

1802, to be Second Lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers, in which branch of service he continued through all the successive grades, 'till he became Colonel and Chief Engineer of the Army, July 31, 1812—during that period being chiefly engaged in the construction of fortifications on the Atlantic coast. In the war of 1812-15 with Great Britain, after serving as aid-de-camp to Major-General Pinkney, he became in 1813 the chief engineer in Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence, participating in the battle of Chrysler's Field, and was subsequently, in 1813-14, chief engineer of the forces for the defence of New York, receiving for his meritorious services the brevet of Brigadier-General Feb. 19, 1814. After the war he assumed the direct superintendency of the Military Academy, and was its inspector for a brief period preceding his resignation November 12, 1818. Upon leaving the army he, for nine years, was surveyor of the U. S. Revenue for the port of New York, and then became a distinguished civil engineer, employed by the government for a long period in directing harbor improvements on the northern lakes, and aiding in suppressing Canada border disturbances, being in 1841 honored by the President with a mission to the British Provinces with reference to a treaty of peace with Great Britain. 'Born at the close of the American Revolution, and dying at the termination of the American Rebellion, General Swift lived through the most momentous period of history, and was himself a prominent actor in the grand drama of our national existence. His military career began with that of the Military Academy, which he fostered in its feeble infancy, and he lived to see, in its developed maturity, the sons of his cherished *alma mater* directing the high destinies of his country on victorious fields in Canada, Florida, Mexico, and within the wide domain of our southern border. He now calmly sleeps, after a long and useful life of more than four score years, leaving this world in the blissful consciousness that he and his brother graduates of this institution have ably performed their allotted part in subduing the savage foe, in conquering foreign enemies, and crushing treason in our midst; and that he has left behind a regenerated fatherland of one people, with but one emblem of nationality, sacred to liberty, and the triumph of the best government on earth." The personal excellence of General Swift can be only appreciated by those who knew and loved him, and they were all whom he met on his long journey of life, for he had no enemies but his country's. Amiable and sincere, spotless in integrity, stanch in friendship, liberal in charity, General Swift was a model gentleman, a true patriot and Christian soldier, worthy of the imitation of all who, like him, would live honored and revered, and die universally regretted.

"As an appropriate tribute of respect from the Military Academy to his memory, there will be fired, under the direction of the commandant of cadets, eleven minute guns, commencing at meridian to-morrow, and the national flag will be displayed at half staff from the same hour until sunset."



SWIFT COAT OF ARMS AND OLD CHAIR.

GENEALOGY.

THE NAME.

The origin of family names, though obscured by time, has reference to the character, occupation or residence as also to parentage, and family devices or arms also indicate these names. Thus the device of "Deer at full speed," and that assumed by the Rector of Godrich of a dolphin round an anchor and the motto "*Festina Lente*," are in point, for in those days a dolphin was called a swift.—*Vide Scott's Swift*.

The name Swift, written by the Saxons Swiff or Swithen, as also Swyfte and Swifte, is found in the early annals of England. Sir Frs. Palgrave says in his *Rolls* that, anno eleven hundred and sixty-four (1164) lived Henry Swifte of Tavesham in Norfolk, and Walter Swifte of Metar in Berks, and John Swifte of Corford in Suffolk; and anno 1199 Gilbert and Albreda Swifte (his wife) of Riversdale, had lands allotted to them, and William Swift's daughters in Essex, to wit: Amecia and Matilda had lands devised to them, and Stephen Swift was a proprietor in Norfolk, and William in Essex, and anno 1275 Richard Swift of Cotax in Cambridge, and William of Customar and Adam Swift of Norfolk were proprietors, and Adam Swift lived in Wakefield in Yorkshire, and John at Corford.—*Vide 1164*. Anno 1280 Arnulph Swift was at Costise in Tavesham in Norfolk (see 1164,) and Henry at Deniston, and Erwald Swift in the church, and Walter and Roger lived in North Hampshire, and the family in Lancaster held lands under Duke Henry. Anno 1300 Robert Swift and Margaret his wife lived at Canterbury on land granted by Edward I. In the *Parliamentary Writs* of Sir F. Palgrave, page 1483, Gilbert Swift of Devizes, in Shire of York, was a knight in Parliament 9th September, 1314. Anno 1317 Robert de Swyft, an honorable person, says Palgrave, a licentiate at Wineford in Essex. Anno 1321 John Swift of Leominster in Herts was a knight in Parliament.—*Palgrave, page 1483*. In 1356 Hugo Swift received a patent of land. Anno 1398, in Sir Harris Nicholas' *Proceedings of the King's Privy Council, page 80*, Mr. Swyft is secretary to the writ of summons of Richard II. Anno 1399 Roger Swift lived in Kent, and inherited a tenth of the lands of Hadels, and anno 1461 another Roger Swift also inherited a sixteenth of the same lands. Anno 1408 and 1420 John Swift was a land-holder in Norfolk.—*Vide 1164*. Anno 1508 Peter Swift was auditor of St. Pauls, London, and Richard, rector in Hereford. Anno 1530 Robert Swyft lived at Castle Ward in Notts, and his cousin lived in Lancaster. Anno 1531 John Swyft and Ann, his wife, had a lawsuit with Stanly of Mt. Eagle, for Hornby Castle and

for Capton Manse, and other manors in Lancastershire. Anno 1535, in *26th Henry VIII*. Robert Swyft was prior of Shulldham in Norfolk, (*vide 1164*,) and William Swift was prior of Cateby in Lincoln, and anno 1535 Robert Swifte was rector of Rotherham in Yorkshire, and his sons Robert and William were auditors. Of this family was Thomas Swift our immediate ancestor, who migrated from Rotherham anno 1620 to 1629 to Massachusetts Bay, and brought with him the family arms, "Or, a Chevron vair Blue and White between Three Black Bucks in full Course." This Thomas became a "freeman" of Masssachusetts anno 1635. Of this Rotherham family Dugdale says, was the Dean of St. Patrick's, and also of the same was Robert Swift who, anno 1550, was proprietor of Wakefield manor in Yorkshire, (*vide anno 1280*,) and whose son Roger was seized of Rotherwell in the same shire, and another son, Robert, became sheriff of the county, and was knighted by Elizabeth 1599, and continued sheriff until 15th James I. Anno 1597 and '98 lived Garret and Jasper Swift of the same family. My uncle Jonathan Swift informed me they migrated to, and died bachelors in, Virginia. Anno 1658 Sir Edward Swift was in the army with Monk, and of the council that annoyed Monk in opposing Charles II.

The foregoing is written to show the location and condition of the name; but whether before anno 1535 any of them be ancestors of kin of ours I do not assert. Yet there must needs have been some consanguinity among so many persons of the same name, living at various times in contiguous counties. In the time of Alfred, mention is made, in the *Saxon Chronicle*, of the name as existing in repute and rank. When the Normans ruled prenomens became common; the conquered Saxon, probably for safety, adopted Norman christian names. I have not attempted, because I have not been in England, to accumulate later facts of the Yorkshire family, some of which may be seen in Walter Scott's *Life of Dean Jonathan Swift*. Anno 1802 I heard my father and his cousin John Swift, of Milton, conversing about the Rev. John Swift of Framingham as corresponding with the Dean, or with his cousin Dean Swift, and calling themselves cousins. When my uncle Jonathan Swift visited England, anno 1786, he visited Rotherham in Yorkshire, and found the family of respectable circle at Rotherham, and in other parts of the county, they having the tradition that a branch of that family had migrated to Boston in the previous century.

The foregoing account of the name was made by General Swift. Very interesting articles on the English family of Swift are contained in *Historic Notices of Rotherham*, by John Guest, F. S. A., and *South Yorkshire*, by Rev. Joseph Hunter. These works are in the Boston Public Library.

NOTE. — Burke's *General Armory* gives the arms of Robert Swift, Esq., of Rotherham, born 1448, the *rich mercer*, eldest son of Robert Swift, Esq., of that place, — or, a chevron vair between three bucks in full course proper. Crest, a sinister arm embowed, vested vert, cuffed ar., holding in hand a sheaf of five arrows, or feathered ppr., barbed az.; Vicount Carlingford, extinct 1634, grandson of William Swift, who was brother of Robert Swift, Esq., of Rotherham, bore the same arms and crest.

Godwin Swift, attorney-general to the Duke of Ormonde, and founder of the family in Ireland, son of the Rev. Thomas Swift of Goodrich and Briston Co., Hereford, bore the same arms: Crest a demi-buck ramp., ppr., in the mouth a honeysuckle, also ppr. stalked and leaved vert. Motto: *Festina Lente*. The use of the anchor entwined by a dolphin, Burke says, was an assumption of Godwin Swift as a parody on the name.

I.

THOMAS SWIFT AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

Thomas Swift, one of the earliest settlers of Dorchester, Mass., according to Savage, was son of Robert Swift of Rotherham, Yorkshire, England. As he did not qualify this assertion, we may well believe that he derived his information from an authentic source.

He probably came with the first comers, but his name first appears, November 22, 1634, on the town records, as the grantee of five acres of land. Twenty more are recorded January 4, 1635, at the Great Hill between Roxbury and Dorchester; one acre of marsh February 18, 1635, near Goodman Munning's at the Point Neck, and March 18, of the same year, between three and four acres more. He also appears as grantee of four acres of meadow land beyond the Neponset River. Beside these grants he became the owner of other lots by purchase.*

He was admitted freeman of the colony May 6, 1635, was a member of the Rev. Mr. Wareham's church in 1636, as was his wife Elizabeth, and was occasionally called to serve the town in an official capacity. In 1658 he was a supervisor of the highway, from 1659 to 1662 was a fence viewer, and was further distinguished as quartermaster of a troop of horse.

In 1661-2 the commissioners for ending small causes met at his house, and the same year he received from the town one pound as part of the selectmen's expenses, and in 1665 three pounds. Probably they had met at his house to transact the affairs of the town. From all we can learn he appears to have been a man of enterprise, always ready for duty, and holding the respect of his fellow citizens. He was a malster by trade, which he seems to have combined with agriculture. His labors appear to have been well rewarded, for, beside rearing his family in a comfortable manner, giving his children a common education, and providing for his daughters at their marriage, he was enabled to leave to his family a goodly estate for that day, and was not unmindful of the church, and his dependents.

Among the household goods that he brought over was the ancient carved oak

*Henry Merifield æ. 66 yrs. and Margaret his wife æ. 65 yrs., Anthony Golifer æ. 64 yrs., Ann Spurr æ. 61 yrs., Thomas Tileston æ. 76 yrs., all of Dorchester, testifyeth that Thomas Swift, late of Dorchester deceased, and Thomas Swift his son, of Milton, possessed by tillage and mowing a tract of upland and meadow in Dorchester 44 years; which is bounded southerly with meadow and upland formerly belonging to the worshipfull Mr. Israel Stoughton: the upland being bounded westerly with the highway, northerly with ——— Leads, his land, and easterly with the meadow formerly belonging to Mr. John Holman, and partly with the same meadow; and the meadow being bounded westerly with the same upland, and northerly with the meadow formerly belonging to Mr. John Holman, and easterly with a great salt creek or river.

Henry Merifield and wife also testifyeth that he, Swift, had two houses upon it and they were tenants. Ann Spurr also testifyeth there were two houses. Swift lived in one with his family, myself being one. William Sumner æ. 80 yrs., Richard Hall æ. 65 yrs., Thomas Holman æ. 45 yrs., Timothy Tileston æ. 49 yrs., testifyeth that he lived on it 36 years and upwards.— *Document dated Dec. 23, 1685. Suf. Deeds Lib. 13, Fol. 408.*

chair and the family coat-of-arms, painted in oil on canvas. These precious relics of the old Puritan are still in possession of his descendants; the former owned by Miss Elizabeth R. Swift of Milton, the latter by McRee Swift, Esq., of New Brunswick, N. J.

The old arm chair indicates by its style and workmanship that it belonged to the period of the emigration, and there is not the shadow of a doubt of the authenticity of its descent to the present day. It was inherited by Mr. Samuel Swift of the fifth generation from Thomas, whose house is still standing on Milton Hill. By some mistake, this valuable relic was sold by auction when Samuel Swift's estate was settled, for the paltry sum of eighteen cents. It was bought by Mr. Ezra Glover of Quincy, who could not be induced to give it up. At his decease it fell to his son, John J. Glover, who possessed a taste for antique furniture, and died leaving a fine collection. His furniture was sold by auction, and well advertised, which brought together many persons who were disposed to pay a large price for this interesting chair. Those desirous of getting it back into the family stated their case, and the parties wishing to purchase withdrew their claim, and the administrators, with the consent of the heirs, sold it to Miss Elizabeth R. Swift of Milton, in whose possession it now remains. Albertypes of the chair and the coat-of-arms have been successfully made for this work.

Savage says Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Swift, was probably daughter of Bernard Capen of Dorchester, which is doubtless correct, for Thomas Swift in his will calls John Capen his brother-in-law, and John Capen (who had a grant of an acre of land next to Goodman Swift to build a house on,) speaks of his sister Swift in a letter to Mary Bass, dated 1, 5 mo., 1647, printed in the *History of Dorchester*, p. 45. The Swift graves are also next to those of Capen.

Bernard Capen was from Dorchester, England. He was a very prominent citizen, serving as representative six times. He died Nov. 8, 1638, and his gravestone inscription is thought to be the earliest in New England. See *Hist. Gen. Register*, Vol. xx., p. 246, for an account of the family.

CHILDREN.

- JOAN, perhaps b. in England, d. July 21, 1663; m. Nov. 5, 1657, (as Savage says, should be, without doubt, 1647,) John Baker of Boston, smith, by whom she had eight children, six of whom probably d. young, as only two, Thomas and Elizabeth, are named in their father's will, made March 26, 1666; proved July, 1666; invt. £798.19. Abstract of same in *Hist. Gen. Register*, Vol. xv., p. 124. He gave son Thomas land in Dorchester that had belonged to his grandfather Swift. He m. 2nd, 8, 11, 1663, Thankful, dau. of Lieut. Hopestill Foster of Dorchester, by whom he had John, and a posthumous dau. Silence, b. 28, 5, 1666. He was admitted townsman of Boston 1642, and his name appears in the Book of Possessions 1648; ar. co. 1644. His inventory shows he was a shipowner, and that he lived in good style.
2. Thomas, b. June 17, 1635.
 3. Obadiah, b. July 16, 1638.
- ELIZABETH, b. Feb. 26, 1640; d. Jan. 9, 1641-2.

RUTH, b. Aug. 24, 1643; d. between 1677 and 1680; m. Oct. 10, 1660, Capt. Wm. Greenough, shipwright, of Boston, by whom she had seven children. He d. Aug. 6, 1693, æ. 53, (g. s. one of the most beautiful in Copp's Hill). Will made Aug. 1, 1693; proved Sept. 13, 1693; invt. £1245.9.4, showing large estate and house furnished in a superior manner. Had 2nd wife Elizabeth Rainsford; 3rd wife Sarah Shore of Chelmsford. See *N. E. Hist. Gen. Reg.*, Vol. xvii, pp. 167-9.

MARY, b. Sept. 21, 1645; m. 11, 11, 1663, John White of Boston, joiner; bapt. in Dorchester 15th Dec., 1639; d. Aug. 6, 1690, æ. about 50: (g. s. Copp's Hill). Will made Apr. 26, 1690; proved Oct. 11, 1690; invt. £1077.7.8, consisting of dwelling houses and wharf, land at Dorchester, farm at Lynn, household effects showing he lived in the same style as his brother-in-laws. Names brother James White, of Dorchester, and son Edward. Was son of Edward White of Dorchester, 1635, who was b. 1593; m. Martha King in 1616 at St. Dunstan's church, Cranbrooke, Kent, Eng. John and Mary had, 1. Mary, b. 8, 8, 1663, m. John Robinson. 2. Martha, b. July 7, 1669, m. Samuel Warkman of R. I., housewright. 3. Sarah, b. 16th Aug., 1671, m. Capt. Edward Martyn, merchant of Boston, son of Michael Martyn of Boston, mariner. In this line is descended Mrs. Harrison Ellery. 4. Elizabeth, m. John Welch, mariner. 5. Edward, m. Elizabeth —————; was cooper of Boston. 6. Susanna, d. June 18, 1678. 7. Thankful, b. Jan. 18, 1677, spinster in 1702. 8. John, b. Aug. 12, 1680.

ANNA, b. Nov. 16, 1647; d. Sept. 13, 1680, æ. 33, (g. s. Copp's Hill); m. Aug. 19, 1664, Obadiah Read of Boston, housewright, by whom she had several children. 1. Elizabeth, b. Mch. 29, 1669; m. July 6, 1691, Samuel Durham. 2. Anna, b. Feb. 3, 1672-3; m. Highinbottom. 3. James, b. Feb. 29, 1679-80. Others d. young. By his 2nd wife Elizabeth he had children. He d. Feb. 19, 1721-2, æ. 82, (g. s. Copp's Hill). Will made Jan. 3, 1718; invt. £875; names sons Thomas, James, and Obadiah to have 100 acres land in Kittery Co., York; grandson John Durram; daus. Sarah Hughes, Anna Highinbottom, Mary Miller, Elizabeth Durram, Elizabeth, dau. of Obadiah; sisters Hannah and Sarah Broughton.

JAMES, bapt. 10, 1, 1649; d. 4, 9, 1657.

SUSANNA, b. Feb. 11, 1651-2; d. Mch. 2, 1732, æ. 80; m. Apr. 18, 1672, Elder Hopestill Clapp of Dorchester. (See *Clapp's Genealogy*).

ELIZABETH, ; d. 6, 9, 1657.

The death of Goodman Swift is recorded May 4, 1675, but his grave-stone is inscribed May 30, 1675, and that of his wife January 26, 1677-8. These stones, still standing side by side in the western corner of the ancient graveyard of Dorchester, at Upham's corner, are of heavy slate well preserved, and bid fair to stand the storms and sunshine of two centuries more. The illustrations given, are directly from the stones. The inscriptions are also printed on page 166, Vol. iv. of the *N. E. Hist. and Gen. Register*.

The graves are covered with two large rough Roxbury pudding stones, placed there to protect the bodies from the wolves; a common custom with the early settlers, these rapacious animals being numerous at that period.

WILL.

The last will and testam^t of me Tho: Swift Sen^r of dorchester, made the six and twentieth day of Aprill, sixteen hundred seveanty and five.

First. I Commit my soule to god that gave it, and my body to a decent buriall in the earth. And for this world's goods which god has graciously given me, my will is that my just debts be paid and funerall discharged, and then my whole estate as now it is, I leave it with my wife for her comfortable livelyhood dureing her natural life, if she remaine a widow; but and if she Change her Condition by marrying with another man, then my will is that my wife shall have one hundred pounds out of my estate, either in land or goods, which she like best; and

this hundred pounds shall be at her disposall when it shall please god to take her away by death. and for the rest of my estate, when this hundred pounds is taken away, my will is that my sonn Tho: shall have five pounds as a farther token of my love, beside what he have formerly had.

Also, I give and bequeath six pounds unto the towne of dorchester toward there maintaining of an able ministry in dorchester, and to be laid out by the selectmen & deacons in Something that may helpe the towne in there yearly maintenance. And twenty shillings I give unto Henry Merrifield, and twenty shillings unto Anne, the wife of Rob^t Spurr, who were formerly my servants: the remainder of my estate I doe will and appointe that my sonn Obediah Swift shall have a double portion with any of his sisters, accounting what they have formerly had. and when my wife die or marry, if my sonn Obediah be able & willing, he may purchase the land and pay his sisters in other specie. further, my will is that Elizabeth, my deare and loving wife shall be Executrix of my whole estate, and my brother-in-Law W^m. Sumner, and my brother-in-Law John Capen I doe appointe to be Overseeres of my whole estate. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seale y^e day & yeare aforesaid.

the mark of W. Tho: Swift & a seale.

Signed, Sealed & Deliv^d in presence of us, viz:

JOHN CAPEN, Sen^r,
RIC^d SMITH.

L^t Jn^o Capen and Rich^d Smith made oath in Court the 30 July, 1675, that they being present subscribed there names as witnesses to this Instrum^t, which Tho: Swift Signed, sealed and published to be his last will and testam^t, & y^t when he soe did he was of a sound disposing minde to the best of there knowledge. this done as attests. *Lib. 6, Fol. 94, Suf. Wills.*

INVENTORY.

An inventory of the estate of Tho: Swift of dorchester, who departed this life y^e 4th of May, 1675, taken and appraised by us whose names are underwritten this 18th day of June, 1675:

	£	s.	d.
Imp ^{es} . wearing apparrell of all Sorts, both linen and woolen, - - - - -	010	01	00
It: some peses of new Cloath, viz: tecking, - - - - -	002	00	03
It: 9 sheetes, 7 pillowbys, table cloath, one duz. and halfe of napkins, towells and a little flax,	007	08	03
It: one bed and bolster, blankets, pillows, curtaines, vallens, bedstead, - - - - -	010	13	06
It: One Cupbord, Chests, truncke, table, Chaires, Cushins and forme, - - - - -	006	01	00
In the Chamber. It: One featherbed, bolsters, Rugg, blanktis, - - - - -	005	01	06
It: 3 p ^r Sheetes, one chest, Rugg and other small things, - - - - -	004	12	05
Kitchen. It: 10 platters, 2 candlesticks, basons, frutedishes, porengers, quart potts, bowles, &c.,	004	13	00
It: 2 brass kittles, 1 Iron pot, 1 warming pan, 1 porsnet skillet, brase mortar firepan and tongs, and other utinsells, - - - - -	007	14	06
Malthouse. It: One skreene, hair cloth baggs, measures, and other utensels, - - - - -	003	10	06
In the yard & field. It: 5 Cows, one horse, two oxen, two yung cattle, swine, Cart and wheelles, plow, chaine, saddle, pillion, bridle, and other utincells, - - - - -	033	10	04
It: 22 acres and $\frac{1}{2}$ of land on the north of Naponsett, - - - - -	011	05	00
It: 20 acres land at the 20 acre lots, - - - - -	040	00	00
It: 11 acres and $\frac{1}{4}$ land in y ^e Cow walke, - - - - -	030	00	00
It: the dwelling house, barne, rooms, orchard, gardens, plowing land and pasture land on the hill neere the house, about 12 acres, - - - - -	160	00	00
It: 4 acres of land called pops lott, and aboute two acres in the toune feild, - - - - -	062	00	00
It: 6 acres of meadow, - - - - -	060	00	00
It: One muskit and p ^t of Sidar press, - - - - -	000	19	00
the totall sume, errors excepted, is - - - - -	459	10	03

Lib. 5, Fol. 259, Suf. Wills.

JAMES HUMPSTREY,
W^m. SUMNER,
JOHN CAPEN, SEN^r.

Although Thomas Swift made his mark when signing his will, he could write, for a *fac-simile* of his autograph, with others, attached to a petition in 1641, is printed in Blake's *Annals of Dorchester*.

Deacon Thomas² Swift, (*Thomas*¹) of Milton, yeoman, b. in Dorchester, Mass., June 17, 1635; m. Dec. 9, 1657, Elizabeth, dau. of Robert Vose, of Milton. She d. Jan. 26, 1676, and the 16th of the following October he m. Sarah Clapp. She was dismissed from the church in Dorchester the 18, 7, 1681, and was admitted to full communion at the Milton church Oct. 2, 1681. She may have been a daughter of a brother of Roger Clapp. (See *Clapp Genealogy*, p. 12).

CHILDREN.

