as he remembered well what he read, and had a ready, apt and ample supply of anecdotes, were very instructive and entertaining. He was never a rich man, but in those days in the country in New York \$100 was relatively of as much value perhaps as \$1,000 would now be. As a business man I think my father possessed rare sagacity, combined with a fine sense of right, as is shown in his rules to us, as applicable to business and as general maxims of life, some of which I recall, as, for example :

“Don't try to get the last dollar of gain in a trade; you may miss the first one.”

“Let the man you are dealing with have a little chance; he has a right to live as well as you.”

“Never tell of your good trades; it is undignified; and.

further, it will make people indisposed to deal with you, as every man wants a chance of profit."

"Be careful about making promises, but always keep them."

"Never be a speculator; they are sometimes rich, then poor, but generally die poor."

"Some people think their prayers are surely answered, forgetting that others may be praying for the same good result; forgetting also the story of the soldier, who seven times aiming at those of the enemy, and each time seeing them fall, would have sworn he had killed them all; but finally discovering that the seven charges were all in his gun, said: 'It was well to remember that other men might be firing at the same mark.'"

"Be courteous to all from principle and kindly feeling. Besides, 'it is better to have the good will of even a dog than his ill will.'"

There are many others equally terse and pointed that now escape me.

I am sure no man had more perfectly the respect and love of his children (of whom eight arrived at maturity) than our father. In telling an anecdote he never repeated an expression having in it the least profanity, or that would have been improper to relate before ladies. His high sense of honor and the dignity of manhood were a good example to all and placed him on a high plane commanding unusual respect.

CHARLES PARSONS.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF LEWIS B. PARSONS.

---

BY HIS SON, LEWIS B. PARSONS, JR.

---

Flora, Ill., May, 1893.

Rev. Dr. W. G. Craig.

Dear Sir:—In reply to your request for notes concerning my father and his ancestry, I enclose a printed genealogical record, going back nearly three centuries, which I have obtained during the last fifty years by much research among the civil and religious records of Boston, Springfield and Northampton, Mass., and which will give you his lineage, and show the part heredity had in the formation of his character.

The records also show that his ancestors were men of temperate habits, largely engaged in business or professional pursuits and of remarkable longevity, the average of five generations being over 78 years. They further show that they were men more than usually interested in public affairs, not unfrequently leaders therein. Men of decided characters, earnest purposes, and strong convictions; whose opinions and conduct in public or private life it would not be necessary to *guess* at.

My father was, I think, what might be expected from such antecedents. During the six years I was a student in New England, as the distance was great and traveling expensive, I was little with my father, and saw still less of him subsequently, when I located on the Mississippi River. Hence my brothers Philo and Charles, who were long associated in business with him, and the Rev. Dr. Page, for many years the

pastor and intimate friend of my father, are better able to give valuable reminiscences than I am.

My grandfather, Capt. Charles Parsons, was an officer in the Revolutionary War, First Regiment, New York Line, Col. Van Schaick commanding, which was organized June 28, 1775, and served from Ticonderoga, Monmouth (where he was wounded), and Valley Forge to Yorktown and the end of the war. He was a member of the Society of the Cincinnati, and at the close of the war settled at Williamstown, Mass., where my father was born, April 30, 1793.

Soon after the death of my grandfather, March 8, 1814, my father emigrated with his mother to Homer, in central New York, then a remote wilderness, where he engaged in mercantile pursuits, and soon afterward married my mother, Miss Lucina Hoar, whose ancestors were among the first settlers of Boston, and whose English lineage was still more ancient and puritanical than that of my father. My mother long survived my father, dying at the age of 83, in the full vigor of her intellect and retaining to the last a deep interest in all matters of moment, both of Church and State, of which she was ever well advised by constant and wide reading. Possessing with uncommon energy a rarely calm and equable temperament, a most active and earnest Christian from early youth, she was an admirable balance for my father's more sanguine and nervous character, and wisely advised and aided his plans and action in life.

A most devoted and sympathetic mother, she was ever the loving center of a large family to the end of her life, and was truly all her pastor, Rev. Dr. Page, has described her as being.

After the reverses of the war of 1812, as mentioned by my brother, my father continued till late in life a country merchant, and was more than ordinarily successful. His views of commercial honor were of a high and exacting character; his integrity in all his dealings was based upon conscientious views of right rather than expediency, and his business rules and principles of action were, I think, remarkably correct.

In all matters, both civil and religious, and in everything he believed promotive of true religion and the public good, he

ever took an active interest. Regarding it the duty of all to participate in political affairs, he was decided in the expression of his convictions openly and at the ballot box.

Deeply regretting his limited advantages for education in early life, my father improved every opportunity for self-culture until there were few men in business life at that day of more varied and accurate knowledge, and the same cause made him ever an ardent advocate of general education.

For history and poetry my father had a decided taste, and often quoted to his children the fine sentiments of the best authors. For art and nature in its varied forms his love arose to enthusiasm.

In his family and in the training of his children, while a devoted and affectionate father, he seldom permitted his feeling to influence his judgment or control his actions, which at times gave an appearance of severity and puritanical austerity quite contrary to his real nature.

The population of the valley of the St. Lawrence in New York, where he resided until I left home, was almost exclusively of New England origin and retained in a high degree early New England religious principles and views of the Sabbath and family life—opinions now very antiquated, though a comparison of results might prove the change of at least doubtful wisdom.

The Sabbath was regarded as beginning at sunset on Saturday, and ending at the same time on Sunday; hence children were required to suspend all ordinary employments as the sun went down, and be ready for Sabbath school lessons and the catechism; not to know which, including “the reasons annexed,” was regarded as evidence of great perversity or moral obliquity. On Sabbath morning children were marshalled for church service, and a sermon at ten-and-a-half o’clock, followed after an hour by another sermon. After this came a supper often cooked on the previous day, and the doing of necessary chores, when the day of rest ended generally with going to a prayer or conference meeting in the evening.

I well recall that as boys we carefully watched the sun as it disappeared behind the hills, when we considered Holy time



as past for another six days, and regarded the evening service as an infringement upon our just rights for worldly amusement. No riding, visiting, or even walking outside of home grounds was permitted, but an abundance of good books and religious periodicals supplied their place.

“Tempora mutantur.” The liberal Christian of the present day would question whether such exactions in a family would tend to love of the Sabbath, or whether so much spiritual food might not produce moral indigestion terminating in a chronic dyspepsia.

In later life my parents somewhat modified their views on these points, and their younger children were held to less rigid rules. Firm believers in the proverb, “spare the rod and spoil the child,” my father’s practice in his family was much in accord with the theory; but our sainted mother’s more frequent mode of correction was to come to our bedside when we had retired, and after showing us our wrong in the sight of God, kneel down and with flowing tears pray for us with all a mother’s love and devotion. I am quite sure any of us would have much preferred our father’s mode of correction rather than to have seen those tears and heard those prayers.

Parents seemed then, more than now, to feel a personal responsibility to God for the right rearing and destiny of their children; hence it was that the impulses of parental affection were not allowed to control their judgment, or at times to have their just influence, often giving an appearance of cold severity and an absence of parental love, quite the reverse of facts.

In his family, as elsewhere, my father was in business matters systematically exact, and kept an account with each member. At about the age of fifty-five he retired from business with what was at that time a competency, an act he ever after regretted, as with his health and habits he said he was less useful and time passed less pleasantly.

In the life of one spent in a quiet country town there are few incidents of general interest, and I should feel I had already gone quite too much into detail, only that I desire to see presented as clearly as possible the salient traits in the character of a man I know to have been of high principle,

guided all his life by a deep sense of his responsibility to God, and a controlling desire to be useful to his fellow men.

An earnest Christian, he believed and acted upon the belief that the object and end of life was the formation of character and preparation for another life; and that in doing and giving what he could to that end, for his family and fellow beings, he was best serving God. A man of earnest purpose, his motives were more than ordinarily pure and unselfish; of strong convictions, he ever had the courage of them with little regard for personal consequences. Deliberate in his judgments, he adhered to them when formed with much firmness, possibly at times too much, but with all honesty of purpose. A firm believer in the religion he professed and the church of his choice, he was free from bigotry and had a breadth of charity rare in his day for all whom he believed to be seeking to serve God by doing good to man, under whatever dress or colors they marched.

Believing that at least one-tenth of his income belonged to others, he rarely, if ever, was satisfied with giving less; and his benevolences were often quite beyond that amount.

Assured that the general diffusion of education under Christian influences was the only safeguard for the perpetuity of our civil institutions, which he cherished with a loyalty only second to his religion, he gave of his time and means without stint to that end. As the best mode of serving his country and his race, it was long his cherished desire and intention to have personally expended a large share of what he possessed in founding or promoting an institution of learning in the West, where he believed was soon to be the seat and center of the power of our country. His early death prevented this and caused him to leave that work to others under his general directions, specified in his will.

After a long and most painful illness, endured with great fortitude, in full possession of his mental faculties, he died at Detroit, Michigan, while on a visit at the home of his eldest son, in the fullest assurance that he was passing to a life of peace and felicity; and his remains now lie buried beside those

of my mother in the family burying lot at Gouverneur, St. Lawrence County, N. Y., the home of our early life.

LEWIS B. PARSONS, JR.

---

## RECOLLECTIONS OF LEWIS B. PARSONS.

---

BY HIS SON, PHILO PARSONS.

---

Detroit, June, 1882.

Rev. Dr. W. G. Craig, President.

Dear Sir:—In response to your inquiry, I would say that my father, Lewis B. Parsons, appropriated the bulk of a moderate fortune secured by a life of industry and economy, for founding a Christian college under the care of the Presbyterian church and gave much of his thought in the last years of his life to its future.

He was from his earliest years remarkable for great industry, a high sense of honor and strict integrity of purpose.

He accumulated by a clerkship, before the war of 1812, about one thousand dollars; and with that sum of money as a basis commenced the sale of general merchandise in the village of Scipio, Cayuga County, New York, in the year 1812. His business was very prosperous, and he made money rapidly until the embargo was removed which reduced the value of all property from a war to a peace footing, thereby causing his failure, with that of nearly the whole country.

During the years of prosperity the possession of money was the main object of his thoughts and efforts. He often re-

marked to me his unwillingness during those prosperous days to devote any portion of his money to the service of Christ.

His financial misfortunes produced an entire change of sentiment and led to the deep-seated conviction that a Christian man should consecrate not only his personal influence and efforts but also his money to the cause of Christ. And he at once established the principle and habit of conscientiously setting apart one-tenth of his income to the cause of Christian benevolence, which was religiously adhered to during the remainder of his life.

I well remember his teachings to his family on this subject, and the pledge he exacted from me when I left the paternal roof, that I would adopt the same principle, appropriating one-tenth of my income as a sacred fund, to be kept inviolate, and used where it would accomplish most for the Kingdom of Christ.

Many years of clerkship followed his failure. Years of small salary, \$250 to \$400 per annum. Yet from this small sum \$25 to \$40 were given to the treasury of the Lord.

By and by his superior abilities as a merchant gave him a connection in business and moderate means which secured his future success in a small way.

It was a true pleasure to him to give to the cause of Christ. While he hesitated and was cautious in his private expenses, he never hesitated in a glad response to the cause of Christian education or benevolence.

He was a man of rare delicacy of feeling and refinement of nature, and would never permit an indelicate remark or anecdote in his own presence or in the presence of his children.

He had marked peculiarities with reference to the training of his children, feeling that they should be educated to self-dependence and that one thousand dollars was an ample legacy for any of them, given in the form of education or in money when they reached maturity.

So strong was his influence over his children, so thoroughly were they imbued with the conviction that self-dependence was the great secret of success, that they were in full

accord with him on this point, and concurred entirely in the appropriation of his fortune for Christian education in Iowa.

In his last conversation with me on this subject, he expressed the hope that he might live to secure the grounds and aid in laying out and ornamenting them. Yet while he regretted that Providence was evidently ordering that some other agency should be the instrument in carrying out his views, he never for a moment doubted that the money he left would be wisely and loyally appropriated in furthering the great cause he had at heart.

There is much more that I might write in reference to him, but the foregoing will give some idea of his views on Christian benevolence and education.

He predicted the civil war and its cause, and felt that not the South alone, but the whole country was involved in the great wrong of human slavery.

With great respect, I am, dear sir,

Sincerely yours,

PHILO PARSONS.

## RECOLLECTIONS OF LEWIS B. PARSONS.

---

BY HIS PASTOR, REV. DR. JOSEPH R. PAGE.

---

**Forty Years Ago and Subsequently.**

---

In the fall of 1839, while preaching in Plymouth, Chenango County, New York, I received a letter from Lewis B. Parsons, then a leading business man of Perry, Wyoming County, New York, with reference to my taking the pastoral charge of the Presbyterian Church in that stirring village.

That letter gave me quite an insight into the character of the writer. His sanguine temperament appeared in every line, as also his earnest desire for the prosperity of the church, and his interest in the cause of Christ.

I was very young, just twenty-two, and he wanted me to understand that I was invited to a very responsible position, which would demand my best efforts, continually put forth; at the same time I was not to expect a large salary. Four hundred dollars was the most that could be promised in the present condition of the society, but as theirs was the leading congregation of the village its certain growth would doubtless soon enable them to increase it.

The qualities which make a successful business man were among his most striking characteristics. He had a quick, clear mind, an excellent judgment of men and things, upon which he could, and did, intelligently rely; rarely made a mistake in his purchases, either in quality, price or adaptation to the market; a superior salesman, attentive, courteous, pleasing.

prompt to meet his engagements, and equally so to bring others to time. Whatever he did, was done with all his might.

There was not an indolent fiber in his frame. Indeed, his nervous energy was quite apt to carry him beyond his physical strength. He had great powers of endurance, or there were times when he would utterly have broken down under the strain from excessive labor.

Doubtless this was in a great measure owing to the state of his health, affecting his nervous system. Long as I knew him, he was at no time rugged. Once, by the advice of his family physician, and in accordance with his own desire, he left home in the fall to spend the winter in Texas, journeying from place to place on horse-back.

When he left it was a matter of great doubt whether he would ever return, and the spirit and speech with which he parted from his family and friends afforded them the strongest assurance that, if he did not, he would find heaven as near and accessible in the wilds of Texas as he could from the circle of his loved ones at home.

In the spring he came back greatly benefited by his outdoor exercise in the genial climate.

Like the apostle Peter, he was a natural leader among his associates.

I went to Perry a Congregationalist, and desired to remain a member of the Association. There was no way by which I could be installed pastor but by uniting with the Presbytery, as that body declined to grant the request of the church to "permit and sanction" my installation by a council. This brought the subject before the Church, contrary to the wish of Mr. Parsons, for the expression of their desire as to the course to be pursued. Most of the members preferred to be connected with the Association themselves, and were ready to act accordingly.

Mr. Parsons, almost alone in his opinion, though I concurred in it, thought it would be unwise for the church to change its policy and relations. After a free discussion, he proposed that instead of electing elders for an indefinite time, the term principle be adopted, and that the pastor-elect be re-

quired to unite with the Presbytery. This harmonized all minds, and brought deliverance from what threatened to be a serious evil.

