

Genealogical Notes

*MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN CAPE MAY COUNTY***Genealogical Notes**

The old families of Pilgrim posterity of Cape May County are descendants of three Mayflower passengers:—John Howland, his wife Elizabeth Tilley and her father John Tilley. The last died the first year, and although of a generation preceding John Howland, is not given in this volume or in the requirements of the Society of Mayflower Descendants as the first Pilgrim ancestor, out of deference to the long service to the Pilgrim Colony of his son in law, John Howland. Bridget, the wife of John Tilley who accompanied him in the passage to the New World, has not been proved the mother of his daughter Elizabeth, and cannot be claimed as a Mayflower ancestor. She died as did her husband the first year. There are now living in the County of Cape May descendants of fifteen passengers of the Mayflower—John Howland, John Tilley, Elizabeth Tilley, William Bradford, Myles Standish, John Alden, Priscilla Mullins, William Mullins, Alice Mullins, George Soule, Richard Warren, Francis Eaton, Stephen Hopkins, Elizabeth Hopkins, Henry Sampson.

The genealogical tables preceding by no means include all the families of Pilgrim descent of the County—many records are incomplete through failure of families to respond to requests for information, and intermarriages in the early years of the Pilgrim stock with the Crowell, Crawford and Schellenger families have not been touched upon and require long investigation of wills, deeds and tombstone records, in the absence of vital records of any kind. 'In another effort the author will attempt to include all the Mayflower families of the County and of those who have gone out from us. It is regrettable that initial letters instead of full names are universally used among us, and further that sometimes fanciful names are given children in preference to the good old Pilgrim names we have a right to use.

The Rev. Daniel Lawrence, father of Ann Lawrence, wife of Jacob Hughes and great grandfather of the Rev. Daniel Lawrence Hughes, D. D., was born on Long Island in 1718, died at Cape May, 13 September, 1766, (tombstone in Cold Spring Cemetery). His wife Sarah is buried beside him, the inscription on the tombstone reading: "Mrs. Sarah Lawrence, died 20 January, 1768, aged 45 years." Their two children were, Ann Lawrence, whose marriage to Jacob Hughes is recorded on page 103, and Daniel, of whom we have no record, except that his son bore the name of his grandfather, was a Presbyterian clergyman, and was born in Philadelphia, 28 December, 1795, died at Lewistown, Pennsylvania, 30 August, 1875. (The Rev. Dr. D. L. Hughes also mentions two sisters, Deborah and Catherine).

MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN CAPE MAY COUNTY

name, married at Philadelphia, 3 January, 1825, Sarah Dare Fithian, and had eleven children—the list is given in “The Divine Covenant Fulfilled,” by Rev. Dr. D. L. Hughes, pages 17, 18. Whether this Lawrence family is related to the New England family of the same name is a problem for future investigation. The appearance of the ancestor on Long Island seems to point to that conclusion.

The several branches of the Hand family of Cape May County are descended from John Hand, who was at Lynn in Massachusetts Bay Colony as early as 1636, and removed to the whaling settlement at Southampton, Long Island, before 7 March, 1644. He married Alice Gransden, and had nine children, (Nash's Fifty Puritan Ancestors), as follows:—John, born about 1633; Stephen, born about 1635; Joseph, born 1638; Mary, married before 1657, Charles Barnes; Shamgar, moved to Cape May, and died there about 1727; Benjamin, born about 1644, died in Cape May County; James, born in Easthampton, died there 13 March, 1733; Thomas, one of the Cape May whalerman, born 1646, drowned off Cape May, 2 October, 1814, a daughter, probably Alice. The following line of descent continues this ancient Cape May family through ten generations to the present time:—

