

Williams Family

Compiled by Bruce A. Fowler
Hartland Historical Society 2014

Dr. Obadiah Williams **Revolutionary War**

b. 21 Mar 1749 Epping, New Hampshire
d. Jun 1799 Waterville (Pine Grove Cemetery, Waterville)
m. 1775

Hannah Clifford

d/o Peter Clifford & Hannah Dolbeer

b. 16 Jun 1750 Chester, New Hampshire
d. 4 Jan 1810 Waterville (Pine Grove Cemetery, Waterville)

One of the original large land owners and settlers of Waterville in 1790. Dr. Williams served as surgeon in General Starks' 1st New Hampshire Regiment in the Revolutionary War, including the Battle of Bunker Hill. "After he came to Waterville, Dr. Williams began to acquire land in the area where he had earlier surveyed the line for the Plymouth Company. In 1795 the Committee on the Eastern Lands of the General Court of Massachusetts deeded to Williams half a township of land, that is 18 square miles in the first range of lots north of the Waldo Patent, between the Kennebec and the Penobscot, described as beginning at the northwest corner of 1,000 acres laid out for Israel Hutchinson, and extending four miles west to the Plymouth line." (See below for detailed article)

Ch. WILLIAMS:

1. **Obadiah Cleveland Williams**, b. 1775, d. 1860 Hartland
2. **Bryant Williams Sr**, b. 1777, d. 1865 Hartland
3. Clymena Williams, b. 1779, d. 1872, married Abijah Smith
4. Philomela Williams, b. 1781, d. 1842
5. Clifford Williams, b. 1784, d. 1868
6. Lawrence Williams, b. 1786, d. 1870
7. Johnson Williams, b. 1789, d. 1868

1. **Obadiah Cleveland Williams**

b. 17 Apr 1775 Epping, New Hampshire
d. 6 Mar 1860 Hartland (Starbird-Jordan Cemetery) at 84 yrs 11 mos
m. 1812

Nancy Starbird

b. 16 Aug 1788 New Hampshire
d. 22 Jan 1826 Hartland (SJC) at 37 yrs (**oldest interment**)

Living in Hartland in C/1820. Census notes 3 males under 10, 1 female under 10. Nancy is probably related somehow to the Hartland Starbird Clan but no evidence has been found yet to document her relationship. He is living with his son, Lawrence, in Hartland in C/1850.

Ch. WILLIAMS:

- A) Julie Ann Williams
b. 1813
d. 30 Nov 1892 Anson (Sunset Cemetery, North Anson)
m. 23 Jan 1841 Hartland
- Cyrus Bryant
b. 1803
d. 1893 Anson

They removed from Hartland to Anson after they married, living there in C/1850, 1860, 1870 & 1880.

Ch. BRYANT:

I. Charles W. Bryant

b. 1842

d.

Living with his Uncle Hiram B. Williams in Bangor in C/1850

II. Marcia W. Bryant

b. 1843

d.

III. Alice B. Bryant

b. 1845

d.

IV. Obadiah W. Bryant

b. 1848

d.

married

Fluella _____

V. Daniel W. Bryant

b. 1851 Anson

d.

VI. Emma F. Bryant

b. 1853 Anson

d.

VII. Adaline G. Bryant

b. 1856 Anson

d.

B) Lawrence B. Williams

b. 4 May 1815

d. 22 Mar 1893 Hartland (Ireland Cemetery) at 77 yrs 10 mos

m. c1840 Hartland

Emeline Ames

d/o Joshua Ames & Sophia Quimby

b. 3 Jun 1818

d. 30 Oct 1893 Hartland (IC) at 75 yrs

He operated a grocery & dry goods store in Hartland Village. He served as a Town Trial Justice for 20 years.

C) Charles C. Williams

b. 30 Dec 1817

d. 18 Jun 1891 Bangor (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor) at 74 yrs

m1. c1840

Jane _____

b. 1827 (as noted on C/1850, 9 years younger than Charles)

d.

Removed from Hartland to Bangor by C/1850

Ch. WILLIAMS:

I. Mary Williams

b. 1843

d.

