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THE  
BELCHER FAMILIES

IN

NEW ENGLAND.

BY

JOSEPH GARDNER BARTLETT.

*P.B.A.  
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## CHAPTER I

The name *Belcher* is of great antiquity in England, being found as early as 1176, when Ralph de Belcher was witness to a deed. (Historical Collections Staffordshire, vol. I, p. 291.) The name is uncommon, however, and is found mostly in the county of Warwick and the surrounding counties of Stafford, Worcester, Oxford, Wilts, and Northampton. One line of the family was seated at Guilsborough in Northamptonshire for several generations, and was lineally descended from Hugh Belcher of Needwood, co. Stafford, who was living in the reign of Edward IV about 1470. This branch of the family held landed estates, and bore for arms *Paly of six or and gules, a chief vair*; and their pedigree was entered in the visitation of Northamptonshire in 1619, and also in the Visitation of Warwickshire of the same year. The will of Gregory Belcher, yeoman, of Berkeswell, co. Warwick, dated March 20, 1620, mentions wife Joane; son Thomas Belcher; sons-in-law John Bonney and William Cook; daughters Elizabeth Cook, Isabel Bonney, and Alice Pemberton. (Putnam's Historical Magazine, vol. 4, p. 183.) It seems likely that Thomas Belcher, son of Gregory of this will, was the Thomas Belcher who lived in the hamlet of Wardend, parish of Aston, co. Warwick, where he had three children recorded: John, bapt. Aug. 24, 1604; Gregory, bapt. Mar. 30, 1606; and Margery, bapt. July 9, 1615. Aston is about 9 miles north-west of Berkeswell. As Gregory Belcher, one of the emigrants to New England, in a deposition made in June, 1665, stated he was then about 69 years of age, it seems probable that he was identical with the Gregory Belcher, son of Thomas, who was born in Aston in 1606, who would be in his sixtieth year at the time of the deposition, and of whom no further mention appears in the Aston registers, although his brother and sister were married there. How these Belchers of Berkeswell and Aston were related to the armorial Belchers of Guilsborough has not been ascertained; but doubtless they were of the same original stock.

There were five persons named Belcher who settled in New England before 1650, and from two of them are descended practically all of the name in the United States.

I. Mr. Edward Belcher, born about 1595, came to New England in 1630 with Governor Winthrop, and was one of the founders of Boston. He was the fourth son of William Belcher of Guilsborough, Northamptonshire, England, and of positive armorial descent, but his male descendants became extinct with his grandson.

II. Jeremy, or Jeremiah Belcher, born about 1613, came to New England in the spring of 1635 and settled in Ipswich, where he died in

<sup>1</sup>The *Belcher Families in New England* was printed in vol. 60, 1906, *N. E. Hist. and Geneal. Register*.



in March, 1692-3. He had eleven children, and his descendants are very numerous. Nothing is known of his ancestry, but he was probably in some degree related to the other emigrants of the name.

III. GREGORY<sup>1</sup> BELCHER, born about 1606, came to New England about 1637 and settled in Braintree, where he died Nov. 25, 1674. He had seven children, and many descendants live in the United States. He was perhaps the Gregory Belcher, son of Thomas, who was baptized in Aston, co. Warwick, England, Mar. 30, 1606, as suggested above.

IV. ANDREW<sup>1</sup> BELCHER, born about 1615, son of Thomas Belcher of London, and grandson of Robert Belcher, weaver, of Kingswood, Wiltshire, England. He first appears in New England in 1639, and settled in Cambridge. Although there was but one male who married in each generation of his descendants, this family attained great distinction. His son Andrew<sup>2</sup> Belcher was a Royal Councillor, and the greatest merchant of his day in New England; his grandson Jonathan<sup>3</sup> Belcher was Royal Governor of Massachusetts and also of New Jersey; his great-grandson Jonathan<sup>4</sup> Belcher was Chief Justice and Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia; and his great-great-grandson Andrew<sup>5</sup> Belcher was a Royal Councillor of Nova Scotia, whose children settled in England, of whom a son, Sir Edward<sup>6</sup> Belcher, K.C.B., was a distinguished naval officer, attaining the rank of Rear Admiral in the British navy. A few descendants remain in England, but the name is extinct in the United States.

The descendants of Andrew<sup>1</sup> Belcher have always used the arms of the Belchers of Guilsborough, although their descent from that branch has not to the writer's knowledge been proven. For a full account of the descendants of Andrew<sup>1</sup> Belcher, see REGISTER, *ante*, vol. 27, pages 239-245.

V. THOMAS<sup>1</sup> BELCHER, stated to have been in the family of Nicholas<sup>1</sup> Frost of Kittery, as early as 1640, and to have died in 1652. ("Old Eliot, Me," vol. 1, pages 87 and 176.) The writer has no further knowledge of this individual probably died or traveled southward. It is a curious coincidence that, about 1693, John<sup>2</sup> Belcher\* of Boston (Josiah<sup>2</sup>; Gregory<sup>1</sup>) deserted his family there and went to Kittery, where he entered the service of Charles<sup>2</sup> Frost, son of Nicholas<sup>1</sup>, and remained in his employ and in that of his son and grandson for nearly forty years, until his death in 1730, leaving his property to his last employer, Charles<sup>4</sup> Frost.

### EDWARD BELCHER OF BOSTON.

1. MR. EDWARD BELCHER, gent., fourth son of William and Christian (Dabridgecourt) Belcher of Guilsborough, Northamptonshire, England, was born about 1595, and came to New England in the fleet with Gov. Winthrop in 1630, and became one of the founders of Boston. His pedigree is recorded in the Visitations of Warwickshire and Northamptonshire in 1619. Although a member of an armorial family of the landed gentry of England, Edward<sup>1</sup> Belcher took a very inconspicuous part in the settlement of Boston, his descendants soon were reduced to very humble circum-

\* The suggestion in "Old Eliot," vol. 1, page 87, that this John Belcher was grandson of Thomas<sup>1</sup> above mentioned, is certainly erroneous. Perhaps Thomas<sup>1</sup> Belcher of Kittery was a brother of Gregory<sup>1</sup> of Braintree, and so grand-uncle of John<sup>2</sup> of Kittery.



stances, and the family became extinct in the male line with the death of his grandsons. He was an original member of the First Church in Boston, and carried on the business of a pipestave culler. His house lot was located on the north side of the present Boylston street, between Washington and Tremont streets, and he also had a garden on the opposite side of Boylston street. In his will he calls himself "Edward Belcher, gent., of Boston, late of Guilsborough, Northamptonshire, England." As the witnesses to the will were doubtful whether or not he was of sound mind, the will was not allowed, and his son was appointed administrator of his estate, on Mar. 17, 1672-3. (Suffolk Co. Probate.) The name of his first wife, whom he married in England, has not been discovered. He married second, in Boston, about 1650, Christian, sister of William Talmage and widow of William Wornan, Wormwood, or Wornal. She was admitted to the First Church on Apr. 4, 1646, being then wife of Wormwood, by whom she had two daughters: Mary, born about 1635, who married her step-brother Edward<sup>2</sup> Belcher, Jr.; and Anna, born about 1638, who married, in 1658, Samuel Flack of Boston. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 21, page 647.)

Child of Edward<sup>1</sup> Belcher, by first wife:

2. 1. EDWARD,<sup>2</sup> b. about 1627.

2. EDWARD<sup>2</sup> BELCHER (*Edward<sup>1</sup>*), born in England, about 1627, came in childhood to Boston, where he became a shipwright. On Apr. 30, 1670, he and his wife were deeded, by his father, Edward<sup>1</sup> Belcher, one-half of the latter's real estate. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 7, page 199.) In 1693, Edward<sup>2</sup> Belcher conveyed this estate to his sons-in-law Mark Pilkington and Edward Kettow, although these deeds were not recorded until Mar. 12, 1713; about which time it is presumed Edward<sup>2</sup> Belcher died. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 16, page 176, and vol. 28, page 24.)

He married first, Jan. 8, 1655-6, his step-sister Mary,<sup>2</sup> born about 1635, daughter of William and Christian (Talmage) Wormwood of Boston, who died Mar. 21, 1693; and married second, June 24, 1708, when about eighty years of age, Abigail, daughter of Roger and Ruth (Stackhouse) Haskins of Beverly, and widow of John Swarton. She married third, Nathaniel Clark of Beverly, and died about 1730, having had no children by any of her husbands.

Children by first wife:

- i. SATISFACTION<sup>2</sup> (son), b. Feb. 23, 1656-7, bapt. in First Church, July 31, 1670; took the oath of allegiance, Apr. 21, 1679; no further record, and probably d. unmarried.
- ii. MARY, b. Apr. 4, 1659; d. young.
- iii. FAITH, b. May 15, 1663; m. (1) ——— Cross; m. (2) Nov. 18, 1691, Mark Pilkington, cordwalner, of Boston, by whom she had four daughters: Mary, b. July 27, 1692, m. Nov. 23, 1709, Richard Jenkins; Sarah, b. Jan. 3, 1694-5, m. Jan. 20, 1712-13, James Woller; Mercy, b. Oct. 4, 1697, after being published to Richard Ould and also to William Wells, m. Jan. 4, 1716-7, John Hall; and Abigail, b. Feb. 12, 1700-1, d. young. The only descendants that now exist of Edward<sup>2</sup> Belcher of Boston derive their descent through the daughters of Mark and Faith (Belcher) Pilkington.
- iv. MERCY, b. Feb. 7, 1665-8; m. Dec. 4, 1691, Edward Kettow, seaman, of Boston, who d. about 1701; probably no issue.
- v. MARTHA, b. Sept. 15, 1671; d. young.



## GREGORY BELCHER OF BRAINTREE.

1. GREGORY<sup>1</sup> BELCHER, born about 1606, was in New England as early as 1637, and on Dec. 30, 1639, was granted a lot of 52 acres at Mount Wollaston (Braintree), for thirteen heads, paying three shillings per acre for the same. (Boston Town Records.) Here he settled, was admitted freeman on May 13, 1640, and was made selectman in 1646. He deposed in June, 1665, aged about 60 years. (Essex Co. Court Files.) By occupation he was a farmer. On July 14, 1664, he purchased of John Smith 9 acres of land in Milton, which he gave to his son Joseph Belcher for a marriage portion. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 4, page 204a.) On Jan. 6, 1657-8, he obtained a lease of the Salter farm in Braintree, from the estate of William Tyng of Boston; and on Jan. 15, 1666-7, Gregory Belcher and others bought the Salter farm for £1900, Belcher's interest being one-eighth. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 5, page 229.) On Mar. 26, 1670, Gregory Belcher and his son-in-law Alexander Marsh purchased the iron works, with 200 acres of land, in Braintree; and on May 18, 1671, the same parties bought 40 acres in Braintree plain of Henry Crane. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 7, page 172.)

He died Nov. 25, 1674. The inventory of his estate, showing a total of £629-5-0, was presented by his widow, Jan. 29, 1674-5. (Suffolk Co. Probate.) His wife Catherine survived him, and died in the spring of 1680. Her will, dated Sept. 3, 1679, proved July 20, 1680, gives to son Josiah a cow "if he molest not my son Moses in his present dwelling and possessions"; to son John a cow and a horse; to daughters Elizabeth Gilbert and Mary Marsh, and granddaughter Mary Marsh, some household effects; "to son Moses (who hath all his life carried himself so dutifully to myself and his father) the great bible and the whole house and land he now possesses which I declare his father gave him." Sons Moses Belcher and Alexander Marsh executors.

On July 9, 1680, Josiah Belcher of Boston entered a caveat against the probate of any will said to be made by his late mother, Catherine Belcher of Braintree, widow, deceased, until he be present. (Suffolk Co. Probate.) It does not appear, however, that any contest was made over the estate.

### Children :

1. ELIZABETH,<sup>2</sup> m. Thomas Gilbert, who was in Braintree in 1646. (Mass. Colonial Records, vol. III, page 67.) Evidently he was the "goodman Gilbert" mentioned in Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 5, page 527, who owned land in Braintree in 1668, adjoining land of Thomas Gatlive, whose widow, Prudence, was a witness to the will of widow Catherine<sup>1</sup> Belcher.
  2. II. JOSIAH, b. about 1631.
  3. III. JOHN, b. about 1633.
  4. IV. MOSES, b. about 1635.
  5. V. SAMUEL, b. Aug. 24, 1637.
  - VI. MARY, b. July 8, 1639; m. Dec. 19, 1655, Alexander Marsh of Braintree.
  6. VII. JOSEPH, b. Dec. 25, 1641.
2. JOSIAH<sup>2</sup> BELCHER (*Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born in 1631, was a wheelwright, and settled in Boston, where he acquired an estate on the southeasterly corner of what is now Essex street and Harrison avenue, measuring 126 feet on Essex street, and running back 285 feet to the water. After the death of his widow, a partition was made of this estate among his surviving children, on Sept. 20, 1693, which



is described and recorded in Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 19, page 158. Further deeds in relation to this property show that all his sons, except John and Benjamin, died without issue, and apparently unmarried, and that the daughter Dorothy died without issue soon after her marriage. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 40, page 225; vol. 41, page 210; vol. 46, page 90; and vol. 41, page 212.)

