Genealogical Record

OF

THE

ANTIGONISH WHIDDENS

AND

A BRIEF HISTORICAL OUTLINE

OF

The Province of Nova Scotia

AND OF

The County and Town of Antigonish

By

D. G. WHIDDEN

Wolfville, Nova Scotia

1930
Genealogical Record

— of —

THE ANTIMONISH WHIDDENS

— AND —

A BRIEF HISTORICAL OUTLINE

— of —

The Province of Nova Scotia

— AND OF —

The County and Town of Antigonish

—

By

D. G. WHIDDEN

Wolfville, Nova Scotia

1930
In preparing this Genealogical Record, I have made no attempt to give a record of the Whidden family in America, nor in Nova Scotia, but I have endeavored to give as complete a pedigree as possible of the families of the three sons of C. B. Whidden, of Antigonish, N. S.,—Graham, Edgar and Howard.

The sources from which I have obtained my information are so numerous I shall not attempt to name them, but I want to say that Thomas Miller in his Historical and Genealogical Record of the First Settlers of Colchester County, has given a very complete record of the Whidden family from 1760 to 1873, so far as the Nova Scotia branch is concerned. In James Otis Lyford’s History of the town of Canterbury, New Hampshire, 1727—1912, will be found a good record of the American branch back as far as 1700.

I feel that a brief historical sketch of the province of Nova Scotia, and of the town and county of Antigonish, will, in after years, prove interesting.

At the age of 72 years and seven months, I have much pleasure in dedicating this work to the members of the three families. A copy will be filed in the Nova Scotia archives.

Wolfville, N. S., April 30, 1930.
In 1603, Sieur de Monts received from King Henry IV of France a patent constituting him Lieut. General of Cadie, later called Acadie and Acadia. He visited Annapolis Basin and Minas Basin in 1604, and established a settlement at Port Royal, now Annapolis Royal, in 1605.

The name Acadia was changed to Nova Scotia in 1601, when King James I of England gave Sir William Alexander a patent of a large territory, which included Acadia.

By the Treaty of Utrecht, between Great Britain and France, signed April 11, 1713, Acadia or Nova Scotia, was ceded to Great Britain. At that time Nova Scotia included New Brunswick, which became a separate province in 1784, but did not include the Island of Cape Breton, which was ceded to Great Britain by the Treaty of Paris, February 10, 1763. By proclamation of King George III, October 3, 1763, Cape Breton was annexed to the government of Nova Scotia, but in 1783 the island was made a distinct province, and in 1820 it was again annexed to Nova Scotia as the county of Cape Breton, which was later divided into four counties, Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness and Richmond.

The colonization of Nova Scotia as a British province began thirty-six years after the signing of the Treaty of Utrecht, with the arrival in June, 1748, of Hon. Edward Cornwallis, who had been appointed Governor. Immediately upon his arrival he commenced to build a garrison city, which was designated Chebucto, until his house was ready for occupancy, and he moved into it, and subsequent to which time he dated his dispatches Halifax.

In 1750 steps were taken to secure settlers from Germany, and from 1751 to 1753 about 1500 Germans settled in Lunenburg County.

The fourteenth article of the Treaty of Utrecht stipulated, with reference to the French inhabitants of the colonies ceded to Great Britain, as follows: "It is expressly provided that in all the said places and colonies to be yielded and restored by the most Christian King, in pursuance of this treaty, the subjects of the said King may have liberty to remove themselves within a year, to any other place, as they shall think fit, together with all their moveable effects. But those who are willing to be fully subject to the kingdom of Great Britain are to enjoy the free exercise of their religion according to the usage of the Church of Rome, as far as the laws of Great Britain do allow the same." The French inhabitants were willing to remain in the country, but were not willing to be fully subject to Great Britain. Many attempts were made to have them take the oath of allegiance, but they always refused to take it without a reservation exempting them from bearing arms against France. Fifty-two years after the signing of the treaty, it having been decided that either the French must take the oath of allegiance or be removed from the province, and as they still definitely refused to take the oath, the expulsion of the Acadians took place in 1755.

For five years little progress was made in settling the country, but in 1760 and 1761, a number of families from New England came to Grand Pre, Cornwallis, Truro and Amherst, and later immigrants were attracted to different parts of the province from Scotland and Ireland; and many moved from the United States to retain their loyalty to Great Britain when the revolution of the American colonies took place.

The first Assembly of elected representatives met in Halifax, October 7, 1758, but not until 1848 did the province have responsible government.
In 1840 there were but seventeen postmasters in the province. The postal service was entirely in the hands of the Imperial government until 1851, when it was taken over by the provincial government and the first postage stamps were issued.

In 1864 a big forward movement was made in the passing of the Education Act, which gave to the province a free school system.

The first railway for public passenger and freight service was opened between Halifax and Windsor in February 1855.

July 1, 1867, Nova Scotia became a province of the Dominion of Canada, since which time the provincial affairs have been administered through a Lieutenant Governor, a Legislative Council and a House of Assembly until 1928, when the Assembly abolished the Legislative Council.

ANTIGONISH

In 1784 the county of Sydney was formed by cutting off the eastern part of the county of Halifax, which up to that time had included all of the territory now comprised in the counties of Halifax, Colchester, Pictou, Antigonish and Guysboro; the western boundary was extended in 1822, and the county was divided afterwards into an upper and a lower district, each of which became a separate county, by Chapter 79, Acts of 1836, the upper district being Sydney and the lower district Guysboro. The name of Sydney County was changed to Antigonish, by Chapter 37, Acts of 1863.

The first settlers of Antigonish County were Acadians, who in 1763 settled at Harbour au Bouchie, Tracadie and Pomquet.

In 1784 a number of British officers and soldiers arrived at Antigoni sh Harbor to settle a grant of land known since as the "Soldiers' Grant", which had been granted to Colonel Hierlihy and eighty-eight others. They named the settlement Dorchester, after Lord Dorchester, under whom Hierlihy had served as Major at Quebec.

The place at which they landed, about one mile from the entrance to the harbor, on the north side, they named "Town Point", by which name it has ever since been known. But whilst those settlers laid out a town there,—and the writer remembers wharves and warehouses, or the remains of them, were there in the sixties,—it was not destined to be a town. At the head of the harbour, about five miles from Town Point, were the Indian Gardens and Antigonish Intervale. Some of the Town Point settlers, attracted by the richness of the soil at the intervale, disposing of their original holdings, bought land in that district.

In 1802 Nathaniel Symonds visited Antigonish; there were, at that time, at what is now the town of Antigonish, three houses, belonging to a Mr. Brailey, James Miller and Thomas Russell. Mr. Symonds returned to his home in New Hampshire, and in 1804 he returned with his family, coming by vessel, and he was the first merchant in Antigonish.

By this time there were quite a few families living in the neighborhood of the junction of West River, Brailey's Brook and Wright's River, and with the opening of Symonds' store, the place became known as "The Village", sometimes called Dorchester, but generally Antigonish. As early as 1821, and continuously since, the name of the post office was Antigonish; and up to 1845 the Supreme Court was said by Belcher's Almanac, to sit at Dorchester.

The word Antigonish is derived from a Micmac Indian word, the meaning of which is quite uncertain.

The town was incorporated in 1889, under The Towns Incorporation Act of Nova Scotia.
It has a good water supply and an up-to-date Electric Plant, both of which are municipally owned. It is fortunate in having one of the largest and best equipped general hospitals east of Montreal,—St. Martha's Hospital, situate at the east end of the town on Bay Street, completed in 1926.

The churches are,—Roman Catholic Cathedral, United Church of Canada, Baptist and Anglican.

St. Francis Xavier College was founded at Antigonish in 1855, and was given powers of a University in 1866. Affiliated with the university is Mount Saint Bernard College, a college for girls.
GENEALOGICAL

THE WHIDDEN FAMILY

A very interesting book edited by William J. Thoms, F.S.A., in 1839, entitled "Anecdotes and Traditions", p. 120, has the following:

"No. CXCVI—A Judge on Horseback.

John Whidden, a justice of the King's Bench in the first years of Queen Mary, was the first of the judges who rode to Westminster Hall on a horse, for before that time they rode on mules."

1.—**Samuel Whidden**, the first Whidden of whom we have any knowledge in America, resided in Greenland, New Hampshire, as early as 1700, dying about the year 1713. He had four sons: 2. James; 3. Samuel; 4. John; 5. Ichabod.

