

THE WEBB BULLETIN

NEWS, PROJECT UPDATES & RECORDS

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Webb Sea Captains *from Salem, Massachusetts - Part 2*

By Kathy McHale

Introduction

This is Part 2 of an article on Webb Sea Captains from Salem, Massachusetts. Part 1 appeared in The Webb Bulletin in July 2011, Volume 2, issue 7. Part 2 features captains who served from the time of the American Revolution to the War of 1812.



"The Schooner Fame" by Jeff Eldridge

For each captain, the article includes information about his career at sea and also about his life at home, his family, and his descendants and ancestors where known.

Captain Nathaniel Coit Webb **Sea Captain & Ship Owner**

Captain Nathaniel Coit Webb was born about 1748, according to the DAR Patriot Index. No other record of his birth or reference to the identity of his parents has been found. However, he may have been a son of William Webb and Abigail Riggs, who married at Gloucester, Massachusetts on 23 March 1741. Abigail Riggs' mother was Abigail Coit, whose father was Nathaniel Coit.

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From the Administrator

Dear Project Members,

I would like to thank Kathy McHale for "part two" of her series on Webb Sea Captains of Massachusetts in this issue. I enjoyed it so much and know that you will too. She has provided an incredible amount of historical and genealogical information and done an extraordinary job of bringing to life the lives of these accomplished Webb men.

Also, I would like to announce that the Charles Webb of VA Group is now the Robert Webb of Surry Co. VA Group.

*“When he was about
Cape Romain inlet,
being at night, the wind
blowing fresh, said
William Cain being
forward at the jib sheet,
Richard Williams
knocked Capt. Webb
overboard with the butt[t]
end of a musket, and
immediately after
knocked overboard Mr.
Clode or McClode with
the tiller and leads that
hang to the lead line,
that after the same was
done, the said Richard
Williams told him to
keep it secret and not let
it be known, that being
in want of provisions and
the boat leaky, he got
Mr. James Monzon to
bring the schooner up to
this landing.”*

Webb Sea Captains from Salem, Massachusetts [cont.]

Thus Nathaniel Coit Webb could have been named for his maternal grandfather. The births of several of the children of William Webb and Abigail Riggs are listed in the Gloucester Vital Records, including the birth of Oliver Webb in 1758. Captains Oliver Webb and Nathaniel Webb served together on some privateer ships and had business dealings together related to the sea. For example, they shared ownership of the privateer Rainbow, and held bonds together with John McMellan for the Rainbow. In addition, William Bentley’s Diary states that in July 1788 Oliver Webb reported to him the death at sea of “Brother N. C. Webb and Brother at sea.” Newspaper accounts that appeared in May and June of 1788 corroborate that Capt. Nathaniel C. Webb was murdered at sea. Thus it appears that Nathaniel and Oliver may have been brothers.

Nathaniel married the widow Martha (Needham) Archer in Salem, Massachusetts, certif., 1 July 1773. Martha was the daughter of Isaac Needham and Margaret Sheldon and was baptized 6 January 1744/5. She married first George Archer on 16 December 1764 and had George born 1765, died 1799; John born 1768, a mariner in South Carolina in 1792-3; and Nathaniel born 1771, died 1833. Her husband George Archer was a mariner. By 1772 “he had been long absent, and was not supposed to be living. Martha was appointed administrator of his estate on 7 September 1772.” (Essex Antiquarian, Vol. IV, p. 36)

Nathaniel Webb died about 20 May 1788 onboard the schooner Two Friends near Charleston, South Carolina, murdered by two English pirates. (see newspaper account below).

Nathaniel is referred to as captain, commander, or master in numerous records of his voyages on privateer ships as detailed below. He is also referred to as “captain” in a description attached to a portrait of his daughter Martha (Patty) Webb Brewer. She is described there as the daughter of Captain Nathaniel C. Webb and the mother of Mrs. Newell Harding. Mrs. Newell Harding was Eliza Brewer, daughter of James Brewer and Patty Webb.

The first reference to Nathaniel Coit Webb’s seafaring career identifies him as the prizemaster of a privateer during the American Revolution. He served as the prize master on the brigantine Tyrannicide from 25 February 1777 to 29 August 1777. Captain Jonathan Haraden was the commander. Oliver Webb, possibly Nathaniel’s brother, served as a seaman on this ship starting in October 1777.

On 4 September 1777, Nathaniel was appointed commander of the sloop Revenge, a privateer, for three months. Then, on 4 December, 1777 he was appointed commander of the sloop America, also a privateer. Nathaniel was commissioned as First Lieutenant on the brigantine Saratoga, a privateer, on 29 April 1780.

He was commissioned as commander of the sloop Hazzard, privateer, on 10 July 1781 at the age of 33. A newspaper advertisement in the New England Chronicle, published as the Independent Chronicle and Universal Advertiser, for 6 September 1781, announces the sale of the good ship Commerce, burthen 70 tons, prize to the sloop Hazzard, Nathaniel Coit Webb, Commander.

Nathaniel was also the captain of the Rainbow, a Massachusetts privateer sloop, with 10 guns, and a crew of 40 men on 5 Apr 1782, according to Granville Hough’s records.

No records have yet been found of Nathaniel Coit Webb's voyages from 1782 to 1787.

In the spring of 1788, according to newspaper accounts from Charleston, SC, Capt. Webb came as ship captain from London to North Carolina on a brig owned by a Mr. McClode. The brig was loaded with items that Mr. McClode was seeking to sell for a good price. At Edenton, North Carolina, Mr. McClode bought a schooner, loaded it with the goods he had on the brig, and named the schooner the Two Friends. They set sail, bound for Georgia. When they reached Newbern, William Cain, an English sailor, came on board as a ship hand. At the next stop in Beaufort, Richard Williams, an English horse racer, came on board. William Cain gave a vivid description in his confession of what happened next:

"When he was about Cape Romain inlet, being at night, the wind blowing fresh, said William Cain being forward at the jib sheet, Richard Williams knocked Capt. Webb overboard with the but[t] end of a musket, and immediately after knocked overboard Mr. Clode or McClode with the tiller and leads that hang to the lead line, that after the same was done, the said Richard Williams told him to keep it secret and not let it be known, that being in want of provisions and the boat leaky, he got Mr. James Mouzon to bring the schooner up to this landing." Taken and acknowledged before me, this 29th day of May, 1788. John Buchanan, J.Q., State of South-Carolina, Charleston District"

Both Oliver Webb and Emme Kimball reported this incident to Rev. William Bentley of Salem, who wrote about it in his diary as follows on July 13, 1788: "Emme Kimball, Murder of B. N. C. Webb by Pirates, May 20. Pirates executed at Charlestown [SC]." and on July 20, 1788: "Oliver Webb, death of Brother N.C. Webb & Brother at sea"

Nathaniel Coit Webb and Martha Needham Archer had at least five children whose baptisms are recorded in Salem Vital Records, citing records of the North Church. Nathaniel's name is spelled in various ways in the Salem Vital Records: Nathaniel Goyet Webb, Nathaniel Gaiset Webb, and Nathaniel Gaiser Webb. However, matching the dates and events from these records shows that these are all variations on the name Nathaniel Coit Webb. Records of his descendants in the DAR also give the spelling of his middle name as Coit.

William Webb bp. Salem, Massachusetts 28 Nov. 1773 d. after 1798 (see note below)

Nathaniel Coit Webb bp. Salem, Massachusetts 10 September 1775, d. after 1798 (see note below)

Martha (Patty) Webb bp. Salem, Massachusetts 7 September 1777, d. about 1807 (see note below)

Polly Webb bp. Salem, Massachusetts 12 August 1780

Kabby Webb (probably s/b Nabby for Abigail) bp. Salem, Massachusetts 12 August 1780

In Essex County (MA) Deeds Vol. 165, Leaf 102, the following transaction is recorded and provides information about Nathaniel's descendants as of 17 February 1798.

17 Feb. 1798: Webb to Archer: Know all men by these presents that we, William Webb, cooper, Nathaniel Coit Webb of Baltimore in the state of Maryland, mariner, and James Brewer of Boston in the county of Suffolk, blacksmith, and Martha his wife, in consideration of the sum of fifty-nine pounds eight shillings, paid unto us by George Archer of Salem aforesaid, mariner,.... all right and interest in the estate of his brothers John Archer and Nathaniel Archer, being related to them as half-brothers and half-sister." (Polly Webb and Nabby Webb probably had died by that date since they are not mentioned.)

Captain Benjamin Webb
Sea Captain, Tavern Keeper & Farmer

Captain Benjamin Webb was born in Salem, Massachusetts on 2 Mar. 1753 and baptized on 3 Mar. 1754, a son of Jonathan Webb and Elizabeth Sa[u]nders. His earliest known ancestor is his father's father, Deacon Jonathan Webb of Salem, born about 1690. His mother Elizabeth was the daughter of Philomen Saunders and Sarah Skerry. Benjamin died on 13 October 1815. His probate record is found in the Essex County Probate Records, docket number 29051.

In Salem on 23 Sept. 1779, Benjamin married Mary King, daughter of William and Mary (Andrew) King. Mary was born 6 Jan. 1753 and died 19 Oct. 1830.