This was forty years ago, and that practice has been of decided advantage to the church, as it has since steadily adhered to it with increasing satisfaction.

Mr. Parsons was an earnest, active Christian, a lover of the prayer meeting, uniformly present, and always ready to take part in the exercises. Gifted both in prayer and speech; he was as interested and efficient a Trustee of the Society as he was a ruling elder of the Church; an invaluable official alike to administer the temporal affairs of the one as the spiritual concerns of the other. Just before he came to Perry the Society had built a handsome brick church, for which they were three thousand dollars in debt. This was a greater burden than they could carry and meet current expenses. It was exceedingly doubtful whether they could lift the debt. If they failed, another Society were anxious to secure the property.

Chiefly by the tact and energy of Mr. Parsons they were preserved from destruction. The time came when he declined to serve longer as a Trustee. It also came a few years afterward, when I went to him with the earnest request that he would consent to be again elected to the office, not to become active in its duties as he had been, but because in my view it was exceedingly doubtful whether the Society would be able to sustain itself, and if it did not, it was all important to have him upon the Board of Trust, for he could be confided in beyond any other person to save the Presbyterian Church at large, the property for which there would be no further use in that village.

He had the subject in consideration until our next interview, when he said to me that he regarded the prospects of the Society for the future as I did, but that he could not consent to serve.

I relate this incident to show the confidence he inspired in his fidelity to all denominational interests. He was a Presbyterian, as intelligent as he was decided, of the new



school type, blending orthodoxy with liberality, a sound, pronounced Calvinist, equally free from bigotry and indifference, as far from a dead formalism as from fanaticism, not satisfied with an observance of the ordinances of the Gospel unless they were accompanied with the power of the Holy Ghost. He greatly prized genuine revivals, but had no sympathy with questionable methods to secure and promote them, or with a class of evangelists who employed such methods. He had a large share of good sense which held in check a strong, natural tendency to go too far and too fast in a progressive direction. He could hardly be classed with conservatives in Church or State. He was not a Radical. He combined the excellence of both. When cotton was King he was an anti-slavery man, but not an abolitionist, technically so called.

Before whisky had been banished from religious assemblies he practiced and advocated total abstinence.

Appreciating the value of education, he was a warm friend of the public school system of the State, as well as of the higher institutions of learning. He was a man of strong convictions and marked, positive character. It was not necessary for him to be supported by public opinion to take a position on any question, especially any moral one, and openly and fearlessly maintain it. None could doubt his deep interest in the cause of Christ, and his earnest desire for its extension to the very ends of the earth, which he believed would be the case at no very distant day. He was even more interested in Foreign Missions than in Home. This was the first of Church causes with him and received his most generous contributions. This was before he was so much interested in the great West as he afterwards became. Upon one occasion Rev. Dr. F. E. Cannon, so long the efficient agent of the American Board upon this field, visited Perry by his invitation to present the cause. He made his home in the family of Mr. Parsons for several days, and I happened to call upon him the last day of his sojourn.

Just as his host had left the house, Mr. Cannon had a roll of bank bills in his hand, which he proceeded to count, re-

marking that they had been handed to him by Mr. Parsons as his extra contribution to supplement the Church collection. He was quite surprised to find one of the ten dollar bills with a strip of paper pinned upon the back of it upon which was written: "For Mr. Cannon." Mr. Parsons was a firm believer in the Christian duty of paying tithes unto the Lord. He commenced the practice at a very early period in life, and kept it up as long as I knew him, and I have no doubt to the day of his death.

How many years Mr. Parsons remained in Perry, before removing to Buffalo, I am unable to say, nor did I see much of him after the change in his residence. I only know that his interest in the cause of religion and education continued undiminished, that he became greatly interested in the establishment of a new Church in the growing section of the city of Buffalo where he lived, and I think zealously co-operated with Mr. Ketchum in calling into existence and nurturing the infancy of what has since become one of the strongest and best churches in that city, that of Westminister.

I will add in conclusion, that Mrs. Parsons was a "Mother in Israel," universally looked up to by the women of the congregation, with all deference and affection, as a model in all the relations of life, and of all the Christian graces, and that the family was esteemed as second to none other in the place for culture and promise.

JOSEPH R. PAGE.

Brighton, New York, December 1st, 1879.

## EXTRACTS FROM THE WILL OF LEWIS B. PARSONS, SENIOR.

---

Executed Dec. 5, 1855, and proved in the County Court  
of Lee County, Iowa.

---

In the name of God, amen: I, Lewis B. Parsons, of the State of Iowa, considering the uncertainty of life and being of sound mind and memory (blessed be God for the same), do make, ordain and publish this my last will and testament.

First, I appoint my beloved sons, Lewis B., Jr., Charles and George, and the survivors or survivor of them, executors of this my last will and testament. \* \* \*

Fourth, Having long been of the opinion that for the usefulness, prosperity and happiness of children, a good moral and intellectual or business education with moderate means was far better than large inherited wealth, I therefore herein dispose of my estate mainly to such benevolent objects and enterprises as I think will conduce to the greatest good, earnestly requesting that all my children after giving to their children a good education with habits of honesty, industry, economy and liberality, will follow my example in the disposition of the property God may give them. \* \* \*

Item 7th. Having long been convinced that the future welfare of our country, the permanence of its institutions, the progress of our divine religion and an enlightened Christianity greatly depend upon the general diffusion of education under correct moral and religious influences and having during my lifetime used to some small extent the means given me by my

Creator in accordance with these convictions and, being desirous of still advancing objects so worthy as far as in my power lies, I do therefore, after the payment of the foregoing bequests and the reasonable expenses of administration, give and bequeath the residue of my estate together with my Natural History of New York and my small cabinet of minerals to my said executors and the survivors or survivor of them in trust to be by them used and expended in founding and endowing an institution of learning in the State of Iowa or to be expended, if it shall be deemed best by my said executors, in aiding and endowing an institution which may have been already established; and while I would not desire said institution to be strictly sectarian in its character, yet believing its best interests require it should be under the control of some religious denomination, I therefore direct it shall be under the supervision of trustees, Presbytery, or Synod connected with that branch of the Presbyterian Church distinguished as the New School or Constitutional General Assembly of said Church until such time (which I trust may speedily come) when a union of the two branches of said Church shall be honorably accomplished, then to be under the care of said united Church.

The adoption or location of the institution with the general regulations and proper restrictions to be connected therewith, I confide to the sound discretion of my executors with the full assurance that as they know my general views and sentiments, they will take pleasure when my spirit shall have departed hence and my memory alone remains with them in using their best endeavors to carry out my wishes and make most effectual and useful this bequest.

I desire that the institution be selected or located and the expenditure commenced as early as consistent, and unless for very special reasons not to be delayed beyond the period of five years after my decease, the entire fund to be invested as soon thereafter as the same can be made most available.

Should my executors, however, at any time deem it best for the cause of Christianity that a portion of the above residuary legacy not exceeding six-sixteenths (6-16) of the same





George Perkins.

should be given in equal shares to the American Tract and Bible Societies, both established in the city of New York, they are authorized to give a sum not exceeding such amount to said societies.

Signed, sealed, published and delivered as the last will and testament of Lewis B. Parsons in presence of us the subscribing witnesses and witnessed by us in the presence of each other and of the testator this 5th day of December, A. D. 1855.

LEWIS B. PARSONS (L. S.)

Edward Lauderdale,

Waldo M. Johnson, of Detroit.

Extracts from Deed of Executors of Lewis B. Parsons, Senior,  
To Parsons' College.

This deed, made this sixteenth day of February, in the year Eighteen Hundred and Seventy-five, between Lewis B. Parsons, Charles Parsons and George Parsons, executors of the last will and testament of Lewis B. Parsons, Senior, deceased, parties of the first part, and "Parsons' College," a corporation created under the laws of the State of Iowa and located in the city of Fairfield, County of Jefferson, and State of Iowa, party of the second part, witnesseth that the said parties of the first part in pursuance of the will of their father, the said Lewis B. Parsons, Senior, have transferred, remised, released and quit claim to the said party of the second part and its assigns forever all the following pieces or parcels of land lying and being in the said State of Iowa.

\* \* \* \* \*

To have and to hold the above described premises to the said party of the second part, and its assigns, to their use and behoof forever, subject, however, to the following trusts and conditions, and for the following purposes, to-wit: That all moneys received hereunder, by sale of land or otherwise, shall be invested in good interest-paying securities, or income-paying real estate, the annual income from which is to be expended by said College in the payment of salaries to its professors, officers or agents, and for no other purpose, and further conditioned that in case the principal sum realized from

this conveyance shall at any time be diminished by losses, then one-half of the annual income derived from said fund shall thereafter be appropriated to making good said losses until the principal sum is restored—the other half of the annual income being during such time subject to expenditure for salaries as aforesaid. And, further conditioned, that the said party of the second part shall annually make a detailed report of the condition of said fund, as also of the annual expenditure of the income derived therefrom to one of the parties of the first part during their lives or the life of either of them, and after their death to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America: Also conditioned, that in case said institution should at any time cease to be under Presbyterian control as specified in said will, or should any of the limitations or conditions herein made be disregarded, then it shall be the right of said parties of the first part, or the survivors or survivor of them, or after their death the right of the said General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of the United States, to take exclusive possession of said fund and confer the same upon any other institution coming within the provisions of the will of the said Lewis B. Parsons, Senior.







*Philip Harris*

# TRIBUTE BY JOSEPH L. DANIELS

OF

OLIVET COLLEGE, MICHIGAN,

TO

PHILO PARSONS.

---

Mr. Philo Parsons was born at Scipio, N. Y., February 6th, 1817. He was the second in a family of ten children. His father, Lewis Baldwin Parsons, was born at Williamstown, Massachusetts, April 30th, 1793, and died at Detroit, Michigan, December 21st, 1855. He was a man of rare native gifts, uncommon energy and force of character, independent and positive in his religious belief, yet catholic and tolerant toward all. His whole life was one of systematic benevolence and he left most of his property for the founding of Parsons' College at Fairfield, Iowa.

He was married November 10, 1814, to Miss Lucina Hoar, a member of the famous Hoar family which migrated to this country in 1640 and located at Concord, Massachusetts. She was born at Brimfield, Massachusetts, October 31st, 1790, and died at Gouverneur, New York, October 3d, 1873. Mrs. Parsons was a woman of even temperament and self-poise, a devoted mother, an intelligent and earnest Christian, maintaining a lively interest in affairs of church and state, even to the advanced age of 83 years. Her pastor, Reverend Joseph R. Page, describes her as a "Mother in Israel, and a model in all the relations of life and of all the Christian graces."

From such an ancestry with a record traceable back to the founders of Massachusetts was Mr. Philo Parsons descended. His early years were spent in Gouveneur, Homer and Perry, New York. At the latter place he entered into business with his father under the firm name of L. B. Parsons & Son. And he also married there in 1843 Miss Ann Eliza Barnum. Their long and happy married life was terminated in 1893 by the death of Mrs. Parsons, Mr. Parsons following her three years later, dying at Winchenden, Massachusetts, January 20, 1896. Eight children were born to them, of whom seven survived their parents. In 1844, Mr. Parsons removed to Detroit, Mich., and entered upon the grocery business under the firm name of Parsons & James. A few years later he established a private bank. In 1861, when the Government created the National banking system as an aid in carrying on the war, Mr. Parsons was the leader in organizing the First National Bank of Detroit, and was its first president and for many years one of its directors. He did much to promote the commercial prosperity of Detroit. He entered heartily into the project for bringing the Wabash Railroad into the city, was an active member of the Board of Trade, and for a time its President. For many years he represented his own city in the National Board of Trade and was honored repeatedly as one of its Vice-Presidents. His discussions in these National Conventions show a wealth of information, a candor and breadth of view and a discrimination akin to prophesy. He was an ardent lover of his own city and State, and yet on one occasion explained his vote, apparently against their interests as "for the greatest good of the greatest number."

Mr. Parsons was active in the municipal affairs of Detroit, and for a time was a member of its council. The State, too, more than once conferred upon him honors and trusts; notably as Commissioner to the Yorktown Centennial, and as chairman of the Commission to secure the statue of General Lewis Cass to be placed in the Capitol at Washington. He brought to this work all the enthusiasm of a lifelong friendship and a patriotic pride for the honor of his beloved State. The statue, almost vocal with life, crowned his many months

of toil and effort, and was one of the joys of his life. He honored himself in honoring the State.

Yet political offices and honors he did not seek. He even declined to consider them when they merely appealed to his personal ambition. Too much Puritanic and Revolutionary blood flowed in his veins to ever regard public offices as anything but a sacred trust, a patriotic service. Mr. Parsons had a lively interest in agriculture, was an active member of the State Agricultural Society of Michigan and served most acceptably as its President. He was an enthusiast in horticulture and fruit culture, and found relaxation and pleasure in personal work in his own garden, one of the finest in Detroit. He was a royal entertainer and was never happier than when sharing the hospitality of his elegant home with his friends.

His benevolence was a matter of principle. He took special delight in aiding young men who were preparing for the work of the Christian ministry. He was one of the largest and most systematic givers to the cause of missions. He was an enthusiastic believer in education.

While several institutions were looking with eager eyes toward the Ram Library at Heidelberg, Mr. Parsons bought and donated it in its entirety to the Michigan State University. In keeping with his father's spirit, he was especially devoted to the Christian College. He early became interested in Olivet College, Michigan. For thirty-six years he was a member of its Board of Trustees. He built his name into the history and even the very walls of the College. Parsons Hall and the Parsons Professorship are honored words to-day. Not only his munificent gifts, but his wise counsels and his lifelong devotion to the work at Olivet are gratefully remembered. And no less were these deeds of benevolence a grateful remembrance to Mr. Parsons himself. They were his glory and joy in his later years of illness. He found a rich reward in the satisfaction of building himself into institutions of education and religion. Olivet College grew dearer to him. His home church, the First Congregational Church of Detroit, grew dearer. His beloved pastor and his intimate friends at Olivet received frequent letters full of gratitude and joy for what he

had been permitted to do, and full of trust and hope in prospect of a blessed immortality. In this spirit, he entered into rest. His death was literally a sleep. He slept on earth to awake in Heaven.

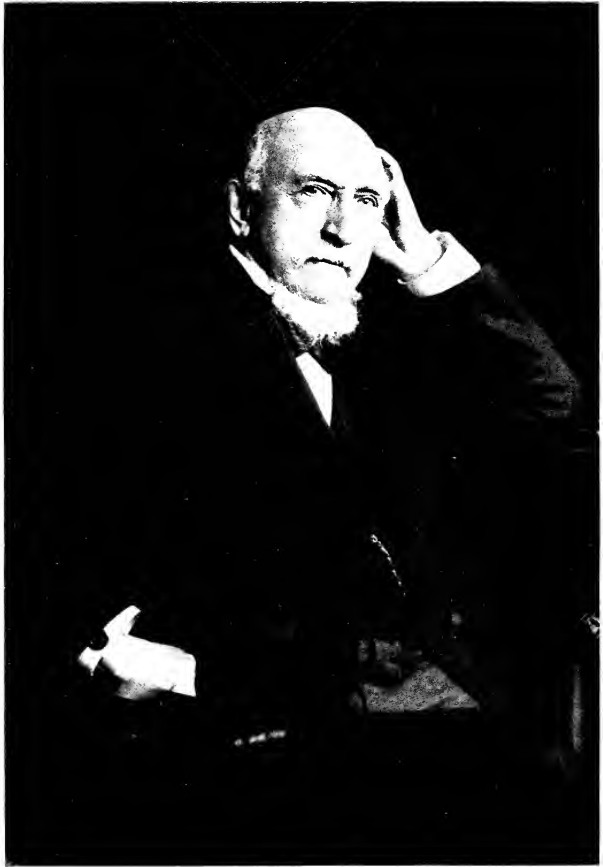
---

## DIED.

IN ST. LOUIS, ON THE 9th OF APRIL, MR. LEVI PARSONS,  
AGED 24 YEARS.