THOMAS, b. July 30, 1659; dead in 1717, when his father, by will, gives a legacy to "Thomas Swift, the reputed Son of Son Thomas Swift, deceas'd."

ELIZABETH, b. Aug. 21, 1662; m. ———— Pratt.

EBENEZER, b. Oct. 21, 1667; d. Nov. 3, 1680.

WILLIAM, b. May 5, 1670; killed in 1690 in the expedition against Quebec, Canada, being a member of John Withington's co. of Dorchester. His cousin James, member of same co., was also killed.

4. John, b. Mch, 14, 1678-9.

5. Samuel, b. Dec. 10, 1683.

Deacon Swift received from his father-in-law, in 1659, 19¾ acres of upland in Milton, which was confirmed to him by deed dated Feb. 23, 1663.* This, with other lots which he subsequently added by purchase, was the original homestead, continued in the family until 1835, when it was sold by his great-grandson Samuel Swift. This estate is now owned by Mr. Lewis W. Tappan, Jr., of Milton, a descendant of Obadiah, brother of Dea. Thomas Swift.

He early showed a capacity for public affairs, and in 1662 was chosen to run a line between Dorchester and Braintree, and was a supervisor of the highway. In 1661 he received a bounty of £1 for slaying a wolf.

He evidently settled in Milton about the time of his marriage, and became one of the most prosperous and useful citizens, being constantly in office till within a few years of his death.

The town was incorporated in 1662, but the records do not commence until 1669. His name appears that year as one appointed to make the rate, and "get help for the Sabbath." The same year he was on the grand jury, and also commenced his long career of service as a selectman, which reached, almost without an intermission, to the year 1700—a period of about thirty years. During this time he was also called to serve in various other capacities; was clerk of the market; appointed in 1700-1 to oversee the building of the meeting house; was fence viewer, tything-man, assessor, representative to General Court, and in 1714 moderator—probably the last town office which he held.

*Mch. 18, 1727-8, Jonathan Gulliver æ. about 67 yrs., Stephen Crane about 70 yrs., John Wadsworth about 55 yrs., Peter White about 67 yrs., all testify that Dea. Thomas Swift of Milton, deceased, and Samuel Swift, his son, for forty years have been in possession of a certain tract of land in Milton.—*Suf. Deeds, Lib. 42, Fol. 33.*

Beside these numerous offices he was made quartermaster of a troop of horse May 5, 1676, as had been his father, and bore the title of lieutenant. He was appointed by the General Court to take charge of the Neponset Indians at Brush Hill. Major Gookin, in his *Indian History* says that "Mr. Eliot and himself met every other week in the winter of 1676 among the Punkapoag Indians, who were brought up from Long Island, and placed near Brush Hill in Milton, under the charge of Quartermaster Swift. They came up late from the Island, yet they planted some ground procured for them by Major Swift, and they got some corn. Their wives and children were there with them."

The following orders and petitions, from the *Mass. Archives*, give us some idea of his valuable services.

29, 5, 1675. Coperall Thomas Swift was ordered by the council to take with him Indians, soldiers at Swanzy.

To the honorable Counsell now sitting in Boston :

Thes humbly sheweth that wheras I was ordered by the whorshipfull Mr. Danforth to aspect the indians belonging to punckapoge the latter part of the last summer, and secondly of beinge ordered by the honnerd major Guggins, and so from the honnerd Counsell to tacke care of the aforesayd indians after that they came from the island. Thes humbly informeth that the last year I spent a grete deal of time about them, they being restrained from Commerce with the English, and our English beinge so Redy, many of them, to tacke any advantage against them if that they were found out of thar Limits, which necessitated me to doe much of ther business, beside all other ackomation concerninge them and the good of the Country, Considering how the case stood between us & the indian; which service I hop I did cheerfully and in some mesure, I hop, to the utmost of my power, for whitch I have never reseved any allowance; but I humbly leve it to your honers Consideration. as to the ackompt of what time I spent, it was almost impossible for me to Kepe an ackompt of, considering how things have been with us. so I Rest, holding it my duty to pray for you honner.

your humbell servant in what I can or may,

THOMAS SWIFT.

5d. 8m., 76: †

Mass. Archives, Lib. 30, Fol. 223.

Ordered, that Lieut^t Thomas Swift take Speedy care to provide Sixty or more of the Friend Indians, well furnish^d with arms & amunition, to be sent out under a Suitable Comander ag^t the comon Enemy.

Past in the affirmative by the Magistrate.

Aug. 1690.

JO^a ADDINGTON, Sec^y.

Consented to by the deputies.

NEH. JEWET, p. ored.

These he furnished at an expense of £0.15.0.—*Mass. Archives.*

Not only in secular affairs was he prominent and useful, but the church found in him a ready supporter. He was one of the founders of the First Church in Milton, signing the covenant April 24, 1678, and Aug. 20, 1682, was ordained deacon. He and his wife Elizabeth had been members of the Dorchester church before the organization of the Milton church, and there their children were baptized. In 1686 he gave £2.5.0 to the support of the minister, being one of the largest subscribers.

The town records of Dorchester show that he and Ezra Clapp were granted, in 1681, liberty to catch fish at Neponset, below the mill, and to make a stage there.

Capt. Roger Clapp of Dorchester, Nov. 9, 1690, makes his *cousin* Thomas Swift one of the overseers of his will.

Deacon Swift lived to the good old age of 82 years, dying January 26, 1717-18. His wife died Feb. 4th, 1717-18, the day after her husband's funeral, as is recorded in the journal of her son, the Rev. John Swift of Framingham. Some accounts call the Rev. John the son of the first wife, Elizabeth, which is erroneous.

The gravestones of Mr. and Mrs. Swift—small, beautifully cut stones—are standing in the Milton cemetery among a number of stones, fifteen in all, of the family. That of Mr. Swift has been printed in the *N. E. H. G. Register*. They are reproduced for this work by the Albertype process.

WILL.

In the Name of God. Amen. the Twenty-first day of September, Anno Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventeen. In the fourth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George over Great Brittain, &c., I, Thomas Swift of Milton, in the County of Suffolk within his Majesties province of the Massachusetts Bay, in New England, Yeoman, being in a Competent Measure of bodily health, and of sound mind & understanding, praised be almighty God for the same, Knowing the uncertainty of this present life, and being desirous to Settle that outward Estate the Lord hath lent me, Doe therefore make & Ordain this my Last will and Testament in manner and form following, (That is to say), First and principally I commend my Soul into the hands of God, my almighty Creator, hoping to receive full pardon and remission of all my Sins, and Salvation through the alone Merits of Jesus Christ my Redeemer, And my Body to the Earth, to be decently Interred according to the discretion of my Ex^{rs}, herein after named, in hopes of a Glorious Resurrection into Eternall life. And as touching such worldly Estate as the Lord hath lent unto me, my will and meaning is, the same shall be Employ'd and bestowed as hereafter in and by this my will is exprest. hereby revoking, renouncing & makeing null and void all wills and Testaments by me formerly made, declareing and appointing this to be my last will and Testament, wherein is contained the same.

Imp^{rs}. I will that all my just debts, and Funerall expences, bee well, truly and duely paid, by my son Samuel Swift of Milton afores^d, Husbandman, one of my Executors hereinafter named.

Item. I do give and bequeath unto my Loving wife Sarah Swift the use, benefit and improvement of the East End of my Dwelling House, from Bottom to top, with the liberty, use and priviledge of y^e Garden and well, and Three Milch Cows maintained Summer and winter, and Yearly the summe of Twelve Pounds Money, Quarterly (dureing the Terme of her naturall life,) or in what to her shall be Equivalent to money, and her Yearly firewood. I also give and bequeath unto my aforesaid wife Sarah Swift, her Heirs and Assigns forever, all my money and Moveable Estate within doors, And all Money, and debts owing or due to me by bill, Bond, or otherwise. I also give unto her my Negro Woman to be at her disposall, and the one-half of my Orchard dureing her natural life.

Item. I do hereby give, devise and bequeath unto my Son John Swift, and to his Heirs and Assigns forever. All that my whole Tract and parcell of upland, which I have lying in the Six Divisions (so called) within the township of Milton afores^d, bounded Easterly with the Land of Ephraim Newton, Westerly with Deacon Sumner's Land, Northerly with the Parralel Line, and Southerly with Brantry Line. Also all my Land Lying in the Twelve Divisions of Land (so called) in Dorchester afores^d, Containing between Three Score and Four score Acres. And also all that my Piece of Salt mairsh Meadow Lying in Dorchester afores^d, containing Estimation Seven Acres, be the same more or Less, which is bounded and Surrounded with Lands of the Late Ebenezer Clap, dec^d, John Daniel, Daniel Allen, and the River. And my mind and will is that my s^d Son John Swift, or his Heirs, shall possess all the afores^d uplands at my decease, and the Meadow at my s^d wife's decease or removeall by marriage, (I haveing given my s^d Son John Swift considerable before, beside his learning.) And if it happens that my s^d Son John Swift at any time hereafter be minded to sell and dispose of his aforesaid Lands and Meadow, it is my will and desire that his Brother Samuel Swift may have the first tender thereof, made to him for buying them on such reasonable Terms as any other person would give for the same. And if it happen that my s^d Son John, with his family, in his Mother's lifetime or afterwards Leaves Framingham, and is minded to come & Live in Milton, then in such case for the Accomodation of himself and Family while he shall remain in Milton, wether it be for term of his life or shorter, he shall have the Old East End of my dwelling House, up and downe from the Cellar to the Top, Liberty & use of the old Garden and well, with Ingress, Egress and Regress to and from the same for the aforesaid purpose freely, only having his Mother's Consent thereto. I give also to my s^d Son John Three Cows, to be delivered him at my decease.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Daughter Elizabeth Pratt, and all her Children born of her body, One Hundred Pounds, to be equally divided between her and them, to be paid them within One Year after my decease, by my son Samuel Swift.

Item. I give and bequeath unto Thomas Swift, the reputed Son of Son Thomas Swift, deceas^d, Ten Shillings besides the Twenty Pounds I have given under my hand to pay him, and what is behind that I promised his Mother. And I do hereby Ordaine and appoint that the afores^d Thomas Swift, the reputed son of my s^d Son Tho: Swift, shall have no more of my said Estate.

Item. I do hereby give, devise, and bequeath unto my s^d Son Samuel Swift, and to his Heirs and Assignes forever, all my remaining upland and meadow Lying and being in Milton & Dorchester aforesaid, with all my Housing, Edifices, Buildings, Barnes, Yards, Gardens, Orchards appertaining thereto, and Fences Standing thereon, he paying my just Debts and Funerall Expences, and what I have herein before given Annually unto his Mother, and unto his Sister Elizabeth Pratt and her Children; and also supplying his Mother with Firewood at home at her doore at all time and times when she shall need it, as also an Horse to ride on at her pleasure; as also reserving out of the above given and bequeathed premises unto my Son John the priviledge of his living in

the Old East End of s^d Dwelling house in manner as afores^d. I also give unto my son Samuel Swift all the rest of my whole Stock of Neat Cattle, and all my out door Implements & Utensills of Husbandry, as Carts, Wheels, Chains, Ploughs and the like. And I do appoint my Negro Man to be for the Equall use and Service of my Son Samuel and my wife while she Continues upon my place, and at her removeal thence by Death or otherwise the s^d Negro Man to be the Sole dispose of my s^d Son Samuel; and my Indian Boy Jehu to be at my Son Samuel's disposall for the remainder of his time at my decease. And it is my mind and will that my s^d Son Samuel Swift, out of that my Estate given unto him as above said, shall pay unto my aboves^d wife the summe of Twelve Pounds Pr. Annum dureing her naturall life, & all needfull firewood, and provide and maintaine for her Three Cows and a Horse dureing her abode in Milton as aboves^d. And shall pay unto his Sister Pratt and her Children One Hundred Pounds as abovesaid, and unto Thomas Swift, the reputed Son of Thomas Swift, Ten Shillings as aboves^d. And my will is that my wive's Three Cows afores^d, and all the moveables before given unto her which remain at her my s^d wife's decease, be for my s^d Son John Swift and his Heirs.

Lastly. I do hereby constitute and appoint my Two before named Sons, John and Samuel Swift, to be the Executors of this my Last Will and Testament. In Testimony whereof I, the said Thomas Swift, have hereunto set my hand and Seal the day and Year first above written.

THOMAS SWIFT.



Signed, Sealed, Published & Declared by the s^d Thomas Swift, the Testator, as and for his Last will and Testament, in presence of us.

EDWARD MILLS, JUN^r,
SAMUEL KNEELAND,
EDWARD MILLS.

Suffolk, ss.

By the Hon^{ble} SAMUIL SEWALL, Esq., Judge of Probate, &c.

The foregoing Will being presented for Probate by John and Samuel Swift, Executors within Named, Edward Mills and Samuel Kneeland made Oath that they Saw Thomas Swift, the Subscriber to the foregoing Instrument, Sign, Seal, and heard him publish and Declare the same to be his last Will and Testament. And that when he so did he was of Sound Disposing mind and memory according to these Depon^{ts} best Discerning. And that together with Edward Mills, Jun^r, (now at Marblehead,) set to their names as witnesses thereof in the presence of the said Testator.

SAMUIL SEWALL.

Boston, February 20th, 1717.

JOHN SWIFT of Framingham, Gent,
SAMUEL SWIFT of Milton, Yeoman,
THOMAS THATCHER of Boston, Brasier,
JAMES TILESTONE of s^d Boston, Carpenter,

all of the county of Suffolk, gave bonds in the sum of Two thousand dollars for the fullfilment of the will Feb. 5, 1718. Lib. 20, Fol. 224.

4

Rev. John^s Swift, (*Thomas^s Thomas^s*,) b. in Milton Mar. 14, 1678-9; d. Apr. 24, 1745; m. Dec. 16, 1701, Sarah, (b. Sept. 7, 1671; d. Feb. 1, 1747, æ. 73 yrs.) dau. of Timothy Tileston of Dorchester.

CHILDREN.

SARAH, b. Sept. 16, 1702; dead in 1745; adm. to Church Mar. 24, 1728; m. June 6, 1729, Eben Roby of Sudbury.

ELIZABETH, b. Mar. 26, 1704; d. Apr. 12, 1739; adm. to Church Mar. 24, 1728; m. Apr. 15, 1731, Rev. James Stone of Holliston.

ANNE, b. July 5, 1706; d. ———; m. Dec. 5, 1733, Rev. Phillips Payson, H. C. 1724; settled at Walpole. Four of their sons were settled ministers: Rev. Phillips Payson, D. D., H. C. 1754; ord. at Chelsea 26 Oct., 1757. Rev. Samuel Payson, H. C. 1758; ord. at Lunenburg Sept., 1762. Rev. John Payson, H. C. 1764; ord. at Fitchburg 27 Jan., 1768. Rev. Seth Payson, D. D., H. C. 1777; ord. Rindge, N. H., 4 Dec., 1782, father of Rev. Edward Payson, D. D., of Portland, Me., H. C. 1803.

MARY, b. Nov. 16, 1708; unm. in 1745.

MARTHA, b. ———; m. Oct. 13, 1740, Major John Farrar of Framingham. She died about 1749.

6. John, b. Jan. 14, 1713-14.

Rev. John Swift was the senior minister of the Marlboro' Association of ministers at the time of its formation, although the name of Robert Breck stands first on the list of members. He graduated at Harvard College in 1697, and was ordained as the first minister of Framingham Oct. 8, 1701. His ministry was conducted with faithfulness and prudence; and not a notice occurs in all the transactions of the town in any degree qualifying the respect and estimation in which he was held. Of his ability as a preacher we have no means of judging. His printed sermons are marked with a pure and classical taste. He was free from all affectation of style as well as extravagance of zeal, or rashness of opinion. The subject of his ordinary discourses, as one may infer from his own diary, were often suggested by passing events. Some of these discourses bear marks of extemporaneous composition. Thus he notes on one occasion his preaching from the words "The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thundereth;" adding, "it being a day of thunder." A day of extreme severity suggested the text: "Who can stand before his cold?" And a few weeks later, doubtless while the snow drifted through the crevices of the ancient and dilapidated meeting-house, the motto of his sermon was "a covert from the storm." The halt of a detachment of soldiers in the village induced him to discourse from the word "a devout soldier." Mr. Swift preached the Election Sermon in 1732; also a discourse on the occasion of the death of the Rev. Robert Breck of Marlborough in 1731; both of which were printed.

He is spoken of as a wise counsellor and good man of a well cultivated mind, and held in great esteem in the churches. His salary was £70, equal to \$233.33; to which, in the latter part of his ministry on account of the sickness of his wife, an additional grant of \$10 was added. He is said to have been a correspondent of Dean Swift. He died April 24, 1745, in the 45th year of his ministry and the 67th year of his age. See *Hist. of Framingham, and Hist. of the Worcester Association*.

The following letter respecting the division of Framingham is interesting, as giving one some idea of the situation of a country minister at that period:

Framingham June 7, 1731.

SIR:—

I hear that the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives have granted a Division of the Town of Framingham (which upon 30 years' Experience or more of the capacity of the s^d Town) I fear will prov. subversive to the best, especially religious, Interests of the Said Town.

Such a Division, Sir, would be a great Ease to me in my Official performances were the Town capable of it; but by reason of the Town's deficiency in the payment of my dues, and trouble they have given me about my Settlement, I have been greatly impoverished, Spent a Considerable part of my paternal estate to Support the Ministry in Framingham, as I can easily make to appear.

Settling in the year 1700, before there was any paper currency in the Govern^t. (as I suppose), and having had but an inconsiderable allowance for the Change of the Species, I can't suppose my Loss to be much (if anything) short of 1000£. The Deficiency of the arrears since the Town had a discharge or receipt in full from me, which I know ought to be made good, and am well informed are recoverable in the Law, together with new charges which will accrue unavoidably, will be what one-half part of Framingham (notwithstanding their numbers) cannot accomplish without help, in my humble opinion, *vere Dominie*. In the year 1729 the Hon^{ble} House of Representatives received it for good doctrine. I think, viz^t, that our Hon^{ble} Legislature have it in their power to make reasonable allowance for the discount upon the paper currency whereby Minist^r's small annuities are much diminished, And I depend (under God) upon the Goodness & Justice of his Excellency & the Hon-

ourable Board that nothing shall be done to my hurt. If there should be any occasion, I pray, Sir, that you would communicate these lines, as in your wisdom you Shall See meet, and you will greatly oblige
Y^r Obedient & humble Servant,

JOHN SWIFT.

To the Hon^{ble}
JOHN WILLARD, Esq^r,
Boston.
Deliver
Mass. Archives Lib. 114, fol. 56.

OBITUARY.

[From the *Boston Evening Post* of May 13th, 1745.]

Framingham, May 8. On the 24th of the last Month died here, after a long and tedious Indisposition, the Rev. Mr. John Swift, the first Pastor of the Church in this Place, in the 67th Year of his Age, and the 45th Year of his Ministry. As he was a Gentleman of considerable natural Powers, so he acquired a considerable Degree of human and useful Learning. He particularly excelled in Rhetoric, and Oratory, and as a Critic in the Greek Language. His Piety was sincere and eminent: His Preaching was sound and Evangelical. As a Pastor he was diligent, faithful and prudent; and in his Conversation he was sober, grave and profitable; yet affable, courteous and pleasant. He was a lover of Hospitality, and kept his Heart and his House open to all good People. When he received Injuries at any Time, he bore them with singular Discretion and Meekness; and the various Trials and Sorrows with which he was exercised, especially the latter part of his Life, gave Occasion for shewing forth his Wisdom, Humanity, Patience, and Resignation to the Divine Will. He was had in high Esteem by the Association to which he belonged, and respected by all who had any Acquaintance with his real Character and Merits.

The following inscription, from his monument in the Framingham graveyard, is printed in the history of that town:

HIC JACET
Qui obiit A. D. 1745, Aprilis 24^{to}
Ætatisque anno 67^{mo}
VIR ILLE REVERENDUS D. JOHANNES SWIFT
Dotibus et nativis et acquisitis ornatus;
Docendi Artifex, Exemplar Vivendi,
Felix, dum vixit,
Mores exhibens secundum Divinas Regulas,
Episcopo necessarios
Commiscens Prudentiam Serpentis, Columbæque,
Innocentiam:
Commercium cum eo habentibus,
In vita Percharus,
Atque gratam sui, etsi mœstam, Memoriam
Post mortem, lis relinquens:
Qui per varios casus, variaque Rerum Discrimina
Atque usque ad mortem
Raram discretionem, Modestiam, Patientiam,
Voluntatique Supremi Numinis Submissionem
Spectandam præbens;
Jam tandem in Domino requievit
Adoptionem
Scilicet, Corporis obruti Redemtionem
Expectabundus.

TRANSLATION.

Here lies the Reverend John Swift, who died in 1745, April 24th, in the 67th year of his age. Adorned with gifts both native and acquired; he was a master in the art of teaching; a model of living, conforming all his acts to the divine laws. To all those with whom he had to do he exhibited the wisdom of the serpent and the innocence of the dove. While living he was very much beloved, and he left at death a grateful though mournful memory to his friends. Through many scenes and trials, and even unto death, he manifested a rare discretion, modesty, patience and submission to the Divine Will. He at length rests with the Lord, looking for the adoption that is the redemption of the body.

WILL.

The following Will, dated September, 1743, commences with the usual formula:

Imp^r. My Will is That my just Debts and funeral Charges be duly paid or discharged by my Executor.

Item. I give and bequeath unto Sarah, my Well beloved Wife (in lieu of Dower & Thirds) the use & Improvement of my House in Framingham, of late years used for my Study, as also of the Land and conveniences adjoining, & therewith used distinct from my former; and other improvements, & one Bed, and furniture, (of which my said wife to have her Choice,) and so much of my Other Household Goods as shall be Judged necessary and convenient in order to her keeping house there, as also the benefit of one Cow, to be kept for her use Winter and Summer, annually during her widowhood. and I further give & bequeath unto my said Wife one purse with Some Silver Money therein (Which may be found in the Till of my chest under Some writings); and further, my Will is That my Said Wife be Supplied (out of the Income of my Real Estate) with whatsoever shall be further needful for her comfortable & Decent Support & maintenance during her Widowhood as aforesaid, and for a Decent funeral after Death.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my Son John Swift (Minister of Acton,) whom I likewise Constitute Sole Executor of this my Will, my Whole Library, Books and Manuscript, also my Watch and my Negro-man named or called Francis. Also all my Right & Interest of Lands at a place called or known by the name of Dorchester, Canada; Which Right of Lands were Derived to me on acc^t of my Brother William Swift, who (with many others) perished in the first Expedition against Canada; To him, my said son John, and To his heirs and assigns forever.

Item. I give & bequeath unto my Son-in-Law, Ebenezer Robye, Esq., & to his heirs and assigns, my Negro man named or called Nero, or such sum in Bills of Credit as he shall be valued at by a just appraizer.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my son-in-Law, M^r Philips Payson, (minister of Walpole,) and to his heirs & assigns, my Negro Named or called Guy.

Item. My Will is that my other Two Negros, namely, Dido and Esther, serve with my aboves^d Wife on her Order during her life, and after her Decease with my Daughter Farrar, her heirs or assigns.