He was one of the founders of the third, or Old South, Church, and died Apr. 3, 1683, aged 52, being buried in the Granary burying ground, where his gravestone still remains. His will, made the day of his decease, names wife Ranis, sons John, Jonathan, Joseph, Edward, Nathan and Benjamin, and daughters Elizabeth, Rebecca, Anna, Dorothy, Abigail, and Ruth. (Suffolk Co. Probate.) He married, Mar. 8, 1654-5, Ranis,<sup>2</sup> born June 4, 1638, daughter of Elder Edward<sup>1</sup> and Elizabeth Rainsford of Boston. She died Oct. 2, 1691.

Children:

- i. JOSIAH,<sup>2</sup> b. Dec. 23, 1655; served in Capt. James Oliver's Co. in the Narraganset campaign in King Philip's War, and took part in the Great Swamp Fight, Dec. 19, 1675. He died unmarried, and was evidently the Josiah Belcher who was drowned at Weymouth in the autumn of 1682, as mentioned in Judge Sewall's diary (vol. 2, page 19\*).
- ii. JOHN, b. Oct. 9, 1657; d. in infancy.
7. iii. JOHN, b. Dec. 23, 1659.
- iv. JONATHAN, b. Sept. 1, 1661; was a goldsmith in Boston, and sold his interest in the paternal estate to his brother Edward, Nov. 22, 1693. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 16, page 220, and vol. 40, page 225.) He died soon after, unmarried.
- v. ELIZABETH, b. July 10, 1663; m. John Paine of Swansey, Mass. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 35, page 248.)
- vi. JOSEPH, b. Oct. 4, 1665; was a shipwright; d. unmarried, between 1700 and 1708. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 40, page 225, and vol. 41, page 210.)
- vii. REBECCA, b. Dec. 31, 1667; m. in Lynn, Nov. 30, 1687, Joseph Fuller, shipwright, who settled in Boston. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 40, page 225.)
- viii. EDWARD, b. Jan. 19, 1669-70; d. unmarried before May 14, 1700. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 40, page 225.)
- ix. ANNA, b. Feb. 13, 1671-2; m. (int. rec. Jan. 26, 1696-7) Joseph Johnson, cooper, of Boston.
- x. DOROTHY, b. Oct. 28, 1673; m. Feb. 19, 1693-4, Edmund Gross of Boston; she d. soon, without issue.
- xi. ABIGAIL, b. Mar. 10, 1674-5; living unmarried in Boston; June 8, 1717. (Suffolk Co. Deeds.)
- xii. NATHAN, b. 1677; d. July 3, 1699, unmarried.
- xiii. RUTH, b. Dec. 21, 1678; m. Dec. 28, 1703, Benjamin Tolman. (Boston marriage records incorrectly call her Ruth Fletcher. For proof, see Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 41, page 212.)
8. xiv. BENJAMIN, b. Mar. 20, 1680-1.

3. JOHN<sup>2</sup> BELCHER (*Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born about 1633, was a husbandman, and resided in Braintree. During King Philip's War he performed several months' service in the spring and summer of 1676 in the garrisons at Northampton, Milton and Medfield. He died intestate in 1693, leaving a very small estate, his son Josiah<sup>2</sup> Belcher being appointed administrator, Nov. 16, 1693. The inventory of the estate, valued at only £27-7-0, mentions "a poore house and ten acres of land, a piece of salt marsh, a little poore household



goods, and an old spitt." (Suffolk Co. Probate.) He married, about 1655, Sarah ———, who survived him.

Children:

- i. SARAH,<sup>2</sup> b. June 27, 1656; m. Nov. 13, 1677, Samuel Irons of Braintree.
- ii. JOHN, b. Jan. 1, d. Feb. 9, 1658-9.
9. iii. JOSEPH, b. Feb. 2, 1660-1.
- iv. JOHN, b. Mar. 10, d. Mar. 11, 1662.
- v. HANNAH, b. Apr. 6, 1664.
- vi. MARY, b. Dec. 26, 1666.
10. vii. JOSIAH, b. June 26, 1669.
- viii. RUTH, b. about 1672; d. June 23, 1675.

1. MOSES<sup>2</sup> BELCHER (*Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born about 1635, was a husbandman, and resided in Braintree, inheriting his father's homestead. He is called "Corporal" Belcher on the records. He died July 5, 1691, and in his will, dated three days before, he mentions his wife; daughter Mary Bass; other daughters to have portions equal to that given to Mary; son Moses (then under age) to have the whole homestead; brother Alexander Marsh and cousin Joseph Belcher overseers; wife sole executor. (Suffolk Co. Probate.)

He married, May 23, 1666, Mary Nash, probably a daughter of James and Alice Nash of Weymouth, Mass., as Moses Belcher was a witness on a deed made by them, May 22, 1666, the day before his marriage. (Suffolk Co Deeds, vol. 5, page 82.)

On Dec. 30, 1707, Mary Belcher, widow, and Anna Belcher, spinster, Moses Belcher, Joseph Bass, Ichabod Allen and Elizabeth his wife, Jabez Athern and Katherine his wife, and Joseph Brackett and Mehitable his wife, being all the children of Moses and Mary Belcher, conveyed land of said Moses deceased. (Suffolk Deeds, vol. 36, page 70.)

Children:

- i. MARY,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 8, 1668; m. June 5, 1688, Joseph Bass of Braintree.
- ii. SARAH, b. Mar. 2, 1670-1; d. young.
- iii. MERCY, b. Mar. 2, 1671-2; d. young.
11. iv. A SON [MOSES], b. 1674.
- v. MEHITABLE, b. Sept. 12, 1676; m. Dec. 25, 1701, Joseph Brackett of Braintree.
- vi. ELIZABETH, b. Apr. 25, 1679; m. Dec. 25, 1701, Ichabod Allen of Martha's Vineyard.
- vii. CATHERINE, b. Nov. 23, 1681; d. Aug. 13, 1682.
- viii. ANNA, b. May 21, 1684; m. Oct. 10, 1717, Nathaniel Wardell of Boston.
- ix. CATHERINE, b. July 5, 1686; m. Nov. 30, 1705, Jabez Athearn of Martha's Vineyard; d. Apr. 3, 1752.

2. SAMUEL<sup>2</sup> BELCHER (*Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born Aug. 24, 1637, resided in Braintree, where he died June 17, 1679. On May 6, 1680, administration on his estate was granted "to Roger Billing, Alexander March, and Moses Belcher—his father-in-law and two of his brothers." (Suffolk Co. Probate.) The inventory was £576-17-6. On Mar. 4, 1696, Thomas French and Elizabeth his wife conveyed to their brother Gregory Belcher their interest in the estate of their father Samuel Belcher. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 41, page 249.) On the same day, John Sanders of Westerly and Silence his wife conveyed



their interest in the estate of their father Samuel Belcher. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 41, page 250.) On Sept. 21, 1693, Moses Belcher of Dorchester conveyed his interest in the estate of his father, Samuel Belcher, to his brother Gregory (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 41, page 252). On Aug. 8, 1727, William Wattle and Abigail his wife, of Lebanon, Conn., conveyed to their brother Samuel Belcher their interest in the estate of their late mother Niles, deceased, in the estate of her former husband Samuel Belcher. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 41, page 253.) Samuel<sup>2</sup> Belcher married, Dec. 15, 1663, Mary, daughter of Roger Billings of Dorchester, Mass. She married second, Apr. 20, 1680, Samuel Niles of Braintree.

Children :

12. i. GREGORY,<sup>2</sup> b. Feb. 28, 1664-5.
13. ii. SAMUEL, b. Sept. 21, 1666.
- iii. WILLIAM, b. May 3, 1668; served in Capt. John Withington's Co. in the expedition against Quebec in 1690; was a blacksmith; d. unmarried, in 1701; his brother Gregory appointed administrator. (Suffolk Co. Probate.)
- iv. MARY, b. Oct. 16, 1670; m. Dec. 16, 1696, Capt. Nathaniel Vose of Milton, who d. Oct. 10, 1753; d. June 22, 1758.
14. v. MOSES, b. Aug. 4, 1672.
- vi. ABIGAIL, b. Oct. 24, 1674; m. Apr. 28, 1697, William Waddel of Stonington, and later of Lebanon, Conn.
- vii. ELIZABETH, b. June 22, 1677; m. Thomas French of Braintree.
- viii. SILENCE, b. June 24, 1679; m. John Sanders of Westerly, R. I.

JOSEPH<sup>2</sup> BELCHER (*Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born Dec. 25, 1641, on his marriage was given by his father 9 acres of land in Milton, where he settled (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. iv., page 204). His wife Rebecca was sole heiress to large tracts of land in Dorchester and Milton, from the estate of her father; but evidently incompatibility made their domestic life unhappy, causing a temporary separation and a summons before the General Court. By the efforts of friends, however, a reconciliation was effected. (Dedham Historical Register, vol. 12, page 41.) On the breaking out of King Philip's War, Joseph Belcher served as quartermaster in the cavalry troop of Capt. Thomas Preutice in the first expedition against King Philip at Mt. Hope, and in a skirmish with the Indians at Swansey, on June 28, 1675, he distinguished himself by great bravery, being badly wounded in the knee, and having his horse shot under him. He died about 1678, the inventory of his estate, amounting to £472-4-9, being presented on Feb. 7, 1678-9. (Suffolk Co. Probate, vol. 12, page 318.) He married, in 1664, Rebecca,<sup>2</sup> baptized July 7, 1650, daughter of John<sup>1</sup> and Ann Gill of Dorchester.

Children :

- i. ANNE,<sup>2</sup> b. in 1665; m. in 1682, Rowland Storey of Boston.
- ii. JOHN, b. Apr. 2, 1667; d. Feb. 2, 1681-2.
15. iii. JOSEPH, b. May 14, 1669.
- iv. REBECCA, b. Nov. 12, 1671; m. June 25, 1690, Samuel Miller of Rehoboth, later of Milton.
- v. PATIENCE, b. Dec. 5, 1674.
- vi. MARY, bapt. Nov. 12, 1676; m. Sept. 23, 1696, Benjamin Fenno of Milton.
- vii. GILL, b. Sept. 22, 1678; was a sea captain in Boston, where he married, Sept. 21, 1702, Mary Howard. On Oct. 26, 1702, he gave power of attorney to his wife to dispose of his property, and on



Sept. 3, 1703, she mortgaged his property in Boston. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 21, page 376.) On Feb. 6, 1705-6, Samuel Sewall sent a letter to Rev. Joseph Lord in Dorchester, South Carolina, by Capt. Gill Belcher. (6 Mass. Hist. Society Coll., vol. 1, page 324.) No further trace of Gill Belcher has been found in New England; and he may have settled in South Carolina or been lost at sea. One Mary Belcher, possibly his widow, m. in Boston, June 7, 1716, John Flagg. In 1765, a Gill Belcher of Hebron, Conn., perhaps a grandson of Capt. Gill,<sup>3</sup> bought land in Great Barrington, Mass.

7. JOHN<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Josiah,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born in Boston, Dec. 23, 1659, was baptized in the First Church, April 3, 1664, and admitted to the Old South Church, Apr. 30, 1680. By occupation he was a ship carpenter. In 1690 he was in the military service and stationed at Kittery, Me., and was dismissed and sent home on Nov. 9 of that year. (Me. Hist. Coll. Series 2, vol. 5, page 160.) He resided in Boston until about 1693, when he went to Kittery, Me., and entered the employ of the Frost family, who were extensive shipbuilders, where he continued until his death in 1730. His will, dated Feb. 17, 1729-30, calls himself "John Belcher, joiner, of Kittery, eldest son of Josiah Belcher of Boston," and states he has lived with the Frosts for near about forty years and none of his relatives have assisted him, and therefore he leaves all his property to Charles Frost. (York Wills, vol. 4, page 130; also Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 46, page 90.) Presumably it was this John<sup>8</sup> Belcher who married Theodora —, in 1688, and had two children baptized in the Old South Church in Boston. He evidently deserted his family when he went to Maine in 1693, as his wife Theodora remained in Boston and married second, Dec. 9, 1698, Simon Lee, married third, Nov. 20, 1700, William Darnton, and married fourth, Sept. 13, 1709, Francis Pomeroy.

Children of John<sup>8</sup> and Theodora:

16. i. JOHN,<sup>4</sup> b. Dec. 11, 1689; bapt. in Old South Church, May 31, 1691.
- ii. MARY, bapt. in Old South Church, Dec. 11, 1693; m. Oct. 7, 1713, John Milton of Boston, and had a son *John*,<sup>5</sup> b. in 1713, and a dau. *Theodora*, b. in 1715.

8. BENJAMIN<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Josiah,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born in Boston, Mar. 20, 1680-1, was a shipwright, and about 1703 settled in Newport, R. I. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 41, page 210.) He was admitted freeman of R. I., May 6, 1707, and died about 1719. The information herein given of his descendants needs further verification. He married first, Phebe —, who died after 1711; and married second, about 1715, Sarah, born Aug. 13, 1690, daughter of Arnold and Sarah Collins of Newport. She married second, about 1720, Josiah Bliss of Middletown, R. I.

Children by first wife:

17. i. BENJAMIN,<sup>4</sup> b. Nov. 7, 1704.
- ii. PHEBE, b. June 11, 1708.
18. iii. EDWARD, b. Aug. 24, 1711.

Children by second wife:

19. iv. ARNOLD, b. about 1715.
- v. SARAH (perhaps), bapt. May 17, 1717.



