Paul Thayer,

My Dear Nephew:-

During the past few years I have become specially interested in the history of my own family. I regret very much that I did not commence its study during the lifetime of my father whose strong mind was a veritable mine of old time memories. The geneological memoranda I have gathered from various sources, that of the Princes principally from a pamphlet entitled,

ELDER JOHN PRINCE

Of Hull Mass.

A Memorial, Biographical and Geneological,

By George Prince, of the 6th. Generation.

The Spauldings I gathered from a large history of the family published several years ago; the Bryants and Warrens from several sources. The Princes, Spauldings, Bryants and Warrens complete your geneology on your mother's side. Your father will no doubt be able to furnish that on your paternal side. It is an honorable record of which you may be proud and to which it is my earnest prayer your life may add new luster. I take the liberty of adding some pictures which may at least give variety if not value to the sketch.

Sincerely your uncle,

Bloomington, Illinois,

July 1, 1902.

"The tiny sparkling lustres of the land
Fall one by one from fame's neglecting hand;
Lethean gulfs receive them as they fall
And dark oblivion soon absorbs them all."

The little town of Hull at the entrance of Boston Harbor, though the smallest in the Commonwealth, is full of interesting history, unwritten, save here and there fragments that have been preserved to us by a few antiquarians.

Although we may not be permitted to go back to the old Norse legends that, perhaps rather obscurely, point to this outlying promontory as the "Krossaness" or burial place of Thorvald in the year 1004; nor to the early voyages of the Biscayan fishermen to these waters in the sixteenth century, which latter records may be still hidden from us, mouldering perhaps in some garret on the coast of Normandy, there can be but little doubt but that those English ships sent out by Gorges from Somerset as early as 1608-9, to fish at Monhegan and St. Georges (the "Pentacost harbor" of Weymouth) made occasional visits to this fishing ground. Those Somerset fishermen seen there by John Smith in 1614, and whom Gov. Bradford writes, "fished many years at Monhiggon", were noble generous hearted men. They supplied the starving Plymouth Pilgrims in 1621 with food and clothing; they adopted and christened that noble Indian chief "Moratigon", giving him the English name of "Capt. John Somerset." He it was that greeted the Pilgrim Fathers with the cheering words, "Much welcome,

Englishmen." The Pilgrims spelt his name, "Samoset" owing to the imperfect pronunciation of their Indian guest.

The first authentic notices we have of permanent settlements at Hull date about 1621-2 and again when Oldham, Conant, Lyford, and others resided there, built houses and had religious services.

There must have been quite a respectable settlement at Hull as early as 1628, for in Gov. Bradford's account of the apportionment of the expenses incurred in arresting Morton of Perry Mount, which amounted to 12 pounds, 7 shillings, Plymouth paid 2 pounds, 10shillings, and Natoscot 1 pound, 10 shillings, more than half as much as Plymouth. In 1644 it was incorporated under the name of Hull. It then had twenty houses and a settled minister, the Rev. Marmaduke Mathews.

The original record of the first division of house lots and lands is lost. A copy of it made in 1657 is in existence; it gives the names of John Prince, Benj. Bosworth, Nicholas Baker and Thomas Loring, who were among the first settlers of Hingham, having drawn town lots there in 1635. There were also Thos. Jones, John Benson, Henry Chamberlyn, Thos. Chaffee, Samuel Ward and Abraham Jones, who had also drawn land at Hingham. They urged John Prince to become their pastor but he compromised the matter by accepting the office of "Ruling Elder".

The yet unwritten history of Hull I leave to her future historians. These few pages will be devoted to a partial history of her first Ruling Elder and religious teacher, Elder John Prince.

There are many persons who have little genius or fondness for the details of pedigree, unless they can boast of royal descent or Norman blood. To such it is no source of pride to be able to trace their descent from some one or more of those grand old Puritans or Pilgrim Fathers whose patents of nobility were won from the virgin soil and salt waters of America- who planted the seeds of religious and political liberty on the new shores of the Western Continent. If this little history should fall into the hands of any such indifferent descendant of the pioneers of New England, he can pass it on to some of his children or grand children, who, perchance, may treasure it more highly.

1. John Prince, born in 1610, was a student at Oxford University, England, under the tuition of his maternal grandfather, Rev. John Tolderbury, and was expected to succeed his father, Rev. John Prince, as Rector of East Shefford Church in Berkshire, but his ideas of church government conflicting with those of Archbishop Laud, he was obliged to flee from his displeasure and persecution.

In the year 1633, he left the delightful classic grounds of Oxford for the wilds of America. He is first mentioned in the records of Cambridge, Mass., as an owner of two lots of land, in 1634- a memorandum to which says, "removed to Hull". He was made a freeman March 4th 1635.

Having formed an acquaintance with the "Hobarts", at Charlestown in 1635, he, with his neighbor Jona. Bosworth, joined their colony and went with them to Hingham at the time of the general dispersion from Boston, 1635.

Nearly all the historical genealogical notices of Elder John Prince

of Hull are conflicting, confused and erroneous, resulting from the remarkably coincident that there were four separate and distinct persons living at the same time in Hull, Hingham and Boston by the name of John Prince. Farmer and Savage each mix them up and confound them badly, and their errors have been copied by most other writers until they have become almost chaotic.

To disentangle this snarl of errors has been the study and agreeable task of the writer, in order to preserve the precious items of family history which were fast becoming obscured by age and misapplication. Much patient sifting of Peter Hobart's entries of births and marriages and a careful comparison with various probate records, wills and old family journals was necessary, as well as a careful examination of the town records of Hull, Hingham, Boston and Cambridge, in order to unravel the web of errors and mystery that existed.

Elder John Prince of Hull, the subject of this history, died at Hull, August, 16, 1676, leaving his widow Ann and eight children.- See Probate record vol. 6, p. 128.

John Prince of Hingham, who settled there in 1639, about the date of Elder Prince's leaving for Hull, died there Feb. 1690 leaving his widow Margaret and three married daughters; Mary, wife of Joseph Joy; Sarah, wife of Thomas Sayer, and Deborah, wife of William King. - See Probate record vol. 8, p. 25.

John Prince of Boston, whose wife was Eliza Collier of Hull, died in Boston Nov. 1670, probably without issue.- See Probate record vol. 7, p. 92.

John Prince, of Boston again, whose wife was Esther Guild, lived in Boston in 1700. - See Probate record vol. 85, p. 491. Thus "confusion worse confounded", was likely to and did, creep into histories of Elder Prince's family.

Fortunately we have one unerring data to start from in tracing the history of John Prince of Hull, viz., the name of the mother of his children, Alice Honor, and a correct list of his sons together with other important data given by his grand-son, Rev. Thos. Prince, the annalist. In prosecuting these researches I have been able to recover many new facts and incidents which can not be otherwise than interesting to his descendants as well as valuable historically to all those who are interested in the study of early times. Below is a reprint of the brief family record made by the Rev. Thomas Prince. It was written in 1728, and is printed in the Mass. Hist. Gen. Reg., vol. 5, p. 378. It says:-

"Mr. John Prince, ruling elder of the church of Hull, N.E., was the eldest son of Rev. Mr. John Prince, rector of East Shefford in Berkshire, Eng., in the reign of King James 1. and Charles 1, of which there was this remarkable- that tho he was one of the conforming Puritans of that day who greatly longed for a further reformation, and had married Elizabeth, granddaughter of Dr. Tolderbury or Toldervery D.D. of Oxford, by whom he had four sons and seven daughters, all grew up; yet all of the children proved conscientious non-conformists, even while their parents lived but without any breach of amity or affection. And thus they continued pretty near together, till the furious and cruel archbishop Laud dispersed them, and drove their eldest son with so many others to this

country in the early times of the Mass. Colony, where, though he was a young gentleman of liberal education, yet, thinking that he had not made sufficient progress in learning for the ministry, he applied himself to husbandry; married Mrs. Alice Honor, by whom he had seven sons and two daughters, and died Aug. 16, 1676, in the 66th. year of his age greatly lamented. The sons, as they grew up, took to the sea. John, the oldest, died at Hull; Joseph, at Quebec; Job was lost in the Channel of England: Samuel died at Middleboro; Benjamin at Jamaica; Isaac at Boston and Thomas, the youngest, at Barbadoux."

By the aid of this indisputable evidence, and also Elder Prince's own last will and testament and other documents, together with the diary of the Rev. Peter Hobart of Hingham, who baptized all his children, we are able to complete and perfect the family record, and correct the many errors now existing which have crept into previous records from many causes.

