Josiah Webb
Chocolate Manufacturer

By Kathy McHale

For many years “Chocolate Village” was the tasty and appropriate nickname for the Lower Mills section of Milton, Massachusetts. From 1768 to 1966, a span of nearly two hundred years, chocolate manufacturers abounded on a fourteen acre section of land in Lower Mills. Josiah Webb of Milton owned and ran one of those chocolate factories in “Chocolate Village” for nearly four decades. This article will look at Josiah’s chocolate business, his ancestors, his siblings and his own descendants.

Born in Canaan, Maine in 1811, Josiah Webb grew up on a farm, as did so many of the Webbs in that area of Maine. At the age of 20, he purchased his freedom from his father and set out on the path that would lead him ultimately to be the owner of Josiah Webb and Co., chocolate manufacturers.

From the Administrator

Dear Project Members,

I am proud and happy to be presenting to you Kathy McHale’s wonderful article about Josiah Webb in this issue of The Webb Bulletin. Kathy is an accomplished genealogist and her passion shows in her extensive research and writing about her subjects. Thank you, Kathy, for sharing your exceptional talents with us!

FTDNA has announced a permanent price reduction on the Y-DNA12 test. The new price will be $49. I do not recommend the Y-DNA12 test to new members because it is almost always inconclusive for matching to a Webb DNA line. However, in the long run, this new price point should help bring in new members to the project. The price of the 37 marker test upgrade and the Y-DNA37 test will remain the same.

Eileen
Josiah Webb [cont.]

In November of 1832, shortly after leaving Maine, Josiah went to Boston and found work in a box factory in Roxbury. In the spring of 1833, Josiah met Benjamin Dickerman, owner of the Red Mill which was located at the present site of the Baker chocolate mill in Milton. He worked at the Red Mill for a few months, after which he worked for the paper mills of Deacon Lyon.

Josiah then worked for H.G. Durell as a grocery clerk. It was in that position that Josiah’s business skills became obvious. Josiah made trips to Maine to buy produce, and he was so successful at this endeavor that Durell offered him a partnership. Josiah declined that offer, presumably because he had other plans in mind.

About 1838 or 1839 Josiah Webb, then a coal dealer, and Josiah Twombly, a horse and buggy driver, formed a partnership to manufacture chocolate, according to Anthony Sammarco, author of *The Baker Chocolate Company*. Josiah and Josiah established the Webb and Twombly Chocolate Company in Milton in 1843.

The Webb and Twombly company was a worthy and mostly friendly competitor of the other Milton chocolate companies, including The Walter F. Baker Company founded in 1780, the Preston Chocolate Company established in 1768, and the Ware Chocolate Company started in 1840 by Dr. Jonathan Ware.

Webb and Twombley’s original chocolate mill was located at the north corner of Adams and Eliot Street in Milton Village on the Neponset River. In 1839, Dr. Jonathan Ware had demolished the old Sanderson mill that had been located at that site and built a new mill with two mill wheels. In time, a grist-mill was attached to one of the wheels and a chocolate mill to the other. Dr. Ware was a great promoter of the medical benefits of chocolate, and became a chocolate manufacturer himself.

Dr. Ware rented space in his mill to Josiah Webb and Josiah F. Twombly about 1843. They hired a chocolate maker from the Preston Chocolate Company to help them start their business. Evidently Walter Baker was not pleased with the start up of their business because he suspected that an employee of his company had taught Twombly the secrets of Baker’s chocolate making. There had been a business connection at one time between the Preston Chocolate Company and the Walter Baker Company, and a family connection as well, but by 1788 the Prestons had stopped making chocolate for the Baker company.

Webb and Twombley maintained their chocolate and cocoa manufacturing business at the Sanderson mill location for seven years. In 1850, the Dorchester Cotton and Iron Company built a mill for them upstream on the Neponset River. They purchased this mill in 1855. They continued making chocolate there until 1861 when Josiah Twombly sold his half of the business to Webb.

“It was no accident that Josiah Webb became prosperous in business… When he came to Milton, his entire possessions were five dollars in cash and a scanty wardrobe, carried in the not very modern style of grip sack then in common use by poor boys going out from a humble country home to seek their fortune in the world…”

Josiah Webb
Newspaper articles and advertisements about the business offer glimpses into Josiah’s chocolate business.

On Thursday, September 21, 1865 the “Boston Daily Advertiser” reported on the Tenth Exhibition of the Massachusetts Charitable Mechanic Association. They noted that the “Josiah Webb & Co., of Milton, have a case of nice-looking chocolate pastes, drops and cakes, and many forms of birds and animals wrought of the same material.”

In September 1978, the “Boston Daily Advertiser” described “A Walk through the Galleries” at the Mechanics’ Fair including the following note: “Josiah Webb & Co. have an interesting case, containing specimens of cocoa shells, cocoa-beans, pure cocoa and broma conveniently arranged for inspection.”

A grocer’s price list on Genealogy Newsbank (no date) lists the following items available from Josiah Webb & Co.: premium chocolate, broma prepared cocoa, cracked cocoa, cocoa paste, double, single and half vanillas, spice and union cocoa sticks, and confectioners’ pure chocolate.

Josiah Webb & Co. also ran their own newspaper advertisements, examples of which are available from the reference department of the Milton Public Library. Following is the text of two of these advertisements:


“Webb’s Premium Chocolate, Cocoa and Broma. Established 1843. “These goods have taken the highest award at all the principal Fairs in the United States: Manufactured by Josiah Webb & Co. 48 Chatham Street, Boston office, manufactury at Milton, Mass.”

Josiah’s sons Charles Henry and Josiah Sumner both worked in the business. However, his son Charles Henry only lived until 1872, dying at the age of 31. Josiah’s son Josiah Sumner Webb worked in the business until his father sold it in 1881.

Henry L. Pierce, the owner of the Walter F. Baker chocolate company, bought Webb out in 1881. Pierce had been elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in the 1860’s, and in 1872 and 1877 was elected Mayor of Boston. Acquiring the Josiah Webb Company was part of the major expansion of the Walter Baker Co. that Pierce embarked upon during that time. In the purchase of the company, Pierce obtained one of Webb’s employees, H. Clifford Gallagher. Gallagher stayed with Baker’s for many years, and even served as second president after Henry Pierce incorporated Baker’s in 1895.

Josiah retired at the age of 70 in 1881 after Henry L. Pierce purchased his business.

After Josiah’s death on 11 Oct 1888, his eulogy was given by Rev. C. S. Rogers, D.D., pastor of the Dorchester Methodist Episcopal Church. The lengthy eulogy is reported in New England Families: Genealogical and Memorial compiled by William Cutter. Rogers offers insight into why Josiah Webb became successful in his business: (p. 199)

“It was no accident that Josiah Webb became prosperous in business...When he came to Milton, his entire possessions were five dollars in cash and a scanty wardrobe, carried in the not very modern style of grip sack then in common use by poor boys going out from a humble country home to seek their fortune in the world... He had inherited from his mother a rare endowment of energy and business tact. This natural endowment he used with the greatest faithfulness. He was faithful in what was the least... He was a tireless worker. He expected no success that did not come as the reward of faithful toil. He was thoroughly honest. It is safe to say that no man who knew him ever suspected him of giving short measure or of any of the tricks of the trade... His counsel was highly valued and widely sought, especially by young men entering upon business life... He made money not for its own sake. It gave him more pleasure to use it for wise and benevolent purposes than it did to amass it.”

Josiah had maintained a long commitment to his church, the Dorchester Methodist Episcopal Church. He sang in the choir, taught Sunday school and served as a trustee. When time came to build a new church in 1872, he made a substantial pledge that made the project seem possible. Josiah’s probate record includes his bequest of a “sum equal to one half of the debt now resting on said church,” and thus fulfilled the promise he had made 16 years earlier.
Josiah Webb, the Milton chocolate manufacturer, was born in Canaan or Bloomfield, Maine (later called Skowhegan) on 19 Sep 1811. He was the oldest son of John S. Webb and Sarah “Sally” Steward.

No birth record for Josiah’s father, John S. Webb, has been located to date, but the death records of three of John Webb’s sons state that he was born in Bloomfield, ME. John S. Webb’s gravestone in the St. Albans (Maine) Village Cemetery gives his year of birth as 1787. This year of birth is corroborated by his age in the 1850 and 1860 US Censuses for St. Albans, Maine.

John Webb married Sarah (Sally) Steward about 1811, probably in Canaan, ME. Sally Steward was born 1 Jun 1793 in Canaan, ME, a daughter of John Steward and Abigail Whitcomb. Her father John Steward had moved from Lunenberg, MA to Maine after the Revolutionary War.

John S. Webb, Josiah’s father, died in St. Albans, ME on 11 Apr 1871 based on his gravestone in the village cemetery. Sally died in St. Albans, ME on 4 Jan 1861 and is buried next to her husband John in the village cemetery.

Beyond that, the ancestry of Josiah’s father John Webb is still quite a mystery. No vital record, deed, or probate record giving the names of John Webb’s parents has been found to date.

However, there are two significant, but conflicting, sources of information about the possible ancestors of John Webb, father of Josiah.