1—2. — **James Whidden**, son of Samuel Whidden, b. Greenland, N. H., was married and had four sons and two daughters before he came to Nova Scotia. He was one of the first settlers of Truro, N. S., and a grantee of land there in 1761. His wife died and he married (second time) Mary Guild, widow of James Lynds, of Onslow, N. S. He died December 13, 1790.

Children:
6. John, d. 1794;
   - Sarah, drowned near Truro, August 12, 1770;
   - Elizabeth, m. December 15, 1791, the Rev. Hugh Graham, as his second wife;
7. David, b. 1749; m. September 29, 1774, Eleanor Dickey;
8. Samuel, b. 1752; m. July 15, 1774, Abigail Newcomb;
9. Simeon, b. 1754; m. about 1776, Dorothy, fourth daughter of Capt. William and Jane (Barns) Blair.

1—5. — **Ichabod Whidden**, fourth son of Samuel; b. Greenland, New Hampshire; m. Miss Ulan of that place. His wife died and he m., second, Elizabeth Small; she died and he m. June 15, 1745, third, Mrs. Eunice (Parsons) Mason. He d. March 20, 1798, Canterbury, N. H.

Children:
10. Jeremiah, b. December 30, 1750; d. young;
11. Mark, b. October 27, 1751; d. 1798;
12. Ichabod, b. January 19, 1756; m. Abigail Mathews; moved to Hallowell, Maine;
13. Parsons, b. November 25, 1758;
14. Nathaniel, b. March 20, 1761;
15. Elizabeth, b. October 21, 1763;

Nothing is known about Samuel and John, sons of Samuel Whidden. The descendants of Ichabod (1—5) are given in the history of the town of Canterbury, N. H., by James Otis Hyford.

1—2—6. — **John Whidden**, eldest son of James Whidden, was b. in Greenland, N. H. He settled in Cornwallis, Kings County, where he became a leading man in the community. He was a Justice of the Peace, and Judge of the Court of Common Pleas. He m. Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan and Mary (Clark) Longfellow, who was b. July 17, 1741, in Nottingham, N. H., and d. June 2, 1830, in Cornwallis. He d. September 14, 1794, in Cornwallis. Children:
16. James, b. December 14, 1764;
17. David, b. December 7, 1768; m. Eunice Chipman;
   - Elizabeth, b. December 15, 1768;
ABIGAIL, b. February 25, 1772, m. to Joseph Prescott, M.D.;
HANNAH, b. September 29, 1774, m. February 6, 1796, Hon.
Chas. Prescott, M.L.C.

1—2—7.—David Whidden, second son of James Whidden, came to
Truro, N. S., from New England, with his father, and was granted land
in the township although only sixteen years of age. He m., September 29,
1774, Eleanor, second daughter of Adam and Janet Dickey. He inherited
his father’s property in Truro, which, in 1796, he sold and moved to
Maitland, N. S., where he spent the remainder of his life. He d. October
1, 1825. Children:
18. JAMES, b. July 8, 1775, m. Abigail Brown in 1804; d. June 3,
1830;
19. JOHN HANCOCK, b. February 13, 1777; d. a bachelor.
20. ABIGAIL, b. November 10, 1780, m. 1801, William Frieze, d.
January 4, 1808.

1—2—8.—Samuel Whidden, third son of James Whidden, came to
Truro, N. S., with his parents, in 1760. He m., July 15, 1774, Abigail
Newcomb, and settled on the intervale of Salmon River; d. July 10,1821;
his wife d. March 11, 1851. Children:
ELIZABETH, b. March 29, 1775, m. 1798, Richard Pyke;
ABIGAIL, b. December 7, 1776, m. Rob. O’Brien of Noel; d. 1857;
21. EDDY, b. February 16, 1778; m., 1807, Sarah, daughter of Sam-
uel and Mary (Tupper) Fisher. They had five sons and five
daughters. He settled, first, in the woods at Greenfield, but
later moved to New Annan, where he d. 1858.
NANCY, b. December 24, 1787, m. James McCabe of Picton, and
settled in Greenfield; d. April 24, 1858;
22. SAMUEL, b. Aug. 13, 1790, m. Feb’y., 1811, Sarah, only daughter
of Thomas and Nancy (Elliott) Stevens. He settled in Green-
field, but removed to Harmony, where his wife d. April 21,
1842. He m., January 31, 1844, second, Elizabeth Mc-
Mullen, of Stewiacke. He d. February 16, 1862;
23. JAMES, b. 1796, m. December 1820, Hannah Johnson. He set-
tled first at Greenfield, d. at Onslow, Sept. 5, 1870;
PHOEBE, b. February 18, 1799, m. Ralph Johnson, of Green-
field; d. July 28, 1842.

1—2—9.—Simeon Whidden, fourth son of James Whidden, b.
1754, came to Nova Scotia with his parents in 1860. He m., about 1775,
Dorothy, fourth daughter of Capt. William and Jane (Barns) Blair. They
settled, about 1782, in Middle Stewiacke. He was loading logs in the
woods in January, 1800, when a log rolled on him, breaking his leg, and
he only lived three days after the accident. His widow d. November,
1827, aged 74 years. Children:
24. JAMES, b. 1778, m. Jane, daughter of James and Margaret
(McKean) Fisher, of Musquodoboit. They had five sons and
five daughters. They moved to Ontario and d. there:
MARY, b. 1780, m. William, eldest son of James and Margaret
(McKean) Fisher, of Musquodoboit; removed to St. Marys;
had sons and daughters;
SARAH, b. 1782; m., 1807, John Higgins of Musquodoboit; had
four sons and four daughters; d. Feb. 11, 1871;
25. WILLIAM, b. 1784; m. Mary McLean of Picton; settled in St.
Mary’s; had five sons and five daughters; d. Feb., 1857;
26. SIMEON, b. May 17, 1786; m. Susan Harris of Sydney, C. B.;
resided in Cape Breton, Stewiacke, Dartmouth and Truro;
d. October 25, 1859;
27. ROBERT, b. April 2, 1788; m. November 9, 1813, Esther Creelman; d. April 1, 1834;
   28. JOHN BLAIR, b. November 21, 1791; m. December 30, 1816, d. July 19, 1864;
       DOROTHY, b. May 29, 1794; m. July 20, 1818, James Downing; had two sons and four daughters; d. Sept. 5, 1850;
29. DAVID, b. 1796; m. Jan. 1821, Rebecca Pyke; settled in Smithfield in 1825; d. 1872;
       JANE, b. Jan. 22, 1798; m. May 12, 1817, James Reed, who came from Scotland in 1815, and settled in Musquodoboit. They had eight sons and five daughters; d. October 21, 1870, aged 73 years;
       ABIGAIL, b. 1799; d. unmarried.
1—2—9—28.—The Rev. John Blair Whidden, fifth son of Simeon and Dorothy (Blair) Whidden, b. Nov. 21, 1791, Stewiacke, N. S. His father having died in January 1800, as the result of an accident while loading logs in the woods three days previous, he, when only a little over nine years of age, went to St. Mary’s to live with his sister Mary, wife of William Fisher. In 1807 he went to Antigonish, where he became a carpenter. He bought a property at the west end of the village, clearing a farm, which he passed on to his son Charles Blanchard, and he to his son Charles Edgar. He married, Dec. 30, 1816, Harriet Elizabeth, daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Blanchard) Symonds, the marriage being an elopement. He built a house at the head of Main Street, also a saw-mill, near what has long been known as Whidden’s bridge.
   He and his wife were brought up in the Presbyterian faith, but a few years after their marriage they became Baptists, and Nov. 4, 1832, he was ordained to the Baptist ministry, and for years, while continuing to work at his trade, he labored, as long as his health permitted, as pastor of the Antigonish Baptist Church, and as a home missionary in the eastern part of the province. He died, July 19, 1864, and his wife, having almost reached her eightieth year, died May 16, 1878. Children:
       HARRIET ELIZABETH, b. Nov. 13, 1817; m. Dec. 25, 1838, Richard C. Irish; she d. Jan. 1849, she d. at a very old age in California; children, Grace, m. Wm. Bray, George, Mollie, m. Farges;
29. SIMEON JOHN, b. Jan. 15, 1820, d. Jan. 29, 1820;
30. GREGOR WILLIAM, b. Sept. 10, 1821;
       GRACE SYMONDS, b. Feb. 8, 1823, d. Aug. 10, 1827;
       CHARLOTTE SOPHIA, b. Feb. 8, 1823, m. March 26, 1846, Jas. G. McKean (2nd wife), d. Port Hastings, N. S.; children: Sophia, m. Thos. James; Margaret; William J.; Ella; Harriet, m. Geo. Mitchell; Emily; Bertha. All died young except Harriet;
31. NATHANIEL JOHN, b. Sept. 30, 1829;

