

P. B.  
929.2  
#169

COLE GENEALOGY

Gyt, Mrs. E.M. Mills

COLE

June 1964

JAMES<sup>1</sup> COLE, Sr., was on a list of freemen in Plymouth, Mass., in 1633, and again in 1637. His name was on a tax list in 1634, and he received a grant of seven acres of land in 1636. In 1638 he became an innkeeper, but his license to operate an "ordinary" was withdrawn from 1640-45. His name and those of his sons James and Hugh were on a 1643 list of those from 16 to 60 years of age able to bear arms. James Cole, Sr., and Robert Bartlett were owners of the 24th lot in Little Compton, R. I., March 22/April 1, 1663/4 (M.D.\* 3:109).

He had a wife Mary who was living in March 1660. He was living in 1688, "very aged" (Savage). He may have had a brother John whose will was proved in Plymouth in 1637/8 (Plymouth Col. Rec. I:75; no details are given)\*. There are many references to James Cole in Plymouth Colony Records, Vols. 1-10.

Children:

- i. James,<sup>2</sup> b. about 1625.
- ii. Hugh, b. about 1627; shipwright; in Plymouth in 1653; rem. to Swansea; m. 1st Jan. 8, 1655, Mary Foxwell; m. 2nd Jan. 1, 1689, Elizabeth (Lettice) (Shurtleff) Cooke, wid. of Jacob<sup>2</sup> Cooke; m. 3rd Wid. Mary Morton.
- iii. John, b. ———; d. in 1676/7; m. Elizabeth Rider?
- iv. Mary, b. ———; m. John Almy of Plymouth and Portsmouth, R.I.

JAMES<sup>2</sup> COLE, Jr., oldest son of James<sup>1</sup> Cole, was born in England about 1625. He came to Plymouth with his father about 1633, possibly earlier. He and his brother Hugh were on a list of those able to bear arms in 1643. Assuming James to be 18, and Hugh to be 16, in that year, their birth years may be approximated. James married first, Dec. 23, 1652, Mary Tilson of Scituate (Savage). She was probably the sister of Ephraim Tilson of Plymouth; whence the name Ephraim in the Cole family. He married secondly Abigail Davenport by whom (according to Savage) he had the following children: Elizabeth, John, Martha, and Joanna.

\*M.D. = Mayflower Descendant

\*\*Proved Jan. 7, 1637/8; mentions brothers Job and Daniel (M.D.2:209)

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JUN 26 1964

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST  
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

DATE MICROFILM  
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Deane's History of Scituate says that James went to York, Maine, where he took the oath of fidelity, May 23, 1654. If he did go to Maine, he was back in Plymouth soon thereafter, and took the oath of fidelity there with his brother Hugh in 1657. He was made surveyor of highways in Plymouth in 1656, and again in 1678-85. In May 1665 he was fined 3s. 4d. for striking Robert Rawson, but the fine was remitted. He served on several petit and coroner's juries. He was on a list of freemen in 1670, and in that year he took over his father's business as innkeeper.

On Nov. 13, 1684, James made a deed of gift to his son Ephraim (Deeds 3:163). In another deed of gift, dated Jan. 28, 1702/3, and evidently made to give away his property during his lifetime, he named his children: Ephraim; Elisha Bradford and Hannah, his wife; Nathaniel Howland and Martha, his wife; and Thomas Howland and Joanna, his wife (Deeds 5:229). He did not mention his sons Nathaniel and John, and that may be the reason for deeding the property instead of willing it. An abstract of this deed has been published (M.D.27:42; see also M.D. 27:43 which abstracts a deed for some of this property from the other heirs, Elisha Bradford et al, to "our brother Ephraim Cole of Plymouth").