The date of Elder John Prince's marriage to Alice Honor of Watertown, the mother of his children, was May, 1637, the probable date of his permanent location at Hull. Her pedigree is not known. Her grandson, the Rev. Thomas PRince, calls her "Mrs." but it is conceded that such prefix was often used in those times as a title of respect and veneration bestowed upon single ladies of eminent character and standing. John Prince and Alice Honor had evidently been acquainted for several years, since 1633, when they were together at Watertown; she died about 1668. His second wife and widow, Anna Barstow, then the wife of William Barstow, was also at Watertown in 1634. Barstow moved to Scituate

about 1649, where his daughter Martha was born in 1655, who afterwards became the wife of Elder John Prince's fourth son Samuel in 1674. Elder Prince married the widow Barstow of Scituate about 1670. His youngest child, Thomas was then but twelve years of age.

In the will, which we give, verbatim, below, it will be seen that the names of the sons are the same as those given in the above record of Rev. Thomas Prince, except Benjamin, who died, unmarried, before his father. This will, which is on file in the Probate office of Suffolk County, is in Elder Princes own handwriting. It is written in his usual plain, legible hand, excepting the last clause and signature, which must have been added a short time before his death, as his writing had then become tremulous, showing the change that was fast falling upon him.

Last Will and Testament of Elder John Prince of Hull, Mass.-who died Aug. 16, 1676.

"It being the divine appointment of the most High good and souveraign God that all men must dye, and yet that none shall know the time when, therefore have I, John Prince Senior of Hull in the Massachusetts Colony in New England being now in my perfect sense and having perfect use of my reason though but weak in body made this my last will and testament this nineth day of May in the year of our lord one thousand six hundred and seventy six, and therefore after the solemn committence of my soul into the hands of God who gave it and my body to bee decently intered, conserning that small portion of outward estate the Lord hath given me thus to dispose off it.

"First that all my lawful debts be paid.

"Secondly that for this year sixty six and in the year sixty

seven (he intented to make these dates '76 and '77) the whole profitts off my whole estate by sea and land bee to and for the use and benefitt of my dearly beloved wife for her mayntaynance and my youngest son Thomas being yet under age; and because that Isaac Prince will be of age for himself this year seventy six that his mother my dearly beloved wife having as aforesaid the profitts of the whole estate because she may and my will is she should, and that he be clothed out of the profits of my estate as the rest of his brethren have been by me, and that he then when he goith for himself he shall have a years dyett washing and lodging out of the income of my estate and the profits of his employ to and for his own behoof or profit as his other brethren have had. Furthermore my will is concerning my youngest son Thomas Prince yet under age that he live with his mother until the end of the year seventy eight and then in that year the other of my sons as John Joseph and Samuel Prince take care to see the estate so managed as their mother my beloved wife be maintained and their brother Thomas have his clothing and his years diet washing and lodging and his imploy and the profit of it for himself as all his brethren have had before time.

"These premices being performed by my beloved sons, John and Joseph Prince whom I constitute as executors of this my last will and testament, that then my whole estate be equaly divided between all alike as namely John Prince Joseph Prince Elizabeth Prince wife to Josiah Loring Martha Prince now wife to Christopher Wheaton, Job Prince, Samuel Prince, Isaac Prince and Thomas Prince to all of these alike as they may divide

it amongst themselves or call any of their friends whom they may agree on for them to do it for them and if either of them shall strive or endeavor by any kink in law to get more than his equal share my will then is that he shall have no part of my estate but that it be equally divided amongst the rest, only that John Prince and Joseph Prince being executors may have something for payment as may be agreed on amongst them and their friends.

"And lastly my will is that my beloved wife Anna Prince have the use of the north west room or end of the house as it now is furnished so long as she lives if she shall think good to live in the town and to have a cow kept in the pasture and my children to alow her two bushels of indian corn a piece a year and one bushel of malt and for my nett I will that it be made fit for service by either John or Samuel Prince and they to have the one half of the profit for the maintainence of it and the other half of the profit to my wifes maintainence while she lives and when she dieth to be equally divided as all the rest of my estate.

"I also do will yt my beloved wife have and enjoy the western end of my house as long as she liveth if she continue in the town and yt the proper goods which was my wifes be hers after my death.

Attested and sealed in the presence of us.

Zachariah Whitman. Witness my hd.

Nathaniel Bosworth. John Prince."

Proved Oct. 18, 1676. Recorded vol. 6, p. 128. Inventory vol. 12 p.94- 315 pounds.

Upon Elder Prince's arrival at Hingham in 1635 he was granted a lot of land in "Broad-cove-medows," as per notes, p. 40 to Solomon Lincoln's address in 1835.

There is a deed, dated 1653, given by Thos. and Nath'l. Josselyn of Hingham, to George and Moses Collyer, conveying a"lot of land bordering on the Common of Hingham, containing three acres more or less as we bought it of John Prince of Hull." The Josselyns settled in Hingham in 1637, about the time that Elder Prince and other Hingham settlers are supposed to have moved from Hingham to Hull.

There is abundant evidence in the old mementoes of Hull that John Prince, their ruling elder, was held in great esteem by all his townsmen. To him were referred the local disputes and differences of his neighbors, to him were confided the marriage settlements of wedded couples, and the care of widow's and orphan's estates. He was recognized as a sagacious, intelligent and far-sighted man, which, together with his tolerant nature, made it possible for him to mediate between the most opposite elements in this incongruous society of men. In all sorts of local disputes, from a street broil to a church quarrel, his solution of the conflicting differences were submitted to without a murmur. In addition to his mediatorial acts were his numerous parish amenities incidental to his office of Ruling Elder of the church. He was a true gentleman of the old school, and he won this distinction, not merely from the fact that his ancestors were among the educated and influential, or as one who has mingled with men of learning and polished manners all his life, but rather as one whose

demeanor was so perfectly and naturally courteous and proper as to give him a marked and decided preference among all classes. He had left behind him in the old world, family influences, exalted station and repose, and cast his lot among the wayfarers in the savage wilderness of the western world. He had a mine of wealth in rich hopes and confidence, and a strong reliance on the supporting arm of his God. He continued for nearly thirty years to act as the ruling elder, teacher and shepherd of his little flock. The temporary ministers came and went,- Roger Conant, Mr. Lyford, Mr. Smith, Mr. Mathews, and others- their beloved Elder was one of their own number and remained with them until his death. The Rev. Zachariah Whitman, who came over with his parents in 1635 when but two and one half years old, afterwards graduated from Harvard and was ordained pastor of the church in 1670. During the remaining six years of Elder Prince's life, those two heavenly messengers dwelt side by side, each devoted to the welfare of the little church by the sea.

Although our Oxford student, who later became the first Ruling Elder of the Church at Hull, was a non-conformist with fixed and positive religious convictions, his sectarian views and affiliations were not in full accord with a majority of the Puritans of that time. He was not inclined to doctrinal disquisitions or to claim a preference for one particular creed over all others, consequently he was without that austerity and apparent illiberality that marked the acts of some of the early Puritan settlers. His Quaker neighbors, the Chamberlyns, were cordially treated and equally at home in all the devotional exercises and social meetings at

Hull, they, in full accord with their other neighbors, recognized the Ruling Elder as an exemplary and godly man, and reverenced him as a reliable teacher and guide in things temporal and spiritual.

This little church at Hull was, like that at Plymouth, blessed with a permanent "Ruling Elder" of remarkable endowments, so apt to teach that he attended to all the other duties and works of a minister. The want of a pastor to administer the sacraments and baptisms were in a measure provided for by Mr. Hobart of Hingham, and the occasional visits of other neighboring ministers who alone had power to perform any of the ecclesiastical or priestly prerogatives.