Item. My Will is That all my Housing and Lands in Framingham, Stoughton and Elsewhere, with all my Personal Estate of what kind, nature or Denomination Soever (other than what is above mentioned & bequeathed) be Divided in five even & Equal parts or shares to and among the rest of my Children & Grand Children in Manner following: That is to say, one-fifth part thereof to my Daughter Anne Payson; one-fifth part thereof to my Daughter Mary Swift; one-fifth part thereof to my Daughter Martha Farrar; And one-fifth part thereof (to be Distributed part & part alike) to and among the Children of my Daughter Sarah Robye, Dec'd; and one-fifth part thereof in like manner to and among the Children of my Daughter Elizabeth Stone, Dec'd. To them, their heirs and assigns respectively forever.

Ult^o. My Will is That my Surviving Daughters, together with such as shall be appointed Guardian to my Grand Children, may (if they apprehend it needful or profitable) make Sale of Housing and Lands to them bequeathed as afores^d, or any part thereof, during the minority of my Grand children, or any of them; and I accordingly authorize & Impower them so to do, by passing good and authentick Deed or Deeds of the same. And I do hereby utterly Revoke, Disannul & make void all other Wills, Bequests or Execut^o

by me in any wise before Named, Willed or bequeathed; Ratifying and confirming this & none other to be my last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & Seal the day & date within written.

JOHN SWIFT.



Signed, Sealed, published & declared by the within named John Swift, as his last Will & Testament, In the presence of us the Subscribers, who set to our names as Witnesses in the said Testator's presence.

WILLIAM PIKE,
STEPHEN BALLARD,
MARY FARRAR.
her X mark.

This Codicil or Schedule Witnesseth that I, the within Named John Swift, in addition to my Will bearing date in the Month of September, 1743, Do hereby give and bequeath unto my Daughter Mary Swift, in consideration of her Trouble, and in requital of her Dutiful & tender care of me under my Weakness, my silver Tankard, also my Horse & Shaves over & above what is expressed in my said Will; hereby Ratifying & Confirming the said Will, with Codicil, to be my last Will & Testament. In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand & seal this 11th day of June, A. D. 1744.

JOHN SWIFT.



In the presence of

JOSEPH BUCKMINSTER, JUN.,
WILLIAM PIKE,
STEPHEN BALLARD.

6

Rev. John Swift,⁴ (*John*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) born in Framingham Jan. 14, 1713-14; d. Nov. 7, 1776, æ. 61 yrs.; m. Nov. 19, 1740, Abigail, (b. July 20, 1717; d. Mar. 18, 1782, in the 63d year of her age,) dau. of Jeremiah and Rebecca Adams, of Medway.

CHILDREN.

7. I. John, b. Nov. 18, 1741.

Mr. Swift was graduated at Harvard College in 1733, and the same year was schoolmaster in Framingham. In May, 1738, he received an unanimous invitation to settle in the ministry at Acton, and the following 8th of November was ordained. He first received £250 as a settlement, and £150 as an annual salary—to be made of equal value should the currency depreciate. This sum was altered several times, and at last permanently fixed at £70 lawful money.

During the prevalence of the small pox in Acton, in 1775, he was severely attacked by the disease, and never able to preach afterwards.

He was a little above the common height, rather slender, of pleasing address and manners; opposed to excess and extravagance of every kind, and was a gentleman of talent, learning and piety, though occasionally facetious, witty and eccentric.

His sermon, preached at the ordination of the Rev. Joseph Lee of Royalston, was published.

WILL.

His will, dated October 24, 1775, commences in the usual manner:

Imprimis. I will that all my just debts and funeral charges be well and truly paid in convenient time after my decease.

Item. I give unto my beloved Wife Abigail Swift my Horse and Chaise and Eighty pounds lawful money, together with two-thirds part of all the remainder of my personal estate, money, &c., to be at her disposal forever; and likewise the improvement of two-thirds part of all my Real Estate lying in Acton, so long as she remains my widow.

Item. I give unto my only Son, John Swift, all the remainder of my Real and personal Estate lying in Acton, not before disposed of. My will is that my said Son John shall come in possession of the whole of my Real Estate lying in Acton, after my wife's marriage or decease.

I give unto my Grand Children, Hollis and Luther, all my lands in Ashburnham in the County of Worcester, in the province aforesaid, to be equally divided between them in quality. My Will is that if either of my said Grand Children should die in minority, or when in a single state, the whole of said lands in Ashburnham I give to the other surviving grand son. Furthermore, I do hereby constitute and appoint my beloved wife Abigail and my son John Swift to be Executors to this my will and testament.

JOHN SWIFT.



Signed, sealed, and pronounced to be his last will and testament before

EDWARD SPRAGUE,
DANIEL ADAMS,
ABEL FISK.

7

Dr. John⁵ Swift, (*John*,⁴ *John*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. in Acton Nov. 18, 1741; H. C. 1762; physician of Acton; d. Dec. 23, 1781, in his 40th year. He m. Catharine Davis of Acton, b. May 6, 1748. She had a second husband, Dr. Whitman.

CHILDREN.

JOHN HOLLIS, b. ———, 1768; d. Sept. 18, 1793, unm.
WILLIAM PITT, b. Mch. 3, 1771; d. Mch 26, 1774.
JEREMIAH ADAMS, b. ———, 1772; d. Mch. 31, 1774.
8. Luther,⁶ b. April 20, 1775;

8

Luther Swift,⁵ (*John*,⁴ *John*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. April 20, 1775; d. Dec. 6, 1857; m. ——— 1798, Hannah Brown, b. May 26, 1777; d. July 25, 1850.

CHILDREN.

JOHN HOLLIS, b. Dec. 12, 1799; d. s. p. Feb. 15, 1863; m. Jan. 11, 1822, Hannah H. Pulcifer; b. abt. 1799; d. Feb. 29, 1864.
CATHARINE, b. Jan. 23, 1802; d. Feb. 23, 1803.
CATHARINE ELIZA, b. Aug. 21, 1804; d. Apr. 9, 1807.
9. William Pitt, b. Apr. 30, 1806.
CAROLINE, b. June 3, 1809; d. May 22, 1882; unm.

William⁷ Pitt Swift, (*Luther*,⁶ *Fohn*,⁵ *Fohn*,⁴ *Fohn*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. April 30, 1806; d. Dec. 20, 1857; m. Mar. 30, 1835, Abigail, (b. Dec. 1813,) dau. of Asa and Mary (Leach) Shaw, of Norton, Mass. She m. a second husband — French, who died in 1878. She resides in Malboro', Mass.

CHILDREN.

- WILLIAM PORTER, b. April 21, 1836; d. May 5, 1838.
 JOHN, b. April 28, 1838; member of Co. D, 21st Reg't. Served 3 years in the Union Army. Residence, Sioux City; m. in 1866 Eliza A. Pratt, of Fitchburg.
 LIZZIE F., b. Jan. 23, 1840; m. May 7, 1860, Luther F. Read of Westford, b. Feb. 1, 1838; killed at the battle of Antietam Sept. 17, 1862. She next m. Nov. 26, 1870, Wm. F. Hale of Acton, b. Nov. 7, 1840; served nine months in the Union army. Res. Stow. [I am indebted to Mrs. Hale for the information concerning the later generations of her branch of the family.]
 ABBY, b. Aug. 16, 1841; d. Jan. 9, 1848.
 GEO. LORING, b. Sept. 17, 1842; d. May 21, 1876. Served three years in the Union Army, Co. F, 13th Reg't; m. Sept. 27, 1864, Mary L. Watson of Fitchburg, b. June 3, 1838. They had two children, Sarah Abby and Willie.
 JOSEPH ALBERT, b. Dec. 10, 1843. Served three years in the Union Army; rēenlisted in 1864; wounded at the battle of Winchester, Va., Sept. 19, 1864; d. in hospital Oct. 12, 1864.*
 SARAH, b. April 2, 1845.
 LUCY W., b. July 28, 1846; m. Dec. 4, 1867, Joshua W. Carr of Stow, b. May 26, 1844; served three years in the Union Army. Residence, Stow, Mass.
 NATHAN, b. Mar. 20, 1848. Residence, Marlboro, Mass.
 ISAAC, b. Oct. 10, 1849; d. Sept. 28, 1874.
 ANNIE, b. Sept. 22, 1851; m. Charles Sprinks of Albany, N. Y., Nov., 1871. He d. June 14, 1879. Residence, 93 Broad Street, Lynn.
 EMMA S., b. June 6, 1853.
 William Henry, b. Aug. 4, 1854; m. June 3, 1878, Mary E. Walcott of Stow. Residence, Marlboro, Mass. They had one child, Clarence L. Swift, who d. Oct. 8, 1881, at 9 mos. 21 ds.

*He wrote home from war as follows:—

In the Hospital at Winchester, Va., Sept. 26, '64.

DEAR MOTHER:—

I now write you a few more lines to let you know that I am getting along nicely, although the ball has not been found yet. I think it has struck some of the cords, but I hope not, for it may give me a stiff leg for life; then I should have to be discharged, and I don't want that you know, for I like soldiering too well. I like it as well as ever. Now do not worry about me for I have the best of spirits, and care too. This is what I enlisted for, and what I have got; and what I would do again if I were at home. I am glad that George did not rēenlist, for two is enough. I wish that John had not, for he is so sick of it.

John Brown bore the colors. He did it well, too; he had his leg broken, but he will not lose it. He and I fell near together so we are in the same hospital. Our Acton captain has gone to Harper's Ferry and we shall go soon; then you can write to me.

Write to John and tell him we had a glorious victory. Bully for that!

I must close for the present; love to all and don't worry. This is from your loving son,

JOSEPH A. SWIFT.

He was but a boy when he enlisted, only about seventeen years old, and very small of his age. He was told that they would not take him. "Yes they will," he said, "for I have just made my heels three inches higher, and they will have to take me." When he rēenlisted and came home his sister said to him she was sorry, and he replied, "I am not, for what is my life good for if we have not our freedom?"

The John Brown referred to was his schoolmate. They enlisted together, and he thought a great deal of him. Young Swift bled to death from his wounds, and was brought home and buried in Stow. His friend died in a few days after.

5

Col. Samuel³ Swift,* (*Thomas,² Thomas,¹*) of Milton, where he was b. Dec. 10, 1683; d. Oct. 13, 1747; m. Nov. 6, 1707, Ann, (d. May 19, 1769) dau. of Thomas Holman, a prominent citizen of Milton.

CHILDREN.

- THOMAS, b. Feb. 16, 1709-10; m. Aug. 23, 1739, Elizabeth Crehore, who d. Aug. 23, 1782, æ. 71.
Had a dau. Elizabeth, b. Jan. 9, 1741-2.
- SARAH, b. Apr. 28, 1711; m. May 19, 1730, John Adams.
- ANNA, b. Aug. 28, 1712; m. Aug. 28, 1739, Solomon Hersey, of Hingham.
- PATIENCE, b. Mar. 19, 1714; d. Aug. 12, 1714.
10. SAMUEL, b. June 9, 1715.
EBENEZER, b. Dec. 6, 1716; d. Aug., 1717.
PATIENCE, b. Feb. 3, 1717-18; m. May 29, 1739, Ebenezer Wadsworth.
11. NATHANIEL, b. Sept. 25, 1719.
JOHN, b. Jan. 23, 1720-1; housewright of Milton in 1748; probably d. unm.
ABIGAIL, bapt. Nov. 11, 1722.
12. EBENEZER, b. May 24, 1724.

Col. Swift was one of the wealthiest and most influential men of Milton. He inherited his father's capacity for public affairs, and we early find him filling such offices as constable, tythingman, surveyor of the highways, and so forth. He later became a judge of the court of common pleas, colonel of the militia, representative to the general court, moderator of the town-meetings, and filled the office of selectman almost constantly from 1725 to his death in 1747. In 1727 he was on the committee to build the meeting-house, and in 1729-30 one of four who paid the highest rate, and had his pew "first in the right hand going up the broad alley." He is designated in the town records by the various military titles from ensign to colonel.

The position he so many years sustained in the town tends to confirm the tradition that he was austere and of an arbitrary temper. Our imagination pictures him as a man of commanding aspect, with the dignified manner of his time—such a man as we see in the portraits of Smybert and Copley. The impress of his character is seen in many of his descendants, who have, in addition to ability, been distinguished by many of the social graces of life, a general elegance of bearing, and much personal beauty—those gifts which are seldom to be met with save through a goodly ancestry.

The gravestones of Mr. and Mrs. Swift are among the largest and finest in the Milton cemetery, and are illustrated in this work.

WILL.

In the Name of God Amen, This Third day of May in the Year of our Lord one Thousand Seven Hundred Forty & Five. And in the Eighteenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George the

* Continued from page seven. The line of Rev. John Swift, brother of Col. Samuel, being continued through three generations by only one son, in order to simplify matters I deemed it best to complete that branch before taking up the line of Col. Samuel.

Second, King of Great Britain, &c.—I Samuel Swift of Milton in the County of Suffolk, within His Majesties Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New-England, Esq^r., being at present in a competent measure of bodily Health, and of perfect Mind and Memory, Thanks be given to God therefor: But calling to mind the mortality of my Body, and Knowing that it is appointed unto all men once to Dye, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament; That is to say, Principally, and first of all, I Give and Recommend my Soul into the Hands of God that gave it; trusting alone for Salvation in Merits and Righteousness of Jesus Christ my only Saviour and Redeemer; And my Body I Recommend to the Earth, to be Buried in decent Christian Burial, at the discretion of my Executors hereafter named; not at all doubting but at the general Resurrection of the Dead I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God. And as touching such worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life, I Give and dispose of the same in the following manner and form. — —

Imprimis, I Give and Bequeath unto Ann my well beloved Wife, the use and Improvement of y^e old or Easterly end of my dwelling House, and the Cellar under it: Also the use and Improvement of all my Indoor Goods or Moveables Except my Clock, or such other particulars as I shall here after mention in any of my Childrens Portions: Also the use and Service of my Negro Woman Kate. And also I Give and order her Support and Subsistence in all respects, both in Meat & Drink, and also in Fuel and Medicine, and that in a plentiful and ample manner both in sickness and Health; to be found and provided by my Son Ebenezer Swift. And I also Give her the use of my old Garden. And I also order my s^d Son Ebenezer to provide her a Horse to Ride on when ever she shall have occasion, or think fit to use him. And all this above mentioned I give and provide for her so long as she shall remain my Widow and no longer. Also I Give and Bequeath unto her forever, all the Money or Cash that I shall leave at my decease, both Silver and Province or Colony Bills, and all the Debts that may be due to me at my decease, by Bill, Bond, Book debt, or any other ways whatsoever, and also all my Gold Buttons. And in Case she shall Marry again after my decease then I Give her y^e Sum of Fifty pounds in Province Bills of the old tenor; to be paid her by my Son Ebenezer within one year after her marriage.

Item, I Give and Bequeath unto my eldest Son Thomas Swift and to his Heirs and assigns forever, that part of my Lot of Land in Milton that lyeth upon the Southeasterly side of the Road leading to Stoughton between the Lands of John Newton & Benjamin Sumner, and being Bounded Northwesterly by y^e said Road, and Southeasterly by Braintree old line containing about Seventy Acres of Salt Marsh lying in Dorchester, being the piece he now improves, joyning to the marsh of Nathaniel and Ebenezer Houghton: Also my Cedar-swamp in Stoughton by Mashapoag Pond, containing about Six acres and one Quarter: And also the one half of my Stock of Cattle and Horses according to Quantity and Quality, after what I have herein particularly mentioned and disposed of are first taken out. And after the decease or Marriage of my Wife, I give him my Negro-woman Kate. And also give him the Iron Back that he now improveth.

Item, I give and Bequeath unto my second Son Samuel Swift, the Sum of Three Hundred pounds in Bills of Credit on this Province of the old tenor; to be paid him by my Son Ebenezer Swift, at Five equal yearly payments after my decease. And also I Give him my two Canes, that which he hath already in possession, and my other Cane which I now use; Also my Silver Hilted Sword; and my Horse-Colt now about Three Years old; and two Cows which he shall first choose.

Item, I Give and Bequeath unto my Third Son Nathanael Swift, and to his Heirs & assigns for ever The Ten acres of Land, be it more or less, where he now lives, with the House and Barn standing thereon And also my Eight acre piece of Salt-marsh lying in Dorchester, between y^e Marsh of Mr. Foye and Jeremiah Tucker; And also my Woodlot in Milton lying between the Parallel Line (so called), and the Road leading to Stoughton; and my Pasture within fence by the Meeting-house in Milton: He paying the Sum of Money hereafter mentioned.

Item, I Give and Bequeath unto my Fourth Son John Swift and to the Heirs of his own Body lawfully begotten, and to their Heirs for ever all my upland lying in Dorchester upon the Southeast side of the lower Road leading from Milton to Boston, containing about Twenty acres, be it more or less, and lyeth between Jeremiah Smiths orchard and the Land of Joseph Leeds: And Six acres of my piece of Saltmarsh joyning to the s^d upland and running from thence down to Neponsit River, the whole of the s^d piece of Marsh containing about Twenty acres; the s^d Six acres to be measured off and to ly next to the Ditch that parts between my s^d piece of Marsh, and the Marsh of Thomas Trott: Also Ten acres of my Wood-lot lying in Milton unfenced on the Easterly side of y^e Way leading to y^e Scotch-woods (so called) joyning to the land already mentioned in my Son Nathanaels Portion, and on the land of Colonel Miller, and the land of Ebenezer Wadsworth & Mr. Oxenbridge Thatcher; the s^d Ten acres to be measured off and to lye next to the s^d Way to Scotch-woods. And my Son Ebenezer is to have liberty to pass & repass across y^e said piece unto the other part of y^e s^d Lot. And in Case my s^d Son John should die without lawfull Issue of his Body, then what I have given him as aforesaid, to be equally divided among my Four Sons namely Thomas Swift, Samuel Swift, Nathanael Swift and Ebenezer Swift, or their Legal Representatives; them their Heirs and assigns for ever. I also give my s^d Son John all my Carpenter & Joiners Tools.

Item, I Give and Bequeath unto my Fifth Son Ebenezer Swift, my Clock, & *Coat of Arms, and my

* Now in possession of McRee Swift, Esq., of New Brunswick, New Jersey, and the same from which the Albertype in this work is taken.

Iron Back in the Kitchen; And also I Give him his Heirs and assigns for ever, all the Residue and Remainder of my Estate both Real and Personal wheresoever the same is or may be found, not heretofore or hereafter particularly mentioned and Disposed of in this my last Will: He paying the sums of Money heretofore & hereafter mentioned, and performing what I have enjoined him to do for his mother as abovementioned.

Item, I Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Sarah Adams the Sum of One Hundred Pounds in Bills of Credit on this Province of the old tenor, to be paid her by my s^d Son Nathanael Swift at Three Yearly equal payments after my decease. And I also give her my Molatto Girl Dinah.

Item, I Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Anna Hearsay the wife of Solomon Hearsay the Sum of One Hundred pounds in Bills of Credit of this Province of the old tenor, to be paid at Three equal yearly payments next after my Decease, Fifty pounds part thereof to be paid by my s^d Son Nathanael Swift, and the remaining Fifty pounds to be paid by my s^d Son Ebenezer Swift and all to be Deposited in the Hands of my s^d Son Nathanael Swift and he to have power to demand and receive the same; and he is to Improve it for the Relief and benefit of my s^d Daughter Anna & her Children; and to distribute y^e same at such times and in such Quantity and Species as he shall judge to be most for her benefit. But in case the s^d Solomon Hearsay should decease before my s^d Daughter Anna then all the Remainder of the s^d Sum to be paid into her hands, having regard (if need be) to the times of payment above mentioned. And in case my s^d Son Nathanael should decease before the s^d Solomon Hearsay then all the Power care and trust hereby Reposed in my s^d Son Nathanael to devolve upon my Son Ebenezer Swift.

Item, I Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Patience Wadsworth the Sum of one Hundred pounds old tenor, to be paid her by my s^d Son Ebenezer in Province Bills at Three equal yearly payments next after my decease.

Item, I Give and Bequeath unto my s^d three Daughters, Sarah Adams, Annah Hearsay & Patience Wadsworth, after the marriage or decease of my Wife, all my Indoor moveables, not before particularly mentioned and disposed of in this my last Will, to be Equally divided among them.

Item, My Will is that all my arms not before mentioned be distributed as follows, Viz. my long gun to my Son Thomas, my little Gun that I had of brother Pratt to my Son Ebenezer, and my Case of Pistols & Holsters to my Son Nathanael.

Item, My Will is, and I do hereby order that all my Just Debts and Funeral Expenses, be discharged and paid by my s^d Sons Thomas Nathanael and Ebenezer in Equal parts out of their own proper Portions; and to be delivered into y^e hands of my Executors hereafter mentioned for them to pay when they shall be due.

And I Exhort all my Children to live in love and peace among themselves, that the God of peace may dwell with them. And I desire them all to rest Satisfied and Contented with this my distribution of my Estate; wherein my Will is, that if any of my Children shall be discontented and give trouble to any other of my Children or Heirs mentioned, then he, she, or they, being so discontented and giving trouble as aforesaid, shall forfeit all I have herein bequeathed to them, and y^e same shall be equally divided among all those of my Children as shall rest Satisfied and Contented with this disposition of my Estate.

And I do hereby Constitute and appoint my two Sons Thomas Swift and Samuel Swift to be Co-Executors of this my last Will and Testament And I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke and disannul all other former Wills, Legacies and Bequests, and Executors, by me in any way before named, Willed and Bequeathed; Ratifying and Confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament.

In Witness whereof I the s^d Samuel Swift have hereunto set my Hand and Seal the Day and year first above written.

SAML. SWIFT.



Signed, Sealed, Published Pronounced and Declared by y^e
Samuel Swift the Testator to be his last Will and
Testament, in the presence of us the Subscribers,

JAMES BLAKE
SAMUEL BLAKE
RUTH BLAKE

Suffolk ss:

Lib. 40, fol. 360.

The will was proved January 12, 1747, but the following day Ann Swift appeared and renounced what was given her by her said husband, and claimed her dower. She made her will January 9, 1855; proved July 5, 1862; gives five shillings to her four sons, Thomas, Samuel, Nathaniel, Ebenezer, and the residue of her estate to her three daughters, Sarah Adams, Anna Hearsay and Patience Wadsworth.

10

Samuel⁴ Swift, Esq., (*Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) of Boston, b. in Milton June 9, 1715; d. Aug. 30, 1775; m. in 1738 Eliphal, (b. Feb. 7, 1713,) dau. of Samuel and Eliphal Tilley. He m. second, Oct. 5, 1757, Ann, (b. Oct. 3, 1729; d. May 8, 1788,) dau. of Capt. Hopestill Foster,* of Boston.

CHILDREN.

- SARAH, m. Col. Putnam. Their dau., Mrs. Bryant, was living in New London, Ct., in 1828, with a son and a daughter.
- ANN, died s. p.
- ELIPHAL, died s. p.
- ELIZABETH, b. June 23, 1758; m. (pub. Oct. 30, 1776,) John Newhall, of Belchertown, and had a son, Samuel S. Newhall. She next m. Col. Jed^h. Burt, of Longmeadow. No children.
13. *Foster*, b. Jan. 20, 1760.
- MARY, b. ———, 1762; m. Col. Burt as his third wife.
14. *Jonathan*, b. Mar. 27, 1764.
- LUCRETIA, b. July —, 1767; d. Dec., 1830; m. Sept. 23, 1787, John Lovering. "A worthy, exemplary wife, mother and kind friend."
- PHILOMELA, b. ———, 1774; m. Elijah Stoddard, and had a son and daughter.

Mrs. Swift appears from her diary to have been a woman of more than ordinary intelligence, and of great piety.