Mr. Parsons was born in Homer, Cortland County, New York, in 1826. He removed to St. Louis in 1846, where he engaged in commercial pursuits in connection with one of the first business houses, with which he continued until his death. His worldly career was remarkably successful. Yet the pleasure derived to his friends from this source is meagre consolation indeed, compared with that which is afforded by the belief that in surrendering a career on earth which the world would regard as desirable, he has entered upon one which the eye of faith discerns as far more glorious, in heaven. Mr. Parsons was early led by a proper estimate of the things of time, to place his hopes in Christ, and look to eternity as his future home. Since his conversion and connection with the Presbyterian Church in 1839, he has ever sustained a Christian life and character upon which friends dwell with the most pleasing recollections. Based upon principle, his religion became a part of his daily life. It entered into all of his business transactions, regulated his intercourse with his fellow men and showed that though "diligent in business" he was ever "fervent in spirit, serving the Lord." One of the originators of





*Charles Parsons*



the church with which he was last connected, and an active officer in it, there is perhaps no one to whom it is more indebted for the success which has so far blessed its efforts and caused it to give omen of such eminent future usefulness. While, however, his friends and the church so deeply deplore his early death, they can but rejoice at the cheering evidence afforded during his protracted and painful illness of his being at peace with God, and that his hopes in Christ were unshaken.

W. H.

St. Louis.

---

From the Encyclopedic History of St. Louis.

## COL. CHARLES PARSONS,

PRESIDENT OF THE STATE NATIONAL BANK OF ST. LOUIS.

Col. Charles Parsons was born at Homer, Cortland County, New York, January 24th, 1824. He was the third son of Lewis B. and Lucina (Hoar) Parsons. His father was the son of Capt. Charles Parsons, an officer of the Revolutionary War, who served for over seven years from Ticonderoga, Valley Forge and Monmouth (where he was severely wounded) to Yorktown. Col. Parsons is the sixth in descent from Cornet Joseph Parsons, who emigrated from England to Boston in 1636, who was one of the party whose names are on the Deed of Cession from the Indians in that year, of the land in and about Springfield, Mass., and who was also one of the purchasers from the Indians of the present sites of Northampton and Northfield, Massachusetts, and the land adjacent.

For a quarter of a century Cornet Joseph was the leading and wealthiest citizen of Northampton, as also of the entire Connecticut Valley, with the exception, perhaps, of William Pyncheon, the original grantee from the crown.

Col. Parsons' father was one of the early settlers of Gouverneur, St. Lawrence County, New York, a successful merchant and prominent citizen, much interested in public affairs and especially so in the cause of education, for the advancement of which he left a large share of his estate towards the founding of "Parsons College," a flourishing institution in the State of Iowa.

Col. Parsons' mother was Lucina Hoar, the seventh in descent from Charles Hoar, sheriff of the "Cittie of Gloster," England, whose widow, Joanna Hoar, emigrated with her children to Massachusetts, about 1640, and settled in Concord and the vicinity. Col. Parsons received an academical education at Gouverneur and Homer, New York. After spending several years as a clerk in his father's store—in a bank and as a partner in a commercial house in Buffalo, N. Y., he removed to Keokuk, Iowa, in 1851, where he established and continued for years a successful banking business. On the breaking out of the Rebellion he volunteered, was made Captain and because of his superior business abilities was placed in charge of Army Rail and River Transportation at St. Louis, a position which he filled with such eminent success that he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Near the close of the war he was made cashier of the State Savings Association, now the State National Bank of St. Louis, of which he was elected President in 1870, making his entire term of service in the bank to the present time 35 years. The success of his administration is most conclusively and concisely shown by the fact that for all these years the bank has never failed to make a dividend of at least 5 per cent. semi-annually, and for the last 23 years has made one of 8 per cent. semi-annually, and has in addition accumulated during these 35 years a surplus of more than \$1,100,000.

While amassing a reasonable fortune in his long and ac-

tive business life, Col. Parsons has disbursed of his income with liberality and a most catholic spirit, by aiding charitable, religious and educational institutions, at times in large sums. Col. Parsons' remarkable success has resulted not more from a natural taste for banking than from his thorough study, accurate knowledge and comprehensive views of the principles governing commercial and financial affairs, combined with the liberal spirit with which he ever meets and treats private and public interests. The high esteem in which he has been held in financial circles is shown by the fact that for 22 years he was annually elected President of the St. Louis Clearing House, was for some years President of the American Bankers' Association, was selected to preside over the World's Congress of Bankers and Financiers at the Chicago Exposition in 1893, and that his name has been often mentioned as a suitable candidate for Secretary of the Treasury and would, it is believed, have been pressed but for Colonel Parsons' own opposition thereto. In 1892, when there was much public excitement in regard to city finances, owing to a large defalcation, Colonel Parsons consented at the solicitude of many prominent citizens, regardless of party, to accept temporarily the position of City Treasurer, which office he resigned as soon as full investigation could be made, the books put in proper condition and a new treasurer elected. Colonel Parsons has been and still is President and Director in many railroads and other public or charitable institutions, taking an active part and impressing his own personality thereon. There are few men who are more consulted or whose opinions upon public and financial questions are held in as high esteem. Nor is Colonel Parsons merely a business man. Possessing by nature a refined taste, he has during his active life gathered one of the most valuable collections of paintings and other works of art in our country, obtained during repeated visits to Europe and in a trip around the world, made in 1894-5, a very interesting account of which last trip was published in a volume for private circulation, showing close and accurate observation of men and affairs.

In politics, Colonel Parsons has been a strong Republican,

occupying a prominent position in party councils and contributing liberally for the success thereof. He is also a member of the societies of the Grand Army of the Republic, the Loyal Legion and the Army of the Tennessee.

Colonel Parsons was married in 1857 to Miss Martha Pettus, a member of one of the old, well-known families of St. Louis. She died in 1889, leaving no children.

## LEWIS GREEN PARSONS.

---

Son of Lewis B. Parsons, Second.

Born at St. Louis, Mo., Aug. 2, 1848, Yale University, 1872.

Died at Denver, Colorado, January 29, 1875.

---

“The class of 1872 is not so long out of college that its members are entirely forgotten by students of to-day. Many of the readers of the Record will remember the man whose name has just been written and whose recent death has caused deep sorrowing among a wide circle of friends. After graduating in July, 1872, Mr. Parsons was for a time in business in St. Paul, Minn., having fixed his residence mainly in order to be near a sister in ill health. Upon the death of his sister he went to St. Louis, his home, and accepted a position in a bank, with the intention of making that his permanent business. But his health soon began to fail, and signs of consumption appeared. The physician required his removal from a climate so unfavorable as that of St. Louis, and he went at once to southern California. He remained there for several months, but the climate did not prove as helpful as was hoped, and the accommodations for those in feeble health were imperfect. So a change to Colorado was made. There were at times reasons to hope for permanent improvement, but as ever in consumption, they proved deceptive. On Christmas day he was out for his last drive, and from that time he failed rapidly until his death, January 29th. He died at Denver, Colorado, and the funeral took place at St. Louis, February 3d.

The death of Mr. Parsons falls with special suddenness and sadness upon his friends, because while in college there was nothing to indicate failing health. He was strong and active in all athletic sports, especially in boating. He rowed

in several races at Saltonstall and was for a time on the University crew. In Senior year he was the president of the boat club, and few knew how earnestly he worked and against what discouragements in that office at a time when boating had by no means the place which it has occupied of late. Early in the college course he became engaged in those matters which, because of our society system and kindred things, make up a large part of student life. Into everything which he undertook he carried great zeal and determination. A kind heart and thorough honesty gave him the confidence of his fellows in a marked degree. Although so active, he was always considerate of the wishes and feelings of others. There was no disposition to build himself up through the injury of associates. He was in thorough sympathy with the special features of our student life, but he was ever found upon the side of truth and purity. There was with him no blind support of college customs, for his action was guided by Christian principles. Prominent as he was in his class and true as he was to his convictions, he won and kept the respect of all his fellows. It is doubtful if there is a member of the class whose death will be more universally regretted. Perhaps no one will be thought of more kindly and affectionately. His character gained its strength and symmetry from the fact that he was a Christian man. It was this which made his life so true; it is this which makes his memory so blessed now that he is gone.

He lived a pure, manly life. He was true to his friends, faithful to his convictions. He had won an abiding place in the affection of those who knew him best. His memory will be cherished in many hearts while life lasts. It did not seem that his work could be done, and yet he had lived long enough to show how a man can pass through college keeping his life clean and above reproach. He did not die before he had shown us how a man in all the strength and hope of youth, with everything to make life dear to him, can face death patiently, bravely, with childlike faith in the goodness and mercy of his God."

Extract from the Yale Record of Feb. 4th, 1875, by Rev. E. S. Lines.

From response to toast, "The Class Dead," at the triennial meeting of the Class of '72, by A. R. Merriam :

"Another name is on every lip—of one whose manliness gave him an acknowledged leadership; whose courage in expressing his views of right was tempered by a generosity and fairness which won our confidence; whose integrity was such that we might say of him as was said of another of Yale's sons: 'There goes a man who never did anything to injure his body or his soul.'"

COPY OF THE WILL OF JOSEPH PARSONS,  
“ESQUIRE.”

I, Joseph Parsons of Northampton in the County of Hampshire within the Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England, being at present through the goodness of God of sound mind and memory and yet through age and many infirmities and not knowing how soon the day of my death may come and accounting it my duty to set my house in order before I die do by these presents appoint, dispose and confirm this writing to be my last will and testament as followeth, etc.

Impr. I give and bequeath to God my whole man body and soul that made it, believing and trusting in the merits and mediation of Christ to be absolved and found righteous in Him and not by any righteousness of my own, believing and trusting that I shall be accepted in Him and my soul with my body shall be united to live with Christ forever and as to my body I recommend it to my executors to inter it with a comely and Christian burial trusting and believing a blessed resurrection and to live in glory with God for ever and ever.

Itm. I order and appoint that all my just debts or dues to any or all persons whatsoever so soon as my executors hereafter named shall make just payment of the same.

It. I give and bequeath unto my son Joseph Parsons, Junr., all my expense towards his learning which I value at 100£ and forty.

It. I give and bequeath to my son David Parsons all my expenses towards his learning which I value at 100£.

It. I give and bequeath to my son John Parsons one home lot he hath built on at 12£ one-quarter part of my right



in Pascomuck Meadow which he hath a deed of at 25 £ two acres he improves in Green Swamp at 10 £, about one acre and a half in old Rainbow at 24 £ also two acres and Aqe. Dickinson's lot which he hath a deed of it 20 £ towards building his house at nine pounds all which to be to him and his heirs forever etc. at 100 £, total of the aforesaid sums.

It. To my son Ebenezer Parsons I give and bequeath the one half of wood wards lot at the Mill pasture at 25 £, one quarter of my Pascomuk lot in both meadow and swamp and swamp at 25 £, 2 acres or thereabouts in the Drain Swamp at 10 £, 21 acres of land or thereabouts in the Walmet division at 20 £, one acre and 3 quarters of land in old Rainbow 24 £ to a horse and moveables at 6 £ one third part of the corn mill & saw mill a remainder of 10 £ to be to him and his heirs forever in the whole 120 £.

It. I give and bequeath to my son Josias Parsons 2 acres of land in Hoggshladder at 12 £ one acre and a half in Old Rainbow at 24 £ one quarter part of my right in Passcomuk meadow at 25 £ two acres at the drain Swamp at 10 £ about two acres at the Walnut tree division 20 £ in moveable goods 9 £ one hundred pounds in all to be to him and his heirs forever.

It. To my son Daniel Parsons in money I gave him to purchase Capt. John Parsons part of the home lot at Springfield at 40 £ also one half part of my 3rd part of the homelot and meadow at Springfield, excepting any part of said alotment I bought of my brother Samuel at 40 £, one quarter part of the Town Saw Mill at 12 £, in moveables at 8 £, to a half saw mill where the Iron Works stood at 6 £, in all one hundred and six pounds to be to him and his heirs forever, &c.

It. To my son Moses Parsons all my rights of lands at Durram at eighty pounds. In moveable estate at 20 £, in all one hundred pounds to be to him and his heirs forever, &c.

It. I give and bequeath to my son Noah Parsons, one quarter part of my right in Passcomuck meadow at 25 £ one

acre and a half out of Lee's lot in old Rainbow at 24£ about 2 acres in the Drain Swamp at 10£ about 2 acres of land at the Walnut tree division at Blisses lot at 20£ to one-half my lot in Pyncheon's meadow at 12£, in moveable goods nine pounds, all at 100£ to be to him and his heirs forever.

It. I give and bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth Strong thirty pounds, which she hath already received.

It. I give and bequeath to my daughter Abigail Clark thirty pounds which she hath already received.

It. All the rest of my estate in houseing lands and moveable goods of what kind soever to be for the maintenance as of myself while I live so to my wife after my decease as long as she lives or remains my widow.

It. After my decease and the decease of my wife all debts and funeral charges being discharged and paid all the estate that then remains shall be disposed as followeth to Elizabeth Strong 70£ and to Abigail Clark 70£ to be paid to the two daughters aforesaid, and of the moveable goods and all the rest of the estate to be equally divided both real and personal to all my sons aforesaid, with this proviso, that those of my sons that have over and above one hundred pounds in the aforesaid gifts, it shall come in the division aforesaid and be accounted as so much of their shares as also after mine and my wife's decease, of the aforesaid divideable estate aforesaid Noah Parsons my son shall have the houseing and homestead that we now live in the lot on both sides the brook or little Run or Gutter to be accounted at 120£ and to be regulated in his share with the rest of his brethren at two hund pnd.

It. I ordain, constitute and appoint my loving sons John Parsons and Ebenezer Parsons to be joint executors of this my last will and testament annulling and making void and of no effect all former or other wills or testaments by me made or pretended to be made and this and this only to be accounted to all intents and purposes to be my last will and testament and no other. In confirmation of which I have hereunto sett my

hand and seal this I give to my grandson John Parsons, Junr., thirty pounds in or as money.

JOSEPH PARSONS,  
And a Seal.

Signed, sealed & delivered in the presence and witnesses  
of,

PRESERVED CLAPP,  
SAMUEL ALLIN,  
JONATHAN STRONG.