Among the old Plymouth papers is a petition from John Prince and his neighbor, Deacon Nathaniel Bosworth of Hull, dated at Plymouth, June 8, 1671. It is written in Elder Prince's peculiar and forcible style, and replete with expressions of his strong trust in Divine Providence, and his characteristic Christian zeal. The following extracts will give an idea of the petition:-

"The wise providence of the great guider of all men and actions having so ordered, by his providence to bring me here at this time, wherein there hath been brought under consideration that fishing design, at late years found out at Cape Cod, for mackerel with nets..... I would humbly intreat this honored court that I may without any offence present you some particulars..... My humble request is that your honorable court may not have or see just cause why our little town of Hull, though out of your jurisdiction, may not still enjoy the priviledges we have hitherto

held, first because we were some of the first discoverers, and first bringers of it to light-..... and thirdly let me say with all humbleness, that had it not been for some of us we believe it would not have been kept afoot to this time, for our friends in your patent after the first or second voyage had given it off again..... but some of us beating out by evening there, and traveling on the shore at all times and seasons and so discovered the way to take them in the light as well as the dark nights, it had not been so certain a thing as it is now; or had we kept the one thing private it would have been a great obstruction. But we were open hearted to yours and told them what we knew, and we would hope that your honors would be so to us..... Pray account it not a presumption but a humble request in behalf of that little town of ours which hath a great part of its livelihood by fishing. Signed, John Prince, Nath'l. Bosworth."

In the 6th. vol. of the Mass. Gen. Reg. is a copy of another of his petitions presented to the Gen. Court at Boston, March 3, 1675, which is copied almost literally as to spelling etc., as follows:-

"To The Honored Counsell Now Assembled at Boston.

"The petition off your poore petitioners humbly showeth that whereas the Lord by his providence hath cast us to have our abode as inhabitants in this town of Hull in this juncture of time wherein both this place as well as the country is exposed to the wastinge ffury of the most barbarous heathen, which wee are sensable off, and therefore freely willingeto spend our care, our strength, yea we hope our very lives in, and for the defense of this place, and the country, yet being persons whose sole

employment is fishing, and soe at sea, having noe lands nor cattle to mayntayne ourselves or families, but what wee must have hitherto done by the blessing of God by our labors produced from the sea, being therefore now commanded by our chief officer not to go forth on our imploy, desire then to know how wee and ours shall be mayntayned, they having a years provision beforehand, wee none; they having cattle to give milk to their familyes in the summer, wee none; they having cattle and swine to kill for meat, wee none; so that we are like to be put to extremity, both we and ours, for they will not supply us. Therefore our humble request to the honored Counsell is that your honors would please to take our sadd Condission into your Christian and Charitable consideration, that if we be constrained to leave our imploy and not go to sea, but bee kept to garrison the town, that when your Honors would be pleased to gratifie this our wee hope but reasonable request, that wee and ours may bee reasonably provided for, or liberty to follow our imploy, havinge not here but our persons, and some of us it may bee a house but nothinge to mayntayne Us but what our hands with God's blessing must bringe us in; and thus craving excuse for our boldnesse, by troublinge your Honors at this juncture of time, wherein wee are sensible that you are pressed with many other more wighty affaires, hopeing and humbly desiringe that off your Clemency, you will attribute this our troublinge you to our present Urging necessity, Wee in all humblenesse desiringe the good Lord off Heaven, in this and all of your affayres to guide you, Wee take leave to rest.

"Your Honours humble servants in all things to be commanded."

This petition was signed by John Prince, Joseph Prince, Samuel Prince, Isaac Prince and Christopher Wheaton, five of Elder John's family and six of his neighbors.

In 1660 Elder Prince was selected to "decide the controversy between Richard Stubbs and Samuel Baker."

Oct. 2, 1673, Joseph Howe of Boston, deeded to Elder Prince his estate, in trust, for his wife, widow Elizabeth Bunn of Hull, under the conditions of their marriage contract.

Elder Prince's village house and lot of two acres was on the southwest slope of Cushing's Hill, at the head of the lane now enclosed in the Cushing House and the orchard lot. The old well yet seen is supposed to be the Prince well. This house lot was bounded on the N.W. by Geo. Vickerow's lot; S.E. by Nath'l. Bosworth and Nicholas Baker; N.E. by the Sound and S.W. by the town street. He had two acres in the home meadows, bounded N.W. by Edward Bume; S.E. by the minister's meadow; S.W. by the broad bay and N.E. by the march (marsh?) pond and the beach. His one and one half acres on point Allerton was north of John Benson's running to the sea." On the Strawberry Hill he had three quarters of an acre, running to "the steep bank south;" one acre at Whitehead; lot number 10 on Sheep Island, and a lot on the north side Sagamore Hill; also four acres on the south side Peddock's Island, together with the little island adjoining, which still bears the name of "Prince's Head".

The sponge of time has wiped out all those old landmarks and "meresteads" of the early settlers: their identity is gone, and it is no easy

matter now to find the identical spot- to recognize the exact place of their old homes. Their revered graves are likewise unknown; they occupied the eastern end of the old cemetery ground. It is not improbable that some of the old mutilated tomb-stones with inscriptions obliterated, some few fragments of which, at the present time but just peep above the surface of the ground, may possibly belong to the last resting place of some of those venerated fathers of Hull.

Many of the primitive elders of the early church were remarkable men. A Harvard orator has lately said, "They shared the many toils of their townsmen as bone of their bone, flesh of their flesh, for all were of one blood and one faith. They dwelt on the same brotherly level with them as men, yet set apart and above them by their superior education and their sacred office..... They were living lessons of piety, frugality, industry and temperance."

Let us recall to our mind's eye this Oxford student, this religious leader, gentleman and scholar, toiling up from the seashore with the rest of his neighbors bearing the burdens and harvest just won from the depths of the ocean. All the idiotic pride of birth and station, the craving for adulation and slavish homage, if it ever existed, was washed out of him while crossing the ocean, but still his polished manners, his air of gentlemanly refinement remained. He was blest with an amiable wife of correct and saintly demeanor; they were fellow emigrants among the crowds who were hurrying to the New World, and love and destiny brought them together. Recently his descendants have erected a monument to his memory

in the old Hull cemetery.

As stated by the first family historian, Rev. Thomas Prince, all of Elder Prince's sons took to the sea. In the Mass. Archives from 1687 to 1700 are found numerous records of clearances and arrivals of Capt. Job Prince of the ship "James" of Boston; Capt. Thomas Prince of the brig "Dolphin", of Boston; Capt. Samuel Prince of sloop "Tryal" and of "Little Otis" and others; Capt. Joseph Prince and Capt. Isaac in the Naval Service.

That all the boys "took to the sea" was the natural result of their surroundings. From childhood they were familiar with the ocean and the sailor's life, and the instinct thus planted in the fore-elders, descended from sire to son. The salt blood still flows in their descendants. Often it lures the village schoolboy from his desk, the farmer's son from his plow; the restless drop in his veins gives him no peace until he has found his way to some seaport and flung himself upon the "same cradling bosom that rocked his ancestors."

John Prince Jr., the eldest son, was appointed by his father executor of his will, the duties of which appear to have been creditably performed. He was baptized by Peter Hobart of Hingham, May 6, 1638; m. about 1672, Rebecca, supposed the daughter of George and Rebecca(Phippeny) Vickerow of Hull, Elder Prince's next neighbor on the west. She was a cousin to his brother Job Prince's wife, Rebecca Phippeny of Boston. The dwelling house of John Prince Jr. was on Marsh Lane; he died at Hull previous to 1728. His children were Joseph, b. about 1673, who was on the

list of the inhabitants of Boston, preceinct six, in 1695, John b. Nov. 1, 1685, d. 1765- he settled at Barnstable and m. there, about 1714 Reliance Fuller, b. 1691, dau. of John, grand dau. of Mathew, a son of the first Edward Fuller,- their children were John Prince, b. Sept. 16, 1716, Joseph Prince, Rebecca Prince, Samuel Prince, and Hanna Prince b. 1738. The next child of John Prince Jr. was Rebaka, b. about 1687, m. Feb. 24, 1709, Jos. Benson of Hull; she had a daughter, Elizabeth b. May 5, 1720, and twin boys, Benjamin and John, b. March 5, 1724, both d. same year, also the mother March 9, 1724. The youngest child of John Jr. was Experiance, b. Jan. 11, 1689, m. Sept. 18, 1711, Benj. Benson of Boston, a carpenter; she had Benj., b. 1712, and Sarah b. Feb. 15, 1715 (posthumous) Her husband died Oct. 1714, and she married (second time) John Coombs, Nov. 1718. The Boston records give the marriage of "Experaince Coombs to John Foye of Boston, Oct. 20, 1747." Query- was this the third marriage of the above named Experiance?