Benjamin is called Captain in his death record in the Salem Vital Records, which cite the Salem Gazette of 17 Oct. 1815 and the Diary of Deacon Stone; in an article in the Salem News of 25 May 2009; and in the Holyoke Diaries, 1709-1856.

During the Revolutionary War, Benjamin was a private and a quarter gunner in Capt. John Symonds' company, enlisting on 2 Aug. 1776 and serving one month and 29 days.

Benjamin worked as a captain of coasting vessels, although no record of specific voyages undertaken by him has been found. Retiring from the sea at the age of 40 in 1793, he then ran the Sun Tavern at 1761-2 Essex Street in Salem. According to an account in the Essex Antiquarian, this was the most noted tavern in Salem. In 1799 twenty-two Salem shipmasters met at Webb's tavern to establish the East India Marine Society. The articles collected abroad by members of this society ultimately became part of the present day Peabody Essex Museum in Salem.

Later in life, Benjamin lived on his farm at the foot of Conant Street in Salem. After Benjamin's death, his son Samuel carried on the cultivation of his father's farm.

Benjamin and Mary had at least nine children as listed below. All baptisms listed are found in the Salem Vital Records, citing the records of the Tabernacle Church. Samuel's birth or baptism is not found in the Salem Vital Records, but Samuel is included as a child of Benjamin and Mary in ES Waters' Genealogical Notes of the Webb Family.

Mary Webb bp. 9 July 1780.

Priscilla Webb bp. 5 Sept. 1783

Samuel Webb b. 8 Jan. 1785 d. 5 Apr. 1865 unmarried

Elisabeth Webb bp. 24 Dec. 1786, died young

Benjamin Webb bp. 24 Aug. 1788, died young

Elisabeth Webb bp. 18 Oct. 1789, died young

Elisabeth Webb bp. 30 Oct. 1791

Benjamin Webb bp. 25 Jan. 1795

Jonathan Webb bp. 25 Jan. 1795

Captain Stephen Webb
Sea Captain & Ropemaker

Captain Stephen Webb was born in Salem, Massachusetts on 21 Sept. 1756, a son of Jonathan Webb and Elizabeth Sa[u]nders. His earliest known ancestor is his father's father, Deacon Jonathan Webb of Salem, born about 1690. His mother Elizabeth was the daughter of Philomen Saunders and Sarah Skerry. Captain Stephen died 11 Feb. 1831. His probate record is found in the Essex County Probate Records, Docket Number 29083.

Stephen married twice, first in Salem on 3 Oct. 1779 to Sarah Allen, daughter of Edward Allen and Ruth Hodges. Sarah Allen died 23 Sept. 1780. Stephen then married in Salem on 2 Sept. 1784 Sarah (Putnam) Palfrey, daughter of Bartholomew Putnam and Sarah Hodges, and widow of Thomas Palfrey. Sarah (Putnam) Palfrey Webb, widow of Stephen, died at the age of 85 on 27 Apr. 1848.

Stephen is called Captain in the record of the August 1784 intention of his marriage to Sarah (Putnam) Palfrey and in the record of his death. In the Driver genealogy, he is referred to as a master mariner. ES Waters writes that Stephen was "a sea captain." The newspaper announcement of his daughter Sarah's marriage refers to Stephen as "Capt." The list of subscribers to the leveling and grading of the Common in Salem in the Essex Antiquarian includes the following information about Stephen: "He was a shipmaster ...". Lastly, in the book Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution, Stephen Webb is identified as the commander of the privateer brig Saratoga, of the privateer ship Commerce, and of the privateer ship Resolution.

Stephen Webb's career as an officer began with his appointment as First Lieutenant of the sloop Patty in 1778. He went on to be commissioned as the commander of the Saratoga in 1779, of the ship Commerce in 1781, and of the ship Resolution in 1782. Granville W. Hough writes that the ship "Commerce" was under the command of Capt. Stephen Webb in 1781 when it was captured a few days out of port. The Commerce was a ship of 200 tons, 14 guns and 50 men.

In 1798, Stephen was a subscriber to the loan that financed the frigate Essex, built in Salem to serve in the American Navy. Stephen's siblings Michael Webb and Benjamin Webb, Jr. were also subscribers.

After retiring from his work as a sea captain, Stephen Webb was the owner and coordinator of a ropewalk in Salem. William Bentley noted in his diary in 1803 that "W. Gray, Merchant, has sold the Ropewalk in Brown Street to Captain Stephen Webb". An advertisement in the Salem Gazette, 6 May 1803 reads: "Cables & Cordage for sale by Stephen Webb, at his Ropewalk in Brown Street, Salem." The ropewalk was located on what is now Howard Street in Salem and was evidently also known as the Haraden Ropewalk.

Captain Stephen Webb and his first wife, Sarah Allen, had one child:

Sarah Webb, who married a Capt. Benjamin Swett

Captain Stephen Webb and his second wife, Sarah (Putnam) Palfrey, had at least four children, as follows:

Elizabeth Webb – She is mentioned only by ES Waters. She does not appear in the Salem Vital Records.

Ruth Webb, bp. 10 Mar. 1787. The baptisms of Ruth and her two younger siblings below are in the Salem Vital Records to the end of 1849, citing the records of the North Church.

Ruth Putnam Webb, bp. 1794

Stephen Palfrey Webb, b. 20 March 1804, bp. 25 Mar. 1804. He was the 3rd and 12th Mayor of Salem and also Mayor of San Francisco from 1854 to 1855. He died in Brookline, MA on 29 Sept. 1879.

Captain Stephen Webb's son, Stephen Palfrey Webb, had only one child, a daughter Caroline, so there are no known Y-DNA descendants of the line of his line.

Captain Thomas Webb Sea Captain & Captain of a Prison Ship

Information currently available makes it difficult to say for certain whether there was only one **Captain Thomas Webb** in Salem who was both a sea captain sailing to and from Sumatra in the 1790's and early 1800's and also the keeper of a prison ship in Salem Harbor during the War of 1812. There may have been two Captain Thomas Webbs living at the same time, one an active sea captain and the other the captain of the prison ship. However, it seems most likely that there was just one Captain Thomas Webb, an active sea captain in his young and middle adult years and a prison ship captain in his older years.

In the Essex Institute Historical Collections, Vol. IV, p. 7, there is mention of a Thomas Webb, shipmaster and the keeper of the prison ship at Rust's wharf during 1812-1815, who died in 1825 at the age of 69 years, giving a birth date of about 1756. There is a Thomas Webb in the Salem Vital Records who died on 15 Dec. 1825 at 68 yrs. Probably this is the same person, with one age being incorrect. The notes in the list of Common Subscribers from the Essex Institute Historical Collections, Vol. IV, p. 77, state that Thomas Webb, shipmaster, etc., was twice married, and died on Oct. 14, 1825 aged 69.

None of these sources mention anything about the parents of Thomas Webb.

However, it is possible, based on deed records, that he may have been a son of a Benjamin Webb. On 30 Nov. 1796 Thomas Webb, trader, married to Mary, sells with Mary Brookhouse, widow, land that "descended to us from our father Benj. Webb, decd."

If Benjamin is Thomas' father, there is no mention of an appropriate birth, death or marriage for this Benjamin Webb in the Salem Vital Records. It is likely that Thomas is not a descendant of Deacon Jonathan Webb since he is not included in any of the major sources that delineate those descendants

There are a few records of Captain Thomas Webb's voyages to Sumatra in search of pepper. He was the shipmaster of the brig George Washington which, with Thomas Webb as captain, was cleared from Salem on 10 Dec. 1801 and returned from Sumatra under the command of Capt. Thomas Bowditch in Nov 1802.

George Nichols in his autobiography entitled "A Salem Shipmaster and Merchant" describes meeting Captain Thomas Webb of the brig George Washington as Webb came in to port for a cargo of pepper. Evidently Captain Webb feared being left alone in the port after Nichols finished loading his cargo of pepper, so Captain Webb left the port after a day or two.

There is additional information on Capt. Thomas Webb's duties as the keeper of the prison ship. In his Diary, Rev. William Bentley writes that "At present all prisoners returned are provided with a home in the guard ship under Capt. Thomas Webb. They are at liberty to act at their own pleasure as to the time of their stay among us. They are chiefly soldiers from Canada."

In his book [The Marine Room of the Peabody Library of Salem](#), John Robinson relates an interesting story about Capt. Webb and the prison ship. The Peabody Library Marine Room is home to a 5 feet long fully rigged model of the US Constitution. The Library itself has in its files a bill from May 1814 acknowledging receipt by Thomas Webb of \$12. on behalf of the English prisoners of war. The prisoners evidently were paid for their work repairing the model of the US Constitution which had been damaged by salutes from miniature guns at a banquet!

Scant information is available about Captain Thomas Webb's family. He was reportedly married twice. Since the deed records above mention that Thomas Webb's wife in 1796 was Mary, one of his marriages may have been to Mary Smethurst, whose intention to marry Thomas Webb was filed in Salem Aug. 5, 1780

In the probate record of Thomas Webb from Jan., 1826, which is most likely the probate record of Captain Thomas Webb, he mentions his wife Sally, who is probably the second wife of Captain Webb. He appears to have had no children from either of these two marriages, as his will leaves all his estate to his wife, Sally, and, if she is deceased, to his nieces and nephews. Further examination of those probate records may yield more information about the family to which Thomas Webb belongs.

