

# NEW ENGLAND FAMILIES

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## GENEALOGICAL AND MEMORIAL

*A Record of the Achievements of Her People in the Making of  
Commonwealths and the Founding of a Nation*

COMPILED UNDER THE EDITORIAL SUPERVISION OF

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VOLUME I



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(IV) Benjamin, son of Jeremiah Morse, was born at Medfield, August 31, 1692. He settled in early life at Wrentham, an adjacent town. He married (first) March 15, 1714, Sarah, born at Dedham, December 18, 1694, died at Wrentham, February 20, 1725-26, daughter of Peter and Abigail Fales. He married (second) February 14, 1727, Sarah Blake, of Wrentham. Children, born at Wrentham: Benjamin, March 6, 1716; Hannah, December 17, 1720; Peter, October, 1723; Joseph, August 22, 1728; Sarah, December 30, 1730; Nathan, December 23, 1733; Moses, mentioned below.

(V) Moses, son of Benjamin Morse, was born at Wrentham, June 17, 1739. He was a farmer at Wrentham. He married there, June 4, 1766, Lydia Daniel. Children, born at Wrentham: Rhoda, March 5, 1767; Darius, May 29, 1769; Aaron, August 24, 1771; Lydia, October 26, 1775; Jacob, January 25, 1778; Eliakim, mentioned below; Polly, July 1, 1784.

(VI) Eliakim, son of Moses Morse, was born at Wrentham, Massachusetts, October 8, 1780. He married Lucinda Pond, born at Franklin, Massachusetts, July 5, 1787, daughter of Eliezer and Huldah (Hill) Pond. They lived for a time at West Springfield, Massachusetts. They settled in Oakham, Worcester county, Massachusetts. Children except four eldest, born at Oakham: Lucinda, June 13, 1809, at Franklin; Elvira Metcalf, November 4, 1812, at West Springfield; John Morman, February 1, 1814, at West Springfield; James, February 14, 1816, at West Springfield; Julia Ferry, born July 9, 1817; married Eliab Holbrook (see Holbrook VIII); Hiram Conant, February 3, 1821; Electa Bothwell, May 30, 1822; Jasper Pond, February 8, 1824; Sabra Aldens, August 18, 1827.

The name Mead is the English MEAD form of the Norman de Prato, Hervey de Prato in 1200, in Normandy, was King John's knight and the custody of Rouen Castle was given to his brother. In 1180-95, there is found in the Norman records the names of William, Robert, Matilda, Roger and Reginald de Prato, and in 1198 those of Richard and Robert de Prato. The following year, in Essex, England, occurs the name of Roger de Prato, and the same year also that of Walter de Prato in Hereford, England.

De Prato as translated into English became Mead, Meade, Mede and Meads. The first of the Mead or Meade family who came originally from Somersetshire into county Essex was Thomas Meade, Esq., who in the reign of King Henry VI. settled at Elmdon. The coat-

of-arms is thus described: Sable, a chevron between three pelicans or vulnant gules.

(I) William Mead, the immigrant ancestor, was a brother of Gabriel or Goodman Mead, and came with the latter in the ship "Elizabeth," 1635, from England. Goodman Mead remained in Massachusetts, but William went into the Connecticut Valley, and settled first in Wethersfield, and in 1641 removed to Stamford. He received from the town of Stamford, December 7, 1641, a home lot and five acres of land. His wife died in Stamford, September 16, 1657, but no record of his death has been found. Children: Joseph, born in 1630; Martha, about 1632; John, mentioned below; Son, died in 1658.

(II) John, son of William Mead, was born about 1634, died February 5, 1699. He lived in Stamford until 1657, when he, with Joseph his brother, removed to Hempstead, Long Island. In 1660 he again removed to Old Greenwich, Connecticut, and October 26th of that year bought land from Richard Crab. In 1670 he was propounded for a freeman of Greenwich, and in 1679-80-86 was a member of the assembly. About 1672 a number of citizens of Greenwich, together with some from other colonies than Connecticut, bought from a few Indians a tract of land within the bounds of Greenwich, then called Horseneck, and now known as Greenwich Borough. These purchasers were twenty-seven in number, and were called the "27 proprietors of 1672." On the list are the names of John and Joseph Mead. In 1691 John Mead with his son John, and others, was appointed on a committee to procure materials and build a new meeting house. He married, in 1657, Hannah, daughter of William Potter, of Stamford, and through her received a considerable amount of property. Children: John; Joseph; Hannah; Ebenezer, mentioned below; Jonathan; David; Benjamin, mentioned below; Nathaniel; Samuel; Abigail; Mary.

(III) Ebenezer, son of John Mead, was born in 1663, died in 1728. He is on the list of voters in Horseneck in 1688, and on the tax list of Greenwich in the years 1694-95. The following year he was appointed by the town to keep the tavern, which stood on the same site for nearly two hundred years, and had a thrilling history during the colonial and revolutionary wars. He married, 1691, Sarah Knapp, of Stamford. Children: Ebenezer, mentioned below; Caleb, born 1694; Sarah, 1696; Hannah, 1698; Jabez, 1700; David, 1702; Abigail, 1704; Susanna, 1706; Jemima, 1708.