Elizabeth Prince, baptized Aug. 9, 1640, d. May 13, 1727, m. July 1662 Josiah Loring of Hingham, son of Thomas (first of Hingham then of Hull), he died Feb. 14, 1713. His will, dated July 26, 1712 (vol. 18, p. 62); his estate, value 726 pounds. His son Jona. of Boston executor. Their children were Jane, b. Aug. 9, 1663, m. Samuel Gifford, and had a son Josiah Gifford- settled in Sandwich; Josiah, born Nov. 22, 1665, d. before his father; Samuel, b. July 12, 1668, lived but six years, Job b. Feb. 26, 1670,- his father left him most of his real estate in Hingham; he afterwards settled in Rochester. Eliz. b. April 6, 1672, d.

unmarried Jan. 1743. Johnathan b. April 24, 1674, settled in Boston, m. Elizabeth Austin of Charlestown; he was one of the selectmen from 1729 to 1731 in company with Samuel Adams; he died without issue Oct. 15, 1752,- will recorded vol. 47, p. 50. Josiah Loring of Hingham contributed to build the old Meeting House at Hingham in 1680, 3 pounds, 17 shillings and one pence. His wife's was the "fourth seate for the women in the body of the house." His own seat was "ye foreseate in ye gallery for men." His daughter Jane's was in "ye second seate in gallery for ye maids." His son, Josiah's "ye seocond seate in ye gallery for young men." His other children were too young to have "seates" assigned to them.

Joseph Prince, bapt. Nov. 26, 1642, m. Dec. 7, 1670 Joanna, b. Nov. 9, 1654, dau. of Sec'y. Morton of Plymouth. He was a soldier on Phipps expedition to Port Royal in 1694, afterwards a prisoner of war at Quebec, and d. there in 1695. Their children were Joseph b. in 1671, d. 1694. Joanna, b. 1676, m. John Lathrop of Barnstable, Jan. 21, 1697. Lydia, b. 1685, m. Ebin. Wiborn, 1706. Mercy b. baout 1688. Their dwelling house was on Marsh Lane. The widow and children sold their property at Hull in 1697, having moved to Boston.

Martha Prince, bapt. Aug. 10, 1645, m. 1674 to Christopher Wheaton of Hull, the fourth son of Robert and Alice of Salem. He was a soldier in the Indian War under Capt. Johnson. He died at Hull March 20, 1694. They had one son, Christopher, b. 1675, m. Sarah ------, d. at Hingham 1719, leaving three children: Christopher, Josiah and Benjamin,- the latter

lived in Mendon, and died Aug. 12, 1726; he married Margaret _____ was a cooper; had four children: Benjamin, who married Abigail Green in 1719, Daniel, David and Samuel who married Feb. 1718, and had a dau., Mary, b. Oct. 1718. We have not been able to trace this family any farther.

Job Prince, bapt. Aug. 22, 1647, m. 1678 Rebecca, daughter of Gamaliel Phippeny, a blockmaker and shipowner of Boston. He bought the homestead property of the Phippeny heirs. The dwelling house was on Front St. bear the draw bridge over Mill Creek. He was Captain of the ship "James" of Boston, for many years; was lost in the English Channel in 1693. His estate was valued at 820 pounds; his widow administered. His children were Rebecca, b.1679; Job, b. NOv. 1680, (a goldsmith), m. Deborah _____, d. at Milford in 1708, probably without issue; Sarah, b. Nov. 1686; Josiah b. Dec. 5, 1688; Gamaliel, b. Nov. 1691, administered on his mother's estate in 1713; Mahitable, b. Sept. 23, 1693, (posthumous), lived six months. The widow married second husband, Clark; she died 1713. We have not been able to trace this family any farther.

Samuel Prince, bapt. Aug. 19, 1649. It is said that he was born in Boston while his mother was there on business. He m. Dec. 9, 1674, Martha Barstow, a dau. of his step mother; he lived at Hull in the easterly end of the homestead; he was a speculative, enterprising man; he owned land in 1677 at Shawmut Neck, Rehobeth, Taunton River. In 1680 he bought the

portions of his father's estate belonging to his brothers Thomas and sisters Elizabeth and Martha. He was master and owner of several vessels. His children by first wife were Samuel, b. Sept. 29, 1675; this son was master of the ship "Sandwich Flower", at the age of nineteen; he probably never married. Martha, b. March 15, 1678, m. Ezra Bourne of Sandwich. John, Ann and Nathan, these last three all died young; their mother died at Hull Dec. 1684. He married his second wife, Mercy, dau. of Geo. Hinkley, in 1686; moved to Sandwich in 1687; d. at Middlebora in 1728; his widow died in 1736. His children by second wife were, Rev. Thomas Prince, the distinguished scholar and pastor of Old South Church, Mary, Enoch, John, Joseph, the last three ship-masters; Moses, a doctor, Nathan, a distinguished clergyman; Mercy and Alice. There have been several accounts published of this family. See Mass. Hist. Gen. Reg., vol. 5th.

Benj. Prince, bapt. April 25, 1652, died unmarried at Jamaica, W.I., before his father.

Isaac Prince, bapt. July 9, 1654 (1655?), m. 1679 Mary, dau. of John Turner Sen. of Scituate; lived in Hull, on Marsh Lane, till about 1700, then in Boston, where he died 1718; his wife d. 1738 aged eighty. He was a sea captain and also was in the military service in 1689. His deposition of cruel treatment under Gov. Andros is deposited in the Mass. Public Archives. His children were Aellp (Alice?), b. 1680; Isaac, b. 1682; Elisha, b. 1684; Mary, b. 1685, m. Joseph Gould of Hull; David, b. 1687, m. Eliza Gould; Jacob, b. 1690, James, b. 1692, Joseph, b. 1694,

m. Mary Townsend of Boston, 1722; Caleb, b. 1695; Ruth, b. 1698; Onnor (Honor?), b. 1701, m. Francis Loud of Weymouth. John J. Loud of Weymouth and the late Hon. Jacob H. Loud are among her descendants. The Boston records contain many particulars relating to Isaax Prince's family. John T. Prince of Joy St. has in manuscript quite a full record of their descendants.

2. Thomas Prince, the youngest of the nine children of Elder John, was bapt. Aug. 8, 1658, (Drake says that he was baptized Aug. 3rd. at Scituate; another writer says, born in Boston.) By his father's will he was given his freedom "at the end of the year seventy eight," Mar.25, 1679, New Style. In 1680 he sold his interest in his father's estate to his brother Samuel, and removed to Boston, where he was taxed in precinct seven, in 1686 to 1695, for "house and traid." He was a shipmaster, sailing from Boston until his death at Barbadoux in 1716 when his widow moved to Duxbury with her children, and married Israel Sylvester, and by him had Ruth, Israel, Grace, the latter married Partridge in 1730. Capt. Thomas Prince commanded the brig "Dolphin", and other Boston vessels sailing to Europe and the West Indies 19 years. He had married in 1685 Ruth Turner, (adau. of John Turner Sr. of Scituate, a son of Humphrey Turner; She was a sister to his brother Isaacs wife, Mary; her daughter was Mary Brewster, dau. of Johnathan and grand dau. of Elder Brewster. Job, the youngest child was born Aug. 1695, m. 1719, Abigail Kimball of Bridgewater who was born in Boston, Jan. 28, 1704; she was the daughter of Capt. Christopher and wife, Sarah Jolls, who were married by Cotton Mather, April,

3, 1701. Capt. Kimball d. on the Spanish Main about 1705; he was from Ipswich, probably descended from Richard Kembal and wife Versula who came over in the "Elizabeth in 1633, with sons, Henry, Richard, John, Thomas, and settled at Ipswich where they had other children and numerous descendants. Sarah Jolls was the only dau. of Capt. Thomas Jolls, a retired ship-master and merchant of Boston; in 1674 he was taxed ten shillings; he had four wives and four children by the first three; by Rebecca he had Thomas, b. April 25, 1672; by Abigaile he had Johnathan, b. March 21, 1674 and probably a daughter Sarah (whose birth is not recorded), perhaps b. in 1675; by his third wife Susanna he had Robert, b. June 2, 1677; his fourth wife and widow was Hannah, widow of Capt. Samuel Winslow, who he married in 1681, by her he had no issue; they resided at her house in Black Horse Lane, now Prince St. Nos. 59-61, where he died in 1686; his widow resided there until 1714. Capt. Thos. Joll's estate was apprized at 566 pounds; his dau. Sarah inherited by will (vol. 11, p. 213) all the property of her breother Thomas, a shipwright of New York who d. in 1696, which included a lot of land on Prince St., now Nos. 60-62, opposite the widow Jolls, this lot she deeded to her brother Robert of Bridgewater, in 1706 and moved there with her two children, Christopher and Abigail, and in 1713 m. Thomas Shurtlef, and had other children.