She commenced to write before her marriage, and continued it, at intervals, for many years after. Her compositions, which are of a deeply religious character, are mostly in verse, commemorating the death of relatives and friends. She writes, May 6, 1758, that she was taken into Mr. Byles' church, and of her religious duties, etc. She was in the habit of writing out her thoughts on the sermons she heard preached, and she often wrote on passing events, as—on the frequenting the tavern Saturday nights; on Lisbon being shaken by an earthquake, Nov. 1, 1775; on the taking of Quebec, 1759; on the vanity of the world; on the safe delivery of a child; on the repeal of the cruel stamp act, May 20, 1766. She also wrote verses on the death of "the universally beloved Capt. Larrabee," and says "this worthy gentleman departed this life in the 75th year of his age, lamented by all who knew him." In June, 1775, she is at Springfield, and writes: "Here I am in the woods, Boston being so surrounded by armies that we could not enjoy our home: no school for the children,

* The Foster family, prominent in the history of Dorchester, commences with Hopestill¹ and Patience, whose son, Capt. Hopestill,² m. Mary, dau. of James Bate, and had, with other children, James,³ who m., Oct. 7, 1680, second wife, Anna, dau. of Job Lane. An engraving of the coat-of-arms on their gravestone may be seen on p. 26, vol. I, *Heraldic Journal*. Of their numerous children was Capt. Hopestill⁴ of Boston, housewright, (named in his father's Will and Suf. Deeds, L. 48, F. 76,) who m. Nov. 11, 1724, Sarah Allen, who d. Sept. 6, 1772, æ 70 yrs. 6 mos. He d. Dec. 26, 1772, æ 70 yrs. 10 mos. The family Bible of their son Hopestill⁵ (brother of Ann⁶ Swift), who m. Susannah Wood, is in possession of their grandson, James⁷ Foster, of Longwood, son of John Hancock⁸ Foster, who m. Elizabeth Allen. His brother, David W.⁹ Foster, of Boston, has the manuscript of Ann Swift. (For an account of the earlier generation, see *Hist. of Dor.*, p. 118, and *Savage Gen. Dict.*)

and the town forsaken by the ministers — the pillars of the land." About this time she wrote the following letter :

Capt. HANDFIELD, S^r.

Your kindness in undertaking to get a pass for me emboldens me to ask the like favor for my dear husband whom I hear is in a very weak state of health. The anxiety of my mind is great about him. A word from you would have more weight than all the arguments that he could make use of.

Could I come to him, this favor I would not ask. O, S^r I trust in your goodness that you will do what you can to forward M^r Swift to me and in doing so you will greatly oblige

Your distressed friend,

ANN SWIFT.

Should be glad if he would bring out two trunks which there is clothing in that I want very much for myself and children.

The appeal seems to have failed, for she writes under date Aug. 30, 1775: "De-parted this life, in the 61st year of his age, my dear husband, Samuel Swift. He died in Boston, or in other words, murdered there. He was not allowed to come to see me and live with his wife and children in the country. There he gave up the ghost—his heart was broken; the cruel treatment he met with in being a friend to his country was more than he could bear, with six fatherless children (in the woods) and all my substance in Boston." Mrs. Swift was a woman of delicate health, but of much energy. She was living, Nov. 16, 1787, in her own house in Orange Street, Boston, when she deeded a small portion of her land to Ebenezer Pope, whose estate it joined.

Mr. Swift was graduated at Harvard College in 1735, studied law with Counsellor Gridley and became a barrister and fellow practitioner with John Adams, afterwards president of the United States.

Mr. Swift was a highly esteemed citizen of Boston, and was frequently invited by the selectmen to visit the schools with many other distinguished citizens.

He was one of those fearless and determined men who set the revolutionary ball in motion, and early gave up his life to the cause of freedom.

As a proof of his prominence and the esteem in which he was held, the town records of Boston attest. At a town meeting of the freeholders and other inhabitants of the town of Boston, legally warned, at Faneuil Hall, Monday, April 3, 1775, —an adjournment of the March meeting— Mr. Samuel Adams, moderator of the meeting, being at the Congress then sitting at Concord, Samuel Swift, Esq., was chosen moderator *pro tempore*. It was, indeed, no small honor to preside at one of the famous town meetings in those stirring times, and to take the place of such a patriot as Sam Adams.

Mr. Swift was a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery in 1746, and he is said by his friend, Colonel May, to have been one of those active in promoting the destruction of the tea in Boston Harbor.

However that may be, he is known to have been an active and influential patriot. President John Adams told his distinguished grandson, General Swift, while on a visit to his seat in Quincy in 1817 with President Monroe, that Samuel Swift was a

good man and a generous lawyer, and was called the widows' friend; that he was a firm Whig whose memory the State ought to perpetuate. The same sentiments Mr. Adams expressed in a letter to William Wirt, of Virginia. Mr. Adams also said it was owing to the zeal and resolution of Samuel Swift that caused many Bostonians to secrete their arms when Gov. Gage offered the town freedom if arms were brought in to the arsenal; and that Mr. Swift presided at a freemason's meeting where it was covertly agreed to use the arms concealed, and, in addition, pitchforks and axes, if need be, to assail the soldiery on the common; which scheme was betrayed to Gage, causing the imprisonment of Swift and others. This imprisonment brought on disease from which he never recovered, and he died August 30, 1775, aged 60 years, as President Adams said, "a martyr to freedom's cause." His remains were interred in the tomb in the stone chapel ground that had belonged to Samuel Tylly, Esq., the father of his first wife.

He had acquired a competency by his profession, which, excepting a house in Boston and a few acres of land in Dorchester, was lost, including bonds, through the unfaithfulness of his agent, while Boston was garrisoned.

WILL.

In the Name of God Amen I Samuel Swift of Boston in the county of Suffolk in New England Esq^r being sensible of what I am about make this my last Will & Testament First recommending my Soul to my merciful God hoping in his mercy and in the next place committing my Body to the Earth to be buried by my Executrix hereafter named in the economical manner and as touching the small worldly estate (though enough) with which God has intrusted me after my just debts & funeral charges are paid and anything remains; I give & bequeath it as follows, viz^t To my daughter Sarah Putnam I Give the sum of five shillings & no more and to my daughter Ann Swift I give her the like sum of five shillings and no more they and each of them having had already advanced to them their full equal part & proportion of my small estate To my daughter Eliphail I give five shillings; to my daughter Elizabeth I give five shillings; to my son Foster Swift I give five shillings; to my daughter Mary Swift I give five shillings; to my son Jonathan Swift I give five shillings and to my daughter Lucretia Swift I give five shillings to be paid to each of them in three months after my decease Then I Give all the remainder of my Estate as well real as personal to my well beloved wife Ann Swift viz^t the use and improvement of it during her natural life and with leave also to make ample Sale & disposal of all or any part of my personal Estate first used and then if need be of my real Estate for the support of herself and any of her children (always excepting my daughter Sarah Putnam and Ann Swift) and at her death she is hereby impowered by Will or otherwise to dispose of it to my children (not excepted as aforesaid) as she please or if she thinks proper to advance any thing to any one of them excepting as aforesaid she shall be at liberty so to do if they behave dutifully to her, of which she shall be the sole judge, being fully satisfied that she will do what is just & equitable but if my said wife should die without Willing or disposing of what I hereby give her for life & then my Will is that what she shall or may leave of my Estate whether real or personal, or both, be equally divided between my Children viz which is hereby given equally to them their heirs and assigns forever (excepting to Sarah Putnam and Ann Swift as aforesaid) and I hereby direct and order that no Inventory or Apprizement of any part of my Estate be had: In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal this twenty-third day of August, Anno Domini One Thousand seven hundred & seventy,

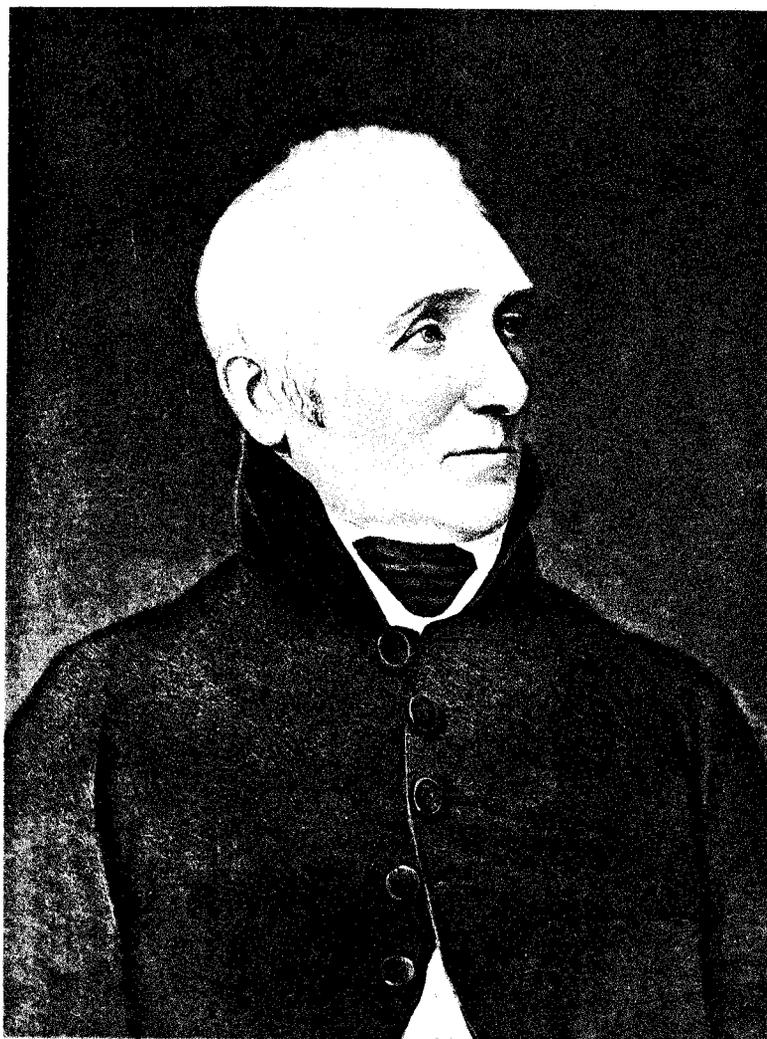
SAMUEL SWIFT.



Sign'd Seal'd publish'd pronounc'd &
declared by the s'd Samuel Swift the
Testator to be his Will & Testam^t. in
presence of us.....
(first interlined in one place near the bottom)

JOHN PEIRCE
THOMAS BAYLEY Juner
JOSEPH FIELD

Proved June 24, 1776.



FOSTER SWIFT, M. D.



11

Nathaniel⁴ Swift, (*Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*¹) of Milton, yeoman and gentleman, b. September 25, 1719; d. in 1767; m. (pub. Jan. 9, 1741-2) Rebecca Tucker, who d. Sept. 6, 1793. The town records show that he filled the offices of constable and fence-viewer. Adm. on his estate was granted to Rebecca Swift and Jeremiah Tucker, who presented the inventory Feb. 12, 1768; amt. £428, 9s., 6d. Josiah How appointed guardian of the children.

CHILDREN.

- REBECCA, b. Dec. 30, 1742; m. James Tucker (pub. Apr. 2, 1763).
 SARAH, b. May 25, 1745; d. 1781; m. Samuel Henshaw (pub. May 30, 1777); son of Sam'l and Waitstill Henshaw, b. at Milton, 1744; grad. H. C. 1773; rem. to Northampton.
 ELIPHAL, b. Oct. 11, 1747; m. John Baker, Jr., of Dorchester (pub. Aug. 15, 1777).
 PATIENCE, bapt. Dec. 3, 1748; d. young.
 PATIENCE, b. Nov. 14, 1749; m. Sept. 18, 1799, Daniel Newell, of Lynn.
 MARY, b. Dec. 20, 1751; m. Joseph Bennett (pub. July 17, 1773).
 15. Nathaniel, b. June 12, 1754.
 ABIGAIL, b. _____; m. Ruben Ferry, Sept. 13, 1781.
 JONATHAN, b. _____; m. Silence White, who d. in Boston, July 16, 1817, s. p. The adm. of her estate shows she was sister of John White, Esq., of Weymouth.
 ELIZABETH, b. June 25, 1761; m. 1783, Samuel Babcock.

12

Ebenezer⁴ Swift, (*Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*¹), of Milton, gentleman, born March 24, 1724-5; d. Jan. 17, 1805, aged 80 yrs.; m. Judith [b. Jan. 30, 1728-9; d. Apr. 22, 1784, aged 55 yrs.], dau. of Dea. Nehemiah Clapp [pub. Jan. 17, 1746-7]. He served the town as surveyor of highways in 1758,'64,'71,'78.

CHILDREN.

16. John, b. June 24, 1747.
 17. Samuel, b. May 28, 1749.
 18. Ebenezer, b. Jan. 15, 1752.
 LYDIA, b. Feb. 14, 1754; d. July 10, 1758.
 SUSANNAH, b. Dec. 31, 1756; m. Wm. Bartlett of Boston (pub. Sept. 9, 1780).
 STEPHEN, b. Apr. 1, 1761.
 LYDIA, b. Mar. 7, 1763; m. Wm. Pierce, (pub. Dec. 9, 1784).
 ANN, b. Aug. 6, 1764; perhaps the same who was called Nancy; m. Samuel Berry of Brookline (pub. May 20, 1786).
 JUDITH, b. _____; m. Henry Crane, Jr. (pub. Mar. 20, 1784).

13

Dr. Foster⁵ Swift, (*Samuel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*¹) b. Jan., 1760; d. Aug. 18, 1835; m. Feb. 18, 1783, Deborah [b. Sept. — 1762; d. June 3, 1824], dau. of Capt. Thomas and Elizabeth Delano* of Nantucket. She was buried in the

*Here followeth some genealogical notes collected and made at Amsterdam in 1852 by Edward Delano, son of Warren:
 Arnulph de Franchemont, proprietor of the estate of this name, took the oath of fealty to Conrad and was

Episcopal Cemetery of St. Ann's, Brooklyn, N. Y., June 5, 1824. Their portraits, painted by Jarvis, in possession of their grandson, McRee Swift, Esq., are reproduced by the Albertype process for this work.

CHILDREN.

29. **Joseph Gardner**, b. Dec. 31, 1783.
 JONATHAN, b. ———— 1785; d. young.
 SARAH DELANO, b. Feb. 24, 1788; d. May, 1839; m. December, 1810, Eli, son of James and Delia Adams, of Concord, Mass. He d. July 18, 1822. Besides children who died young, they had Col. Julius Walker Adams, b. Oct. 18, 1812; m. Dec. 2, 1835, Elizabeth Dennison, of Stonington, Conn. He is a distinguished civil engineer, particularly devoted to sanitary science. He was partially educated at West Point, and commanded a regiment from Brooklyn, N. Y., in the war of the Rebellion. Delia Woodward Adams, b. Nov. 19, 1815; m. Col. Edward B. White, U. S. A., of Charleston, S. C. Mary, b. Nov. 21, 1818; m. James P. Kirkwood, of Edinburgh, Scotland.
- DEBORAH ANN, b. ———— 1790; d. Dec. — 1805. "A very beautiful woman."
20. **William Henry**, b. Nov. 6, 1800.
 MARY ROBERDEAU, b. Aug. 8, 1804; d. Dec. — 1827; m. Jan. 23, 1821, George W. Whistler,

created Count, A. D. 1139. He married the daughter of the Seigneur Ivoy, and had Conrad the Count and Governor of Liege and Bouillon; he married Ermingarde Walcourt, 1166; their son Hugh married the heir of Bavaria. Hallin, the successor to Franchemont, married Agnes, daughter of Guilbert of Ovras, 1225. Walleron de Franchemont became Seigneur of de Launoy in 1310, between Selle and Tournay; their son, Hugh de Launoy, married Margarethe of Migneul, as appears on the tombstone. Gilbert de Launoy of Wellnolle and Beaumont, married Catherine Molembix, and had three sons. Baldwin de Launoy Michelle, Lady of Conray, and their descendant, Philip de Launoy, served Charles V, 12th Sept., 1543. He married Margaret, daughter of Baldwin of Falaix, and died May 25, 1560. The heir, Philip, died about 1594. The arms of these de Launoys are a shield argent with three green lions and three red tongues. On Dec. 7, 1603, was baptized in the Walloon church at Leyden, Philip, the son of John and Mary de Lonoye. This Philip migrated to New Plymouth in November, 1621, and who, it is believed, was the same Philip who came to New Plymouth in the Fortune in 1621. He married Dec. 19, 1634, and was about nineteen years of age, and it is thought is undoubtedly the same Philip de Lonoye. They wrote their names de Lano, de la Noy and de Launoy. One of them married at the Walloon church James de Lano, and is believed to be the brother of Philip, born 1603, and husband of Mary of Leyden, whom the record says went to New Spain or New Plymouth in 1621. The first generation of the de Launoys, or de Lano, or Noy or Noye, known in America, was this Philip, who came to New Plymouth in the Fortune, in 1621, of 55 tons, the second vessel that reached the colony, and she was placed on the same footing with the Mayflower as to the distribution of land. He married Hester Dewsbury of Duxbury; she had three sons, Samuel, Thomas and Jonathan, and a daughter. Jonathan, the youngest son of Philip, was born 1648, and he married Mary Warren, daughter of Nathaniel Warren of Plymouth, on Feb. 26, 1677-78. Their children were, Jonathan, married Ann Nash June 20th, 1704; Jabez, married his cousin, Mary Delano, 1710; Sarah; Mary; Nathan; Bethia; Nathaniel, married a Durfee, 1720; Esther; Jethro, married Elizabeth Pope Oct. 9, 1727; and Thomas, who married Jane Peckham, April, 1729.

The aforesaid Jonathan was lieutenant of the colony, military constable, and surveyor, as his father, Philip, had been also. His farm was called Nonasketucket, in Dartmouth, now Fair Haven, and he died Dec. 28, 1720, and was buried at where the headstone was in 1850.

Thomas Delano, who married Jean Peckham in April, 1729, had children, Abishai, born July 9, 1731; Thomas, born in 1732 and died in November, 1799, married to Elizabeth Swain of Nantucket; Ephraim, born Aug. 14, 1733, married to Elizabeth Cushman Nov. 27th, 1760; Gideon, born Sept. 25, 1736, married Patience Tabor; Deborah, born June 14, 1739, married ——— Sherman; Jean, married Pierre Tobey. J. G. Swift remembers great-uncle Abishai, who settled in Hampshire County, Mass., and also great-uncle Gideon, on board his very neat sloop that coasted between Boston and Carolina. The aforesaid Thomas' wife was born in 1729, and was the granddaughter of Peter Folger, and daughter of Shubart Swain of Nantucket. The aforesaid Ephraim, of whom I have heard my mother speak as of one she respected highly, married Elizabeth Cushman. Their children were, Thomas, born Oct. 16, 1761, died February, 1782; Deborah, born July 16, 1773, died Feb. 9, 1851; Warren, born Oct. 28, 1779, married Deborah Church Nov. 6, 1808. Their children, Warren, married Catherine Lyman; Franklin H. married Laura Acton; and Edward Delano, this last the collector of this memoir, except in reference to my grandfather, Thomas Delano. The sons of the said Thomas were Ephraim, Henry, Thomas, Abishai and William, and daughters, Elizabeth Howland, Deborah Swift, my mother, and Sally Fitch. My grandfather educated his first four sons in England.

U. S. A., son of Col. Wm. Whistler, U. S. A., b. in Indiana, cadet at the U. S. Military Academy from July 31, 1814, to July 1, 1819, when he was graduated and promoted to 2d lieutenant corp of artillery, July 1, 1819; 1st lieutenant 2d Artillery, Aug. 16, 1829; resigned, Dec. 31, 1833; civil engineer in U. S. from 1842-49; superintending engineer of the St. Petersburg & Moscow R. R., Russia, in the employ of the emperor; died Apr. 7, 1849, aged 48 yrs.; children: 1, Geo. W. Whistler, b. ———; m. ——— dau. of Prof. Ducatel of Baltimore, by whom he had Geo. W., now living in Baltimore. His second wife, m. in 1854, was Julia, dau. of Ross W. Winans, of Baltimore; 2, Joseph Swift Whistler, d. young; 3, Deborah Delano Whistler, m. Seymour Hayden in England, the distinguished surgeon and artist of London, whose etchings have obtained such celebrity.

Dr. Swift was, at his father's death, preparing for college, but that affliction made other pursuits necessary. He commenced the study of medicine with Dr. Joseph Gardner in 1779, and about 1780 was appointed surgeon on board the Portsmouth, sloop-of-war, Capt. Daniel McNeill, and with a squadron destined for Holland, met a British fleet—Rodney's—and was captured by the Culloden, seventy-four, commanded by Lord Robert Manners, and sent to St. Lucie, where he was kept a prisoner thirteen months, escaping, with twelve others, in 1781. This escape was a remarkable event. Dr. Swift, who had prescribed successfully for the illness of the commander of the prison-ship, was allowed to visit the sick of the island, and was amply compensated by them—a guinea a visit. These fees gave him and his fellow-sufferers many comforts, but still they were prisoners. Twelve of them, officers and men, with Capt. McNeill at the head, had long been devising a plan of escape. They practiced swimming, and then waited for some trader to anchor near by. At last a brig partly laden with sugar lay at anchor. Now was their chance, which they hastened to improve. Selecting a night light enough to see the brig, the twelve lowered themselves quietly from a port into the water, and swam with a light bundle of clothes tied to their backs, to the cable of the vessel. One of their comrades on reaching the cable shinned up, and raising his body over the side bow, his indistinct form at that hour of the night struck the watch with terror, and they ran below. The others, following their leader, hastened to fasten the companion and hatches, cut the cable, and put to sea. In eleven days they reached Cape Cod with their prisoners, only eight, the remainder being on shore in St. Lucie at the time of the capture. The sale of the brig, a Hull trader, partly laden with sugar and rum, gave each of the twelve some hundreds of dollars, and much *éclat*, at the time "that truly tried men's souls."

Of this imprisonment his mother writes as follows:

BOSTON, Sept. 20, 1781.

My Dear Sister:—

I have heard from my son Foster, but oh, how can I tell, or how can you hear? He is on board a guard-ship at a place where they will not exchange prisoners, and he has written letters to Dr. Gardner and Deacon Davis, enough to break, or move a stone to speak, begging that some one would stir in the affair, and try to get the Americans released. Their number on board is two hundred and twenty, put down the hold at sunset—how can they live?

I have copied his letter to me and send you. I fear nothing can be done, as I have not the least encouragement from either, and there he must lie and sicken and die. My heart is too full. Farewell.

Your sister,

ANN SWIFT.

Your brother Foster tells me that your cousin Hearsy has seen the wharfs, and is quite of the notion of taking them, and Cunningham is going to quit them, and he would have you send him word if there is anything further you would have him do.

In November of 1782 Dr. Swift thought of settling professionally on the island of Nantucket, by the advice of Dr. Gardner, who gave him letters of introduction; but not finding that place equal to his hopes, he went the next year to Virginia, by invitation of his only brother, Jonathan, where he received the friendly aid of Gen. Washington, to whom he had carried a package and introduction from Gen. Benjamin Lincoln, and succeeded, but lost his health and returned to Nantucket. In 1786 he removed with his wife and son to Dartmouth, Mass., where he remained till July, 1792; then took up his residence and the practice of his profession in Taunton. In 1809 he removed to Boston, and Feb. 18, 1814, was appointed garrison surgeon. He was post surgeon April 24, 1816, assistant surgeon May, 1821, and died at his post, New London, Conn.