1-2-9-28-30. —Gregor William Whidden, second son of the Rev. John Blair and Harriet (Symonds) Whidden, b. September 13, 1821, at Antigonish, where he lived all his life. He m. first, March 23, 1848, Sarah (or Leah) Adelaide Witter, of Cornwallis. In 1873 he m. second, Caroline (Cantrell) Ryerson, widow, she having first m. — Cook. Children by first marriage: WITTER RICHARD, who first m. Emily Angell, of New York, second m. Sadie Angell; they moved to North Dakota; she d., he m. third ——, moved to Montana, then to California, where he died. There were children by second and third marriages SOPHIA, m. John Worthington, Troy, N. Y., daughter, Effie. JOHN Blair, m. May Leaver, San Francisco, Cal. One son, John Blair, resides in Chicago. MARGARET SYMONDS, m. Cyrus B. Eaton; children: Emily, William R., Cyrus. CHARLES TUPPER, m., first Frances Crosby, of Hebron, N. S., one daughter, Jeanette; d. Minneapolis.

GEORGE WHITFIELD, last heard from in New Mexico.

1-2-9-28-31. —John Nathaniel Whidden, third son of the Rev. John Blair and Harriet (Symonds) Whidden, b. September 30, 1829. His name was entered in the family Bible as Nathaniel John, but he was always known as John Nathaniel. He went to the United States; m. June 1, 1857, Martha Elizabeth Barnes, widow; he d. Philadelphia, March 19, 1889. One daughter, Stella Pauline, who m. JamesNeill Darah.


He was educated in the Grammar School and the Academy in Antigonish. He commenced life a farmer, and did some land surveying, but in 1863 he began to sell flour in a small way, and developed an extensive business in flour, feed and groceries, practically retiring when, Feb. 1, 1881, he took into partnership his two sons, D. Graham and C. Edgar, who carried on the business under the firm name of C. B. Whidden & Sons until Jan. 1, 1890, when D. G. Whidden withdrew from the firm, and it was continued under the name of C. B. Whidden & Son, by C. Edgar Whidden, until his death in 1928.

In 1864, he purchased a small schooner, the Lady Havelock, and owned vessels continuously thereafter until his death.

In September, 1882, he was elected to represent the county in the Legislative Assembly of Nova Scotia, and sat as a member four years.
He was, for many years, a deacon of the Baptist Church, and was much interested in the general work of the Baptist denomination, being at one time President of the Convention and a governor of Acadia College. By his first marriage there were six sons and one daughter, as follows:

33. DAVID GRAHAM, b. September 22, 1857;
34. CHARLES EDGAR, b. April 12, 1850;
35. JOHN ELLSWORTH, b. Dec. 8, 1864; d. Dec. 21, 1864;
36. EGBERT ARNOLD, b. Oct. 18, 1866; d. Dec. 26, 1876, at Isaac’s Harbor;
EMMA IRENE, b. July 20, 1869; d. Feb. 28, 1877, at Isaac’s Harbor;
37. HOWARD PRIMROSE, b. July 12, 1871;

1—2—9–28–32–33.—David Graham Whidden, eldest son of Charles Blanchard and Eunice Caroline (Graham) Whidden, was born at Antigonish, N. S., September 22, 1857. He first went to a private school conducted by Mrs. Pelton, in 1864; in 1865 the schools came under the new Education Act, which made public schools free, being supported by taxation, and he completed his education in the Main Street (Protestant) School. He clerked in the store of H. H. McCurdy & Co. from May 1872 to January, 1878, after which he spent one year in San Francisco, returning in April, 1879, to assist in his father’s business.

The business of his father was reorganized February 1, 1881, when he and his brother, Charles Edgar, became the active partners of the firm of C. B. Whidden & Sons, from which firm he retired December 31, 1889, and in January, 1890, he moved with his family to California, residing for the most part, in Fresno, until he returned to Nova Scotia in June, 1894. He did business in Halifax until August, 1899, when he with K. Sweet Esq., bought the Antigonish Electric Light plant, and he managed it until 1908 when he moved to the province of Quebec; moving in 1910 to Chesterville, Ontario, and removing to Montreal in 1912, in which city he managed a dairy business.

When the Great War broke out he offered his services as a qualified artillery officer, and in 1916 was sent to Nova Scotia to recruit, and has lived in Wolfville since then. In 1922 he was elected to the Town Council, and served as Town Councillor until November 1, 1923, when he was appointed Stipendiary Magistrate in and for the town of Wolfville which position he now holds.

He is a prominent Odd Fellow, having been a member in good standing of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows since May 19, 1876. He served as Grand Master of the jurisdiction of the Lower Provinces of British North America (the name has been changed to Maritime Provinces of Canada) from August 1886 to August 1887; he was elected Grand Secretary in 1905, resigning in 1908, when he removed from the jurisdiction; and in 1926 he was elected Grand Representative for two years, attending the sessions of Sovereign Grand Lodge at Philadelphia, 1926, and Hot Springs, Ark., 1927. He m. October 12, 1880, Lois Emma Sarah, eldest daughter of James William and Sarah Ann (Payzant) Bigelow.

Children:
HILDA IRENE, b. January 23, 1882, Antigonish, N. S., m. June 3, 1925, at Wolfville, N. S., (2nd wife) George Henry Young, of Dartmouth, N. S. He was born April 23, 1879, at Dartmouth, son of John Alfred and Caroline (Tufts) Young; first married, June 17, 1908, Catherine Drury, who died May 7, 1923, leaving two children.—John Alfred, b. December 9, 1919, and Jean Drury, b. May 13, 1921.

Hilda Irene Whidden graduated from New England Baptist
Hospital in 1906 and did professional nursing until shortly before she was married. After the United States entered the Great War she volunteered for service, and went to France in 1918 as a U. S. Army nurse.

39. Charles William, b. August 1, 1883;

40. Wallace Graham, b. October 1, 1887;

Eunice Sarah, b. June 23, 1893, Fresno, Calif., B.Sc. and M.A., Columbia University. She spent several years in Religious Educational work; was General Secretary of the Y.W.C.A. in Edmonton, Alberta, from September 1, 1928, until she was married, January 31, 1930, to Herman Anton Arnold (2nd wife) b. May 22, 1887, Cookstown, Ontario, son of Alexander and Margaret (McMahon) Arnold; he first married, Sept. 15, 1909, Ann Reid Dick, b. Aug. 31, 1886, Steneston, ayr, Scotland, who died April, 30, 1928; by this first marriage he has two sons,—Hugh Alexander, b. July 26, 1910, at Nanaimo, B. C., and Herman William, b. July 13, 1913, at Vancouver, B. C. They reside Edmonton, Alberta;

42. James Edgar, b. June 2, 1895;

43. Howard Kinsman, b. December 29, 1901.

1—2—9—28—32—34.—Charles Edgar Whidden, second son of Charles Blanchard and Eunice Caroline (Graham) Whidden, b. April 12, 1860, at Antigonish, N. S. After taking his preparatory education in the Antigonish public schools and Horton Academy he entered Acadia College with the intention of taking an Arts course, but after two years in college, his father’s business having been reorganized with him as a partner, he entered the business which was carried on under the name of C. B. Whidden & Sons until Jan. 1, 1890, when it was changed to C. B. Whidden & Son, and so remained until his death. He was most attentive to business, seldom leaving home, and was the managing head of all of his business affairs until, in 1925, he underwent a serious operation which necessitated his taking life leisurely. In all his business transactions the community, the county, the other fellow, appeared to be uppermost in his thoughts, and when he died there was a general and sincere mourning throughout
the county. He was a man who, by his life, commanded the esteem and respect of all who came in contact with him.

He took a deep interest in the affairs of the Baptist denomination, and for many years was a deacon in his local church.

On his going into business he joined his father in the ownership and management of sailing vessels, and continued in shipping until 1914, when he disposed of his interests in that line. The following is a list of vessels owned by C. B. Whidden and C. B. Whidden & Son: Lady Havelock, J. & W. Pitts, Lida, Edward Albro, Alta, Breadalbane, Etna, Katie, Congo, Ora, Onora, Leah A. Whidden, Emma E. Whidden, Gladys E. Whidden, C. B. Whidden, Ola M. Balcom, Carl E. Richards, Muriel. The Linda, Alta and Etna were built at Antigonish Harbor.