One source is the Hiram Webb manuscript in the R. Stanton Avery Special Collections Department of the New England Historic Genealogical Society (NEHGS) in Boston, MA. Hiram Webb was a descendant of Christopher Webb of Braintree, MA, born about 1690.

About 1875 Hiram wrote to various members of Webb families believed to be related to Christopher Webb of Braintree, and asked them to write about their ancestors. He compiled these documents and added his own notes connecting the families to one another. Over 125 years later, these documents and letters were given to the Special Collections Department at NEHGS.

In the Hiram Webb manuscript, there are two letters about Josiah Webb’s ancestry, one written by Josiah Webb himself and one written by his nephew Albert N. Webb, son of Josiah’s brother, Sumner Webb.

In Josiah’s own letter about his ancestry he states “my grandfather Christopher Webb was born in Weymouth, Mass, his wife in Braintree. Soon after their marriage they moved to Maine - the name of the town was Canaan, since Skowhegan, in Somerset (sic) County. He raised 4 boys, Samuel, Christopher, John and Asa.” There is no mention of Josiah’s grandmother’s name in the letter.

In his letter, Josiah goes on to identify his brothers as Sumner Webb, Seth Webb and John Webb, whom he states are all living as of the date of his letter, 18 Nov 1876. He states that his sisters, Sarah Webb and Corisanda Webb, are both dead on that date.

In January of 1877, Albert N. Webb, Josiah’s nephew, wrote a letter to Hiram Webb correcting Josiah’s information a bit, saying that his father [Sumner] says that his grandfather was born in Braintree, his grandmother in Weymouth. He wrote that he [Sumner] has this information from “his daughter”. It appears that this would be a reference to a daughter of Christopher Webb since Sumner himself had no daughters.

In his letter to Hiram Webb, Josiah also states that his grandfather (Christopher Webb) had a brother who went to Maine about the same time and that this brother has a son in Gardiner, Maine, John Webb. Josiah says he has met John Webb of Gardiner.
There was a John Webb living in Gardiner, Maine at the time that Josiah wrote his letter. He was the son of William Webb of Bath, Maine. (note from Kathy McHale – this William Webb of Bath is my great-great-great grandfather). William Webb of Bath moved to Maine from Massachusetts right after the Revolutionary War, settling there about 1783.


Cutter states that Josiah Webb, the chocolate manufacturer, was the son of John Webb of Windham and Skowhegan, Maine, who was a son of Josiah Webb of Windham, Maine, a son of Seth Webb of Isle of Little Holt, Maine. Seth Webb was a son of Samuel Webb of Weymouth, MA. Samuel Webb of Weymouth is not known to be related to Christopher Webb of Braintree, MA.

It is easy to see why one might think that Josiah Webb was a descendant of Samuel Webb of Weymouth. There are many names found in the family of Samuel that are also found among Josiah’s family, his uncles, and his siblings – the names Josiah, Seth, Samuel and John among them.

However, Cutter presents no vital records or other sources for his information on the family to which Josiah belongs. Furthermore, Josiah’s own words about his ancestors do not place him in the family of Samuel Webb of Weymouth since he writes that his grandfather was Christopher Webb. There appears to be no Christopher Webb anywhere among the known descendants of Samuel Webb of Weymouth.

It is possible that Josiah’s grandfather was the well-known Christopher Webb in Skowhegan who was born in Braintree, MA on 21 Apr 1747. Information about this Christopher is found in the book Skowhegan on the Kennebec by Louise Coburn; in an article written by Eben Weston for the Somerset Reporter newspaper entitled “The Early Settlers of Canaan”; and in the book Founding Families of Woolwich by Connie Wills.

According to these sources, this Christopher Webb, born in 1747, went to Maine as an infant with his parents, Samuel Webb and Sarah (Lincoln) Webb. Samuel and Sarah Webb moved from Braintree to Woolwich in 1747 sometime after Christopher’s birth.

On 15 Jan 1767 in Woolwich, Christopher Webb married Betty or Betsey Smith, daughter of Ebenezer Smith and his wife Hannah. Betty or Betsey was born in Woolwich in 1747. (Christopher’s wife will be referred to as Betty in the rest of this article.)

Christopher Webb and Betty Smith had several children, six of whom were born in Woolwich and five of whom were baptized at the Nequasset Church there between 1767 and 1778, according to the book Founding Families of Woolwich. The six children born in Woolwich were James Webb, Jacob Webb, Hannah Webb, Samuel Webb, Betty Webb and Christopher Webb Jr. Christopher Webb Jr. was born in 1780, but his baptismal record does not appear in the records of the Nequasset Church.

At least two of the first six children died young, including Jacob who died at 13 months in 1769 and Hannah who died at 11 months in 1872.

Christopher and Betty moved from Woolwich to Bloomfield/Canaan/Skowhegan about 1783, and had at least one more child there, Nancy Webb born in 1791. (Skowhegan VR).

It is possible that John Webb, Josiah’s father, born about 1787, was another child of Christopher and Betty, born in Skowhegan, but his birth does not appear in the Skowhegan Vital Records where Nancy Webb’s birth does appear.

Significant differences are found between the lists of children of Christopher Webb and Betty Smith found in various sources and Josiah’s own list of children of his grandfather Christopher Webb.

Chief among these differences is the existence of an oldest son James Webb, whom Josiah does not include in his list of children of his grandfather Christopher and his wife. For example, in the book Skowhegan on the Kennebec, Louise Coburn identifies only two sons for Christopher and Betty Webb: a son Samuel and a son James Webb who married
Rebecca Jewett. Eben Weston in “Early Settlers of Canaan” mentions as children of Christopher and Betty Webb only James Webb who married Rebecca Jewett and a Christopher Webb who moved to St. Albans.

There is no obvious explanation as to why Josiah would omit the name of an uncle James Webb in his letter to Hiram Webb, since James Webb was quite well-known in Skowhegan where Josiah grew up.

Furthermore, neither Coburn nor Weston mention Christopher having sons named Asa or John whom Josiah said were children of his grandfather Christopher Webb.

Eben Weston states that Christopher and Betty had two daughters, Nancy Webb who married Josiah Steward and Sally Webb who married Joseph Hook. Both of these women, and only these women, have been mentioned in various sources as being daughters of Christopher Webb of Skowhegan.

If these daughters are indeed aunts of Josiah, then one or the other of them would have been the source of Sumner Webb’s information regarding the birthplace of Christopher Webb, as mentioned above.

Very little information appears to be available about Sally Webb who married Joseph Hook. One online source gives her birth date as 1783 and her death date as 1851. So if she was the source of information about Christopher Webb, she must have provided it to Sumner Webb over 25 years before the date of the letter Albert N. Webb wrote in 1877.

Nancy Webb married Josiah Steward and died in 1869, so if she was the source of information about Christopher Webb she must have provided it to Sumner Webb before that date.

Below is a summary of some of the conflicting information found in comparing the letters in the Hiram Webb manuscript and the published sources of information on the family of Christopher Webb and Betty Smith:

1) Christopher Webb who married Betty Smith was born in Braintree, but came to Maine as an infant in 1747, not shortly after his marriage (in 1767) as Josiah states in his letter.

2) Betty Smith was born in Woolwich, ME, not Weymouth, MA and appears to have no connection to Weymouth which both Sumner and Albert Webb state that Christopher’s wife had. Betty’s father Ebenezer Smith was born in Maine, married his wife Hannah in Maine about 1742, and appears to have lived in only York, Brunswick and Woolwich, Maine.

3) Josiah mentions four sons for Christopher and his wife: Asa, John, Samuel and Christopher, but neither John nor Asa are mentioned in published sources as children of Christopher and Betty.

4) Several sources mention that Christopher and Betty had a son James who married Rebecca Jewett and lived in Skowhegan, but Josiah does not mention anything about his grandfather Christopher having a son James.

5) Josiah mentions a brother of Christopher who has a son John living in Gardiner, Maine in 1876. This appears to be a reference to William Webb of Bath, Maine, who DNA testing indicates is not related on his Webb line to Christopher Webb of Braintree.

One potential solution to this mystery might lie in Y-DNA testing. Josiah himself had no living male descendants, and it appears that his siblings did not either. However, it seems likely that the Asa Webb mentioned by Josiah is likely an Asa Webb who married Sally Elkins, born in Maine, and moved to Cannelton, Indiana. This Asa died in 1825, leaving behind his wife Sally and four children: Asa Webb Jr., Abram Webb, Lydia Ann Webb, and Samuel Elkins Webb.

Perhaps the fact that he moved away from Skowhegan explains why Asa is not mentioned in Skowhegan on the Kennebec or in Eben Weston’s article. At least two of Asa’s sons married and had children, so it may well be that a living Y-DNA descendant could be found to help solve some of the mysteries regarding Josiah’s ancestry.

It also possible that Josiah, Albert and Sumner were referring to the background of their GREAT-grandfather, Samuel Webb married to Sarah Lincoln, not their grandfather Christopher Webb. Samuel did move to Maine shortly after his
marriage as did his brother Nathaniel Webb who married Jane Blanchard. Nathaniel had an in-law relationship to William Webb of Bath. Sarah Lincoln was from Hingham, neighboring town of Weymouth.