Captain Oliver Webb Sea Captain

Captain Oliver Webb was born in Gloucester, Massachusetts in July, 1758, a son of William Webb and Abigail Riggs. His father William Webb, born 1717, was a son of John Webb and Elizabeth Phippen of Salem. His mother Abigail Riggs was a daughter of John Riggs and Abigail Coit. Oliver may have been a sibling of Nathaniel Coit Webb, also a sea captain. More information about this possible connection can be found in the section on Nathaniel Coit Webb in this article.

Oliver married Sarah Elkins in Salem, Massachusetts on 8 June 1783. Sarah was born in Salem in April 1766, the daughter of Capt. John Elkins and Sarah Putnam. She died of a fever 21 February 1801 at the age of 35. Oliver died of a fever at Gonaives, Hispaniola (now Haiti) August 14, 1798 at the age of 39. His probate records are found in the Essex County Probate Records, docket number 29071.

Oliver Webb is called Captain in his death record in the Salem Vital Records; in his wife's death record in the Salem Vital Records; in advertisements and articles in the Salem Gazette for 1798, 1799, and 1801; in the book Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the War of the Revolution; and in the Naval Records of the American Revolution. He is also called captain in several newspaper articles about his voyages published between 1793 to 1798.

Oliver began his maritime career as a seaman, serving on the brigantine Massachusetts from 22 Feb. 1777 to 31 Jul. 1777. He would have been about 19 years old at the time. This marks the beginning of his service as a sailor in the Revolutionary War.

In early October, 1777 Oliver began serving on the brigantine Tyrannicide, commanded by Jonathan Haraden. He served on this ship a total 7 mos. 24 days and was discharged on June 26, 1778.

In November 1780, Oliver is listed as a sailor on the brigantine Murr, with John Burchmore, Master. Then in December of 1780, Oliver is on the list of officers and crew of the privateer Thomas, Francis Boardman commander.

Oliver's first commission as commander of a ship came on 9 Oct. 1782 when he was appointed commander of the schooner Rainbow. The Rainbow was a Massachusetts privateer, equipped with 6 guns and a crew of 25 men. At the time that Oliver was master of the Rainbow, the owner of the ship was Nathaniel C. Webb of Salem and the bonders were Oliver Webb, Salem, Nathaniel C. Webb, Salem, and John McMellan, Salem. This John McMellan is likely the John McMellan who was appointed guardian of Oliver's children in 1802 and who also listed the family home for sale in 1802.

No records of voyages for Oliver have been found from 1782 when he commanded the Rainbow until 1792.

In 1793, however, Oliver Webb is mentioned as the master of the schooner Betsey, sailing from Baltimore, bound to Leogane [Haiti], via Cape Henry. This appeared in a news article July 13, 1793 in the Dunlap's American Daily Advertiser.

On April 14, 1794 the American Mercury of Hartford, under a headline of "Baltimore", reported that Captain Oliver Webb arrived in Baltimore on the brig Dolphin after traveling 36 days from Leogane. This article reports that five days after leaving Leogane, the Dolphin was boarded by the Charlotte, a pirate sloop from Liverpool. The commander of the

Charlotte put a pirate's prize master and seven men in the place of most of Captain Webb's staff, and ordered the ship to Bermuda on the 17th of March. As the American Mercury put it, "in the latitude of Bermuda, Capt. Webb with the assistance of his passengers, re-took his brig and brought her safe into this port [Baltimore] accompanied by eight pirates, who, it is to be hoped, will meet their desert."

The Newport (RI) Mercury reported on February 27, 1798 that Capt. Oliver Webb in the schooner Polina, arrived in Newport from Baltimore. He had sailed from Hampton Roads the 12th of January in company with the schooners Federal George and Theodore and was bound for Boston.

The Salem Gazette reported on July 20, 1798, that "Capt. Oliver Webb, of this town, in the Sch'r Paulina, is carried into the Mole." This most likely is a reference to Mole St. Nicholas, a port in Hispaniola, according to Daniel Vickers and Vince Walsh, authors of the book Young Men and the Sea.

Not long after that, Captain Oliver Webb died of a fever in Gonaives, Hispaniola about August 14, 1798. In the midst of the prolonged settlement of Oliver's estate, his wife Sarah died of a fever at the age of 35 on 21 Feb. 1801.

Their deaths left several minor children as orphans of Oliver and Sarah. John McMellan, guardian of the minor children, advertised on December 19, 1802 in the Salem Gazette for the sale on January 13, 1803 of "All the real estate of Samuel Webb, Sally Webb, Oliver Webb, and William Webb, minors and children of Oliver Webb, deceased consisting of one fourth part of a Dwelling House and of a small piece of land, under and adjoining the same, situated at the corner of Derby and Turner Streets, in Salem, in the County of Essex." The appointment of a guardian for Samuel, Sally, Oliver and William is in the Essex County Probate Records, docket number 29076.

From information in the probate records and from the Salem Vital Records, it appears that Oliver and Sarah had at least six children, as follows:

Samuel Webb, b. about 1784 based on his age of 18 in 1802 guardianship papers, bp. 12 August 1787

Sally Webb, b. about 1785-1787 based on her age of 15 in 1802 guardianship papers, her baptism on 12 Aug. 1787, and her age at death (85 in 1870)

Oliver Webb, bp. 23 May 1790 d. 10 Feb. 1816 at 26 of consumption

_____son **Webb**, died of convulsions d. Nov. 4, 1792 at 48 hrs.

William Webb, b. about 1795. William's birth does not appear in the Salem Vital Records, but his existence is known through the appointment of a guardian for him at age 7 in 1802; the mention of him in the will of his sister Sally Webb in 1863; and a newspaper advertisement listing him as a minor child of Oliver Webb in 1802.

Ruth Webb, b. about Jan 1795 based on age at date of death, bp. 22 Feb. 1795, d. Salem, Massachusetts on 23 Sept. 1795 of a fever at the age of 8 months

Captain Jonathan Webb of L'Orient, France

The identity of this **Captain Jonathan Webb** is another mystery to be solved, like the mysterious Captain Stephen Webb in Part One of this article on Salem Webb Sea Captains. This Jonathan Webb is identified as a Captain in the report of his baptism in Salem at the age of 30 on 13 Feb. 1788. This baptism is found in only one place, the Genealogical Notes of the Webb Family by ES Waters, but Waters does not mention the source of his information. The Vital Records of Salem to 1849 do not include the baptism of Captain Jonathan Webb.

No other Jonathan in the Salem Vital Records list of births, baptisms, marriages or deaths appears to be related to this Jonathan. Newspaper reports of the time do not mention a Captain Jonathan Webb. Shipping notes of the time do mention L'Orient, France, however.

For now, Captain Jonathan Webb remains a mystery man!

Captain Benjamin Webb Sea Captain

Captain Benjamin Webb was born, probably in Salem, Massachusetts, either 3 or 5 Nov. 1759, a son of John Webb and Judith Phelps. His earliest known ancestor is his paternal grandfather, Deacon Jonathan Webb born about 1690. Benjamin's birth and baptism are not recorded in the Salem Vital Records, but ES Waters in Genealogical Notes of the Webb Family gives a birthdate of 3 Nov. 1759. Benjamin's gravestone in the Howard Street Burial Ground in Salem gives a birthdate of 5 Nov. 1759.

Benjamin married Hannah Bray, daughter of John Bray and Elizabeth Driver. According to the Driver genealogy, Benjamin and Hannah were married on 25 Jun. 1783.

Their marriage does not appear in the Salem Vital Records. However, it is possible that the year recorded there for a marriage intention of Benjamin Webb and Hannah Bray on 24 May 1683 is in error, and in fact their marriage intention was filed on 24 May 1783.

Hannah was born 23 Jan. 1759. She died on 25 Sep. 1838 at the age of 78.

Benjamin and Hannah (Bray) Webb lived on the Bray homestead in Salem.

Benjamin died in Salem on either 6 or 10 Sep. 1827 of apoplexy at the age of 68. Salem Vital Records give his death date as 6 Sept.; the Driver genealogy gives his death date as 10 Sept. 1827. His probate records are found in the Essex County Probate Records, docket number 29052. The probate records are lengthy, extending from 1827 through 1841.

Benjamin Webb is called Captain in the Driver genealogy; in his death record in 1827 in the Salem Vital Records; in his wife Hannah's death record in 1838 in the Salem Vital Records; on his gravestone in the Howard Street Cemetery; and in numerous records of his voyages.

The first record found of a voyage commanded by Captain Benjamin Webb is in 1788 when he was captain of the Three Sisters. According to Robert Peabody in Merchant Venturers of Old Salem, the Three Sisters was the first of two vessels "to start on the long voyage from America to China. On December 4, 1788, she sailed for Batavia [now Jakarta, Indonesia] under the command of Captain Benjamin Webb, with Mr. Samuel Blanchard as supercargo and young Nathaniel Silsbee, who later became United States Senator, as clerk." The log book of the brig Three Sisters, Benjamin Webb, master, 1788-1789 is in the Phillips Library of the Peabody Essex Museum.