9. JOSEPH<sup>3</sup> BELCHER (*John,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*) was born Feb. 23, 1660-1, and after his birth record, appears no further in any town, church, deed, or probate record that has been found by the writer. Nevertheless, it appears he had a family, as in the diary of John Marshall of Braintree is the following entry: "Joseph Belcher's child died Mar. 8, 1700-1." On Mar. 20, 1726, Joseph Belcher and his son, from Braintree, were warned from Boston. (Boston Record Com. Report, No. 18, page 154.)

It seems likely that he was father of the following Belchers who cannot otherwise be placed:

- i. MERCY, m. in Boston, Nov. 11, 1709, Benjamin Johns.
- ii. HANNAH, m. in Boston, May 25, 1713, Anthony Ennis.
- iii. ELIZABETH, m. in Boston, Jan. 4, 1715-16, Alexander Fullerton. Possibly, however, she was dau. of Josiah<sup>3</sup> Belcher.
- iv. MARY (Belcher), m. in Boston, June 7, 1716, John Flagg (then in middle life), as his second wife. But possibly she was the widow of Gill<sup>3</sup> Belcher as previously suggested.
- v. A SON, perhaps the Joseph Belcher, seaman, on ship "King George" in 1758, referred to under Josiah<sup>3</sup> Belcher.

10. JOSIAH<sup>3</sup> BELCHER (*John,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born in Braintree, June 26, 1669, was a cordwainer, and lived in Braintree until Jan., 1713-14, when he went to Watertown, from whence he was warned two months afterwards. Later we find him in Boston, being warned from there before July 29, 1723. He then lived at Marblehead for a short time, but returned soon to Boston, he and his wife and two sons being warned in Boston on May 22, 1725. He remained, nevertheless, and on Feb. 25, 1726, bought of Thomas Bill (presumably his son-in-law) a portion of the dwelling house of the latter in Blackhorse lane, which he and his wife Margaret sold back to Thomas Bill, on Jan. 5, 1729-30. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 40, page 266, and vol. 44, page 47.) This deal was probably for the purpose of securing a residence for Josiah and Margaret Belcher with their daughter Ruth Bill in Boston, free from the molestations of the authorities. In 1734, Josiah Belcher was refused a liquor license. No further record appears of him. He married Margaret, born May 11, 1670, daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Ladd) Hayden of Braintree.

Children:

20. i. JOHN,<sup>4</sup> b. Aug. 28, 1694.
- ii. ELIZABETH, b. May 25, 1697; perhaps m. Jan. 4, 1715-16, Alexander Fullerton of Boston.
- iii. MARGARET, b. Apr. 8, 1699.
- iv. RUTH (probably), b. about 1702; m. June 6, 1723, Thomas Bill, shipwright, of Boston.
- v. A SON, name undiscovered.
- vi. JOSEPH, b. Nov. 1, 1709. Perhaps the Joseph Belcher of Braintree who served as seaman on the ship "King George," from Mar. 15 to Oct. 21, 1758; no further record.

11. MOSES<sup>3</sup> BELCHER (*Moses,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born in Braintree in 1674, inherited the farm occupied by his father and grandfather, and resided in Braintree until his death, about 1745. He was called "Sr." on the records, to distinguish him from his cousin Moses<sup>4</sup> Belcher (born in 1692, son of Samuel<sup>3</sup>). Moses Belcher, Sr., held numerous



minor town offices, such as fence viewer, constable, hogreiyer, and surveyor of highways, between the years 1712 and 1733. His name occurs in several land transactions, but no probate records of his estate appear. He married first, May 20, 1715, Anne, born about 1696, daughter of Samuel and Anne (Clay) Sarson of Martha's Vineyard, who died Jan. 28, 1721-2, having had three children; and married second, Jan. 3, 1726-7, Alice, born June 9, 1698, daughter of Dr. John and Sarah (Newton) Wilson of Braintree, and great-granddaughter of Rev. John Wilson, first pastor of the First Church in Boston. She died without issue, in 1754.

Children by first wife :

21.
  - i. MOSES,<sup>4</sup> b. Mar. 8, 1715-16.
  - ii. ANNE, b. May 19, 1718; probably m. Aug. 11, 1748, as his second wife, Maj. Joseph Crosby of Braintree.
  - iii. MARY, b. Dec. 11, 1720; d. Aug. 18, 1725.

12. DEA. GREGORY<sup>3</sup> BELCHER (*Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born in Braintree, Feb. 28, 1664-5, always resided there, where he held many minor town offices, and was deacon in the church for many years. Besides carrying on farming, he also followed the occupation of shipwright and carpenter. He was killed in an accident, by a plough, July 4, 1727. He married, Mar. 25, 1689-90, Elizabeth, born in 1669, daughter of John and Rebecca (Farnsworth) Ruggles of Braintree, who died Nov. 22, 1748.

Children :

22.
  - i. GREGORY,<sup>4</sup> b. June 19, 1691.
  - ii. ELIZABETH, b. Oct. 31, d. Dec. 30, 1698.
  - iii. REBECCA, b. Nov. 30, 1694; m. (1) Sept. 14, 1720, Henry Carley, who d. at sea, Sept. 24, 1721, while on a return voyage from Ireland to New England; m. (2) July 1, 1727, Dr. Jacob Ealmanthorp of Braintree. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 41, p. 253.)
  - iv. ELIZABETH, b. Jan. 30, 1696-7; m. Feb. 12, 1724-5, David Bass of Braintree.
  - v. SAMUEL, b. Aug. 19, 1699.
  - vi. RUTH, b. Apr. 6, 1702; m. Oct. 10, 1728, Joseph Eddy of Bristol.
  - vii. JOSEPH, b. Aug. 19, 1704.
  - viii. CATHERINE, b. Dec. 24, 1706; m. (1) Nov. 30, 1732, William Clough of Boston; m. (2) Dec. 5, 1734, Rev. Elisha Eaton, Harvard College 1729, minister at Randolph, Mass.
  - ix. BENJAMIN, b. May 17, d. June 5, 1709.
  - x. ABIGAIL, b. May 24, 1711; m. Aug. 2, 1733, James Brackett of Braintree.

13. SAMUEL<sup>3</sup> BELCHER (*Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born Sept. 21, 1666, was a farmer and resided in Braintree, where he held various minor town offices, and died Dec. 19, 1714. He married, in 1688, Comfort, born in 1666, daughter of John and Jael (Thayer) Harbour of Braintree and Mendon. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 17, page 216.) She married second, Jan. 10, 1722-3 (or Aug. 13, 1723), Stephen Crane of Braintree, and died in Milton, Dec. 21, 1745. Her will, dated 1744, mentions sons Moses and Nathaniel Belcher; daughter Mary Wales deceased; daughter Deborah Holten; and daughter Zipporah Curtis.

Children :

- i. SAMUEL,<sup>4</sup> bapt. Mar. 3, 1688-9; d. in infancy.
- ii. SAMUEL, bapt. Apr. 5, 1691; d. June 4, 1692.



25. **III. MOSES**, b. Dec. 16, 1693.  
**IV. DEBORAH**, b. Feb. 11, 1694-5; m. July 20, 1721, Nathaniel Houghton of Milton. (The Braintree records erroneously give his marriage to Mary Belcher.)  
**V. MARY**, b. June, 1697; m. Jan. 13, 1718-19. Thomas Wales of Braintree.  
**VI. WILLIAM**, b. July 14, d. Aug. 3, 1699.  
**VII. NATHANIEL**, b. July 25, 1700.  
**VIII. SARAH**, b. Jan. 14, 1702-3; d. Jan. 14, 1716-17.  
**IX. ZIPPORAH**, b. Aug. 27, 1704; m. Jan. 7, 1723-4, John Curtis of Braintree.  
**X. ANNE**, b. July 19, d. Aug. 3, 1706.

**14. DEA. MOSES<sup>2</sup> BELCHER** (*Samuel<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born Aug. 14, 1672, purchased a farm in Milton, where he resided until 1720, when he removed to Preston, Conn., where he died May 4, 1728. He and his wife were admitted to the Milton Church, Jan. 19, 1695-6, and dismissed to the second Preston church, Nov. 13, 1720, where he was elected one of the first deacons. In 1721, he represented Preston in the Connecticut General Assembly. On Sept. 12, 1729, Hannah Belcher, widow, William Belcher, Elijah Belcher, Stephen Tucker and Hannah his wife, all of Preston, Conn., and Ebenezer Clapp and Abigail his wife, of Stoughton, conveyed their interest in the land grant of George Lyon. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 49, page 171.)

He married, Dec. 19, 1694, Hannah, born Nov. 14, 1673, daughter of George and Hannah (Tolman) Lyon of Milton, who died Aug. 20, 1745, in Preston.

Children:

- I. HANNAH<sup>4</sup>**, b. Sept. 29, 1695; m. Aug. 30, 1716, Stephen Tucker of Milton, later of Preston, Conn.  
**II. ABIGAIL**, b. Sept. 18, 1697; m. Feb. 4, 1719-20, Ebenezer Clapp of Milton, later of Stoughton.  
**III. MOSES**, b. May 5, 1699; d. Oct. 13, 1722.  
**27. IV. WILLIAM**, b. Dec. 20, 1701.  
**28. V. ELIJAH**, b. Dec. 13, 1703.  
**VI. ELISHA**, b. Nov. 12, 1706; d. July 20, 1729.  
**VII. MARY**, b. Dec. 7, 1709; m. Nov. 20, 1729, Moses Tyler of Preston, Conn.  
**VIII. EBENEZER**, b. Feb. 23, 1713-14; d. Apr. 26, 1714.  
**IX. ELIZABETH**, b. July 21, 1715; d. Feb. 9, 1718.  
**X. MEHITABLE**, b. Nov. 4, 1718; m. Oct. 1, 1741, Timothy Lester of Preston, Conn.

**15. REV. JOSEPH<sup>2</sup> BELCHER** (*Joseph<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born May 14, 1669, in youth inherited a considerable estate for those times, which enabled him to obtain a liberal education at Harvard College, where he was graduated in 1690. He then studied for the ministry, and began to preach in Dedham, in the spring of 1692, which resulted in a permanent call, and he was ordained and settled there on Nov. 29, 1693. He remained pastor there for nearly 30 years, until the autumn of 1721, when he was incapacitated by a paralytic shock, and was removed to the house of his son-in-law Rev. Thomas Walter, in Roxbury, to be under the care of his brother-in-law Dr. Phillip Tompson, where he died Apr. 27, 1723. His portrait in oil hangs in the First Church in Dedham.



He married, Mar. 8, 1693-4, Abigail, born Nov. 25, 1670, daughter of Benjamin and Susanna (Kirkland) Tompson, whose father was a graduate of Harvard College, and for many years taught school and practiced medicine in Roxbury and Braintree, and also was noted as a poet and philosopher. She survived her husband.

Children :

- i. ABIGAIL,<sup>4</sup> b. Aug. 23, 1695; m. Apr. 14, 1720, Perez Bradford, Harvard College 1717, who taught school in Dedham, Milton, and Attleborough.
- ii. REBECCA, b. Mar. 14, 1696-7; m. Dec. 25, 1718, Rev. Thomas Walter of Roxbury, Harvard College 1713.
- iii. JOSEPH, b. Oct. 16, 1699; Harvard College 1717; taught school in Dedham and Milton; d. about 1739; m. Dec. 24, 1731, Elizabeth, b. July 3, 1703, dau. of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Breck) Butt of Dorchester, who had no children. She m. (2) Dec. 25, 1740, Capt. William Hunt of Braintree. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 65, page 228.)
- iv. MARY, b. July 23, 1701; d. Jan. 11, 1702-3.
- v. SAMUEL, b. Mar. 23, 1703-4; was a saddler, learning the trade with his uncle Benjamin Tompson of Roxbury; lived in Dedham and later in Milton, but about 1730 settled in Windsor, Conn., where he afterwards resided; d. Oct. 10, 1756, in an expedition against Crown Point, being a member of Capt. Benjamin Allen's Co.; m. Aug. 17, 1732, Mabel, b. Aug. 19, 1708, dau. of Capt. Thomas and Abigail (Edwards) Stoughton of Windsor, Conn. He had no children, according to Hinman's "Early Puritans of Conn.," page 177, which states that the will of Samuel left his estate to his wife Mabel and nephew Belcher Richards; but perhaps he was father of the Gill Belcher of Hebron, Conn., who bought land in Great Barrington, Mass., in 1765 (see 6, vii.).
- vi. MARY, b. 1706; m. Aug. 10, 1726, Dr. Joseph Richards of Dedham, Mass., Harvard College 1721.
- v. GILL, b. Oct. 11, 1711; lived in Milton and Swansey, and later in Dedham, where he d. May 16, 1752, apparently unmarried.

16. JOHN<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*John*,<sup>3</sup> *Josiah*,<sup>2</sup> *Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born in Boston, Dec. 11, 1689, was a mariner and lived in Boston, where he died, Oct. 3, 1713, just one month after his marriage. He was buried in the Granary burying ground, where his gravestone still remains. He married, Sept. 3, 1713, Sarah,<sup>3</sup> born Oct. 11, 1695, daughter of Dea. Samuel<sup>2</sup> and Ruth (Rawling) Marshall of Boston, who married second, Nov. 17, 1715, Capt. John Bonner, Jr., mariner, of Boston, and died about 1761. (Suffolk Co. Probate, vol. 60, page 80.)

