

PETER TALBOT, THE EMIGRANT ANCESTOR.

THE article from which the following statement is compiled was written by Miss Caroline Whiting, of Norwood, Mass., from information that she obtained from Joel Talbot, Esq., of Stoughton, and the Misses Anna and Catherine Talbot, of Norwood, and printed in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register for April, 1855. *Vol. 2, p. 130.*

“Peter Talbot was born in Lancashire, England, and while a youth, at a boarding school in Edinburgh, he, with two other of his fellow students, were seized one day, while out in a boat, by a press-gang and taken on board a man of war, bound for the American coast. When near Rhode Island, he escaped from the vessel in the night, and by swimming reached the main land in safety, leaving on board his more timid companions, who had tried to dissuade him from so rash an undertaking. From his place of landing, he travelled northerly, and after a journey of some days, arrived in Dorchester, where he considered himself safe from pursuit. Here by industry and frugality he secured the means to return home, never intending to settle in New England. He paid his passage and took his effects on board, himself staying on shore during a storm, which detained the vessel from sailing. The weather having cleared, the vessel sailed early in the morning, leaving him behind, but taking his effects, and he losing his hard earned passage money.

He bore his misfortune with courage, and soon after married. Again, he made preparation to return to England, this time taking a wife with him, but strange though it may seem, from the same cause as before, the vessel sailed without them, again depriving him of all his property. Hearing afterward that the vessel with all on board was lost, he concluded that it was intended that he should remain in New England, and made no further attempt to return home.

Some years after his marriage he removed to Chelmsford, Mass. During his residence in Chelmsford, while he and his eldest son were absent, the Indians came to his home, seized his wife, and carried her away with them, first killing her infant child. The Indians were pursued by the town's people, and Mrs. Talbot was soon rescued and returned to her home. Her children, Sarah and George, and probably Elizabeth, were out of doors together, when the Indians appeared and safely hid themselves in a ledge of rocks, not far away from the house.

The eldest son was killed while fighting the Indians, either at this time or at a later period. After these disasters, the family returned to Dorchester and made it their future home. It is supposed that he died about 1704; his widow, surviving him, lived with her son George, in that part of Dorchester now Stoughton, probably at the original homestead. Sarah, his daughter, married, but to whom it is not known, and Elizabeth Talbot, who was probably another daughter, married Eleazer Puffer.”

The genealogical part of the article is found, after careful investigations, not to be absolutely correct, and has not been copied.

The only events relating to Peter Talbot, contained in the family record of his son George, and thus preserved, are, that he was “born in Lancashire

old England," and that he "died about 1704." This is from my father's copy; but happily there are other sources of information, from which we are able to follow him during a great part of his life, after he settled in Dorchester. How early he arrived in this town is not known, but the first date we have is 1675, when he is found on the Dorchester tax list. He was in the military service before October 14, 1677, for on that date his military account is made up by the province treasurer, showing the amount due him to be £18. 16. 08. In 1679 he removed to Milton, where he remained until 1684, if not later, he being taxed there in a rate made in January of that year. December 14, 1686, he was one of fifty persons who bought a large tract of land in that part of Chelmsford which has since become the city of Lowell. Two years later he sold his undivided interest in this land, but retained a home lot that had been set off to him. He remained in Chelmsford until after March 16, 1691-2, for at that date he was on the rolls of the west regiment of Middlesex; but soon after, returned to Milton, where he was taxed in 1693 and 1694.

The latest date that has been found relating to him, is May 4, 1704, when with his wife Hannah, calling themselves of Boston, they sold six acres of land in Chelmsford. His son George was a witness to the deed. It is probably a hundred years since Richard Talbot made this entry in his family record, relating to his great-grandfather, "*died about 1704*," and it was his belief, that about that time he undertook to make a visit to England, and not being heard from afterward, was supposed to have been lost at sea, or to have died soon after his arrival there. At any rate no positive evidence has been found as to his decease.

The sale of the land in Chelmsford in the early part of 1704, a circumstance of which those who fix the time of his death would not be likely to have had any knowledge, adds to the probability that the date of his voyage to England, if he made one, is correct.