However, for right now, the correct ancestry for Josiah’s father John S. Webb seems to be another Webb mystery!

JOSIAH’S OWN FAMILY

Josiah Webb married Betsey Crowell in Dorchester, MA on 26 Apr 1835. She was a daughter of James Crowell (b. Plymouth, MA) and Catharine Bearse (b. Harwich, MA) Betsey Crowell was born in Chatham, MA about 2 Aug 1809 based on her age of 80y, 2m, 6d at the time of her death in Milton, MA on 8 Oct 1889.

Josiah and Betsey had at least five children. Their first four children were born in Dorchester, MA. Two of these first four children died as infants. One of the two who died as an infant was a male child possibly named John. The vital records are not clear on the correct name for this, probably their first, child. In New England Families: Genealogical and Memorial, Cutter lists a child named John who died young, with no further information. No birth record for a child named John could be found. The child who died in 1841 could thus be either John or another male child altogether. At any rate, he was born about Jan 1839 based on his age of 2 years, 8 months when he died in Dorchester on 18 Aug 1841.

The other child who died young was a daughter named Louisa Webb who died of the croup on 13 Apr 1844 in Dorchester, MA. She was 14 months old at the time of her death, so was born in Feb 1843.

Josiah and Betsey had three other children, as follows:


Josiah Sumner Webb, born in Dorchester, MA on 23 Jan 1847. Josiah Sumner died in Milton, MA on 11 Feb. 1898 at the age of 51y, 0m, 19d of uremia. He also did not marry.


Josiah and Betsey’s daughter Jennie was their only child who had children. Thus, none of Josiah’s descendants are Y-DNA descendants of Josiah. However, descendants of Jennie are living today, and we can easily trace their line down from Josiah to the present.

First a few more words about Josiah’s sons Charles Henry Webb and Josiah Sumner Webb.

In the 1870 US Census for Milton, MA, Charles’ occupation is listed as chocolate manufacturer. At the time of his death in 1872, Charles’ occupation is listed as “manufacturer” at Milton, MA. Thus, it seems likely that his career was assisting his father in the operation of the chocolate factory.

Cutter in New England Families: Memorial and Genealogical writes about Charles as follows: “Mr. Rogers [pastor of the Dorchester Methodist Episcopal Church] said in his eulogy about Charles: “Charles Henry Webb was a young man of rare promise. To much of his father’s business tact and energy, he added the advantages of a superior education. He had a fine musical ear and culture. With what significant and exquisite taste did he conduct the singing in the old church that stood on this thrice consecrated spot! Dear young man! It is fitting that we remember him now under these impressive circumstances and drop this simple chaplet of undying affection on his early grave.”
Josiah Webb, Charles’ father, was the administrator of Charles Henry Webb’s estate, which is found in Norfolk County (MA) Probate Records, #19496.

Josiah’s son Josiah Sumner Webb also helped his father in the chocolate factory. After Josiah sold the chocolate factory in 1881 to Henry L. Pierce, Josiah Sumner Webb worked as a real estate agent. This was his occupation at the time of his death in 1898.

Cutter wrote about Josiah Sumner Webb as follows in New England Families: Genealogical and Memorial (Vol. 1): “…he was in business with his father; he was interested in church work; he was a member of Macedonian Lodge, Free and Accepted Mason, thirty second degree.”

Josiah Sumner Webb’s probate record is found in Norfolk County (MA) probate records, #33462. Alliston B. Clum (his brother in law) was appointed administrator, and Eliza J. Clum, his sister, of Milton, MA is listed as the only interested party and sole heir.

Now we return to Josiah’s daughter, Eliza J. “Jennie” Webb. Jennie Webb was born in Dorchester, MA on 1 Apr 1849.

Jennie married Alliston Belding Clum in Milton, MA on 27 Jul 1882. He was born in Troy, NY on 20 May 1845, a son of John H. Clum and Mary E. Belding. Alliston died in Milton, MA on 17 Feb 1911.

Alliston Clum was in the stationery business in Boston, a member of the Macedonian Lodge, Free Masons, and of the Methodist Episcopal Church. (Cutter) His retirement from the stationery business was noted as follows in “The American Stationer”, Vol. 26, p. 168, 25 July 1889: “Alliston B. Clum”, doing business at 54 Bromfield St. [Boston] under the style of “A.B. Clum & Co., Stationers” has sold out to Miss E.F. Allen, who will continue the business. Mr. Clum retires from active business with the hope that a period of rest or change of scene will improve his health. For a while he will take what pleasure he can in cultivating the grounds about his residence in Milton, Mass.”

The family lived at 184 School Street, Milton, MA in 1911 when Alliston Clum died. Jennie Webb Clum died on 4 Jun 1919 in Milton, MA.

Eliza J. “Jennie” and Alliston Clum had one child, a daughter, named Eliza Webb Clum.

Known as “Bessie,” Eliza Webb Clum was born in Milton, MA on 31 Oct 1885. Bessie married Claude E. Marden in Brookline, MA on 16 Apr 1906. A son of Edward E. Marden and Nora S. Foster, Claude was born in Denver, CO in 1882.

In the “Boston List of Residents, April 1933,” Bessie W. Marden, Claude E. Marden, Dorothy F. Marden, and Webb R. Marden were all living on Commonwealth Avenue in Boston, MA as of April 1, 1932.

In the 1940 US Census for Cambridge, Claude’s occupation is listed as salesman in the field of photography and Bessie is a housewife.

Bessie made a recording for the American Folklife program at the Library of Congress. According to one of her descendants, in the recording Bessie describes her life and activities. This recording, created in Milton, MA in January 1934, was part of a series created by the Folklife program to record local dialects.

Bessie Webb Marden died of a stroke at the Natick (MA) Nursing Home in Natick, MA on 4 Aug 1964 at the age of 78. She had resided there for 3 years. Bessie is buried in Milton Cemetery, Milton, MA. Claude Marden died in March of 1964 in Natick, MA.

Bessie and Claude Marden had two children: a son, Webb Randolph Marden, born in Milton, MA on 12 Mar 1909 and a daughter, Dorothy Foster Marden, born in Milton, MA on 5 Nov 1910.

Webb Randolph Marden married three times. At the age of 22, on 7 Jan 1928, he married Dorothy Rich, age 19, in Manchester, NH. From records at familysearch.org, it appears that this marriage was annulled. She was the daughter of Perry F. Rich and Lillian M. Noseworthy.
Webb married second Evelyn Billman in Chatham, MA on 19 Jul 1940. She was born in Lynn, MA on 13 Mar 1911 and was a daughter of John Billman and Hannah Pierson. Webb and Evelyn divorced and apparently had no children.

Webb’s third marriage was to Margaret Horner Thron Kibbe whom he married in Boston, MA on 25 Jan 1950. Margaret was born in Bristol, PA on 21 Jan 1913, a daughter of Frank H. Thron and Laura Wickoff. This was also the third marriage for Margaret.

Webb R. Marden was living in Boston in 1932 with his parents, as mentioned above. He was single in the 1940 US Census, living in Cambridge. His marriage record from Chatham in July 1940 lists his residence as North Chatham, MA. When he died in 1976, Webb and Margaret were living in Natick, MA.

At the time of the 1940 Census, prior to his marriage, Webb’s occupation is given as salesman. At the time of his marriage to Evelyn Billman in 1940, Webb listed his occupation as artist. At the time of his 1950 marriage to Margaret, he listed his occupation as machinist, and his residence as North Chatham, MA. Margaret’s occupation was secretary. Webb’s death record indicates that he retired from the Honeywell company.

Webb Marden died in Natick, MA on 27 Jul 1976. He is buried in Milton Cemetery, Milton, MA. His probate record is found in Middlesex County (MA) probate records, #495961, 1976. Webb left his estate to his wife Margaret H. Marden and, if she had died, to his daughter Jill McNamara of Auburndale, MA. He mentions his stepson Barry A. Kibbe of Papillon, Nebraska in the will.

Margaret Marden is found in the Natick, MA “List of Residents” from at least 1980 to 1991 when she died. Margaret died at the age of 77 in Newton, MA on 16 Jan 1991 and is buried in Newton Cemetery, Newton, MA. Jill C. McNamara, Margaret and Webb’s daughter, was the informant for Margaret Marden’s death record.

Webb Randolph Marden and Margaret had one child, their daughter Jill (Marden) McNamara who is mentioned above. Jill was born about 1934-35 based on her age at death of 78y on 18 May 2012. Jill married Joseph B. McNamara who predeceased her. According to her obituary in the Boston Globe, they had one son and two daughters. Jill also had five grandchildren and one great-grandchild. The photograph of Josiah Webb accompanying this article was provided by one of Jill McNamara’s daughters, a great-great-granddaughter of Josiah Webb.

Dorothy Foster Marden, Webb’s sister and the daughter of Bessie Webb Clum and Claude Marden, was born in Milton, MA on 5 Nov 1910. She did not marry.

Dorothy died in Taunton, MA on 12 Jul 1970, and is buried in Milton Cemetery, Milton, Dorothy died at the Taunton State Hospital where she had been a resident for nine years. In her death record, her permanent address is listed as Old Harbor Road, North Chatham, MA. Her occupation is listed as “at home.”