Children by first wife:

- i. Mary,<sup>3</sup> b. in Scituate, Dec. 3, 1653; m. in Plymouth, Jan. 3, 1672, John Lathrop, b. in Barnstable in 1645, d. Sept. 17, 1727, son of Rev. John Lathrop of Scituate and Barnstable.
- ii. Nathaniel, possibly b. in Maine. In 1679 the town of Duxbury granted him 26 acres east of the Swansea River. In the division of common lands in 1707, he and his two sons received shares, as they did in the division of 1712.

Children, born in Duxbury (VR):

1. Rebecca,<sup>4</sup> b. Sept. 21, 1680.
2. Mary, b. Nov. 13, 1682.
3. Nathaniel, b. Oct. 11, 1685; m. Aug. 14, 1714, Abigail West, b. in Duxbury, Sept. 16, 1682, dau. of Samuel and Tryphosa (Partridge) West. He died in Pembroke in 1747, leaving his wife Abigail and son Jabez (P.R. 10:442).

4. Ephraim, b. June 14, 1688; m. in Duxbury, March 2, 1723/4, Susanna West (VR). Both were of Duxbury; 6 chil. b. there (VR).
- \* iii. Ephraim, b. about 1660 as shown by epitaph on Burial Hill.  
Children by second wife (Deeds 5:229; Families of the Pilgrims):
- iv. Elizabeth, d. in Plymouth, Jan. 4, 1681; m. there Feb. 10, 1677, as his 1st wife, Elkannah Cushman, b. 1651, d. 1727.
- v. John, m. Susanna Gray, b. 1668, dau. Edward and Dorothy (Lettice) Gray. He died in Plympton in 1724, leaving everything to his wife Susanna; no chil. mentioned in his will (P.R. 4:442).
- vi. Hannah, d. in Aug. 1718; m. as his 1st wife Elisha<sup>3</sup> Bradford, b. about 1669, d. in 1747, son of Joseph<sup>2</sup> Bradford.
- vii. Martha, b. about 1672; d. Aug. 11, 1718, aged about 46 yr.; m. March 16, 1696/7, as his 1st wife Nathaniel<sup>3</sup> Howland, b. about 1670, d. in 1746, aged 76, son of Joseph<sup>2</sup> and Elizabeth (Southworth) Howland.
- viii. Joanna, d. in Plymouth, Jan. 4, 1760; m. Thomas<sup>3</sup> Howland, b. about 1668, d. in 1739, eldest son of Joseph<sup>2</sup> Howland.

EPHRAIM<sup>3</sup> COLE, son of James<sup>2</sup> (James<sup>1</sup>) and Mary (Tilson) Cole, was born in 1660 or 1661, as shown by his epitaph on Burial Hill, and not in the period 1652-54 while his father was in Maine, as thought by F. T. Cole (Cole Gen., 1887). He died May 15, 1730/1 in his 71st year (Epitaphs). He was a freeman in Plymouth in 1690.

He was a blacksmith, and was a constable in 1691. He was one of those who, in 1705, subscribed 20 pounds per yr. for 7 years towards maintaining a school at Plymouth provided that it was settled within 40 rods of the Old Meeting House.

He married in Plymouth, Jan. 3, 1687, Rebecca Gray (M.D. 13:204), born about 1670, daughter of Edward and Dorothy (Lettice) Gray.\* Rebecca became a member of the Church in Plymouth in 1692, and both were members in 1703 (Ch.R.). Ephraim made his will in Plymouth, March 2, 1730/31, and in it named his wife Rebecca, who was executrix, his son Samuel, and five grandchildren: Rebecca Cole, Sarah Cole, Mary Durfee, ——— Durfee, and Josiah Carver, son of Josiah Carver

\*For Rebecca (Gray) Cole's will and deed of gift, see p. 7, this ms.

and Dorothy his wife who is deceased (P.R. 6:52). The first two named grandchildren, Rebecca and Sarah Cole, were children of his son Ephraim, who had died the year before. In the recording of the will, there is a blank space before the second Durfee child, but from other records he would be Peleg.

