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SOME ACCOUNT

OF THE

BOWDOIN FAMILY

WITH A NOTICE OF

THE ERVING FAMILY

BY

TEMPLE PRIME

(HUNTINGTON, N. Y., U. S. A.)

~~12334.14~~

Third Edition.

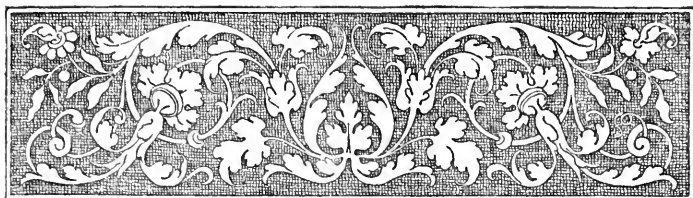


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BOWDOIN.

PIERRE BAUDOUIN.

Died: Boston, September 1706.

Will: ¹ June 16th 1704; proved July 6th 1719. (Probate Office, Suffolk Co. Mass.)

Married: in France, Elizabeth —; born in 1643: died Boston, August 18th 1720; will ² September 5th 1717, proved September 17th 1720. (Probate Office, Suffolk Co. Mass.)

Issue.

1. **James I Bowdoin**, of whom later.
2. **John Bowdoin**, born in France; moved to Northampton Co. Va.; died prior to 1717; left issue male.
3. **Elizabeth Bowdoin**, born in France; married Thomas Robins; alive in 1747; left issue.
4. **Mary Bowdoin**, born in France; married, August 22d 1708, Stephen Boutineau; alive in 1747; left issue.

¹ See second edition, page 9.

² See second edition, page 10.

Account of Pierre Baudouin.

Pierre Baudouin, accompanied by his wife and four children, fled from France to Ireland, on account of religious persecution. In 1686 he came to Casco (now Portland), Maine; 1687, in the summer, petitioned¹ Governor Andros for a grant of 100 acres on Barbary Creek, Casco Bay; 1687 December, petition granted; 1690 May 16th, moved to Boston.

JAMES I BOWDOIN.

Born: la Rochelle, 1676.

Died: Boston, September 8th 1747; buried in the Bowdoin vault in the Granary, Tremont Street, Boston.

Will:² September 7th 1747; proved September 14th 1747. (Probate Office, Suffolk Co. Mass.)

Married: 1st. July 18th 1706, Sarah Campbell;³ died December 21st 1713.

—— 2dly. September 15th or 16th 1714, Hannah, daughter of George Pordage; born February 13th 1687; died August 23d 1734.

—— 3dly. April 24th 1735, Mehetable Lillie, widow; she died July 17th —, aged 54 years.

Issue.

1. **James Bowdoin**, born May 5th 1707; died September 29th 1707.

2. **Elizabeth Bowdoin**, born, Boston, June 27th 1708; died July 12th 1708.

3. **Mary Bowdoin**, twin sister of Elizabeth; married,

¹ See second edition, page 8.

² See second edition, page 11.

³ Possibly a daughter of John Campbell, postmaster.

February 12th 1729, Balthazar Bayard; died June 21st 1780; left issue.

4. **John Bowdoin**, born August 22d 1709; died November 21st 1711.

5. **Pierre Bowdoin**, born May 19th 1711; died July 30th 1712.

6. **William Bowdoin**, born, Boston, June 14th 1713; graduated Harv. Coll. 1735; a merchant; member of the Provincial Council; chosen by Roxbury to act on several committees during the troubles before the Revolution; married July 3d 1739 Phœbe Murdoch; she died December 13th 1772; had three daughters, two of whom died unmarried; Sarah Bowdoin, the third one, married 1st her cousin James III Bowdoin, 2dly General Dearborn.

William Bowdoin died at Roxbury February 24th 1773; buried March 2d; the inventory of his estate shows £16, 252 18s. 2d.

7. **Samuel Bowdoin**, born July 25th 1715; died September 18th 1716.

8. **Elizabeth Bowdoin**, born April 25th 1717; married October 26th 1732, James Pitts; died October 20th 1771.

9. **Judith Bowdoin**, born March 5th 1719; married, June 12th 1744, Thomas Flucker; she died May 25th 1750; left no issue.

10. **James II Bowdoin**, of whom later.

Account of James I Bowdoin.

Commenced life as a mariner, and rose to the first rank among the merchants of Boston; for many years member of the Colonial Council; left the greatest estate that had ever been possessed by any one person in Massachusetts, estimated at from 50 to 100 thousand pounds sterling.