From the time C. B. Whidden purchased the Lady Havelock in 1864, he or his firm had, continuously, one or more vessels engaged in carrying cattle and other farm produce to St. John's, Newfoundland, until 1913; and it is a remarkable coincidence that Nathaniel Symonds, great-grandfather of the subject of this sketch, the first merchant in Antigonish, opened up a trade in farm produce with St. John's, Nfld., in 1811; that Captain David Graham sailed and owned vessels in that trade for many years, until his son-in-law C. B. Whidden succeeded him, so that for over one hundred years this family was connected with the Newfoundland business.

He m. October 8, 1884, Leah Arabella Pamela, second daughter of James William and Sarah Ann (Payzant) Bigelow, b. July 20, 1863, Can-so, N. S. He d. October 22, 1928, at Antigonish, N. S. Children:


2. EMMA EUNICE, b. November 29, 1886; m. July 9, 1909, Harry E. Bates, who served in the Great War, as Lieutenant in the 66th Canadian Field Battery. She went to England with her husband and was active in nursing until she became seriously ill, and from which illness she never recovered: d. December 21, 1928, in Montreal, Q.

44. HAROLD BIGELOW, b. December 29, 1888;
45. CHARLES GRAHAM, b. December 28, 1889;
46. GODFREY PAYZANT, b. December 26, 1892; d. October 5, 1893;
47. LEAH BIGELOW, b. December 26, 1894; engaged in teaching elocution;
48. ALBERT EDWARD, b. October 25, 1900. He resides with his mother, managing the large farm formerly owned by his father;


1—2—9—28—32—37.—The Rev. Howard Primrose Whidden, fifth son of Charles Blanchard and Eunice Caroline (Graham) Whidden, b. July 12, 1871, at Antigonish, N. S. He graduated in Arts from Acadia University in 1891; studied theology at Newton and McMaster, 1891 to 1894; pastor of the Baptist Church at Morden, Manitoba, 1894—6; held pastorate in Galt, Ontario, 1897—1900; lectured on public speaking and reading at McMaster, 1898—1900; Professor of Biblical Literature and English at Brandon College, 1900—03; pastor first Baptist Church, Dayton, Ohio, 1904—12; President Brandon College, 1912—23; installed Chancellor McMaster University, Toronto, Ontario, November 20, 1923, which position he still holds.
In 1917 he was elected to Parliament by the constituency of Brandon, Man., and sat in the House of Commons, representing Brandon, as a supporter of the Union Government, until 1921.

He m., October 4, 1895, Katherine Louisa, b. February 14, 1870, daughter of James Harvey and Susan E. (Brittain) Ganong, of St. Stephen, New Brunswick. Both Ganongs and Brittains are descended from British Empire Loyalists. Children:

49. CHARLES GANONG, b. August 22, 1895, Morden, Man.

SUSAN GWENDELYN b. January 5, 1897, St. Stephen, N. B., B.A. 1918; postgraduate work at Smith and Yale, also graduate of Ontario College of Education. Has taught at Brandon College, and is now teaching at Netherwood School for Girls, Rothesay, N. B.

50. EVAN MCDONALD, b. July 9, 1898, Galt, Ont.: 

51. JAMES GILBERT, b. January 13, 1901, Brandon, Man.; d. April 15, 1901;

52. WILLIAM FRANCIS, b. March 19, 1902, Brandon, Man.; d. July 14, 1906;

53. REGINALD WILBUR, b. December 18, 1904, Dayton, Ohio; B.A., 1925, McMaster; M.A., 1928.

54. BRUCE CUTHBERT, b. March 29, 1909, Dayton, Ohio;

55. HOWARD PRIMROSE (Jr.), b. August 5, 1910, Muskoka, Ont. 

1—2—9—28—32—39.—Capt. CHARLES WILLIAM WHIDDEN, eldest son of David Graham and Lois (Bigelow) Whidden, b. August 1, 1883, at Antigonish, N. S. He began his seafaring life, before the mast, on the schooner Congo, in 1902. He obtained his 2nd mate’s certificate, 1906, in Liverpool, Eng., and his 1st mate’s and master’s certificates in Yarmouth, Nova Scotia. He entered the employ of the United Fruit Company, May, 1909, and April 7, 1914, was given command of the S.S. Coppename, one of that company’s ships, and has since, continuously sailed as master for the United Fruit Company, his command at present being the S.S. Tola. In 1918, his ship, the Turrialba was requisitioned by the United States Government, and made several trips between the United States and France, as army transport, he being in command, with the rank of Captain, U. S. Army Transport Service. In March, 1921, the Central American republics of Panama and Costa Rica got into a mix-up over territorial boundaries. The United States Cruiser Sacramento was, at the time, at Almirante, and the commander landed and interviewed the generals of the army of occupation, and in a short time the United States was instrumental in bringing hostilities to a close. The Times-Picayune, New Orleans, La., March 21, 1921, had a front page cut of the United Fruit Company’s steamer Turrialba, Capt. Chas. W. Whidden, carrying 1200 Costa Rican soldiers back from Almirante to Port Limon, after the cessation of hostilities; after they had been safely landed, the ship returned to Almirante and conveyed the Panaman army of 700 men to Cristobal.

The Turrialba, lying at Bocas del Toro, had been requested by the U.S.S. Sacramento to carry the troops back to their respective home ports, in order that the armies might be separated and trouble averted.

He m., June 20, 1908, at Boston, Mass., Frances J. Johns of Weymouth, N. S., daughter of Harley J. and Sarah (Journey) Johns. They have lived in New York, Algiers, La., Thomaston, Conn., and now at Hollis, Long Island, N. Y.

Their children were all born in Algiers, La., except the youngest, Lois, who was born in Thomaston, Conn. Children:

56. CHARLES CLINTON, b. March 16, 1910;

57. STANLEY GRAHAM, b. July 19, 1912;

58. WILLIAM PAYZANT, b. November 20, 1913;
59. Howard Johns, b. April 17, 1915;
60. Albert Edward, b. June 13, 1918;
  Lois Margaret, b. February 12, 1923.

1-2-9-28-32-33-40. Wallace Graham Whidden, second son of David Graham and Lois (Bigelow) Whidden, b. October 1, 1887, at Antigonish, N. S. He was in Saskatchewan when the Great War broke out, and volunteered for service, going overseas as sergeant in the 44th Canadian Field Battery. In August, 1916, he was wounded; after convalescing in England he was returned to France, but later sent back to England to assist in drilling recruits. Shortly before the close of the war he was sent to Archangel, Russia, as sergeant in a Canadian Field Battery, and there had his worst fighting, but came through safely. He was m. August 31, 1818, at St. Alphege Church, Greenwich, London, England, to May Marion Martin. They now reside in Saskatoon, Sask., and have one child:


1-2-9-28-32-42. James Edgar Whidden, fourth son of David Graham and Lois (Bigelow) Whidden, b. June 2, 1895, at Dartmouth, N. S. He served in the Great War as corporal in the St. Francis Xavier Hospital unit, No. 9 Stationary Hospital, C.E.F., as an X-ray operator. He went overseas in 1916 and was wounded on the night of May 19-20, 1918, in an air raid, as a result of which he is now a 100% disabled soldier, drawing a pension from the Dominion of Canada. He now resides at San Angelo, Texas. He m., December 25, 1920, at Tullahoma, Tennessee, Bessie May, daughter of John Samuel Shouse and Mary Isabel (Holland) Mullican, of McMinnville, Tenn. They have one daughter:

Lois Isabel, b. August 21, 1923, at San Angelo, Tex.

1-2-9-28-32-33-43. Howard Kinsman Whidden, fifth son of David Graham and Lois (Bigelow) Whidden, b. December 29, 1901, at Antigonish, N. S., m. January 1, 1921, at Grand Pre, N. S., Marion Winona Barbara, daughter of Frederick P. and Henrietta Maud (Duncan­son) Eye, of Wolfville, N. S. They reside in Wolfville, N. S., where he is in business. Children:
  Hilda Irene, b. September 5, 1923;
  Muriel Eunice, b. March 6, 1926;
  David Graham, b. September 7, 1927.