WILL.

Knowing the certainty of death I, Foster Swift, do make this my last Will and Testament. In doing it I desire humbly to recommend my Soul to God, hoping for pardon and salvation through the mediation of a crucified Redeemer. It is my wish to be buried in a plain pine coffin, simply stained, without any ornament, to have plain Gravestones with my name and profession, place of nativity and age, and time of death and no more.

After all my debts are paid I dispose of my estate as follows, viz: One-half of my estate, real and personal, (excepting what is mentioned below,) I give to my daughter Sally D. Adams. All the residue of my estate, real and personal, I give to my sons Joseph, William, and my grandchildren George, Joseph and Deborah Whistler, in equal parts, that is, George, Joseph and Deborah Whistler to have one-third of one-half. If there should be any dividend from any source I give the same to my sons Joseph and William. The Watch which I have worn belongs to my son Joseph. To him I give my Silver Tankard, and the table spoons marked D. D. to Louisa Adams. To my sisters Mary and Philomela I give Ten Dollars each, my Gold Seal and Watch Chain I give to Julius W. Adams. To my early friend Lyman Law, Esq., I give my Gold Ring.

I hereby appoint my sons Joseph and William executors, and my daughter Sally executrix of this will.

In testimony of which I have hereunto set my hand and seal this thirteenth day of February, A. D. 1834.

FOSTER SWIFT.



Signed, sealed, and declared by the Testator }
as his last Will and Testament, in the }
presence of us:

JOHATHAN COIT,
JOSEPH SMITH, JR.,
E. F. DUTTON.

FOSTER SWIFT, M. D.,

Surgeon in the

U. S. Army,

Born in Boston

20th Jan^y, 1760,

Died in New London

18 Aug., 1835.



MRS. FOSTER SWIFT.

14

Jonathan⁵ Swift, (*Foster*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*¹), b. in Boston, March 22, 1764; d. Aug. 22, 1824; m. Sept. 24, 1785, Ann (b. Dec. 3, 1767; d. Jan. 16, 1833), dau. of Gen. Daniel Roberdeau of the Revolutionary War and the Congress of 1778. (See *Roberdeau Genealogy*).

Mrs. Swift was present at the inauguration ball in honor of Gen. Washington, and during the evening was led out to dance by him. A life-like miniature of her on ivory at the age of twenty-two is in possession of her daughter, Mrs. Patten, who has also an oil painting at the age of sixty.

CHILDREN.

A son still born Oct. 10, 1786.

WILLIAM ROBERDEAU, b. Aug. 29, 1787; d. Oct., 1833; m. Aug. 1, 1815, Mary Donaldson (d. Apr. 30, 1870, aged 83), dau. of Edward Harper, of Alexandria; early was in the counting-room of Wm. Taylor, and made voyages for this house as supercargo with great success; was afterwards established as a merchant in Baltimore with Eli Adams; finally moved to Washington, N. C., where he died, s. p. Oct. 1833.

A son, b. Nov. 12, 1789; d. Nov. 13, 1789.

DANIEL ROBERDEAU, b. Nov. 9, 1790; d. unm. Aug., 1825.

JONATHAN, b. Dec. 2, 1792; d. July 1, 1793.

ISAAC BOSTWICK, b. Feb. 2, 1795.

ANN SELINA, b. Feb. 18, 1797; d. July 18, 1798.

GEO. WASHINGTON, b. Feb. 11, 1800; d. unm. Sept. 19, 1819.

ANN FOSTER, b. Oct. 11, 1802; m. Jan. 13, 1829, Jonathan T. Patten, a prosperous wholesale merchant of New York, where they still reside. For their children, see *Roberdeau Genealogy*.

MARY SELINA, b. Jan. 18, 1805; m. Aug. 8, 1826, Henry Allison, b. in Va. Dec. 23, 1793; d. Dec. 26, 1871; settled in Missouri, where, at Brownsville, Mrs. A. lives. For children, see *Roberdeau Genealogy*.

WM. TAYLOR, b. Sept. 20, 1808; d. next day.

FOSTER, b. May 20, 1810; d. unm. Sept., 1825.

Mr. Swift was for forty years a prominent citizen of Alexandria, Va. He was bred to mercantile life by Mr. May of Boston, and early (before 1785), established himself in commerce at Alexandria, where he met with success, accumulating a fortune. His fine place bore the unique name of Grasshopper Hall, since known as Kolros, where he frequently entertained Gen. Washington, with whom he was on intimate terms. He had a fine portrait of him painted by Peale, now in possession of Jonathan Patten, Esq., of New York.

Mr. Swift was a Mason, and received his degree in the Washington Lodge, Alexandria; initiated and passed Feb. 25, 1785, and raised to a Master Mason Feb. 24, 1786.

As a brother Mason Mr. Swift attended the funeral of Gen. Washington, and was the one who sprinkled the earth over the body during the services. He was also buried with Masonic honors by the lodge. A gentleman of dignified and elegant manners, tall, of commanding aspect; his eyes were blue, and his complexion dark.

He was an intelligent traveler, visiting England and Ireland in 1786-7, when he improved the opportunity of a visit to Rotherham, in Yorkshire, the home of his ancestors. Here and elsewhere in the county he found the name respectably represented; some having the tradition that a branch of the family had migrated to Boston in the previous century. On visiting Dublin some members of St. Patrick's Society thought they traced a resemblance between him and the Dean, and with the characteristic poetry of Irish feeling, they gave him a dinner and presented him with a portrait of the Dean, with the arms of the Yorkshire family. His valuable papers, among which were many letters from Gen. Washington, were all lost at sea soon after the death of his son, while being sent to New York. His portrait, which was painted abroad, was so injured on the voyage home that he destroyed it.

15

Nathaniel,⁵ (*Nathaniel,⁴ Samuel,³ Thomas,² Thomas,¹*) of Dorchester, b. in Milton, June 12, 1754; d. Nov. 16, 1831; m. Sept. 25, 1777, Mary Baker, b. Feb. 7, 1754.

CHILDREN.

21. Nathaniel, b. July 15, 1778.
22. William, b. Sept. 11, 1779.
MARY, b. Mar. 18, 1781; d. unm. in 1877.
SARAH, b. Dec. 23, 1782; d. unm. in 1877.
23. Samuel, b. Dec. 2, 1784.

The daughters, Mary and Sarah, were charming ladies of great intelligence, residing till their death in Dorchester. The family tomb is situated in the old Dorchester graveyard.

16

John⁵ Swift, Esq. (*Ebenezer,⁴ Samuel,³ Thomas,² Thomas,¹*) b. in Milton on the ancestral farm, June 24, 1747; d. Jan. 14, 1819; m. May 17, 1772, Elizabeth (born Jan. 14, 1754; d. Dec. 13, 1825), dau. of William and Hannah (Blake) Babcock of Milton.

CHILDREN.

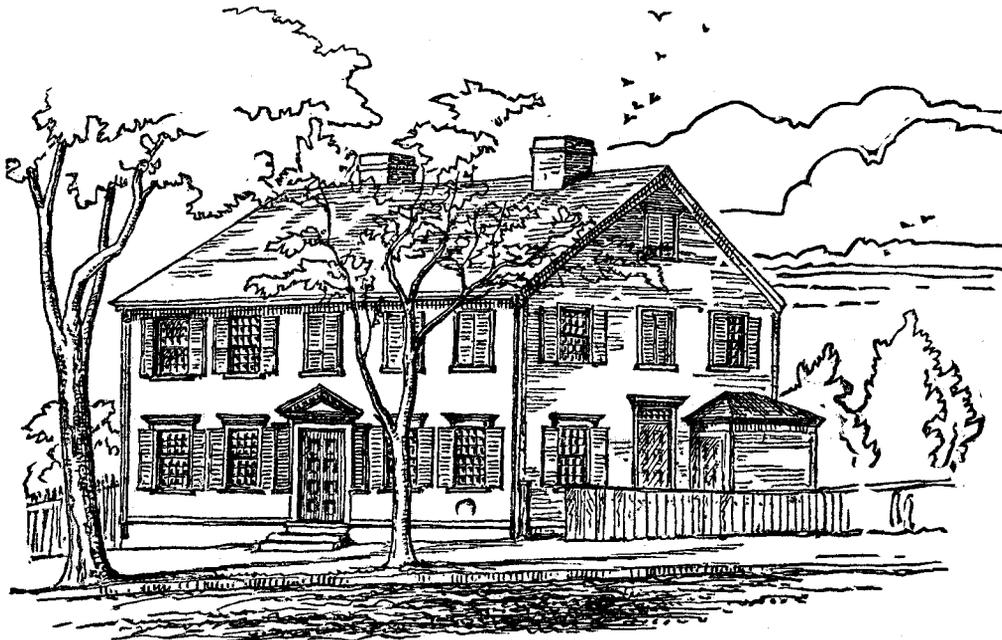
- BETSEY, b. Apr. 27, 1773; d. 1774.
24. John, b. Mar. 12, 1775.
WILLIAM, b. June 13, 1777; merchant of Milton; adm. to John Swift, Esq., Feb. 7, 1808, d. s. p.
ELIZABETH, b. Jan. 4, 1779; d. June 10, 1805; m. Capt. P. B. Rogers; children: 1, Charles; 2, Elizabeth; 3, Judith, m. E. P. Porter of Boston, d. s. p.; 4, John Swift, m. and left four children; 5, George B., d. leaving a widow and three children; 6, Fanny, m. J. A. Veazie of Boston, has three children; 7, Penuel, dead.

FANNY, b. Dec. 30, 1780; d. unm. Mar. 2, 1868. A lady much beloved. She owned the ancient coat of arms before mentioned, which she gave in 1860 to Gen. Swift, now in possession of his son, McRee.

CHARLES, b. May 2, 1783; d. single.

EDWARD, b. Aug. 15, 1788; d. single.

Capt. John Swift, as he is frequently called on the Milton record, was one of the leading men of the town. He built the house now standing on Adams Street near Canton Avenue, Milton Hill, from which the following picture was made, about one hundred years ago, on land his wife inherited from her ancestors.



In business he was a successful manufacturer of gentlemen's and ladies' beaver hats, in which he rivalled those imported from the mother country.

The Milton records during the Revolutionary period of its history, show that he was an active and ardent patriot, filling the most important offices with signal ability. Before the memorable year of 1776, when he was chosen as one of the committee of safety and correspondence, he had filled numerous minor offices, as clerk of the market, surveyor, and so forth; and in 1781 he was appointed with his brother Samuel to raise men for the Continental army, and was also chosen to examine the treasurer's accounts and to regulate the schools. No committee during these exciting times seemed complete unless his name was attached to it, and all we can learn of him stamps him as a determined and resolute man, greatly respected by his

townsmen. In 1817 he was a second lieutenant in a company which went to assist in quelling Shay's rebellion.

The following incident, giving us some insight into his character, was given by the Rev. Frederick Frothingham, in his two hundredth anniversary discourse: "June 19, 1796, the church of Milton called the Rev. John Pierce, afterwards the famous Dr. Pierce, of Brookline, but the town would not concur. Dr. Pierce used to say in his jovial fashion that Mr. John Swift was the cause of his not coming to Milton. Being a man of influence, he made such a fuss in the town that the town refused to ratify the vote of the church in favor of inviting Mr. Pierce. And the weighty ground of Mr. Swift's opposition was, that he did not like Mr. Pierce's step-mother."

A note to a sermon by John H. Morrison, D. D., of Milton, says: "About sixty years ago, I have been told that at a town meeting in Milton, no public measure could be carried which was opposed by John Swift, the energetic head of an important family which is now represented by only one male member."

Squire Swift was a politician of the old Jeffersonian school, and made his influence felt both in his town and county. He is said to have been tendered the nomination for Congress, but declined. In writing his political squibs, as he called them, he signed himself "The Man of Fur."

Mr. E. J. Baker of Dorchester writes: "His was no negative character. He loved his friends and hated his enemies, while he rendered to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and to God the things that are God's. In the days of my boyhood I met him frequently, when he was at the age of threescore years and ten, and my remembrance of him is that he was tall and portly, dignified in his person and in his gait, and elastic in his step. His hair was very white, with the queue of the former generation. He was always social and pleasant in his conversation, and a constant attendant at church. His hospitality was bounteous, and shared alike by his neighbors and transient visitors."

Administration on his estate was granted to his son John, February 2, 1819. The inventory, amounting to three thousand, seven hundred and forty-six dollars and four cents, showed two pews in the Milton meeting house, and about one hundred books in the library. His family tomb is near by the graves of his ancestors in the Milton cemetery.

Samuel⁶ Swift, (*Ebenezer*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*¹), b. at the paternal mansion, Milton Hill, May 28, 1749; d. February 1, 1830, aged 81; m. (pub. October 4, 1782), Abigail (b. May 15, 1759; d. August 16, 1834, aged 76), dau. of William and Eunice (Bent) Pierce.

CHILDREN.

25. Samuel, b. Sept. 22, 1783.
 JUDITH, b. July 17, 1785; d. unm. Oct. 23, 1857.
 LEWIS, b. Aug. 5, 1787; d. young.
 ANDREW, b. Aug. 20, 1789; d. unm. Feb. 19, 1851.
 WILLIAM, b. July 27, 1791; d. s. p. June 8, 1865.
 EBENEZER, b. June 19, 1793; d. June 16, 1827.
 ABIGAIL, b. Dec. 25, 1795; d. unm. July 22, 1838.
 EUNICE, b. June 6, 1798; m. Nov. 20, 1823, Josiah Wadsworth.
 GEORGE, b. Nov. 29, 1800; d. unm.
 THOMAS OLIVER, b. Apr. 12, 1803; d. unm. June 6, 1837.

Mr. Swift, like his brother John, was an ardent patriot of the Revolution, and we find his name on many of the important committees of those stirring times. In 1781 he was on the committee of safety and correspondence, also to raise men for the Continental army. Besides various other committees to which his name was attached, he was surveyor of the highways, constable, and overseer of the poor. Mr. Swift by occupation was a farmer, tilling the acres that had been cultivated by his ancestors. By his will, dated Sept. 24, 1827, he disposed of an estate of nearly six thousand dollars among his children, who, Aug. 25, 1835, sold the property to Mr. Thomas Hollis, of Milton. Singular to say, the estate has got back again into Swift blood, having been bought by Lewis W. Tappan, Jr., a descendant of Obadiah, son of the first Thomas. Mr. Tappan has remodeled the old mansion and occupies it as a residence. Mr. Swift was the owner of the Swift chair, previously mentioned.

18

Ebenezer⁵ Swift, (*Ebenezer*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) born in Milton Jan. 15, 1752; d. in Framingham Sept. 3, 1775; æ. 23, (g. s.); m. ———, 1775, Martha Rice of Natick. Had one son, Ebenezer⁶, b. ———, d. ———; m. Sept. 7, 1800, Sally Greenwood, by whom he had the following children:

CHILDREN.

- MARTHA, b. Nov. 3, 1800.
 MARY, b. May 1, 1803.
 GEORGE, b. May 20, 1805.
 HIRAM, b. Feb. 5, 1814.

19*

General Joseph⁶ Gardner Swift, LL. D., (*Foster*,⁵ *Samuel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. at Nantucket Dec. 31, 1783; d. July 23, 1865; m. June 6, 1805,

*By a typographical error the number to which this refers is 29 instead of 19, as it should be.

Louisa Margaret (b. Oct. 14, 1788; d. Nov. 15, 1855,) dau. of Capt. James Walker,* a rice planter of Wilmington, N. C.

CHILDREN.

- JAMES FOSTER, b. May 15, 1806; d. March 18, 1830; m. Jan. 2, 1830, Mary F. Jephson of New York. Partially educated at West Point; U. S. assistant engineer when he died.
26. Jonathan Williams, b. March 30, 1808.
- ALEXANDER JOSEPH, b. March 4, 1810; Cadet at the U. S. Military Academy from July 1, 1826, to July 1, 1830, when he was graduated and promoted in the army to Bvt. Second Lieut. Corps of Engineers, July 1, 1830. Served: as Asst. Engineer in the construction of Ft. Caswell, N. C., and improvement of Cape Fear River, N. C., 1830-32, and in the erection of Ft. Adams, Newport Harbor, R. I., 1832-35; as Superintending Engineer of the opening of Ocracoke Inlet, N. C., 1835-39; of the improvement of Cape Fear River of Pamlico Sound, N. C., (First Lieut. Corps of Engineers Oct. 31, 1836,) 1836-39; of the construction of Ft. Caswell, N. C., 1836-39, and of improvement of Cose Sound and of New River, N. C., 1838-39; on professional duty in Europe at the School of Application (Capt. Corps of Engineers July 7, 1838,) for the Artillery and Engineers at Metz, France, 1840-41; at the Military Academy as Instructor of practical military engineering June 30, 1841, to Sept. 12, 1846; Treasurer Dec. 19, 1845, to Sept. 12, 1846; Superintending Engineer of the construction of cadets' barracks 1844-46; and in the war with Mexico 1856-7, in command of Sappers and Miners and Pontoniers, being engaged in the siege of Vera Cruz March 9-18, 1847. Died April 24, 1847, at New Orleans.
- THOMAS DELANO, b. March 23, 1812; d. Sept 2, 1829.
- JULIUS HENRY, b. Sept. 1, 1814; d. Feb. 6, 1850.
- SARAH DELANO, b. March 30, 1816; d. March 22, 1876; m. Oct. 18, 1861, Peter Richards of New York.
27. ~~McKer~~, b. April 15, 1819.
- LOUISA JOSEPHINE, b. April 30, 1821; d. Jan. 16, 1859; m. June 22, 1843, Peter Richards of New York.
- HARRIET WALKER, b. Feb. 3, 1824; d. Dec. 7, 1826.
- CHARLOTTE FARQUHAR, b. April 5, 1826; d. Dec. 31, 1840.
- JAMES THOMAS, b. Aug. 30, 1829; m. Nov. 14, 1861, Margaret Weston, only dau. of Judge Weston of Sandy Hill, N. Y. Is a successful merchant of New York, and member of the Chamber of Commerce. He has made admirable use of his surplus income in charities, particularly in founding the Home for Old People of Geneva, N. Y., in memory of his brother Foster.
28. ~~Justit~~, b. Oct. 31, 1833.

*Robert Walker, a kinsman probably of the Rev. George Walker, the hero of Londonderry and resident of Portaferry, Ireland, m. Ann Shearer, a dau. of the family of Montgomery of Mt. Alexander, and migrated in 1738 with many of his retainers, among them the Owens and Kenons, to Wilmington, N. C., where were born, Ann, (Quince) 1740; James, 1742; d. Feb. 1808, æ. 66 yrs.; m. Jan. 1770, Magdalene Margaret Dubois, who d. Dec. 1827, æ. 72; and had James W., b. Dec. 25, 1770, who, with his family and son Henry migrated to Ashtourne, thence to southwest part of Arkansas; Harriet, b. Dec. 10, 1784; Louisa Margaret, b. Oct. 14, 1788; m. J. G. Swift. Julius Henry, b. Oct. 26, 1793; d. 1827 in Pendleton, S. C.

Domine Petrus Dubois of Amsterdam, of a refugee Huguenot family from Rochelle in France, about the time of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, was the father of the Rev. Walter Dubois, pastor of the Reformed Dutch Church in Garden Street, New York, who married Helena Van Baal. He d. Oct. 1751, æ. 80. Of their children, John, b. 1707, by his second wife Gabriella De Rosset of Wilmington, N. C., had Magdalene Margaret, b. Feb. 19, 1765, wife of James Walker.

I have a copper plate portraiture of Dom. Petrus Dubois of Amsterdam in my library, and I have placed in the consistory of the early Dutch Church of New York, whose pastor is the Rev. Mr. De Witt, a full-sized and excellent work of art in oil portrait of the aforesaid Dom. Gualthemus Dubois.

The De Rossets were a Huguenot family of long existence in France. Two sons, Louis and John, emigrated to Wilmington, N. C. Louis was of the King's Council, and with his brother, and William Montgomery Walker, brother of James Walker, were the founders of St. James Episcopal Church in Wilmington. — *From J. G. Swift's Notes.*

A Memoir of General Swift having been already published, it is unnecessary here to give more than a brief reference to his character.

From his ancestors, who were of the best Puritan type, he inherited a rare combination of qualities, that formed a noble manhood. He was not only a brave soldier, but a man whose character and influence would have gained him distinction in any position of life. He was a staunch supporter of the Episcopal Church. He took much interest in agricultural pursuits, was possessed of much musical talent, which displayed itself in early childhood, and had a great deal of love for the fine arts. Although not what would be called a student, he was well read, possessed a decided literary taste, and had a remarkable memory. He was particularly interested in historical matters, and gave considerable attention to the genealogy of his own family and kindred. He was a careful observer, wrote tersely and with much force. He was a staunch supporter of the government during the late civil war, and threw the whole weight of his influence against secession. His last recorded utterance was for the safe delivery, and future prosperity of his country, just emerging from the horrors of a four years civil war.

He was particularly happy in his domestic relations, and the most charming and interesting of companions, pouring out the hoarded stores of long years' close observation, silent thought and clear analysis of striking events.

His dignity and simplicity, courtly politeness and lively sympathies, always secured for him the warm regard of old and young. For the latter, he felt a paternal interest, and was ever a wise counsellor and faithful friend.

General Swift's portrait was painted several times. Once by Jarvis, by order of the city government of New York, to be hung in the City Hall. The Corps of Engineers, to show their respect and affection for their chief, requested him to sit to Tully, which picture now hangs in the library of the Military Academy at West Point—a fit depository of the portrait of its first graduate, second Superintendent, and subsequent Inspector. Later in life his portrait was painted by Huntington, and from this admirable likeness, and valuable work of art, the plates are furnished for this book.

“A man he seemed of cheerful yesterdays and confident to-morrows; with a face not worldly minded, for it bore so much of nature's impress, gayety and health, freedom and hope, but keen withal, and shrewd.”

At the age of eighty-two he passed away, surrounded by his family, full of years and honors, with faculties bright, and affections warm to the last; much lamented by the public, and sincerely mourned by a wide circle of friends.

For the above we are chiefly indebted to a *Biographical Sketch of Gen. Swift* by Gen. G. W. Cullum, U. S. A., printed in 1877.

WILL.

I give to my daughter, Sarah D. Swift Richards, all my Lot and House and Furniture at Mill Point, in fee simple. I give to my executors, McRee Swift and Peter Richards, all the remainder of my property of every

kind in trust to be conveyed to them in five equal shares, to the five following named of my children, to wit: Jonathan W. Swift or heirs, to McRee Swift or heirs, to my son-in-law, Peter Richards (Josie's share,) to James Tho^s. Swift, and to Foster Swift. I give to Maria Jephson, widow of my son James Foster, Five Hundred Dollars, and I give to our faithful family servant Mary Simpson, Five Hundred Dollars, to buy an annuity.

Done in the City of New York this 20th day of March, Eighteen Hundred and Sixty-five, in presence of us witnesses, and in presence of each other, and at the request of the Testator. He declaring this to be his last will.

WINFIELD SCOTT, U. S. Army, City of New York.
JOHN HAMILTON, 17 W. 20th St., New York.