JOHN HAND, an arrival in Massachusetts Bay before 1636, married Alice Gransden, and had THOMAS HAND, born 1646, died 1714, married Katherine, and had JOHN HAND, born at East Hampton, about 1666, died at Cape May before 27 April, 1736, married Mercy, who died at Cape May before 19 April, 1746, and had SILAS HAND, born at Cape May about 1722, died at Cape May, May, 1770, married at Cape May, 1751, Sarah Crowell, and had ELISHA HAND, born at Cape May, January 1752, died at Cape May, 18 November, 1814, married at Cape May, 25 March, 1783, Esther Teal, born 10 November, 1762, died at Cape May, 4 June, 1802, and had AARON B. HAND, born at Cape May, 5 May, 1791, died at Cape May, 23 December, 1861, married at Cape May, 18 February, 1818, Jane Hand Bancroft, born at Cape May, 20 August, 1793, died at Cape May, January 14, 1864, and had NOAH HAND, born at Cape May, 26 July, 1829, died at Cape May, 28 July, 1907, married at Philadelphia, 9 November, 1851, Jane Hannah, born at County Derry, Ireland, 1818, died at Cape May, 31 December, 1905, and had AARON W. HAND, born at Camden, New Jersey, 10 February, 1857, married 6 March, 1877, Letitia Byers Reeves, born at Cape May, 16 January, 1857, and had the following children:—

MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN CAPE MAY COUNTY

(1) ALBERT REEVES HAND, born at Cape May, 24 March, 1878, married at Cape May, 30 October, 1901, Sara Elizabeth Millet, and had THOMAS MILLET HAND, born at Cape May, 7 July, 1903.

(2) BERNARD HAND, born at Cape May, 18 January, 1880, married at Philadelphia, 1904, Martha Brown, born at Green Creek, New Jersey, 26 September, 1884, and had MILDRED HAND, AARON W. HAND and BERNICE HAND.

(3) DR. REU ABIJAH HAND, born at Cape May, 7 April, 1882, married at Cape May, 11 May, 1909, Elizabeth Blattner, born at Cape May, 11 May, 1882.

(4) ELLWOOD STOKES HAND, born at Cape May, 9 August, 1884, died at Colon, Panama, 11 July, 1914.

(5) and (6) JEANNE REEVES HAND and ANITA REEVES HAND, born at Cape May, 17 June, 1890.

For Mayflower ancestry of Elizabeth Blattner, wife of Dr. Reu Abijah Hand, see page 287.

William Price, the ancestor of the Prices of southern New Jersey, was born in England near the Welsh border about 1705-10. He came to America when a young man, and settled in Burlington County, New Jersey, where he married in 1736 Rebecca Church, and had two sons; William, born about 1738, died 1819; and John, born about 1742. The latter, a major in the revolution, married Polly Potter, and had one child, Anne, who married a John Smith and moved west. William, the other son, was a captain in the revolution. In 1789 he purchased the old Price Farm where the original Cape Town was located on the bay shore. Captain Price married Rebecca Jobs (who died 1814) and had six children:—

1. Edward, born 26 July, 1767, died 21 January, 1825; married 1792, Sarah Cozens (born 26 August, 1772, died 19 October, 1819) and had John, Sarah, William, Rebecca, Deborah, Edward and Joseph.

2. William, died a young man without issue.

3. Mary, who married first Joseph Sweatman, and had James and Mary; secondly, George Matthews, and had James and Artemisia.

4. Rebecca, who married Isaac Wynn and had William, Benjamin and Rebecca.

5. Deborah, who married Joel Stratton, and had a daughter.

6. Joseph, living 1846, who married first Kitty Bassett and secondly Sarah Clark, and had Sarah, Edward, Mary, Anne, Catharine, Joseph, William, Sarah 2d, Harriet and Clark.

MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN CAPE MAY COUNTY

The grand parents on her father's side of Elmira Williams Hughes, wife of Rev. Dr. Daniel Lawrence Hughes, (see page 157), were Humphrey Hughes and Jane Whilldin, daughter of James and sister of Elder Matthew Whilldin, (see page 202); on her mother's side her grand parents were William Williams of Loudon County, Virginia, and Hetty Zanes Collins, of Gloucester County, N. J. (See *Divine Covenant fulfilled in Pious Households* by Rev. D. L. Hughes, D. D., page 109).

An account of the ancestor of the Leamings of Cape May has been given on page 25 in a quotation from the Diary of Aaron Leaming second, and in a quotation from the Anecdotes of Thomas, son of the first Christopher, on page 14, which notes were incorporated in the Diary of his nephew, the above named Aaron Leaming second.