II. Arthur Williams

b. 1846

d.

m2. 1860 Bangor

Charlotte L. _____

b. 1823 (as noted on C/1860, 6 years younger than Charles)

d. 9 Jun 1891 Bangor (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor)

Ch. WILLIAMS:

III. Lon Williams

b. 1861 Bangor

d.

IV. Charles Williams

b. 1864 Bangor

d.

V. Lawrence Williams

b. 1866 Bangor

d.

D) Hiram B. Williams

b. 14 Jun 1820 Hartland

d. 15 Nov 1906 Bangor (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor) at 86 yrs as noted on death certificate

m. 14 Nov 1845 Belfast

Nancy Helen Crockett "Helen"

d/o Jonathan Crockett & Nancy Spear of Rockland. He was a Captain of the 'Medora' when it was Lost at Sea in 1845 near Cuba

b. 21 Jul 1826 Rockland

d. 12 Dec 1909 Bangor (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor)

Removed to Bangor after C/1850 where he became a dry goods & groceries merchant.

Ch. WILLIAMS:

I. Henry D. Williams

b. 21 Sep 1848 Bangor

d. 19 Apr 1917 Bangor (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor) at 68 yrs

m1. c1870 Bangor (divorced after 1900)

Alice _____

Ch. WILLIAMS:

- a) Lillie Francis Williams
- b. 1871 Bangor
- d.

m2. 4 Jan 1916 Bangor
Katherine Nagle

2. Bryant Williams, Sr

- b. 17 Apr 1777 Epping, New Hampshire
- d. 13 Jun 1865 Hartland (SJC) at 88 yrs
- m. 11 Feb 1798 Winslow
- Jane Hart
- b. 1777
- d. 15 Sep 1855 Hartland (SJC) at 78 yrs

Ch. WILLIAMS:

- A) Sophronia Maria Williams
- b. 8 Sep 1798 Winslow
- d.

- B) Perthenia Williams
- b. 1800 Winslow
- d.

married

_____ Ritchie

She erected a grave stone for her mother at Starbird-Jordan Cemetery

- C) Bryant Williams, Jr
- b. 1805 Winslow
- d. 1868 Alabama
- m. 18 Feb 1851
- Mary E. Ringgold
- b. 1829 Alabama
- d.

He removed from Hartland to Cincinnati by C/1850 and onto Mobile, Alabama by C/1860 where he remained until his death.

Ch. WILLIAMS:

- I. Mary E. Williams
- b. 1854 Alabama
- d.

- II. Julia A. Williams
- b. 1860 Alabama
- d.

- III. Zetta Williams

- b. 1868 Alabama
- d.

D) Hiram Williams

- b. 11 Mar 1807
- d. 1 Nov 1895 Hartland (SJC) at 88 yrs
- m. c1830
- Mary A. _____
- b. 1812
- d. 1 Dec 1877 Hartland (SJC) at 65 yrs 4 mos 16 dys

Ch. WILLIAMS:

- I. Obadiah K. Williams
- b. 1832 Hartland
- d. 2 Jul 1897 Hartland (SJC) at 65 yrs 4 mos
- m.
- Delia A. Littlefield **(See Littlefield, Ham & Starbird Family Bio)**
d/o Charles Littlefield & Nancy Ham (Black Stream Cemetery)
- b. 1836 Hartland
- d. 23 Jan 1909 Hartland (SJC) at 72 yrs 1 mos

Ch. WILLIAMS:

- a) Jerome B. Williams
- b. 1855 Hartland
- d. 1935 Hartland (SJC) at 80 yrs
- m.
- Nettie V. Starbird **(See Starbird Family Bio)**
d/o Aaron Starbird & Cyrene Starbird (SJC)
- b. 1858 Hartland
- d. 1932 Hartland (SJC) at 74 yrs

