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DAUGHTERS

OF THE

American Revolution,

WESTERN RESERVE CHAPTER.



REVOLUTIONARY ANCESTRY

OF

Catherine Hitchcock (Tilden) Avery.

CLEVELAND, OHIO.

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REVOLUTIONARY ANCESTRY

— OF —

CATHARINE HITCHCOCK (Tilden) AVERY.

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Ancestry.

I, Catharine Hitchcock Tilden Avery, was born December 13, 1844, at Dundee, Mich.; married July 2, 1870, Elroy M. Avery, of Monroe, Mich. I am the eldest daughter of

Junius Tilden and Zeruah (Rich) Tilden. He was born at Yarmouth, Mass., November 28, 1813; died at Monroe, Mich., March 1, 1861. She was born at Wellfleet, Mass., January 28, 1813; died at Dundee, Mich., June 30, 1854. They were married at Buffalo, N. Y., September 14, 1838. They had six children, of whom four died in infancy. A second surviving daughter, Augusta Lovia, was born at Dundee, February 21, 1849; married George W. Hanchett, October 31, 1870, and lives at Hyde Park, Mass. They have two sons: George Tilden Hanchett, born September 4, 1871; and Junius Tilden Hanchett, born August 28, 1873. Junius Tilden was the son of

Dr. Calvin and Catharine (Hitchcock) Tilden. Dr. Calvin Tilden was born September 29, 1774, at Scituate, Mass.; was graduated at Brown University, 1800; died at Hanson, Mass., June 28, 1832. His wife was born at Hanson, Mass., June 8, 1783; died at Hanson, September 22, 1852. They were married December 23, 1804. Calvin Tilden was the son of

Samuel Tilden, born September 14, 1739, at Marshfield, Mass.; died May 29, 1834, at same place; married Mercy Hatch, November 10, 1763, at Marshfield, Mass.; and he, the said Samuel Tilden, was a revolutionary patriot.

Catharine Hitchcock, the wife of Calvin Tilden, was the daughter of Gad Hitchcock, M.D., who was born at Hanson, November 2, 1749; was graduated at Harvard College, 1768; married Sagie Bailey, July 9, 1778; and died November 29, 1835. The said Gad Hitchcock, M.D., was a revolutionary patriot. He was the only child of

Gad Hitchcock, LL. D., who was born February 12, 1719; was graduated at Harvard College, 1747; died August 8, 1803; and he, the said Gad Hitchcock, was a revolutionary patriot. He was the son of

Ebenezer Hitchcock and Mary (Sheldon) Hitchcock, and she, the said Mary Hitchcock, was the mother of six boys who were revolutionary patriots.

Sagie (Bailey) Hitchcock, wife of Gad Hitchcock, M.D., was the daughter of Col. John Bailey, who was born October 30, 1730, and died October 27, 1810, and he, the said John Bailey, was a revolutionary patriot. The wife of John Bailey was Ruth (Randall) Bailey, and she was the mother of two revolutionary patriots.

Every one of my father's ancestors, who was of military age or nearly so, was a revolutionary patriot. Two were more than seventy-two years of age and died soon after the war began; one was less than a year old when the war broke out; the rest were revolutionary patriots.

Revolutionary Services of Deacon Samuel Tilden, Ancestor of Catharine Hitchcock (Tilden) Avery.

In 1775, Deacon Samuel Tilden was a member of Joseph Clift's company of militia for six months. (See History of Plymouth County, Massachusetts.)

In 1776, the Committee of Correspondence for Marshfield consisted of four members, of whom Deacon Samuel Tilden was one. (See History of Plymouth County.)

The Committee of Inspection for Marshfield consisted of twenty-one members, of whom Deacon Samuel Tilden was one. (See Marshfield Records.)

A paper is still in existence at Hanover, Mass., dated June 14, 1775, and directed to Capt. Amos Turner, giving a list of the names of a committee whom he should notify "upon the appearance of an invasion of the enemy," and the name of one of the committee is Deacon Samuel Tilden.

Samuel Tilden was an only son. His father was dead and his eldest son was only ten years old when the war broke out; there was no other of that family to go to the war or to perform revolutionary services.

Revolutionary Services of Gad Hitchcock, M.D., Ancestor of Catharine Hitchcock (Tilden) Avery.

May 27, 1775, Col. John Thomas returned the name of Gad Hitchcock as surgeon's-mate in his regiment of the Massachusetts Line. (Force's Archives, 2:826.)

On the afternoon of Friday, June 30, 1775, it was ordered that a warrant be issued to Dr. Gad Hitchcock as surgeon's-mate in Col. John Thomas's regiment of the Massachusetts Line. (Force's Archives; 2:1464).