Josiah’s letter in the Hiram Webb manuscript lists his siblings as Sumner, Seth, John, Corisande and Sarah. This information is verified by Maine vital records listing their parents as John Webb and Sarah Stewart, Josiah’s parents.

Sumner Webb, Josiah’s brother, was the second child and second son of John and Sarah (Stewart) Webb. He was born in Canaan or Bloomfield, ME on 15 Aug 1813. Sumner married on 11 Feb 1838, possibly in North Anson, Maine, Elizabeth Ann Norris, daughter of Josiah Norris and Aphia Thing. She was born in Epping, NH about 1816, based on her obituary and her death record giving an age at death of 80y, 11m, 9d when she died in Skowhegan, ME on 18 Mar 1897. Sumner died in Solon, ME on 22 Feb 1894. Sumner and Elizabeth are buried in the Solon, Maine Village Cemetery, as are their children Albert N. Webb and Henry Clarence Webb.
Sumner Webb was a merchant according to his death record. He ran a grocery store in Solon, Maine for many years.

Sumner and Elizabeth Ann had three children.

**George Sumner Webb**, their oldest child, was born in Solon, ME on 25 Dec 1838. He married Vesta M. Lord in Litchfield or Skowhegan, ME on 2 Apr 1862. Their marriage intentions were filed on 27 Mar 1862, according to the Vital Records of Skowhegan. She was a daughter of James H. K. Lord and Ann R. Rich, and was born on 16 Jul 1840 in Litchfield, ME.

George and Vesta had two children, the oldest of whom was **Elizabeth E. Webb**, born Jan 1864, probably in Skowhegan. Elizabeth did not marry and died in Skowhegan on 29 Mar 1954. Their second child was **Gertrude Webb** born Apr 1871 probably in Skowhegan, ME. Gertrude died unmarried in Skowhegan on 8 Feb 1957.

It appears that these were the only children that George and Vesta had. The 1870 US Census shows just one child, Elizabeth, b. in 1864. The 1880, 1900 and 1910 US Censuses shows two children, Elizabeth and Gertrude born in 1864 and 1871 respectively.

After working in his father Sumner’s grocery store in Skowhegan for a year, George S. Webb moved to Solon, Maine where he opened his own grocery store. He ran that store for 22 years. He also served as town clerk of Solon for 17 years.

George S. Webb died in Skowhegan, ME on 11 Jun 1911. Vesta died in Skowhegan on 22 May 1922. They are both buried in Southside Cemetery, Skowhegan, ME, along with their daughters Gertrude and Elizabeth Webb.

**Albert N. Webb** was Sumner and Elizabeth Ann’s second child. He was born in Solon, ME on 9 Nov 1840. He married Mary F. Talbot in Boston, MA on 7 Jun 1865. She was born in Boston, MA on 18 Aug 1843, a daughter of Samuel D. and Mary P. (?) Talbot.

Like his father and brother, Albert was a grocer. His business was in Boston, MA. In both the 1870 and 1880 US Censuses for Boston, Albert is listed as a grocer. Albert died in Solon, ME on 17 Sep 1892 and is buried in the Village Cemetery in Solon. He had retired from his grocery business and had returned to Solon by that time.

Albert wrote a letter to Hiram Webb on 21 Jan 1877 giving genealogical information about his grandfather (Christopher, according to Josiah), his Webb uncles, his siblings, and his own family. Albert’s letter is in the manuscript collection at NEHGS as part of the Hiram Webb manuscript.

Albert and Mary appear to have had only one child, Agnes Talbot Webb, born in Boston, MA on 20 Jul 1868. Agnes married Ira A. Norton in Skowhegan, ME on 2 Dec 1896. Agnes died of apoplexy in Skowhegan, ME in 1907.

**Henry Clarence Webb** (also seen as Clarence Henry) was the third child of Sumner and Elizabeth Webb. He was born in Solon, ME on 9 Nov 1840, and was thus Albert N. Webb’s twin. He did not marry and died in Boston, MA on 11 May 1898. He is buried in the Solon Village Cemetery with his parents and his brother Albert.

Sumner and Elizabeth Webb adopted Maria Sereen Chaney in March 1871, as recorded in Somerset County (Maine) probate records. She was a daughter of John P. Chaney and his deceased (unnamed) wife. Maria, who was known as Maria S. Webb after the adoption, married a Mr. Shepard and died in 1932. She is buried in the Jonah S. Longley Lot in the Solon Village Cemetery.

Sumner Webb’s will, dated 8 Oct 1892 and found in Somerset County Maine probate records, names sons George S. Webb and Henry C. Webb, wife Elizabeth A. Webb, and granddaughters Elizabeth A. Webb, Gertrude Webb and Agnes T. Webb. His son Albert N. Webb had predeceased Sumner, having died in September 1892, just one month before Sumner.

**Seth Webb** was the third child and third son of John Webb and Sarah Stewart. He was born in Skowhegan/Canaan/Bloomfield, Maine on 10 Dec 1815. In Fairfield, Maine on 24 Sep 1840 marriage intentions were filed for his marriage to Louisa Mason of Fairfield.
Louisa Mason was born in Fairfield, ME about 28 May 1820 based on her age at death of 83y, 8m, 13d on 11 Feb 1904. She was a daughter of David Mason and ?.

Seth Webb died in Hartland, ME on 3 Apr 1893 and Louisa died there on 11 Feb 1904. They are buried in the village cemetery in Hartland.

According to his death record from the state archives and the 1850 and 1860 US Censuses of St. Albans, Seth Webb was a farmer.

Seth and Louisa had three children: Clara, Abbie and Ella Louisa.

Clara A. Webb was born in 1842. In 1861, she married Plummer T. Haskell of Hartland as recorded in the vital records of St. Albans and in Seth Webb's probate record in the Somerset County Maine Probate Records. Clara died in Augusta, Maine on 14 Aug 1918, according to US Veterans Administration Pension records. Plummer had died in 1886.

Abbie F. Webb was born about Jan 1847 and died on 2 Aug 1865 at 18y, 8m. She is buried in the Hartland Village Cemetery.

Ella Louisa Webb was born in St. Albans, ME on 13 Mar 1849. On 12 Oct 1868 her intention to marry William Chase of St. Albans was filed, according to the St. Albans vital records. Their marriage is also mentioned in Seth Webb’s probate record. Ella died in Hartland, ME on 2 May 1919.

Sarah “Sally” Webb was the fourth child and first daughter of John Webb and Sarah Stewart. She was born at Canaan, ME on 20 Apr 1818. In Clinton, ME, on 16 May 1838 she married Gideon Wells, a son of Gideon Wells and Sarah Mills. He was born in Clinton, ME on 16 Jun 1814.

Gideon and Sarah Wells lived in Clinton, Maine at the time of the 1850, 1860 and 1870 US censuses. Gideon was a farmer, livestock dealer and a drover. After Sarah Webb Wells died, Gideon married Anna Ricker Brock.

Sarah Webb Wells died in Clinton, ME on 2 Jan 1875 and is buried in the Nobles Ferry Cemetery there. Gideon Wells died in Clinton, ME on 11 Aug 1892 and is also buried in the Nobles Ferry Cemetery.

Sarah and Gideon had ten children, two sons and eight daughters as follows:

Josephine Wells, born 1838, died 1909. Little is known of her.

Tufton S. Wells, born Clinton, ME on 24 Nov 1840; married Clinton, ME on 15 Oct 1864 to Rose Brown; died Clinton, ME on 12 Nov 1894, and is buried in Nobles Ferry Cemetery.

Howard R. Wells, born Clinton, ME on 10 Oct 1844; married Clinton, ME on 7 Jan 1867 to Lydia E. Spearin; died 1919, and is buried in Nobles Ferry Cemetery.

Arabella Wells, born 3 Apr 1858 probably in Clinton, ME; married in Clinton, ME on 12 Jan 1867 to Alfred Weymouth; died Clinton, ME on 16 July 1917B, and is buried in Nobles Ferry Cemetery.

Angeline Wells, born in Clinton, ME about 1851; married Charles D. Starbird, date and place unknown; died in Lowell, MA on 15 Jan 1910 at 58y, 8m, and is buried in Lowell Cemetery, Lowell, MA.

Sarah Wells, born probably Clinton, ME about 1851; died in Clinton, ME on 18 Nov 1870, and is buried in Nobles Ferry Cemetery.

Addie Wells, born in Clinton, ME on 14 Jan 1855; m. possibly Fairfield, ME on 17 Oct 1871 to Leander Rand; died in Fairfield, ME on 8 Jan 1923.

Alfreda Wells, born probably Clinton, ME, date unknown; died in Clinton, ME on 15 May 1857, and is buried in Nobles Ferry Cemetery.
Jennie F. Wells, born in Clinton, ME on 15 Mar 1858; married in Clinton, ME on 16 Jan 1880 to John B. Low. Her death date and place are unknown.

Kate Wells, born in Clinton, ME in 1867; died in Fairfield, ME on 27 Feb 1911.