Samuel Eliot Morison in his book The Maritime History of Massachusetts, 1783 – 1860 wrote that the “brig Three Sisters, Captain Benjamin Webb, disposed of a mixed cargo at Batavia, where she was chartered by a Dutch merchant to carry Java products to Canton. She and the Atlantic were there sold, and the entire proceeds invested in silks, chinaware, and three-quarters of a million pounds of tea, which were loaded on the two larger vessels.”

On 5 Jun. 1790, Benjamin Webb was master of the ship Astrea, sailing with a Three Sisters crew, when it arrived back in Salem.

The Phillips Library also contains the manifest of the sloop Salem Packet from a voyage in August of 1791, Benjamin Webb, master. Though the handwriting is difficult to read, it appears that this ship was bound for Barbados with a cargo that included wine and 1000 planks.

In the first issue of the first volume of the Essex Antiquarian, Captain Benjamin Webb is noted for commanding the brig Sally of Salem which, in 1796, was “the first American vessel to open trade with Batavia. Benjamin Webb purchased pepper and sugar from the people of Batavia.”

On 6 Aug. 1796 on the brig Three Sisters’ trip home from Batavia, Captain Benjamin Webb’s younger brother Stephen Webb died at the age of 23 of a fever.

The last record found of a voyage by Captain Benjamin Webb is in the logbook of the ship Adventure when it sailed from Salem to Calcutta and back to Salem from 10 Dec. 1801 to 20 Dec. 1802. Benjamin Webb was the master and Hardy Phippen was the keeper of the logbook. This logbook is also in the Phillips Library.

Captain Benjamin Webb was one of the 22 founding members of the East India Marine Society in Salem in 1799. Sea captains and supercargoes who had sailed around the Cape of Good Horn were eligible to join this society. The Smithsonian Magazine’s website describes the East India Marine Society like this: “In 1799, Salem’s globe-traveling sea captains and traders established the city’s East India Marine Society, whose bylaws charged members to bring home natural and artificial curiosities. The giant clamshells, poisoned arrows, silver hookahs and more than 4,000 other curios they collected formed the nucleus of what is now the Peabody Essex Museum, the oldest continuously operated museum in the country.” The Society also provided aid to families of sailors.

Benjamin and Hannah Webb had at least eleven children. Birthdates below are all from the Driver genealogy. Baptismal dates are all from the Salem Vital Records, citing records of the East Church or the Howard Street Cemetery.

Benjamin Webb, b. 23 Apr. 1784, bapt. 1 Jul. 1787

Elizabeth Webb, b. 10 Apr. 1786, bapt. 1 Jul. 1787

Jonathan Webb, bapt. 22 Mar. 1790

John Webb, b. 1 May 1788, bapt. 25 May 1788

Thomas Bray Webb, b. 7 May 1791, bapt. 22 May 1791

William Webb, b. 26 Sep. 1793, bapt. 6 Oct. 1793

_____ son **Webb**, b. and d. 21 Apr. 1796

Hannah Webb, b. 4 Jun. 1797, bapt. 18 Jun. 1797

Jonathan Webb, b. about 1798, based on his death a 28 y. of apoplexy on 30 Oct. or 23 Nov. 1826; bapt. 14 Apr. 1799

Stephen Webb, bapt. 1801 m. Martha Luscomb, bank officer, IRS clerk.

Charlotte Ives Webb, bapt. 1804

**Captain William Webb
Sea Captain & Ship Owner**

Captain William Webb was born, probably in Salem, Massachusetts, about 1765, a son of John Webb and Judith Phelps. His oldest known ancestor was his father's father, Deacon Jonathan Webb of Salem born about 1690. William received adult baptism on 8 December 1793. His birth does not appear in the Salem Vital Records.

William married Hannah Allen in Salem, Massachusetts on 12 Dec. 1790. Hannah was the daughter of a Marblehead family, born about 1765, and was brought up in the family of Colonel Pickman. Hannah died on 16 Nov. 1813 at 48. Nothing further has been found about her parents.

William died in Salem, Massachusetts at the age of 83 years on 3 Jan. 1848.

The record of the administration of his estate is found in Essex County Probate Records, docket number 56490 where he is listed as a mariner. He is buried in the Howard Street Cemetery, Salem, MA.

William Webb is called "Captain" in the book FAME: The Salem Privateer by Capt. Michael Rutstein; in the Essex Institute Historical Collections, Vol. XXI, 1884, p. 61; in the record of his wife Hannah's death in 1813; and in the record of his son Thomas' death in 1802. He is called "shipmaster" in his own death record.

Though William Webb was known as Captain as early as 1802 at the time of his son Thomas' death as noted above, William Webb is perhaps best known as an owner and the first captain of the Schooner Fame. The Fame was commissioned as a privateer during the War of 1812. Captain Rutstein summarizes this event: "At the outbreak of war in 1812, 25 Salem shipmasters risked their fortunes and their lives by fitting out a small 'Chebacco' fishing schooner as a privateer and manning it themselves. The risk paid off. Fame was the first American privateer to bring back a prize, and before she was through, she captured some 22 vessels." The shipmasters chose William Webb as their captain.

At the age of 47 at the time, he was the oldest of the group.

William Webb's two voyages on the Fame were quite successful. The plan was for the FAME to sail down the Maine Coast toward New Brunswick, aiming to find British vessels in the small ports along the way. Off Grand Manan, the FAME took not one but two vessels without a single shot being fired. One ship taken was the Concord of England, the other was the Elbe from Scotland. At auction, the Concord brought proceeds of over \$4600, making the 25 captains' investment in FAME a truly wise one.

Captain Michael Rutstein, captain of the present day Schooner FAME, a replica of the original, has identified from various sources several other voyages on which William Webb was the captain, as follows. This list is abbreviated. The original list and sources can be obtained upon request.

1802	Master of snow MARY
1805	Master of ship AURORA, entering from Sumatra with pepper for Joseph Ropes after a journey of 131 days.
1805	Master of brig AURORA, to Nantz
1810	"Webb" given as master of the Salem brig LITTLE JAMES
7/1/1812	Named as master of FAME
7/1/1812	Named as master on Salem & Beverly Ship Registers
2/9/1813	Voted captain of privateer schooner, GRUMBLER
4/15/1813	Master of the privateer schooner GROWLER

- 7/17/1813 Listed as one of 21 owners of CASTIGATOR on her commission
- 1813 Master of privateer schooner FROLIC
- 3/12/1814 Sold 1/25 of Fame to Timothy Wellman Jr. for \$55. This Bill of Sale can be found in the Peabody Essex Museum.

Captain William Webb was something of a folk hero. The Golden Hind Company published a traditional folk song, "The Fame of Salem," that mentioned Captain Webb in one verse:

Captain Webb had not sailed many leagues before he did espy
 Two lofty ships a-windward, they came bearing down so nigh,
 And both of them were British ships full loaded with supplies,
 Webb made them haul their colors down and took them as his prize.

After retiring from his career as a mariner, William Webb worked as an inspector at the Salem Custom House. He was ultimately removed for alleged incompetence. This incident is related in the Scarlet Letter by Nathaniel Hawthorne, who had a hand in the firing of William Webb.

William and Hannah had at least eight children, as follows. All except the first child are from the Salem Vital Records to the end of 1849, citing the records of the East Church:

_____ **son Webb**, b. and d. 17 Sept. 1791, mentioned in William Bentley's diary.

Hannah Webb, bp. 3 Dec. 1793

Elizabeth Webb, bp. 19 Apr. 1795, d. 17 Aug. 1814 of a fever

William Webb, bp. 23 Jul. 1797, d. 21 Apr. 1803 of convulsions

Stephen Webb, bp. 18 Nov. 1798, d. 16 Aug. 1801 of obstructed breathing

Thomas Webb, bp. 14 Jun. 1801, d. 24 Sept. 1802 of dysentery

William Webb, bp. 11 Nov. 1805

Mary Webb, bp. 16 Oct. 1808

Captain Joseph Webb Sea Captain & Boat Builder

Captain Joseph Webb was born about 1771, the youngest of ten children of Stephen Webb and his second wife, Mary (Tyler) Manning, widow of Jacob Manning. Joseph's earliest known ancestor is his father's father, Deacon Jonathan Webb of Salem, born about 1690. Joseph's birth does not appear in the Salem Vital Records or in the Driver Genealogy. ES Waters' Genealogical Notes of the Webb family is the only source found to date that lists a birthdate for Joseph.

On 26 Nov. 1795, Joseph married Mercy Dever(e)aux of the Marblehead Devereaux family. She had been brought up by a Mrs. Palfray, widow of Benjamin Gale. Mercy Webb died of typhus fever on 27 Dec. 1812 at the age of 41, and is buried in the Howard Street Cemetery in Salem.

No record of the death of Capt. Joseph Webb has been found. Despite having descendants who lived as recently as the early 1900's, he appears to have no living Webb Y-DNA descendants.

Joseph Webb is called Captain in the Salem Vital Records in the record of the death of his wife Mercy and also by ES Waters.

No record of his voyages has been found so far.

