

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PENNSYLVANIA BIOGRAPHY

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

FREDERIC A. GODCHARLES, LITT. D.

Former State Librarian and Director State Museum;

Author

ILLUSTRATED

VOLUME XXI

LEWIS HISTORICAL PUBLISHING COMPANY, Inc.
NEW YORK

1934

(The Wiggin Line).

The family name Wiggins or Wiggin is derived from the Christian name Wigans, a Frankish name brought to England by the Normans and once a favorite name, meaning "Warring," that is, a warrior. Wygan le Bretun is in the Hundred Rolls of County Essex and William Wygeyn in those of County Norfolk, A. D. 1273. In later years the Wiggins family was a Cavalier stock. One member of the family was knighted for having hidden King Charles I and some of his followers, when that King was a fugitive. He owned a large landed estate.

(C. W. Bardsley: "Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames.")

(I) Thomas (1) Wiggin, of England, came to New Hampshire in 1631, as agent of the proprietors of the Upper Plantation. He returned to England in 1632, but came back to Dover, New Hampshire, in the ship "James," arriving in Salem, Massachusetts, October 10, 1633, and bringing with him a number of families from the West of England. He was Governor of Dover until dispossessed by Burdett. After the union with Massachusetts he was magistrate. In 1645 he was deputy from Dover and assistant from 1650 to 1664. He was one of the leading men of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Thomas (1) Wiggin married Catharine, and they were the parents of: 1. Andrew, born about 1635; married, about 1659, Hannah Bradstreet, daughter of Governor Simon and Ann (Dudley) Bradstreet. 2. Thomas (2), of whom further.

("New England Historical and Genealogical Register," Vol. IX, p. 143. John Scales: "History of Dover, New Hampshire," Vol. I, p. 420. D. Hamilton Hurd: "History of Rockingham and Stafford Counties, New Hampshire," p. 548.)

(II) Thomas (2) Wiggin, son of Thomas (1) and Catharine Wiggin, was born at Dover Neck, New Hampshire, about 1640.

In 1700 and 1701 he was at Sandy Point, Great Bay, New Hampshire. He resided the greater part of his life on Low Street, on Captain's Hill, Dover Neck, New Hampshire, but in later years resided at Sandy Point, Great Bay, where it is supposed his father also died. He and his wife's brother, Walter Barefoot, were for several years in partnership in the saw-mill and lumber business. There is a tradition that Thomas (2) Wiggin's wife was a strict observer of Christmas and of other Church of England festivals and was a zealous friend of the church. At one time Thomas (2) Wiggin visited Governor Mason, of New Hampshire, to protest against his prosecuting his claims as Proprietor of New Hampshire. The Governor ordered him out of the house, and Mr. Wiggin, "a tall, big man," thrust the governor into the fireplace, until his feet and periwig were scorched, and then released him.

Thomas (2) Wiggin married Sarah Barefoot, who was a sister of Walter Barefoot. They were the parents of: 1. Catherine, married (first) Robert Tuffton; (second) her cousin, Simon Wiggin. 2. Sarah, married Henry Sherburne. 3. Susannah, married a Mr. Johnson. 4. Thomas, died March 7, 1726-27. 5. Walter, born about 1701; married Mary Rawlins. 6. Henry. 7. Andrew, of whom further. 8. Samuel. 9. Captain Thomas, married, December 17, 1719, Sarah Piper.

("New England Historical and Genealogical Register," Vol. IX, p. 143. John Scales: "History of Dover, New Hampshire," Vol. I, pp. 420, 430, 434.)

(III) Andrew Wiggin, son of Thomas (2) and Sarah (Barefoot) Wiggin, was born, probably at Dover Neck, New Hampshire, before 1700. He was a resident of Newmarket, Rockingham County, New Hampshire. He married Elizabeth Rawlins. They were the parents of: 1.

Winthrop, born December 26, 1744; married Mrs. Elizabeth (Thorndike) Jones. 2. Moses, married Comfort Foss; removed from Stratham to Wolfboro after 1768. 3. Chase, married Elizabeth Chapman; resided at Wolfboro, New Hampshire. 4. Andrew, Jr., of whom further. 5. David, married (first) Abigail Dutch, (second) Martha Rowe; lived at Newmarket, New Hampshire. 6. Gideon, died at Watertown, during the Revolution, in which war he served as a soldier. 7. Tufton, whose will was proved March 31, 1779; married (first) Mary Calley, (second) Sarah Darling.

(John Scales: "History of Dover, New Hampshire," Vol. I, pp. 432, 434.)

(IV) Andrew Wiggin, Jr., son of Andrew and Elizabeth (Rawlins) Wiggin, was born probably at Newmarket, Rockingham County, New Hampshire.

He married, before 1767, Zeruah Goodwin, of Newmarket, New Hampshire. They were the parents of: 1. James. 2. Anna. 3. Paul. 4. Susan, of whom further. 5. Moses. 6. Andrew.

(*Ibid.* Photostats from Weymouth Family Bible.)

(V) Susan Wiggin, daughter of Andrew Wiggin, Jr., and Zeruah (Goodwin) Wiggin, was born probably in Wolfboro, New Hampshire, February 10, 1767, and died in Orono, Maine, July 25, 1847, aged eighty years, five months and fifteen days. She married Samuel Weymouth. (Weymouth I.)

(*Ibid.*)