1-2-9-28-32-33-44. Harold Bigelow Whidden, eldest son of Charles Edgar and Leah (Bigelow) Whidden, b. Antigonish, N. S., December 29, 1888. He served in the Great War, as a gunner in the 8th Canadian Siege Battery, which unit suffered severely from gas attacks, and he was a gas casualty. He m., September 25, 1923, Clara Catherine, daughter of C. Clayton and Jessie (Marson) Cunningham. Resides in Antigonish. Child:
  Jean Natalee, b. March 9, 1925; d. March 12, 1925.

  Charles Kenneth, b. August 2, 1923;
  Audrey Jean, b. September 12, 1925;
  Shirley Poole, b. June 15, 1928.

Brandon College, affiliated with McMaster University, 1920. He m., April 8, 1927, Elizabeth Ellen, b. December 15, 1899, Chobury, Mortimer, Shropshire (England), daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Waldron) Done. He resides in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

1—2—9—28—32—37—50.—The Rev. Evan McDonald Whidden, second son of Howard Primrose and Katherine Louisa (Ganong) Whidden, b. July 9, 1898, Galt, Ontario. Served in the Great War, in the 76th Canadian Field Battery. He was ordained to the Baptist ministry, July 1, 1926, and is now pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church, Winnipeg Manitoba, where he resides. Degrees,—B.A., 1921, Brandon; M.A., 1925, McMaster; B.D., 1928, Yale.

THE BIGELOW FAMILY

The first marriage recorded in the town records of Watertown, Middlesex County, Massachusetts, is that of John Bigulah and Mary Warinjoyed in marriage before Mr. Nowell, 1642—30—8. Their son Samuel Biglo, b. October 28, 1653; m. June 3, 1674, Mary Flagg; lived in Watertown. Children: John, b. May 9, 1675; Mary, b. Sept. 12, 1677, m. David Bruce; Samuel, b. Sept. 18, 1679; Sarah, b. Oct. 1, 1681, m. Josiah Howe; Thomas, b. Oct. 24, 1683; Mercy, b. April 4, 1686, m. Thos. Garfield; Abigail, b. May 7, 1687, m. Jonathan Cutler; Hannah, b. May 24, 1711; Isaac, b. May 19, 1691; Deliverance, b. Sept. 22, 1695, m. John Sternes.

Sergt. Isaac Bigelow, son of Samuel and Mary (Flagg) Bigelow, b. March 16, 1691, Watertown; m. Dec. 29, 1709, Mary Bond. Lived in Colchester, Conn., and raised a large family. He d. there, Sept. 11, 1751; his wife d. there, July 9, 1775.

Isaac Bigelow, son of Sergt. Isaac and Mary (Bond) Bigelow, b. May 4, 1713; m. March 14, 1734, Abigail Skinner. Resided in Colchester, Conn., until 1762, when they came to Cornwallis, N. S. After a few years he returned, with most of the family, to the United States, leaving, however, his son Amasa and three daughters. One of these daughters, Margaret, married, Sept. 10, 1765, Nathan Longfellow; after living in Cornwallis a few years, her husband had to return to Machias, Me., to look after the mercantile business of his father who had died, and in 1778, he sent for his family, as he was prevented by the war from going after them. She started in an open boat with her six boys, the oldest being twelve years of age, and went to Saint John, N. B., where they were taken prisoners. After a few weeks an officer intimated to her that if she were missing some morning little search would be made for her. She hired a man to take her and her children to Machias, which he did in an open boat, starting in the night and arriving safely in due time. Her daughter Peggy married Jonathan Longfellow.

Amasa Bigelow, son of Isaac and Abigail (Skinner) Bigelow, b. Feb. 11, 1755, at Colchester, Conn., came with his parents to Cornwallis, N. S., about 1762, and remained there when his parents, later on returned to the United States. He m. 1775 or 1776, Roxana Cone. He was a ship carpenter, and was accidentally killed (1799) while at work on a vessel. Children: Ebenezer, b. 1776; John, b. 1778; Daniel, b. 1780; Reuben, b. 1782; Mary, b. 1784; Ruby, b. 1786; Abigail, b. 1788; Sarah, b. 1790; Gideon, b. 1792; Isaac, b. 1794; Rachel, b. 1796.

Reuben Bigelow, son of Amasa and Roxana (Cone) Bigelow, b. about 1782, in Cornwallis, N. S., m. Nov. 9, 1802; Lavinia Skinner; lived in Cornwallis a few years, moving to Town Point, Antigonish County, about 1810. He was drowned near home, May, 1830. His wife was born in Fredericton, N. B., in 1784, and died at Antigonish Harbor, May 9, 1874. Their children were: Ann Chipman, b. Sept. 30, 1803, m. Angus McDonell; Gideon Osborn, b. July 11, 1805, m. Harriet Cunningham;
Charles Skinner, b. Feb. 6, 1807, m. Tryphena Masters; Mary Elizabeth, b. May 5, 1809, m. Capt. David Graham (see The Graham Family); Eunice Caroline, b. Jan. 20, 1811; Samuel William, b. Aug. 28, 1813, m. Ruth Whitman; Daniel; Benjamin, b. Aug. 29, 1815, m. Frances Smith John George, b. Feb. 8, 1817, m. Abbey Morse; Edward Manning, b. Nov. 14, 1819, m. Mary Steel; Ruth Lavina, b. April 1, 1821; Manson Amasa, b. Jan. 2, 1825, was a Baptist preacher, unmarried, died, July 2, 1876; Rebekah Caroline, b. May 8, 1830, m. William R. Gilson. It will be seen that Reuben Bigelow, the great-grandfather of David Graham and Charles Edgar Whidden, was a brother of Daniel, the great-grandfather of their respective wives, Lois and Leah Bigelow.

MARY ELIZABETH, daughter of Reuben and Lavinia (Skinner) Bigelow, married Capt. David Graham: see The Graham Family.

EUNICE CAROLINE, daughter of Capt. David and Mary Elizabeth (Bigelow) Graham, m. Charles Blanchard Whidden: see sketch, Charles Blanchard Whidden.

James William Bigelow, b. Oct. 2, 1834, at Canso, N. S., eldest son of William Johnson and Sarah M. (Whitman) Bigelow. While yet a lad he became an active partner in his father’s business, under the name of W. J. Bigelow & Son, and later handled to a considerable profit, a number of wrecked vessels on the eastern shore of Nova Scotia. He m. Oct. 20, 1857, Sarah Ann, daughter of James Martin and Lois Ruggles (Nichols) Payzant of Wolfville, N.S. The climate of Canso not being suited to his wife’s health, he removed in the fall of 1869, to Wolfville, where he purchased in the west end of the town a small farm on which they lived the remainder of their lives. He took a great interest in apple growing, and proved his faith in the industry by setting out about fifty acres in apple orchard. He was president of the Nova Scotia Fruit Growers’ Association for ten years. He represented that body at the World’s Fair in Chicago, and the International Exhibition at Buffalo, N. Y., and was in charge of the fruit exhibit at the Provincial Exhibition for ten years. He was mayor of Wolfville, 1896-7. He d. June 21, 1917, and his wife, d. May 30, 1918, both dying in Wolfville. Children:


Lois Emma Sarah, b. July 6, 1860, Canso; m. David Graham Whidden. (See sketch);

Leah Arabella Pamela, b. July 20, 1863; m. Charles Edgar Whidden (See sketch);

Ulysses Grant, b. June 12, 1869; m. Louise Cowan; he d. Oct. 23, 1903, at New Britain, Conn.; no children;

Horace Howe, b. June 3, 1873, d. unmarried, Nov. 8, 1911;

Ambrose, b. Sept. 22, 1876, d. Sept. 27, 1876.


Daniel Bigelow, b. 1780, Cornwallis, N. S., third son of Amasa
and Roxana (Con) Bigelow, m. Emma Johnson, who was daughter by first wife—Reid, of Joseph Johnson, son of John Johnson of Ellerton, Yorkshire, Eng., and his wife Sarah (Walgate), they having come to Nova Scotia with many other Yorkshire people in 1775. He lived in Wolfville, where he built vessels and did a West India business, but moved to Guysboro County, possibly the same time his brother Reuben went to Antigonish, about 1810. *A letter from his son William J. written at Canso, March 13, 1826, to his cousin Gideon Bigelow at Antigonish, is in possession of the writer (D.G.W.). In this letter he says: “Father intends to move to Upper Canada in the spring.” He further says, in closing: “Father, Jane and all the children join with me in love.” He left Canso and went to Wisconsin, taking with him all of his family except his son William J. It is believed he married a second time, but to whom and when is not known. After being in the United States some years he came back to Canso, alone, and lived with his son William J. until he died, about 1863. Children: William Johnson, Mary Ann, Daniel, James, Amasa, Emily, m. Isham Day, lived in Ozark, Mo., Jane, Eliza, Abigail, Sarah, Emma. It will be seen that he was the great-grandfather of Lois and Leah Bigelow, and a brother of Reuben Bigelow who was the great-grandfather of their respective husbands, Graham and Edgar Whidden.