3. Capt. Job Prince and wife, Abigail Kimball lived at Rocky Nook, Kingston, supposed in the house now occupied by Philip Washburn; he d. at Jamaica, W.I., of small pox, in 1734, leaving one daughter and

4. Kimball Prince, the third son of Job and Abigail, b. May 9, 1726, d. at Kingston, April 10, 1814, m. in 1749 Deborah Fuller, b. Dec. 25, 1729, d. March 4, 1826, aged 97; she was a daughter of Dea. John Fuller and wife Deborah Ring, who lived in the Faunce House at Indian pond, Kingston burnt about five years ago. Dea. John Fuller was born Dec. 19, 1698, d. Sept. 25, 1778, aged 80. He descended from Dea. Dr. Samuel Fuller and wife Bridget Lee, of the Plymouth Pilgrims. His great grand daughter, Mrs. Mercy Cushman, of Indian Pond, who died Dec. 23, 1887 aged 94 years, 9 months, left an old cradle brought from England by some of the "Mayflower" Pilgrims. It is claimed by the family to have been handed down from Dr. Samuel Fuller of the "Mayflower", to his great grandson, Dea. John Fuller and his daughter, Deborah (Fuller) Prince to her grand daughter, Mrs. Mercy (Prince) Cushman, its late owner. This old heirloom was on exhibition at the Centennial in 1876 at Philadelphia. There is still another almost a similar relic, almost a duplicate, also claimed as the "Fuller" cradle, views of which have been printed in Old Colony publications. It is in possession of Mrs. Jacob Noyes, also a lineal descendant of Dr. Fuller of the "Mayflower". It is not probable that both of these cradles are from Dr. Fuller's family; but it is very singular that the only two "Mayflower" cradles that have survived the crumbling touch of time are these treasured heirlooms in the possession of the lineal descendants of Dr. Samuel Fuller and wife Bridget Lee.

Kimball Prince on the death of his father, was, at nine years of age, put out by his mother to Johnathan Ring of Kingston. At 23 he

m. a niece of his guardian. He was a member of the military company raised at Kingston in 1745, under Capt. Sylvanus Cobb, for the expedition against Louisburg. He was a farmer and perhaps a house-carpenter, living at Indian Pond, Kingston, near his fatherinlaw, Dea. John Fuller, where all his children were born. The house is gone and the place is now owned by Mr. Churchill. It is presumed that Kimball Prince may have followed the sea at sometime during his life, from the fact that he is called a "mariner" in the record of his administration on his brother James estate, in 1759, (book 57, p. 110). He had six sons and three daughters.

5. Job, b. 1765, a farmer, lived and died at Buckfield, Me., 1831; m. in 1791 Hannah Bryant,- had nine children.

6. The children of Job Prince and Hannah Bryant were Lydia, b. Jan. 21, 1792, d. Jan. 20, 1888, m. Daniel Young: Rebecca, b. May 2, 1793, m. Daniel Pond; Job, b. March 17, 1795, m. Zelpha Spaulding, b. at Buckfield, Me., July 25, 1799, d. at Turner, Me., Jan. 30, 1844, and Olive Leavett; Noah, b. April 13, 1797, m. Sarah Farrer; Hannah, b. Aug. 17, 1799, m. Ezra Morton and Eliphelet Sturdevent; Rufus, b. Sept. 24, 1801, m. Sophia Brewster; Olive, b. Jan. 21, 1804, m. Abel Stetson; Louisa, b. Feb. 27, 1806, m. Peter Bailey, and George Bates: Ardelia, b. Aug. 24, 1809, m. William R. Hersey.

It is an interesting fact to the descendants of Kimball and Deborah Prince, that the blood of more than forty of the original Puritan and Pilgrim fathers is flowing in their veins. We are not aware that any previous effort has been made to trace back the record to those original

first-comers and we shall not be guilty of tresspassing on the field of any other writer in publishing the result of our efforts in tracing back that lineage through all the various male and female branches.

We have been greatly assisted by Capt. Gilley, U.S.N. I give result of our researches in as brief and comprehensive a manner as my space will permit. The foreign born or original emigrants, all of whom were English, are designated by a star:-

Elder John Prince* and wife Alice Honor*, Elder William Brewster* and wife Mary*, son Johnathan* and wife Lucretia*, and daughter Mary, Humphrey Turner* and wife Lydia Gainer* and their son John Sr.* of Scituate who married Mary Brewster and their daughter Ruth, who Married Capt. Thomas Prince of Hull; Richard Kembel* and wife Versula*, and, perhaps, son Richard* of Ipswich, who I assume to be the father of Capt. Christopher Kimball who was born in Ipswich; Capt. Thomas Jolls* and wife Abigaile* of Boston were the parents of Sarah, wife of Christopher Kimball, whose daughter Abigal m. Capt. Job Prince of Kingston, the fatherof Kimball Prince, who married Deborah Fuller, the dau. of Deacon John Fuller and wife Deborah Ring. Deborah Fuller's pedigree we trace back to twenty six of the original Plymouth Pilgrims, viz: Dr. Samuel Fuller* of the Mayflower and his wife Bridgett Lee*; the four of the Elder Brewsters**** family whose blood again mingles in the Prince family; Dr. Fuller's son, the Rev. Samuel of Middleboro, b. 1623, d. Aug. 17, 1694, m. in 1656 Elizabeth, a dau. of Johnathan and Lucretia Brewster, she was a sister to Mary Brewster, the wife of John Turner Sr. The Rev. Samuel Fuller's

son Samuel of Plympton, m. in 1686 Mercy Eaton; Dea. John Fuller of Kingston, b. 1698, who m. Deborah Ring in 1723, was their son. Deborah Ring, b. 1698, d. 1763, was the daughter of Eleazer Ring and wife Mary Shaw who had twelve children. Eleazer Ring, b. 1650, m. 1687, was the son of Andrew Ring* and wife Deborah Hopkins. Andrew, b. 1617, d. 1692, m. 1646, came ove with a brother and a sister and his mother* in 1628, (no mention of his father); he had five children and was one of the first settlers of Middleboro; he had a second wife, widow Lettys Mourton. Deborah Hopkins, b. 1622 was the dau. of Stephen Hopkins* and wife Elizabeth*, who came in 1620. Mary Shaw, b. in 1666, d. 1730, wife of Eleazer Ring, was the dau. of Johnathan Shaw*, who married in 1657 Pheba Watson, a dau. of George Watson* and wife Pheba Hicks* and a grand dau. of Robert Watson* and wife, Elizabeth* who came with their son George in 1625. Pheba (Hicks) Watson came with her father Robert Hicks* and mother Margaret* in 1621 and '23. Johnathan Shaw was the son of John Shaw* and wife Alice*, who came before 1627, with Jona. and three other children. Mercy (Eaton) Fuller, wife of Samuel Fuller of Plympton descended from Francis Eaton* and wife Sarah* who came in 1620, with son Samuel*, a nursing child. Francis, who died 1633, had three wives: his last wife, Christian Penn*, he married in 1626; she came in 1623; she married second time Francis Billington* in 1634, who came in 1620, with his parents John* and Eleanor* and his brother John. Francis was one of the original purchasers and settlers of Middleboro; he had a daughter Martha and eight other children: Martha, b. 1635, d. 1684, m. in 1661 Samuel Eaton, her mother's step-son:

they had a daughter Mercy, who m. Samuel Fuller, son of Rev. Samuel Fuller of Middleboro,- also a son Samuel who m. Elizabeth Fuller, a sister to his sister Mercy's husband.

6. Job Prince, b. Buckfield, Me. March 17, 1795, m. Zilpha Spaulding May 21, 1821, d. April 30, 1875 at Turner Me. She d. Turner, Me. Jan. 30 1846. Children, Leonard, who died without issue; Rufus, b. July 11, 1825, d. _____; Ezra Morton, b. May 27, 1831 and,

7. Zilpha Margaret, b. Jan. 20, 1836, m. Robert C. Thayer, May 12, 1871 at Turner, Me., d. at Benton Harbor, Mich. June 9, 1893.

THE WARRENS.

1. James Warren, a native of Berwick, Scotland, was settled at South Berwick, Me. as early as 1656. His wife was Margaret, a native of Ireland. Their children were Gilbert, who left no issue, Margaret, who married James Stackpole before 1680, Jane, James and Grizzle, who married Richard Otis of Dover, N.H. and was captured by the Indians and carried to Canada.