**Corisanda S. Webb** was the fifth child and second daughter of John Webb and Sarah Stewart. Her name is spelled in various ways in vital records, including: Corisande Webb, Corisanda Webb, and Coriand Webb. Her nickname was Corrie. On her gravestone in the Town House Hill Cemetery in Clinton, ME, her name appears as “Corisanda S.”

Corisanda was born in Canaan or Skowhegan, ME about 28 Apr 1821 based on her age of 48y, 9m at her death on 28 Jan 1870.

On 5 Aug 1841 in Skowhegan, Corisanda Webb married Nathaniel B. White. He was a son of Rev. Nathaniel B. White and Harriet Jewett and was born in Canaan, Maine on 23 Jul 1816.

In the 1850, 1860 and 1870 US Censuses for Skowhegan, St. Albans and Clinton Maine respectively, Nathaniel’s occupation is listed as farmer.

Corisanda and Nathaniel B. White are both buried in the Town House Hill Cemetery, Clinton, ME. Nathaniel died on 6 Nov 1902.

Corisanda and Nathaniel White had 5 children:

Maria White, born about 1843 according to her gravestone in Riverside Cemetery Norridgewock, ME; married Harlan P. Merrill on 9 Jan 1861 in an unknown location; died in Madison, ME on 18 Jan 1908.

John White, born on 24 Jan 1847 in an unknown location; married Mary Jane ? in Clinton, ME on 25 Aug 1870; died on 10 Oct 1904, and is buried in Nobles Ferry Cemetery, Clinton, ME.

Angelia White, born in Skowhegan, ME on 27 Mar 1846; married Lloyd Dillingham on 26 Oct 1866. Her date of death is unknown, but she was living at the time of the 1900 US Census.

Clarence White, born probably in Skowhegan, ME about 1849; died Clinton, ME at the age of 10y, 2 m.

Nathaniel B. White, born about 1852 possibly in Skowhegan, ME; married on 23 Apr 1881 to Augusta Martin; died 5 Aug 1886.

**John S. Webb Jr.** was the sixth child and fourth son of John S. Webb and Sarah Stewart. His exact date of birth is not known, with dates varying from 1822 in Albert N. Webb’s letter to Hiram Webb to 1834 based on his age in the 1880 US Census of Clinton, Maine.

His death record from the Maine State Archives in February 1893 gives his age at death as 61. Most likely, it would seem then that he was born about 1830 - 1832. He was born in Milburn, ME.

John S. Webb is listed as a farmer in the 1860 US Census for Clinton, Maine and as a butcher in the 1870 and 1880 US Censuses for Clinton, Maine. According to his death record, at the time of his death in 1893, he was a butcher, living in Clinton, Maine.

John S. Webb married first Mary A. Parkman on 30 Jun 1849 in Skowhegan, ME. She was born about 26 May 1830 and died 28 May 1871. Her parents are unknown.

Of this first marriage to Mary A. Parkman, the following children were born:

**Curran L. Webb**, born Maine about 1851 based on his age of 9 in the 1860 US Census. Curran is listed in the 1870 US Census with his parents in Clinton, Maine, and also apparently in the 1870 US Census for Shelburne, MA, age 18. He is listed as Currin Webb in the 1880 US Census in Minnesota, b. Maine, a boarder, and a laborer living with many other laborers from Maine. It is likely that Curran is the C.T. Webb who married Jennie Hopkins in Wisconsin in 23
Sep 1882 (FSO), since that marriage record indicates the groom’s parents were John Webb and Mary Parkman. No further information about Curran Webb has been found to date, but further research may uncover a Y-DNA descendant of his who would also be a Y-DNA descendant of Josiah’s father, John S. Webb.

**Hattie M. Webb**, born Maine about 1858 based on age of 2 in 1860 US Census; died after the 1880 US Census. It is unknown whether she married or not.

**Nellie E. Webb**, born Maine about 1861; married in Clinton, ME on 24 Jan. 1880 to Frank C. Burrill of Canaan, ME; died in Clinton, ME on 23 Apr 1886

**Lizzie M. Webb**, born about 1863; died in Clinton, ME on 31 Jan. 1883.

John S. Webb married second Lydia Tuttle in Clinton, ME on 23 Nov 1873. Lydia was born in Athens, ME on 11 May 1842, a daughter of James Tuttle and Hannah Berry. She died in Benton, ME on 13 Feb 1922. John and Lydia had one child:

**Bertha L. Webb**, born about March 1874, probably in Clinton, ME; died in Clinton, ME on 27 Jan. 1881 at 6 yrs. 10 months.

*****

**Sources:**

Special thanks to Carolyn Bingham and Delores Mowat who shared their family group sheets and vital record information on these Webb families.


"Daniel Steward (1734-1802). Rev. War Soldier" LDS Church. Waterville, ME. Kate Jackson Papers. (Provided to me by Delores Mowat, Mexico, ME)


*Skowhegan on the Kennebec*. Louise Helen Coburn and other Residents. 1941. Independent Reporter Press. (NEHGS)

*Vital Records of Skowhegan (formerly Milburn and a part of Bloomfield)*. Compiled by Sally Furber Nelson. 2010. Picton Press. (NEHGS)

Websites:

www.familysearch.org – Maine, Massachusetts Vital Records, and census information
www.americanancestors.org – Massachusetts Vital Records
www.alden.org – Christopher Webb of Braintree
www.georgetownhistoricalsociety.org – Samuel Webb/Sarah Lincoln
https://catalog.swem.wm.edu/law/Record/2406897 - grocery list for Webb chocolates
http://www.bostonhistory.org/sub/bakerschocolate/othrchoc_webbtwomb.htm
http://www.warefamilies.org/blog1/history/wares-y - history of the Ware mill

Artwork:

Webb’s Chocolate, established 1843, Josiah’ Webb & Co. Advertising card, issued approx. 1870-1900, chromolithograph, Boston Public Library, print department. Creative Commons:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/

Photo of Josiah Webb generously provided by C. Hunter.
## WEBB Records Repository:

**Webbs in Disasters - America**

[with injuries, loss of life or property]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1853</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>off of Galveston, TX</td>
<td>steamer explosion</td>
<td>Loss of life: Capt. Webb, commander of the ship “Farmer.&quot; [The Lucy Walker]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1858</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Utica, NY</td>
<td>train wreck</td>
<td>Injured: Mr. &amp; Mrs. Darius Webb, Wyandotte, MI.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>Richmond, VA</td>
<td>court floor collapse</td>
<td>Loss of life: Lewis N. Webb, Richmond, VA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1870</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Dayton, NV</td>
<td>business fire</td>
<td>Loss of property: M. H. Webb, saloon building [$800]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876</td>
<td>Sept</td>
<td>Georgetown, KY</td>
<td>courthouse fire</td>
<td>Loss of property: Rankin &amp; Webb Dry Goods, damage.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>Feb</td>
<td>Wellsboro, PA</td>
<td>business fire</td>
<td>Loss of property: Dr. W. W. Webb &amp; Son [$50]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1882</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>Tombstone, AZ</td>
<td>town fire</td>
<td>Loss of property: Mattie Webb [$2,000]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1884</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Moberly, MO</td>
<td>bridge collapse</td>
<td>Loss of life: Abraham Webb of Cunningham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1890</td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>Staunton, VA</td>
<td>train wreck</td>
<td>Injured: Mrs. Edward Webb, leg bruised.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event</td>
<td>Details</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895, Aug</td>
<td>Popes Ferry, GA</td>
<td>train wreck</td>
<td>Injured: Miss Webb, leg broken</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1895, Oct</td>
<td>Manor Station, PA</td>
<td>train wreck</td>
<td>Injured: W. M. Webb, Hawkins, master carpenter Pittsburg division Pennsylvania railroad</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896, Feb</td>
<td>New Castle, CO</td>
<td>coal mine explosion</td>
<td>William Webb</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896, Dec</td>
<td>Birmingham, AL</td>
<td>train wreck</td>
<td>Loss of life: Will Webb, residence unknown – identified by name on watch. R. Webb of Birmingham, AL</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902, Feb</td>
<td>Battle Creek, MI</td>
<td>sanitarium fire</td>
<td>Injured: Assistant Fire Chief Fred H. Webb fell from ladder.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1904, Sept</td>
<td>Hodges, TN</td>
<td>train wreck</td>
<td>Injured: B. B. Webb, Statesville, postal clerk</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905, Feb</td>
<td>Rib Lake, WI</td>
<td>house fire</td>
<td>Loss of life and property: Isaac Webb’s home in Greenwood, WI. His daughter, age 9 and son, age 8, perished. Webb burned trying to save them.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909, May</td>
<td>Kansas City, MO</td>
<td>tornado</td>
<td>Loss of property: Tornado started in Watt Webb’s orchard.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Month</td>
<td>Location</td>
<td>Event Type</td>
<td>Loss of Life</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>Apr</td>
<td>Attica, IN</td>
<td>train wreck</td>
<td>Injured: J. E. Webb, Peru, IN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>March</td>
<td>IL, IN, MO</td>
<td>the great tornado</td>
<td>Loss of life: Mrs. Charles Webb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>July</td>
<td>Menoken, KS</td>
<td>train wreck</td>
<td>Injured: John Webb, Kansas City, district postal telegraph foreman, was in caboose.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1931| Nov   | Brooklyn, NY    | apartment fire | Loss of life: Mrs. Lena Webb, 35
Ethel Webb, 4 mo |
| 1933| Sept  | Rio Grande Vllly, TX | hurricane | Injured: H. K. Webb |
| 1934| Oct   | Iowa City, IA   | train wreck  | Injured: Walter Webb, waiter of Chicago                                       |
| 1945| Aug   | Detroit, MI     | box factory fire | Loss of life: Mrs. Vonell Webb, 28                                         |
| 1953| Sept  | Albany, NY      | airplane crash | Loss of life: Judson W. Webb, Waukegan, IL, salesman for the Cyclone Fence Company |
| 1955| March | Honolulu, HI    | military plane crash | Loss of life: Nathan Webb, Louisville, KY
Mrs. Rita Laverne Webb & daughter, Yokohama. |
| 1956| Dec   | Mount Slesse, BC | plane crash  | Loss of life: Leslie E. Webb, Vancouver BC                                  |