Hampshire, ss. At a Court of Probate holden at Northampton in the County of Hampshire by John Stoddard Esqr. Judge of the Probate of and granting administration &c. in said County this will being presented by the executors herein named and Preserved Clapp Samuel Allin and Jonathan Strong, all personally appeared before me the said John Stoddard and made oath that they saw Joseph Parsons Esqr. Sign and Seal and also heard him declare this to be his last will and testament and that the said testator was then of sound mind and that they all signed as witnesses in the testator's presence and that it was some time the latter end of last summer, wherefore I allow, approve and confirm this as the last will and testament of the said deceased.

Northampton, December 9th, 1729.

JOHN STODDARD.

## COPY OF THE WILL OF DANIEL PARSONS.

DEC. 2, 1772.

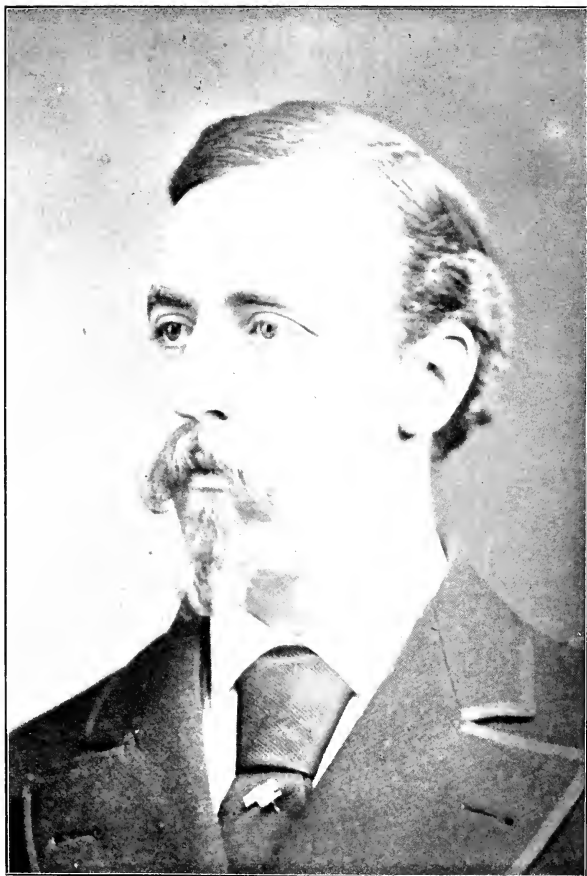
---

In the name of God, Amen. I, Daniel Parsons of Springfield in the County of Hampshire and Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, Yeoman, do make this my last Will and Testament as followeth :

Imprimis. I will, order and direct that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid by my son Abner Parsons and my two Grandsons Daniel Parsons Junr. and Gideon Parsons out of such part of my estate as I have hereinafter given to them that is to say that the one half of my debts and funeral charges be paid by my son Abner aforesaid and the other half of my said debts and funeral expenses be paid by my said Grandsons aforesaid, Viz: Gideon and Daniel in equal parts.

Item. I give and devise to my beloved son Aaron Parsons and his heirs my scheme lot lying on sixteen acre plain in Springfield containing about one hundred and fifty acres, also my meadow called four mile Pond meadow containing about eight acres to have and to hold the same to him my son Aaron and his heirs forever.

Item. I give and devise to my beloved son Abner Parsons and his heirs my dwelling house and the northerly part of my homelot adjoining bounded Northerly on Col. Worthingtons Land Westerly on Connecticut River, Southerly, partly on a line dividing my said homelot in two equal parts and partly on my garden fence and wood yard fence south of my house being the one Moiety of my said homelot and also all



LEWIS GREEN PARSONS.

Son of Lewis B. Parsons, Second. Born Aug. 3d, 1848. Yale University, 1872.  
Died January 29th, 1875.



that other part thereof which is included within my garden and wood yard and the fence aforesaid, I also give and devise to my said son Abner and his heirs the northerly moiety of my meadow land on the east side of the street opposite to my dwelling house also the northerly moiety of my lot of land in the Plainfield. Also a part of my Lot and land on the west side of Connecticut river at Farm meadow that is to say the whole of the same be it more or less except eight acres on the northerly side thereof which I have hereinafter given to my Grandsons Daniel and Gideon. I also give and devise to my said son Abner and his heirs the southerly moiety of my Lot of land at Glovers Pond being a scheme lot containing about seventy acres in ye whole, also the southerly moiety of my lot and land at dirty Gutter which formerly belonged to my late father Joseph Parsons deceased and contains in the whole about one hundred acres. Also my Corn Mill on Chicopee River with the land and stream thereto belonging and priviledges appertaining also two ten-acre lots of land lying adjoining together at the northerly part of the first Parish in Springfield and bounded partly on land late of Josiah Dwight Esqr. deceased. Also my tract of land of about forty acres originally granted to my said father lying on the west side of Connecticut River and bounding Westerly on the Township of Westfield all which pieces of land lie in Springfield aforesaid to have and to hold all and singular the said given and granted premises to him my said son Abner Parsons his heirs and assigns forever, subject nevertheless to and chargeable with the payment of the one moiety of my debts and funeral charges and the sum of fourteen pounds lawful money to my daughter Miriam and one other sum of fourteen pounds to my daughter Eunice hereinafter mentioned. I also give and bequeath to my said son Abner his executors and administrators forever all my neet cattle, horses, swine and sheep, all my household furniture, husbandry tools and the whole of my personal estate.

Item. I give and devise unto my two beloved Grandsons Gideon Parsons and Daniel Parsons Junr. children of my late son Daniel Parsons deceased, and their heirs the dwelling

house they now dwell in and the southerly part of my homelot adjoining bounded southerly on the Ministry Lot Westerly on Connecticut River, Northerly partly by a line dividing my said homelot in two equal parts and partly by my garden fence and wood yard fence south of my dwelling house and easterly on the street partly and partly on my garden fence and easterly on moiety of said homelot excepting such part thereof as it is contained in my garden and wood yard before given to my son Abner. Also the southerly moiety of my said meadow and land on the east side of the street and opposite to the said homelot. Also the northerly moiety of my said land at dirty Gutter, Also the northerly moiety of my said land at Glovers Pond. Also the southerly moiety of my said lot of land in the Plainfield. Also part of my said lot of land at Farm meadow, Viz: Eight acres of the same on the northerly side thereof, To have and to hold all and singular the said granted premises to them the said Daniel and Gideon and their heirs and assigns forever, equally to be divided between them q. d. the one moiety thereof to the said Daniel and his heirs and the one other moiety thereof to the said Gideon and his heirs, they, the said Gideon and Daniel paying the one moiety of my debts and funeral charges and also paying to my daughter Abigail fourteen pounds and to my Granddaughter Esther Parsons five shillings to the payment of which said debts funeral charges and legacys last aforementioned the said devised premises are hereby subjected and made charged and chargeable.

Item. I give unto my beloved daughters Miriam wife of James Warriner, and Eunice wife of Abel Hancock the sum of fourteen pounds lawful each that is to say each of them fourteen pounds to be paid to them respectively in two years after my decease by my son Abner.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved daughter Abigail wife of Benjamin Horton fourteen pounds and to my said Granddaughter Esther Parsons five shillings to be paid to them respectively within two years after my decease by my said Grandsons Daniel and Gideon out of such part of my estate as I have herein given to them and have before ordered,



and all the rest and residue of my estate real and personal whatsoever or wheresoever I give, bequeath and devise the same to my son Abner his heirs and assigns forever.

And I do make, constitute and appoint my sons Aaron Parsons and Abner Parsons executors of this my last will and testament and hereby revoke and annul all other former wills and testaments, legacys and devises by me at any time made or given and Publish and declare this to be my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand and seal this twenty-sixth day of December in the thirteenth year of his Majestys Reign one thousand seven hundred and seventy two.

DANIEL PARSONS. [Seal.]

Signed, sealed published and declared by the said Daniel Parsons as and for his last will and testament in presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses thereto in presence of the testator and each other.

LUKE BLISS,  
JOHN MUN,  
JONATHAN BLISS.

N. B.—The words “partly” & partly on my garden fence” were interlined before signing.

At a Court of Probate for wills &c. holden at Hatfield within and for the County of Hampshire on the first Tuesday in March, being the first day of said month Anno Dom. One thousand seven hundred and seventy four &c. Israel Williams Esq. Judge said Court the foregoing will was represented by Abner Parsons one of the executors therein named as the last will and testament of said Daniel Parsons deceased for Probate and Messr. Luke Bliss and John Mun two of the subscribing witnesses to the same personally appearing made oath that they saw the testator in his life time sign and seal and heard him publish and declare the same to be his last will and testament and that he was of sound mind when he did it, and that

they together with Jno. Bliss Esq. all signed as witnesses to the same in presence of the testator and each other wherefore it was proved, approved and ratified and confirmed as the last will and testament of said deceased.

ISRAEL WILLIAMS.



THE  
HOAR FAMILY IN AMERICA

AND  
ITS ENGLISH ANCESTRY.

---

EXTRACTS

BY PERMISSION FROM A RECENT PUBLICATION BY THE  
HON. GEORGE FRISBIE HOAR, OF MASS.

---

The family of Hoar, in English records generally written Hore or Hoare, from very ancient days had its representatives in several of the counties of England and in Ireland. Sometimes the name appears with the adjective le affixed. Between the years 1300 and 1700 thirteen members of Parliament from six different counties bore the name. English antiquaries who have made long and intelligent study of the family genealogy unite in favoring the supposition that the founder of the race was one Robert Hore who, about 1330, married the heiress of Forde of Chagford in Devonshire. In the Heraldic Visitation for the county of Devon, taken in 1620, and to be found in the Harleian MS. in the British Museum, the pedigree begins with the third Robert Hore, about 1360. This Robert married the heiress of Rowland de Risford of the parish of Chagford. The learned biographer of the famous London

branch of the family, Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart., in his sumptuous volume "Pedigrees and Memoirs of the Families of Hore and Hoare of the Counties of Devon, Bucks, Middlesex, Surrey, Wilts and Essex, 1819," acknowledged his failure to discover a continuous pedigree from Robert of Risford, and bases his belief in this origin of the family chiefly upon the identity of the coat of arms uniformly used by all bearing the name; to-wit: "Sable an eagle displayed, with two necks with a border ingrailed, argent." One antiquary has suggested a German origin to the family and calls attention to the similarity between the arms of the city of Frankfort-on-the-Main and those used in the Hoare family in England.

Captain Edward Hoare in his book, printed at London in 1883, entitled "Early History and Genealogy of the Families of Hore and Hoare," is much more positive in his assertions respecting this line of descent from Robert of Risford, but is unable to give the authority of records to vouch for his conclusions; and the many grave inaccuracies of his appendix, wherein he essays a pedigree of the American branch of the Hoar family, tend to encourage distrust in his infallibility when he discourses of matters much more recondite.

The defective condition or total loss of many early parish registers, and the defacement and destruction by damp or careless keeping of many early wills, make it highly improbable that the assumed connection between the Hore families of Devonshire and Gloucestershire will be discovered; and from the city of Gloucester the mother of the American branch of the family, Joanna (Hinksman) Hoare, came, in 1640, to Massachusetts. The frequent choice of the same baptismal names, and the use of the same heraldic device by both the Devon and the Gloucester branches are the only significant facts found of record. Unfortunately there is no pedigree attached to the "Visitation of the County of Gloucester," by Robert Cooke Clarendieux, King at Arms in 1583, enlarged with the Visitation of the same County in 1623, by Chitting and Philpott, deputies to William Camden Clarendieux; found in the Harleian Manuscript Nos. 1543 to 1554, although the "Arms of Hore of Gloucestershire" are given. The early

presence of the family in this county, and elsewhere, is attested however by various documentary evidence, some examples of which follow :

1170. From Burke's Dictionary of Landed Gentry, p. 577, we find that William le Hore was one of the Norman Knights who invaded Ireland in 1170, and obtained grants of land in Wexford where he established a family. The pedigree in the visitation of the country begins with Thomas le Hore, who held the manor by the service of "keeping a passage over the Pillwater as often as the sessions should be held at Wexford." He had three sons: Richard, David who was high sheriff in 1334, and Walter.

1280. In the Calendar of Inquisitions, post mortem, Anno 8 Edward I. is noted: "Roger le Hore, felo, Ameneye, Gloucestershire." Roger le Hore held lands in Eastbrook (see Rudder's "Gloucester," p. 230).

1326. John le Hore is one of the witnesses to a deed, now in existence, of a tenement in Woton, Gloucestershire, 19 Edward II.

It is noteworthy that the above dates are earlier than that of the alleged Devonshire origin.

1465. In the Calendar of the Records of the Gloucester Corporation, p. 406-7, is registered a "demise from William Hotynham, John Rudyng, clerk, and Thomas Lymark to Andrew Bye, Henry Rycard and Thomas Hoore burgesses of Gloucester, of their tenement and adjoining curtilage on the south side of Smythe strete between Sater lane and the mesuage of Thomas Heyward."

1551. Alexander Hore appears as a member of the Baker's Guild.

An examination of the wills proved at Gloucester, which date from 1541 when the Court was established, gives the following:—

1544. The will of Richard Hoore of Leckhampton, husbandman, proved Oct. 10, 1545, bequeaths to wife Ellen his crops, debts, etc., leaving her to give what she pleases to the children.

1545. The will of Henry Hore of Aylburton in the parish of Lidgate, dated Oct. 23, 1545, and proved the following

January, appoints his wife Christian executrix, bequeaths two pence to the Cathedral Church of Gloucester, and a cow to his daughter Agnes.

1545. The will of Robert Hoare of Leckhampton, husbandman, dated Sept. 8, and proved Oct. 10, 1545, bequeaths his soul to God, Saint Mary and all the holy company of Heaven, and mentions his wife Margery, sons Roger and Edward, daughter Jane, and Edward son of Roger.

1573. John Hore's will, proved May 27, 1573, is mostly illegible, but mentions wife Joan, sons William, Nicholas, and others "my children aforesaid." He was of Westbury on Severn.

1618. Richard Hoare of the parish of St. John the Baptist in the City of Gloucester, Gentleman, August 4, 1618, bequeaths eighteen houses with lands to his sons Richard, John and Alexander, one hundred pounds to his daughter Martha, and names wife Anne and sister Joan. This Richard was sheriff of Gloucester in 1614. By an indenture dated Sept. 4, 5. James I. (1608) he gave in trust, for the benefit of the parish of St. Mary de Crypt, an annuity of fifty-three shillings charged upon several tenements in the city of Gloucester, to be employed in "the reparation of the Parish Church or the finding of a sufficient minnester to read divine service in the same church, and for the relief of the poor of the same parish, and other charitable uses." The trust survives, the Corporation of Gloucester annually paying fifty shillings to the parish. An ancient vault bearing the name Hoare is beneath the pavement in the south transept, near where the choir and nave join, of St. Mary de Crypt Church.

1628. The will of Richard Hoare of Norton "an old man of the edge of ffour score yeares and upward" mentions wife Maude, sons Edmond, William, Robert, Thomas, son-in-law Robert Brayne, daughter Jane, daughter Elizabeth wife of Robert Brokinnge, and her children Mary, Anne and Elizabeth, and Anne daughter of Edward. Norton is in the northern suburbs of Gloucester.