JAMES II BOWDOIN.

Born: August 7th 1726.

Died:¹ Boston, November 6th 1790; buried in the Bowdoin vault in the Granary, Tremont Street, Boston.

Will:² March 23d 1789; proved November 16th 1790. (Probate Office, Suffolk Co. Mass.)

Married: September 15th 1748 in Boston, by the Rev. Samuel Cooper, to Elizabeth, daughter of John Erving;³ died May 5th 1803, age 72; buried with her husband.

Issue.

1. **Elizabeth Bowdoin**, born —— 1750; married, January 20th 1767, Mr. (later Sir John) Temple; died, Boston, October 23d 1809; buried in the Bowdoin vault in the Granary, Tremont Street, Boston.

2. **James III Bowdoin**, of whom later.

Account of James II Bowdoin.

Engaged in mercantile business; had close relations with Franklin; Fellow of the Royal Society; long connected with the government of Harvard College.

Itinerary.

1745, Graduated at Harvard College.

1753-55, Representative.

¹ Judge Lowell in his Eulogy, etc., says:

“Great and respectable was the concourse which attended his funeral; every species of occupation was suspended; all ranks and orders of men, the clergy and the laity, the magistrate and the citizen, men of leisure and men of business, testified their affection and respect by joining in the solemn procession; and crowds of spectators lined the streets through which it passed; whilst an uncommon silence and order everywhere marked the deepness of their sorrow.”

² See second edition, page 15.

³ See page 15.

1757-1774, Member of the Council.¹

1774, Elected as one of the five delegates from Massachusetts to the Continental Congress held at Philadelphia.²

1779, President of the Convention to frame a Constitution for Massachusetts.

1780, Among the founders of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and its President until his death.³

1785 and 1786, Governor of Massachusetts.

1788, Member of the State Convention to ratify the Constitution of the United States.

JAMES III BOWDOIN.

Born : Boston, September 22d 1752.

Died : Nashaun Island, Buzzard's Bay, Mass., October 11th 1811; buried in the Bowdoin vault in the Granary, Tremont Street, Boston.

Will :⁴ June 4th 1811; proved October 21st 1811. (Probate Office, Suffolk Co. Mass.)

Married : May 18th 1781 Sarah, daughter of William Bowdoin;⁵ born October 17th 1761; her second husband was Gen. Henry Dearborn, Secretary of War under Jefferson, whom she married November 10th 1813; she died May 24th 1826; will,⁶ July 18th 1812. (Probate Office, Suffolk Co. Mass.)

¹ In 1774 he was vetoed by Governor Gage, by express order of the King.

² Illness prevented him from accepting the position.

³ He left his library to this Society.

⁴ See second edition, page 21.

⁵ His uncle.

⁶ See page 8.

Account of James III Bowdoin.

Graduated at Harvard College before he was twenty; sailed for Europe and spent a year at Oxford; then travelled, and was on the Continent, when he heard of the battle of Lexington; returned immediately to America; March 17th 1776 was on the heights of Dorchester with Washington and crossed over with him in the same boat, at the time of the evacuation of Boston; his health gave out and he went to reside with his father and assisted him in his political labors.

Many times member of the Legislature; minister to Madrid under Jefferson; associate minister to France, with Gen. Armstrong; overseer of Harvard College; liberal benefactor to Bowdoin College; owned two country-seats, Mount Bowdoin, Dorchester, and Nashaun Island, New Bedford Harbor; after his mother's death, he had two residences in Boston, namely his father's, corner of Beacon and Bowdoin Streets, and the William Bowdoin house on Milk Street.

The last male of his race in New England.¹

Will of Sarah Bowdoin.

In the Name of God Amen.

I Sarah Bowdoin of Boston in the County of Suffolk and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, being of sound disposing Mind and Memory, and considering the uncertainty of Life, do make this my last Will, & Testament in manner following. I commit my soul into the hands of Almighty God with a humble reliance on his Mercy, through the merits of my blessed Saviour for acceptance. And it is my first de-

¹ Among others who assumed the name of Bowdoin under his will and that of his wife, were the sons of his grandniece, Mrs. Sullivan, daughter of the Hon. Thomas Lindall Winthrop; descendants of one of these sons are well-known residents of New York.