PETER TALBOT was married to his first wife, Mary Wadel, by Gov. Dudley, in Dorchester, January 12, 1677-8. With much time and research MARY WADEL has been completely identified, but the date of her birth, the names of her parents, and their residence has not been found. Mary Goole married, in Chelmsford, December 25, 1666, John Wadel, whose *alias* was Wattel. He died before June 6, 1676, that being the date when the inventory of his estate was taken. In this inventory the appraisers returned "one bed and furniture to it, and one cow," prized at Dorchester, and valued at five pounds. His whole estate was valued at £38. 9. 6. It seems to be clear that at this date, his widow, for some reason, was living in Dorchester. He left three children who lived to grow up and marry. Their names were William, Mary and Rose, and they, in 1710, made sale of their father's real estate in Chelmsford. At this date, 1710, Mary was living in Woburn, Mass., Rose in Preston, Conn., and William in Lebanon, Conn., which at the same time was the home of Dorothy Talbot, wife of James Cutting, daughter of Peter and Mary (Wadel) Talbot. Mr. Cutting in his will, made in 1746, appoints William Wattel, his friend, one of his executors. These facts, I think are conclusive, that the first wife of Peter Talbot was the widow of John Wadel, and they also make doubtful the story that they made arrangements to return to England soon after their marriage, as the number of their family would seem to be a hindrance to such a procedure.

Mrs. Talbot died in Chelmsford, August 29, 1687, and on the same day John Fisk and Susanna, widow of George Byam, also died. Three deaths

in one day, out of a population so small as was that of Chelmsford when these deaths took place, must have been exceptionable; but it is not found that they were from other than natural causes, and the Indian raid and massacre as stated in the "tradition," has not been found to be related to these deaths. Peter Talbot married, December 29, 1687, for his second wife, Hannah Clarke, of Concord, widow of William Frizzell, to whom she was married November 28, 1667, and whose death occurred in Concord, January 25, 1684-5. Elizabeth Frizzell, their daughter, undoubtedly lived with her mother, as she was admitted to the Milton Church, August 11, 1700. No attempt has been made to follow the history of the other children of Frizzell. The ages of both these wives, judging by the dates of their first marriages, would indicate that their second husband, Peter Talbot, had been some time in this country before his marriage, or that he was older, when he arrived, than the "tradition" would make him. The date of his death has been previously considered, but nothing has been found to fix that of his second wife. Children by his first wife:

- i. EDWARD, born in Milton, March 31, 1679; died
- ii. DOROTHY, born in Milton, February 20, 1680-1, married
James Cutting of Watertown, born March 29, 1679-80,
son of James and Cutting. Settled at Leba-
non, Conn., where he died , 1753; she was alive in
1746, when her husband made his will.

Child:

- (1) HANNAH, born in Watertown, March 2, 1704; died

She married James Hills, probably of Lebanon, Conn. They may have had other children, but if so, none were living, or had children living, when Mr. Cutting made his will.

- iii. MARY, born in Milton, January 15, 1682-3; died
1. iv. PETER, born in Chelmsford, January 1, 1684-5.
- v. ELIZABETH, born in Chelmsford, January 13, 1686-7; married Novem-
ber 27, 1713, Eleazer Puffer, born in Dedham, January 30, 1683, son
of Matthias and Abigail (Everett) Puffer. He died January 14,
1746-7, and she married for her second husband, August 3, 1748,
Samuel Rauso, of Canton. Rauso was a Frenchman, probably a
Protestant, as he was aided by the Canton Church. He and his first
wife had lived some years in Canton. He died March , 1763; she
died December 28, 1769.

Children:

- (1) ELIZABETH, born August 24, 1714; died
- (2) MATTHIAS, born February 5, 1716; died 1806; married *first*,
Elizabeth Farley, wid. of Preserved Tucker,—*second*,
Priscilla Hubbard,—*third*, Bathsheba French.
- (3) BENJAMIN, born August 20, 1718; died
- (4) ABIGAIL, baptized July 30, 1721; died
- (5) MIRIAM, baptized July 30, 1721; died
- (6) JAMES, born February 26, 1723; died
- (7) DOROTHY, born July 17, 1726; married Abraham Alger,
Easton, Mass.; died
- (8) LAZERUS, born June 1, 1729; died

Children by his second wife:

2. vi. GEORGE, born in Chelmsford, December 28, 1688.

PETER (*Peter¹*), born in Chelmsford, January 1, 1684-5. This record exists, in relation to him. In 1736 James and Dorothy Cutting and

Eleazer and Elizabeth Puffer, by separate releases make this conveyance to George Talbot. "All such rights, titles, estates, and interests and demands whatsoever as he the said James Cutting or Dorothy his wife, or as he the said Eleazer Puffer or Elizabeth his wife, had or ought to have had in or unto any rights of land or rights set off by the Great and General Court of Massachusetts Bay in New England or any grant of land that is or may be made as a proper right of heirship by any of the predecessors of the said Dorothy and Elizabeth, by their brother Peter Talbot supposed to be deceased." Mrs. Puffer did not acknowledge her release until after the death of George Talbot, her brother, which would seem to indicate that at that time there was a value in these releases to the estate of George Talbot, but so far the grant of land if ever made by the Colony has not been located. These releases are almost conclusive evidence that he died in the service of the Colony as set forth in the "tradition."