J. G. SWIFT. 

MEM^o. To my Brother the Family Bible and my Mother's and Father's Portraits for life, and then to my oldest male Heir. The Urn belongs to Sally, the Statuette of Napoleon to my son McRee. The Silver Tea Pot and Sugar Dish and Basin from the Canteen to Sally. The City Plate and Library divided among my Children within two years after my demise. Nearly all the rest of the Pictures belong to Mr. Richards. The Arms to the eldest male. Math'l Instruments to McRee.

J. G. SWIFT.

20

Capt. William Henry^o Swift, A. M., U. S. A., (*Foster*,⁵ *Samuel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. at Taunton Nov. 6, 1800; d. Apr. 7, 1879; m. ————— 1825, Mary, dau. of Charles Stuart, British Consul at New London, Ct. She died in Nov. 1837, leaving two children. His second wife, to whom he was m. Apr. —, 1844, was Hannah W., dau. of John Howard of Springfield, Mass. She died at her residence, No. 11 West 16th St., New York, Jan. 6, 1884; æ. 63.

CHILDREN.

29. Charles W., b. —, 1828.

MARY, b. —, 1826; m. George Ironside, merchant, born in England.

Gen. Geo. W. Cullum, U. S. Army, printed a biographical account of Capt Swift, from which the following abstracts are made:

"It is difficult in fitting phrase to do justice to the beloved memory of such a nobleman of nature as Captain Swift, and to portray his gentle, cheerful and buoyant spirit: his refined courtesy and vivacity of manner; his sweet serenity of temper, abounding humor and genial conversation; his conscientious candor and ingenuous frankness; his lofty honor, without soil or blemish; his devotion to duty as to a shrine of worship; his fulfillment of pledges and fidelity to every trust; his judgment in meeting and energy in overcoming obstacles; his patient and tireless industry in all pursuits; his modesty in measuring his achievements; his probity and justice under every temptation; his cheerful confidence and tranquil courage amid difficulties; his love of home and affection for kindred and friends; and, in fine, render due honor to all the varied virtues harmoniously fused together to form this upright officer, who

"bore, without abuse
The grand old name of gentleman."

"In his official relations, one who had known Swift intimately for forty years, says in a letter: 'He carried into business the same qualities that distinguished him elsewhere—the instinct of a thorough gentleman, and the training of a soldier: sound sense, and a delicacy of feeling that made it impossible for him to look on the right or left of the path of duty and honor. I never thought of him as a trader, but always as a trustee; and trustworthiness, in every act, thought or opinion, is the word above all others to characterize him. He was

naturally conservative and added to these qualities a sense of order, both natural and acquired, which maintained every piece of work at all times in as great completeness as it could be. He was tenacious of his opinions, and they became a part of himself; and if he once set a black mark against a man, it was not easy to induce him to erase it, but his instincts were so true that he rarely had occasion to change his judgments of men.'

But Swift's daily contact with the outside crafty world never blunted his sensibilities nor dwarfed his intellect. Nature had imbued him with a simplicity of heart, a refined unconsciousness of excellence which had not the slightest taint of vanity or tarnish of self-complacency. This gentle, childlike simplicity was one of the great charms of his character, and gave a placid repose to his entire life. He had a sensibility feelingly responsive to every fine impulse; a kindness, like golden threads running through the tissue of his whole being; and a modesty, which was reflected in all his acts, which colored all his surroundings, and heightened all his virtues. His modesty forbade his ever dwelling upon his own great achievements or daily acts of benevolence, though from others he keenly appreciated generous commendations that were deserved. His heart was always open, his counsel ever ready, and his sympathy warmly alive to all modest merit struggling with adversity. This tender compassion for the unfortunate was so strong that even his stern moral sense would soften to the evil-doer led astray by alluring temptation, his considerate reply to relentless Pharisees being always: "put yourself in the poor fellow's place, that is the only way to judge a man." Though his melting charity of thought commiserated wrong, he never swerved a tittle from an open expression and earnest advocacy of right. His candour courted the light; rectitude was the pole-star of his intellectual as of his moral nature; and honor his sacred tie of humanity, 'the noble mind's distinguishing perfection.' His sense of justice was so strong and so unselfish that, even in matters involving his own interest, no one hesitated to abide by his decisions, for they were strictly impartial and based on truth. In his crystal conscience truth entered as a beam of pure white light, without the tinge of one deviated ray of duplicity, directing him in the path of duty. Thus duty was not the mere routine of business, but a great moral obligation, the mainspring of his transactions. Whatever he did was well done and done systematically, for to him order was 'heaven's first law' in conducting the smallest detail as the greatest undertaking; and untiring industry was the prodigious lever of his success. Work, to attain a worthy and useful purpose, sweetened his every moment with profit, seasoned all hours with joy, and idle days were canker-worms of his happiness. In all his acts practical common sense was conspicuous, and his views were plainly presented without the slightest garniture of show, or veiled with any gossamer of conventional phraseology. Ever ready at the opportune moment, he struck while the iron was hot, never, however, disdainingly through perseverance to make the iron hot by striking. He prudently looked well to the past and forward to the future, but his habitual caution, which weighed in nice balance truth against error, was not the 'leadenservitor of dull delay.' He rarely lost his admirable equipoise amid all the disturbing elements of a jarring world; and his sound judgment, though so promptly rendered as to appear an intuition, was always based on ascertained facts, sagacious arguments, and mature reflection. His capacity for affairs was incontestable, and such confidence was reposed in his skilful management and well-tried fidelity that, till a few years before he died, he held, besides his public, no less than twenty-eight private trusts; was the safe custodian of many secrets of sorrow, trial and misfortune; and gave as careful and minute supervision to the interests of his family, relatives, and intimates, as to his own. Yet, while accomplishing so much, he never seemed busy. His study, in which most of his work was done, was at all hours open to his friends, and no matter how troublesome or complicated his work in hand might be, he was always ready to turn from it to offer his hearty, genial welcome to a visitor, or to patiently listen to any domestic or business affair brought to him for advice or consideration. But, when his day's work was done, his task was over, and he enjoyed his quiet evenings, his friends and his books, when their turn came, without a trace of preoccupation. Books he read for recreation as well as for knowledge; but the chief joys of his life were his family and friends, particularly his army associates, for whom his heart ever yearned. He was especially fond of the Military Academy and its traditions, and toward its graduates he grew more and more kindly and sympathetic with every waning year of life. This affection was warmly reciprocated, for he had a magnetic influence over all his intimates, and even the casual acquaintance was won by his sincerity, fidelity, manly virtues, and capacity of brotherhood. He inspired love and confidence also in those, whatever their stations, transiently employed on the various works under his supervision, for their interests became his; their claims upon his sympathy or consideration met with a prompt response; and no worthy subordinate, however necessary to him, failed of his influence to be advanced to a more lucrative position. It is therefore not strange that Swift was beloved and honored by the whole community with which he associated. For every one he had a gentle and kind word, a hearty, cordial greeting, and put all at ease by that urbanity of manner, or high breed-

ing which comes from the heart, and is refined into an inexpressible charm by the constant mingling with polished society. With the world, both at home and abroad, he had had much intercourse which gave him an affable, yet dignified demeanor, not as a garment put on for court occasion, but which was the habitual, graceful drapery of life. They who knew him slightly perhaps thought him reserved, but no intimate could approach him without catching the merry twinkle of his speaking eyes. His mirth and cheerfulness were the fountain-springs, sparkling and bright, of his social life, which diffused refreshing dews of gladness upon all others, and to himself gave that happy temperament, rarely clouded by care, which, like the dial, mark only the hours that shine.

"Swift was indeed the light and strength of his immediate circle, and at his own fireside was most truly appreciated, for he was the most devoted of husbands and the tenderest of parents; to the friends he had, and their adoption tried, his heart was faithful to the last hour of life; he was the incorruptible citizen whom neither power nor pay could swerve; the firm patriot whose whole country was holy ground; the efficient officer ever at his post of duty; the able agent punctiliously faithful in the administration of every trust; the soul of honor with the courage to execute the commands of conscience; and in his manly bosom lofty sentiments were embellished by the softer refinements of a most noble nature, which

"like gold, the more 'tis tried
The more shall its intrinsic worth proclaim."

Capt. Swift was appointed a cadet at the U. S. Military Academy April 15, 1813, when but thirteen years old, entering Aug. 13, 1813, and there was distinguished for a love of fun rather than a devotion to study. In December, 1818, he was ordered on Major Long's expedition to the Rocky Mountains, which somewhat tamed his playfulness. Once, while on a buffalo hunt, he was captured by Pawnee Indians, who detained him some months, being kindly treated, and learning their habits of life.

On the return of the expedition in February, 1821, although his class had been graduated, he was attached to the end of the class roll, and promoted from July 1, 1819, as Second Lieutenant Corps of Artillery.

After the completion of Major Long's map of the expedition he was, till 1826, under Colonel Abert of the topographical engineers, on surveys for military defenses on the Atlantic coast, and was detailed from 1828-29, on the improvement of railroads.

From 1830 to 1832 he was engaged in the United States Post Office department, in compiling, almost entirely with his own hands, an elaborate post-route map of the United States, with books of distance, which were so complete that they have been the basis of all since used. During these two years he also assisted in the survey of several railroads.

In the meantime, August 5, 1824, he had been promoted First Lieutenant, 1st Artillery, and August 1, 1832, was attached to the general staff of the army as Brevet Captain of Topographical Engineers, and full captain July 7, 1838.

Captain Swift's attainments were considered so high that, at the request of Professor Hassler, he was detailed from 1833 to 1843 on the great geodetic survey of the Atlantic coast, and at various times had charge of fifteen river and harbor improvements along the Atlantic coast, from Portland, Me., to Westport, Ct. From

1836 to 1840 was resident superintending engineer of the Massachusetts Western Railroad.

In 1840-41 was in Europe, and after his return, in 1843, was a member of the board of visitors to the Military Academy. From 1843 till July 31, 1849, when he resigned from the army, he was the principal assistant to Colonel Abert, during which time he was often detailed on important duties. The principal of these was as a commissioner of the Illinois and Michigan Canal, of which, from June 26, 1845, to August 16, 1871, he was president of the board of trustees. His was the organizing brain and directing hand of the board, of this great work from its inception, and during which \$10,913,765 passed through its hands, faithfully accounting for every dollar. The success of the negotiation to secure the loan from Baring Bros., to carry on this work was greatly due to the business tact, engineering experience, and upright character of Captain Swift; and they communicated their high appreciation of the services he had rendered, and their personal regards, and asked him to accept an extra year's salary.

In 1843 he erected the iron beacon still standing at the entrance of Black Rock Harbor, Ct., and in 1848 Minot Ledge lighthouse.

Shortly after resigning his commission he was appointed president of the Philadelphia, Wilmington and Baltimore Railroad, which position he filled with great acceptance. On his resignation he accepted the presidency of the Massachusetts Western railroad, acquitting himself to the entire satisfaction of the company. In 1853 Harvard College conferred on him the honorary degree of A. M. He became prominently identified with other great railroads, and in 1874 went to England for the purpose of making favorable financial arrangements with Messrs. Baring & Co.

Captain Swift, from his first acquaintance with these bankers possessed their entire confidence, and to the day of his death was their confidential adviser relating to American railroads.

Captain Swift lived to see nearly four-score years, passing away with love, honor and troops of friends.

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Dr. Nathaniel^o Swift, (*Nathaniel*,^o *Nathaniel*,^a *Samuel*,^o *Thomas*,^o *Thomas*,^o) of Andover, Mass., physician; b. in Dorchester July 15, 1778; d. Dec. 7, 1840; m. Nov. 27, 1803, Sarah, (b. May 22, 1783; d. Sept. 11, 1858, æ. 75,) dau. of Timothy Abbott of Andover.

CHILDREN.

30. Nathaniel, b. May 12, 1805.

31. George Baker, b. July 30, 1806.

SARAH FRANCIS, b. Nov. 15, 1807; m. June 19, 1833, Rev. Jeffries Hall. Children: 1, Caroline, b. May 26, 1834; m. Moses Foster of Andover. 2, Edward Percival, b. April 3, 1836. 3, Henry Kirke White, b. July 24, 18—-. 4, SARAH FRANCES, b. Jan. 23, 1841; m. Dr. J. C. W. Moore, Concord, N. H. 5, Helen Maria, b. Oct. 23, 1847, res., Chesterfield, N. H. WILLIAM, b. Dec. 17, 1809; d. Nov. 20, 1833.

CATHARINE, b. July 6, 1813; m. Aug. 12, 1834, John F. (b. Jan 29, 1810) son of Capt. John and Martha (Swan) Trow, of North Andover, Mass. Children: 1, Sarah F. Trow, b. Aug. 22, 1835; m. Oct. 1, 1856, A. Carter, Jr., manufacturing jeweler, res., Orange, N. J. 2, George W. Trow, b. June 21, 1827; d. Oct. 8, 1872. 3, Catharine S. Trow, b. Aug. 28, 1842; m. Aug. 12, 1863, Dr. James B. Cutter. 4, Martha Elizabeth Trow, b. Sept. 20, 1844; m. Oct. 10, 1887, Hugo Peipers, merchant of New York. 5, John Fowler Trow, Jr., b. May 19, 1850; m. April 14, 1880, Cora Munn.

JOHN F. TROW commenced life as a printer, and at the age of twenty-two established and published the *Nashua Herald*, at Nashua, N. H. He sold out his interest to the editor, and in 1833 left for New York, where, in May of that year he engaged in business under the firm name of West & Trow. From 1840 to 1848 he was of the firm of Leavitt, Trow & Co., publishers and booksellers, and John F. Trow, printers. In 1848 he commenced the publication of Wilson's Business Directory, and in 1852 of Trow's New York City Directory, which publications are still continued. He is president and treasurer of Trow's Printing and Book-binding Company, and treasurer of the National Needle Company. Mr. Trow has been an elder in the Presbyterian church for thirty-five years.

32. Samuel, b. Feb. 21, 1815.

CHARLES, } b. July 25, 1816; lives in Boston.

33. Jonathan, } b. July 25, 1816.

OBITUARY.

Died at Andover, on the 7th instant, after a short illness, Dr. Nathaniel Swift, in the sixty-third year of his age. By this providence an affectionate family have been bereft of a kind and tender father, the community of a strictly honest and upright citizen, and the church of a sincere and devoted member.

Dr. Swift was affectionate and kind in his disposition, cheerful and friendly in his social intercourse, and prompt to every professional call, without regard to the unseasonableness of the hour, the inclemency of the weather, or the poverty of the applicant.

The poor and the aged have lost in him a friend indeed. It was his special delight to minister to their comfort. They experienced his care and attention in sickness, and his counsel and charity in health. At his death, those who had experienced the value of his services and kindness gathered around his remains, to shed the silent tear, and to speak of his many virtues, and his self-denial for their good.

He held several important public offices: those of Justice of the Peace and Postmaster, for nearly twenty years, and those of Coroner, Notary Public, and Director in the Essex Bank for many years. The duties of each he continued to discharge until his decease.

He had been a member of the church about forty years. His religion was of the heart and not in word only. His favorite books were his Bible, with Orton's Exposition, and Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress, with Scott's Notes; the latter of which he read through in course not less than twenty times. It had been his habit for years to rise between four and five o'clock and spend a season in religious reading. The blessing of his paternal care and instruction will long be cherished in grateful recollection, and be felt, we trust, when time shall be no more. His numerous family of children all became at an early age members of the Church of Christ. One most devout and heavenly minded, some years since, entered, we cannot doubt, in his eternal rest. May the bereaved widow and children, and the sisters and brothers in this hour of deep affliction find the consolation which flows alone from the Christian's life; and be trained, under the discipline of heaven, for a union with the departed dead where tears and parting shall be unknown.

DECEMBER 26, 1840.

Dr. William⁶ Swift, A. S. N., (Nathaniel,⁵ Nathaniel,⁴ Samuel,³ Thomas,² Thomas,¹) b. in Dorchester Sept. 11, 1779; d. Dec. 27, 1864; m. Dec. 31, 1850, Martha Elizabeth, dau. of Luke and Mary (Montague) Phelps, of Westhampton, Mass.

CHILDREN.

WILLIAM JONATHAN, b. March 10, 1852; grad. at Amherst College 1873; College of Physicians and Surgeons, N. Y., 1878; Bellevue Hospital, N. Y., 1880; m. June, 13, 1882, Marie Aborn, dau. of S. J. Jacobs, of New York. Residence New York. They have Lawrence, b. June 8, 1883.

JOHN BAKER, b. Sept. 30, 1853; grad. Amherst College 1873; Harvard Medical School 1877; m. Oct 11, 1882, Hettie, dau. of Andrew H. Potter, of New Bedford, Mass. Residence Boston. They have John Baker, b. Aug. 12, 1883.

GEORGE MONTAGUE, b. Sept. 2, 1856; grad. Amherst College 1876; College of Physicians and Surgeons, N. Y., 1879; Bellevue Hospital, N. Y., 1881; residence, New York.

Dr. Swift was graduated from Harvard College in 1809, and from the Harvard Medical School in 1812. The same year he entered the United States navy as a volunteer, and sailed to the coast of Africa on board the "Chesapeake." On her return he received from President Madison his commission as a surgeon in the navy. He was on board the "Chesapeake" during her engagement in Boston Harbor with the British man-o'-war "Shannon," was made prisoner, and with others was sent to Halifax, Nova Scotia, from which place he was sent home with the wounded. Dr. Swift was with Lawrence when he died, and was presented by him with his belt. In 1813 he was on the brig "Syren," was again taken prisoner and sent to the Cape of Good Hope, where he was kept six months. In 1820 Dr. Swift was on the "Ontario," from which vessel he was detached and sent to Tunis as acting United States consul, where he remained sixteen months. In 1827 he was on the frigate "Erie;" 1829 on the "Constellation," cruising to England, France, and in the Mediterranean. From about 1833 to 1836 Dr. Swift was stationed at the Naval Hospital in New York. This service was during the cholera epidemic. In 1836 he was on the "North Carolina;" was fleet surgeon of the Pacific squadron, and on his return in 1839 was stationed at New York, Boston and Newport, for different periods. In 1862, at his own request, he was placed on the retired list, having spent fifty-one years in the service of his country. His residence for several years was Brooklyn, N. Y., where he died in 1864. Dr. Swift was a gentleman of polished manners, extremely methodical, and always avoiding anything like display. He was a great reader, very fond of books, and collected a large library.

Capt. Samuel⁶ Swift, (*Nathaniel*,⁵ *Nathaniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. in Dorchester Dec. 2, 1785; d. March 15, 1862; m. Nov. 3, 1819, Eliza Hester, (b. Oct. 15, 1800; d. May 1, 1866,) dau. of John Willkings of Wilmington, N. C.

CHILDREN.

MARY WYATT, b. May 1, 1823; drowned May 1, 1841.

- ELIZA HESTER, b. Feb. 1, 1825; m. Feb. 4, 1845, Thomas M. Woodruff of Trenton, N. J., who died in Chicago Jan. 28, 1880. Children: George, b. Jan. 30, 1846; William Swift, b. March 4, 1849; m. in Dixon, Ill., July 19, 1879, Ruth Frances Wood.
 GEORGE BAKER, b. Nov. 21, 1826; d. March 28, 1827.
34. Samuel, b. May 22, 1828.
 ISABELLA SARAH, b. April 11, 1832; m. Oct. 28, 1852, Robert J. Woodruff, M. D., of Trenton, N. J. Children: Mary Jean, b. Aug. 28, 1835; m. Jan. 24, 1880, A. B. Charbonnel of Chicago; Isabella Louisa, b. Aug. 6, 1855; d. May 28, 1859; Susan Hester, b. June 16, 1858.
 HARRIET, b. Aug. 19, 1834; died Sept. 22, 1835.
 HARRIET, b. July 4, 1836; died Feb. 5, 1880; m. Sept. — 1866, Henry O. Nichols of Dorchester. Children: Grace Swift, b. Nov. 3, 1867; Arthur Topliff, b. July 7, 1869; Carrie Frances, b. Oct. 3, 1877.
35. William, b. July 22, 1839.
 MARY, b. Sept. 4, 1841; m. at Springfield, Ill., Feb. 14, 1871, Professor Orestes H. St. John of Topeka, Kansas. He is a geologist and paleontologist. No children.
 CHARLOTTE, b. May 27, 1843; m. at Princeton February 22, 1866, to Charles F. Little, M. D. Practiced a number of years in Princeton, then removed to Manhattan, Kansas. Children: Eliza Ada, b. June 22, 1867; Nellie Perkins, b. Dec. 15, 1868; Blanche Alpine, b. Dec. 18, 1869; d. Nov. 27, 1878. Jennie Belle, b. Oct. 8, 1871; Frederick Swift, b. June 25, 1873.

Capt. Swift chose as his profession a seafaring life, and in 1806 made his first voyage, following the sea as a shipmaster twenty-four years.

He commanded, with success, the ships of Stephen Girard of Philadelphia, and those of Goodhue & Co., and is said to have been the first American to make a voyage to the north-west coast.

He was a man of commanding presence, and possessed much personal beauty. A portrait painted in Antwerp is in the possession of his son-in-law, Mr. Nichols, of Dorchester. His daughter, Mrs. E. H. Woodruff of Princeton, Ill., has a miniature of him taken in early life, and his daughter, Mrs. Charlotte Little, has one of her mother.

In 1836 Capt. Swift left the sea, and removed from Dorchester to Geneva, N. Y., and in 1838 he removed to Princeton, Ill., where he died.

OBITUARY.

Died in Princeton, on Saturday morning the 15th, of Paralysis, Capt. Samuel Swift, in the 78th year of his age.

[COMMUNICATED.]

He was born in Dorchester, Massachusetts, and having early in life manifested a predilection for the sea, he entered into the service of the Boston and London Shipping Company. He subsequently commanded some of the best merchant ships of New York and Philadelphia, and made in them many long and perilous voyages. He five times circumnavigated the globe, and from long and active service acquired a high character for professional skill. He was a man of marked individuality of character; he possessed great determination and courage, and displayed a rare and admirable coolness in the presence of danger. Though a great part of his life had been spent on the sea in active employment, which does not afford much for the acquisition of knowledge unconnected with nautical pursuits, the fund of general information he possessed was large. He was well read in the English classics, and had an especial admiration of the works of Pope, Addison, Goldsmith and Johnson.

In all his long and eventful life his probity and honor were never questioned, and it might with truth be said of him that he was that "noblest work of God, an honest man."

MARCH 15, 1862.

John⁶ Swift, (*John*,⁵ *Ebenezer*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. March 12, 1775; d. Sept. 26, 1838; m. Elizabeth Parker, b. _____; d. Aug. 27, 1863, daughter of Capt. Gideon and Elizabeth Hovey Parker, of Ipswich, a meritorious officer of the Revolution and correspondent of Washington.

CHILDREN.

JOHN MCLEAN, b. Nov. 23, 1818; went to sea; never heard from.

ELIZABETH ROGERS, b. Jan. 19, 1820.

WILLIAM PARKER, b. Dec. 27, 1821; d. June 3, 1875.

DEAN MANNING, b. Oct. 23, 1824; d. Aug. 26, 1859; m. April 30, 1850, Mary Sumner, b. Aug. 20, 1827, dau. of Lemuel Sumner. She m. 2d, Moses C. Chapman. Had two children who died young, Mary Frances and Dean Manning.

MARY FRANCES, b. Oct. 12, 1828.