- b) Charles Williams
- b. 1861
- d. 1873 Hartland (SJC) at 12 yrs

II. Albert G. Williams

- b. 1835 Hartland
- d. 21 Jul 1914 Hartland (SJC) at 79 yrs 4 mos 5 dys
- m. 1865 Hartland
- Eliza Ann Prescott **(See Prescott Family Bio)**
d/o Jason Prescott & Ann Brown (IC)
- b. 1843 Hartland
- d. 13 Mar 1912 Hartland (SJC) at 68 yrs 3 mos 17 dys

Ch. WILLIAMS:

- a) Harry C. Williams
- b. Dec 1868 Hartland
- d. Auburn
- m.
- Edna L. Butterfield **(See Butterfield & Starbird Family Bio)**

d/o Walter D. Littlefield & Clara F. Starbird
b. 1868 Hartland
d. Auburn
They removed to Auburn after 1900

b) Charles Prescott Williams
b. 3 Jan 1883 Hartland
d. 1952 Hartland (Pine Grove Cemetery)
m. 4 Sep 1904 Hartland
Amelia S. Campbell
d/o Elmer Campbell & Isabelle Cookson
b. 1888 Harmony
d. 1962 Hartland (PG)
Clara (Campbell) Prescott, wife of Sewell Prescott, brother of Jason Prescott is buried in their lot; unknown relationship to Amelia.

E) Louisana Williams
b. 31 May 1809 Winslow
d. 27 Jan 1892 Milford, Ohio
m. c1840 Hartland
Nathan Elliott **(See Elliott Family Bio)**
s/o Daniel Pentingill Elliott & Submit Hall
b. 22 Feb 1812 Bowdoin
d. 1 Oct 1875 Milford, Ohio
They removed from Hartland to Ohio after C/1870

Ch. ELLIOTT:

I. Maurice Sharp Elliott
b. 1845 Hartland
d. after 1910 Hamilton, Ohio
m1. 1870
Lovice Humphries

Ch. ELLIOTT:

a) Charles Nathan Elliott
b. 1871 Milford, Ohio
d. 1957 Seattle, Washington
m. c1895
Sara Garnett Turner "Gaga"
b. 1870 West Virginia
d. 1957 Sacramento, California
They had 4 children
He was a Light House Keeper in Ketchikan, Alaska Territory C/1920, then in Honolulu, Hawaii in C/1930, then in Seattle, Washington at the Alki Point Lighthouse in C/1940

m2. 1875
Alice Pownall
b. 1851 Pennsylvania
d. 1930 Washington

Ch. ELLIOTT:

b) Howard Arthur Elliott
b. 1875
d.

c) Evelyn Elliott
b. 1880
d.

d) Walter B. Elliott
b. 1886
d.

II. Evaline Elliott
b. 1848 Hartland
d.

III. Kate Florence Elliott
b. Jan 1853 Hartland
d. 10 Jan 1881 Milford, Ohio
m. 5 Jan 1872 Bellevue, Kentucky
Henry Clay Williams (First Cousins)
s/o Jerome B. Williams & Elizabeth Ann Ritchie, brother of Louisana Williams Elliott
b. 25 Feb 1852 Cincinnati, Ohio
d. 5 Mar 1907 in Chicago, Illinois
He remarried following Kate's death. (See below)

Ch. WILLIAMS:

a) Alice Florence Williams
b. Dec 1877 Milford, Ohio
d. 17 Nov 1918 Prescott, Arizona

F) Jerome Bonapart Williams
b. 1816 Winslow
d. 20 Mar 1899 in Bellevue, Kentucky (Wesleyan Cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio)
m. c1850
Elizabeth Ann Ritchie "Ann" (as noted on her daughter, Clara's, death certificate)
b. 1825 New Richmond, Ohio
d. 9 Mar 1899 Bellevue, Kentucky (Wesleyan Cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio)
He removed from Hartland to Cincinnati, Ohio by C/1850

Ch. WILLIAMS:

I. Clara Francis Williams
b. 24 Feb 1850 Cincinnati, Ohio
d. 13 Oct 1933 Wilmington, North Carolina (Wesleyan Cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio)
m. 24 Nov 1868 Newport, Kentucky
Charles Samuel Lamb
b. 1847 Beverly, Massachusetts
d. 13 Oct 1933 Wilmington, North Carolina (Wesleyan Cemetery, Cincinnati, Ohio)
Their death certificates show they died the same day.