Children, born in Plymouth (M.D. 2:20; Plymouth Ch. R.):

- + i. Ephraim,<sup>4</sup> b. Feb. 3, 1691; bapt. March 27, 1692.
- ii. Samuel, b. Sept. 17, 1694; d. young.
- iii. Rebecca, b. Aug. 7, 1696; d. July 2, 1714 (M.D. 16:84), aged 18 yr. (Epitaphs).
- iv. Mary, b. July 27, 1698; m. in 1721, Peleg Durfee
  - Children:
  - 1. Mary,<sup>5</sup> m. Ezra Allen
  - 2. Peleg, b. in 1724; d. young.
  - 3. Peleg, b. in 1726.
- v. Dorothy, b. Feb. 3, 1701; m. in 1718, Josiah Carver, b. in 1690, son of John and Mary (Barnes) Carver.
  - Children:
  - 1. Josiah, b. in 1724.
  - 2. Dorothy, b. in 1727.
  - 3. James, b. in 1729.
- vi. James, b. Nov. 14, 1705; bapt. Jan. 13, 1705/6.
- vii. Samuel, b. April 2, 1709; m. in 1728, Mercy Barnes, dau. of William Barnes.
- viii. Elizabeth, bapt. April 6, 1712; d. Dec. 17, 1716 (M.D. 16:85).

EPHRAIM<sup>4</sup> COLLE, Jr., son of Ephraim<sup>3</sup> (James<sup>2</sup> James<sup>1</sup>) and Rebecca (Gray) Cole, was born in Plymouth, Feb. 3, 1691, and baptized there March 27, 1692 (Ch.R.). He was admitted to the Plymouth Church, March 26, 1710. He died shortly before June 15, 1730, as shown in "Records of the Town of Plymouth," 1636-1745 (Vol. 2, p. 269) by this entry, "at a town meeting held in Plymouth on the fifteenth day of June 1730....David Turner is chosen constable, there being a vacancy by the death of Ephraim Cole, Jun<sup>r</sup>, deceased." This is the only record of the death of Ephraim that has been found, except for mention of his decease by his mother in a deed of 1733.

Ephraim had been chosen constable only three months before, on March 16, 1730. There was an epidemic of small pox in Plymouth at that time, and at a town meeting on the last Monday in March 1730, two committees were appointed to deal with the situation — one to "examine, adjust & proportion the charge of several accounts of sundry persons that have been lately sick of the small pox," and the other to "regulate affairs about preventing the small pox spreading." It is thought that Ephraim and two of his children may have succumbed to this disease.

Ephraim married in Plympton, Mass., May 16, 1717, Sarah<sup>4</sup> Cooke (VR; M.D. 2:236, which states that the marriage was performed by Mr. Isaac Cushman). She was born about 1698, and died in Plymouth, Oct. 26, 1730, "aged about 32" (Epitaphs). She was the daughter of Francis<sup>3</sup> and Elizabeth<sup>4</sup> (Latham) Cooke, a great-granddaughter of Stephen<sup>1</sup> Hopkins, and a great-great-granddaughter of James<sup>1</sup> Chilton (see "Families of the Pilgrims" for the Cooke, Hopkins, and Chilton lines). Francis<sup>3</sup> Cooke's will (P.R. 10:328; abstracted in M.D. 18:147) which was written Oct. 28, 1732, and probated Sept. 18, 1746, after making specific bequests, left the residue of his estate to be divided "equally between my three daughters, or such as legally represent those that are dead, that is to say, Susanna Sturtevant, children of daughter Sarah Cole, and Elizabeth Cooke." (See also the notes by George F. Bowman that immediately precede the abstract of Francis<sup>3</sup> Cooke's will in M.D. 18:147, and which state that Sarah Cooke married Ephraim Cole.)

Children, born in Plymouth (M.D. 13:32):

- i. Ephraim,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 12, 1718; d. in 1730, aged 12 (Epitaphs).
- ii. Sarah, b. in 1723; d. in 1730, aged 7 (Epitaphs).
- + iii. Rebecca, b. in June 1727; m. in Plymouth, Aug. 30, 1750, Richard Durfee of Freetown.
- iv. Sarah, b. in June 1730; m. in 1750, John Churchill, b. in 1723, son of John and Bethiah (Spooner) Churchill.