Mr. Swift followed his father's business, and occupied the family mansion on Milton Hill, in which all his children were born. He was a man of standing in the community; universally esteemed for his integrity, and filled several important offices. His only surviving children, Misses Elizabeth R. and Mary F. Swift, ladies of refinement and culture, live near by the old homestead. Their charming home contains many interesting and valuable relics of the olden time, chief among which is the old oak chair before mentioned. They also have a rare and curious Venetian mirror of large size, and a fine old book-case which is thought to have belonged to Gov. Hutchinson. These ladies are the last of a family prominent in Milton's history for two centuries, though representatives still sustain the character of the family in other towns.

Samuel⁶ Swift, (*Samuel*,⁵ *Ebenezer*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. Sept. 22, 1783; d. Jan. 11, 1826; m. Nov. 2, 1806, Polly Cheney, b. in Roxbury _____; d. May 5, 1828, æ. 42; dau. of Lieut. Thomas and Jane (Foster) Cheney of Roxbury.

CHILDREN.

SAMUEL FOSTER, b. Oct. 6, 1807; a drummer in the U.S. Army; died in service at Old Point Comfort.

Child died in infancy.

36. William Augustus, b. Oct. 18, 1811.

37. Lewis, b. Jan. 16, 1815.

ANDREW, _____; d. in Philadelphia Mar. 22, 1841.

EBENEZER,

THOMAS,

; d. young in Roxbury.

Mr. Swift was a hatter of Roxbury; a man of great humor, of whom many anecdotes are told.

Commodore Jonathan Williams' Swift, U. S. N., (*Joseph Gardner*⁸, *Foster*⁸, *Samuel*⁴, *Samuel*³, *Thomas*³, *Thomas*¹) b. March 30, 1808, at Taunton, Mass.; d. July 30, 1877; m. Jan. 10, 1833, Isabella Fitzhugh, youngest child of Col. William Fitzhugh of Hampton. Mrs. Swift resides at Geneva, N. Y.

CHILDREN.

FITZHUGH, b. March 12, 1841; d. Dec. 31, 1860, at sea.

JOSEPH GARDNER, b. Feb. 4, 1844; d. March 2, 1871; cadet at the U. S. Military Academy from Sept. 1862 to June 18, 1866, when he was graduated and promoted in the army to 2d Artillery. Served in garrison at Richmond, Va., Sept. 30, 1866.

ANN ELIZABETH, b. Oct. 31, 1846; m. Sept. 3, 1872, Lieut. John Williams Martin, 4th U. S. Cavalry. They have William Swift Martin, b. Feb. 4, 1874; John Throop Martin, b. Jan. 20th, 1884, d. Jan. 22, 1885.

Commodore Swift was appointed from North Carolina August 25, 1823; went to the Mediterranean in 1824; returned in 1826; went to the Pacific in frigate "Brandywine" in 1826; returned in 1829; examined in 1820 and promoted in 1831; went to the Mediterranean in 1831; returned in 1832; steamship "Fulton" Atlantic coast 1840; special service 1850-5. Commissioned Lieutenant March 3, 1861; commissioned a Commodore July 16, 1862.

McKee' Swift, (*Joseph Gardner*⁶, *Foster*⁵, *Samuel*⁴, *Samuel*³, *Thomas*², *Thomas*¹) b. April 15, 1819, in New York; m. Sept. 15, 1842, Abby Hortense Chew, daughter of Thomas John Chew, U. S. N. For her ancestry see *Pedigree of Chew* by Rev. L. B. Thomas, p. 33.

CHILDREN.

HORTENSE HALLAM, b. Aug. 22, 1843; d. April 28, 1848.

LOUISA WALKER, b. Aug. 23, 1845.

ELIZABETH CHEW, b. July 29, 1847; m. June 11, 1879, George Henry Janeway of New Brunswick, N. J.

ALEXANDER JOSEPH, b. Aug. 20, 1849; grad. Rutgers College 1868; Polytechnic Institute, Troy, 1872.

LAWRENCE CHEW, b. Feb. 24, 1852; grad. College of Physicians and Surgeons, N. Y., 1878, Charity Hospital, N. Y., 1880; m. April 16, 1884, Mabel Bruce, dau. of Col. Joseph M. Griffith of Des Moines, Iowa. They have ———— Swift, b. March 16, 1885.

THOMAS DELANO, b. Feb. 10, 1854; grad. Rutgers College 1875; College of Physicians and Surgeons, N. Y., 1879; Bellevue Hospital 1881.

JONATHAN WILLIAMS, b. March 30, 1856; d. May 2, 1862.

JOSEPHINE RICHARDS, b. Jan. 10, 1859.

ROBERT HALLAM, b. June 16, 1863; d. March 4, 1865.

MARY LEWIS, b. May 11, 1865.

Mr. Swift, now retired from active business life, resides at New Brunswick, New Jersey. He has been a successful civil engineer, engaged in the construction and management of railroads in various States, and later in manufacturing enterprises. He inherits much of his father's literary tastes and high-bred courtesy; and the warm interest he has shown in the progress of this work has been of material assistance to the compiler. From the family Bible, which belonged to his father, the late General Joseph Gardner Swift, he has furnished much data; and by his kind permission the Journal of General Swift has been printed from the original copy in his possession. Besides this valuable document, Mr. Swift has inherited the ancient oil painting of the family coat-of-arms, and the portraits of his grandparents, Dr. and Mrs. Foster Swift, by Jarvis, and has had them photographed for this work.

In 1852, when Mr. Swift was traveling abroad with his father, General Joseph Gardner Swift, and while walking in the grounds of the Tower of London, his father was accosted by one of the guards, who expressed surprise at seeing Mr. Swift out so early in the day.

"How do you know me, my man?" said General Swift.

"Why, sir, I see you constantly."

The man had mistaken the General for Mr. Swift, the keeper of the crown jewels. They found Mr. Swift lived in the enclosure and went to his house, and to their astonishment were met by a gentleman of advanced years, the counterpart almost of Mr. Swift's grandfather, Dr. Foster Swift—Edmund Lenthal Swift, barrister, K. C. J. They lunched and spent several hours with him, and found he was of the Rotherham family of Swifts. This interview is mentioned in *Notes and Queries* by E. L. Swift.

28

Dr. Foster⁷ Swift, (*Joseph Gardner*,⁶ *Foster*,⁵ *Samuel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹)
 b. at Geneva, N. Y., Oct. 31, 1833; d. May 10, 1875; m. Oct. 29, 1862, Alida
 Carroll, daughter of Dr. D. H. Fitzhugh, and had

SARAH DELANO, b. Feb. 5, 1864.

MEMORIAL.

Dr. Swift, who is said to have resembled his father more than any of his sons, was graduated at Hobart College, Geneva, in 1852. During the last year of his college course he attended lectures in the Medical College in Geneva, but was dissuaded from continuing his medical studies after graduation, by his father, who thought him too delicate, physically, to endure the arduous labors of a doctor's life. To gratify his father he read law reluctantly for eight months, in the office of Judge Kent, in this city, and then, feeling the need of a more liberal classical and literary culture than he had obtained at Hobart College, he entered the Junior class at Harvard University, and graduated at that institution in the class of 1854, the subject of his inaugural thesis being "The Influence of Shakspeare's Plays on the Popular Estimation of Historical Characters." Thus fur-

nished with the broad foundation of a liberal education and a fine literary taste, he resolved to gratify his early inclination to study medicine. In the fall of 1854 he became a favorite pupil of Dr. Willard Parker, and from that time until the summer of 1870, when he was prostrated by the disease which finally destroyed him, he gave himself with untiring energy and self-sacrificing devotion to the study and practice of his profession. He graduated at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, in the class of 1857. He immediately entered Bellevue Hospital, and served during two years on the same staff with his attached friend, Dr. Edward B. Dalton. In the spring of 1859 he established himself in private practice in this city. He had already passed the precarious period in the young doctor's course, and had begun to lay the foundation of a brilliant career as a teacher and practitioner, when the war broke out, in the spring of 1861, and animated by a loyalty which, with him, was something more than the contagious enthusiasm which pervaded the country at that time, he forsook his practice and went as surgeon to the 8th regiment of New York State Militia, in response to the first call for troops to defend the capitol. At the battle of Bull Run he and his staff were captured while in the performance of their duty, and being almost the only prisoners who were not taken in the act of hasty retreat, they were released on parole in the city of Richmond, by Gen. Beauregard, and, after a brief detention, returned on parole to their homes. Thus debarred from the privilege of further service in the army, Dr. Swift resumed the practice of his profession. In 1862 he married the daughter of Dr. Fitzhugh, of Livingston County, who with one child, a daughter, survives him. His success from this time was rapid and exceptionally brilliant. He was successively appointed physician to St. Luke's, and the Children's Hospital; Assistant Professor of Obstetrics in the College of Physicians and Surgeons, and afterwards Clinical Professor of skin diseases in the Bellevue Hospital College, and Professor of Obstetrics in the Long Island Medical College. He had thus obtained within the brief period of ten years, by his scholarly acquirements, by his ability as a teacher, and by his skill as a practitioner, a claim to the first rank in his profession. He had scarcely begun to enjoy the honor and rewards of his well-earned position, when, in the summer of 1870, after a season of untiring labor and peculiarly trying experiences, he began to exhibit the signs of the pulmonary disease to which he finally succumbed. Conscious as he was of the threatening nature of his malady, he worked on for some time, regardless of the affectionate warnings of his friends and medical advisers, and only reluctantly yielded to their counsels when he fainted in the Theatre at the Bellevue College, in the effort to fulfil an engagement to lecture in the opening session of that institution in the fall of 1870. He soon afterwards went to Europe, but returned in the spring of 1871, without material improvement in health. The winter of 1871-72 he passed on the Pacific Coast, in the congenial companionship of his friend, Dr. Dalton, whose brief but brilliant career he there saw closed. The following winter he passed in the south of France, where, having procured an authorization from the French government, he hoped to practice his profession. He returned to this country, however, in the spring of 1873, to visit his family, and his disease having made considerable progress, he was induced to remain at home, instead of returning to France as he had intended. His experience of the effects of a warm climate upon his disease not having been entirely satisfactory, he resolved to try the experiment of spending a winter in the northern part of this State, at Morrisville, in Madison County. He was so encouraged by the promising effects of a cold climate, that he purchased a house at Morrisville, and determined to abandon, for a time, all hopes of resuming his practice, and devote himself to the recovery of his health. In the summer of 1874, however, it became evident to him and to his friends that he was fast losing ground in the conflict with his disease, and last fall he decided to try again the effect of a warm climate. He went to the Island of Santa Cruz, where he passed a lonely winter, separated from his wife and child, and sustained only by the hope, which grew fainter day by day, of arresting the progress of his disease. The last weeks of his life were cheered by the presence of a sister who, with her husband and a nephew, went to him in the hope of bringing him back to his home to die. This hope was not abandoned until a few days before his death, when he began to fail so rapidly that he realized the near approach of death, and met it with cheerful resignation, and in the complete assurance of a Christian faith. He died on the 10th of May. His remains were brought home, and now rest in the family ground at Geneva. Such is the brief record of a life of which we all knew the promise and now lament the untimely end. Dr. Swift's professional career, though too brief to be marked by any work which will perpetuate his name on the scroll of fame, was one that will leave a lasting and enviable impression on the memory of all who enjoyed his friendship, or had the privilege of intercourse with him as a teacher or physician. He possessed in a high degree the intellectual and moral qualities which fit a man for the responsible office of a physician. Love of nature and loyalty to the truth were his pre-eminent characteristics. He was imbued with the true scientific spirit, and his professional acquirements, in all departments, as far as they went, were free from the chaff of speculation and hypothesis. He hated sham

wherever he found it, whether it lay in the conceit of those who deceived themselves, or in the dishonest practices of those who sought to deceive others. He had all the qualities of a successful teacher, thorough honesty, large experience, liberal acquirements, and literary attainments, and there can be no doubt that the cause of sound medical education lost one of its ablest and most promising exponents in his early death. As a physician, it may be truly said, that few men in our profession possessed or deserved in a larger degree than Dr. Swift the confidence and affection of his patients. His gentle and winning address, his sagacity and skill as a clinical observer, his fertility of resources, and above all, his fidelity, commanded the affection, respect and absolute trust of all to whom he ministered. His work was always thorough, and he gave to his cases a thoughtful and laborious study, which distinguished him from the routine practitioner. His sense of professional duty was so high that he never counted the cost to his health in fulfilling it, and there is little question in the minds of his friends that he finally fell a victim to his untiring and self-sacrificing labors. This sense of professional duty in Dr. Swift was not dictated simply by a sympathetic nature, or by a desire to please or win the confidence of his patients, but mainly by a profound conviction of the responsibility he assumed, whenever he was called to the bedside of those who trusted themselves to his care. But to all who enjoyed the privilege of Dr. Swift's companionship, his remarkable social qualities gave a charm to his character which your memory of him will recall better than any words of mine. Who of us can forget his refined and genial presence; his humor, that would illumine tears, and the wit whose shafts were never poisoned with malice, but always gleamed with mirth? Cultivated beyond most men in our profession in general literature, and devoted to all that was pure and elevating in art, his conversation was always entertaining and often brilliant in the originality and keenness of his criticism. He was never commonplace, because he never borrowed his convictions from other men unless they accorded with his own observation, or had been first subjected to his own enlightened reflection. But with all his intellectual gifts and accomplishments, Dr. Swift possessed a kindly and sympathetic nature that was quick to share the sorrows as well as the joys of his friends. As in his professional relations there was no self sacrifice too great for him to make in the discharge of what he recognized as his duty, so in his closer relations to his family and his friends there was a love and a loyalty that knew no bounds. The keenness with which he sometimes suffered from his sense of his professional responsibility was only exceeded by the painful sympathy with which he realized the trials of his friends. To the severe strain which he suffered from both of these causes in the last year of his practice, his illness, as I have before suggested, was doubtless largely due, and while we cannot but grieve that a man of so great promise is lost so early to our profession, and a friend of such genial and noble nature is gone from us in the fullness of his manhood, we have reason to rejoice that we were permitted for even a brief period to enjoy the privilege of his friendship, and the precious example of his character. — *From a sketch by Wm. H. Draper, M. D., printed in 1875.*

29

Charles⁷ W. Swift, (*William Henry*,⁶ *Foster*,⁵ *Samuel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹)
 b. ———, 1828; m. ———, Margaret, dau. of John Howard of Springfield, Mass.,
 sister of his stepmother. Summer residence Pequot Avenue, New London, Ct.

CHILDREN.

MARY H.
 LOUISA JOSEPHINE.

30

(*Nathaniel*,⁶ *Nathaniel*,⁵ *Nathaniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹)
 May 12, 1805; d. Sept. 6, 1878; m. Oct. 10, 1832,

Martha Jane, dau. of Francis Kidder of Andover. She died Nov. 28, 1843, aged 30 years. He next married Oct. 13, 1847, Almena Jacobs.

CHILDREN.

GEORGE FRANCIS, b. Dec. 10, 1833.
 MARTHA ELIZABETH, b. Feb. 15, 1836.
 CHARLOTTE HARRIS, b. July 26, 1839.
 ANNA HARTWELL, b. Sept. 18, 1842.

OBITUARY.

[From the *Boston Daily Advertiser* of Sept. 20, 1878.]

One by one our older citizens and fellow townsmen are passing away. To those who are following next in file, the ranks must appear to be rapidly thinning out. But two weeks ago we cast a last sorrowful glance upon the bier of our honored and esteemed townsman, Captain Oliver Hazard Perry.

One week later, to a day, the funeral obsequies were held over the mortal remains of Mr. Swift, a native and life-long resident of Andover. The light of a pure and unblemished life has gone out. A kind-hearted, generous, useful and esteemed citizen has passed away from our sight. One more is added to the great majority on the other side of the chasm between the present life. But the memory of the just is blessed. In this thought is the consolation which remains to those nearest and dearest in the relations of life to our departed friend.

Mr. Swift was born in Danvers May 12, 1805, and was the eldest son of the late Dr. Nathaniel and Sarah Abbot Swift. Early in life — almost in his boyhood — he engaged in mercantile pursuits; and upon attaining his majority he became a partner in a mercantile firm in Andover. A business tact and shrewdness was manifested from the earliest stage of his business career. Promptness, straightforwardness and honesty, three sterling qualities of the business man, were prominent in his character, and promised from the outset assurance of success. And success came readily and naturally; gradually, but not spasmodically — a healthy success. By a prudent, sagacious and careful management of his business affairs, he was enabled to retire therefrom with a competency for his family before he was fifty years of age. But these qualities, which were so prominently manifested in the duties pertaining to his business, were by no means unnoticed or overlooked. His correct judgment and capacity for usefulness were very soon called into active exercise in positions which, while benefiting society, the cause of education, the interest of his native town, and the general welfare of his fellow-men, reflected a lasting honor upon his good name and reputation. He proved himself to be more than a successful business man. His instinctive honesty, his unswerving integrity, his forecast, his sound judgment and his correct and exquisite taste, were all brought together and made to subserve and round out happily a very useful and honorable life of official duties. For twenty-eight years a working director in the Andover Bank (State and National,) for thirty-six years a trustee of the Andover Savings Bank, and its president for eighteen years — to the date of his decease, and for twenty-eight years a trustee of the Abbot Academy for young ladies, his advice and counsel always commanded the attention and respect of his associates. In 1852 he was elected treasurer of the Abbot Academy, and to the permanent life and success of this institution he devoted himself with unwonted ardor, and with a strength and vigor indicative of his earnest and unstinted love for the work he had undertaken. From the very first he manifested a determination to render the surroundings of the Academy pleasing and attractive, to enlarge the area of its domain, to beautify and adorn the same, and all his ardent aspirations to this end appear to have been crowned with admirable and wonderful success.

31

Dr. George Baker⁷ Swift, (*Nathaniel*,⁶ *Nathaniel*,⁵ *Nathaniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. July 30, 1806; d. 1872; m. Nov. 8, 1831, Mary Bennett Warren, of Framingham, Mass. Dr. Swift was graduated at the Harvard Law School in 1830, and practiced in Manchester, N. H., Law New York.

CHILDREN.

MARY.
 GEORGE WARREN.
 CATHERINE.
 FRANK.

 32

Samuel⁷ Swift, (*Nathaniel*,⁶ *Nathaniel*,⁵ *Nathaniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) merchant, b. Feb. 21, 1815; d. Dec. 5, 1851, in Brooklyn, N. Y.; m. Nov. 16, 1842, Mary Phelps, b. in Westhampton, Mass., Dec. 8, 1818.

CHILDREN.

MARY, b. July 5, 1844; d. July 31, 1846.
 MARTHA ELIZABETH, b. Sept. 16, 1847; m. Feb. 18, 1869, W. B. Dickerman, banker, of 66 Broadway, N. Y.
 38. Samuel, b. Aug. 5, 1849.

 33

Jonathan⁷ Swift, (*Nathaniel*,⁶ *Nathaniel*,⁵ *Nathaniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) of Andover, b. July 25, 1816; m. Oct. 30, 1850, Almena Jacobs of Cherryfield, Maine; b. Jan. 6, 1831, Columbia, Me.

CHILDREN.

ELIZABETH FLORENCE, b. Oct. 25, 1860; grad. 1881 at the Andover Female Academy.
 KATE ADAMS, b. March 4, 1869.

 34

Samuel⁷ Swift, (*Samuel*,⁶ *Nathaniel*,⁵ *Nathaniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) of San Francisco, California; b. May 22, 1828; m. Nov. 24, 18—, Emma Newberry.

CHILDREN.

MARY HESTER, b. June —, 1866.

Mr. Swift was brought up on a farm near Princeton, Illinois. His father's intention was to give him a collegiate education, but losing his fortune, he moved to Illinois at an early day, so that he had no opportunity for an education except what he got himself. In 1852 he went to California, crossing the plains with a party of nine young men from Princeton with two ox teams; the one with which he was connected, however, had three yoke of oxen and one yoke of cows, which afforded them milk most of the way. They were five months in making the trip from Princeton, Ill., to Downs-

ville, Simon Co., Cal. On reaching the sink of the Humboldt River their team was so diminished, having lost two oxen and one cow, that they could not attempt to cross the fifty-mile desert that there was open before them, with their wagon, as the rest of their team was insufficient to make the trip over the desert, and then over the Sierra Nevada range of mountains, so they sold what was left of the team, and used the wagon for camp-fires for the party, and having given and thrown away everything else that was portable, except what provisions they could carry and were necessary to last them for the remainder of the journey, they started next morning early, with their provisions and one quart of water to each man, for which they paid one dollar per quart. After some severe hardships they reached California, not having seen a house or other habitation of any white man, after leaving the Missouri river, except Fort Laramie and Fort Hall, where some United States troops were stationed. In 1857 he made a trip up Frazier river into British Columbia, navigating that river in a small boat a distance of two hundred and fifty miles, with an Indian for a guide, adding another chapter to his frontier life, which for roughness of experience surpassed anything he had previously gone through, being constantly surrounded by dangers to life in various ways. In 1859 he returned to California and received a letter from his father, requesting him to return home, as he was quite old and decrepit. He did so, and remained in Princeton, Ill., until 1866, during which time his father and mother both died, and he then returned again to California, and has resided the most of the time in San Francisco. He joined the Order of F. and A. Masons in California in 1855, in Forest Lodge, No. 66, Sierra County; afterwards joined Bureau Lodge, No. 112, in Princeton, then was a member of two different Lodges in San Francisco. Is now a member of Portland Lodge, No. 55, Portland, Oregon. While in Princeton the last time he joined Princeton Chapter, No. 28, of Royal Arch Masons, also Orion Council, No. 8, Royal and Select Masters and Temple Commandery, No. 20, Knights Templar. He is now a member of San Francisco Chapter, No. 1, Royal Arch Masons, California Council, No. 1, Royal and Select Masters and Golden Gate Commandery, No. 16, Knights Templar, San Francisco. When leaving San Francisco in 1881 to go to Montana, he was Secretary of San Francisco Chapter, and Recorder of Golden Gate Commandery, Knights Templar, and was also President of the Masonic Veteran Association of the Pacific Coast. Mr. Swift's present address is 1112 East Sixteenth Street, Oakland, California.

William⁷ Swift, (*Samuel*,⁶ *Nathaniel*,⁵ *Nathaniel*,⁴ *Samuel*,³ *Thomas*,² *Thomas*,¹) of Princeton, Illinois, b. July 22, 1839; m. Nov. 6, 1865, at Fiskeleva, Ill., to Maria King.

CHILDREN.

IDA WYATT, b. Feb. 7, 1867.
 MINNIE BELLE, b. Sept. 22, 1868.
 SAMUEL JACKSON, b. Oct. 15, 1870.
 WILLIAM SHERMAN, b. Jan. 28, 1872.

Mr. Swift was a volunteer during the late civil war in the 93d Illinois Regiment.

36

William Augustus⁷ Swift, (*Samuel,⁶ Samuel,⁵ Ebenezer,⁴ Samuel,³ Thomas,² Thomas,¹*) b. in Roxbury Oct. 18, 1811; m. June 15, 1836, Anna Young, daughter of Abigail and Barnabas Atwood, of Brewster, Mass. She was b. Aug. 12, 1811; d. without issue January 3d, 1744. Mr. Swift married her sister, Mrs. Thankful Maker, April 10th, 1845. She was b. Sept. 11, 1815. Mr. Swift is a builder now residing in Roxbury.

CHILDREN.

ANNA AUGUSTA, b. June 1, 1846.
 WILLIAM, b. Oct. 31, 1849; book-keeper in the Maverick National Bank, Boston; m. Feb. 22, 1882, Addie W. Jacobs.