Ch. LAMB:

a) Frank R. Lamb

b. 1869

d.

b) George W. Lamb

b. 1874

c) Anita P. Lamb

b. 1884

d. 1895

d) Charles E. Lamb

b. 1888

d. 1943

II. Henry Clay Williams

b. 25 Feb 1852 Cincinnati, Ohio

d. 5 Mar 1907 Chicago, Illinois

m1. 5 Jan 1872 Bellevue, Kentucky

Kate Florence Elliott (First Cousins)

d/o Nathan Elliott & Louisa Williams, sister of Jerome Williams

b. Jan 1853 Hartland

d. 10 Jan 1881 Milford, Ohio

Ch. WILLIAMS:

a) Alice Florence Williams

b. Dec 1877 Milford, Ohio

d. 17 Nov 1918 Prescott, Arizona

m2. c1883 Richmond, Ohio

Rachel Anna Freeman

b. 1863 Allensville, Ohio

d. 1944 Chicago, Illinois

Ch. WILLIAMS:

b) Harry Jerome Williams

b. 1884 Ohio

d. 1961 Chicago, Illinois

married

Mary E. _____

c) Clara Williams

b. 1886 Bellevue, Kentucky

d. 1952 Aurora, Wisconsin

married

Harvey Blaise

d) Charles Melville Williams

b. 1889 Chicago, Illinois

d. 1975 Pasco, Florida

married
Louise Koch

III. Frederick Williams

b. 1854 Ohio

d.

Living with his parents in Bellevue, Kentucky in C/1870 at 16 yrs old

IV. Frank B. Williams

b. 1 Oct 1855 Ohio

d. 9 Aug 1911 Jefferson, Kentucky

m. 12 May 1875 Newport, Kentucky

Julia Wainwright

b. 1858 Ohio

d. 1937 Queens, New York (while living at her son Howard's home)

Ch. WILLIAMS:

a) Stella E. Williams

b. 1875

d.

b) Edward W. Williams

b. 1879

c) Howard J. Williams

b. 1886

d. Queens, New York

married

Louise _____

V. Charles P. R. Williams

b. 1866

d.

Living with his parents in Bellevue, Kentucky in C/1880 at 14 yrs old

Dr. Obadiah Williams
(1749-1799)

From the transcripts of the radio program "Little Talks" #591
by Professor Ernest Mariner, Colby College Historian
December 1, 1963

Bruce Fowler's Note: I believe Dr. Mariner has mistakenly identified Obadiah Cleveland Williams as the recipient of lands noted below in his program as he was born in 1775 making it impossible for him to have participated in the Revolutionary War. As seen below, details of young Obadiah's birth date of 1775 and his whereabouts following his father's death were unknown to the professor and he unintentionally presumed he was older based on the one document stating he was a soldier in the infantry. I believe each of the land deeds are for his father, Dr. Obadiah Williams, a decorated surgeon in the war, as noted. Obadiah Cleveland Williams was old enough to have dealt with his father's deeds and estates, as mentioned below, in 1797 when he was 22 years old.

Obadiah Williams' oldest son was named Obadiah Cleveland Williams, and that to this son the older man had deeded his interest in a new grist mill at Ticonic Falls. That had happened in 1790, and other papers show us that the younger Williams was already a mature man of considerable business acumen.

On July 20, 1790 he received from John Davis of Vassalboro a deed granting all right and title, "to the land that ought to fall to me from the Congress of the United States for having served during the war in the light company of the First Massachusetts Regiment, of which Col. Morse was commander, said land coming to me by virtue of a resolution of Congress, and is expected to be laid out according to the direction of General Henry Knox."

Now that is interesting information. It tells us that not only was Dr. Obadiah Williams engaged in the Revolution as a surgeon, but that his son also served in the war as a soldier in a regiment of infantry.