In addition to being a sea captain, Joseph Webb also worked as a boat builder. The record of his infant son Joseph's death on 5 Oct. 1801 states that Joseph, the father, was a boat builder.

Joseph and Mercy had at least eight children as listed below, all from the Salem Vital Records to 1849 citing the records of the East Church of Salem, except for the last child listed. Her birth is noted by ES Waters with no additional information provided.

Sarah Webb, bp. 12 Jun. 1796

Eliza Webb, bp. 1 Oct, 1797

Joseph Webb, bp. 18 Aug. 1799, d. 5 Oct. 1801

Joseph Webb, b. 20 Mar., bp. 11 Apr. 1802 – a sea captain

_____ son **Webb**, b. 11 Sept. 1804, d. 29 Sept. 1804

Stephen Webb, bp. Dec. 1805

William Webb, bp. 8 Nov. 1807

_____ daughter **Webb** – no further information

Sources for Part 2

DAR Patriot Index (Nathaniel, Benjamin b. 1753, Stephen)

Vital Records of Salem, Massachusetts to the end of the year 1849. (All)

Vital Records of Gloucester, Massachusetts to the end of the year 1849. (Nathaniel, Oliver)

MA Soldiers and Sailors in the War of the Revolution (Nathaniel, Benjamin b. 1753, Stephen, Oliver)

William Bentley, The Diary of William Bentley, (Nathaniel, Stephen, Thomas, Oliver, Benjamin b. 1759, William)

City Gazette and Daily Advertiser, Charleston, SC, June 12, 1788 Vol. VI: Issue: 970, p. 2 (Nathaniel)

City Gazette and Daily Advertiser, Charleston, SC, May 31, 1788 Vol. VI: Issue: 960, p. 2 (Nathaniel)

Essex Antiquarian, Vol. IV, p. 36, (Nathaniel)

jamesdjulia.com (Nathaniel)

Granville Hough. American Maritime Units and Vessels and Their Supporters

During the Revolutionary War, 1775-1783 online (Nathaniel, Stephen)

Edward Stanley Waters, Genealogical Notes of the Webb Family, Essex Institute Historical Collections, Vol. 16, p. 213-234, 1879 (Benjamin b. 1753, Stephen, Thomas, Jonathan, Joseph)

Harriet Ruth Waters Cooke, The Driver Family: A Genealogical Memoir of the Descendants of Robert and Phebe Driver of Lynn, Mass. With an Appendix containing Twenty-three Allied Families, 1592-1887. 1889. (Benjamin b. 1753, Stephen, Benjamin b. 1759, Joseph)

Essex County Probate Records Index to 1840 (Benjamin b. 1753, Stephen, Thomas, Oliver, Benjamin b. 1759, William)

Salem News, Salem, MA, 25 May 2009 (Benjamin b. 1753)

The Holyoke Diaries, 1709-1856. (Benjamin b. 1753)

Essex Antiquarian (Stephen)

Salem Gazette, 13 Sept. 1803, Vol XVII, p. 3 online at NEHGS Early American Newspapers Series 1, 1690 - 1876 (Stephen)

Salem Gazette, 6 May 1803 (Stephen)

Massachusetts Vital Records, 1840 – 1910 online at americanancestors.org (Stephen)

Essex Institute Historical Collections (Stephen, Thomas)

George Nichols. A Salem Shipmaster and Merchant. p. 70-71 (Thomas)

John Robinson. The Marine Room of the Peabody Library of Salem. (Thomas)

Naval Records of the American Revolution, Library of Congress Manuscript, 1775-1788, Vol. 12, p. 50 (Oliver)

email from Vince Walsh, citing Danny Vickers, authors of Young Men and the Sea (Oliver)

Samuel Eliot Morrison. Maritime History of Massachusetts. (Benjamin b. 1759)

Vincent Walsh, database compiled for Young Men and the Sea project, Memorial University, Newfoundland (Benjamin b. 1759)

Robert Ephraim Peabody. Merchant venturers of old Salem. (Benjamin b. 1759)

Capt. Michael Rutstein. FAME: The Salem Privateer (William)

Essex Institute Historical Collections, Vol. XXI, 1884, p. 61 (William)

Artwork:

“The Schooner Fame” painting by Jeff Eldridge, used with permission: Captain Michael Rutstein, www.schoonerfame.com.

WEBB Records Repository:

Connecticut

Nathaniel Webb b. 1770, m. Charlotte Cleveland

"... Catherine Harrington was the child of Abraham Harrington, born March 5, 1816, died Oct 31, 1886, and his wife, **Catherine Webb**, born Dec 22, 1819, died Feb 2, 1896, married Dec 31, 1835.

The said **Catherine Webb** was the child of **Frederick Cleveland Webb**, born Oct 3, 1794, died 1857, and his wife Catherine Kimmell, married Jan 29, 1815.

The said **Frederick Cleveland Webb** was the child of **Nathaniel Webb**, born 1770, died 1823, and his wife, Charlotte Cleveland, born 1768.

The said Charlotte Cleveland was the child of Jabez Cleveland, born 1737, died June 17, 1775, and his wife, Jane Trumbell, married 1760."

[Source: Lafayette, Indiana, Tippecanoe County, 1825-1925, J. C. Burkle, 1926]

Stephen Clason of Stamford, Connecticut, in 1654: and some of his descendants

William Berry Lapham, 1892

Jonathan Clason [Jonathan, Samuel, Stephen] married Oct 10, 1746, Mary, daughter of Charles and **Mary [Smith] Webb**, who was born Dec. 26, 1727.

Children:

Jonathan b. June 17, 1747; m. Ruth Rude or Rood

Hannah b. Dec 1, 1749; m. Ezra Lockwood

Mary b. Jan 27, 1752; d. Nov 8, 1754

Ezra b. Feb 15, 1754

Noah b. May 19, 1756

Jacob b. July 6, 1758

Josiah b. January 2, 1762

Philip b. May 27, 1765

Samuel Clason [Samuel, Stephen, Stephen, Jonathan, Stephen] married Feb 9, 1792, **Mary Webb**. He died June 14, 1819. [Stamford]

Children:

Mary, b. Oct 7, 1792; m. James Horton

Thirza, b. March 5, 1795; m. Timothy Clisby

Henry, b. July 11, 1798

Rebecca, b. March 26, 1800; m. John Howell

Lettie, b. Jane 7, 1802

Catherine, b. May 5, 1804; m. George Canfield

Samuel W., b. Feb 19, 1806; m. Mary Jane Ellis

Alanson, b. May 4, 1808; m. Charlotte Blair

Eliza, b. April 30, 1810; m. John L. Hopping.

George W. b. Feb 6, 1812

Annie F., b. Jan 29, 1814; m. Dec 20, 1837, Nathaniel Davis. She died at Syracuse, NY, in 1842, at the home of her mother.

Ye Historie of Ye Town of Greenwich, county of Fairfield and state of Connecticut

Spencer Percival Mead, 1911

Webb Family

Richard Webb, born in County Dorset, England, May 5, 1580; came to Cambridge, Mass., in 1626; removed to Boston, where he was made a freeman in 1632; removed to Hartford, Conn., in 1635; removed to Stratford, Conn., and from thence to Norwalk, Conn., where he died July, 1665; m. 1st, May, 1610, Grace, dau. of John Wilson, m. 2d, at Norwalk, Conn., Elizabeth Gregory, who survived him, and died in 1680; his children according to best authorities were:

Daughter, who m. Thomas Butler

Richard, b. in 1623, settled in Stamford, Conn., in 1654, d. there March 15, 1678, m. Margery ____, and had:

Richard, b. about 1648

Sarah, b. about 1650, m. John Marshall

John, b. about 1652, d. Jan 1, 1656

Joseph, b. about 1654, d. in 1684, m. Nov. 8, 1672, Hannah Scofield, and had:

Joseph, Lieut., b. Jan 5, 1674, d. Nov 15, 1743, m. Feb 23, 1698, Mary Hait, b. in 1673, d. Feb 24, 1750, and had:

Joseph, b. Jan 26, 1701

Ebenezer, b. March 7, 1704, d. April 16, 1704

Benjamin, b. Aug, 24, 1705

John, b. July 28, 1707

Sarah, b. May 9, 1709, m. Hezekiah Reynolds

Abigail, b. July 16, 1713

Epenetus, b. July 16, 1713

Mary, b. July 28, 1715, m. Nathaniel Mead

Mary, b. April 1677

Hannah, b. July 9, 1679

Sarah, b. Oct 16, 1681

Margery, b. Oct 4, 1683

Mary, b. about 1656, d. young

Caleb, b. about 1658, d. May 24, 1704, m. and had

Child, b. ____, d. May 14, 1704, and perhaps others

Joshua, b. about 1660, d. at Bedford, N. Y., in 1694, m. Elizabeth ____, after he d. she m. ____ Simkins, and had:

Richard

Eben

John

Susannah

Samuel, b. March 30, 1662, m. ____ and had:

Waitstill, b. Jan 6, 1690

Samuel, b. Nov 6, 1692

Mercy, b. April 11, 1694

Charles, b. March 12, 1697, d. April 19, 1730, m. May 23, 1723, Mary Smith, after his d. she m.