*This letter will be deposited, with a copy of this record, with the Archives of Nova Scotia.

GRAHAM

John Graham, with his family came to Antigonish County, from the South of Scotland, “the border land”, in 1799, possibly earlier, and settled at Cape Lewis, now Cape George. He was born March 11, 1748, married February 3, 1777, and died September 29, 1803. Although an attempt was made to ascertain Mrs. John Graham’s family name before she was married, while some of her daughters were living, it was not known. From the gravestone her name was found to be Isabel, and since Captain David Graham’s eldest girl was named Isabel; his eldest son William Fraser, and his second son John Reuben (after his two grandfathers) it seems logical to infer that her name was Isabel Fraser, and that her father’s name was William. Mrs. Isabel Graham was born June 3, 1755, and died October 17, 1821 (possibly 1824).

While the writer believes that all of their children but two were born in Scotland, he took a memorandum from one of the family twenty-five years ago to the effect that only the three eldest were born in Scotland.

Children:

John, b. Jan. 3, 1778; William, b. May 2, 1780; Peter, b. Aug. 14, 1782, d. March 12, 1809; James, b. Aug. 15, 1785, a. Feb. 22, 1818; Janet, b. March 4, 1788, m. Ledbetter; Yimty (or Eunice) b. April 26,1791, m. Thcs. Murphy; David, b. April 22, 1793, see sketch; Mary, b. April 8, 1796, m. Sinclair; Sarah, b. Aug. 19, 1799; Isabella, b. Jan. 4, 1802, m. Robert Hunter.

David Graham, son of John and Isabel, b. April 22, 1793, m. February 6, 1827, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of Reuben and Ann (Skinner) Bigelow. He died October 11, 1899, she died December 1, 1890. After he had been married a few years he moved from Cape George to Antigonish Harbor. He owned and built a number of vessels, and for a time went to sea as Master, as did also his sons, William, John, Charles and Stewart. Children:

Isabel Lavinia, b. Feb. 24, 1828, m. Francis S. Cunningham, d. in Providence, R. I., 1818;
William Fraser, b. Nov. 3, 1829, m. Marcellina Mahoney; d. Feb. 19, 1895;
Eunice Caroline, b. October 8, 1831, m. Charles Blanchard Whidden (see sketch);
John Reuben, b. Nov. 28, 1833, m. Elizabeth McDonald, d. May 23, 1901;
Charles James, b. April 27, 1836, lost with all on board the Barque Commissioner, of which he was master, in Bay St. George, within sight of where he was born, August 24, 1873. He m. Bessie Welling.
Sarah Skinner, b. August 1, 1838, m. 1st, John Thompson, 2nd, John Chisholm.
David, b. Sept. 9, 1840, m. Henrietta McDonald, supposed lost at sea;
Matthew Stewart, b. March 10, 1843, d. Aug. 24, 1873, unmarried;
Emma Matilda, b. Oct. 26, 1845, m. John D. Copeland;
James Bruce, b. Dec. 11, 1850, d. Jan. 1877, unmarried;
Mary Elizabeth, b. Nov. 3, 1852, m. Joseph R. Thomason, d. 1877.

PAYZANT

A rich merchant of Caen, Normandy, on account of one of the persecutions which followed the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, fled to the Island of Jersey, he being a Huguenot. In 1754, his son Louis Payzant, with his wife and four children, Philip, Marie, John and Louis, came to Halifax, Nova Scotia. He brought with him a letter of recommendation from Mr. Powneil, Secretary to the Lords of Trade, London, to Governor Lawrence, who passed him along to Colonel Sutherland, commanding Lunenburg district, with a request that he be favored and protected, and he settled on an island in Mahone Bay.

In the spring of 1756 a party of Indians landed on the island on which the Payzants were living, and killed and scalped Mr. Payzant, a woman servant and her child, and the boy who had acted as their guide. Mr. Payzant’s last words are said to have been “Marie, my heart is growing cold”. The Indians gathered up what goods they could carry with them, set fire to the house and, taking Mrs. Payzant and the four children, they fled in their canoes.

Up stream and down, down the Basin of Minas, across the Bay of Fundy, and up the Saint John river, they paddled and portaged, until they reached an Indian settlement between Fredericton and Woodstock.

At some point on the Saint John river, probably Fredericton, they left the children,—Philip, aged 12, Marie, 10, John, 8, and Louis 6, and took Mrs. Payzant with other adult prisoners to Quebec. After about seven months separation, the children were brought to Quebec and restored to their mother. They were looked after by Jesuit fathers, who sent them to French schools where no English was spoken, and soon John was marked for the priesthood and was given lessons in Greek, Latin and Hebrew with that in view.

After three years captivity, Quebec was taken by the English, and Mrs. Payzant and her five children,—there were five then, for little Lizette had been born shortly after her mother reached Quebec,—were sent to Halifax, N. S., on one of the war vessels, and she was given a tract of land at Paltmouth, Hants County, where she settled.

It is not known what became of Philip, but it is believed he went to the Southern States and settled there. John lived with Henry Alline for a time, and learned the tanning business from him. July 3, 1786, he was ordained over the Cornwallis New Light church and was pastor there until 1795 when he went to Onslow, Colchester County, to take charge of the New Light church there. Later, he went to Liverpool, N. S.
and was pastor of the Liverpool Old Zion Congregational church, until he died in 1834. April, 1793. he married a sister of the Rev. Henry Alline, and founded the family of Payzants in Queens County.

Louis remained in Falmouth; married Grace Davidson, daughter of John and Elizabeth Davidson, and founded the Payzant family in Hants and Kings. Children:

Elias, b. 1776, m., 1799, Ann Martin, he d. 1863; Philip; Peter, m. Catherine Jane Smith; Ann (Curry); Eunice (Rand); Phoebe (Godfrey) and Mary (Smith).

The children of Elias and Ann (Martin) Payzant were,—Matilda, b. 1799, m. Llewelyn Evans, d. 1888; James Martin, b. 1801, d. 1897, m. Lois Ann Nichols; John, b. 1803, m. Elizabeth Payzant, d. 1897; Jane, b. 1805, m. Thomas Curry; Lewis, b. 1807, did not marry; Joel Martin, b. 1809, m. Caroline Payzant, d. 1905; Godfrey, b. 1811, m. Lucilla Godfrey, d. 1896; Elias, b. 1813, m. Rachel Smith, d. 1885; Louise, b. 1815, m. Charles Martin, d. 1900.


The origin of Colonel Robert Blair, who settled in Worcester, Mass., is in dispute, but he is supposed to have been the son of Colonel Robert Blair, of the Blairs of Blairathol, Scotland. His son, Captain William Blair, brought his wife and family to Truro, N. S., in 1760. He was b. 1716, m. about 1740, Jane Barns, and d. Aug. 4, 1791. Their fourth daughter Dorothy m. Simeon Whidden; and John Blair, the fifth son of Dorothy Blair and her husband Simeon Whidden, m. Harriet Elizabeth Symonds, the fourth son of whom was Charles Blanchard Whidden, and his eldest son was David Graham Whidden.

Mary Bigelow Whidden, m. April 3, 1915, Perry Archibald Borden, son of Stanley Perry and Clara (Archibald) Borden; Clara Archibald was daughter of William and Elizabeth (Blair) Archibald; Elizabeth Blair was daughter of Samuel Barns and Nancy (Archibald) Blair; Samuel Barns Blair was son of John and Agnes (Downing) Blair; John Blair was son of Capt. William and Jane (Barns) Blair.