The account of James Whilldin and Richard Crawford, executors of the last Will and Testament of Joseph Whilldin second, (see pages 27, 100), exhibited before the Prerogative Office at Burlington, 19 May, 1749, prays allowance for the payment of the following legacies:

	Pounds		
By moneys paid Abigail Whildin in full of her legacy	50	0	0
By money paid David Whildin in part of his Legacy__	50	0	0
By moneys paid Mathew Whildin in full of his Legacy	56	0	5
By moneys paid Loes Whildin in full of her Legacy_____	60	7	5
By moneys pd Ellis Hughes in full of his wives Legacy	24	1	11
By money pd David Whildin in full of his legacy_____	24	1	11
By moneys to Richard Crawford in full of his wives Legacy _____	24	1	11
By moneys paid Richard Crawford, Ellis Hughes and Matthew Crowell in part for the negro girl_____	15		
By moneys to be paid to Uriah Hughes 2 Children_____	5	0	0
By moneys to James Whildin in part for the negro girl _____	5	0	0

Ellis Hughes was son-in-law of Joseph Whilldin second, and his will (see page 29), gives the name of his wife Hannah and his son Memucan. The grandson "Memukin" Hughes to whom Joseph Whilldin second gives "one ten year old hefer or stear" was the son of Ellis and Hannah Whilldin, and could be the son of no other daughter of Joseph Whilldin, Rachel's legacy being paid to her husband Richard Crawford and Loes receiving hers, at least in part, in her own name—and further the two children of the deceased daughter Mary (Mercy) are named in both the will and accounting of the exe-

MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN CAPE MAY COUNTY

cutors. Memucan, as the comparison of his will and tombstone shows, was born 12 April, 1739, died 8 January, 1812. Ellis, his full brother, born 16 August, 1745, named in the will of Ellis senior, was also the son of Hannah who survived her husband, and after his death in 1752 married an Eldredge.

A legacy of 2 pounds 10 Shillings each is given by Joseph Whilldin second to "my Daughter Marey (Mercy) Deceased Children Ellis and Judith" and the executors account for "5 Pounds to be paid to Uriah Hughes 2 Children." The author feels great diffidence in calling in question the conclusions of Mr. S. Gordon Smyth, whose unfailing assistance and patience have contributed a large share in determining the descent of the Pilgrim strain through the Whilldin-Hughes line, but it seems evident that the assumption that Ellis Hughes senior first married Mary and had Ellis and Judith is not borne out by the record of the will and accounting.

A further erroneous conclusion (and here Mr. S. Gordon Smyth is in full accord with the author) is that Ellis Hughes, son of Uriah and Mary Whilldin was the Ellis Hughes, junior, ancestor of the late Major Charles Welsh Edmunds of Philadelphia. Mr. George E. Bowman of Boston has shown that the conclusions of State historians of the Society of Mayflower Descendants are not always reliable, and the author ventures to say that the arbitrary choice of Ellis, son of Uriah, as the Ellis junior of testamentary and tombstone records, with no connecting link, is entirely without support. Ellis junior was not the junior of an uncle, or of his cousin; he was the junior of his father, and his mother was Hannah Whilldin, and the connecting link which is entirely lacking in the arbitrary assumption of Uriah as his father is found in the memorandum of Thomas Hurst Hughes in the family Bible of Franklin Davenport Edmunds, (see page 37). While the memorandum is not first authority and must give way to certain documentary evidence, it confirms the record, and it is incredible that Congressman Thomas Hurst Hughes, whose father, Ellis junior, was living when he was 48 years of age, was mistaken as to the names of both paternal grand parents.



The following list of tombstones collected by Mr. William Evans Price from Tabernacle Cemetery, Cape May County, is of great value in confirming the record of the foregoing genealogical tables and is of general interest to the many descendants who have migrated to distant parts of the country.

Memucan Hughes, Sr., born 12 April, 1739, died 8 January, 1812, (see pages 197 and 204).

MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN CAPE MAY COUNTY

Parsons Edmunds, died 9 January, 1851, in his 70th year; Ruth Edmunds, wife of Parsons, died 20 January, 1846, aged 47 years, 9 months, 17 days.