sire that whenever I may die, I may be deposited in the same Tomb with my worthy, affectionate, deceased Husband — it being not only a wish of my own, but a promise I made to him a long time previous to his Death, that wherever he was laid, I would be laid also. My Funeral expenses, and just Debts, if any, to be first paid, I give in manner following (To Wit) it is my request that all the Servants who may live with me at the time of my Death may have mourning given them, and that each one, who may have lived with me a twelve month may have a quarter's wages allowed them. First I give to the Nephews of my late Husband, Sir Grenville Temple Bart, and to James Temple Bowdoin Esqr. and to each of their sisters Mrs. Elizabeth Bowdoin Winthrop, and to Mrs. Augusta Palmer, the sum of one hundred pounds sterling to each of them, as a token of my friendship and regard for them, and I also give one hundred pounds sterling to George Sullivan of said Boston Esqr. in Token of my friendship for him — and I give to my niece Miss Elizabeth Bowdoin Temple Winthrop likewise the sum of one hundred pounds sterling, as a token of gratitude to her, for her affectionate attention, and kindness to me. And I give to my niece Mrs. Elizabeth B. Winthrop a Diamond Ring which has her Grandfather & Grandmother Bowdoin's hair in it. And I also give to my Niece Mrs. Augusta Palmer a Diamond Brooch which has her Mother's hair in it, as Tokens of my attachment to them. I likewise give to my Niece Miss Eliza B. T. Winthrop a small watch set around with Pearl — I also request that she may have a compleat suit of morning given her — I also desire my Executors to cause to be purchased for my Niece Mrs. Mary Temple Bowdoin a Diamond Ring, or Brooch with my hair in it, worth twenty five Guineas, & I also give her my set of Coquils, locket, Earrings, & Bracelets as Tokens of my regard for her. I also desire my Executors to cause to be purchased a Diamond Ring, or Brooch with my hair in it, also worth twenty-five Guineas, for the Wife of Sir Grenville Temple Bart, as a Token of my regard for him: and in case Sir Grenville Temple should not have a Wife at the

time of my Decease, it shall be his oldest, or in case of the Death of his oldest, his second Daughter's.

Secondly I give to the Poor of Brattle Street Church in said Boston Fifty pounds Sterling, and I also give my two largest Silver Tankards for the use of said Church forever. The hundred pounds sterling I intended to have given as a Token of my very great friendship, & regard for my worthy Pastor, & friend The Revd. Joseph Stevens Buekminster, I now give to his oldest sister, my friend Miss Luey M. Buckminster as a Token of friendship to her, as well as her late Brother — Thirdly I give to the Revd. Thaddeus M. Harris of Dorehester the sum of one hundred pounds sterling, a compleat suit of Mourning, & a mourning Ring, as tokens of my friendship for him — I likewise give Fifty pounds sterling to be equally devided between the first, & second Church in said Dorehester, for the benefit of the poor of both Churches. Fourthly I give for the benefit of Foreign Missions for propagating the glorious Gospel of our Dear Redeemer three hundred dollars — I also give to the Boston Female Asylum the sum of three hundred Dollars — To the Convention of the Congregational Ministers in Massachusetts for the benefit of Clergymen's widows, & children I also give the sum of three hundred dollars — To the New Society just formed for distributing Religious Tracts to Sailors, I give one hundred Dollars. To the Bible Society of Massachusetts I also give one hundred Dollars. To a New Society called the Nowadia Society, for the benefit of the poor sick of every Seet, I likewise give one hundred Dollars. Fifthly I give to my friend Mrs. Elizabeth Waterhouse, wife to Doctor Benja Waterhouse, the sum of One hundred pounds sterling, & a compleat suit of mourning, & a mourning Ring, or Broach with my hair in it, as tokens of my friendship, & regard for her. — Sixthly I desire my Executors to cause to be purchased a Diamond Broach, or Ring with my hair in it, worth twenty five Guineas for my friend Miss Patty Durell of Bath in England in Token of my late worthy Husband's, & my regard for her. Seventhly I give to the College named Bowdoin in