2. James married Mary ------ and had children, Mary, Margaret, James, Rachael, Gilbert and John.

3. John, b. Dec. 16, 1705, m. Mary, daughter of Moses and Abigail Godwin in S. Berwick. His will was probated Jan. 1769. It mentions childre John, Tristram, Nathaniel, Ichabod, Pelatiah, Kesiah, Margaret and Mary.

4. John b. in Berwick, Me. March 5, 1731, a blacksmith by trade, settled in Falmouth, m. Dec. 25, 1755 Jane Johnson. She was b. in Ireland June 15, 1740 and d. Nov. 25, 1809. She belonged to a Scarborough family. Her grand father was James Johnson, who was b. in Scotland and removed to Ireland about 1692 and died at Scarboro, Me. 1746, c very old man. Capt. John Warren was called the "old lumber king." He d. Jan. 30, 1807. They had twelve children of whom Margaret was the eighth.

5. Margaret, b. Jan. 11, 1774, m. Capt. Leonard Spaulding of Buckfield, Me.

6. Zilpha, b. July 25, 1791 at Buckfield, Me. married Job Prince, May 21, 1821 and d. at Turner, Me. Jan. 30, 1856. They had four children, Leonard, Rufus, Ezra Morton, Zilpha and Margaret.

THE THAYERS.

1. Robert Cushing Thayer was b. at Turner, Me. Sept. 25, 1833 and m. Zilpha Prince at Turner, Me. May 12, 1871. Their children were Zilpha, b. at Turner, Me. Aug. 19, 1872, d. at Benton Harbor, Mich. Aug. 31, 1874 and Paul Thayer, b. at Benton Harbor, Mich. Oct. 16, 1875.

2. Paul Thayer, b. Oct. 16, 1875, m. Dora E. Robinson at Benton Harbor Mich. June 28, 1900. She was b. at Buchanan, Mich. May 10, 1877.

THE PRINCES.

Job Prince, the fifth in descent from Elder John Prince, the founder of the family in this country, was born in Kingston, Mass. in 1765. He was one of the pioneers of Buckfield, Me. to which place he moved in 1788 and improved a farm of about 100 acres. The deed to this farm bears date of 1788.

He was a man of substance and character, a deacon in the Baptist Church. Two anecdoted related by my father illustrate the religious and drinking habits of the time. When my father was about eighteen, he went to work for a time for a neighbor, Mr. Farrar, also a deacon in the Baptist church. Sunday morning he took a dish of salt and started for the pasture but was halted by Deacon Farrar who inquired where he was going. Father replied that he was going to salt the cattle as he did every Suday morning when he was at home but Deacon Farrar told him to put the salt up as he never allowed the cattle to be salted on Sunday.

These were also the days of militia musters and universal drinking habits. No ceremony from the installation of the minister, to the election of the militia officers, was held without plentiful libations of New England rum which was as much a part of a laborer's rations as is coffee now. When my father was nineteen, the militia company to which he belonged, elected a captain, who from penuriousness and not from any conscientious scruples, neglected to furnish the customary treat. But my father said that the company should not lose the customary entertainment, bought a gallon of rum and the company had their usual election frolic and declared

that at the next vacancy they would elect father captain. A vacancy soon occurred and the election was held at White's Tavern. These elections were attended by all the men of the community whether they belonged to the company or not. After dinner, as Deacon Farrar was on the way, he saw my grandfather, Deacon Prince, and insisted on his going, saying, "Come Deacon, you must go, we are going to elect Job captain." So the two deacons went to the election where father was duly elected and the usual treat followed. In front of the tavern was a triangular piece of ground made by three roads called a "heater piece", and in the center of this was a large elm tree with wide spreading brances, around which the old men, the magnates of the town, gathered and a jug was passed around the circle. In this circle of reverend revellers were Deacon Farrar and Deacon Prince as well as my maternal grandfather, Capt. Leonard Spaulding. At the same time another jug was in use by the rest of the crowd. Father was subsequently elected Major, by which title he was usually called until he was elected judge of probate after which he was usually called Judge Prince. During the War of 1812, he served as Private in Capt. Blake's Co. of Mass. Militia from Sept. 25th. to Nov. 6th. 1814 at Falmouth, now Portland, Me., for which he received a pension in the later years of his life.

On the death of my grandfather Prince in 1831, his son, Noah, succeeded to the home place, my grandmother Prince living with him. I remember visiting them when I was about twelve years old, walking from Turner to Buckfield, a distance of about ten miles, with my cousin, George Bates. I remember the old lady with her neat widow's cap and white kerchief folded over her bosom and the white bread and honey to which she treated

us. Among the most highly prized wedding gifts of my son Leonard was a linen towel made of flax raised on the old home farm by my uncle Noah and his wife "Aunt Sarah", spun and woven and presented by their daughter, my cousin Ardelia. My grandmother Prince died at Buckfield, Me.

My father, also named Job, was born at Buckfield, Me. March 17, 1795. He received the usual schooling of a frontier farming town and especially a very thorough knowledge of the Bible. He was a stalwart man six feet tall in his stocking feet, weighing two hundred pounds, all bone and muscle, dark grey eyes, brown hair, a man that others instinctively obeyed. I have a sword cane that he took from a desperado who drew the long dagger sword blade and threatened to kill anyone who should dare to arrest him. The town constable being afraid to arrest the man, summoned father as a posse comitatus to arrest him. To father's demand, the ruffian yielded immediate obedience and gave up his weapon which father kept and on his death-bed it was given to me. My son Leonard had much of that same obedience compelling power.

My father taught school several winters and was a very successful teacher, having in a high degree the power of imparting knowledge, stimulating his pupils to their best efforts as well as enforcing order so essential to those early schools. He married Zilpha, the daughter of Capt. Leonard Spaulding of Buckfield, June 28, 1821 and moved to Turner, some ten miles distant from his old home. They lived with and took care of his uncle, Stephen Bryant, his mother's brother. Father cleared up and put into cultivation a large farm and erected a large two-story farm house and large stables, farms and out-buildings and became one of the most prosperous

farmers in the town. Here five children were born to them. Leonard was a successful merchant at Winthrop, Me. and died there a young man, Rufus, who succeeded my father on the home place, the writer, Ezra Morton, the sole survivor of the family and Zilpha M. who married Robert C. Thayer and died at Benton Harbor, Mich. June 9, 1893.

My father by his intelligence, integrity and force of character, soon became the leading man of the town. He attended to most of the conveyancing, making deeds, mortgages, contracts, wills, administered upon estates, made surveys, was the usual referee to whom the Supreme Court of the State, under the Maine practice, referred cases arising in Turner and neighboring towns that were arbitrated. In all Turner litigation he was sure to be retained by one side or the other and finally for convenience he was admitted to the bar but never practiced as a lawyer except before the justice courts though he had a more thorough knowledge of the law than many practicing lawyers.

He was County Commissioner from Oxford County from 1833 to 1838, serving the last three years as Chairman of the Board. He was also Judge of Probate of Oxford County from 1846 to 1852. He was one of the best presiding officers in the state, a thorough parliamentarian, clear, quick and prompt in his rulings, impartial and dignified, his decisions won immediate respect and obedience. He was nearly always moderator of the Turner town meetings. He was senator in the legislatures of 1838, 1839 and 1854. In 1839 he was president of the Senate. He was a member of the Council, an advisory board of the Governor, in 1860. He was a democrat

until the rise of the great anti-slavery contest. He was a warm personal and political friend of the Hon. Hannibal Hamlin. For several years prior to the repeal of the Missouri Compromise in 1854, Hamlin and Willaim Pitt Fessenden were the recognized whig and democratic leaders in Maine. In 1855 the Untied States Senators from Maine were Hamlin and James W. Bradbury. Hamlin opposed and Bradbury supported the pro-slavery course of the administration. In 1855 the legislature chose the successor of Bradbury, who was the candidate of the administration to succeed himself. My father was a member of the state senate. Fessenden was the nominee of the Whigs. The anti-slavery democrats held the balance of power. They came to my father and said to him, "Judge Prince, you are one of the old members of the legislature; we don't like Bradbury's course in regard to slavery, we much prefer that of Mr. Fessenden but he is a Whig whom we have been fighting all our lives. We have full confidence in your judgment and will vote as you say." Father replied that he did not want to advise them, that every man ought to follow his conscience and his judgment, that as for himself, he could not conscientiously support Bradbury but he should vote for Fessenden. The other free-soil democrats followed him and Fessenden was elected and from that time until his death my father was one of the most trusted republicans in the state.