The Symonds came to America from England, and made several trips back and forth, spending most of his time in England. He was b. about 1615, his first wife’s name was Mary, his second wife’s name was Elizabeth. The name Symonds was very common in Norfolk, Eng., and nothing is known of his ancestry. His son Samuel, b. Jan. 1638, Salem, Mass., m. Elizabeth Andrews, b. 1642, daughter of Robt. Andrews and wife Grace, and settled in Boxford, Mass. Deacon Samuel Symonds, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Andrews) Symonds, b. Aug. 6, 1672; m. first, June 8, 1698, Abigail Porter who died Nov. 12, 1716; he m. a second time, and some say a third. He died July 7, 1755. His son, Deacon Joseph Symonds, b. Aug. 22, 1732, Middleton, Mass., m. Oct. 31, 1754, Lucy Kimball. They moved to Hillsboro, N. H., 1772 or 3, and lived on Bible Hill, so called because they owned the first large Bible in town, which is said to be still in good condition in Chicago.

Their children were: Samuel, b. 1755; William, b. 1756; Rebecca, b. 1757; Lucy, b. 1760; Ruth, b. 1761; Nathaniel, b. Oct. 12, 1763; Sarah, b. 1765; David, b. 1766; Rhoda, b. 1768; Eliphalet, b. 1768; Sarah (2nd), b. 1771; Mary b. 1773; Mehitabel, b. 1775.
Nathaniel Symonds, b. Oct. 12, 1763, in Middleton, Mass., son of Deacon Joseph and Lucy (Kimball) Symonds, moved, with his parents, when nine years old, to Hillsboro, N. H. He m., first, Dec. 29, 1791, Elizabeth Blanchard. They moved to Antigonish, N. S., in a sailing vessel, June 1804, and he was the first merchant in the place. Children by first marriage: Samuel, b. 1793, m. Grace Irish; Joseph, b. 1797, m. Sarah Randall, and lived at Little Tracadie (now Linwood), Antigonish County; Harriet Elizabeth, b. July 12, 1798, m. John Blair Whidden; Charles Treadwell, b. 1801, d. 1802. He m., second, January 10, 1809, Mary E. Irish who was b. June 5, 1775, at Newport, N. S. In December, 1804, a meeting for public worship was held at the home of Nathaniel Symonds, and this led to the forming of a Presbyterian church in Antigonish. His first wife was the first adult to be buried in the Presbyterian burying ground, on Main Street, Antigonish, she having died Sept. 25, 1808. He lived in Antigonish and, for a time, in Pictou, N. S. Children by second marriage: Mary Sophia, b. 1809, m. Robert Purvis; Charlotte Frances, b. 1811; m. first, John Waddell Blanchard, son of Jonathan, son of Colonel Jotham; their children being William Sawers, Sarah, Mary and Elizabeth. She married, second, William Robert Cunningham, their children being: Charles, Norman, Arthur and Rupert. He died in Antigonish, July 1822.

KIMBALL


Richard Kimball, b. 1623, d. Sept. 2, 1672, came, when eleven years of age, with his parents, Richard Kimball and wife, Ursula Scott, to America, and they settled in Watertown, Mass.

BLANCHARD

Harriet Elizabeth Symonds, wife of the Rev. John Blair Whidden, was the daughter of Nathaniel Symonds and his first wife, Elizabeth Blanchard, b. 1770, New Hampshire, daughter of Colonel Jotham Blanchard and wife Elizabeth Treadwell; he was b. 1745, m. 1766; because of his loyalty to the British Crown, he came to Truro, N. S., 1785, he d. March 18, 1807; his wife d. Jan. 5, 1811; he was son of Colonel Joseph Blanchard, b. Feb. 11, 1704, and wife, Rebecca Hubbard, b. 1710; he was the son of Capt. Joseph Blanchard, b. Nov. 1, 1672, and wife, Abiah Hassell, b. 1673, Concord, Mass., daughter of Joseph Hassell, b. 1645, and wife, Ann Perry, daughter of William and Anna Perry, of Watertown, Mass., William being son of Richard Hassell, b. 1623, and wife Joan, of Cambridge and Dunstable, Mass.

Capt. Joseph was son of Deacon John Blanchard, b. about 1624, m. 1663, Hannah Kinsley, b. 1634, Braintree, Mass., son of Joseph Blanchard, b. about 1592; came from England in 1637, and died in Boston Oct., 1637; his widow was known as "Widow Ann" Blanchard.
HUBBARD

Rebecca Hubbard, b. 1710, Concord, Mass., wife of Col. Joseph Blanchard, daughter of Major Jonathan Hubbard, Jr., b. 1682, and wife Rebecca, daughter of Thomas and Ruth (Jones) Brown; Major Jonathan was son of Jonathan Hubbard, 1658, Wethersfield, Conn., and wife, Hannah Rice, b. 1660, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (King) Rice; Saml, son of Edmund and Thamezin Rice, of Sudbury, Mass.; Jonathan was son of John Hubbard, of Wethersfield, Conn., and wife,—Merriam, daughter of Wm. Merriam; John was son of George Hubbard, of Wethersfield, and wife Mary; they being among the first settlers of Connecticut.

CONE

Roxana Cone, wife of Amasa Bigelow, daughter of Reuben Cone, b. 1723, East Haddam, Conn.; wife unknown; he was son of Captain Stephen Cone, b. 1678, and Mary Hungerford, b. 1681; he was son of Daniel Cone, b. 1626, in England, and wife Mehitable Spencer, b. 1642, Lynn, Mass.

SPENCER

Mehitable Spencer, wife of Daniel Cone, daughter of Jared or Garrard Spencer, b. 1614, Stotfold, Eng., and wife Alice; settled in Hartford, Conn.; he was son of Gerat Spencer, b. 1576, Stotfold; he was son of Michael Spencer, and wife Annis Miner, m. 1555; he was son of John Spencer, d. 1558, and wife, Anna Clark; resided in Ebworth, Eng.; he was son of John Spencer, and Christian Baker, of Southampton, Eng.; he was son of Robert Spencer and wife Ann Peck, of Bedfordshire, Eng.; he was son of John Spencer of Southampton, Eng.

SKINNER

Lavinia Skinner, b. 1784, wife of Reuben Bigelow, Antigonish, was daughter of Charles and Sarah (Osborn) Skinner. Charles Skinner, b. Jan. 3, 1748, son of Deacon Aaron, b. 1713, and Eunice (Taintor) Skinner, Colchester, Conn., Aaron was son of John Skinner, b. 1673, Malden, Mass., and Sarah—his wife; John was son of Thomas, b. 1645, and Mar. (Pratt) Skinner, he being, presumably the first in America of the name. Mary Pratt was daughter of Richard and Mary Pratt, Malden, Mass., he was son of John Pratt of Malden, Essex County, Eng.

Abigail Skinner, b. 1715, wife of Isaac Bigelow, was daughter of Ebenezer Skinner, 1684, and Abigail Brown Lord, his wife; Ebenezer was son of Thomas and Mary (Pratt) Skinner, above.

TAINTOR

Eunice Taintor, b. 1717, wife of Aaron Skinner, was daughter of Michael Taintor, b. 1680, Windsor, Conn., and wife Eunice Foote; he was son of Michael Taintor, b. 1652, and Mary Loomis, his wife; he was son of Capt. Michael Taintor, and wife, Elizabeth —, resided in Brainford, Conn.; he was son of Charles Taintor, of New England, in 1643; lost at sea.

FOOTE

Eunice Foote, b. 1694, wife of Michael Taintor, daughter of Nathaniel Foote, b. 1647, Wethersfield, Conn., and wife Margaret Bliss, who was daughter of Nathaniel, grand-daughter of Thomas and Margaret (Thomas) Bliss, settler of Hartford, Conn., and Springfield, Mass.; Nathaniel Foote was son of Nathaniel, b. 1620, and wife, Elizabeth Smith.

BOND

Mary Bond, b. 1790, wife of Isaac Bigelow, Sr., was daughter of
Thomas Bond, b. 1654, and wife, Sarah Woolson, b. 1661, daughter of Thomas Woodson, of New Cambridge, Mass., and wife Sarah Hyde, b. 1644, m. 1660, she being daughter of Samuel and Temperance Hyde, settlers of New Cambridge. Thomas Bond was son of William Bond, bap. 1625, in Engl., and Sarah Biscoe, b. 1625, she being daughter of Nathaniel and Elizabeth Biscoe, of Watertown, Mass.; William was son of Thomas Bond, bap. 1597, and wife Elizabeth; he resided Bury St. Edmonds, Suffolk County, Eng. Thomas was son of Jonas Bond and wife Rose.