He was surgeon's-mate to Dr. Lemuel Cushing, in Col. Thomas's (afterwards Col. John Bailey's) regiment from May to September, 1775; he was then transferred to the hospital at Roxbury as surgeon's-mate, under surgeons Hayward and Aspinwall, where he remained till May, 1776. In June, 1776, he was appointed surgeon in Col. Simeon Cary's regiment of the Massachusetts Line, going to New York. Here he was soon appointed chief-surgeon of General Fellows's Brigade Hospital, where he continued till February, 1777. (See Documents in Old War and Navy Office in the Pension Bureau, Washington, D. C.)

He was placed on the pension roll, June 10, 1819, at \$240 a year; this was increased, March 4, 1831, to \$355 a year.

He was an only child; therefore, he had no brothers to go to the war.

Revolutionary Services of Gad Hitchcock, LL.D., Ancestor of Catharine Hitchcock (Tilden) Avery.

Gad Hitchcock was the son of Ebenezer Hitchcock, who was a lieutenant in Col. Dwight's regiment in the Louisburg expedition, 1745. His mother was a descendant of the "worshipful Major John Pynchon," of Springfield, and of Capt. Joseph Sheldon, of King Philip's War.

Gad Hitchcock settled in Pembroke, Mass., in 1747. In 1774, he was chosen to preach the election sermon before Governor Gage and the Massachusetts House of Representatives on the occasion of the "Election of His Majesty's Council for said Province."

The following copy of an interesting document tells its own story:

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,

May 26, 1774.

Resolved, That Mr. Turner, Major Morey, and Doctor Holton, be and hereby are appointed a Committee to return the Thanks of this House to the Reverend Mr. Gad Hitchcock, for the Discourse delivered by him Yesterday, being the Day of the Election of Councillors; and to desire of him a Copy of the same for the Press.
Attest.

SAMUEL ADAMS, *Clerk.*

The fierce excitement and spirit of resistance that preceded the outbreak of the Revolution had reached its height. The tea had already gone overboard in Boston Harbor and blood was soon to flow at Lexington. "Pembroke had been among the foremost towns in indignant protest and threats against the tyrannical action of the royal government, and the preacher's whole heart was with his people" whose ideas he had helped to mould. He had chosen for his text, Prov. xxix: 2, "When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice; when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn." "The very text was like a trumpet call to battle. Fresh from the people whose excitement and indignation he shared, he arose in the presence of the hushed assemblage and launched full on the bosom of the astonished Governor 'When the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.'" (Headley's "Chaplains of the Revolution.") He proceeded

“to make a few general remarks on the nature and end of civil government—point out some of the qualifications of rulers—and then apply the subject to the design of our assembling at this time.”

He then went on to say: “The great end of a ruler’s exaltation is the happiness of the people over whom he presides; and his promoting it, the sole ground of their submission to him.” In such governments as the British, “rulers have their distinct powers assigned to them by the people, who are the only source of civil authority on earth, with the view of having them exercised for the public advantage. * * * And as its origin is from the people, who not only have a right but are bound in duty for the preservation of the property and liberty of the whole society, to lodge it in such hands as they judge best qualified to answer its intention; so when it is misapplied to other purposes, and the public, as it always will, receives damage from the abuse, they have the same original right, grounded on the same fundamental reasons and are equally bound in duty to resume it and transfer it to others.”

After recalling the course of events for the last few years, praising the legislative bodies chosen by the people for their fidelity to the cause of freedom, and giving the unnecessary assurance that “It would be as much beyond my expectation, as, I am sure it is short of my design, to be charged with the meanness of adulation in anything delivered in this discourse,” he proceeded to speak of the cause of their assembling.

“Much lies at stake, honored fathers—much depends and will probably turn on the choice you make of Councillors, not to this province only, but to the rest of the colonies. In the present scenes of calamity and perplexity, when the contest in regard to the rights of the colonies rises high, every colony is deeply interested in the public conduct of every other.”

“The present situation of our public affairs requires good degrees of knowledge, firmness of spirit, patriotism, and the fear of God, in those who stand at helm and guide the state—they should be men able to investigate the source of our evils, point out adequate remedies, and that have resolution and public spirit to apply them.

“Our danger is not visionary, but real—our contention is not about trifles, but about liberty and property; and not ours only, but those of posterity, to the latest generations. And every lover of mankind will allow that these are important objects, too inestimably pre-

cious and valuable enjoyments to be treated with neglect, and tamely surrendered:—For however some few, I speak it with regret and astonishment, even from among ourselves, appear sufficiently disposed to ridicule the rights of America, and the liberties of subjects; 'tis plain St. Paul, who was a good judge, had a very different sense of them—'He was on all occasions for standing fast, not only in the liberties with which Christ had made him free from the Jewish law of ceremonies, but also in that liberty, with which the laws of nature, and the Roman state, had made him free from oppression and tyranny.'

“If I am mistaken in supposing plans are formed, and executing, subversive of our natural and charter rights, and privileges, and incompatible with every idea of liberty, all America is mistaken with me.