37

Lewis⁷ Swift, (*Samuel,⁶ Samuel,⁵ Ebenezer,⁴ Samuel,³ Thomas,² Thomas,¹*) a pianoforte maker residing at 255 Lybrand Street, Philadelphia; b. in Roxbury Jan. 16, 1815; m. Nov. 6, 1844, Maria A. Engelman, b. in Philadelphia Feb. 29, 1824.

CHILDREN.

SAMUEL,⁸ b. Aug. 9, 1845; d. Aug. 7, 1858.
 ANDREW,⁸ b. Aug. 4, 1848; d. May 6, 1850.
 WILLIAM,⁸ b. May 29, 1852; m. Sept. 15, 1875, Fanny M. Umsted; have Lewis,⁹ b. Feb. 13, 1879.

38

Dr. Samuel⁷ Swift, (*Samuel,⁶ Nathaniel,⁵ Nathaniel,⁴ Samuel,³ Thomas,² Thomas,¹*) b. Aug. 5, 1849; m. April 21, 1875, Lucy, dau. of Judge H. E. Davies of New York, by his wife Rebecca Waldo Tappan of Boston. Dr. Swift is a physician of Yonkers. He was graduated at the Yale Scientific School in 1868; also at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, medical department, Columbia College, New York, class of 1872. Was mayor of Yonkers, April 1882, to April 1884.

CHILDREN.

MARTHA, b. July 27, 1878.

NOTE.—Up to this point in the genealogy, the descendants of Lieut. Thomas² Swift, son of the first Thomas¹, have been followed out. The descendants of his brother Obadiah² will now be continued from page 4, and numbered consecutively after the posterity of Thomas².

 3

Obadiah,² (*Thomas¹*) b. in Dorchester, July 16, 1638; d. Dec. 27, 1690; m. March 15, 1660, Rest, (b. ———, 1639) dau. of Maj. Gen. Humphrey Atherton. In a deed dated July 1, 1664, conveying one hundred and forty acres of land to Gyles and Edward Payson, he and Timothy Mather call themselves administrators of their father-in-law, Maj. Gen. Humphrey Atherton. He was a blacksmith by trade, and in 1672 "Rece an hundred of Iron, for which he made axes and bows for Endian gratuetic by Capt. Foster's order." He was fence viewer in 1664, and several times afterwards; was constable in 1662, and supervisor in 1674. Savage gives him a second wife, Abigail, but I think he is in error, and that she was the wife of his son, Obadiah, Jr. Rest Swift and Obadiah Swift returned the inventory of Obadiah's estate March 24, 1691-2. A Rest Swift died Nov. 3, 1708, who was probably his widow.

CHILDREN.

REMEMBER, b. 5, 10 mo., 1661; d. 5, 12 mo., 1661.

REST, b. 13, 10 mo., 1662.

JAMES, b.

39. Obadiah, b. 28, 11 mo., 1670.

HOPESTILL, b. March 11, 1674.

ELIZABETH, b. Sept. 7, 1675; d. Sept. 17, 1675.

ABIGAIL, b. Jan. 4, 1676; m. ——— Apply. June 12, 1734, James Apply of Norwich, Conn., in a deed, calls Sarah Swift, of Dorchester, spinster, his cousin or kinswoman, he being the youngest of the two sons, and only heir of Abigail Apply, of Preston County, New London, deceased, daughter of Obadiah Swift of Dorchester, blacksmith. He deeds to said Sarah all his rights in lands in Dorchester and Stoughton which belonged to their grandfather, Obadiah Swift, deceased, and great-grandfather, Maj. Humphrey Atherton.

ELIZABETH, b. Jan. 4, 1679; d. Nov. 2, 1683.

 39

Obadiah,² (*Obadiah,² Thomas,¹*) b. in Dorchester, 28, 11 mo., 1670; d. Jan. 20, 1747; m. Abigail Blake, last day of December, 1695. She was admitted to full communion at the Dorchester church, Nov. 7, 1702-3, and d. March 19, 1737-8. He was admitted to the church in November, 1696. He was a blacksmith.

CHILDREN.

40. **James**, b. Nov. 1, 1696.
 SUSANNA, b. July 14, 1701; m. Henry Newell of Boston, shipwright, Nov. 22, 1722.
 JANE, b. Dec. 9, 1703; m. James Young Dec. 7, 1727.
 PRISCILLA, b. Oct. 3, 1706; m. Henry Ledbetter March 30, 1732, eldest son of Increase Ledbetter.
 SARAH, b. ; m. James Leeds June 23, 1737.

He was one of the grantees in 1737-8 of a right in the new township of Dorchester, Canada, incorporated in 1765 as Ashburnham, derived from the services of his brother James, who was killed while a member of Capt. Withington's company of Dorchester, in the expedition against Quebec, Canada, in 1690.

40

James,⁴ (*Obadiah*,³ *Obadiah*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. in Dorchester, Nov. 1, 1696; m. Silence, dau. of Sherebiah and Silence Butt, April 9, 1718. He was a yeoman of Dorchester.

CHILDREN.

41. **James**, b. June 21, 1719.
 SUSANNA, b. March 6, 1720-1; m. Joseph Whiston of Boston, Nov. 24, 1738.
 OBADIAH, b. Jan. 31, 1723-4.
 EZRA, b. Oct. 23, 1726; d. Feb. 9, 1726-7 (grave stone).
 SILENCE, b. Oct. 21, 1728; m. Desire Hawes, Oct. 6, 1748.
42. **Elijah**, b. March 9, 1730-31.
 JOAB, b. March 29, 1733; d. May 16, 1745.
 SHEREBIAH, b. July 2, 1735.
 ABIGAIL, b. Oct. 29, 1738; m. John Purpoon, Oct. 31, 1759.
 EZRA, b. Nov. 15, 1740.

April 25, 1737, James Swift and wife Silence; Hopestill and Hannah Blake; Abigail, widow of John Woodward, husbandman; Mary Butt, spinster, all of Dorchester; Hannah, Silence, Abigail and Mary, being children of Silence Butt, deceased, late wife of Sherebiah Butt, also deceased; said Silence Butt was one of the grandchildren of Henry Merrifield, of Dorchester, deceased. They sell land to Benj. Bird of Dorchester, gentleman, in Dorchester and Stoughton, which belonged to their great-grandfather, Henry Merrifield.

41

James,⁵ (*James*,⁴ *Obadiah*,³ *Obadiah*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. June 21, 1719; m. Mary Mayer June 11, 1741. He was admitted to the New North Church, Boston, Feb. 14, 1741-2. He was a shipwright.

CHILDREN.

43. James, bapt. July 10, 1743.
 44. Henry, bapt. June 22, 1746.
 WILLIAM, bapt. Nov. 20, 1748; probably d. young.
 WILLIAM, bapt. Aug. 12, 1750.
 MARY, bapt. Sept. 30, 1753; d. April 9, 1764 (grave stone).
 SILENCE, bapt. Nov. 30, 1755; probably same pub. to Paul Ingerfield, Dec. 29, 1773.
 SUSANNAH, bapt. Dec. 24, 1758; probably same pub. to Robert Jones, Aug. 28, 1785.
 ABIGAIL, bapt. June 7, 1761.

42

Elijah,⁵ (*James,⁴ Obadiah,³ Obadiah,² Thomas,¹*) b. in Dorchester, March 9, 1730-31; m. Edee Seward, pub. Nov. 24, 1757. She owned the covenant July 2, 1758; d. Oct. 12, 1795, æ. 64 years. He was a shipwright, living in Henchman's Lane in 1789. He died May 9, 1803, æ. 73 years. Administration on his estate was granted to Jacob Rhodes of Boston, shipwright, May 30, 1803. Ebenezer Rhodes, printer, and James White Burditt, bookseller, gave bond. Their gravestones are still standing in Copp's Hill burying ground, with those of some of their children. The inventory of the estate amounted to \$2053, of which \$2000 was house and land in Henchman's Lane.

CHILDREN.

45. Elijah, bapt. Aug. 27, 1758.
 ELIZABETH, bapt. Aug. 31, 1760; m. July 14, 1779, Capt. James Hutchinson, by whom she had Hannah. He died, and she next married David Oliver, a mast and spar maker on Oliver's Dock, now Battery March Street and Liberty Square. They had four children: 1, David Oliver, m. Susan Parkman, both dead; 2, Sally Oliver, m. Wm. Parkman, who d. 1809; 3, Harriet, spinster; 4, Edee, spinster.
 SARAH, bapt. Dec. 12, 1762; m. May 23, 1779, Capt. Samuel Makin, of Philadelphia, who d. long since. She lived to be 94 years old, a remarkable woman, in the full enjoyment of all her faculties. Capt. Makin was sailing master of the Queen of France, a government vessel in the war of 1812. He had his leg broken in the service off Boston harbor, was landed in Boston, and cared for till well. In 1836 or '40 Mrs. Makin obtained a pension, with back pay, from the government. They had five children, now dead, whose children are wealthy citizens of Philadelphia, filling honorable positions.
 WILLIAM, bapt. Sept. 16, 1764; d. April 1, 1765 (grave stone).
 MARY, bapt. May 31, 1767; d. young.
 MARY, bapt. Sept. 4, 1768, m. first, March 3, 1793, Francis Sloan; had one son, now dead; m. second, ——— Avery, had one dau., dead; m. third, John French, had three children, now dead. She d. about 1846, in Boston.
 46. Benjamin, bapt. Aug. 19, 1770.

43

James,⁶ (*James,⁵ James,⁴ Obadiah,³ Obadiah,² Thomas,¹*) baptized in Boston,

July 10, 1743; m. Winifred Davis of Charlestown, Nov. 29, 1764. She owned the covenant at the New North Church, Oct. 20, 1765.

CHILDREN.

WILLIAM, b. Oct. 8, 1767.
 SARAH BRIGDEN, b. Sept. 11, 1769.
 ELIZABETH GILLAM, b. Feb. 28, 1771.
 JAMES, bapt. Mar. 14, 1773.
 WINNIFRED, bapt. Dec. 15, 1776.
 JOHN, bapt. Nov. 7, 1779.

Mrs. Swift, daughter of Barnabas and Winifred (Brigden) Davis, of Charlestown, was born June 17, 1743. For ancestry see Wyman, p. 281.

44

Henry,⁶ (*Fames,⁵ Fames,⁴ Obadiah,³ Obadiah,² Thomas,¹*) b. in Boston, June 22, 1746; m. June 14, 1768, Mary Richardson. She owned the covenant at the New North Church Nov. 6, 1767. He was a shipwright, and lived in Hull Street.

CHILDREN.

47. Henry, } Twins, bapt. Nov. 6, 1768.
 MARY, }
 SARAH, bapt. Dec. 16, 1770.
 PEGGY RICHARDSON, bapt. March 21, 1773; m. Thomas Adan, Nov. 1, 1791, and had John R., Esq.; Catherine E. R. m. Henry S. Waldo, merchant.

Perhaps he is the same Henry Swift who died November, 1789, æ. 44.

45

Elijah,⁶ (*Elijah,⁵ Fames,⁴ Obadiah,³ Obadiah,² Thomas,¹*) b. in Boston, Aug. 27, 1758; m. April 22, 1781, Nancy Brown. She owned the covenant at the New North Church Dec. 30, 1781. They lived in Lynn Street. He was a shipwright and died before Feb. 13, 1804, when Henry Swift, baker, of Boston, was chosen guardian of his children, viz: Elijah and Benjamin, more than 14; Elizabeth George, Thomas, Catherine, under 14. Children baptized at the New North Church.

CHILDREN.

NANCY LAPIS, bapt. Jan. 27, 1782; probably d. young.
 ELIJAH, bapt. Nov. 30, 1783.
 WILLIAM, bapt. Sept. 25, 1785; probably d. young.
 BENJAMIN, bapt. Sept. 2, 1787.
 ELIZABETH HUDSON, bapt. Oct. 25, 1789.

GEORGE W., bapt. Feb. 12, 1792; in 1813 a baker, and same year sells property in Lynn Street, that belonged to his father.

KATY RICHARDSON, bapt. Nov. 9, 1794; schoolmistress in 1821, when she sells her right in her father's estate.

THOMAS, ; was of Hancock, N. H., Feb. 4, 1823, when he sells his right in his father's estate.

 46

Benjamin,⁶ (*Elijah,⁵ James,⁴ Obadiah,³ Obadiah,² Thomas,¹) shipmaster of Boston; commanded the ship Hazard in 1805, owned by Thomas H. Perkins. With wife Hannah was living in Charlestown in 1827. He was b. in Boston, Aug. 19, 1770; m. Hannah Rhoades, Aug. 6, 1796; merchant in 1831. She was b. Nov. 17, 1777; dau. of Jacob Rhoades; d. Nov. 28, 1831. He d. March 15, 1858. He removed to Pepperill. Children baptized in Boston in 1811.*

CHILDREN.

ELIZA RHOADES, b. April 14, 1797; d. Oct. 2, 1829; m. April 30, 1821, Abraham Andrews.

BENJAMIN, b. March 31, 1800; d. Oct. 2, 1801.

HANNAH, b. Jan. 26, 1803; d. Aug. 27, 1852; m. Oct. 17, 1826, Thomas M. Thompson of Charlestown, d. June 27, 1836. Hardware dealer of Boston.

CAROLINE, b. April 26, 1806; d. June 8, 1806.

CAROLINE, b. March 29, 1807; m. Nov. 14, 1830, Abraham Andrews, of Charlestown. He d. March 7, 1869.

BENJAMIN, b. July 11, 1810; d. Aug. 10, 1883.

SARAH STEVENS, b. Sept 9, 1812; d. Nov. 16, 1866.

MARY BURDETT, b. June 21, 1814; m. John Farrar, Oct. 20, 1841. He d. Feb. 6, 1849.

SUSAN, b. March 27, 1816.

ABBY, b. Jan. 30, 1818; d. Aug. 24, 1862.

ELLEN LOUISA, b. Oct. 13, 1820.

WILLIAM HENRY, b. July 25, 1822.

Capt. Swift was an active and prominent member of the Harvard Church, Charlestown, and furnished the lower row of windows in the auditory with "India blinds" at his own charge. His pew was No. 33, and he owned pew No. 14.

 47

Henry,⁷ (*Henry,⁶ James,⁵ James,⁴ Obadiah,³ Obadiah,² Thomas,¹) b. in Boston, Sept. 7, 1768; m. Nov. 18, 1790, Sarah Brown, b. May 2, 1766; d. July 28, 1799. He next m. May 4, 1800, Agnes, dau. of William McKean, sister of Prof. Joseph McKean of Harvard College. She was b. Jan. 13, 1766.*

He was engaged in the bakery business, corner of Charter and Unity Streets, at the north end. He d. April 3, 1808. The inventory of his estate amounted to

upwards of ten thousand dollars, but it proved insolvent. His widow possessed property in her own right, and bought in the estate, corner of Charter and Unity Streets, which is still owned by his descendants.

CHILDREN.

- HENRY, b. Jan 1, 1792; d. Oct. 11, 1793.
48. ~~Henry~~, b. July 5, 1793.
WILLIAM, b. Sept. 3, 1797; d. Oct 14, 1798.
SARAH, b. Feb. 7, 1801.
WILLIAM JOSEPH, b. Jan. 29, 1804; d. Oct 11, 1807.
49. ~~John James~~, b. April 16, 1805.
WILLIAM JOSEPH, b. Oct. 19, 1807; drowned March 16, 1824, on his passage from Göttenburg, as second mate of ship Galena.

48

~~Henry~~,⁸ (*Henry*,⁷ *Henry*,⁶ *James*,⁵ *James*,⁴ *Obadiah*,³ *Obadiah*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. July 5, 1793, in Boston; d. March 13, 1862. He removed early in life to Nantucket, where he was established in the hardware business. He was one of the original members of the New England Guards. He m. June 5, 1817, Mary, dau. of Zenas and Abial Coffin, one of the wealthiest merchants and largest ship-owners of that place. Mrs. Swift was b. Feb. 15, 1799; d. July 2, 1827. He m. second, Elizabeth dau. of Benjamin and Judith Glover. She d. Feb. 22, 1872.

CHILDREN.

- SARAH BROWN, b. March 25, 1820; d. July 11, 1825.
MARY COFFIN, b. March 24, 1822; m. Dec. 5, 1838, Lewis W. Tappan, son of John Tappan, of Boston. Their son, Lewis Wm., Jr., b. Feb. 16, 1840, m. Olivia Buckminster, dau. of the Rev. Samuel K. Lothrop of Boston. She d. 1878, leaving one daughter, b. Sept. 1, 1876.
CHILD, b. and d. Sept. 1, 1824.
SARAH BROWN, b. Feb. 23, 1826; lives with Mrs. Tappan.
HENRY, b. Dec. 11, 1832; m. Emma Potter of Concord, N. H., and has Harry, Frank, Maud. Residence, Durham Park, Marion Co., Kansas.
WILLIAM JOSEPH, b. May 27, 1835, in Nantucket; m. Oct. 20, 1858, Anna C. Stearns, dau. of Marshall Stearns of Brookline, Mass., and has Susan Stearns, b. Jan. 12, 1867; Henry Marshall, b. Feb. 16, 1872.
MARGARET, b. March 10, 1838; d. March 18, 1869; m. Oct. 1858, William Stearns, of Brookline, Mass.

49

~~John James~~,⁹ (*Henry*,⁷ *Henry*,⁶ *James*,⁵ *James*,⁴ *Obadiah*,³ *Obadiah*,² *Thomas*,¹) b. April 16, 1805; m. Mary, dau. of Samuel Hitchborn of Boston. Mr. Swift was a merchant of Boston. He was a clerk in 1823 with Bradshaw & Parker, on Long

Wharf; from 1829 to 1840 was of the firm of Parker & Swift; then from 1840 to 1844, J. J. Swift & Co. He was successful, and accumulated a fortune.

CHILDREN.

AGNES MCKEAN.

ELIZA T.

MARY, b. ; m. J. H. Lombard.

AMY.

W. H.

FRANCES, b. ; m. Edward Holbrook.

LILLIAN ALICE.

Mr. Swift early manifested a lively interest in the extension of the railway system of the country, and upon retiring from active mercantile pursuits in 1854, was elected a director in the Fitchburg Railroad Company, and on Feb. 8, 1855, was chosen its President, which office he held till August 17, 1864, when he voluntarily retired from the board, but continued to be consulted by the management upon all matters of importance during the remainder of his life.

Having now no active business to occupy his mind, and being an energetic and public-spirited man, he must needs turn his attention to some beneficent enterprise. In 1865 and 1866 he took a leading interest in the establishment of the National Steamship Company, in the interest of Boston, and for which company the Erie and Ontario were built, but from lack of adequate support, and from the unstable condition of the times, the scheme was abandoned, and the pioneer vessels sold and taken from that port.

In 1869 he took an active interest in the Caughnawaga Ship Canal, a project for uniting the St. Lawrence River with Lake Champlain, thereby uniting the commerce of the great lakes with New England, and with others secured a charter from the Dominion Parliament, and kept it alive by subsequent legislation for several years, but from the lack of general interest in Boston, which was mainly relied upon for the means of construction, this great internal improvement was given up.

APPENDIX.

ENGLISH ANCESTRY.

Since that portion of the genealogy was printed which relates to Thomas Swift and his wife Elizabeth, the founders of the Dorchester family in America, some investigations have been made in England with a certain degree of success. Their marriage has been found on the parish register of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Dorchester, England; but nothing there indicates that Thomas Swift was born in Dorchester, or that the name existed there previous to the date of his marriage. It is possible that he was born in an adjoining parish or county, and that, being imbued with the religious fervor of the time, had gathered there with others, preparatory to embarking for the New World.

Savage says, that Thomas Swift of Dorchester was the son of Robert of Rotherham, Yorkshire. I am inclined to think that this statement is not based on any more substantial evidence than family tradition. Such a tradition has existed in the family. It is well-known that the handing down of christian names common to families was very strictly followed, but in no instance do we find the name of Robert, among the children or grandchildren of Thomas, and in fact, I think the name has never been borne by any of his descendants.

But Savage's conjectures as to the parentage of Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Swift, have proved to be right. He says, she was probably the daughter of Bernard Capen, who was from Dorchester, England. Thomas Swift, in his will, calls John Capen, who was son of Bernard, his brother-in-law, and John Capen in a letter to Mary Bass, printed in the History of Dorchester, Mass., p. 45, speaks of his sister Swift and sister Upsall.

With this clew, it seemed to me that an examination of the parish registers of Dorchester, England, might disclose something in relation to Thomas and Elizabeth Swift. Accordingly a search was made, and on the parish register of Holy

Trinity was found the entry, that "Thomas Swifte and Elizabeth Capen were married 18 Oct., 1630," and "20 Nov., 1631, Joane, daughter of Thomas Swifte, was baptized." These two are the only instances of the appearance of the name on the register.

The next child we find to them recorded is on the Dorchester records in America, when, June 17, 1635, the birth of their son Thomas appears. It is possible that other children were born, between these two periods, who died young.

The same parish register, records the marriage of Nicholas Upsale and Dorothe Capen, 17 Jan., 1629. Nicholas Upsale is well known, as one of those who was persecuted as a Quaker. An account of him has been printed in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, vol. XXXIV., p. 21.

A William Rockwell and Susan Capen, were married 14 April, 1624, doubtless the same person, who with his wife Susanna, appear in Dorchester, Mass., in 1630, when he was made freeman. He was one of the first deacons of the Dorchester Church and the history of that town, p. 79, gives the name of his wife as Susanna Chapin, doubtless mistaken for Capen. Probably she was another daughter of Bernard Capen, for according to the family Bible, he had a child of this name.

There are four parish churches at Dorchester, England, all of about the same date, but none possess registers earlier than about 1663-4, except Holy Trinity, whose register commences as early as 1559. Its covers are gone, but the entries are perfectly legible. A great many Capens appear on it between 1559 and 1652, some of which are here appended. The name on the registers seems to have finally resolved itself into Galpin. For an account of the Capen family, see vol. II., p. 80, and vol. XX., p. 246, of the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*.

DORCHESTER.

Extracts from the Church Registers of Holy Trinity,

COMMENCING 1559.

14	April,	1624.	Wm. Rockwell and Susan Capon,	Married
4	Aug.,	1629.	Robert Gifford and Hannah Capon,	“
17	Jan.,	1629.	Nicholas Upsale and Dorothe Capen,	“
18	Oct.,	1630.	Thomas Swifte and Elizabeth Capen,	“

23	Feb.,	1633.	Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Capen,	Baptized
29	April,	1632.	Ruth, daughter of Bernard Capen,	“
12	July,	1635.	Barnard, son of Bernard Capen,	“
5	Nov.,	1637.	William, son of Bernard Capen,	“
8	Nov.,	1640.	Mary, daughter of Bernard Capen,	“
1	Jan.,	1642.	John, son of Bernard Capen,	“

8	Sept.,	1628.	James Capen,	Buried
28	May,	1632.	Margaret, wife of Thomas Capen,	“
3	March,	1633.	Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Capen,	“
6	Jan.,	1642.	John, son of Barnard Gapen,	“
22	April,	1643.	William, son of Thomas Gapen,	“
26	March,	1646.	Ruth, daughter of Barnard Galpen,	“
10	April,	1646.	Elizabeth, daughter of Barnard Galpen,	“
20	April,	1646.	Barnard, son of Barnard Galpen,	“
27	April,	1646.	Mary, daughter of Barnard Galpen,	“
6	May,	1646.	William, son of Barnard Galpen,	“

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