WHITMAN


Abraham Whitman, b. Sept. 10, 1761, at Stow, Mass., son of John and Mary (Foster) Whitman; m. March 1, 1793, at Chester, N. S., Hannah Webber, b. March 19, 1769, in Conn, daughter of Jeremiah Webber. He started early in life, owing to his father having died when he was but two years old, to make his own way in the world, and went first to Halifax, then to Liverpool, N. S., then to Chester, N. S., where he lived for some years. In 1810 he went to Canso, and in 1812 moved his family to Annapolis, N. S., where he spent the remainder of his life, dying March 24, 1854. They had nine children, all born in Chester except the youngest, Abraham. Their eighth child, Sarah M., b. Nov. 26, 1808, m. 1834, William Johnson Bigelow, father of James W. Bigelow, and grandfather of Lois and Leah Bigelow, wives, respectively of D. Graham Whidden and C. Edgar Whidden.

The descendants of Jeremiah Webber are heirs to a very large estate said to exist in connection with some New York property.

Sarah Alcock, wife of the Rev. Zechariah Whitman, b. 1650, daughter of Dr. John Alcock, b. 1627, and wife Sarah Palsgrave, b. 1621, daughter of Dr. Richard and Joan (Harris) Palsgrave, of Charlestown, Mass.; Dr. John Alcock was son of Dr. George Alcock, b. in England, and wife who was a sister of Rev. Thomas Hooker.

Dorcas Green, wife of John Whitman, b. 1684, Charlestown, Mass., daughter of Capt. Jacob Green, b. 1654, Charlestown, Mass., and Mary Robinson, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Woodie) Robinson, of Roxbury, Mass.; Capt. Jacob was son of Jacob Green, b. 1625, and Elizabeth Long; Jacob was son of John Green.

NICHOLS

Mrs. James Martin Payzant (nee Lois Ruggles Nichols), grandmother of Lois and Leah (Bigelow) Whidden, b. Feb. 27, 1804, Wilmot, N. S., d. Sept. 18, 1899, at Wolfville, N. S., was daughter (youngest child) of Captain David Nichols, b. 1767, Conn., and m. 1789 to Sarah Dodge. David Nichols was the son of William and Mary (Richards) Nichols; he came to Nova Scotia in 1783, when sixteen years of age, with his widowed mother, who came with a party of Loyalists to Annapolis County, bringing with her, three sons and one daughter. He d. 1855.

William Nichols was descended from a younger son of Colonel Nichols, Governor of New York in the 18th century, and who settled in Connecticut, perhaps a grandson.
THE DODGE FAMILY

Mrs. James Martin Payzant (nee Lois Ruggles Nichols), grandmother of Lois and Leah (Bigelow) Whidden, was daughter of Capt. David and Sarah (Dodge) Nichols. Sarah Dodge, b. 1771, m. 1789, d. 1862, was the eldest child of Stephen and Blanche (Shadwin) Dodge, who came with their five children in 1783 to Granville, Annapolis County, and after wards moved to Wilmot. Stephen Dodge was a descendant of Tristram Dodge, who, in 1661 went from Taunton, Mass., to Block Island, Rhode Island, through William, Jeremiah, Tristram (4). He was b. 1748 at Oyster Bay, Long Island, N. Y.

THE GANONG FAMILY

This family was founded in North America, by Jean Guenon, who died before May 21, 1714. Born probably in the province of Saintonge, France, in the vicinity of La Rochelle. As a Hugenot left France and went to Holland, first to Leyden, then to Amsterdam. Left there, by vessel, April 2, 1657, landed in New Amsterdam, now New York, and with several other Hugenots settled in Flushing, Long Island.


2. Isaac Ganong, Jr. Probably the Isaac Ganong who was a taxable inhabitant of Fredericksburg precinct of Philip Philipse patent, now Putnam County, N. Y. Married Rachel Noseman, daughter of Marcus Noseman, of Bedford, Westchester County, N. Y., from whom she received property 1774. Children: Thomas, 1774—1810; John, 1758—1840; Elizabeth; Hannah; Martha; Isaac.

3. Thomas Ganong, son of Isaac and Rachel (Norseman) Ganong, b. 1774, d. April 20, 1810. Born probably at or near Lake Mahopac, N. Y. Lived in Amenia precinct, Dutchess County, N. Y., 1775. Like his grandfather Isaac Gannung, he was a Loyalist, and left the United States, May 1783, going to New Brunswick. He m., 1765, in Amenia, N. Y., Joanna Barlow, b. Aug. 22, 1748, d. Jan. 14, 1833. She was probably the daughter of Moses or Nathan Barlow of Dutchess County, formerly of Cape Cod. Sometime between 1759 and 1785, she was a member of the Presbyterian Church at Amenia, N. Y., known as the “Round Top Meeting House”. Children: John; Isaac Robertson; James, 1781—1850; Thomas Carleton, 1785—1856; Mary.

4. James Ganong, son of Thomas and Joanna (Barlow) Ganong, b. March 21, 1781; d. May 16, 1850. Born probably near Lake Mahopac, N. Y. Received grant of land near Belleisle, New Brunswick, 1812. Buried at Hatfield’s Point. Married, Oct. 7, 1802, Margaret Cox, b. March 22, 1785, d. March 28, 1865. She was daughter of Capt. William and Ann Cox, Loyalists from New York. She was born and died at Kingston, N. B. Children: Francis Daniel, 1818—1887, etc.

5. Francis Daniel Ganong, son of James and Margaret (Cox) Ganong, b. Aug. 23, 1818, Kingston, N. B. Farmer and Merchant. D. Sept. 26, 1887, at Springfield, N. B. Married, Jan. 9, 1840, at Springfield, Deborah Ruth Keirstead, b. May 19, 1820, daughter of Isaiah Keirstead, a descendant of Doctor Hans Kierstede, a physician of Magdeburg, Prussian Saxony, who came to America in 1638, settled on Long Island, and m. June 29, 1642, Sarah Roffeise, daughter of Roffe and Anneke Jans, the line of descent being as follows: (1) Hans Keirstead; (2) Jacobus, baptized Nov. 28, 1663; (3) Samuel, bapt. May 16, 1697; (4) Samuel, bapt. Feb. 10, 1719; (5) James, b. Sept. 24, 1758; (6) Isaiah, b. April 1, 1784. Isaiah had three children who married Ganongs.—Elzas, m. Margaret Ganong, William, m. Elizabeth Ganong, and Deborah Ruth,
m. Francis D. Ganong. Children of Francis Daniel and Deborah Ruth (Keirstead) Ganong:

James Harvey, b. 1841, d. 1888; Edwin, b. 1843, d. 1890;
Matilda Jane, b. 1845; Mary Louisa, b. 1847;
Gilbert White, b. May 22, 1851, d. Oct. 31, 1817;
Cecilia Augusta, b. 1856, d. 1882.

For a time he was engaged in mercantile business, and then took up manufacturing. He founded the candy manufacturing firm of Ganong Brothers, St. Stephen, N. B., in 1872, and the St. Croix Soap Mfg. Co., in 1880. Shortly after the founding of Ganong Brothers, he took into partnership his brother Gilbert White Ganong, and the business was carried on by the two brothers until about 1885, when they separated, Jas. H. taking the Soap business, and G. W. the Confectionery business. James Harvey Ganong continued as head of the soap manufacturing company until his death, after which the management of this company was in the hands of his son, James Edwin Ganong, until he sold out to Lever Brothers. James Harvey Ganong was mayor of St. Stephen. He married, Jan. 13, 1863, at Carleton, N. B., Susan E. Brittain, b. Feb. 21, 1841, Carleton, of Loyalist descent; she d. Feb. 1927; he d. April 21, 1888. Children:

William Francis, b. Feb. 19, 1864;
James Edwin, b. 1866;
Ethan Allen Chase, b. Jan. 15, 1868, d. April 9, 1870;
Katherine Louisa, b. Feb. 14, 1870, m. the Rev. H. P. Whidden;
Susie Brittain, b. March 18, 1872;
Arthur Deindstadt, b. Aug. 3, 1877;
Walter Keirstead, b. Nov. 3, 1878

In early life he was a school-teacher, but he became interested in manufacturing, when his brother, James Harvey, took him into partnership. He was elected a member of the Canadian Parliament, as a Liberal Conservative, in 1896, 1900, and 1904. He was appointed Lieutenant Governor of New Brunswick in 1917, and died holding that office, Oct. 31, 1917. He married, Oct. 18, 1876, at St. Stephen, N. B., Maria F. Robinson, b. April 26, 1855, St. Stephen, N. B.