Child :

- i. JOHN,<sup>5</sup> b. in Boston, June 2, 1714; was a mariner and lived in Boston, where he m., June 12, 1735, Anne Jones, and had two children.
17. CAPT. BENJAMIN<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Benjamin*,<sup>3</sup> *Josiah*,<sup>2</sup> *Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born in Newport, R. I., Nov. 7, 1704, resided in his native town, where he was a shipwright and sea captain. He married, Dec. 24, 1724, Abigail Arnold, who died in Newport, Dec. 7, 1773, aged 67. She was probably the Abigail Arnold, born Mar. 28, 1706, daughter of Josiah and Mary (Sanford) Arnold of Jamestown, R. I. Their children were baptized in Trinity Church, Newport.

Children :

- i. BENJAMIN,<sup>5</sup> bapt. Jan. 16, 1725-6.
- ii. JOSIAH, bapt. Aug. 20, 1727; d. young.
- iii. PHEBE, bapt. Nov. 10, 1728; probably m. Aug. 8, 1755, Henry Perkins.



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- iv. ABIGAIL, bapt. May 3, 1730; d. young.
- v. ABIGAIL, bapt. July 7, 1732; perhaps m. Aug. 13, 1758, Owen Belcher.
- vi. MARY, bapt. Sept. 29, 1734.
- vii. ARNOLD, bapt. Sept. 30, 1736.
- viii. JOSIAH, bapt. Aug. 9, 1737.
- ix. COMFORT, bapt. Aug. 21, 1739.

- 18.) CAPT. EDWARD<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Benjamin*,<sup>3</sup> *Josiah*,<sup>2</sup> *Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born in Newport, R. I., Aug. 24, 1711, was a shipwright and mariner, and was admitted freeman of R. I. on May 6, 1735. He married first, Dec. 5, 1734, Catherine Arnold, who was probably the Catherine Arnold born Feb. 7, 1713, daughter of Josiah and Mary (Sanford) Arnold of Jamestown, R. I.; and married second, June 22, 1747, Lydia Howland.

Probable children by first wife:

- i. ARNOLD,<sup>5</sup> b. about 1735; of Jamestown, R. I.; m. Feb. 18, 1758, Catharine Austin.
- ii. OWEN, b. about 1737; m. Aug. 13, 1758, Abigail Belcher.
- iii. CATHARINE.
- iv. ELIZABETH.

Child by second wife:

- v. BENJAMIN, bapt. Aug. 12, 1751.

- 19.) ARNOLD<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Benjamin*,<sup>3</sup> *Josiah*,<sup>2</sup> *Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born about 1715, lived at Westerly, R. I. He married Elizabeth, born Jan. 10, 1719, daughter of Christopher and Elizabeth (Dennison) Champlin of Westerly. The record of this family does not appear, but the following children were probably theirs.

Children:

- i. SILVESTER,<sup>5</sup> m. July 2, 1761, Olive Babcock.
- ii. ELIZABETH, m. Nov. 11, 1764, Job Stanton.

- 20.) JOHN<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Josiah*,<sup>3</sup> *John*,<sup>2</sup> *Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born Aug. 28, 1694, lived in Braintree until after his marriage, and then in Boston, where he died about 1720. He apparently owned no real estate, and there is no reference to him in probate records. He married, Aug. 16, 1717, Sarah Cook of Brookline, who married second, in Boston, Feb. 7, 1722-3, John White.

Children:

- i. REBECCA,<sup>5</sup> b. Oct. 29, 1718; m. Oct. 18, 1739, Phillip Newton of Boston. She was bapt. as an adult, and admitted to the New South Church on Feb. 17, 1739-40.
- ii. SARAH (?), b. about 1720. There was a Sarah Belcher bapt. and admitted to the New South Church on the same day as Rebecca (Belcher) Newton, and it is probable that they were sisters. Sarah Belcher's m. int. was pub. to Samuel Barns, July 31, 1740.

- 21.) MOSES<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Moses*,<sup>3</sup> *Moses*,<sup>2</sup> *Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born Mar. 8, 1715-16, lived in Braintree. On Apr. 20, 1736, his father was appointed guardian for him and his sister Anne, for property left them by their grandfather Samuel Sarson. (Suffolk Co. Probate.) On Oct. 7, 1740, Moses Belcher, Jr., yeoman, and Anne Belcher, spinster, both of Braintree, sold to Nathaniel Wardwell of Boston (husband of their aunt Anna Belcher) their interest in an estate in Boston formerly belonging to their grandfather Samuel Sarson de-



ceased. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, Vol. 59, page 271.) On the records he is called Moses, Jr., and *Moses tertius*, to distinguish him from his father and from his cousin Ma<sup>y</sup>, and Dea. Moses<sup>4</sup> Belcher. He married Eunice, born Apr. 4, 1716, daughter of Experience and Remember (Bourne) Mayhew of Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard.

Children:

- i. EUNICE,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 25, 1736.
- ii. LUCY, b. Mar. 2, 1738-9.
- iii. CAPT. SARSON, b. June 21, 1741; settled in Boston, where he carried on the business of hatter; joined the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Co. in 1765; during the Revolution he was Capt. of the 8th Co. of Boston Militia in Col. Hatch's regt.; m. Mar. 24, 1763, Fenton (or Fanny), dau. of John and Elizabeth Hill, who was b. Mar. 7, 1742-3, and d. Aug. 25, 1793; d. Dec. 24, 1794. They had issue.
- iv. MARY, b. May 24, 1744; d. Sept. 23, 1748.
- v. MAYHEW, b. Mar. 12, 1746; located in Bridgewater, and there d. unmarried, in 1778; served in the Revolution, a few days on the Lexington alarm in 1775, later in an expedition to Rhode Island, in Dec., 1776.
- vi. ANNE, b. about 1747; m. in Bridgewater, Apr. 21, 1774, John Keith of Hardwick.

22. GREGORY<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Dea. Gregory,<sup>3</sup> Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born June 19, 1691, was a carpenter and lived in Braintree, where he died, Jan. 20, 1727-8, in his 37th year. His will, dated Jan. 17, 1727-8, names wife Abigail and daughter Abigail. He married, Aug. 6, 1719, Abigail Brackett, who died a few months after her husband.

Child:

- i. ABIGAIL,<sup>5</sup> b. July 16, 1720; m. Nov. 6, 1740, Samuel Nightingale; removed to Pomfret, Conn. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 64, p. 173.)

23. SERGT. SAMUEL<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Dea. Gregory,<sup>3</sup> Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born in Braintree, Aug. 19, 1699, was a husbandman, and resided in Braintree until his death, June 21, 1738, administration being given to his widow Sarah. Between 1728 and 1738 he held several minor town offices, usually surveyor of shingles and clapboards, and in 1736 became sergeant of one of the military companies. He married, Jan. 13, 1725-6, Sarah, born Oct. 19, 1705, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah (Ruggles) Hayward, who married second, Sept. 7, 1742, Dea. Thomas Wales.

Children:

- i. SAMUEL,<sup>5</sup> b. Nov. 7, 1726; d. Jan. 25, 1736-7.
- ii. SARAH, b. Dec. 1, 1729; m. Dec. 4, 1744, Atherton Wales; d. 1816.
- iii. ELIZABETH, b. Nov. 22, 1733; m. Moses Wales.
- iv. SUSANNA, b. Apr. 19, 1736; m. (int. pub. Jan. 24, 1756) Col. Jonathan Bass, who d. May 12, 1790, aged 57 yrs.
- v. SAMUEL, b. Nov. 21, 1738; lived in Randolph; m. (int. pub. July 3, 1756), Sarah, b. Sept. 7, 1731, dau. of Joseph and Hannah (Allen) Wales, who d. June 6, 1806; d. June 6, 1795. Six children.

24. REV. JOSEPH<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Dea. Gregory,<sup>3</sup> Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born Aug. 19, 1704, graduated from Harvard College in 1723, and studied for the ministry. After preaching at Walpole, Mass., and other places, he received a call to Easton, Mass., where he was settled and ordained, Oct. 6, 1731. He was a man of peculiar tempera-



ment; and was subject to periodical attacks of partial insanity, which resulted in serious difficulties in his church, and in his dismissal on Apr. 16, 1744. Financial embarrassments finally induced him, shortly after the death of his wife, to desert his children and flee from his creditors. He was for a while at Wiscasset, Me., but on Dec. 3, 1757, acknowledged a deed at Taunton, Mass. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 94, page 67.) His further history is unknown to the writer, but the catalogue of Harvard College states that he died in 1773.

He married, in 1732, Deborah, born Mar. 8, 1710-11, daughter of Rev. Samuel and Hannah (Pope) Hunt of Dartmouth, who died Mar. 21, 1753.

Children :

- i. ✓ HANNAH,<sup>2</sup> b. Jan. 23, 1732-3; m. in Bridgewater, Dec. 14, 1769, as his second wife, Capt. Moses Curtis of Braintree.
  - ii. ✓ REBECCA, b. Apr. 1, 1735; m. in Bridgewater, Jan. 5, 1764, Jesse Edson.
  - iii. ✓ "DE." JOSEPH, b. Apr. 1, 1735; served in Capt. Simeon Carey's Co. in two Crown Point expeditions, in 1758 and 1759; settled, about 1762, in Stoughton, where he carried on a farm and also posed as a physician, his specialty being a quack eye lotion; m. Mar. 2, 1762, Abial Hollis, who d. Feb. 14, 1838, aged 94; d. Apr. 20, 1803. Eight children.
  - iv. BENJAMIN, b. about 1737 (?). A Benjamin Belcher appears on the roll of Capt. Simeon Cary's Co. in 1758, on a Crown Point expedition. This individual cannot be placed unless he was a son of Rev. Joseph.<sup>2</sup>
  - v. ✓ GREGORY, b. Jan. 26, 1738-9; lived in Easton; m. (1) Deborah \_\_\_\_\_, by whom he had one child; m. (2) June 29, 1775, Elizabeth Pratt, by whom he had three children.
  - vi. ✓ DEBORAH, b. Mar. 31, 1741; m. in Bridgewater, Dec. 3, 1761, Seth Dunbar.
  - vii. SAMUEL, b. Feb. 4, 1742-3; d. Jan. 29, 1755.
  - viii. ELEAZER, b. Sept. 1, 1745; went to Stoughton, and settled in that part which in 1778 became Foxborough; served in the Revolution; m. (Int. pub. Nov. 10, 1766) Elizabeth,<sup>2</sup> b. Sept. 10, 1745, dau. of Timothy<sup>2</sup> and Elizabeth (Partridge) Morse of Stoughton, who d. in Apr., 1838; d. Dec. 24, 1818. Nine children.
  - ix. WILLIAM, b. Jan. 29, 1748; is said to have been killed or captured near New York, in Sept., 1776, in the Revolution. (History of Easton, page 100.)
  - x. ✓ JONATHAN, b. in Feb., 1753; lived in Stoughton and Needham during the Revolution, and rendered protracted service in the army; later settled and d. in his native town of Easton; m. Jan. 4, 1778, Abigail, b. in 1751, dau. of Daniel and Hannah (Rose) Corthrell of Bridgewater. They had issue.
25. MAJ. and DEA. MOSES<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Samuel,<sup>2</sup> Samuel,<sup>3</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born in Braintree, Dec. 16, 1692, passed his life in his native town, where he became an influential man and the most prominent of the Belchers descended from Gregory. Up to 1735 he is called "Jr." on the records, to distinguish him from his elder cousin Moses<sup>2</sup> (born in 1674, son of Moses<sup>2</sup>), and after that year (when Moses<sup>2</sup>, son of Moses<sup>2</sup>, became of age and a town voter) he is designated either as "Mr." or "Deacon," or by his military title. As early as 1726 he began to hold minor town offices, and for over 80 years he was continuously prominent in the affairs of the town; selectman from 1737 to 1742, and in 1746; sergeant 1737-1742; lieutenant 1742-1748; captain 1748-1751; and major from 1751 to 1759. During



the French and Indian war, from 1756 to 1759, he rendered service as a muster and training officer, but on account of his age probably did not take the field. On May 29, 1747, he was elected deacon of the first church, holding the office for thirty years, until his death. The exact time of his decease is not recorded, but he was living as late as 1775. The probate files show no record of his estate.

He married first, in Boston, May 20, 1715, Mary Williams; and married second, May 23, 1765, Abigail, born Oct. 11, 1704, daughter of Benjamin and Hannah Beale, and widow of Benjamin Baxter of Braintree.