[Source: GenDisasters.com]
Illinois

John Webb b. TN, of Shelby Co. IL

"John Webb, a native of Tennessee, settled on section 13, in 1840. He was a soldier in the war of 1812, and was in the Battle of New Orleans, where he had two fingers shot off; he was three times married, - his third wife is yet living, and receiving a pension from the government. Mr. Webb often preached in this vicinity. He died at the old place, in 1869, near the age of seventy-eight. His son, B. T. Webb, lives near where his father first settled."

[Note: John Webb b. June 20, 1792, d. Dec 7, 1869]

[Source: The Combined History of Shelby & Moultrie Co., Illinois, 1881]

Albert F. Webb, Cook Co., IL

"Albert F. Webb superintendent of the Stinson Stock Farm at Thornton, was born in Chicago, on the 1st of March, 1863, and is a son of Francis and Amelia [Wheeler] Webb.

The father was a native of England, born near London. In 1861, he took up his residence near Thornton, having that year crossed the Atlantic to America, and upon the farm where he located he made his home until his death, which occurred in 1881, at the age of fifty-one years. His widow still resides on the old homestead. She was born in Oxford, England, and came to America in 1862. Mr. and Mrs. Webb had a family of four children, but two of the number died in childhood. Albert F. and Bessie are the survivors. The father of this family was a well-known citizen of Thornton and vicinity for some years, For a long time he carried on a general store in the village of Thornton and did a good business in that way. At the same time he operated his farm, and it also yielded him a good income. He was not a member of any church, but was an honorable, upright man, and for several years was superintendent of a union Sabbath-school in Thornton, and was always recognized as one of the most useful and esteemed citizens of the place.

Albert F. Webb attended the public schools, where he acquired a fair English education, and at the age of sixteen years he began clerking in a grocery store in Chicago. Thus he started out in life for himself and since that time he has made his own way in the world. For a year he continued to serve as a salesman, and then began learning the carpenter's trade, which he followed for nine years. On the expiration of that period, in the spring of 1890, he became the superintendent of the Stinson Stock Farm at Thornton, which position he yet fills. This farm comprises about seven hundred acres of land and is devoted to the breeding of trotting horses and Jersey cattle. About two hundred and fifty thoroughbred trotters are kept on the farm, most of them bred under the management of Mr. Webb. His stables are extensive, are well lighted and ventilated and are models of convenience in all particulars. They were built under the personal supervision of Mr. Webb and indicate his thorough knowledge of the needs and care of horses. The farm is now a first-class stock-breeding establishment. About thirty men are employed upon the place, including several expert trainers, and altogether it is considered one of the best stock farms in the State. Since locating here Mr. Webb has also superintended the establishment of another stock farm on a similar plan at Highlands, Indiana.

In 1882, was celebrated the marriage of the subject of this sketch and Miss Winnie Wendt, daughter of Frederick Wendt, of Homewood. She was born in Germany, and came with her parents to Cook County when four years of age. Two children were born of their union, but the son, George, died at the age of ten years. The daughter, Amy, is still with her parents.

Mr. Webb is a member of the Masonic fraternity and of the Independent Order of Foresters. In politics, he has been a life-long Republican, and is a warm advocate of the principles of his party. He served two terms as School Director of Thornton. His position as Superintendent of the Stinson Stock Farm he has filled for four years, and in its management has given entire satisfaction. He is a systematic farmer and business man, a practical and enthusiastic stockman, and a public-spirited citizen."

[Source: Album of Genealogy and Biography, Cook County, Illinois, 1896]
George Washington Webb, Hancock Co. IL

George Washington Webb was born on section 34, Appanoose township, July 4, 1850, and it is in the same township that he now follows the occupation of farming, being accorded a place among the representative agriculturists of the community. He is of English lineage, a grandson of Giles Webb, a native of England. His father, William Webb, was also born in that country, and was married there to Harriet Baldwin, a daughter of James Baldwin. In 1841 William Webb became a resident of Hancock county, settling in La Harpe, and he afterward opened the first coal mine in McDonough county, at Colchester. His time was largely devoted to well digging in earlier years and eventually he took up his abode in Appanoose township, where he purchased forty acres of land on section 34, and forty acres on section 33. He built a log house on the latter section, where a portion of his land was covered with timber. As the years passed he added to his property until he secured about two hundred and eighty acres lying in one body, a tract of forty acres, and another of eighty acres. His time and energies were given to the cultivation of the cereals best adapted to the soil and he likewise raised stock. Later he added dairying to his work and sold his butter in Keokuk. Thus he lived a life of industry and perseverance and his prosperity was attributable entirely to his own well directed labor. He died October 2, 1882, while his wife passed away April 16, 1884. In their family were three sons and a daughter: James, William and George, all residents of Appanoose township; and Sarah, the wife of Emmet Horton, of Red Willow county, Nebraska.

George W. Webb spent his boyhood days on the old home place where he continued to live until six years after his marriage. It was on the 12th of January, 1875, that he wedded Ella E. Lewis, who was born in Lynnville, Chester county, Pennsylvania, and who was educated in this state. Her natal day was April 11, 1853, and her parents were Morgan R. and Mary Ann [Downing] Lewis, natives of Chester county, Pennsylvania. Her father was a son of Henry and Elenore [Evans] Lewis, while her mother was a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth [Beidler] Downing, natives of Pennsylvania, and a granddaughter of Thomas Lewis and Sarah [Smith] Downing, who were natives of England and were Quakers, or Friends, in religious faith. In October, 1853, Morgan R. Lewis removed with his family to Nauvoo, and purchased a farm on section 11, Sonora township, where he engaged in the tilling of the soil and in raising stock. He also conducted a dairy business, selling butter in Keokuk. He owned eighty acres of prairie land in Sonora township, and sixteen acres of land in Appanoose township. He died February 8, 1894, while his wife passed away February 5, 1875.

After residing with his parents six years subsequent to his marriage, Mr. Webb purchased eighty acres of land, constituting the south half of the northeast quarter of section 34, Appanoose township. There were no trees or building upon the place at that time and he soon erected a residence and has since built two barns, one in 1893 forty-eight by fifty feet and the other in 1900, forty-four by forty-four feet. He has other buildings upon his place for the shelter of farm machinery and stock and altogether has a model property. Many shade, ornamental and fruit trees have been planted by him and he now has much fruit upon his place, deriving a considerable income from its sale as well as from the other departments of his farm labor.

Unto Mr. and Mrs. Webb have been born four sons and a daughter. Morgan Lewis, born December 15, 1876, is pastor of the English Lutheran church, now located at Murphysboro, Illinois; Blanche Edith, born December 18, 1880, is the wife of Frederick Earl Schofield, the physical director in the Young Men’s Christian Association, of Burlington, Iowa. William, born November 24, 1885, is at home. Frank, born November 12, 1888, died August 11, 1889. Jasper Kent, born December 25, 11893, completes the family.

Politically a democrat, Mr. Webb has always refused to accept public office save that of school trustee and director. He has lived continuously in the county from his infancy to the present time and great changes have occurred during this period of more than a half century. At the same time he has carefully conducted business interests that have resulted in bringing him a substantial competence.”

[Source: Biographical Review of Hancock County, Illinois, 1907]
Maryland

Some Early Maryland Webb Marriages

Webb, Sarah and John Withered, 3 October 1695, Anne Arundel Co., MD

[Source: American Marriage Records Before 1699, William Montgomery Clemens, 1926]

Some Hartford Co. Maryland Webb Records

Tuesday, 22, of March 1774
Maryland, Harford County, to wit:

Be It Remembered that the Right Honourable Henry Harford, Esquire, absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Province of Maryland, sent his commission, closed under the seal of the said Province, in the usual Form, which Commission was distinctly read and published, and thereupon Aquila Hall, Gentlemen by Virtue of the dedimus indorsed on the said Commission administered the severall oaths appointed by Act of Asembly to be taken to the government as also the Oath of Judge or Justice to Thomas Bond, Son of Thomas, Jeremiah Sheredine, Benedict Edward Hall, William Webb and Aquila Paca, Gentlemen, who did severally subscribe the Test and Oath of Abjuration...