Brunswick one Thousand Dollars for the Establishment of a French Professor. Eighthly I give & Devise to my beloved, affectionate, worthy Niece Mrs. Sarah Bowdoin Sullivan, Wife of George Sullivan Esqr. of said Boston, for and during the term of her natural life all my real Estate in Milk Street in said Boston with the House, Stables, Coach house, & all the other buildings, and all the Land thereunto belonging which I at present possess agreeable to the last Will of my late worthy Husband; and at her Death I give the said Estate to her second son James Bowdoin Sullivan, he dropping the name of Sullivan, & taking, & retaining the name of Bowdoin, and to his lawful begotten children in fee simple forever. But in case he should die without children lawfully begotten, I hereby give the said Estate to the oldest son of the said Sarah B. Sullivan, now named George Richard Sullivan on condition of his dropping the name of Sullivan, & taking & retaining the name of George Richard James Bowdoin, and to his lawful begotten Children in Fee simple forever — But in case of the Death of the above named James Bowdoin Sullivan, and George Richard Sullivan without lawful begotten Children the said Estate shall be a younger Son's of the said Sarah Bowdoin Sullivan's, on condition of his taking, & retaining the name of James Bowdoin, & to his lawful begotten children in fee simple forever — and in case of the failure of all such sons of the said Sarah Bowdoin Sullivan, and they dieing without lawful begotten Children, it shall be her oldest Daughter's, or in case of the Death of her oldest Daughter without children, it shall be her second Daughter's or so on, to her youngest, and to her Children in fee simple forever. Ninthly I give & devise to Thomas Lindal Winthrop Esqr. and Richard Sullivan Esqr. of said Boston, and their heirs in Trust for my said affectionate Niece Mrs. Sarah B. Sullivan the sum of Twenty thousand Dollars to her, and her Children forever — It is not for want of regard, or attachment to George Sullivan Esquire, Husband to my said Niece, that I give the said Twenty Thousand Dollars in Trust for her, during her marriage State, but only on ac-

count of the uncertainty of all human events; therefore it is intended as friendship to him, as well as to his said Wife, I also give to my said Niece Mrs. Sarah Bowdoin Sullivan all my household Furniture whereof I may die possessed for her use forever: also all my wines, & all my household stores which I may have in the house at the time of my decease. Tenthly I give to my said Dear Niece Mrs. Sarah B. Sullivan, and to her Brother now James Bowdoin Winthrop all my Family linen of every description whatever, to be equally divided between them — I also give to my said Niece Mrs. Sarah Bowdoin Sullivan all my wearing Apparel of every description whatever; except what I have marked for some one else — also all my jewelry of every kind which I do not otherwise give away by this Will — also my two large Silver Tea pots, a large Silver sugar dish, & cream pot Gilt within side, a pint Silver bowl, a plated Urn with silver rims, a pr. of silver sugar tongs, and all my Tea spoons except the Gilt ones in a Morocco case — and also all my plated ware of every description whatever for her use forever. Eleventhly I give to my Nephew James Temple Bowdoin Esqr. a compleat Set of Gilt desert Plate contained in a green Morocco Box — but in case the said James T. Bowdoin should not fix his permanent residence in America, I give the above compleat set of gilt desert Plate to James B. Winthrop. I also give all my other Plate that I have not otherwise given away by this Will to my Nephew James Temple Bowdoin Esqr., and to James Bowdoin Winthrop, to be equally divided between them; but in case the said James T. Bowdoin Esqr. does not fix his residence in America he shall forfeit his half, and it shall be equally divided between James Bowdoin Winthrop, and James Bowdoin Sullivan. Twelfthly I give & devise to the said Thomas L. Winthrop, & Richard Sullivan Esquires, & their heirs in trust for James Bowdoin Sullivan second son of my said Niece Mrs. Sarah B. Sullivan the sum of Twenty thousand dollars during the term of his natural life, on the sole condition of his dropping the name of Sullivan, and taking & retaining the name of James Bowdoin,—and to

his lawful begotten children forever: but in case of the death of the said James B. Sullivan without lawful begotten Children; I give the said Twenty thousand Dollars to the oldest son of my said Niece Mrs. Sarah B. Sullivan now named George Richard Sullivan on condition of his dropping the Name of Sullivan, & taking & retaining the name of George Richard James Bowdoin, and to his lawful begotten Children forever. But in case of the Death of both such sons of the said Mrs. Sarah B. Sullivan without lawful begotten Children, and she shall have a younger Son who shall drop the Name of Sullivan, & take & retain the Name of James Bowdoin, the said sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars shall be to him, & to his lawful begotten Children forever. But in case of the Death of all such Sons of the Mrs. Sarah Bowdoin Sullivan without having lawful begotten Children the said sum of Twenty Thousand Dollars shall go to my Nephew now James Bowdoin Winthrop who will hereafter drop the name of Winthrop, and take & retain the name of Bowdoin, to him, & his Children forever—Thirteenthly I give, & devise to my affectionate Nephew now James Bowdoin Winthrop at present at Bowdoin College in Brunswick for & during his natural life all my property of every description whatever, whereof I die possessed, and which I have not already given away by this Will, and after his death to his lawful begotten Children forever, and I invest the said James B. Winthrop with the same power to give Deeds for land sold which my late Husband by his Will impowered me to do, and also to recover all mortgages which I may hereafter receive on account of such land sold. But in case of his Death without lawful begotten Children—his next oldest Brother shall take his place, and the property shall be to him, & his lawful begotten Children forever—but always on condition of their dropping the name of Winthrop & taking & retaining the name of James Bowdoin. My gold repeating Watch which was my ever to be regretted Husband's, I give to my said Nephew James B. Winthrop with the request he will keep it in remembrance of a good friend— My Family Pictures