“Our continued complaints—Our repeated, humble, but fruitless, unregarded petitions and remonstrances—and, if I may be allowed the sacred allusion, our groanings which cannot be uttered, are at once indications of our sufferings, and the feeling sense we have of them.”

“We sincerely hope, and trust, the elections of this day will turn on men who shall be disposed in their proper department to restore and establish our rights—men acquainted with the several powers vested in the honorable board, and determined, with persevering spirit, to assert and uphold them—men, in every view, friendly to the constitution of government in this province, and resolved to maintain it, undiminished, and entire.”

“As a people we have ever been remarkably tender both of our civil and religious liberties; and 'tis hoped, the fervor of our regard for them will not cool, till the sun shall be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light.”

“The people of this province, and in the other colonies, love and revere civil government—they love peace and order—but they are not willing to part with any of those rights and privileges for which they have, in many respects, paid very dear.

“The soil we tread on is our own, the heritage of our Fathers, who purchased it by fair bargain of the natives, unless I must except a part, which they afterwards, in their own just defence, obtained by conquest—we have therefore an exclusive right to it.”

“But while we are disposed to assert our rights, and hold our liberties sacred, let us not decline from our former temper, and despise government; but may we always be ready to esteem and support it,

in its truest dignity and majesty. Let us respect and honor our civil rulers, and as much as possible lighten their burdens by a cheerful obedience to their laws, without which the great end of government the public safety and happiness, cannot be promoted."

Governor Gage was filled with great wrath on account of the boldness of this position. Dr. Hitchcock in after years said: "It was doubtless a most moving discourse, in as much as it moved many of the congregation from the house," referring to some of the governor's party who left the church in their indignation. After listening to the sermon, the legislature ordered it printed and then proceeded to elect councillors in full accord with the preacher's advice. Governor Gage negatived thirteen of them, and adjourned the legislature to meet at Salem, June 17, as a punishment and as a means of keeping them from coming together. At Salem, he again adjourned them, but they locked the doors, refused the governor's messenger admission and transacted their business in spite of him. Such sermons had something to do with the Revolution. There are several of the original copies in existence and a few years ago it was reprinted. I have a copy.

Gad Hitchcock served as chaplain, but was not commissioned. He was elected, July 12, 1779, a member of the convention to make a constitution for Massachusetts. The convention met in 1780 and formed the constitution under which Massachusetts was governed till 1820.

Joseph, one of the brothers of the Rev. Gad Hitchcock, was a revolutionary soldier and one of the Committee of Safety for Ludlow, Massachusetts.

Daniel, another brother, was colonel of a Rhode Island regiment at the siege of Boston, commanded a brigade at the Battle of Princeton, January 3, 1777, and did such good service that Washington publicly thanked him and Green gave him his own watch as a keep-sake. The watch is in the possession of a member of our family. Daniel died a few days after the battle of a disease from which he was suffering at the time when he led the gallant charge.

Abner, another brother, served under Capt. Walker for eight months from May, 1775, and was also at the "Lexington Alarm."

Seth, another brother, also served in the Revolutionary War, but in what capacity, I know not.

Revolutionary Services of Col. John Bailey, Ancestor of Catharine Hitchcock (Tilden) Avery.

Col. John Bailey was the elder son of Capt. John Bailey, of the militia of Hanover, Mass. He was lieutenant-colonel of Col. John Thomas's regiment at the beginning of the war of the Revolution. When the continental army was re-organized, he became colonel of the second Massachusetts regiment.

He was at the siege of Boston, was one of those who crossed the "Neck" and fortified the hill. On March 29, 1776, he marched his regiment to New York and played an important part in the siege of that city. He lost some of his men at White Plains, was in the Battle of Princeton; crossed the Delaware with Washington, and aided in the capture of the Hessian general, Rahl. He was then sent to the northern army, assisted in the campaign, and saw the surrender of Burgoyne.

There is a letter in the state department at Washington from Col. Bailey to General Washington, dated, November 16, 1777, at Hardwick, N. J., stating that he is on his way with his regiment to join him near Philadelphia. There is also a letter dated West Point, June 13, 1779. He resigned April, 1780, on account of ill-health. His resignation was accepted October 21, 1780, and he was retired on half pay. During the latter part of his service he acted as "Colonel Commandant" of "late Leonard's Brigade."

There has always been a member of the "Order of the Cincinnati" in the family.

Luther Bailey, second son of Col. John Bailey, served through the entire war, ending his services as major of the second Massachusetts regiment.

Col. John Bailey's daughter, Ruth, married William Stockbridge. He was one of the six tories of Hanover. She, however, was a staunch patriot and employed her time, unknown to her tory husband, in aiding the cause; she even "ran" bullets for her father and brother while her husband was at church.

The wife of Colonel John Bailey was Ruth Randall; she had a brother, Stephen Randall, who served in the Revolutionary War.