(IV) Ebenezer (2), son of Ebenezer (1) Mead, was born October 25, 1692, died May

3, 1775. He married, December 12, 1717, Hannah Brown. Children: Ebenezer, born October 8, 1718; Silas, May 22, 1720; Rev. Abraham, December 5, 1721, died 1743; Jonas, December 25, 1723; Rev. Solomon, December 25, 1725; Deliverance, mentioned below; Dr. Amos, February 22, 1730; Edmund, 1732; Hannah, December 5, 1734; Jabez, November 4, 1737; Jared, December 15, 1738; Captain Abraham, December 14, 1742.

(V) Deliverance, son of Ebenezer (2) Mead, was born May 4, 1728, died May 3, 1785. He married, June 11, 1759, Abigail, born February 22, 1738, died April 28, 1807, daughter of Captain Isaac Howe. Children: Elizabeth, born April 19, 1760; Sarah, November 7, 1761; Rachel, August 25, 1763; Hannah, August 10, 1765; Jabez, February 13, 1767, died October 29, 1769; Robert, November 22, 1768; Mary, March 25, 1771, died November 11, 1776; Huldah, February 26, 1773; Ephraim, mentioned below; Jabez, August 22, 1777; Zenas, December 10, 1779.

(VI) Ephraim, son of Deliverance Mead, was born March 15, 1775, died July 16, 1850. He married Azuba, born January 9, 1787, died January 21, 1861, daughter of Jonah Mead. Children: Mary H., born February 2, 1810; Huldah, February 5, 1812; Thirza, July 26, 1814, died April 14, 1830; Jane, July 23, 1817; Elthea, July 26, 1820, died April 5, 1830; Isaac Howe, mentioned below.

(VII) Isaac Howe, son of Ephraim Mead, was born July 4, 1823, died December 13, 1889. He married Mary E., daughter of Zophar Mead, of New York City, mentioned below. Children: Ephraim, September 7, 1856; Elbert L., September 11, 1857, died young; Dr. Clarkson S., February 19, 1859; Willard H., April 26, 1860; Spencer P., mentioned below; Thomas M., May 25, 1865; Amos H., February 1, 1869.

(VIII) Spencer Percival, son of Isaac Howe Mead, was born at Greenwich, Connecticut, March 23, 1863. He was educated there in the public schools, at the Greenwich Academy and at the New York Law School, from which he was graduated in the class of 1893, with the degree of LL. B. In the same year he was admitted to the bar in New York and he practiced in that city for six years. For several years he was in the employ of the Lawyers' Insurance and Trust Company of New York. He has been keenly interested in local and family history and is the author of "Ye Historie of ye Town of Greenwich, Conn." and "History and Genealogical Record of the Mead and Reynolds Families in America." He has contributed much to current literature. He is a member of the New England Society

of New York, the Sons of the Revolution, the Society of Colonial Wars. He was made a Mason in Acacia Lodge of Free Masons, of Greenwich, Connecticut, and has taken all the degrees in Scottish Rite Masonry, including the thirty-second. He is unmarried.

(III) Benjamin, son of John Mead, was born in May, 1666, died February 27, 1746. He married (first) May 10, 1700, Sarah Waterbury, of Stamford, Connecticut, born August 15, 1677; (second) Rachel Brown, of Rye. Children of first wife: Benjamin, mentioned below; Sarah, born June 3, 1702; Eliphalet, March 14, 1704, Elizabeth, November 2, 1705; Keziah, February 10, 1707. Children of second wife: Rachel, May 30, 1717; Obadiah, February 20, 1719; Zebediah, August 16, 1720; Nehemiah, 1721; Mary, 1724; Hannah, 1726.

(IV) Benjamin (2), son of Benjamin (1) Mead, was born March 18, 1701, died October 22, 1782. He married, November 18, 1728, Martha Ferris, born November 8, 1708, died November 6, 1797. Children: Benjamin, born August 15, 1729; Thaddeus, November 16, 1730; Martha, July 18, 1732; Sarah, August 10, 1735; Elizabeth, October, 1737; Sylvanus, mentioned below; Gideon, April 18, 1741; Mary, September 29, 1743; Rachel, August 31, 1745.

(V) Captain Sylvanus Mead, son of Benjamin (2) Mead, was born January 19, 1739, died in 1780, in the revolution. He married Sybil, daughter of Jonas Wood, of Huntington, Nassau Island, now Long Island. Children: Whitman, mentioned below; Platt, born June 16, 1768; Gideon, November 1, 1771; Asel, May 1, 1774.

(VI) Whitman, son of Captain Sylvanus Mead, was born May 3, 1764, died January, 1795. He married, 1787, Rachel, daughter of Deliverance Mead, mentioned above. Children: Mary, born February 14, 1788; Zophar, mentioned below; Whitman, August 5, 1792.

(VII) Zophar, son of Whitman Mead, was born December 20, 1790, died October 3, 1838. He married, April 26, 1820, Martha, born February 14, 1799, died May 29, 1869, daughter of David Seaman. Children: Araminta, born March 6, 1821; Marie A., June 7, 1822, died young; Mary E., October 18, 1823, married Isaac Howe Mead, mentioned above.

William Britton, the pioneer ancestor in this country, came from Bristol, England, and settled in Newport, Rhode Island. The family name in England was Summerill, but this son William, before leaving England, took his mother's family name which was Britton. This