Justices Present:

Aquila Hall,  William Webb,
Amos Garrett,  Jeremiah Sheredine,
J. Beal Howard,  Aquila Paca,
Thomas Bond,  Benedict Edward Hall
Gentlemen

... Court met the next day, March 23, all the justices being present except William Webb.

Grand jury, March 1783:

Samuel Webb

The petit jury for that term were:

Samuel Webb

....to consult and agree on the most effectual means to preserve our constitutional rights and liberties, and promote that union and harmony between Great Britain and her colonies, on which their preservation depends; and that the same gentlemen, together with the following, Capt. John Matthews, Capt. William Smith, Dr. John Archer, William Younge, Abraham Whitaker, William Webb.....

...To this association are found subscribed the names of Benedict Edward Hall, Thomas Bond, Richard Dallam, Ignatius Wheeler, Jr., and William Webb, who represented Harford county in that convention.

...As we look back to that distant day, we can see the village hostelry filled with jurors, witnesses, judges and others of our people who had repaired to the county seat on public business. The great open fireplace would be blazing with the cordwood log; kindly feeling and good cheer would prevail; Mr. Jeremiah Sheredine, Mr. William Webb and Mr. Thomas Bond, of the lords justices, would discuss with Mr. William Smithson the opening of a new road from the Hickory Fork to
Winter’s Run and debate the probable cost; in another part of the room Mr. Alexander Lawson, the clerk of the court, would be engaged in conversation with Mr. Aquila Hall and Mr. Aquila Paca, who lived nearby and had dropped in for a social hour…

**Captain William Webb’s Company. – No. 16.**

*William Webb*, Captain.

Ignatius Wheeler, Jr., 1st Lieut.

William Fisher, Jr., 2d Lieut.

*John Webb, Jr*. Ensign…

A list of the companies on the north side of Deer creek, in Harford county, formed and returned to this committee:

*William Webb*, Captain

Ignatius Wheeler, 1st Lieutenant

William Fisher, 2d Lieutenant

*Samuel Webb, Jr*. Ensign

Seventy-four privates

Date of enrollment, 14th day of October, 1775

Appendix – Minutes of the Harford County Committees Before and During the Revolution – 1774


…It being reported that *Mr. William Webb* a Member of this Committee has been guilty of an Infringement of the Continental Association by being concerned in a horse race, the Gentleman comes into this Committee and prays that he may be heard in his defence.

Resolved that *Mr. Webb* has sufficiently exculpated himself from the general Charge.


Be appointed to collect Contributions for the Relief of the Poor of Boston and also to collect money for the purchase of arms and Ammunition for the defence of our Lives, Liberties & Properties and it is requested that they will divide themselves into Districts in different Hundreds and wait on each inhabitant within each particular district and request some free Gift either for the Relief of the Poor of Boston or for the purchase of Arms and Ammunition for the defence of our Lives, Liberties and Properties and make a report thereof to the Committee and also to make a return of such men [if any] who dead to every feeling of humanity and to all sense of their own Danger refuse to give anything to either of the above purposes.


Wednesday, April 5, 1775
At a meeting of the Committee at the Lower Cross Roads by adjournment Present Capt. William Smith in the Chair, The Revd. Mr. Davis, Jacob Bond, Samuel Ashmead, Jacob Bull, James Hornder, Robert Morgan, Benjamin Bayless, William Webb, Bennet Mathews, Aquila Paca, Will Smithson, Hugh Whiteford, Junr., Aquila Hall, Senr., James C. Clendening, Samuel Jenkins…

The following fines were paid into the Hands of the Clerk for the time being, to wit: William Webb one Shilling

In pursuance of the order to the Several Hundreds to Chose Two men Each to Represent them in Provential Convention, the Undermentioned Gentlemen were chose:

for Gunpowder Lower.
William Webb,
Ignatius Wheeler

A Letter is wrote to the Honorable Council of Safety of Maryland, informing them of three Companies being enrolle’d on the North side of Deer Creek Viz. William Webb, John Patrick, and John Jolleys.

…Mr. William Webb presents a Musquet for which this Committee agrees to give him four pounds, and paid him the same.

… Mr. William Webb presents a draw bow Gun with Bullet molds for which the Committee gives him Five Pounds.

1776 September 11th The following is a List of Blankets brought in by the several Collectors.
William Webb 43

[Source: History of Harford County, Maryland, Walter Wilkes Preston, 1901]

Massachusetts

Some Early Massachusetts Webb Marriages

Webb, Benjamin and Mercy Buckman, 7 December 1669, Malden, Mass
Webb, Benjamin and Susana Ballintine, 21 November 1692, Boston, Mass.
Webb, Christopher and Hanna Scott, 18 November 1654. Braintree, Mass.
Webb, Elizabeth and Thomas Greene, 19 August 1667, Malden, Mass.
Webb Elizabeth and John Hurd, 16 March 1691, Boston, Mass.
Webb Elisha and Lydia Scottow, 18 November 1697, Boston, Mass.
Webb, John and Bethia Adams, May 1680, Braintree, Mass.
Webb, Joseph and Deborah Bass, 29 November 1699, Boston, Mass.
Webb, Margaret [dau. of Henry] and Jacob Sheafe, 1643, Boston, Mass.
Webb, Mary and Peter Adams, 12 February, 1695, Braintree, Mass.
Webb, Samuel and Marah Adams, 16 December 1686, Braintree, Mass
Webb, Sarah and Zachariah Buckmaster, 7 January 1655, Boston, Mass.

[Source: American Marriage Records Before 1699, William Montgomery Clemens, 1926]
Benjamin Webb m. Sally Felt, Salem MA


Children:

John Felt Webb, b. in Salem, Feb. 9, 1811; d. in Southampton, England, Oct. 21, 1861. He was a commercial agent, and unmarried.

Benjamin Webb, b. in Salem, Dec. 9, 1812; died there July 4, 1823. Killed by accidental discharge of rockets on Salem Common.

Mary Elizabeth Webb, born in Salem, Jan. 28, 1814; m. there, Oct. 22, 1845, George West, son of George and Deborah [Ayers] West. He was b. in Salem, May 29, 1810, and d. there June 24, 1852. He was a merchant. Mrs. West resides at 36 Washington Square, Salem.

Sarah Felt Webb, b. in Salem, March 11, 1816; died there, unmarried, April 19, 1883.

Margaret Porter Webb, b. in Salem, Oct 14, 1818; m. there, July 26, 1848, Charles Paine, son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth [Chandler] Paine of Worcester, Mass., as his third wife. He was b. in Worcester, Aug. 12, 1804, and d. there Dec. 8, 1866. Mrs. Paine resides at 35 Chestnut Street, Worcester.

Ellen Deborah Webb, b. in Salem, Nov. 29, 1822; d. there, unmarried, Dec. 2, 1882.

[Source: The Felt Genealogy, John Emery Morris, 1893]

Virginia

Elizabeth City Co.

WB 1737-1749, p 182
Will of George Yeo: Leg – cousin George Arnold of the Kingdom of England and Merchant in London all my estate in England; cousin John Selden; cousin Elizabeth Selden; to Joseph the son of cousin John Selden; to Elizabeth the daughter of cousin John Selden; to Robert Brough, son of William Brough, decd; if cousin Arnold thinks proper to divide my wife’s clothes between her children and grandchildren; to my wife’s granddaughter, Agnes Howard; to her granddaughter Mary Douglas; remainder of wife’s clothes to her daughter, Grace Selden. Exrs: cousin George Arnold of England and cousin John Selden of Virginia. Dated 15 Mar 1742. Rec. 20 Apr 1743. Wt: Charles Jennings, John Webb, George Cooper.

[Source: "Wills & Admin. of Elizabeth City Co., VA, and other Genealogical and Historical Items, 1610-1800" Abstracted and compiled by Blanche Adams Chapman, 1941]
Some Early Webb Virginia Marriages
Webb, Isaac and Mary Bedwell, 16 April 1678, Richmond Co., VA
Webb, John and Mary Sanford, 14 July 1673, Richmond Co., VA

[Source: American Marriage Records Before 1699, William Montgomery Clemens, 1926]

Richmond Co. Estate Records

"Giles Webb; will presented by Mrs. Margaret Webbe, ex.; proved by John Tavener and John Parker, witnesses: prob. to ex; Aug 3, 1692. [p. 35, Order Book 1, 1692-1694]

Isaac Webb; will presented by John Webb, executor - proven by Samuel Peachey and John Suggett. Dec 5, 1694. [p. 16, Order Book 2, 1694-1699]

John Webb, Will presented by Giles Webb, executor; proven by Samuel Samford and Thomas White; cod. Proven by John Baker; probate to ex; March 2, 1697/98. [p. 274 Order Book 2, 1694-1699]

James Samford, will; Sept 27, 1703, Nov 2, 1704 plantation and 200 acres to grandson Thomas Samford; if he has no heirs, to grandson James Samford; son Samuel shall live on the before bequeathed plantation of Thomas Samford for and during his natural life; Elizabeth, the wife of son Samuel; grandsons William, Gils and John Samford; Samford Jones; Edward Jones; executor: son Samuel; Witnesses: Giles Webb, Richard Taylor, Edward Jones. [T2r]

Peter Kippax, rector of North Farmham Parish, Will, written Nov 16, 1718, proved April 1, 1719. Land and negroes to be sold and money remitted to my loving brother Richard and Edward Kippax of Marsden; the Rev. Ralph Buck; fr. Mr. Thomas Griffin; Mr. Thomas Baile; and Capt. Charles Barber; Patrick Dunn and James Hartley; executor: Thomas Griffin, Thomas Baile, and Capt. Charles Barber; witnesses: Giles Webb, Patrick Dunn, John Naylor.