Children by first wife:

- i. SAMUEL,<sup>5</sup> b. Sept. 19, 1719, in Braintree; settled in Boston about 1752, where he engaged in the trucking business; and d. in Feb., 1762. His residence was at the corner of Bury Street and Syster's Lane (now Channing Street and Leather Square), and his name appears on the alarm list for Ward 12, Boston, dated Dec. 7, 1754. Children by wife Abigail: 1. *Samuel*,<sup>6</sup> b. Oct. 24, 1743; settled in Boston, where he m., Apr. 9, 1765, Deborah Thompson. Children: 1. Samuel Thompson,<sup>7</sup> b. Apr. 18, 1767; m. Jan. 12, 1792, Sally, b. Apr. 28, 1775, dau. of Lewis and Sarah (Tuckerman) Tucker; settled in Foxborough, Mass., where he d. Jan. 22, 1846, and she d. May 15, 1842, leaving children. ii. Deborah, b. Aug. 11, 1768; m. June 20, 1790, Edward Reynolds, merchant, of Boston, and had Dr. Edward, H. C. 1811, a distinguished oculist in Boston. iii. Mary Thompson, bapt. Feb. 7, 1773. iv. Jenny Thompson, bapt. in Weston, Sept. 24, 1775. 2. *A child*, b. and d. May, 1745 (?). 3. *A child*, b. and d. July 17, 1747. 4. *Mary*, bapt. Apr. 30, 1749; probably the one who m. in Boston, Aug. 15, 1767, Edward Stow, Jr. 5. *Abigail*, bapt. Nov. 3, 1751; m. in Boston, May 21, 1772, Benjamin Callender. 6. *William*, bapt. in New South church, Boston, Feb. 17, 1754; was a tailor; settled in Northfield, Mass., where he d. Mar. 14, 1827; m. June 8, 1775, Huldah, bapt. July 3, 1757, dau. of Alexander and Lydia (Chamberlain) Norton of Northfield. Thirteen children. 7. *Richard*, bapt. June 13, 1756; probably the Richard, of Boston, who enlisted June 10, 1775, as matross in Maj. Thomas Pierce's Co.; not further traced.
  - ii. MARY, b. Mar. 10, 1721-2; further history unknown.
  - iii. MOSES, b. Apr. 27, 1724.
  - iv. ELIJAH, b. Oct. 21, 1729; resided in Braintree, where he d. June 1, 1800; served for two days, in June, 1776, in a Co. commanded by Capt. Edmund Billings, assembled to drive the British ships from Boston, also in a regt. of guards at Roxbury, from Mar. 25 to Apr. 7, 1778; m. (1) Oct. 4, 1753, Mary, b. Apr. 21, 1736, dau. of John and Mary (Horton) Glover of Dorchester, who d. Nov. 2, 1754, leaving one child; m. (2) (int. pub. Sept. 15, 1758) Mary, b. Jan. 24, 1732, dau. of William and Deliverance (Woodward) Pierce of Milton, who d. Mar. 22, 1819. Five children.
  - v. WILLIAM, bapt. June 24, 1733; was a merchant of Boston, of the firm of Richard Cranch & Co., candle manufacturers.
26. LIEUT. NATHANIEL<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Samuel*,<sup>3</sup> *Samuel*,<sup>2</sup> *Gregory*<sup>1</sup>), born in Braintree, July 25, 1700, resided there and held various minor town offices from 1729 to 1759, in which latter year he was chosen selectman. From 1749 to 1756 he was ensign, and after 1756 lieutenant of one of the Braintree military companies. In his old age he went to reside with his son Joseph in Randolph, where he died in the winter of 1780, aged 80 years.

He married first, Nov. 18, 1731, Hannah, born Nov. 20, 1702, daughter of Thomas and Mary Holbrook of Braintree, who died



Feb. 3, 1754-5; married second, Sarah ———, who died June 24, 1761, aged 61; and married third, June 1, 1768, Bethia Bass.

Children by first wife:

- i. CAPT. NATHANIEL,<sup>s</sup> b. Sept. 19, 1732; resided in Braintree, where he was a prominent man during the Revolutionary period; served as sergeant and as lieutenant in the French and Indian War in the campaigns of 1759, 1760, and 1762; was captain in the Continental army in the Revolution; d. in 1786; m. Dec. 10, 1755, Lydia, b. Oct. 26, 1734, d. about 1787, dau. of Richard and Lydia Brackett. Ten children.
  - ii. JOSEPH, b. Aug. 5, 1734; lived in Braintree, and later in Randolph; served in the Revolution; d. Oct. 18, 1818, in his 85th year, and administration on his estate was given to his eldest son, John, in 1819 (Norfolk Co. Probate); m. Jan. 6, 1763, Susanna, b. June 16, 1736, d. Oct. 28, 1821, dau. of John and Mehitable (Willard) Baxter of Braintree. Nine children.
  - iii. HANNAH, b. Sept. 14, 1736; d. June 21, 1744.
  - iv. THOMAS (or THOMAS HOLBROOK), b. Oct. 20, 1739; lived in Braintree, and later in Randolph; served in the Crown Point expeditions of 1758, '59, '61, and '62, and later in the Revolution; m. (1) Nov. 3, 1764, Sarah Brackett, who d. about 1766, leaving one child; m. (2) (int. pub. Aug. 6, 1768) Mary, b. about 1742, dau. of Ebenezer and Deborah (White) Copeland of Braintree, who d. in 1810, having had six children; d. Feb. 28, 1824.
  - v. MARY, b. Oct. 8, 1741; d. June 6, 1744.
  - vi. EBENEZER, b. Dec. 2, 1744; served at Castle Island, from Dec. 1, 1762, to May 2, 1763; probably the Ebenezer who served in the Revolution from Scituate, and who m. there, Mar. 2, 1780, Ruth Peterson.
27. WILLIAM<sup>s</sup> BELCHER (*Moses,<sup>s</sup> Samuel,<sup>s</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born in Milton, Mass., Dec. 20, 1701, was taken by his parents to Preston, Conn., where he afterwards resided, and died Feb. 7, 1731-2. His will, dated Sept. 6, 1731, mentions his wife, son William, mother Hannah, and brother Elijah.
- He married Mehitable ———.
- Child:
- i. CAPT. WILLIAM,<sup>s</sup> b. Aug. 29, 1731; lived in Preston, where he d. June 27, 1801, in his 70th year; commanded a company in the Revolution; m. Apr. 23, 1752, Desire, b. Feb. 27, 1736, d. May 15, 1801, dau. of Daniel and Elizabeth (Gates) Morgan of Preston. Nine children.
28. DEA. ELIJAH<sup>s</sup> BELCHER (*Moses,<sup>s</sup> Samuel,<sup>s</sup> Gregory<sup>1</sup>*), born in Milton, Mass., Dec. 13, 1703, went to Preston, Conn., with his parents, in 1720, where he afterwards resided, and was deacon in the Preston (now Griswold) second church. In 1748 he was Representative to the Conn. General Assembly.
- He married first, in Preston, Sept. 17, 1724, Abigail Kinney, who died Sept. 21, 1727; married second, in Milton, Aug. 21, 1729, Elizabeth, born Apr. 5, 1704, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Morey) Blake of Milton, who died Feb. 13, 1753; married third, in Preston, June 6, 1753, Mrs. Hannah Williams, who died Nov. 26, 1771; and married fourth, July 15, 1773, Mrs. Judith Morse of Preston.
- Children by first wife:
- i. MOSES,<sup>s</sup> b. Oct. 20, 1725; d. Jan. 11, 1732-3.
  - ii. ELIJAH, b. Sept. 18, 1727.



## Children by second wife :

- iii. ELIZABETH, b. May 8, 1730; m. Dec. 13, 1753, John Starkweather.
- iv. MOSES, b. Mar. 11, 1734; lived in Preston, where he d. Apr. 15, 1782; m. Nov. 8, 1758, Esther Rudd of Windham, Conn. Ten children.
- v. ABIGAIL, b. May 30, 1736; m. May 27, 1752, Joseph Johnson of Preston.

## JEREMIAH BELCHER OF IPSWICH.

1. JEREMY, or JEREMIAH,<sup>1</sup> BELCHER came to New England in the ship "Susan and Ellen," in the spring of 1635. On the ship's list his age is stated to be 22 years, so he was born about 1613. (Hotten's "Original Lists," page 59.) He is said to have been born in Wiltshire, England, but the writer has found no evidence of this. He settled at Ipswich, Mass., where he became a proprietor, was admitted freeman Mar. 13, 1638-9, and acquired extensive lands by grant and by purchase. In the records he is usually styled "merchant," but sometimes he appears as "sergeant." On May 28, 1659, he was granted 300 acres, by the General Court, to be located outside the settled plantations, but he did not take up this grant, which was revived in favor of his son Jeremiah<sup>2</sup> over sixty years later, Nov. 17, 1722. (Province Laws, vol. x, page 220.) On May 15, 1661, he deeded lands in Haverhill to his sons Jeremiah<sup>2</sup> and John.<sup>2</sup> (Pope's "Pioneers of Massachusetts.") He deposed on Mar. 21, 1671-2, then aged 59 years. (Essex Co. Court Files.) On July 1, 1721, John Gould of Charlestown, Walter Russell of Cambridge, Daniel Gould of Charlestown, and Moses Burnham and Thomas Andrews of Ipswich, heirs to Jeremiah Belcher of Ipswich, deceased, released to Samuel Adams all claims to a farm in Ipswich formerly owned by said Jeremiah Belcher, and they also defended the grantee from the heirs of Richard Belcher and from the heirs of David Belcher, sons of said Jeremiah, and from the heirs of John Andrews who married one of the daughters of said Jeremiah Belcher. (Essex Co. Deeds, vol. 40, page 9.)

Jeremiah<sup>1</sup> Belcher died in Ipswich, in Mar., 1692-3, aged about 80 years, the eldest son, Rev. Samuel,<sup>2</sup> being appointed administrator of the estate, Mar. 31 of that year.

The name of his first wife, whom he married about 1637, does not appear, but it should be noted, however, that a Mary Clifford, aged 25 years, emigrated to New England in the same ship with him in 1635, her name standing next to his on the passenger list, and that Edward<sup>1</sup> Belcher, grandson of Jeremiah,<sup>1</sup> had a son Clifford.<sup>4</sup>

Jeremiah<sup>1</sup> married second, in 1652, Mary Lockwood, with whom he made a marriage contract Sept. 30, 1652, conveying lands to trustees for her benefit for life. She survived him, and died in Oct., 1700.

## Children by first wife :

- 2. i. SAMUEL,<sup>2</sup> b. in 1639.
- 2. ii. JEREMIAH, b. in June, 1641.
- iii. JOHN, b. about 1643; was deeded land in Haverhill by his father, on May 15, 1661 (Pope's "Pioneers of Massachusetts," page 43); not further traced; probably d. when a young man, unmarried.
- iv. MARY (first), b. about 1645; m. June 23, 1662, Joseph<sup>2</sup> Russell of Cambridge, and had eleven children, among whom Walter,<sup>2</sup> the oldest surviving son, signed the deed of 1721, previously mentioned. On Nov. 27, 1686, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup> Belcher of Ipswich conveyed to his



two sons, Jeremiah Belcher of Rumney Marsh, and Joseph Russell of Cambridge, part of a tract of land he bought of an Indian in 1651. (Original deed in possession of Warren<sup>7</sup> Belcher, Esq., of Winthrop, Mass.)

Children by second wife:

- v. ABIGAIL, b. about 1653; m. in 1670, John<sup>8</sup> Gould of Charlestown End (Stoneham), and had seven children, of whom the eldest son, John,<sup>8</sup> signed the deed of 1721.
- vi. DORCAS, b. in 1656; m. Daniel<sup>8</sup> Gould of Charlestown End (Stoneham); her eldest son, Daniel,<sup>8</sup> signed the deed of 1721.
- vii. JUDITH, b. Aug. 19, 1658; m. John<sup>8</sup> Andrews of Ipswich. (Essex Deeds, vol. 40, page 9.)
- viii. MARY (second), b. July 12, 1660; m. Feb. 9, 1681-2, Thomas<sup>8</sup> Andrews of Ipswich, brother of John<sup>8</sup> who married her sister Judith; her son Thomas<sup>8</sup> signed the deed of 1721.
- ix. DAVID, b. in 1662.
- x. RICHARD, b. Sept. 10, 1665.
- xi. ANN, b. probably about 1668; m. Moses Burnham of Ipswich, who signed the deed of 1721.

2. REV. SAMUEL<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born in 1639, graduated from Harvard College in 1659, and studied for the ministry, and was preaching at Kittery, Me., as early as 1663. (Sibley's "Harvard Graduates," vol. II, page 42.) About 1665 he went to the Isles of Shoals, where he was preaching as late as 1686 (York Deeds, vol. IV, page 64), but finally ill health obliged him to leave that place about 1692. Before 1695 he was preaching in the West church at Newbury, where he was ordained and settled Nov. 10, 1698. About 1711, the infirmities of age compelled him to retire from the ministry, and he removed to his native town, Ipswich, where he died Mar. 10, 1714-15. A contemporary minister, Rev. John Barnard, refers to him as "a good scholar, a judicious divine, a holy and humble man."

He married first, about 1668, Mary,<sup>8</sup> daughter of Rev. Thomas<sup>1</sup> Cobbett of Lynn and Ipswich, who died about 1679; and married second, Mercy,<sup>8</sup> born Feb., 1655-6, daughter of Rev. Michael<sup>2</sup> and Mary (Reyner) Wigglesworth of Malden, and widow of Rev. Samuel Brackenbury of Rowley. She survived her second husband, and died Nov. 14, 1728.