After the foregoing was in type and waiting to be corrected before it was sent to be stereotyped, information has been found that seems to be reliable, by which it appears that three hundred acres of land was granted to the heirs of Peter Talbot, near a place called Tyng Town, Eastern Country, near Sandy River.

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GEORGE² (*Peter*¹), born in Chelmsford, December 28, 1688; married in Milton, February 18, 1706-7, Mary Turel, born June 10, 1683, in Boston, daughter of Daniel (Jr.) and Anna (Barrel) Turel of Boston, and granddaughter of Elder William Colborne, one of the original founders of Boston. She died April 24, 1736, and was buried at Canton, in the old burying ground. At that date there was no burying ground in Stoughton. Her grave-stone is still (1891) in good condition.

He married for his second wife, July 27, 1737, Elizabeth Withington of Dorchester.

It is intended to print, either in this book or separately, as full a monograph of this GEORGE TALBOT as the scanty material now obtainable will allow.

He died July 31, 1760; she died April 30, 1774.

His second wife was the daughter of Philip and Thankful (Pond) Withington of Dorchester, born June , 1696.

Children by his first wife:

- i. MARY, born March 24, 1707-8; married, 1729, George Allen. He was probably born in that part of Dedham now Walpole, but at the time of his marriage was a resident of Stoughton. After their marriage they resided on the Bay road at Dry Pond.

He died February 4, 1787; she died January 19, 1804.

Her husband was probably born as early as 1704, son of
and Allen.

Children of George and Mary (Talbot) Allen:

- (1) MARY, born March 31, 1731; died
- (2) TUREL, born February 21, 1734; died February 27, 1824.
Married *first*, Margaret Stearns,—*second*, Sally Dorsee.
Their residence was always in Stoughton.

- (3) GEORGE, born April 7, 1736; died 1778.
Married *first*, Experience Stearns.—*second*, Mercy Jordan.
Their residence was on the Sharon side of the Bay road.
- (4) SARAH, born 1738; died July 22, 1830.
Married William Maberry of Easton.
- (5) EBENEZER, born 1740; died
I get this son from the rolls of men in the French war;
he being in 1758 a soldier belonging to George Allen,
aged 18 years.
- (6) ABEL, born April 17, 1744; died June 15, 1744.
- (7) SETH, born March 13, 1746; died
Married Jemima Jordan. Late in life removed from
Sharon to Lyndeborough, N. H.
- (8) ELIZABETH, born June 12, 1756; died

3. ii. DANIEL, born March 7, 1709–10.
- iii. HANNAH, born May 1, 1712; married May 1, 1735, David Gay, of
Stoughton.
He settled in the west part of Stoughton, where he purchased water
power and erected iron works, which he occupied until his death.
He died December 7, 1794; she died September 21, 1791.
Her husband was born in Dedham, November 6, 1707, son of Timothy
and Patience () Gay.

Children of David and Hannah (Talbot) Gay:

- (1) MARY, born September 17, 1736; died
Married Carpenter Bradford, resident of Stoughton.
Settled in Friendship, Maine.
- (2) DAVID, born February 2, 1739; died
Settled in Maine. Married
- (3) HANNAH, born July 5, 1741; died
Married Ralph Pope of Stoughton.
- (4) PETER, born June 27, 1743; died August , 1815.
Married *first*, Hannah Smith of Stoughton.—*second*, Mary
Payson of Sharon.—*third*, Abigail P. Spooner, Farm-
ington, Maine. In middle life he settled in Farmington,
Maine.
- (5) LEMUEL, born February 4, 1745; died August 10, 1809.
Married Abigail Davenport of Milton. Lived in Stough-
ton.
- (6) LEWIS, born March 10, 1747; died
Settled in Maine. Married
- (7) PATIENCE, born September 12, 1749; died January 17, 1809.
Married for his second wife John Clapp of Stoughton.
- (8) AZUBAH, born February 25, 1752; died June 25, 1764.
- (9) LYDIA, born May 18, 1755; died February 17, 1822.
Married *first*, Nathaniel Merion of Stoughton,—*second*,
Capt. Abner Crane of Canton.

4. iv. GEORGE, born October 24, 1714.
5. v. PETER, born February 27, 1716–7.
- vi. SARAH, born August 23, 1719; married Benjamin White of Dedham,
November 29, 1739.
Their home was in that part of Norwood called Buttermilk Plain.
He died December 25, 1767; she died March 1, 1786.
Her husband was probably born in Dedham about 1710; son of
and White.

Children of Benjamin and Sarah (Talbot) White:

- (1) JERUSHA, born December 3, 1740; died
Married *first*, John Wadsworth of Stoughton,—*second*,
Levi Hawes of Stoughton.