Daniel Lockwood, and had:

Charles, b. Feb 13, 1724

Hannah, b. Nov 30, 1725

Mary, b. Dec 26, 1727

Samuel, b. June 5, 1730

Mary, b. Jan 7, 1699

Nathaniel, b. Nov 6, 1700, d. in 1777, m. 1st, April 20, 1724, Sarah Webster, d. Dec. 19, 1725, m. 2d, June 23, 1726, Sarah Weed, d. June 30, 1731, m. 3d, Nov 24, 1731, Deborah Lockwood, and had by 1st wife:

Sarah, b. Dec 12, 1725, m. ___ Lounsbury

By 2d wife:

Deborah, b. July 7, 1727, m. ___ Smith

Rachel, b. Nov 8, 1729, d. June 10, 1736.

By 3d wife:

Hannah, b. June 17, 1733, m. ___ Brown

Nathaniel, b. Feb 3, 1735

Rachel, b. Nov 11, 1740, m. ___ Waring

Waitstill, b. Jan 6, 1743, d. Nov 17, 1743

Samuel b. Feb 20, 1745, d. Before 1777, unm.

A Catalogue of the Names of the First Puritan Settlers of the Colony of Connecticut

Royal Ralph Hinman, 1846

Ferris, Peter, Fairfield, 1662 – was made a freeman with Richard Hardy, John Green, Joseph Meade, Richard Webb and Joseph Weed.

Webb, Richard, Hartford, 1639 – on the first grand at the General Court in the colony in 1643- also juror in '43-4- selectman in '48—surveyor of highways in '49. He soon after moved to Stamford, was made free there in '62, and he was sworn by Judge Gold, at Fairfield court. He was an original proprietor of Hartford in '39, and was a gentleman of standing in the colony. Henry Webb, '42. John Hartford, '48 and '63. William, Hartford, in '40. Richard was the ancestor of John Webb, Esq., of Hartford.

Inscription on the Monument erected by the Ancient Burying Ground Association of Harford, in Memory of the First Settlers of Hartford:

Richard Webb

The following named were also in Hartford as early as 1640:

William Webb

The Proprietors of the Undivided Lands of the Town of Hartford, in 1639, who were probably all settlers in the town at that time- I give a list of their names viz:

Richard Webb

The following person who first came to Hartford from Massachusetts, were from the county of Essex, in England, and probably from Braintree, in 1632, viz:

Richard Webb

[These men, with others, went to Newton before Mr. Hooker; Mr. Hooker arrived and was settled there in October, 1633.]

Deane, Hon. Silas, deceased, of Wethersfield, in Connecticut, came from the town of Groton to Wethersfield, about 1762. Oct. 8, 1763, he was married to Mrs. Mahitabel Webb, of Wethersfield, the grandmother of J. Webb, of Hartford...

Births:

Mary, dau. of John Webb, b. Feb 5, 1647

Indiana

Portrait and Biographical Record of Madison and Hamilton Counties, Indiana.

1893

Minor Webb, who is now living a retired life in Frankton, has the honor of being a native of the Hoosier State. His birth occurred in Fayette County on the 29th of June, 1821. The family was founded in America by **Jesse Webb**, the grandfather of our subject, who was born on the Emerald Isle and came to America at an early age. He became one of the pioneers of Franklin County. His death occurred at the advanced age of ninety-three.

Jesse Webb, Jr., the father of our subject was born in Kentucky and was a farmer by occupation. For many years he resided in Fayette County, and then came to Madison County, where he spend his remaining days. He voted the Republican ticket, was a member of the Baptist Church, and was a highly respected citizen. His wife, who bore the maiden name Fannie Ackleman, was born in North Carolina, but her parents were natives of Germany and in childhood came to this country.

Our subject is the fourth in order of birth in a family of eleven children, but he and his brother **Edward**, who resides in Fountain county, are now the only survivors. Under the parental roof **Minor** remained until twenty-two years of age, when he commenced learning the carpenter's trade, which he successfully followed for twelve years. In 1855 he began farming, and after a year he engaged in the sawmill business in connection with agricultural pursuits and for seventeen years continued the dual occupation. In 1875 he sold the mill and purchased the flouring mill of Frankton, which he operation for ten years and then sold to Venwell & Urmston. Since that time he has practically lived a retired life, although he has occasionally been employed as engineer in a mill.

Mr. Webb has been twice married. In 1849 he was joined in wedlock with Mary Smeltzer, a daughter of Adam and Sarah [Banks] Smeltzer. Three children were born unto them: **Elmer**, who resides in Lafayette County, Ind.; **Marshall**, now living in Nebraska; and **Ella**, wife of Isaac Neece, a resident of Kansas. The mother of this family died in 1855, and in 1861 **Mr. Webb** was again married, his second union being with Sarah Ann Moore, daughter of William and Anna Moore, early settlers of Madison County. Four children graced this marriage: **Lewis**, at home; **Jesse**, deceased; **William** and **Myrtie**, who are still with their parents.

Mr. Webb exercises his right of franchise in support of the Republican party, but has never been an office-seeker, preferring to devote his time and attention to his business interests, in which he has met with signal success. He is a member of the Christian Church, and is a highly esteemed citizen. **Mr. Webb** is genial and pleasant in manner and a popular gentleman. He delights in fishing, and, as his in now living retired, has ample time to indulge his taste in that direction.

James C. Webb is one of Hamilton County's most extensive land owners, his possessions now aggregating thirteen hundred and forty-five acres. He resides on section 33, White River Township, where in a pleasant home he is surrounded by all the comforts of life. He was born August 31, 1818, in Pickaway County, Ohio, and is one of a family of ten children. His parents, **William** and **Nancy Webb**, were both natives of Delaware and came to Indiana about 1845, locating upon the farm where the son now resides. Here the father died at the age of sixty, and his wife at the age of fifty-five. Of their family, three sons and three daughters are yet living.

Our subject remained upon the home farm until his marriage. The year 1844 witnessed his arrival in Indiana, and he purchased one hundred and sixty-four acres of wild land. Building a log cabin, he then began clearing and developing a farm. He also worked by the month as a farm hand and with the money thus obtained made the improvements upon his own land.

On the 14th of March, 1850, **Mr. Webb** married Elizabeth Carey, who was born in White River Township and is a daughter of Jonathan and Rebecca [Timmons] Carey, natives of Maryland. In 1828 they emigrated to Indiana and

began the development of a farm. Both are now deceased. They had three children, two of whom are yet living. Fourteen children have been born of the union of our subject and his wife, nine of whom are still living: **Marcus**, who is married and has five children; **Lafayette**, who is married and has four children; **Virginia**, who is married and has three children; **Samuel**, who is married and has three children; **Rebecca**, at home; **Grant**, who is married and has one child; and **Martha** and **Mary**, both of whom are married and have one child.

When **Mr. Webb** began life for himself his cash capital consisted of only \$19. His first purchase of land comprised only one hundred and sixty acres, but from time to time, as his financial resources have increased, he has made additional purchases and now has thirteen hundred and forty-five acres. After his marriage he went to Tippecanoe County, Ind., where he engaged in cradling grain for about two years, and then returned, locating on the old homestead. He began dealing in stock, which he still follows on a small scale. He is a man of excellent business and executive ability, pays careful attention to all the details of his business and is honorable and upright in all dealings. His well directed efforts have brought him success, and he is now numbered among the wealthy citizens of the county. In politics, he was in early life an old line Whig, and on the dissolution of that party he joined the new Republican party, with which he has since affiliated.

Kentucky

Year Book of the Society, Sons of the Revolution, in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, 1894-1913

Samuel M. Wilson, 1913

Land Bounty Warrants

Name	acres	rank	Dept.	term	date	wrnt	
Webb, John	6,000	Lieut. Col.	Va Cont. Line	3 years	Feb. 8, 1783	116	
Webb, Richd	200	Private	Va St. Line	war	Apr 25, 1783	399	
Webb, Thos	100	Private Va.	St. Line	3 years	Sept 11, 1783	1743	
Webb, Isaac	2,000	Lieut.	Va Cont. Line	3 years	Jan 13, 1784	2246	
Webb, Jos.	100	Sailor	Va St. Navy	3 years	Aug 12, 1785	3955	[Wm Reynolds,
assignee of Joseph Webb]							

Testimony of William Webb of Long Run – Abraham Lincoln, the Pioneer of Jefferson Co.

“Although we still greatly desire some actual record of the residence of Abraham Lincoln in Jefferson County, we have quite a body of evidence that indicates that the pioneer Abraham Lincoln met his death on Long Run, in Jefferson County, very near to the edge of Shelby.

This was as much as we had expected to learn, and quite all that we could have anticipated; but we were surprised to find local tradition concerning the grave of the pioneer Abraham Lincoln. This tradition affirmed that the Long Run Baptist Church, which stands on the Lincoln farm and is surrounded by graves, some of them very old, has within its yard and perhaps under the very building as it now stands, the grave of Abraham Lincoln. This tradition came down to us through S. M. Talbott and Oscar T. Proctor. Mr. Talbott is 75 years of age and conveyed to us the testimony of **William Webb**, who was born on Long Run in 1797 and who returned to visit the place of his birth about 1880, and at that time told to Mr. Talbott much he had learned from his father, the older **William Webb**.