REBECCA<sup>5</sup> COLE, daughter of Ephraim<sup>4</sup> (Ephraim<sup>3</sup> James<sup>2</sup> James<sup>1</sup>) and Sarah (Cooke) Cole, was born in Plymouth in June 1727. Her mother and father died when she was three years old, and she and her baby sister Sarah went to live with their grandparents, Ephraim and Rebecca (Gray) Cole. Her grandfather died within a year, and the two girls continued to be brought up by their grandmother.

When their grandmother made her will in 1737, she expressed her desire that Rebecca and Sarah continue in school until they had reached the age of thirteen, and as their grandmother was still alive at the time she no doubt saw to it that Rebecca was in school. The grandmother died in 1742 when Rebecca was 15, and Joseph Bartlett, named by the grandmother in her will and confirmed by its probate, became their guardian. The exact items of kitchen and household utensils, bedding, clothing, furniture, and other property that Rebecca received can be found in the division of her grandmother's estate.

Rebecca's intention of marriage to Richard Durfee of Freetown was published May 19, 1750 (M.D. 16:166). They were married in Plymouth, Aug. 30, 1750 (M.D. 16:170).

In a deed which Richard Durfee of Freetown, Bristol Co., laborer, and his wife Rebecca made on Oct. 3, 1752, they sold to John Churchill, trader of Plymouth, a tenement in Plymouth on a lot bounded by Josiah Carver, "together with a dwelling house thereon standing (except the northerly part of the same house which belongeth unto Samuel Cole;" also "1½ acres of meadowland bounded by Josiah Carver and Samuel Cole and Ezra Allen and Mary, his wife"....and said that "Rebecca was the sole owner of said granted premises of this estate of inheritance." The deed was registered in Plymouth, Oct. 10, 1752 (Deeds 42:3). All the living heirs of Ephraim<sup>3</sup> Cole are mentioned in this deed.

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
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69130

JUN 26 1964

Rebecca Cole's Will and Deed of Gift

REBECCA (GRAY) COLE of Plymouth, widow of Ephraim<sup>3</sup> Cole, made a deed of gift on Sept. 19, 1733, recorded in Plymouth, Dec. 25, 1734, "for and in consideration of the motherly love and affection which I bear to my grandchildren, Rebecca Cole and Sarah Cole, daughters of my son Ephraim Cole, late of Plymouth," of all her lands in the Town of Tiverton in Bristol Co., and of her meadow in Duxbury, and of all her other real estate...to be equally divided between them, but if both of them should die before the age of 21, or die without issue, then she gave the same to her granddaughter Mary Durfee (Deeds 29:106).

Rebecca's will was made May 4, 1737, and probated Sept. 25, 1742. She mentions her granddaughters Mary Durfee, Rebecca Cole and Sarah Cole, and her grandsons Josiah Carver and Samuel Cole. She appointed Thomas Spooner to be overseer and guardian of her granddaughter Mary Durfee, and appointed Joseph Bartlett, son of Robert Bartlett, deceased, to be overseer and guardian of her granddaughters Rebecca Cole and Sarah Cole. She expressed her wish that her granddaughters Rebecca and Sarah continue in school until they had reached the age of thirteen. She signed her will with the letter "R" as her mark (Plymouth Co. P.R. 8:537).

Rebecca lost at least three of her own children when young; she lost her son Ephraim and his wife Sarah in 1730; and she lost her husband Ephraim in 1731.. She lost her daughter Dorothy Carver about 1730, and her daughter Mary Durfee about that time. The will she made makes it clear that she brought up her granddaughters almost as her own children, expressing her "motherly love" for them in the deed of gift. Upon her decease, other guardians named in her will took over the bringing up of these girls.

Research by  
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January 1964