1640. The will of William Hoare "very aged" proved in 1640, is too much decayed to be legible.

1644. John Hoare of Leckhampton, husbandman, in his will mentions daughter Margaret, nephew John the son of Giles, sons Walle and Thomas and sons in law John Button and Thomas Ballaye.

1646. The will of John Hoare of Sandhurst, mentions late brother Alexander and his daughter Martha, his sister-in-

law Margerie mother of Martha, and brothers-in-law Thos. Clutterbuck and Thos. Pierce.

1413. In the church of Frampton on Severn near Gloucester on a marble tablet, and in the east window of the north aisle, the Hoare arms are found quartered with the arms of Clifford and Windscombe, and the same quartering was once on a stained glass window of the parlor of Fretherne Lodge, a sumptuous mansion built by James Clifford with a design to entertain Queen Elizabeth in her "Progress to Bristol" in 1574. Fretherne is about nine miles southwest from Gloucester. Near by is the site of the residence of Walter Lord Clifford, where his daughter "Fair Rosamond," was born. Fretherne Lodge, after long remaining in a state of dilapidation, was torn down in 1750. In the Visitation of 1623 it is stated that Henry Clifford of Frampton married the daughter and heiress of ——— Hoare of Gloucestershire in the time of Henry IV. (See Rudder's "Gloucester.")

---

## \* CHARLES HOARE AND WIFE MARGERY OF GLOUCESTER, ENGLAND.

---

With Charles Hoare, senior, of Gloucester City, the pedigree of the American branch of the family begins, no clue to his parentage having been found. Perhaps the earliest recorded mention of him may be the item in the corporation expenditures when the Spanish Armada was menacing England, 1588: "To Charles Hoare for hyer of a horse for two dayes wch Roger Lowe had to Cisseter (Cirencester) when he went to bringe the soldiers towards portingate."

---

\*Note. The earliest authenticated ancestor in my maternal line, according to Senator Hoar's investigations.

L. B. P.

WILL OF CHARLES HOARE THE ELDER,  
OF GLOUCESTER, 1632.

In the name of God Amen the nyne and twentieth day of May anno domini 1632, I Charles Hoare the elder of the City of Glouc. Sadler being weake and sicklie in body butt of Good and pfct memorie (thanks be geven to god for the same) doe make and ordeyne this my last Will and Testament in manner and forms followinge, ffirst and principalie I give and bequeath my soule unto Amightie God my creator and maker and unto Jesus Christ his only sonne and my alone Saviour and Redeemer hoping and trustinge through his merits and bitter passion in full assurance to enjoy and inherit in the kingdom of heaven him everlastingly. And as for my body (beinge but dust and ashes) I bequeath to the earth from whence it came to be buried at the discretion of my Executr of my Will hoping for a joyfull resurrection both of my soule and body at the last and generall day. And as concerning my worldly goods and substance wherewith God hath bestowed upon me and blessed me wth I give and dispose in manner and form following. ffirst I give and bequeath unto my beloved Wife Margery the use and quiet possession of the house and ymplements wherein I now dwell To have and hold to her for her my said Wife and my sonne Thomas Hoare therein to dwell use and occupy during her naturall life they payinge the rent due to the City of Glouc & keeping the said howse in all needful and necessary repairs as by the lease thereof I am enjoyed. And after her decease my Will is that my sonne Charles Hoare shall have all my right and interest unto the said howse and lease thereof granted unto me from the said Citty and that he shall renew the said lease in his own name. And alsoe my Will is that the plumpe the noast and the Cisterns, glasse windows wainscot and benches with the tables board in the Hawl and the Corner Cupboard and other Cupboards fasting to the house to remayne to him the said Charles his heirs and assigns wth the said howse at the decease of my said Wife. Provided that my sonne Charles or his assignes doe pay or cause to be paid unto my sonne Thomas Hoare or his assignes the somme of Tenne pounds of lawful English money within the space of fourteen dayes after he is possed of the howse and ymplements. And if he the said Charles or his assignes shall refuse to pay the same as aforesayd being lawfull demanded Then my Will is that my sonne Thomas shall have the said



howse ymplements and lease. Item I give to my said son Thomas fyve silver spones and one silver bowle. Item I give unto my son Charles my silver salt and fyve silver spones wch said plate so to my said twoe sonnes geven my Will is the same shalbe in the use and possession of my said Wife during her life and after her decease to remayne unto them. Item I give to Thomas Hore Margery Hore and John Hore children of my sonne Charles Hoare ffyve pounds between them three. Item I give and bequeath unto my said sonne Thomas the lease of my Stable and Garden in Travell Lane wch I hold of the Deane and Chapter. To have and to hold unto him for and duringe the residue of such term in the same lease as shalbe to come at my decease. Item I give unto Charles Hoare and to John Hoare the Children of my son Thomas Hoare the some of fyve pounds between them. Item I give unto Charles Tarne a Saddle furnished. Item I doe hereby appointe my lovinge sonne Charles Hoare to be my Executor of this my last Will and Testam't in trust and not to make any benefit of the Executorshipp to his own use and for the better providinge & maintainance of my saide wife during her naturall life my Will is & I doe appointe that my debts if any bee & funerall charges being payed and discharged by my Executor out of my estate yet unbequeathed That all the rest of my goodes chattels Cattle household stuffe & implem'ts of household whatsoever yet unbequeathed shalbe ympleid by the appointm't of my Executors to the use benefitt & behoofs of my Wife & my sone Thomas Hoare his heirs & assignes & the benefit thereof to be yerely equally divided betweene them & soe to remayne at the disposinge of my Execut'r wth the advice of my Overseers during the life of my saide Wife and after her decease my Will is that the sayd estate off my goods & chattels shalbe by my saide Execut'r wholie conferred upon my sonne Thomas Hoare his heirs and assignes the funerall charges of my wife being discharged first out of it within one month after her decease. And that my Will may be the better pformed my Will & desire is that my said Execut'r shall wthin six weeks after my decease enter into one bond of Two hundred pounds to the Overseers of this my Will that this my Will shalbe pformed by him in all points And if he refuse to enter into such bond my Will is & I doe appoint my sayd Sonne Thomas Hoare to be Execut'r of this my Will. And I doe desire my sonnes in lawe Mr. Thomas Hill & Mr. Leonard Tarne to be Overseers of this my Will & I give to each of them for their paines to see my Will pform'd a saddle a piece furnished fitt for their use. And in witness whereof I have hereunto

putt my hand and seele in the psence of these being witnesses.  
The mke of Charles (H) Hoare  
The mke of James Tiler  
John Holland

Of the four children of Charles Hoare senior, named in this will, Thomas had two sons, Charles and John, also mentioned, but of father or sons nothing further of interest is known with certainty. The names appear in Gloucestershire annals from time to time, but the identification of personalities is not easy.

---

**\* CHARLES HOARE THE YOUNGER, AND WIFE,  
JOANNA HINCKSMAN.**

Charles Hoare junior, the executor of his father's will, was probably the eldest son. He became a man of substance and one greatly respected in his native city, as is attested by the fact that he was one of its aldermen from 1632 to 1638 and sheriff in 1634. His name is found in the Council minutes with "gentleman" or "generosus" affixed to it. In the lists of members of the Council for the six years before his decease his name always appears, although generally among "nomina eorum qui fecerunt defaultum," that is, were absent from the meetings. He followed the occupation of brewer, although he had served a long apprenticeship with his father, the saddler, and his will indicates that he carried on the business of wool stapling, a trade which early attained great im-

---

\*Note.—The second in direct descent in my maternal line.—L. B. P.

portance in Gloucestershire, and has been pursued by members of the Hoare family there, especially at Cirencester, down to quite recent days.

In the calendar of State Papers, vol. cccxxxiv. p. 178, 1636, is a petition of John Brown, late mayor, and Charles Hoare and Lawrence Singleton, late sheriffs of the City of Gloucester, stating that they had collected and paid over to the Treasurer of the Navy the one thousand pounds ship money imposed upon Gloucester, and asking for the repayment to them of certain expenses amounting to fifty-two pounds, which request was granted.

The date of Charles Hoare's marriage to Joanna Hinksman is not known, but it must have been shortly after the expiration of his apprenticeship. Of their children three only are named in his father's will—Thomas, Margery and John; the other three mentioned in his own will—Daniel, Leonard and Joanna—being minors in 1632. There may have been others deceased, and probably of these were Ruth, buried June, 1628, and Charles, graduate at Oxford, 1630, aged 17. The Hincksman or Henchman family was prosperous and highly esteemed in Gloucester. A Joseph Hinxman was graduated at Oxford in 1577, and became rector of the parish of Naunton, fourteen miles northeast of the city of Gloucester. Of her immediate family we know only that she had brothers William, Walter, Edward and Thomas, and sisters Elinor Bailies and ——— Founes. Thomas Hincksman, in 1634, called "late servant to Mr. Charles Hoare for the space of eight years now past," was then made a burgess, paying a fine of 10s. A Walter Hincksman about the same period was rector at Matlock in Derbyshire. The noted Captains Thomas and Daniel Henchman, who figured in the early Indian wars in New England, may have been kinsmen of Joanna, though proof of this is lacking. That there was some relationship between the early immigrants in New England bearing the names Hoare and Hinksman seems probable from the frequency with which these names are found associated. Capt. Daniel Henchman was one of the witnesses to Doctor Leon-

ard Hoar's will, and Thomas appended his signature as witness to a power of attorney given by Daniel Hoare.

WILL OF CHARLES HOAR, (JUNIOR)  
OF GLOUCESTER, 1638.

PREROGATIVE COURT OF CANTERBURY.

In the name of God Almighty Creator of all things and in Jesus Christ his deare and only son my most bountifull loveing Saviour and in the blessed spiritt my comforter Amen I Charles Hoare of the cittie of Gloucester being weake in body but perfect in memory blessed be my good god therefore, Doe hereby declare that my last will and testament as followeth ffirst I bequeath my soule into the handes of God that created it and my deare Saviours that soe dearlie ransom'd it with full confidence thorough his merrittes that after the end of this life it shall rest w<sup>th</sup> him everlastingly. And my bodie to the earthe from whence it came w<sup>th</sup> full assurance that at the last daie when my Saviour shall appeare in glory it shalbe by his power raised upp to the resurrection of the iust, And for the estate it hath pleased god to lend unto me of the thinges of this world I thus dispose ffirst that with as much convenient speede as may well be all my rentes and debtes sett downe under my hand and all other if any be and can appeare to be due shalbe paid. Item I give to my brother Thomas Hoare twentie poundes, to my sister Elinor Bailies fortie shillings, to my brother William Hincksman and Walter Hincksman and Edward Hincksman and my sister ffounes twentye shillings a peece in gould, alsoe I give to my brother Thomas Hincksman five poundes and to my servant John Sponar at presberie five markes and to his wife five nobles and to Thomas Prichard my servant fortie shillings and to Thomas Ade my servant tenn shillings, Alsoe I give to Mr. Thomas Vell and to Alderman Hill and Mr. Leonard Tarne my brother lawes and my brother too new rings for my sake, and to good Mr. Workman our faithfull watchman forty shillings. Alsoe I give unto my welbeloved wife Joane Hoare ye some of three hundred and fiftie poundes and to my sonne John Hoare twoe hundred poundes and to my son Daniell Hoare one hundred and fiftie poundes and to my daughter Joane Hoare a hundred poundes and to my son Leonard Hoare one hundred poundes and my will is that my wife shall have the furniture of houshold that I have in all places at her disposing during her life and after

to come indiferentlie amongst my children except the goodes at Thornebery w<sup>ch</sup> was deliuered me by the sheriffe by vertue of an elegit, all w<sup>ch</sup> I give unto my daughter Margerie Mathewe presentlie after my decease. Alsoe I give unto my sonn Thomas Hoare twentie poundes. Alsoe I give to the said Margery my daughter and her sonne Charles Mathewe twoe hundred poundes and my will is that soe longe as this twoe hundred poundes remaines in the stocke which I shall leave (which shalbe till my executors and overseers shall allowe thereof for her good to lett him hav it,) there shalbe unto her and her sonne sixteene poundes a yeare quarterly paid and my will and desire is that the stocke I shall leave unto my wife and the foure first named children with the twoe hundred poundes given my daughter shalbe used and imployed upon the three bargaines I have taken at Encombe, Presbery and Slimsbridg and my wife and the foure children to have their maintenance out of it, and my will is that my sonne Leonard shalbe carefullie kept at Schoole and when hee is fitt for itt to be carefullie placed at Oxford, and if ye Lord shall see fitt, to make him a Minister unto his people and that all y<sup>e</sup> charg thereof shalbe discharged out of the proffitt which it shall please god to send out of the stocke and that all the rest of my estate unbeckeathed all debtes and expence being discharged shalbe equallie devided btweene my wife and my twoe sonnes Daniell and John, and Joane, and the profittes of the said stocke to accrewe unto them alsoe untill my executors and my overseers shall agree for their good to lett any of them haue their porcons for their p<sup>r</sup>ferment. Only this excepted that my sonne Leonard shall have accrue and dewe unto him out of this estate six poundes a yeare to bee paid unto him by the aforesaid hundred poundes when my executors and overseers shall allowe of it to be for his preferment and if anie of my children shall die before they come to make use of their porcons my will is that porcons soe falling out shalbe equallie devided amongst my five children nowe with me and my sonne Thomas aforesaid and if it shall soe happen that the stocke bequeathed be not founde fitt to be imployed as I have directed, but I trust y<sup>e</sup> Lord will soe blesse that happie trade of life unto them that some of them will never give over but if soe should be then my will is that my executors pay in ye porcons unto them if they bee att age or els to paie it in or good securitie to my overseers and my will is that as I have agreed with Mr. Thomas Vell and p<sup>r</sup>misid there shall alwaies be really upon the groundes att Encome which I have taken of him for Eight yeares eight hundred of the best ewes to stand for his

securitie untill all rentes and dewes whatsoever shalbe really paid unto him, and now deare saviour spreade thy armes of mercie over me purge away my synnes though they are many and greate and my faith weake lett thy power be seene in my weakness and thy strength in my manifould infirmities keepe me from that evill one and Receive me to thy mercy to whom with god the father and the holie spiritt be all glorie and power and thanks giveinge both nowe and for evermore Amen this 25th day of September 1638. By me Cha: Hoare: further I give unto my sonne John Hoare fortie poundes more w<sup>ch</sup> shall accrewe unto him when all the other are satisfied out of the estate.

Admon granted 21 Dec. 1638—to Joane Hoare the relict.

The Mr. Thomas Vell mentioned appears to have been active in public affairs of Gloucestershire in his day, and sided with the Puritans in the early part of the Civil war; but was one of the deputation to welcome Charles II. on his restoration.