Children by first wife:

- i. ELIZABETH,<sup>8</sup> b. about 1671; m. Apr. 5, 1697, John, son of George Taylor of Cape May County, N. J. On May 21, 1716, they signed a receipt for her inheritance in her father's estate, she being the only surviving child. (Essex Co. Probate.) Six children.
  - ii. SAMUEL, b. about 1674; mentioned in the will of his grandfather Cobbett; d. young.
3. JEREMIAH<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born in June, 1641, located about 1665 at Rumney Marsh (which embraced what is now Revere, Chelsea, and East Boston, and was a part of Boston until 1739, when the town of Chelsea was incorporated). He first leased a farm of Gov. Bellingham (the original indenture, in the beautiful handwriting of the governor, being now in the possession of Warren<sup>7</sup> Belcher, Esq., of Winthrop, Mass.), and later purchased lands in what is now Lynn, Revere, and on Breed's Island (then called Hog Island). He appears to have been a prosperous farmer, as in 1702 he paid the highest tax in Rumney Marsh, on a farm worth £25



rent per year, two oxen, eight cows, two horses, one hog, and one hundred sheep. (Boston Record Commissioners' Report, vol. 10, page 143.) Late in life, he deeded lands to his sons Edward, Joseph, and Ebenezer, which they divided among themselves. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 28, page 136.)

He made a will, the original of which is in the possession of his descendant Warren<sup>7</sup> Belcher, Esq., of Winthrop, Mass., but the instrument was not offered for probate, and therefore never recorded in any registry, so it is herewith given in full, for preservation :

"The last Will and Testament of Jeremiah Belcher, Living in Boston, being at this present time through God's goodness in health, Revoking all other Wills.

1. I do commit my Soul into the hands of God who gave it, who I trust hath redeemed it, and purchased it with his precious Blood. And my body to decent Christian burial in hope of a blessed resurrection.

2. And as to my worldly goods I do give and bequethe forever to my three sons, Edward, Joseph, and Ebenezer Belcher, all that my Farm, lying and being within the bounds of Boston and Lin, as they have already divided it, as also the salt-marsh lying within Boston bounds.

3. I do give unto my Daughter, Sarah Dole, my house and land in Boston which I am now possessed of after my desese, that is to say she paying to me the just sune of £30 money as I shall have occasion to call for it, but if it so be I shall have no occassion to call for it, then my will is that after my desese the £30 be paid to my three sons, Edward, Joseph and Ebenezer to be equetly divided, that is to say, ten to each of them, within one year after my desease.

4. I do give to my son Edward my silver Tankard and two silver spoons. My will is that my Grandson Jeremiah the son of Edward Belcher, may have the silver Tankard, after his father's deseace.

5. I do give to my two sons Joseph and Ebenezer each of them a silver cup and two silver spoons. I also give to my daughter Dole two silver spoons.

6. What remains of my estate after my desease to be equetly divided amongst my children. Lastly, I do appoint my three sons already named, Executors of this my last Will and Testament.

As Witness my hand and seal, Aug. 28, 1719.

In the presence of us

James Gooding

Henry Emmes

Mark Day

JEREMIAH BELCHER."

Jeremiah<sup>2</sup> Belcher died Feb. 6, 1722-3, aged 81 years, 6 months, according to his gravestone, which is still standing in the old Revere cemetery.

He married, about 1667, Sarah,<sup>2</sup> daughter of Edward<sup>1</sup> and Elizabeth Weeden of Boston, who died Jan. 20, 1715-16. On Mar. 20, 1716-17, he entered his intention of marriage with Rebecca Nash of Boston, but it is doubtful if the marriage was consummated. She was the widow of John Nash, cooper, of Boston, who had died : 1712.

Children :

1. JEREMIAH,<sup>2</sup> b. Oct. 31, 1668; no further record; probably
6. II. EDWARD, b. Feb. 14, 1669-70.
- III. SARAH, b. Feb. 23, 1671-2; m. Jan. 5, 1698-9, Abnjer bury.
- IV. NATHANIEL, b. Oct. 27, 1673; no further record;
7. V. JOSEPH, bapt. June 6, 1675.
- VI. REBECCA, b. Apr. 11, 1677; d. Apr. 21, 1699.
8. VII. EBENEZER, b. Feb. 21, 1678-9.



4. DAVID<sup>2</sup> BELCHER (*Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>) was born in Ipswich, in 1662, and was living there Dec. 11, 1678, when he took the oath of allegiance. (Waters's "Ipswich in the Mass. Bay Colony," page 99.) In the deed of July 1, 1721, previously mentioned (Essex Co. Deeds, vol. 40, page 9), the grantors, who were some of the grandchildren of Jeremiah<sup>1</sup> Belcher, defended the grantee from the heirs of David<sup>2</sup> Belcher; so it may be inferred that the latter had descendants, although no further record or mention of him of any kind can be found. Possibly he perished in the Canadian expedition of 1690. He was probably father of the following.

Child:

9. I. JOSEPH,<sup>2</sup> b. about 1685.

5. RICHARD<sup>2</sup> BELCHER (*Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born in Ipswich, Sept. 10, 1665, was a mason, settled and lived in Charlestown about 1708, where he died Sept. 14, 1720.

He married first, Mar. 20, 1688-9, Mary,<sup>2</sup> born June 2, 1664, daughter of Thomas<sup>1</sup> and Mary (Jordan) Simpson of Salisbury and Ipswich, who died about 1703; and married second, Oct. 11, 1705, Ruth,<sup>2</sup> born May 7, 1682, daughter of Joseph<sup>2</sup> and Ruth Knight of Woburn, who married second, John Harris.

Children by first wife:

1. JANE,<sup>2</sup> b. Mar. 26, 1689-90; m. Nathaniel Lawrence.  
 10. II. DAVID, b. Dec. 19, 1691.  
 III. RICHARD, b. Oct. 22, 1693; lived in Stoneham, where he d. early in 1758. His will, dated Jan. 20, 1758, filed Mar. 13 following, gave trifling bequests to sister Ruth Blacklock, and brothers Jeremiah, Jonathan, and Samuel Belcher, and the remainder of his estate to his friend James Wiley. He had a wife Mary, but probably no children.  
 11. IV. THOMAS, b. May 29, 1696.  
 12. V. SAMUEL, b. June 20, 1699.  
 13. VI. JEREMIAH, b. Sept. 13, 1701.

Children by second wife:

14. VII. JONATHAN, b. Jan. 29, 1706-7.  
 VIII. JOSEPH, b. Sept. 20, 1708; was a mariner, and in 1768 "had been at sea for over thirty years"; probably never married.  
 IX. MARY, b. Aug. 13, 1712; m. Feb. 22, 1732-3, Joseph Tarbox of Lynn; moved to Biddeford, Me.  
 X. RUTH, b. in 1715; m. (1) in Boston, Oct. 21, 1732, James Tite; m. (2) Oct. 28, 1739, Robert Simpson; m. (3) Jan. 6, 1746-7, Christopher Blaycock, or Blacklock.  
 XI. DANIEL, b. 1718; d. in youth.

6. ENS. EDWARD<sup>2</sup> BELCHER (*Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>, *Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born Feb. 14, 1669, was a husbandman, and inherited a portion of his father's estate in Revere, which also extended into Lynn, where he held the office of Ensign of the local company, and resided until 1720, when he sold his homestead to Thomas Cheever and moved to Milton, where he lived for a short time, but finally bought a large farm in that part of Stoughton which was later Stoughtonham (Sharon), where he died Mar. 16, 1744-5, aged 76 years 1 month 2 days, according to the record, which agrees with the record of his birth.

He married, about 1700, Mary ———, born about 1675, said by tradition to have been Mary Clifford, who died in Stoughton, Mar. 5, 1752, in her 78th year. The births of his children are recorded in Lynn.



## Children :

- i. SARAH,\* b. Aug. 4, 1701; d. Nov. 3, 1702.
15. ii. JEREMIAH, b. Mar. 23, 1702-3.
16. iii. SAMUEL, b. Mar. 8, 1704-5.
17. iv. EDWARD, b. Jan. 16, 1706-7.
- v. PRESERVED, b. June 14, 1708; d. young.
18. vi. CLIFFORD, b. Oct. 12, 1710.
- vii. MARY, b. Nov. 22, 1713; m. July 9, 1729, Eleazer Hawes of Stoughton.
- viii. MARTHA, b. 1716; d. Nov. 17, 1764; m. Sept. 13, 1739, Ebenezer Esty of Stoughton, who was b. Oct. 15, 1705, and d. Apr. 10, 1769.

7. ENS. JOSEPH<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Jeremiah*,<sup>2</sup> *Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), baptized June 6, 1675, was born in Rumney Marsh, where he passed his life, inheriting part of his father's lands. He also owned two estates on North street in Boston. He resided in that part of Rumney Marsh called Hog Island (now Breed's Island), and with his wife Hannah became a member of the Rev. Thomas Cheever's church, in 1716. He was prominent in the affairs of the precinct, holding the offices of constable and of ensign in the military company for many years. He died Nov. 15, 1739. His will, made the day before his decease, names wife Hannah, sons Joseph, Nathaniel, and Jonathan, and daughters Sarah and Hannah.

He married, Jan. 7, 1697-8, Hannah,<sup>4</sup> born about 1676, daughter of Lieut. Jonathan and Frances Bill of Boston and Pulling Point (Winthrop), who married second, July 29, 1742, Richard Hunnewell of Boston.

## Children :

19. i. JOSEPH,\* b. Oct. 25, 1698.
20. ii. NATHANIEL, b. Oct. 5, 1703.
- iii. JAMES, b. Oct. 30, 1707; d. Dec. 1, 1723.
- iv. HANNAH, b. Feb. 20, 1712-13; m. June 22, 1732, Samuel Cleveland of Charlestown.
21. v. JONATHAN, b. Feb. 27, 1717-18.
- vi. SARAH, b. July 6, 1721; m. Dec. 9, 1740, John Floyd, Jr., of Chelsea.

8. EBENEZER<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Jeremiah*,<sup>2</sup> *Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born Feb 21, 1678-9, lived in Rumney Marsh (Revere), and for some years in Lynn, until about 1714, when he removed to Boston, where he bought an estate in the southerly part of the town. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 28, page 137.) He was a mariner, and on July 24, 1734, was appointed sealer of cordwood. He died in 1735. His daughters Sarah, Mary, and Mercy inherited his estate. (Suffolk Co. Deeds, vol. 94, page 75, and vol. 131, page 23.)

He married, Nov. 23, 1708, Ruth, born Mar. 18, 1680-1, daughter of Joseph Hichings of Lynn, who died in Boston, Jan. 23, 1732-3, and is buried in the Granary burying ground.

## Children :

- i. SARAH,\* b. Sept. 8, 1709; m. Apr. 22, 1736, Samuel Smith, mariner, of Boston.
- ii. MARY, b. Sept. 4, 1711; m. (1) Nov. 30, 1736, Thomas Wyat of Boston; m. (2) Apr. 29, 1740, Moses Eayres of Boston.
- iii. MERCY, b. Aug. 5, 1713; m. Sept. 16, 1754, Samuel Hichings of Marblehead.
- iv. A CHILD, b. 1715; d. young.
- v. EBENEZER, b. June 30, d. Aug. 12, 1717.
- vi. EBENEZER, b. June 1, 1719; d. Apr. 24, 1723.
- vii. RUTH, b. Aug. 30, 1722; d. Aug. 16, 1724.



9. JOSEPH<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*perhaps David,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born perhaps about 1685, lived in Chebacco parish, Ipswich. His house was burned in 1742, and a contribution was taken in the Chebacco Church for his assistance. He died Jan. 12, 1748-9; and his widow Ruth died June 29, 1757.

Child:

22. 1. JOSEPH,<sup>4</sup> b. perhaps about 1708.

10. DAVID<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Richard,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born Dec. 19, 1691, was a cordwainer, and lived in Ipswich, and Charlestown until about 1722, when he settled in Boston, where he had previously joined the Second Church on Mar. 14, 1714-15, and later his children were baptized there. The record of his death has not been found, and there are no probate records of his estate. He married, Aug. 20, 1724, Rely, born Apr. 4, 1699, daughter of John and Rely (Holmes) Simpson of Boston, and widow of Thomas Smith.

Children:

- i. MARY,<sup>4</sup> b. Aug. 29, 1726; perhaps m. Dec. 27, 1743, Stephen Nazro of Boston.
  - ii. DAVID, b. Aug. 1, 1728; probably identical with "David Belcher, aged 30, born in Boston, a tailor," who enlisted Mar. 27, 1762, in Capt. Jonathan Haight's Co., in Westchester Co., N. Y. (N.Y. Historical Society Collections, 1891, page 480.)
  - iii. SARAH, b. Nov. 30, 1731; probably m. Dec. 10, 1750, John Chilcott of Boston.
  - iv. JONATHAN, b. Aug. 29, 1736; lived in Boston; served at Louisbourg in Capt. Edward Blake's Co., from Nov. 2, 1759, to Apr. 13, 1761; d. in Boston, probably unmarried, Apr. 26, 1764, and was buried in the Granary burying ground.
11. THOMAS<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Richard,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born May 29, 1696, was a mariner, and settled in Boston, where he died in 1735, administration on his estate being given, Sept. 16 of that year, to Jonathan Farnum, and guardians appointed for his children. His sons died unmarried. He married, Apr. 21, 1720, Susanna,<sup>2</sup> born Jan. 24, 1700-1, daughter of Humphrey<sup>3</sup> and Susanna (Wakefield) Richards of Boston, who died before her husband.
- Children:
- i. THOMAS,<sup>4</sup> b. Nov. 4, 1722; was a mariner, of Boston; d. unmarried, in 1760.
  - ii. JOHN, b. June 29, 1725; living in Boston in 1745; d. soon after, unmarried.
  - iii. SUSANNA, b. Apr. 20, 1727; living, unmarried, in Boston, in 1755 (Suffolk Co. Deeds, Vol. 86, page 249); perhaps m. July 28, 1763, John Thompson.
  - iv. MARY, b. 1729; living unmarried in Boston in 1755 (Suffolk Co. Deeds, Vol. 86, page 249); perhaps m. in 1758, Henry Farley.
  - v. SAMUEL, b. July 4, 1731; d. young.
12. SAMUEL<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Richard,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born in Ipswich, June 20, 1699, was taken to Charlestown by his parents, where he lived until after he became of age. He then located in Cambridge, where he resided until 1742, when he removed to Wrentham, where he died in 1773. By occupation he was a tailor and husbandman. His will, dated Sept. 28, 1773, names wife Sarah, daughters Mary, Abigail and Elizabeth, unmarried; daughter Martha Jewett; grand-



sons David and Jonathan Winchester; and sons John, Andrew, David, and Woodbridge; the homestead being given to the son John.