I give to the College named Bowdoin in Brunswick, except my late Husband's & my own shall be retained during the life of Mrs. Sarah B. Sullivan, & Mrs. Eliza B. Winthrop. I request that Mr. & Mrs. George Sullivan, & their children may have mourning given them. Lastly I nominate, constitute, & appoint Thomas Lindal Winthrop, and Richard Sullivan of said Boston Esquires Executors to this my last Will & Testament but in case of the Death of either at the time of my Decease — I nominate, constitute & appoint Mr. Josiah Bradlee of said Boston to supply such deficiency.

I hereunto set my hand & seal this eighteenth day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred & twelve.

Sarah Bowdoin

(Seal)

JOHN I ERVING.

Born: in 1690 at Kirkwall in the Orkneys.

Married: Boston, December 1st 1725, by Benj. Colman, Pres. to Abigail, daughter of John Philipps and Mary his wife; she was born, Boston, April 26th 1702; she died, Boston, June 20th 1759, and was buried in King's Chapel graveyard, Boston.

Died: Boston, August 20th 1786; buried in the Granary graveyard, Tremont Street, Boston.

Will: August 20th 1784. (Probate Office, Suffolk county, Mass.)¹

Issue.

1. **John II Erving**, born, Boston, January 26th 1727; graduated at Harvard College in 1747; died, Bath, England, June 17th 1816; married, King's Chapel, Boston, April 18th 1754, Maria Catherina, daughter of Lt. General William Shirley. Mr. John Erving, of Rye, N. Y. is his present representative.

2. **Abigail Erving**, born, Boston, May 16th 1729; she died young.

3. **Mary Erving**, born, Boston, June 19th 1730; married Colonel Scott of the British army, who was at one time Governor of Dominica and Granada, W. I.

4. **Elizabeth Erving**, born, Boston, September 14th 1731; she was married, Boston, September 15th 1748, by the Rev. Samuel Cooper, to James II Bowdoin; she died May 5th 1803, and was buried in the Bowdoin vault in the Granary cemetery, Tremont street, Boston.

5. **Abigail Erving**, born, Boston, September 17th 1733; buried from Trinity Church, Boston, June 5th 1760.

6. **William Erving**, born, Boston, September 8th 1734; at times spelled his name "Irvine"; graduated at Harvard

¹ See second edition, page 45.

College in 1753; held the rank of Major in the British army; was with Wolfe at Quebec and Louisburg; founded the Erving professorship of chemistry and mineralogy at Harvard; died in his house at Jamaica Plains, Mass., May 27th 1791; buried May 30th following in the graveyard of King's Chapel, Boston.¹

7. **George Erving**, born in 1735; graduated at Harvard College in 1757; died in George Street, Hanover Square, London, England, January 16th 1806; married first, in Roxbury October 25th 1768, by Mr. Addams, to Lucy, daughter of Isaac Winslow; she died in 1770, aged 20 years, and was buried in the graveyard of King's Chapel; he married secondly, at King's Chapel, January 26th 1775, Mary McIntosh, daughter of General Royall, of Medford, Mass.; she died in 1786. George Erving by his first marriage had a son, George William Erving, who was born, Boston, July 15th 1769, baptized at King's Chapel, July 27th following, he died, unmarried, New York, July 22d 1850. George William Erving was representative of the United States, respectively at Copenhagen and at Madrid.

8. **James Erving**, born, Boston, April 4th 1736; died, unmarried, in the West Indies, prior to 1784.

9. **Sarah Erving**, born, Boston, June 8th 1737; married Colonel Waldo; left issue; she was living in 1784.

10. **Anne Erving**, born, Boston, January 20th 1740; married Duncan Stewart; she left issue; she was living in 1784.

Account of John I Erving.

A prominent and successful merchant in Boston, Mass. to which place he came in 1706.

¹ His tomb-stone has on it the following epitaph:

"The remains of
Major William Erving
Are deposited
In this
Tomb,"
with his arms.

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