The "good Mr. Workman our faithful watchman" refers to John Workman, a native of Gloucestershire whose persecution by Archbishop Laud was, according to Laud himself, insisted upon more than any other charge at the trial of that prelate. Workman, for certain utterances against the use of pictures and images in churches, and his condemnation of "mixed dancing," was brought before the high commission at Lambeth, suspended from the ministry, excommunicated, required to make restitution and to pay costs of suit, and thrown into prison. He then taught school to support his large family. but Laud, hearing of this forbade his teaching children. He next sought a living by the practice of medicine, but died in great poverty January, 1641. The Corporation of Gloucester, in 1633, granted Mr. Workman an annuity of £20. For this act the mayor, town clerk and several of the aldermen were prosecuted in the High Commission Court. Charles Hoare was doubtless one of the offending aldermen. (Brook's "Puritans," 2, 434.)

Charles Hoare's house is still standing on Southgate street, occupied by the printing and publishing house of the Gloucester Chronicle.

All of the children named in the will except Thomas came to America probably within two years after the death of their father, for the first child of Margery, who married Henry Flynt of Braintree, was born in July, 1642. Their mother, Joanna, came with them: "the common origin of that remarkable progeny, in which statesmen, jurists, lawyers, orators, poets, story-tellers and philosophers seem to vie with each other in recognized eminence." (Charles Francis Adams in "Three Episodes of Massachusetts History.") She died at Braintree 10 mo. 21, 1661, according to Braintree Records. This date is confirmed by an entry in an almanac once belonging to Rev. Henry Flynt. "Dec. 22, 1661, ye midnight before my mother Hoar dyed and was buried ye—" She was interred in the same grave with her son Leonard, in the old Quincy burying ground. In 1892 the Honorable George F. Hoar erected a memorial to his ancestress and her daughter-in-law. It is in form a double headstone, shaped from a large, thick slab of slate. Following are the two inscriptions:

Joanna Hoare | died in Braintree | September 21<sup>st</sup>,  
 1651. | She was widow of | Charles Hoare, | Sheriff  
 of | Gloucester, England, | who died 1638. | She came  
 to | New England | with five children | about 1640. |  
 Bridget, | widow of President | Leonard Hoar, |  
 died May 25, 1723 | daughter of | John Lord Lisle, |  
 President of the | High Court of Justice, | Lord Com-  
 missioner of | the Great Seal, who | drew the indict-  
 ment | and sentence of | King Charles I., and | was  
 murdered at | Lausanne Aug. 11<sup>th</sup>, 1664, | and of Lady  
 Alicia Lisle, | who was beheaded by | the brutal judg-  
 ment | of Jeffries, 1685. | She was nearly akin | by  
 marriage to | Lord William Russell. |

Thomas Hoare, probably the oldest of the surviving children of Charles at his death, did not accompany his brothers and sisters to New England.

The eldest daughter of Charles Hoare, Junior, Margery Hoare, was married to John Matthews at St. Nicholas Church in Gloucester, December 25, 1633, and had a son, Charles,

who is mentioned in his grandfather Hoare's will. She was a widow, and probably childless, when she came to New England. She married for her second husband Rev. Henry Flint of Braintree. He is supposed to have been born at Matlock, Derbyshire, England. In politics he was of the party of Sir Henry Vane, and his theological views led him to take for a time at least, the unpopular side in the Antinomian controversy. The inscription upon his tombstone in Quincy is as follows:—

Here Lyes interred ye Body of ye Rev'd Mr. Henry Flynt, who came to New England in ye Year 1635, was Ordained ye first Teacher of ye Church of Braintry 1639 and Died April 27th. 1668. He had ye Character of a Gentleman Remarkable for his Piety, Learning, Wisdom & Fidelity in his Office. By him on his right hand lyes the Body of Margery, his beloved consort, who Died March 1686-7, her maiden name was Hoar. She was a Gentlewoman of Piety, Prudence, & peculiarly accomplished for instructing young Gentlewoemen, many being sent to her from other Towns, especially from Boston. They descended from antient and good familys in England.

The ten children born to Henry and Margery Flynt as recorded in Braintree Records, were:—

1. Dorothy, b. 21. 5 mo. 1642; married Samuel Shephard, 1666.
2. Annah, b. 11. 7 mo. 1643; married John Dasset, 1662.
3. Josiah, b. 24. 6 mo. 1645; married Esther Willet.
4. Margaret, b. 20. 4 mo. 1647; died 29, 6 mo. 1648.
5. Joanna, b. 18. 12 mo. 1648; married Noah Newman, 1669.
6. David, b. 11. 11 mo. 1651; died 21. 1 mo. 1652.
7. Seth, b. 2. 2 mo. 1653.
8. Ruth, b. 31. 11 mo. 1654.
9. 10. Cotton and John, b. 16. 7 mo. 1656; died 20. 9 mo. 1656.

Mr. Flynt accumulated considerable property for a country clergyman. The eldest son, Josiah, was graduated at Harvard College in 1664, and was ordained the successor of Rev. Richard Mather at Dorchester December 27, 1671. He



died at the early age of thirty-five years, September 16, 1680. His wife was Esther, daughter of Captain Thomas Willett, first mayor of New York city. Of her four children one was the noted bachelor Tutor Flynt who served Harvard College for the unexampled term of fifty-five years—1699—1754—and died in 1760. Her daughter Dorothy married Edmond Quincy, May 11, 1678, and thus the Quincy family derives descent from Joanna Hinckman Hoare through both of her daughters, Joanna and Margery. Mrs. Dorothy Flynt Quincy died in 1737. The house in which she lived, built by Colonel Edmond Quincy in 1685, still stands a characteristic example of domestic colonial architecture. Among the more famous of her numerous descendants are those members of the Holmes, Wendell, Jackson, Lowell and Quincy families whose names are household words in Massachusetts, and also Gen. Terry, the hero of Fort Fisher.

\*John Hoare must have been younger by several years than his brother Thomas.

He appears in Scituate, Massachusetts, as bearing arms in 1643. The historian of that town, Samuel Deane, relates that he was, while there resident, always engaged in the business of the town, and in drafting of deeds, bonds, etc., and is occasionally called a lawyer. He had lands adjoining Mosquashcut pond which he sold to the lawyer John Saffin in 1659, when he removed to Concord. His ability, vigor and originality of thought and action soon made him one of the prominent figures in Concord and vicinity, but he is found often at odds with the ecclesiastical oligarchy of the times. Whether like his sometime neighbor at Lancaster, John Prescott—to whose son he gave his oldest daughter—he sympathized with the Presbyterian criticisms of the theocratic restriction of political and religious privileges in the colony, is not known, but he strongly resembled Prescott in his persistency, enterprise and altruistic spirit. He was not only independent in speech, but rashly sharp of tongue and pen, and suffered accordingly at the hands of jealous authority.

---

\*Note—The third in direct descent in my maternal line.—  
L. B. P.

In 1668 John Hoare was charged before the county court of saying at the public house of Ensign William Buss "that the Blessing Master Bulkeley pronounced in dismissing the public Assembly in the Meeting-house was no better than vane babbling." Upon conviction of what the law of 1646 calls "the disparagement of the Lord's holy ordinance and making God's ways contemptible and ridiculous," he was fined ten pounds. He was also called upon to answer to the Court on two occasions "for neglecting the public worship of God on the Lord's day." (County Court Files, 1668-1675.)

In November, 1675, food and fuel failed the little community of Christian Indians at Nashoba, and a committee composed of Major Daniel Gookin, Major Simon Willard and Rev. John Eliot, the selectman consenting, caused their removal to Concord. They numbered fifty eight men, women and children, and no man in Concord could be prevailed upon to take charge of them until John Hoare consented to do so. He gave them quarters in his own house and offices, and began the building of a workshop and palisade wherein they could labor by day and be safely kept at night. The whole land was overshadowed by the horrors of Indian warfare, and in the frontier towns the howling of a wolf or the hooting of an owl, indistinctly heard, sent pallor to the cheeks and the chill of fear to the hearts of wives and mothers, lest it might be the war-whoop of Philip's savage crew, or the death shriek of an absent son, father or husband. In the midst of the public panic came the false rumor that some of Eliot's converts were among the blood-stained murderers. Mrs. Rowlandson has informed us that she was told by her captors, and she evidently believed, that the seven persons killed at Lancaster, August 22, 1675, "were slain and mangled in a barbarous manner by one-eyed John and Marlborough's praying Indians." Yet the red men so accused, seized and taken to Boston by Captain Mosely, upon their trial proved an undoubted alibi. It was not strange in a time of such excitement that many of the people of Concord were greatly troubled by the presence among them of Mr. Hoar's wards. Suddenly upon a Lord's day the most brutal of the Colony captains, Samuel Mosely,

appeared in the Concord meeting-house with his rough troopers, probably by invitation of the dissatisfied, and after the service declared his intention to remove the Nashoba Indians to Boston. Receiving what he considered due encouragement, he without authority and in spite of the vigorous protests of John Hoare, broke into his premises and sent "the heathen" robbed of most of their personal property, down to Deer Island under a guard of twenty soldiers. The story is told at length in Major Daniel Gookin's History of the Christian Indians. (See *Archaeologia Americana*, p. 495, et seq.) The colonial governor and council were not well pleased by Mosely's contemptuous assumption of their powers, but did not dare to bring him to bar for his atrocious offence, nor did they recompense the brave John Hoare for his losses, which Gookin acknowledges "were considerable." Soon followed the massacre of February 10, 1676, at Lancaster, and when the governor and council sought to ransom the captive women and children they could find no efficient help until the abused Nashoba Christians came to their aid, and bore their messages to the then haughty sagamores April 3 and 28. With them on the latter date went John Hoare at the solicitation of the minister, Joseph Rowlandson. The historian, Hubbard, mentions the heroism, but forgets the hero's name who risked more than life in putting himself into the power of the merciless:

The original of the following petition is in possession of the Honorable George F. Hoar:

To the Hono'rd Generall Court Now Assembled  
In Boston May 24th, 1682.

The Humble Petition of John Hoare—

Humbly Sheweth that wheras in the yeare 1665 yo'r Poor Petitioner was comitted to Prison forced to find suretyes for his good behavior and also fyned fifty pound for doing such things as I humbly conceived were but my duty and also prohibited from pleadding any bodies caus but my owne; Now yo'r poor Petitioner hath a long time layne under the smart of these sufferings and hath often moved for a release but such hath bene the unhappyness of yo'r Poor Suppliant that he hath not yet obtained such a good day the want whereof hath

bene greatly prejudiciall to my Brother Mr. Daniel Hoare his Estate and so my owne and also unto my name and famyly. The perticulars in my petition then exhibited to the Honor'd Generall Court wear such as my Brother Mr Henery Flint of Brantrey & Mr Edmond Browne of Sudbury did judge would not give any offence. And in that hope I did present it.

I Humbly now present to this Hon'rd Court that in the time of the warr I tooke the charge of about sixty Indians belonging to Nashoby by the order of Majo'r Willerd, Majo'r Gookin, Mr. Eliott, and the select men of Concord. I built them a fort that cost mee of my own estate fourty pounds and went with my teame in Hazard of my life to save and bring home there Corne and also borrowed Rey and hors for them to plant and sow which I was forced to pay for myselfe. I also made severall Journies to Lancaster and to the Counsell and two Journies to the Indians to redeme Mrs. Rowlinson and Good wife Kettle with two horses and provisions and gave the sagamores considerably of my owne estate above whatever I received of the Countrey and by the favor of god obtained of them that they would fight noe more but in ther owne defence: Seth Perry also had severall things of mee to give the Indians that hee might escape with his life.

My sonn Daniel Hoare also was Indicted for his life yet by divine providence was spared, yet was sentenced to pay five pounds to the Indians and five pound to the Countrey tho' as I humbly Conceive he had not broken any Law.

My Humble Supplication on all accounts to this Hon'rd Court is that I might be sett att Liberty from my sentence and may enjoy the liberty of an English man, and also that the Cor't would pleas to remitt my son Daniel's sentence. And if they pleas to grant me some small parcell of Land to comfort my wife with respect unto all her sufferings by my disbursements for the Countrey as above recited.

And yo'r Petitioner shall give thanks to the Lord and you  
And shall ever Pray &c

JOHN HOARE.—

The magistrates consented to release John Hoare from his bonds and from the restraint laid upon him as to his pleading in the courts and also "that considering his publike service & Costs in securing the Nashoby Indians at his house in Concord by order of this Court's Committee for severall moneths in time of said warr, and for his adventuring his life to goe up to the Indians in the time of the warr the successe whereof was

the Redeeming of some Captives particularly Mrs. Rowlandson" two hundred acres of land should be granted his family. The deputies refused to concur and the following is the final answer of the Court :

In ans'r to the Peticon of John Hoare, and on further consideration thereof the Court judge meet for his service donne for the publick etc. to grant to the wife and children of the said John Hoare two hundred acres of land in any comon lands from former grants, andnot hindering a plantation. (Massachusetts Records, Vol. V. 359.)

John Hoare died April 2, 1704, and his wife Alice —— died June 5, 1696. Samuel Sewall makes in his Diary but one noteworthy mention of Mr. Hoare. Under date of Friday, Nov. 8, 1690, he writes, "Jn'o Hoar comes into the Lobby and sais he comes from the Lord, by the Lord, to speak for the Lord: Complains that Sins as bad as Sodom's found here." We may therefore infer that neither imprisonment nor fines nor old age could put a curb upon John Hoare's freedom of speech.

The children of John<sup>1</sup> and Alice Hoare were three :

- I. Elizabeth<sup>2</sup>, married December 23, 1675, Jonathan Prescott of Lancaster, being his second wife. To them six children were born :
- I. Jonathan<sup>3</sup>, b. April 5, 1677; a noted physician; m. July 9, 1701, Rebecca Bulkeley; d. Oct. 28, 1729, and had eleven children.
- II. Elizabeth, b. Sept. 27, 1678; m. John Fowle of Woburn.
- III. Dorothy, b. March 31, 1681; m. July 14, 1702, Edward Bulkeley; d. at Wethersfield, Conn., in 1748.
- IV. John, b. May 13, 1683; d. Jan. 28, 1706.
- V. Mary, b. Aug. 14, 1685; m. April 16, 1702, John Miles, and had six children.
- VI. Benjamin, b. Sept. 16, 1687; was graduated at Harvard 1703; clergyman; d. May 27, 1777; m. (1st) Elizabeth

Higginson of Salem, in 1715; (2d) Mercy Gibbs, in 1732; and (3d) Mrs. Mary (Pepperell) Colman, in 1748. By the first he had five children, of whom Benjamin m. Rebecca Minot of Salem, and had a daughter Rebecca who became, May 12, 1763, the second wife of Hon. Roger Sherman, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and U. S. Senator from Connecticut, from 1791 to his death in 1793. Their youngest daughter, Sarah Sherman, Oct. 13, 1812, m. Hon. Samuel Hoar of Concord, and of her elder sisters, Rebecca and Elizabeth in succession became the wives of Judge Simeon Baldwin of New Haven. Rebecca was the mother of Roger S. Baldwin, Governor and Senator, who argued the famous Armistead case, and grandmother of Judge Simeon E. Baldwin. Mehitabel m. for her second husband Jeremiah Evarts, Esq., the Honorable William Maxwell Evarts being her son. Martha married Jeremiah Day, President of Yale College, and was the mother of Hon. Sherman Day, author of Pennsylvania Historical Collections and State Surveyor of California.

Jonathan Prescott d. Dec. 5, 1721, his fourth wife surviving him. His second wife, Elizabeth Hoar, d. Sept. 25, 1687.