He married, Dec. 27, 1726, Sarah, born Sept. 26, 1706, daughter of Ichabod and Martha (Woodbury) Brown of Cambridge.

Children;

- i. SAMUEL,<sup>4</sup> b. Dec. 5, 1727; no further record; probably d. unmarried.
- ii. SARAH, b. Oct. 13, 1729; m. Dea. Ethan Winchester.
- iii. MARY, b. Mar. 21, 1731-2.
- iv. MARTHA, b. Mar. 22, 1733-4; m. June 17, 1762, Jonathan Jewett of Rowley.
- v. ABIGAIL, b. Dec. 16, 1735.
- vi. ELIZABETH, b. Aug. 3, 1738.
23. vii. ANDREW, b. Sept. 10, 1740.
24. viii. JOHN, b. June 20, 1744.
25. ix. DAVID, b. Aug. 14, 1746.
26. x. WOODBRIDGE, b. Oct. 10, 1749.

13. JEREMIAH<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Richard,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born Sept. 13, 1701, chose, when his father died, William Bryant of Reading for his guardian. When a young man, he lived in Woburn for a time, but later located in Stoneham. On Sept. 11, 1747, he was warned from Woburn. He later settled in Lunenburg, Mass., where he died about 1778, administration on his estate being given that year. (Worcester Co. Probate.) He was in the military service from May 20 to Aug. 15, 1724, in the Co. of Capt. Eleazer Tyng and of Capt. Josiah Willard, and also in Capt. William Canedy's Co. from Nov. 21, 1724, to May 14, 1725.

He married, Apr. 12, 1733, Arminal, born July 30, 1707, daughter of Elish and Mary (Palmer) Tottingham of Woburn.

Children, born in Stoneham:

- i. MARY,<sup>6</sup> b. June 12, 1734.
- ii. SARAH, b. Oct. 20, 1735.
- iii. JEREMIAH, b. about 1737 (?). A Jeremiah Belcher of Sheffield, Berkshire Co., was in the military service in 1761; and it was probably the same Jeremiah who enlisted in the Continental army, from Lanesborough, Berkshire Co., at the age of 45, in 1781. This soldier cannot be placed unless he was a son of Jeremiah.<sup>3</sup> No further positive information has been secured of him, but there are Belchers in that vicinity who are probably descended from him.

14. JONATHAN<sup>8</sup> BELCHER (*Richard,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born Jan. 29, 1706-7, settled in Framingham when a young man. His name appears as a trumpeter in Capt. Josiah Brown's Co., from Sept. 23 to Oct. 27, 1747, and he served as corporal in Capt. Ebenezer Newell's Co., from Apr. 4 to Nov. 6, 1755, on a Crown Point expedition, also as corporal in Capt. John Nixon's Co., from Apr. 10 to May 25, 1758. He died in 1787. He married, about 1733, Hannah,<sup>4</sup> born in 1712, daughter of Joseph<sup>2</sup> and Mary (Read) Seaver of Roxbury, who died in 1796.

Children:

27. i. JONATHAN,<sup>6</sup> b. about 1734.
28. ii. DANIEL, b. June 14, 1736.
- iii. HANNAH, b. Mar. 10, 1743; d. young.
- iv. ANDREW, b. June 16, 1748; d. young.
29. v. EZRA, b. 1751.
30. vi. JOSEPH, bapt. July, 1755.
- vii. SHUBAEL, d. young.



15. JEREMIAH<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Ens. Edward,<sup>3</sup> Jeremiah,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born in Lynn, Mar. 23, 1702-3, removed to Milton with his parents when about seventeen years of age, and about 1730 settled in that part of Stoughton which was later Stoughtonham (now Sharon), where he afterwards resided until his death, Aug. 7, 1775. He married, June 13, 1726, Mary, born June 5, 1701, daughter of Jonathan and Hannah (Hobart) Hayward of Braintree, who died July 21, 1775.

Children:

- i. JEREMIAH,<sup>5</sup> b. in Milton, June 26, 1727; resided in Stoughtonham; served in the French and Indian War in 1757, and performed protracted service during the Revolution; m. Feb. 26, 1756, Amy, b. in 1734, dau. of Jonathan and Sarah (Field) Howard of Bridgewater. Twelve children.
- ii. JONATHAN, b. in Braintree, May 22, 1730; m. Apr. 16, 1761, Sarah,<sup>5</sup> b. May 7, 1739, dau. of Daniel<sup>4</sup> and Mary (Harkness) Richards of Stoughton; lived in Stoughtonham. Several children.
- iii. SUSANNA, b. May 14, 1734; m. Sept. 9, 1755, Benjamin Savil, Jr., of Stoughton.
- iv. HANNAH, b. Nov. 25, 1736; m. (1) as his second wife, Nov. 25, 1756, Dea. Stephen Badlam of Stoughton; m. (2) (int. recorded Mar. 25, 1769) Lieut. John<sup>5</sup> Holmes of Stoughton.
- v. SARAH, b. June 11, 1739; d. Aug. 20, 1756.
- vi. MARY, b. Aug. 21, 1742; m. Nov. 29, 1763, Benjamin Richards of Stoughton.

16. SAMUEL<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Ens. Edward,<sup>3</sup> Jeremiah,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born in Lynn, Mar. 8, 1704-5, settled in Stoughton, where he was a farmer and housewright, and died Mar. 8, 1740-1, administration on his estate being given to his widow, Apr. 14, 1741. In Oct., 1759, his property was divided among his widow and surviving children. (Suffolk Co. Probate, vol. 55, pp. 263, 338.) He married, Jan. 26, 1726-7, Mary, born Nov. 3, 1706, daughter of John and Mary (Holbrook) Puffer of Stoughton, who survived her husband, and died Mar. 12, 1782.

Children:

- i. MIRIAM,<sup>5</sup> b. Sept. 13, d. Oct. 5, 1728.
- ii. BELA, b. Dec. 28, 1730; chose Benjamin Crane of Milton for his guardian, Aug. 2, 1745; died a few years later, unmarried.
- iii. MARY, b. Nov. 4, 1732; m. May 30, 1756, Adam Blackman of Stoughton.
- iv. MIRIAM, b. May 19, 1735; m. Nov. 16, 1752, Philip Liscomb, Jr., of Stoughton.
- v. REBECCA, b. June 8, 1738; m. Nov. 10, 1757, Elhanan Lyon of Stoughton, who d. in 1770.
- vi. ABIGAIL, b. Oct. 8, 1740; m. Sept. 13, 1759, David, son of Elhanan and Hannah (Tilden) Lyon of Stoughton, who was b. April 11, 1739, and was a Lieut. in the Revolution.

17. EDWARD<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Ens. Edward,<sup>3</sup> Jeremiah,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born in Lynn, Jan. 16, 1706-7, lived in Dorchester, and later in Stoughton where he died. Administration on his estate was granted Oct. 8, 1756. He married, Nov. 12, 1730, Anna, born May 3, 1710, daughter of Humphrey and Elizabeth (Withington) Atherton of Dorchester, who died about 1761, administration on her estate being given on Oct. 23 of that year. (Suffolk Co. Probate.)

Children:

- i. ATHERTON,<sup>5</sup> b. Sept. 26, 1731.
- ii. SARAH, b. Dec. 6, 1734; d. June 9, 1766; m. Dec. 13, 1753, Ezekiel Tilestone of Dorchester, who was b. Apr. 6, 1731, and d. in 1812.



- iii. ANNA, bapt. June 5, 1737; m. Aug. 11, 1757, John Lloyd of Stoughton.
- iv. JOHN, b. Sept. 26, 1740; settled in Stoughton; marched on the Lexington alarm, Apr. 19, 1775; m. Mar. 27, 1763, Abigail Bracket. Nine children.
- v. SAMUEL, b. Sept. 12, 1744; resided in Dorchester, where he d. Aug. 6, 1812; m. Sept. 29, 1772, Rachel, b. Jan. 5, 1750-1, dau. of Ebenezer and Abigail (Billings) Pope of Dorchester, who d. Jan. 3, 1801. Ten children.
- vi. ELIZABETH, b. about 1747; on Oct. 8, 1762, Consider Atherton was appointed her guardian. (Suffolk Co. Probate.)

18. CLIFFORD<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Ens. Edward*,<sup>3</sup> *Jeremiah*,<sup>2</sup> *Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born in Lynn, Oct. 12, 1710, settled in Stoughton, where he owned over 300 acres of land, and where he lived until his death, Apr. 26, 1773. Besides farming, he also engaged in business as a blacksmith and as a carpenter. He married, June 24, 1740, Mehitable,<sup>4</sup> born Dec. 8, 1706, daughter of Samuel<sup>5</sup> and Sarah (Clapp) Bird of Stoughton, who died Feb. 20, 1779.

Children:

- i. SAMUEL,<sup>5</sup> b. June 28, d. July 16, 1741.
  - ii. PRESERVED, b. Oct. 6, d. Oct. 26, 1744.
  - iii. CLIFFORD, b. Oct. 7, 1745; m. Nov. 22, 1770, Betty, b. Sept. 23, 1750, dau. of Jonathan and Betty (Snell) Copeland of Bridgewater; lived in Stoughtonham; had three children; the parents and all the children d. between Aug. 12 and 26, 1775. He marched on the Lexington Alarm, April 19, 1775.
  - iv. LOVE, b. July 11, d. Sept. 25, 1747.
  - v. JOSEPH, b. May 13, 1749; d. May 27, 1814; was a carpenter and resided in Stoughton (now Canton); m. (int. recorded Oct. 28, 1775) Mary,<sup>5</sup> b. Dec. 26, 1754, dau. of Elijah<sup>4</sup> and Hannah (Puffer) Baker of Stoughton, who d. Feb. 26, 1839. Ten children.
  - vi. CAPT. SUPPLY, b. Mar. 29, 1751; served as private in the Revolution; in 1778 he bought a farm in what is now South Canton where he opened a tavern, but sold the place and moved to Maine in 1785, locating first at Hallowell (now Augusta), where he remained some six years, and then, in 1791, settled on the Sandy River, in what is now the town of Farmington, Me., where he became the leading man in the community, holding the offices of selectman, town clerk, captain, and justice of the peace, and serving as representative to the General Court in 1798, 1801, and 1809; also taught school and practiced medicine; died in Farmington, June 9, 1836; m. May 2, 1775, Margaret, b. May 13, 1756, d. May 14, 1839, dau. of William More, of Boston, and his wife Margaret, dau. of John and Abigail (Parsons) Johnson, of Boston, and widow of Richard Francis. Ten children.
  - vii. MEHITABLE, b. Oct. 10, 1752; m. Dec. 15, 1774, Josiah Harris of Stoughton; lived in Fitchburg in 1792, where their dau. Mehitable m. Mar. 4, 1798, Sewall Fullam.
19. JOSEPH<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Ens. Joseph*,<sup>3</sup> *Jeremiah*,<sup>2</sup> *Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born Oct. 25, 1698, inherited lands in Chelsea from his father, and also acquired houses in North street in Boston, where he resided and carried on the business of housewright. He died in 1744, administration on his estate being given on Aug. 24 of that year. He married, Nov. 14, 1726, Elizabeth, born Jan. 30, 1700-1, daughter of James and Love English of Boston, who died Apr. or Aug. 28, 1762, aged 61, and is buried in Copp's Hill cemetery.



## Children :

- i. ELIZABETH,<sup>3</sup> b. Oct. 13, 1727; m. Oct. 26, 1749, Nathaniel Green Moody.
- ii. COL. JOSEPH, b. Apr. 13, 1729; was a brazier and pewter manufacturer; settled in Newport, R. I., where he became a prominent man; in 1756 he was captain of a company on an expedition against Crown Point; during the Revolution he was colonel of a regiment of Newport militia; served in the Rhode Island Assembly in 1776 and 1777; when Newport was occupied by the British troops, he retired with his family to Brookline, Mass., where he died, Sept. 27, 1778; after the war was over, his family returned to Newport; m. in Newport, Feb. 14, 1750-1, Hannah Gladding, who d. in Newport, Oct. 4, 1813, aged 83. Fourteen children.
- iii. MARTHA, b. July 20, 1730.
- iv. JAMES, bapt. July 29, 1733.
- v. WILLIAM, bapt. Oct. 26, 1735.