The original Long Run Church building was of logs, and erected in about 1797 on land hat had belonged to Abraham Lincoln. But according to Mr. Talbott, it was the common burying place of the neighborhood before there was a building there. The first settlers did not bury their dead on individual farms, for they had their community life in Hughes Station. The oldest graves, therefore, were in this place.”

[Source: The Lincolns in their Old Kentucky Home, William Eleazer Barton, 1923]

Missouri

Some Marriage Records of Polk Co. Missouri

Polk County, Missouri - Marriage Book "A" 1836-1859

30 June 1836 – [William Webb](#) – Elizabeth Gillehan

20, Aug, 1840 – [James Webb](#) – Eliza Jordon

21, Jan, 1858 – William Wood – [Elizabeth Webb](#)

[Source: Marriage records, Polk County, Missouri: Book "A," 1836-1859, Howard W. Woodruff]

Some Marriage Records of Marion Co. Missouri

Oct 28, 1846, [Edward Webb](#) – Martha Rollens

Mar 28, 1849, [G. Washington Webb](#) – Mary McDaniel [both of city of Hannibal]

Jan 20, 1850, Anderson Brazee – [Mariann Webb](#)

Aug 12, 1852, William M. Jamison – [Margaret M. Webb](#)

Aug 31, 1854, William F. Willis – [Lucy Webb](#)

Sept 17, 1855, George W. Smith – [Ann Webb](#)

[Source: Marriage records, Marion County, Missouri: Books "A" & "B," 1827-1856, Howard W. Woodruff, 1970]

Some Marriage Records of Caldwell Co. Missouri

[Hannah E. Webb](#) to Joseph S. Lamer, Sept 15, 1867

[Hulbert C. Webb](#) to Mary C. Zimmerman, July 29, 1866

[Isaac W. Webb](#) to Eliza Jane Booker, Jan 27, 1868

[Lucinda J. Webb](#) to L. L. Majors, Dec 7, 1871

[Source: Marriage Records of Caldwell County, Missouri, Elizabeth Prather Ellsberry, 1969]

Some Marriage Records of Sullivan Co. Missouri

May 23, 1855 – [Margaret Webb](#) & Solomon Poole

Feb 19, 1865 – [John Webb](#) & Rebecca Holliday

April 8, 1866 – [Dr. James C. Webb](#) to Matilda J. Watson

May 8, 1870 – [James W. Webb](#) to Sibie McCully

March 9, 1871 – [Hulett Webb](#) to Sarah E. Compton

March 5, 1876 – Harmon Briggs to [Mary O. Webb](#), in the presence of [William Webb](#) and wife and George Briggs.

Feb 6, 1877 – [Nathaniel J. Webb](#) to Margaret Barkley

Dec 31, 1876 – William Barkley to [Martha M. Webb](#)

[Source: Marriage Records of Sullivan County, Missouri, Elizabeth Prather Ellsberry, 1961]

Misc. Wills of Dade Co. Missouri

Salling, Henry, Will dated March 8, 1849

Wife, Salina Louisa Salling. "If my son, Sterling comes home next fall". My four children" Sterling, oldest son; James Riley, my 2nd son; John Marion, my youngest son, and my dau., Elizabeth Emaline. Exr., Joshua Ragsdale. Wit: Jonathan Paris, **G. W. Webb** & Lucy D. L. Rutledge. Proved 21 Mar 1849. [W 56-8] Exr., Joshua Ragsdale was approved, 23 March 1849. Probate Judge. H. Allison. [A-70]

Webb, Simeon, - Will dated 21 July 1859.

Brother, **Benjamin Moses Webb**, **Washington Webb**, and **John Webb**. Sisters, **Jane Paris**, **Sarah Hays**, sister **Brazell**, formerly Hannah Sevier. Sister, **Nelly Daugherty**; niece, Jane Parish, dau. of sister, **Jane Paris**, because of their service and faithfulness to the testator and his wife. Slaves are to be free after his death. Provisions made for slave Mary Wilmoth and her children. Exr., Jacob B. Paris, friend. Wit: Robert L. McGuire & Andrew J. Stumbaugh, on 10 Sept 1859. Leonidas Morris stated that **Simeon Webb** died on or about 25 Aug 1859. Proved 30 Sept 1859. [W 151-155]

[Source: Marriage Records, Dade County, Missouri: Books A & B, 1863-1972, and abstracts of Wills and Admrs. A 1841-1867, Howard W. Woodruff, 1971]

New York

Burying grounds of Sharon, Connecticut, Amenia and North East, New York: being and abstract of inscriptions from thirty places of burial in the above named towns.

L. Van Alostyne, 1903

Burying Ground at the "Steel Works."

This is a small enclosure on the hillside above the "Steel Works," on the old road, half way between South Amenia and Wassaic. Here was buried in 1746, Mr. Richard Sackett, the earliest settler of Amenia. The stone that marked the spot has long since disappeared. The whole place is shamefully neglected.

Daniel Webb, d. June 8, 1817, ae. 74

Mansfield Webb, d. Dec 21, 1813, ae. 26

Historical Gazetteer of Steuben County, New York

Millard Fillmore Robers, 1891

Town of Addison

Webb, Lee R., [Hill & **Webb**], h Steuben.

Webb, Wallace J., emp sach factory, h. Goodhue.

Town of Avoca

Webb, Hannah, widow of **Robert H.**, bds. 23 Grant.

Corning City

Webb, Charles, N., conductor, bds 72 Bridge

Webb, James, saloon, also junk dealer, 287 E. Market.

Webb, Polly, widow, **Josiah**, h 72, Bridge

Town of Dansville

Webb, Philip [Burns], farmer.

Hornellsville City

Webb, Abern M., painter, 126 Main.

Webb, Adrian B., car-inspector, h 34 Jane.

Webb, Alfred, hotel, 102 Canistco.

Webb, Carrie, widow, George A., h 22 Front.

Webb, Chastina P., widow Josiah W., h 14 High.

Webb, Frank, teamster, h Madison Ave.

Webb, Marion I., Mrs. Baker and fruit, h 48, Van Scoter.

Hornellsville – outside city

Webb, Albetus, r 29, farmer, 50.

Webb, Epenetus, r 45, resident, Served in Co. K., 86th Regt., N. Y. Vols.

Webb, Foster B., r 13, farmer 70.

Webb L. Joseph, r 29, farmer.

Webb, Shepard, r 26, farmer 350.

Webb, William, r 32, laborer.

History of Chenango and Madison Counties, New York

James H. Smith, 1880

Greene, Early Settlers

Eli Webb came in from Egremont, Massachusetts, where he was born July 19, 1771, | 1806, and settled on the west side of Genegantslet creek, a mile above the corners of that name, on the farm now occupied by Stephen Davis, whose father Dow Davis was an early settler in the same locality and died there, he and his second wife, Cloe, the former June 6, 1871, aged 90, and the latter July 2, 1852, aged 57. Mr. Webb died on the place May 3, 1846, and Polly, his wife, July 27, 1854, aged 72. He had three children, all of whom are living, Sarah, wife of Heman Carter, in the village of Greene; Ann, [widow of Moses B. Adams, who died March 9, 1873, aged 67,] in Smithville Flats, with her daughter, Mrs. Benjamin Brown; and Philo, [his wife, Mary E., died Oct. 4, 1875, aged 64,] near Genegantslet. Nathan Webb, brother of Eli, came in from Massachusetts, about the same time and settled on Brag Pond Brook where Harris Monk now lives. He resided there a good many years and moved to Triangle and died near there. None of his descendants are living in the town. One son, Mason died here; the rest of the children removed from the town.

Brisbin

...The present merchants are Samuel Lee, who came from Smyrna in the fall of 1875; and Edward L. Webb, who came in from Utica in April, 1879.

G. W. Webb

Mr. G. W. Webb of Greene, son of John William Webb, of Westchester County, N. Y., was born in 1835, and settled in Chenango county in 1869. In 1862 he married Miss Mary J. Barrett, of Otsego County. She was born in 1842 and died in 1875, leaving one son, William, who was born in 1865.

In 1876 Mr. Webb married for his second wife Miss Rosella S. Barnett who was born in Chenango county in 1854, she is the grand-daughter of Charles Felix Bo Lyne Barnett, of Chenango county, who was one of the pioneers of this county.

Mr. Webb is on of the energetic farmers of the county and has a fine farm of 160 acres, a view of which may be seen on another page of this work. His residence commands a fine view of the surrounding valleys.

In early life, after being graduated from Gilbertsville Academy, he taught school for several years, finally preferring farming he purchased his present residence.

Virginia

Virginia Land Bounty Certificates

Martin Webb, soldier six months in Col. Peachey's Regt., or Frontier Bat. Buckingham Co., Nov 8, 1779.

Julius Webb, soldier in Capt. Throgmorton's company of Regulars in old Va. Regt. till legally discharged. Botetourt Co., March 1780.

Misc. Virginia County Rosters

James City, Jan 13, 1692

Giles Webb, Lieut.