2. Mary<sup>2</sup>, married Benjamin Graves, October 21, 1668.
3. \*Daniel, born 1650; married July 16, 1677, Mary Stratton, daughter of Samuel and Mary (Fry), and (2d) Mary Lee, October 16, 1717. By the first wife he had eleven children:
- I. John<sup>3</sup>, b. Oct. 24, 1678, at Watertown; d. March 1, 1764, in Sudbury. By wife Ruth had ten children: 1. Nehemiah<sup>4</sup>, b. Oct. 19, 1704; d. Dec. 2, 1718. 2. Jonathan, b. May 30, 1706; d. Nov. 8, 1719. 3. Oliver, b. Oct. 14, 1707; d. May 29, 1711. 4. John, b. March 22, 1709; d. Aug. 28, 1711. 5. Submit, b. Sept. 5, 1711. 6. Ruth, b. Dec. 11, 1713; m. April 20, 1732, Amos Sanderson. 7. Dorothy, b. Feb. 22, 1714. 8. John, b. Jan. 2, 1715; d. Nov. 17, 1715. 9. Josiah, b. Jan. 2, 1717. 10. Abigail, b. Nov. 15, 1720.

---

\*Note—The fourth in direct descent in my maternal line.  
—L. B. P.

\*II. Leonard, captain, d. April, 1771, aged 87, in Brimfield. By his wife Esther had eight children: 1. Joseph, b. Dec. 5, 1707. 2. Daniel, b. May 7, 1709. 3. Sarah, b. Sept. 3, 1710. 4. Leonard, b. Dec. 17, 1711. 5. David, b. Feb. 23, 1713. 6. Charles, b. Dec. 25, 1714. 7. Edmond, b. July 19, 1716. 8. Esther, b. April 7, 1719. Many of the descendants of this Brimfield branch of the family in 1838 took the surnames Hale and Homer.

III. Daniel, b. 1680; lieutenant; m. Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah (Temple) Jones, Dec. 20, 1705. She was b. at Concord, June 4, 1686. They lived a mile easterly from Concord Centre. Daniel's epitaph in the Old Concord Burying Ground is surmountd by a coat of arms—a double headed eagle—and the words "Paternal Coat Armor." The inscription is as follows:

Lieut Daniel Hoar  
 Obt. Feb'r ye 8th 1773 Æt 93.  
 By Honest Industry & Prudent  
 Oeconomy he acquired a hand-  
 Som Fortune for a man in Privet  
 Carrecter. He enjoyed a long Life  
 & uninterrupted state of health  
 Blessings that ever attend Exer-  
 Sies & Temperance.  
 S. N.  
 Heres the last end of mortal story.  
 He's Dead.

Lieut. Daniel Hoar had seven children: I. John<sup>4</sup>, b. Jan. 6, 1707; m. (1st) Esther Pierce of Lexington, June 13, 1734; m. (2d) Aug. 21, 1740, Elizabeth Coolidge, daughter of Capt. Joseph, b. Jan. 5, 1720. By the first wife he had two, by the second, nine children. He died in Lincoln, May 16, 1786, and his widow d. March 10, 1791. John Hoar was a resident of Lexington, Watertown and Lincoln, the changes not being wholly due to removals, but partly to alterations in town boundaries. He held various town offices, was assessor and selectman for several years, and one of the founders of the church. During the French and Indian war, July 14, 1748, at Fort Dummer, he was taken prisoner and remained a captive among the Indians for three months. He participated in the fight at Concord Bridge, April 19, 1775, being a member of the company of which his son Samuel was a lieu-

---

\*The fifth in direct descent in my maternal line.—L. B. P.

tenant. His name leads those of the eight soldiers, who made affidavit, April 23, 1775, to their experiences on the day of the fight, the first of the depositions sent to England by a fast sailing vessel from Salem.—(See Remembrancer I., 85.) 2. Daniel, m. Nov. 2, 1743, Rebecca Brooks; d. in Westminster, leaving two sons and two daughters. 3. Lucy, m. John Brooks. 4. Timothy, b. 1716; m. Abigail Brooks, Jan. 23, 1752. 5. Jonathan, b. 1719; graduate of Harvard 1740; major 1755, lieutenant-colonel 1756, and colonel 1760, serving in the French and Indian war 1744-1763; appointed Governor of Newfoundland, etc., but died aet. 52, in 1771, on his passage from England to the colonies. 6. Elizabeth, m. ——— Whittemore. 7. Mary, m. Zachariah Whittemore.

- IV. Jonathan, d. at the Castle, a soldier, Oct. 26, 1702.
- V. Joseph, d. at sea, 1707.
- VI. Benjamin, wife Esther.
- VII. Mary, b. March 14, 1689; d. June 10, 1702.
- VIII. Samuel, b. April 6, 1691.
- IX. Isaac, b. May 18, 1695; m. Anna ———, and lived in Sudbury.
- X. David, b. Nov. 14, 1698.
- XI. Elizabeth, b. Feb. 22, 1701.

Closing here my extracts from the compilation by the Hon. Henry Stedman Nourse, of material collected by Senator Hoar, with much laborious research and after repeated visits to England, I would refer those desiring further information to his full and very interesting manuscript, as published in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register of Boston for January, April and July, 1899.

In conclusion, I add to my maternal ancestry, as given by the record of Senator Hoar as follows, thus bringing it down concisely to the present time, referring for particulars to the record of my paternal ancestry as contained in previous pages. The first of the seven children of Capt. Leonard Hoar was:

- 6. Joseph (Deacon) Hoar, born at Concord, Mass., Dec. 5,



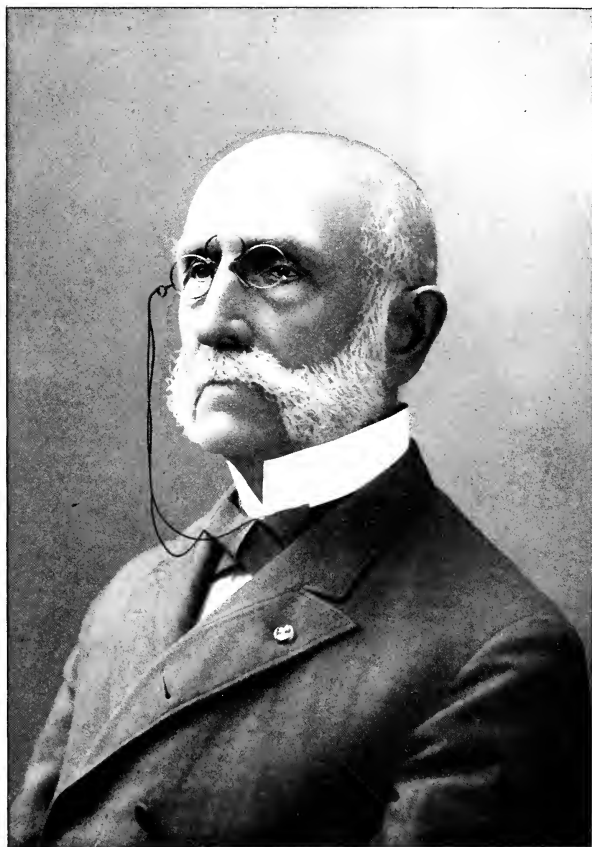
1707, died at Brimfield, Nov. 7, 1797. Married Deborah Colton May 10, 1736; died January 8, 1800.

7. Samuel (Lieutenant) Hoar, the youngest of six children, born July 24, 1746, died May 10, 1828; married at Brimfield, Mass., Dorothy Hitchcock, July 1, 1773; died at Homer, N. Y., May 10, 1828.
8. Lucina Hoar, the ninth of eleven children, born at Brimfield, Mass., Oct. 31, 1790, died at Gouverneur, N. Y., Oct. 3, 1873; married at Homer, N. Y., Nov. 10, 1814, Lewis Baldwin Parsons, born at Williamstown, Mass., April 30, 1793, died at Detroit, Mich, Dec. 21, 1855.









*Louis B. Parsons*

RAIL AND RIVER  
ARMY TRANSPORTATION

.....IN THE.....

CIVIL WAR.

.....BY.....

GEN. LEWIS B. PARSONS.

(IN CHARGE THEREOF.)

## INTRODUCTORY.

---

The following article was prepared at the solicitation of members of the Loyal Legion and other comrades interested, as also at the suggestion of the editor of McClure's Magazine, in response to an article by Mr. Charles A. Dana, assistant Secretary of War, published therein. Owing to illness the article was not forwarded for three or four months and was then declined on the alleged ground of delay. On renewed solicitation, it is now published with some additions, not only as a matter of justice, but as perhaps of some public interest in regard to a Department of War which has recently attracted attention and about which, as connected with the Civil War, nothing has been published and little is known.

RAIL AND RIVER  
ARMY TRANSPORTATION  
IN THE  
CIVIL WAR.

---

In a book recently issued from the press, written by the late Charles A. Dana, ex-assistant Secretary of War, entitled "Recollections of the Civil War," is given an account of a movement of such magnitude and importance as to be characterized by Secretary Stanton as "*the most extraordinary and successful of its kind in the annals of warfare,*" and with which I was especially connected. I have never, nor do I think has any one else, since the war, written anything for publication in regard to the services of the Department of Rail and River Transportation during the nearly four and a half years of my connection therewith. Although often requested by magazines and other papers to write articles pertaining thereto, I have ever declined, believing the general public took little interest in war, beyond reports of battles fought and their results. The clash of arms, the stricken field with its sad surroundings and a few chief actors therein, generally absorb the attention and elicit the applause, leaving to those whose earnest efforts made victory possible, as their chief reward the consciousness of duty performed and a country saved and glorified. Hence, with this and the history of my department as it appears in my reports and correspondence, now published in the Rebellion Records, I have been content. But in this instance, as I think Mr. Dana's statements are not sustained by the facts, or that conclusions would be drawn there-

from not warranted, I have felt justified in giving more fully an account of the events as they occurred, as also in making some additional statements of the work done and the part performed by the Department of Rail and River Transportation, in illustration of the services of those connected therewith, in securing the success of our armies in the late Civil War.

Early in the war, when there was at St. Louis and in the West, great irregularity and confusion in the transportation service, owing to the rapid concentration and movement of vast bodies of troops, my superior officer, Gen. Allen, learning of my previous experience in railroad construction and management, charged me with seeking a remedy. My success in doing so, unfortunately for me, kept me in a department of duty so unsatisfactory that I twice tendered my resignation, in order to enter field service, which being refused, I was kept for three years in a continually increasing sphere of responsibility as chief of Rail and River Transportation of the Armies of the Valley of the Mississippi. In 1864, the Secretary of War ordered me to Washington, to take general charge from that point of all rail and river transportation of our armies and make national the system I had so successfully inaugurated in the West, also requiring me to prepare modifications of the army regulations to that end, which were approved and adopted.

The following is an extract from Mr. Dana's book :

### **"MOVING AN ARMY CORPS 1,400 MILES."**

---

"The election was hardly over before the people of the North began to prepare Thanksgiving boxes for the army. From Philadelphia I received a message asking for transportation to Sheridan's army for boxes containing 4,000 turkeys, and heaven knows what else, as a Thanksgiving dinner for the brave fellows.

"A couple of months later, in January, 1865, a piece of work not so different from the 'turkey business,' but on a rather larger scale, *fell to me*. This was the transfer of the



Twenty-third Army Corps, commanded by Major-General John M. Schofield, from its position on the Tennessee River to Chesapeake Bay. Grant had ordered the Corps transferred as quickly as possible, and Mr. Stanton turned over the direction of it to me. On January 10, I telegraphed Grant at City Point the plan to be followed. This, briefly, was to send Col. Lewis B. Parsons, chief of railroad and river transportation, to the West to take charge of the Corps. I proposed to move the whole body by boats to Parkersburg, if navigation allowed, and thence by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad to Annapolis.

"If the Ohio River should be frozen, I proposed to move the Corps by rail from Cairo, Evansville and Jeffersonville to Parkersburg or Bellaire, according to circumstances. Commanders along the proposed route were advised of the removal and ordered to prepare steamboats and transports. Loyal officers of railroads were requested to meet Col. Parsons at given points to arrange for the concentration of rolling stock in case the river could not be used. Liquor shops were ordered closed along the route, and arrangements were made for the comfort of the troops by supplying them as often as once in every hundred miles of travel with an abundance of hot coffee in addition to their rations.

"Colonel Parsons left on the 11th for Louisville, where he arrived on the 13th. By the morning of the 18th he had started the first division from the mouth of the Tennessee up the Ohio, and had transportation ready for the rest of the Corps. He then hurried to Cincinnati, where on the 21st, as the river was too full of ice to permit a further transfer by water, he loaded some 3,000 men on the cars waiting there, and started them eastward. The rest of the Corps rapidly followed. In spite of fogs and ice on the river, and broken rails and machinery on the railroads, the entire army Corps was encamped on the banks of the Potomac on February 2.

"The distance transported was nearly 1,400 miles, about equally divided between land and water. The average time of transportation from the embarkment on the Tennessee to the arrival on the banks of the Potomac was not exceeding

eleven days ; and what is still more important was the fact that during the whole movement not a single accident happened, causing loss of life, limb or property, except in the single instance of a soldier jumping from a car, under an apprehension of danger. He lost his life, when, had he remained quiet, he would have been as safe as were his comrades in the same car."

In January, 1865, while discharging my duties under the direct orders of the Secretary of War, and the Quartermaster-General, Mr. Dana, the assistant Secretary of War, in the absence of Secretary Stanton, requested my presence at his office, where the following brief, substantial, if not verbatim, interview took place :

Dana : How soon can the Twenty-third Army Corps of 20,000 men and 1,000 animals, with its artillery, be transported from Eastport, Miss., to the Chesapeake Bay?

Parsons : I think it might be done in 30 days.

Dana : Will you undertake to do it in 30 days?

Reflecting a little on so important a question, I replied : "Yes, if you will give me all power necessary," meaning the right to use the name of the Secretary of War in seizure of cars, boats, etc., if I deemed it essential.

Dana : How soon can you start West?

Parsons : By the first train.

After a brief conversation as to routes and means, familiar to me by long experience, the interview closed, and was, I think, the only one I ever had with and, in fact, the only time I ever saw Mr. Dana. Soon after he sent me my orders and telegraphed General Robert Allen, supervising quartermaster at Louisville, that I had started West to take charge of the movement. This, with three or four unimportant telegrams to me while on the way, was, so far as I am aware, *all* the connection Mr. Dana had with the transfer of the Twenty-third Army Corps—all which appears in my report to Secretary Stanton. (See Rebellion Records Vols. 99 and 100.)