ZILPHA SPAULDING PRINCE.

I remember very little of my mother. Her education was that of the children of the prosperous pioneers of Maine. She was naturally delicate

and died of consumption in the 45th. year of her age. She was sick three years and bore her suffering with uncomplaining fortitude. The picture of her that is most vivid in my mind is her last attendance at the Universalist Church at Turner, shortly before her death. It was communion Sunday and knowing the end was near she desired to attend to partake once more of the mystic elements, the pledge of her love to God and faith in immortal life. She was then very feeble and father carried her in his arms to the sleigh and from that into the church. I remember that she wore a green silk hood. She was very amiable and even tempered in her disposition. My father's sister, Rebecca, a cripple, lived most of the time with my father. I remember hearing her say after my mother's death, "I should have liked to have lived always with Job if Zilpha had lived."

My brother Leonard was a druggist at Winthrop, Me., and after he had successfully established himself and was about to be married, died of fever and was buried at Turner.

My brother Rufus succeeded to my father's business and home farm and was very successful as a public man and farmer. He married Tabitha Jones and had five children Stella and Zilpha, who are successful merchants at Norway, Me., Alice M. Haskell, who died without issue, Carl and Job, both married and farmers, Carl on the home place and Job on an adjoining farm.

EZRA MORTON PRINCE.

The writer was born at Turner, Me., May 27, 1831. I was a cripple from my birth, my right leg being shorter and smaller than my left. For

that reason, perhaps, I was designed for professional life. I was educated at our common schools and fitted for college at Hebron, Me. Academy and entered Bowdoin college in 1851 and left at the close of the fall term of 1853. I then studied law a year with Washington Gilbert, a most excellent lawyer of Bath, Me. and in the fall of 1854 entered the law school of Harvard College where I remained a year and was then admitted to the bar and in April 1856 came to Bloomington, Illinois where I have ever since lived.

While going to school I taught several terms in the common schools and High School of Turner. The only public offices I have ever held were four years as Master in Chancery of McLean County and two years as a member of the Board of Education of Bloomington. Like my father before me I have been a member of the Republican party ever since its organization. My father though reared in the Baptist Church, in his early manhood became a Universalist and I was educated in that faith. In 1859 the Free Congregationalist Society, now the Unitarian Church of Bloomington was organized. Of that church I have been a member and a constant attendant from its organization to the present time. Its reverent reasonableness commends itself to my judgment and conscience.

I have not accumulated much of this world's goods but find much of my happiness in my family and in my books.

I have been one of the officers of the Bloomington Library Association from its incorporation in 18 to the present time and was one

of the founders of the Law Library of Bloomington and was for several years a teacher in the Illinois Wesleyan Law School. I was also one of the organizers of the McLean County Historical Society and have been its secretary from its founding in March 1892 and have edited its two volumes already issued.

I was married at Pittsfield, Illinois, July 2, 1866 to Barbara Maria Miller . There have been born to us at Bloomington, Illinois five children, Leonard Morton, May 4, 1867 who died at the Presbyterian Hospital at Chicago, Nov. 1, 1895; Robert Thayer, born Dec. 10, 1868; Emily Grace, born Feb. 7, 1871, died May 31, 1872; Edward Percy, born December 5, 1874 and Horace Free, born October 4, 1880.

LEONARD MORTON PRINCE.

Leonard Morton Prince, the son of Ezra Morton and Barbara M. Prince, was born at Bloomington, Ill. May 4, 1867. From his birth he was a lusty child, fond of outdoor life, vigorous, self-reliant and masterful, generous to a fault, everybody's favorite. He was very fond of books and graduated from the ward schools at the age of twelve. He was also a graduate of the Illinois State Normal University High School of which school Prof. James was principal, now president of Northwestern University at Evanston. He also attended the Wharton School of Finance at the University of Pennsylvania one year and the Illinois Wesleyan University one year and taught two years with great success.

He was appointed a cadet at the West Point Military Academy in the

winter of 1888 and on a competitive examination of a class of sixteen lead the class and thus secured the appointment and reported there in June 1899. He at once became the leader of his class, especially in all military and social matters and was successively, lance corporal, sergeant, captain and hop manager of his class. He never got into any quarrel on his own account, but an upper classman having imposed upon his tent mate, Anderson, who was of a frail physique, Leonard challenged the upper classman to meet him the next morning at daybreak behind the quartermaster's barracks and settle the dispute with their bare fists, that being the usual method of settling all quarrels. His opponent was an older and a larger man than Leonard but he was so badly whipped that he had to go to the hospital and Leonard hardly had a scratch. He introduced foot ball and other athletics at West Point and was on the foot ball team that beat the Middies in the fall of 1892. In that game while making a hard tackle he had two ribs broken and was obliged to retire from the game but attended the ball that night for fear the lady he had invited would otherwise not have a good time.

His class mate, Anderson, says, "I never knew Leonard to be angry but once while I was at West Point. That occurred on one his birthdays when some twenty cadets seized him, held him on his head and poured water down his legs. When they released him Leonard knocked them down right and left as if they were children. Whenever he attempted anything with his class he always succeeded. His magnetism carried everything before him and he was absolutely without fear. He was a great favorite with Col. Wilson

the Superintendent of the Academy, who often consulted him about matters at the academy more so than he did with many of the professors. He was a generous man caring little for money for its own sake and he was always helping someone out of difficulties and was always a great favorite with the ladies but if at the hops there was some peculiarly unattractive girl present, a wall flower, homely and a poor dancer he would be sure to take her out and after a ten minutes dance return her to her seat a happy girl thinking she was the queen of the ball."

He graduated in June 1893 and was assigned as second lieutenant to Co. H. Second U.S. Infantry at Fort Omaha, Neb. His Captain and First Lieutenant were both absent from the regiment and he was put in command of his company, some of whom had been in the service for thirty years but he was soon master of the situation and was one of the most popular and efficient officers in the regiment. While at Fort Omaha a regimental gymnasium was established and Leonard was put in charge of it, planned it and devised the exercises for the enlisted men which were obligatory upon them.

In the winter of 1894-5 he injured his left side in the gymnasium. In April he came home sick on a furlough but returned to duty after a two weeks stay. In August he went to his Uncle's Robert C. Thayer at Benton Harbor, but about the first of September returned in very poor health, suffering great pain on the left side. Finding no relief, about the first of October he went to the Presbyterian Hospital and put himself under the care of Dr. Nicholas Senn, one of the most distinguished surgeons in the United States, who operated upon him for a cancerous tumor on the left

kidney but the disease proved fatal and he died Nov. 1, 1895.

He was very versatile, a quick, ready and eloquent speaker. During his two years of army life he had devoted much of his time to free-hand drawing in which he had become quite proficient. He also wrote stories of army life at which he was very successful. General Brooke, the Commander of the Omaha post said he was the most promising young officer in the army. Capt. Abercrombie of his regiment came to Chicago to see him a few days before his death and told me that from the time Leonard joined the regiment he was greatly attracted to him, that he never loved any man as he did him, that he felt that in the emergency of a soldier's life he could implicitly rely upon him and I know of no greater compliment that can be paid to any man than that he has such a steadfast reliability, indomitable courage, mental alertness and immovable self possession in time of danger that he will do the wisest, best and bravest thing.

He bore the long sickness and the surgical operation with indomitable courage, never complaining, notwithstanding the long torture of his fierce disorder. Many and many a nigh I talked with him all night long, he saying,"Father, you must talk to me or I can not bear the pain." One night after he had taken morphine to ease the pain, the physician told Mrs. Rinehart, who was sitting up with him that he might say something that she might not care to hear but instead he soon broke out in that grand hymn of Julia Ward Howe, "Mine Eyes Have Seen The Glory of the Coming of the Lord." After singing it all through he repeated the Lord's Prayer.

November 15, 1894 he was married to Katherine, the daughter of Mr.

and Mrs. Abraham N. Rinehart at Bloomington and Sept. 15, 1895, their son, named after his father was born. His father thought that there was no such school in the United States as the Military Academy at West Point and it was his earnest desire that his son should also attend the academy.

Robert Thayer was educated in the common schools of Bloomington and at the Illinois State Normal University. He spent seve al years in Dakota and Montana and was a Corporal of Co. B. 1st. Ill. Cavalry during the Spanish-American War and is now in Oklahoma.