Young Williams was also active in buying up the claims to land of other Revolutionary soldiers. On March 10, 1791 he received from John Rankin of West Pond a deed for "what is owed me from the Continental Congress in land, I having served eight years in the army of the United States as a sergeant." For that claim young Williams paid Rankin three pounds.

By 1797 the health of Dr. Obadiah Williams was not good and in April of that year he gave to his son Obadiah Cleveland Williams a deed that read as follows: "In consideration of the love and good will, I bear to Obadiah Cleveland Williams, my son, and six pounds paid to me by him, I do hereby convey to him the several parcels of land hereinafter mentioned, all situated in Winslow on the west side of the Kennebec River on lot marked No. 104 on a plan of the Proprietors of the Kennebec Purchase, made by John McKechnie; viz: one tract beginning at the north line of Lot 104 at the northwest corner of land that I sold to Elnathan Sherwin, westward of what is now called the swamp, it being near the place we bring our water in pipes to water Ticonic Village, from thence west in a strip 22 rods wide and east as far as shall complete the exact number of four acres. One other tract, bounded on the north line of the Mile and a Half Stream, extending southwest along said stream 20 rods wide, thence west so far as to contain six

acres; also one other tract beginning at my northwest corner of said lot, thence south on my west line, thence east to contain 50 acres.”

That deed shows us that already, as early as 1797, the big lots of the McKechnie survey had been broken up. Before that year Williams had sold in small portions many acres of Lot 104, which originally extended 100 rods on the river and back a full mile to the old line called at the time of the survey, and still called, the First Rangeway.

After he came to Waterville, Dr. Obadiah Williams began to acquire land in the area where he had earlier surveyed the line for the Plymouth Company. In 1795 the Committee on the Eastern Lands of the General Court of Massachusetts deeded to Williams half a township of land, that is 18 square miles in the first range of lots north of the Waldo Patent, between the Kennebec and the Penobscot, described as beginning at the northwest corner of 1,000 acres laid out for Israel Hutchinson, and extending four miles west to the Plymouth line.

This was no free grant such as had been made years earlier in parts of Maine, but a sale for which Williams paid a sum noticeably large for those days - 698 pounds, 6 shillings 9 pence. Despite the fact that Williams paid for the land, his title to it carried the same reservations as did the earlier free grants. He must set aside four lots of 160 acres each: one for the use of schools, one for the first settled minister, one for the support of the ministry, and one for appropriations by the General Court. Williams further agreed to settle seven families on the township within four years and bring the total to twenty families in eight years.

Dr. Obadiah Williams also became interested in land far away from Maine. From Valentine Prentice of Vassalboro, for six pounds, he received Prentice’s right to 100 acres of land to be laid out for Prentice as a Revolutionary grant near the Ohio, Muskingum or Mississippi Rivers.

All this makes it clear that land was the most common kind of speculation in the years when our nation was being formed, and that one form of land speculation was the buying of land rights from soldiers of the Revolution. Sometimes those lands were handled by agents. One such instance was the appointment of Samuel Cushing as agent or attorney to receive a warrant of lands due to Cushing from the Continental Congress, and Grant’s conveyance on behalf of Cushing of those rights to Obadiah Williams.

When Dr. Obadiah Williams died in 1799, joint executors of his estate were his son, Obadiah Cleveland Williams, and his son-in-law, Abijah Smith. We have no knowledge of what became of Obadiah Cleveland Williams, whether he left Waterville or whether he soon died. *(As noted above, he removed to Hartland and was living there by the 1820 Census where he remained until his death in 1860. He is buried there with his wife, Nancy Starbird, at Starbird-Jordan Cemetery where his stone reads; "died Mar. 6 1860 at 84 yrs 11 mos")*. All we know is that within a few years most of Dr. Williams’ extensive Kennebec lands were the property of the doctor’s daughter Clymena and her husband, Abijah Smith.

After Dr. Obadiah Williams’ death, disputes constantly arose about the true boundary lines of the lots of the old Kennebec survey, especially of the more valuable lots, 103, 104 and 105, that included mill sites on the Kennebec.