After telegraphing to various railroad and other officials I left on the first train. While en route I kept up so active a

telegraphic correspondence with army, railroad and steamboat officials in the West that I was daily advised from all points, and had so arranged matters that when I reached Paducah, boats with convoys, over fifty in all, were rapidly passing up the Tennessee, or gathering at its mouth. I then proceeded up the river until I met the first division coming down, when, finding everything progressing satisfactorily, I sent an officer to assist and returned to the Ohio. There I remained long enough to make ample arrangements for the safety and comfort of the troops for so long a winter voyage, and then took the cars for Louisville, where I arrived in advance of any boats. As the weather had become very cold, and ice was forming so rapidly as to render the passage of the canal difficult, I was obliged to seize it exclusively for Government service. In the meantime, as it seemed certain we could not proceed beyond Cincinnati by boat, I ordered a concentration of cars at that place and, taking the train again, I reached there as the boats began to arrive. The transfer to the cars immediately commenced, and proceeded at the rate of from three to four thousand men per day, notwithstanding the rising of a fog in the afternoon, so dense as to prevent for more than thirty hours any movement of a large part of the fleet below. Two days later the weather moderated so much that I ordered boats bearing over six thousand troops to be ready to proceed up the Ohio to Parkersburg, and one had departed, when a telegram from that place reporting severe weather compelled its recall and the trans-shipment of the entire Corps at Cincinnati. From that point to Columbus, Ohio, the railroad facilities were most satisfactory, but from thence to Wheeling, Va., we were confined to the Ohio Central Route, which, being bankrupt and in the hands of a receiver, with its track in so unsafe a condition as to threaten disaster, gave me greater solicitude than any other part of the route, not excepting the passage of the Alleghany Mountains—a solicitude proved to have been well founded, as trains of troops were repeatedly thrown from the track, this occurring once on a high and dangerous bridge. Owing to this condition, I remained on the line, tak-

ing personal supervision by night and by day of the transfer, until the last car reached Wheeling and was safe on its way over the mountains. How great was my relief on reaching Washington the next day, to find the entire army safely encamped on the banks of the Potomac, I leave others to judge, who have been responsible for the lives of thousands under like circumstances, and close this subject with an extract from my report to Secretary Stanton.

“The distance transported was nearly fourteen hundred miles, about equally divided between land and water. The average time of transportation, from the embarkation on the Tennessee to the arrival on the banks of the Potomac, was not exceeding eleven days; and, what is still more important is the fact that during the whole movement not a single accident has happened causing loss of life, limb or property, except in the single instance of a soldier improperly jumping from a car, under apprehension of danger, by which he lost his life, when, had he remained quiet, he would have been as safe as were his comrades in the same car.

“The transfer of so large an army, with ample time and preparation for so great a distance, even in summer weather, would of itself be a marked event; but when it is understood that not beyond four or five days had elapsed after the movement was decided upon in Washington, before the embarkation of the troops had actually commenced upon the banks of the Tennessee, nearly fourteen hundred miles distant, and that within an average time of eleven days from the time of its embarkation, so large an army, with its artillery and animals, was quietly encamped upon the banks of the Potomac, and that the transfer had been made along rivers obstructed by fog and ice, over mountains during violent snowstorms and amid the unusual severities of midwinter in a northern climate, with all the doubts, constant uncertainties and changes herein mentioned, as to routes and points of transfer, at a period of the year, too, when accidents upon railroads, arising from the breaking of machinery or rails in ordinary transportation are of frequent occurrence, many of a serious and fatal character

having occurred during this time on other roads; and when it is known that the comfort of the troops had been so carefully provided for, and the police of the different roads so thoroughly organized that during the whole movement not the least injury of person or loss of property occurred, with the exception of one soldier above alluded to, and that the condition of the troops was in all respects as good for meeting the enemies of their country as it was on the day of their departure from the banks of the Tennessee—under such circumstances am I not justified in characterizing this movement as an event remarkable in design and successful in execution, the like of which has never before occurred?”

With this statement and a reference to the “Rebellion Records,” Vols. 99 and 109, I leave it to my comrades and others to decide whether this “piece of work not so different from the turkey business, but on a larger scale,” “*fell*” to Mr. Dana, or to myself to perform; whether the labor, the anxious days and sleepless nights, the responsibility for the lives of so many comrades in such constant peril were those of Mr. Dana sitting quietly in the War office, or my own, in the discharge of my duty under orders; also, whether if a disaster resulting in loss of many lives had occurred he would have met the responsibility and faced the censure sure to follow, or left me in that most uncomfortable position. And I submit whether it was quite fair for Mr. Dana, at the close of his article, to appropriate from my report, with slight verbal changes, my summary of results accomplished without note or quotation marks.

Mr. Dana also writes of routes: “I (he) proposed to move the Corps,” of “officers of railroads requested to meet Col. Parsons at different points,” of “arrangements made for the comfort of troops by providing hot coffee,” etc., etc., the inference being, I think, that the work was done by his personal orders. I need only say that the *fact* fully appear, so far as I am aware, in my reports.

In daily communication with Washington, I was aware that the success of the movement was very satisfactory to Secretary Stanton, but not to the extent I found it to be on

going to the War Office to report, as on my entrance Mr. Stanton greeted me with a cordiality quite extraordinary, saying, among other things, "Colonel, your success is without a parallel in the movement of armies. I wish you to make a special report," which I did, and which may be seen in the ninety-ninth volume of the Rebellion Records, but a more detailed report being called for, I made one showing not only "*what*" was done, but "*how*" it was done, which was published in the same volume. My report attracted attention in Europe as well as at home, English and French authorities admitting it to surpass, "if not exaggerated," any similar movement of so large an army under like circumstances. At my interview with the secretary, Mr. Henry J. Raymond, the celebrated editor of the New York Times, was present. I had never seen him before, or been in the office of the Times, but in the July following he wrote an editorial in his paper relative to this, as well as to the general management of my department of duty, such as could only have been inspired by Secretary Stanton; and from which, under the circumstances, I think I may be pardoned for quoting:

"The enormous capability of the United States for war was forcibly set forth at a meeting of the alumni of Yale College a few days since, by Gen. Lewis B. Parsons, in the statement that since the surrender of Gen. Jo Johnston the War Department has mustered out of the service and sent home over seven hundred thousand men. It was added, and the declaration was doubtless a surprise to the country, that at the close of hostilities by the event above named, the Union Army amounted to very nearly one million of men. \* \* \* No officer of the United States Army could speak with a more correct knowledge than did General Parsons of the numbers and efficiency of the armies of the Union, for no one perhaps had more experience than he in their organization, subsistence and handling. \* \* \* We venture the assertion that if Secretary Stanton were called on to name the officer that more than any other had distinguished himself in the task of wielding the vast machinery of the Union Armies during all the stages of the conflict, in re-

sponse to the plans and requirements of our generals, he would with little hesitation designate Gen. Lewis B. Parsons, of St. Louis.

“When the war broke out, General Parsons, already distinguished in the West for railroad management, offered his services to the Government, which were accepted, and he was appointed an officer in the quartermaster’s department. He rapidly succeeded in his peculiar field of labor until the entire movements of the Union armies in the Mississippi Valley were brought within his sphere as chief of the Transportation Bureau. It is to his matchless combinations that must be attributed much of the efficiency and success that almost invariably marked every military movement in the West.

“When the climax of General Grant’s Western renown was reached in the battles before Chattanooga and he was transferred to the command of all the armies, with headquarters at Washington, he lost no time in bringing General (then Colonel) Parsons to Washington to direct from that center the machinery of which he had become so completely the master. It is not worth while to attempt here any detailed account of General Parsons’ services at Washington. We will only mention one instance of his marvelous success. In the depth of the past winter it became necessary to transfer Gen. Schofield’s army corps from Eastport, on the Tennessee River, to the East. The order was given to General Parsons, and in less than fourteen days the entire corps was encamped on the Potomac, having been moved a distance of 1,500 miles without the loss of a man, an animal or a gun. The movement occurred amid the season of intensest cold, and the necessity of a transshipment from boats on the Ohio River (suddenly blocked with ice) to railroads was involved. We happened to know that Secretary Stanton pronounced this achievement ‘*without a parallel in the movement of armies.*’ ”

In explanation I might add, though obvious to practical minds, that three years’ experience as chief of transportation in the Valley of the Mississippi, my knowledge by personal observation of the entire field of operations, my extended ac-

quaintance not only with army and railroad officials, but also with river men and the means of transportation by land and water, acquired in moving hundreds of thousands of soldiers on the shortest notice—in bodies of from 1,000 to 40,000—often for long distances, in all seasons of the year and under ever-varying conditions, rendered possible the successful movement of the Twenty-third Army Corps.

I publish the above plain statement of facts for two reasons: First, because Mr. Dana has, perhaps unintentionally, done me an injustice which my silence might seem to indorse. and, second, because such statement is proper as a matter of history, in which many besides myself acted a conspicuous part, for which credit is in justice their due.

In conclusion, as so little has been written or is known by the general public of some great movements in the far West, and the means by which they were made successful, at the risk of being tedious I will venture to quote from one of my reports to the War Department, found in Vol. 109, page 704, of the Rebellion Records, an account of one or two of the expeditions above alluded to, one of which was of such importance that I was ordered to accompany it as a member of General Sherman's staff in charge of the transport fleet.

On the 11th of December, 1862, a telegraphic order from General Grant, dated December 9, near Oxford, Miss., was sent to my office in St. Louis by General Robert Allen, supervising quartermaster, requiring transportation at Memphis, Tenn., by the 18th, or in six days from my receipt of the order, to move General Sherman's army of about 40,000 men, including cavalry, artillery and animal transportation, for the first movement on Vicksburg. It being midwinter, and when there were but eight boats suitable for the purpose in the harbor of St. Louis, and during a period of great scarcity of fuel, it was deemed impossible by General Allen to comply with the order, and on the same day (January 11) he so telegraphed General Grant (see Vol. 17, part 2d, Rebellion Records, page 399). But by seizing boats, under telegraphic orders, at various points on the Western rivers, as also all private coal in St.



Louis, I was able to secure the transportation required, being over seventy boats, and had them at the wharf in Memphis, four hundred and fifty miles distant from St. Louis, on the 18th, in compliance with the order of General Grant. Within forty hours thereafter the army was embarked, the boats fueled, and on the 26th, about five days after leaving Memphis, the army disembarked at Chickasaw Bayou on the Yazoo River, five miles in the rear of Vicksburg and 400 miles from Memphis; and at once moved to the front and engaged the enemy. After two days' gallant, though unsuccessful fighting, and the loss of over eighteen hundred men, on the orders of General Sherman I prepared eleven of the largest boats, by protecting the boilers and machinery with bales of hay, to move General Steele's command of thirteen thousand men for a night attack by the army and navy upon the strong fortifications at Haines' Bluff, further up the Yazoo. The order was executed and the command on board within twelve hours after it was given, but owing to a dense fog the attack was delayed, and the design becoming known to the enemy it became impracticable. The next evening, December 31, 1862, at about four o'clock of one of the shortest days of the year, I was directed by General Sherman to embark the whole army in the shortest possible time, as it was under orders to leave its position three miles inland after dark, march to the river and embark without delay. Many of the transports had at the time left their positions and were scattered for miles in procuring fuel, or were in use for hospital and other purposes, yet I again brought them together, arranged them in proper order, and the whole army, with all its transportation and supplies, embarked before eight o'clock the next morning, without the loss of a single animal, gun, or a pound of stores, brought to the shore and left the river free from accident or loss of a single life from the advancing enemy.

Of the work of such a night no one can have any proper conception who was not on the ground, or is not intimately familiar with similar military movements; and I question if a like speedy and safe embarkation of so large an army, in the

face of a victorious enemy, was ever before effected, under any commander.

On reaching the Mississippi, the expedition under Major-General McClernand, who there assumed command, moved north to the mouth of White River, thence through the "cut-off" up the Arkansas, at an extremely low stage of the river, and, on the 9th of January, having moved nearly three hundred miles from the Yazoo, notwithstanding the great difficulty in procuring fuel, was again disembarked near Arkansas Post, and, in connection with the navy, surrounded, attacked and carried the enemy's elaborate fortifications at that place, captured six thousand prisoners, with all their supplies, destroyed their works, dispatched the prisoners northward, re-embarked within five days from the time of landing, again moved southward, and soon after landed opposite Vicksburg to commence the celebrated siege of that place. In regard to this movement I quote an extract from a letter I received from General Sherman as I was about retiring from service: "I more especially recall the fact that you collected at Memphis in December, 1862, boats enough to transport forty thousand men with full equipment and stores on less than a week's notice, and subsequently that you supplied an army of 100,000 men operating near Vicksburg for six months without men or horses being in want for a single day."

---

I also give an extract from a letter I received from General Grant:

"Headquarters Armies of the United States,  
Washington, D. C., May 20, 1865.

Dear General:—I have long contemplated writing you and expressing my satisfaction with the manner in which you have discharged the very responsible and difficult duties of Superintendent of River and Railroad Transportation for the armies both in the West and East.

The position is second in importance to no other connected with the military service, and to have been appointed to

it at the beginning of a war of the magnitude and duration of this, and holding it to its close, providing transportation for whole armies with all that pertains to them for thousands of miles, adjusting accounts involving millions of money, doing justice to all and never delaying any military operation dependent upon you, evidences an honesty of purpose, business intelligence, and executive ability of the highest order." \* \* \*

LEWIS B. PARSONS,  
Brig. and Brevet Maj.-General.

Flora, Ill., Nov. 1, 1899.



PROMINENT PERSONS WHO HAVE COUNTENANCED  
THE  
MONUMENTING OF DECEASED CONFEDERATES  
AS HISTORIC PARTS OF AMERICAN SOLDIERY.

---

Endorsement by one of the Most Important Union Officers:

MAJ. GEN. LEWIS B. PARSONS,  
OF ILLINOIS,  
Chief of Rail and River Transportation U. S. A.  
during the Civil War.

---

Many letters were written to General Underwood by General! Parsons direct, but the following, transmitting a donation to the Monument Fund through Gen. John C. Black, is so full of noble sentiments that it is reproduced here for the edification of all who may have the pleasure of reading it.

Gen. John C. Black :

My Dear General:—I am glad to see a monument is being erected in cosmopolitan Chicago in memory of the Confederate dead, for which I enclose a small contribution. (A check for \$10.00 is referred to.) Brave men ever respect bravery in friend or foe, and all the more when accompanied with great sacrifices and suffering for a cause believed to be just, though history may render a different verdict. And,

surely, rarely have men been more daring, or periled more, or suffered more, or given stronger evidence of acting from conviction than did those who wore the gray. Again, as we desire a perfectly restored Union—a Union based on hearts, as well as on laws, and more than on conquest, every motive of interest as well as of kindred prompts to fraternal action.

“To err is human, to forgive is divine.” I hope that the time is not far distant when on a common commemoration day, the blue and the gray may join in placing flowers on the graves of their fallen brothers. Does truest loyalty forbid the tribute of a flower—aye, of a tear? Does an Englishman in reading of the daring deeds of the War of the Roses, pause before applauding, to consider on which side they occurred?

Twin monuments throughout our land will in ages to come be but tributes to heroic deeds of men of a common origin, brothers of a gallant race; evidences, too, that from conflicts past has arisen a stronger nationality, a higher and better civilization, based on what alone can be enduring—charity, a common brotherhood, the foundation of an enlightened Christianity, challenging the respect and admiration of mankind. As always, very truly yours,

LEWIS B. PARSONS.

The above is copied from a volume of proceedings connected with the erection of monument for Confederate dead in Chicago, May 30, 1895.



8226