Edward Percy Prince was educated at the city schools, is a graduate of the High School Department of the Illinois State Normal University of the class of '96. He spent a year at the University of Chicago, one year in a surveyor's office and graduated from the law school of the Illinois Wesleyan University in June 1902.

Horace Free Prince graduated from the Bloomington High School in 1900 and is now at home.

ZILPHA PRINCE THAYER.

My sister Zilpha was said to look much like her mother and to have resembled her much in character. She inherited from her mother a delicate constitution. She was a good scholar, attended our Turner district and high schools as well as several terms at Westbrook Seminary, a high grade ladies school conducted under the auspices of the Universalist denomination near Portland, Maine. She was quick, bright, amiable and affectionate, the life of every company of which she was a part. Like her

mother she was always delicate and never robust. After she moved to Michigan during the fruit season she was much out-doors packing fruit and remained in fair health until near her death. She was greatly beloved not only by her relatives but by all who knew her. Her funeral was conducted by the minister of the Universalist Church of Benton Harbor. The services were held under the trees in the yard of her home which she had done so much to beautify and adorn.

THE SPALDINGS.

My grandfather on my mother's side was Capt. Leonard Spalding who was of English descent. He was the first settler of Buckfield, Maine, a farmer, owning a large farm and mills at Spalding's Mills at Buckfield. He was a large athletic man, delighted in breaking wild horses, and all work requiring skill and strength. His wife, Peggy or Margaret Warren, was a large, handsome, noble looking woman. I remember very well visiting grandfather Spaldings. Their house was a large commodious, story and a half house on a little knoll on the banks of the river with a southern front for parlor and sitting room and back of them an L, a large kitchen, each of them with large fire places, the parlor and sitting room with their brass mounted dogs, tongs and shovel and the kitchen with its big crane and chimney and blackened pots, the bright tins and pewter plates with the alphabet in raised letter around its rim. In front of the house grandmother had her beds of old fashioned flowers, and altogether the strong rugged old gentleman and stately old lady and their warm sunny house and the

blazing fires of oak, ash and birch in the parlor sitting room and kitchen made a very pleasant picture in my mind's eye. Of my grandmother Spalding's family, the Warrens, I know very little except that I always understood that she belonged to a well to do, rather aristocratic family, which her appearance certainly indicated.

ROBERT CUSHING THAYER.

Mr. Thayer is a native of Turner, Maine, a Puritan in descent, both on his paternal and maternal lines. He is a typical Yankee, broadened by western life and ideas. He was educated in the public district schools and the High School of Turner but the best of the education of his youth was that of his home, the pure, self-restrained, God-fearing, God-worshipping, Calvanistic, Puritan life, which, though stern externally, was at its center loving and sweet, dominated by a love of right and righteousness. In such an atmosphere he developed in morals and intelligence. The outdoor life of the farm gave him a stalwart body which has been strengthened by life long temperance and correct living.

The great rebellion stirred all the martial spirit inherited from his Puritan roundhead ancestors. He was a Republican in politics and to hate slavery and love freedom was a part of his religion. Under the first call for 75,000 men for three months he enlisted in the Lewiston Light Infantry, Co. F. First Maine Infantry. They were mustered into the service May 3, 1861 and proceeded to Washington where they did guard duty, returning

home early in August. They were given a gorgeous reception with an elegant dinner at the Dewitt House and a patriotic address by William P. Frye, now presiding officer of the United States Senate.

December 12, 1861, he enlisted with Lieut. Vanderbilt in Co. A. Sappers and Miners to be attached to the Corps of Topographical Engineers U.S.A. They were soon consolidated with the engineers and were assigned to B. Co. of the U.S. Engineers with which he served until his discharge, Oct. 22, 1862. He was peculiarly fitted for this service , by his strength, activity, sobriety, courage, and especially by his skill in handling all sorts of tools. A part of his service was at the Military Academy at West Point but his company was sent with McClellans army to the Peninsula where he had plenty of digging at Yorktown and plenty of bridge building in the Chickahominy swamps. The exposure and hardships of the campaign broke down even his rugged health and constitution and he was sent to the hospital at Alexandria Sept. 1, 1862 and was honorably discharged Oct. 22, 1862 as no longer fit for the arduous duties of a military life. He returned home and having regained somewhat of his former health he entered the civil service of the United States as foreman in various government works, remaining in this employment for several years until he moved to Michigan. While in this employment he worked on Fort Warren in Boston Harbor, Fort Preble in Portland Harbor, in the river improvement at Cherryfield, Maine and other places. In the meantime he had married Miss Deborah Whitman, a daughter of Luther Whitman of Turner, Maine. She died in a few years and May 12, 1871 he married at Turner, Maine, Zilpha

Margaret, daughter of Job and Zilpha Spaulding Prince. There, their first child Zilpha, aptly called "Sunshine", was born. Feeling the necessity of securing a permanent home for his family and led by the enthusiastic descriptions of the fruit regions of western Michigan published in the New York Tribune, in 1872 he went to St. Joseph, Michigan and after examining many places bought the homestead where he has ever since resided at the junction of Colfax and Nickerson avenues in what is now known as the "Fair Plain" district, as it has proved the best in all that region.

They moved there in 187 . The farm was very much run down but both Mr. Thayer and his wife attacked the situation with energy and intelligence inquiring and studying and seeking the best methods and soon it became known as one of the best and is now the model fruit farm of that region. Honest fruit and honest measure from top to bottom is the invariable rule and practice.

The death of little Sunshine in the summer of 1874 was the great sorrow of their lives. She was a child of much beauty and promise.

Mr. Thayer has taken a prominent part in the Grange and Grand Army circles, in educational matters and social affairs of the Fair Plain neighborhood, and has been elected Justice of the Peace, a position for which his sense of justice and intelligence eminently fit him. As son, citizen, soldier of the Union, husband, father and neighbor, he has lived up to the full measure of his opportunities. If you, my dear Paul, can do as well, your children and children's children shall rise up and bless your name.

With advancing years, Mr. Thayer has been obliged to give up much

of the hard labor of the farm but fortunately is able to retain the active supervision of it.

He was married to Celia Barker Oct. 3, 1894. She was born at Michigan City, Indiana, May 23, 1864, a very noble woman whom I hope you and yours will always respect and love for her care and devotion to your father as well as for her sterling qualities of heart and mind.

Bloomington Ill.

1. Edward [illegible].

Came from [illegible] Mass. about 1[illegible]1. [illegible] was one of the [illegible] of C[illegible].

2. Andrew.

Born Nov. 19, 1[illegible], died [illegible], 1[illegible]. [illegible] will of his father [illegible] real estate, [illegible], married Hannah Jeffers.

3. Henry.

Born Nov. [illegible], 1680 at Chelmsford, died A[illegible], 1[illegible]. married Elizabeth [illegible].

4. Leonard.

Born at Chelmsford Dec. 1, 1[illegible]; [illegible] Feb. 1[illegible]. [illegible] Elizabeth --. She died in Buckfield Me. 1[illegible]. Dr. Moses Chase, second [illegible].

5. Benjamin,

Born Chelmsford Feb. [illegible], 1[illegible]. [illegible] in town of Buckfield Me. [illegible] Oct. 1[illegible], 1[illegible]. [illegible] Patty Barrett of Chelmsford Mass. Nov. [illegible], [illegible] born Jan. 31, 1740; died Oct. [illegible], 1[illegible].

Roll of [illegible] Benjamin of Chelmsford. Capt. Oliver [illegible] service [illegible] from A[illegible] Fyfe Co. to reinforce C[illegible].

ean County [illegible]torical Society

eo. P. Davis Pres.
Ezra M. Prince, Secy.
John H. Burnham, Chr. Ex. Com.

[illegible]

Leonard,

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] July 1, 18[illegible].

7. Leonard [illegible], [illegible], [illegible], Zilpha, James, Al[illegible], Al[illegible], A[illegible], J[illegible], [illegible]lin, Dia[illegible].

8. Zilpha [illegible] as [illegible] July [illegible], 1[illegible], [illegible] Hon. [illegible] [illegible] Me. May 1, 1[illegible]1, [illegible] J[illegible] 0, 18[illegible]. [illegible] T[illegible].

James,

[illegible] J[illegible], [illegible] A[illegible] [illegible]er,

[illegible] [illegible]ie, [illegible],

[illegible] [illegible]th [illegible] esc[illegible].