20. NATHANIEL<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Ens. Joseph,<sup>3</sup> Jeremiah,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born Oct. 5, 1708, lived in Boston, and later in Chelsea, where he died Dec. 31, 1781. He married, Feb. 22, 1727-8, Deborah,<sup>4</sup> born Jan. 10, 1707-8, daughter of John<sup>3</sup> and Parsis (Holbrook) Farrow of Hingham, who died Nov. 18, 1784.

## Children :

- i. NATHANIEL,<sup>5</sup> b. about 1729; lived in Chelsea; m. Apr. 24, 1755, Anna, b. Mar. 30, 1727, dau. of Ebenezer and Mary Dowse of Billerica. Five children.
- ii. JOHN, b. about 1732.
- iii. HANNAH, bapt. Aug. 25, 1734.
- iv. PRISCILLA, bapt. Feb. 13, 1736-7.

21. JONATHAN<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Ens. Joseph,<sup>3</sup> Jeremiah,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born Feb. 27, 1717-18, lived in Chelsea, where he died Oct. 17, 1785. He married, May 13, 1742, Elizabeth, born Oct. 23, 1718, daughter of Samuel and Abigail (Floyd) Tuttle of Chelsea, who died Dec. 5, 1796.

## Children :

- i. JONATHAN,<sup>5</sup> b. Apr. 8, 1743.
- ii. ELIZABETH, b. Sept. 30, 1744; m. (1) June 1, 1786, Ezra Glover of Dorchester; m. (2) Mar. 27, 1797, William Barrows of Boston.
- iii. DAVID, b. Mar. 28, 1747; lived in Chelsea; was drowned Sept. 8, 1794; m. Feb. 20, 1787, Elizabeth, b. Oct. 18, 1754, dau. of John and Susanna (Chamberlain) Sargent, who d. July 12, 1817. Four children.
- iv. MARY, b. July 25, 1749.
- v. JOSEPH, b. May 10, 1751; lived at Pullin Point, now Winthrop; was a soldier in the Revolution; m. Dec. 18, 1781, Rachel, b. Oct. 16, 1756, dau. of Richard and Mary (Green) Shute of Malden. They had at least six children, one of whom was Joseph,<sup>6</sup> b. in 1782, d. Feb. 25, 1850, who m. Nancy, b. in 1786, d. in 1849, dau. of Joseph and Sally (Belcher) Burrill. They had ten children, the youngest of whom, Warren,<sup>7</sup> b. in 1825, has always resided at Winthrop, Mass., where he was appointed Postmaster in 1853, and continuously held the office for 53 years, resigning May 28, 1906. Mr. Belcher has in his possession a large number of interesting family papers, pertaining to every generation of his ancestral line in New England,—among them several original deeds of Jeremiah Belcher of Ipswich.
- vi. MARTHA, b. Mar. 12, 1754; m. May 3, 1787, Ebenezer Burrill, perhaps son of Samuel and Anna (Alden) Burrill of Lynn.
- vii. ABIGAIL b. Mar. 7, 1758.



22. JOSEPH<sup>4</sup> BELCHER, JR. (*Joseph*,<sup>3</sup> *David* [?],<sup>2</sup> *Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born probably about 1708, lived in Chebacco parish, Ipswich, until his marriage, when he settled in Manchester, Mass. He was a mariner, and died about 1745. He married, Dec. 8, 1730, Mary, born Mar. 22, 1708-9, daughter of George and Jane Cross of Manchester, who married second, Oct. 3, 1750, Thomas Murphy, and died Feb. 21, 1776.

Children :

- i. MARY,<sup>5</sup> bapt. Oct. 3, 1731; d. young.
  - ii. MARY, b. June 6, 1733; m. Jan. 27, 1755, John Sinnet of Marblehead.
  - iii. RUTH, b. Sept. 26, 1735; m. Nov. 10, 1763, Daniel Rust of Ipswich.
  - iv. JOSEPH, b. Dec. 8, 1737; was a fisherman, and lived in Manchester; lost at sea, in the autumn of 1763; m. Mar. 8, 1759, Elizabeth, bapt. Mar. 16, 1737-8, dau. of John and Sarah (Pearce) Tuck of Manchester, who m. (2) (int. rec. Feb. 2, 1766) Anthony de Myng. Three children.
  - v. ABIGAIL (probably), b. about 1740; m. May 1, 1762, John Bowls.
  - vi. JANE, bapt. Mar. 21, 1741-2; m. Feb. 12, 1762, William Camp.
23. ANDREW<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Samuel*,<sup>3</sup> *Richard*,<sup>2</sup> *Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born in Cambridge, Sept. 10, 1740, was taken to Wrentham in infancy by his parents, and is mentioned in his father's will as living in Sept., 1773. It seems likely he was the Andrew who was enrolled as private in Capt. Samuel Miller's company, on Aug. 8, 1757. Also, he was probably the Andrew who married, in Canterbury, Conn., May 18, 1769, Abigail Burt. No further information of him has been secured.

24. JOHN<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Samuel*,<sup>3</sup> *Richard*,<sup>2</sup> *Jeremiah*<sup>1</sup>), born in Wrentham, June 20, 1744, was a husbandman, and passed his life in his native town, inheriting his father's homestead. He was a soldier in the Revolution. He married first, Dec. 18, 1777, Hannah,<sup>5</sup> born June 22, 1751, daughter of Edward<sup>4</sup> and Deborah (Green) Rawson of Mendon, who died about 1785; and married second, Oct. 9, 1787, Susanna, daughter of Abner and Martha (Robbins) Hazeltine of Upton. His will, dated Aug. 15, 1815, probated Apr. 5, 1825, names wife Susanna, sons Harvey and Rawson to have the property of their mother, sons Manning, Samuel, Abner, Daniel and Caleb, and daughters Hannah and Susanna.

Children by first wife :

- i. JOHN,<sup>5</sup> b. Aug. 13, 1779; no further record; probably d. unmarried.
- ii. RAWSON, b. Jan. 6, 1781.
- iii. HARVEY, b. July 12, 1784; settled in North Brookfield, where he m. Jan. 3, 1813, Nancy, b. Sept. 26, 1791, d. June 12, 1874, dau. of Eli and Elizabeth (Smith) How of North Brookfield; d. July 19, 1858. Eleven children.

Children by second wife :

- iv. HANNAH, b. July 25, 1788.
- v. MANNING, b. July 13, 1790; graduated at Brown University in 1814; settled in South Carolina, where he taught school most of his life, and d. Sept. 13, 1868; m. in 1817, Susanna, b. June 23, 1790, dau. of Judge Samuel Day of Wrentham.
- vi. SAMUEL, b. July 25, 1792.
- vii. ABNER, b. Sept. 6, 1794; inherited his father's homestead.
- viii. DANIEL, b. July 5, 1797; settled in Illinois.
- ix. DR. CALEB, b. Feb. 2, 1800; graduated from Brown University in 1823, and the Harvard Medical School in 1827; practiced his pro-



cession in Falmouth, Mass., from 1827 to 1847, and in Cumberland, R. I., from 1848 to 1875; d. in Cumberland, Apr. 7, 1875.

x. SUSANNA.

25. DAVID<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Samuel<sup>3</sup> Richard<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born in Wrentham, Aug. 14, 1746, went to Bellingham about 1775, where he resided until 1783, when he removed to Thompson, Conn., where he lived until 1798, and then finally located in Stafford, Conn., where he died in 1811. He served in the Revolution. He married, Apr. 22, 1778, Rachel,<sup>4</sup> born Apr. 10, 1748, daughter of Elisha<sup>3</sup> and Sarah (Bates) Burr of Hingham.

Children:

- i. COL. SAMUEL,<sup>5</sup> b. in Bellingham, June 14, 1779; lived in Hartford, Conn., where he d. in 1849, leaving a large estate for the times; m. Apr., 1805, Pamela, dau. of Eleazer Pinney of Ellington. Two children, who d. unmarried, before their father.
- ii. SARAH, b. Nov. 4, 1781; m. John Perry of South Brimfield.
- iii. DAVID, b. 1785.
- iv. JOHN, b. 1787; d. 1789.
- v. RHODA, b. 1789.

26. WOODBRIDGE<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Samuel<sup>3</sup> Richard<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born in Wrentham, Oct. 10, 1749, lived in Palmer, Mass., during the Revolution, later in Rowley, Mass., and finally in Weare, N. H., where he died. He served in the Revolution. He married first, in Palmer, Mass., Sept. 24, 1778, Rebecca Chase; and married second, in 1790, Mehitabel, born Nov. 6, 1752, daughter of Oliver and Elizabeth (Jewett) Tenney of Rowley.

Child by first wife:

- i. SAMUEL,<sup>5</sup> m. Anna, dau. of William and Polly (Walker) Caldwell; removed to Stockbridge, Vt.

Children by second wife:

- ii. OLIVE TENNEY, b. Dec. 21, 1792; d. July 29, 1802.
- iii. HARRIET YOUNG, b. Oct. 14, 1794.
- iv. OLIVER TENNEY, b. Jan. 1, 1797; settled in Stockbridge, Vt.

27. JONATHAN<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Jonathan<sup>3</sup> Richard<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born about 1734, lived in Framingham, and later in East Hartford, Conn. He served as private in Capt. John Nixon's company, from April 10 to May 25, 1758; was private in Capt. Moses Maynard's company, on Apr. 25, 1757; and marched to Springfield from Framingham, on Aug. 16, 1757, as private under Capt. Samuel Curtis, when the latter started for the relief of Fort William Henry.

He married, in Providence, R. I., Mar. 2, 1760, Sarah, born Apr. 22, 1741, daughter of Jacob and Martha Hartshorn of Providence, who was buried there, at St. John's Church, July 11, 1769.

Children:

- i. JACOB,<sup>5</sup> b. about 1761; lived in Framingham; served in the Continental army in the Revolution; d. Aug. 11, 1840; m. Mar., 1782, Anne, b. Oct. 8, 1759, dau. of Ezekiel and Hannah (Edmonds) Rice of Framingham, who d. June 13, 1838. Four children.
- ii. MOLLY.
- iii. JOHN, b. about 1766; lived in Framingham, where he d. Oct. 7, 1843; m. in 1787, Sally, b. in 1771, probably dau. of William and Sarah Williams of Reading, who d. Feb. 26, 1853. Seven children.
- iv. HANNAH, m. June, 1788, Ephraim Pratt.



28. DANIEL<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Jonathan,<sup>3</sup> Richard,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born June 14, 1736, lived in Framingham, where he was enrolled in Capt. Jeremiah Belknap's company, Apr. 26, 1757. He died in Nov., 1787. He married Hannah, baptized Oct. 15, 1749, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Drury) Winch of Framingham.

Children :

- i. DANIEL,<sup>5</sup>
  - ii. JASON, lived in Framingham; m. Nov. 9, 1800, Anna, b. Nov. 24, 1780, dau. of Silas and Elizabeth (Jones) Winch of Framingham. Five children. She m. (2) in 1836, Benjamin Dudley of Framingham, and d. Jan. 3, 1838, aged 57.
  - iii. BETSEY, d. young.
29. EZRA<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Jonathan,<sup>3</sup> Richard,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), born in 1751, inherited his father's homestead, and was a noted singing master. He died June 29, 1826. He married, Mar. 18, 1794, Susanna, baptized Feb. 5, 1769, daughter of Samuel and Lois (Pratt) Dadmun of Framingham, who died May 17, 1854.

Children :

- i. RUTH,<sup>5</sup> b. Nov. 14, 1794.
  - ii. LUCY, b. Apr. 23, 1797.
  - iii. LUTHER, b. Apr. 23, 1797.
  - iv. EZRA, b. Feb. 24, 1799.
  - v. SUSANNA, b. July 21, 1801.
30. JOSEPH<sup>4</sup> BELCHER (*Jonathan,<sup>3</sup> Richard,<sup>2</sup> Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>*), baptized in July, 1755, passed his life in Framingham, where he died June 29, 1833. In the Revolution, he served as corporal in Capt. Moses Harrington's company, from Dec. 20, 1776, to March 1, 1777. He married, in May, 1782, Hannah, born Sept. 9, 1756, daughter of Thomas and Hannah (Rice) Kendall, who died May 18, 1854, aged nearly 98.

Children :

- i. MARY,<sup>5</sup> b. Feb. 6, 1783; m. Stephen Lord of Sullivan, N. H.
- ii. PATTY, b. Dec. 20, 1785; m. ——— Harrington; d. Feb. 25, 1845.
- iii. JOSEPH, b. June 21, 1788; lived on his father's farm; d. Nov. 16, 1828; m. Jan. 11, 1814, Abigail Hunt of Sudbury, who m. (2) Oct. 17, 1830, John Moore of Framingham, and d. Oct. 4, 1833. Six children.
- iv. HANNAH, b. Mar. 28, 1791; d. Dec. 15, 1849.
- v. THOMAS, b. Sept. 8, 1793; d. Oct. 30, 1821.
- vi. CURTIS, b. June 1, 1796; d. Nov. 16, 1815.
- vii. BETSEY, b. Apr. 11, 1800; m. Nov. 30, 1828, Amos White of Waltham; d. Nov. 4, 1873.