[Source: Virginia Colonial Militia, 1651-1776, 1954]

Calendar of Virginia State Papers and Other Manuscripts

William Pitt Palmer, 1893

1780, October 10th Philadelphia In Congress

Saml: Huntington to Gov: Jefferson, enclosing Act of Congress appointing Charles Fleming and **Forster Webb** Esquires, Commissioners on the part of the united States "to endorse the Bills that shall be emitted by the State of Virginia, in pursuance of the resolution of Congress of 18th March last-

November 1st, 1780

George Webb, in behalf of the Govr & Council of Va. in acct with Carter Braxton – Settlement leaving balance due Carter Braxton L23758.12.0, payable in Crop Tobacco @ L65 pr: 100wt:

Several Successive Courts were held on the 25th Sept: 1780 & on the 26th September, Present-

Co: Thos: Gaskins, Col: Thos Jones, Capt: Chas: Lee, Capt: Wm Downing, Capt: John Rogers, Capt: John Harcum, **John Span Webb**, Capt: George Eskridge, Capt: John Digges and others.

June 18th, 1781

Account of the Capture of a schooner called the "Hero's Revenge" by a Baltimore armed vessel, without resistance on the part of the former.

Her crew deserted the vessel, and with their arms escaped to the shore – The gentlemen of the county went in pursuit, and after a chase of twenty miles, came up with and captured the who of them- This schooner had been taken from one Hughes of Gloucester Co., b the Enemy and it appeared he had volunteered on board with them to repair his loss – The Commander is on Robert Bulfell Capre, who lately had escaped from Powhatan Co. House Jail – most of the Prisoners were Deserters from the American Army – The negroes found and taken with them, belonged to John Page Esq, Isaac Smith of Accomac, to gentlemen in Somerset Co. Md: to Mr. Tayloe of Richmond and to **Mrs. Mary Webb** of Essex Co.

The writer of this account requests of the Executive instructions as to how he shall dispose of the prisoners, they being composed of deserters, British and negroes.

1781, July 14th Essex Co.

John Webb to the Executive

In regard to claim of **Mrs. Webb** for her negro Slave "Robins," carried off by Capt: Carre and his crew, who were afterwards captured by a party of volunteers under **Webb's** Command – Among the prisoners were three men from the Eastern Shore of Maryland, one Stringfield "a most infamous Character" and five other negroes brought from Portsmouth by Carre by permission of Genl: Leslie, all bearing arms-

July 28th, 1781, Charlottesville

Capt. A. Bohannon C. M. Stores, to Col: Davies

As ordered he is about to take the shortest rout to Noland Ferry in order to secure the mil stores at the place & will return by way of Fauquier Co. House to Fredericksburg – Thinks Penn's Tavern the best place for a magazine, on account of the umber of houses there. Encloses a list of articles need for the Laboratory – Scissors and "Culloc" knives much wanted – He had been obliged to borrow from **Mr. Foster Webb** L2940, for the use of his Department – Hopes a Warrant will be at once transmitted to that gentleman, for this amount.

August 17th, 1781, War Office

Recommending the appointment of **Mr. Foster Webb**, as Paymaster, to discharge the claims of Officers and Soldiers of the State, "whose situation precludes them from being included in any pay roll", - which is approved by the Governor-

October 11, 1781

Geo: Webb to Gov: Nelson, in regard to the case of Rev: Mr. Lyon, sentenced to five years imprisonment by the Court Martial of Accomac Co., and brought to this place by Executive Orders.

July 8th, 1782, Essex Co.

Col: W. Roane to Col. Wm. Davies

...I sometime ago received a letter from his Excell'y the Governour, direct'd to Isaac Smith Esqur., In Richm'd County, Col: Thos. Gaskins & myself, desiring us to obtain a full state of the Capture of the Boston Schoon'r by the crew in the Vessel In w'ch **Col: John Webb** was interested, and to take depositions..."

October 22, 1782, Richmond

John Webb, "Clothier & Paymaster to the Virginia Navy" to the Governor.

March 21st, 1787, Harrison County, Virginia

Copy of Bond

Of Wm. Haymond, Nicholas Carpenter, John Powers, Hezekiah Davison, **Thos Webb**, John McCally, Daniel Davisson, Benj. Coplin, John Goodwin, Edward Jackson, and John P. Duvall, in the penalty of four thousand pounds current money, for the faithful performance of their duties as Commissioners under the Act of Assembly, authorizing "the opening a wagon Road from the State Road to the mouth of the little Kenhawa," &c.

March 26th, 1789, Richmond

Nathaniel Gregory to the Governor

States that the memorandum sent to him was delivered to **Mr. Bernard Webb**, who promised to copy the papers. On going to the office found that the principal ones were in the possession of Col. Davis, who could no spare them immediately, &c, &c.

March 29th, 1789

The Commonwealth of Virginia to Leighton Wood, Jr.

1789. Jan 1. To examining and stating sundry accounts and claims in the course of last year by the order of the Executive, of which the following were part:

Thomas Webb and Rawleigh Colston's accounts...

June 10th, 1790

Petition for pardon

Armistead Russell, George B. Poindexter, Benedict Crump, Sam'l Mark, Geo Wilkinson Jr., and John Bacon to Governor Randolph.

Petition for the pardon of Abraham, negro man slave, the property of William Allen Atkinson, sentenced to be hung for felony on July 30th next. The above named persons, members of the Court of New Kent County, who tried & convicted & sentenced to be hung Jeese, a negro man slave, belonging to **Mary Dickerton Webb**, and Abraham, negro slave, property of the said Wm Allen Atkinson, for having on the 28th day of May last, in the night time, feloniously & burglariously broken into the smoke house of one Thomas Howle, and stolen 18 pieced of bacon & other articles. The said Abraham was found guilty as an accomplice. They are sensible that a pardon will be more effectual to attain the good intended by punishment than a rigorous Execution might be, & this his first arraignment, recommends hi to his Excellency the Governor as an object of mercy.

May 30th, 1792

Rec'd [Richmond, May 30th, 1792] of Samuel Coleman, tow large boxes said to contain six hundred and one cartridge boxes in good order, which I promise to deliver in the like good order, unavoidable accidents excepted, to Col. Willis Wilson, at Norfolk or to his order.

Teste: **Tapley Webb**

N. B. – On examining the above cases, we find no more than five hundred eighty-nine Cartouch boxes – 589.

December 31st, 1792

Disbursements from Auditor's Office

Oct 26th – **N. Webb**

Oct 17th – **Wm Webb**

Nov 24th – **Wm Webb**

Petition for the Pardon of John Crane, Jr. – Berkeley & Frederick Counties, 1792

Signer: **W'mson Webb**

October 13th, 1793

The Affidavit of **William Webb**, a boy belonging to the said vessel:

When did you come on board?

Ans. A Day before we sailed.

Did you belong to the vessel before?

Ans. Yes.

How long had you been out of the vessel?

Ans. About two weeks.

Where was the vessel when you left her?

Ans. At Wilmington

Where did she sail to from Wilmington?

Ans. To Milford.

How long has it been since the Captain, the vessel, or any of the hands, have been in Philadelphia, or higher up the Delaware than Wilmington?

Ans. I think I has been three or four months.

-**William Webb**

April 24th, 1794, Pendleton Co.

...Whereupon, the said Essex, the prisoner, being thereof arraigned, pleaded not guilty, and thereupon Frederick Noel and Thomas Butler being sworn, and Isaac and Nan, negro slaves belonging to Richard H. Corbin, being sworn, and on hearing as well the evidence of the said Frederick Noel and Thomas Butler, and Isaac & Nan, as the said Benjamin Dabney, deputy attorney, and **James Webb**, attorney for the said Essex, the prisoner, and the

evidence and arguments of the attornies being maturely considered, it was the opinion of the court that the Essex is guilty, as in the information is charged. Therefore it is considered by the court that the said Essex, the prisoner, be hanged on the 10th day of June next... The court do value the said negro man Essex to forty-one pounds, ten shillings, which is ordered to be certified to the Auditor of public accounts. – Larkin Smith, Teste: RO. Pollard, C. C.

Sept 25th, 1794

Capt. Tarpley Webb of the boat Venus, appointed as a lookout boat to prevent the infectious diseases prevailing in the West Indies, &c...

Feb 8th 1776

A Warrant to Griffin Fauntleroy for use of **Capt. John Webb**, for L72 for the recruiting service in the Essex District. James Edmondson's letter lodged as security for proper application &c., bond given.

March 13, 1776, Williamsburg

Same to **John Webb** for L110.3.5 for provisions furnished his company of Regulars.

Jan 5, 1804

Meriweather Jones to the Governor

...It also appears that **Jesse Webb** took the place of Lieut. Marcheson and received pay and rations to 25th of August, 1801.

April 20, 1861, Richmond

Lewis N. Webb to the Governor

Asking employment in some post of danger in the service of the State.

May 27, 1861, Richmond

S. Barron to the Governor

Soliciting commissions for Lieut's Edward L. Winder and **Wm A. Webb**, late of the U. S. Navy; also for Midshipman M. P. Goodwyn.

June 20, 1863, Wheeling

Certificate of L. A. Hagans, S'c't'y Comm'th, of the appointment of **Lewis W. Webb**, as Auditor of Public Accounts, is on file.

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I welcome any suggestions or requests for future issues!

Eileen Sturner [nee Webb]

Webb Surname DNA Project Administrator