Philip Cresse, died 25 March, 1853, in his 74th year; Margaret, wife of Philip, died 30 April, 1864, in her 78th year.

Aaron Hand, died 28 December, 1851, in his 51st year.

William Price, born 16 January, 1898, died 18 September, 1858; wife, Mary C., died 11 November, 1875, aged 67 years, 3 months, 20 days.

Rev. John Price, born 10 October, 1793, died 21 May, 1863; wife, Kezia, born 18 August, 1798, died 7 August, 1886.

Edward Price, died 21 January, 1825, aged 57 years, 5 months, 26 days; wife, Sarah, died 19 October, 1819, aged 47 years, 1 month, 23 days.

Deborah Price, wife of Aaron Schellenger, born 26 February, 1830, died 20 October, 1917.

Madeline T. Reeves, born 1866, died 1905.

Albert E. Reeves, born 1863, died 1894.

Lambert W. Hughes, born 16 December, 1850, died 22 November, 1885.

Israel Hughes, died 27 January, 1904, aged 81 years, 9 months, (see pages 249, 259); wife, Elizabeth H., born 22 April, 1821, died 13 March, 1893, (see pages 249, 259). Daughters, Elizabeth and Judith, son Richard.

Jacob Corson, born 1815, died 1896; wife, Margaret M., born 1814, died 1896. Daughters Mary E., Albertina, Theodocia, son Solon.

Charles S. Corson, born 11 May, 1849, died 7 February, 1909.

Smith Stites, born 25 August, 1808, died 10 August, 1872.

Mary A. Stites, born 18 August, 1811, died 2 August, 1872.

Philip C. Stites, died 7 December, 1898, in his 44th year.

Cornelius Leaming, died 4 June, 1897, aged 65 years.

Rev. Israel Townsend, born 12 May, 1782, died 3 November, 1862; wife, Abigail, born 24 April, 1786, died 5 December, 1868.

Aaron Hughes, died 17 October, 1842, aged 63 years, 11 months, 17 days.

Meribah Hughes, died 16 April, 1825, aged 33 years, 5 months.

MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN CAPE MAY COUNTY

Daniel B. Hughes, born 20 July, 1816, died 1 June, 1888, (see pages 144, 146); wife, Priscilla Leaming, born 8 January, 1820, died 29 June, 1915.

Lemuel Leaming, born 2 October, 1809, died 3 May, 1879, (see page 177).

Aaron Leaming, born 15 May, 1784, died 7 January, 1836, (see pages 108, 144); wife, Hannah, died 12 April, 1862, aged 73 years, 6 months, (see pages 143, 144). Daughter, Charlotte Matthews, born 28 May, 1810, died 30 July, 1854; daughter, Mary L. Compton, died 31 July, 1862, aged 33 years, 5 months, 15 days.

Rev. Parsons Townsend, born 18 October, 1807, died 7 October, 1886; wife, Abigail, born 7 December, 1811, died 2 March, 1906. Son, Samuel, born 7 September, 1838, died 25 October, 1918.

Israel Townsend, died 11 July, 1841, in 28th year.

Rev. Socrates Townsend, born 4 February, 1816, died 13 September, 1899; wife, Sarah Garretson, born 8 June, 1823, died 11 February, 1858.

Elijah Miller, died 22 February, 1855, aged 74 years, 7 months, 24 days; wife, Catharine M., born 30 June, 1783, died 27 July, 1877.

Silas M. Hand, died 22 January, 1879, aged 73 years; wife, Mary B., died 4 August, 1893, aged 77 years, 5 months, 1 day.

Ezekiel Eldredge, of New England Township, Cape May County, made his will 6 June, 1710, proved 2 February, 1711-12, naming his wife Sarah—five sons and three daughters not named. The names of the children, in the absence of vital records, are collected from the Eldredge wills of the next generation. Elisha Eldredge made his will 1 December, 1732, naming his brothers Ezekiel, Samuel, William (see page 99), and Jacob, sisters, Lydia Eldredge, Bethia Parsons and Sarah Stiles (Stites?). Ezekiel Eldredge died intestate before 30 October, 1739, administration granted to widow, Elizabeth, and son Ezekiel. For will of Samuel Eldredge see page 29.