William Colston, Will; May 10, 1721, Jan 3, 1721/22 wife Mary; daughter Mary; other daughter unnamed; executor: wife and Mr. William Daingerfield of Essex Co.; witnesses: Reuben Welch, Anne Webb, Joseph Brown. [p. 198]

Robery Baylis, Farnham Parish, Will. Written Jan 30, 1724/25, proved July 7, 1725. Mr. Newman Brockenbrough a small piece of land containing 10 acres lying to the west of the Mill Swamp; brother Thomas, all the land that I have any right to on the hills between the main swamp and the Gun Branch; Mr. Giles Webb the plantation whereon I now live with 300 acres thereunto belonging; daughters Elizabeth and Frances; son Thomas; cousin Giles Webb and his son John Spann Webb to be executors; witnesses: Joyce Lewis, Ama[dine] Hammons, James Samford. [p. 267]


Jesse Hill, Farnham Parish, Will; written May 25, 1760, proved July 7, 1760. Loving brother Thomas Suggitt Hill all state; godson Isaac Beacham, in regard to the love I bear to him, as to discharge a debt which I owe to the father of the said boy; aunt Susannah Webb; sister Winifred Williams; godson Thaddeus Williams to have 10 pounds for schooling; executor: Thomas S. Hill and Samuel Williams; wits: William Nash, John Walker, Randal Walker, John Plummer. [p. 185]


[Source: Wills of Richmond County Virginia, 1699-1800, Headley, 1983]
Westmoreland Co. Wills with Webbs

John Hiller, Will written Oct 12, 1657, proven Feb 20, 1657. Legatees: daughter Elizabeth Rozier and grandchild John Rozier, Jr. to have all my estate save child of Mr. Webb my late wife’s godchild one cow and calf; son in law John Rosier, clerk, to be executor. [Volume 1]

Arthur Shore, Will written Dec 16, 1663; proven April 27, 1664. To Penelope Webb; wife Susanna; daughters Patience and Susan; my wife and George Weeden and henry Cossum executors. [Volume 1]

Richard Cole, parish of Appomatox; Will written Nov 4, 1663, proven April 27, 1664. Widow Brooks; Nicholas Saxton; goddaughter Jane, the wife of Richard Hiden; Joice Arbell; Thomas Webb; the widow Brooks to be executrix. Witnesses: John Brook and John Bell. [Volume 1]

William Webb, Will written Jan 4, 1669, proven May 25, 1670; to son William Webb; George Campians eldest son William; to my wife Joane. [Volume 1]

John Bell, Will, proved July 27, 1670. My wife Mary Bell; friend Thomas Webb. [Volume 1]

Francis Lewis, Will, written Jan 31, 1671, proved Feb 28, 1671. Legatees: John Moon; daughter Christiana and Margery land purchased from Mr. Robert Harrison; daughter Margery to care of Mr. Richard Chapman and daughter Christiana to care of Mrs. Brereton; John Moon to care of William Webb.


Michael Webb, carpenter, Will written Dec 12 169_, proven June 29, 1698. Elizabeth Hid daughter of Thomas on cow; Anne Hid one cow; wife Rebecca lands and if she dies without issue to Evan son of Evan Price.


[Source: Wills of Westmoreland County, Virginia,1654-1800, A. B. Fothergill, 1925]

Great Britain

Lizzie Webb, drowned

1888 - “The bodies of Edward Whitehouse and Lizzie Webb were found in the river Lea, in England tied together with a handkerchief, and locked in each other’s arms. A letter was found in the young woman’s pocket addressed to her mother, desiring her not to “fret,” and asking that she and her lover be buried in the same grave.”

[Source: Barnstable Patriot, June 12, 1888]

Sarah, daughter of Richard Webb, Esq. of Cavenham, Suffolk

Nathaniel Webb of Mountserrett, merchant

Nathaniel Webb of Mountserrett, merchant – proved by Robert Webb, Esq., his son, 26 March, 1741…my beloved wife Jane of all my negroes on and belonging to a certain plantation in the parish of St. Anthony in the said Island, commonly called Carrolls Plantation, with the house & lands in town [and sundry movables] for her natural life, she paying to my executors in trust for my children the yearly sum of two hundred and fifty pounds sterling. This in full satisfaction of her dower, also the use of half my house in the town of Taunton one half of the furniture, &c. To my eldest son Robert my estate in the County of Somerset formerly under lease to John & Richard Barber of Taunton, and all my houses and lands in said Taunton or elsewhere in England, and five thousand pounds sterling, &c. To my son Nathaniel my plantations in Mountserratt now under lease to John Dyer of the said island, and all my houses & lands in the said island, and my house and land in the town of Basstreet in the island of St. Christophers. Item I give & bequesth to my son John all my lands of St. Christophers. Item I give & bequeath to my son John all my lands in the County of Connecticut in New England near the town of Seabrook, they containing about five hundred acres to my brother John Webb of Abington one hundred pounds sterlin, at the same time forgiving him what he owes me. To my brother Harry Webb fifty guineas to buy him a mourning ring…To my sisters Anne Stone & Sarah Smith twenty pounds sterling each to buy them mourning & mourning rings. To the rest & residue to my five children, Robert, Ann, Ruth, Nathaniel & John.


[Source: Genealogical Gleanings in England, Volume 1, Henry Fitz-Gilbert Waters, 1901]

Lucy Webb, daughter of John Webb of Reading, m. John Robinson

"William Robinson descended out of the north parts of England, was father of John Robinson, of Reading, in Berks, who married Lucy, daughter of John Webb, of Reading, and sister to Sir William Webb, Knt, alderman and lord-mayor of London, 1591. [and who surviving him, was re-married to William Laud, of Reading, and was mother of archbishop Laud] and had issue William Robinson, D. D. archdeacon of Nottingham 1635. a prebendary of St. David’s, and Westminster, rector of Bingham, in Nottinghamshire, and rector of Long Whatton, in Leicestershire, who married Sarah, daughter of William Bainbrigge, of Lockngton, …"

[Source: The English Baronetage, 1741]

Thomas Webb alias Wood

"Sir William Chapman, his son, had the honour of knighthood conferred on him by his majesty King George I. in Oct 1714, being the first year of his majesty’s reign; and who some time after further honoured him with the title of Baronet. He married Elizabeth Webb, alias Wood, one of the daughters of Thomas Webb, alias Wood, of Kensington, Esq.; and one of the coheirs of Sir Henry Wood, who was one of the clerks of the board of Green-cloth, to K. Charles II. [and married his only daughter to the duke of Cleveland and Southampton] by whom he left two sons, Sir John, his successor; and William, of Loundham-Hall, in Suffolk, who married a second wife, August 2, 1767, but has no issue…"

[Source: The Baronetage of England, G. Woodfall, 1771]
Ireland

1659 Census of the City of Dublin, Ireland

James Webb
merchant
Skinner Row
p. 2

Richard Webb
gent.
St. Warbroughs Street
p. 4

[Source: County Dublin Ireland, Genealogy & Family History Notes from the Irish Archives, M. C. O’Laughlin, 2008]

Webb Gleanings from the Ireland Tithe Applotment Books

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<th>Name</th>
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<td>1825</td>
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<td>Noah Webb, Esq.</td>
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<td>W. Webb’s district</td>
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<td>James Webb</td>
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<td>Reagrove, Ballyfoyle, Cork</td>
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<td>Rev. D. Webb</td>
<td>1831</td>
<td>Mansfieldstown, Carrigaline, Cork</td>
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<td>Henry Webb</td>
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<td>Hugh Webb</td>
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<td>George Webb, Esq.</td>
<td>1834</td>
<td>Park, Kilmeen, Cork</td>
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Thomas Webb 1833 Modelego, Knockmourne, Cork tax
Robert Webb 1830 Monanimy, Cork Commissioner
Rev. John Webb 1833 Moragh, Murragh, Cork tax
Rev. John Webb 1830 Klnaclona, Ringrone, Cork tax
Rev. John Webb 1830 Ballincurry, Ringrone, Cork tax
Rev. Richard Webb 1830 Ringrone, Cork payable to
Rev. Richard Webb 1828 Slieveeen, Ringcurran, Cork tax
___Webb 1827 Ballintemple, St. Finbar’s, Cork tax

Dublin
M. Webb 1828 Woodlands, Clonsilla, Dublin tax

Galway
“the late” Capt. Webb [mentioned] 1827 Athenry, Galway lease

Kerry
James Webb 1825 Ardrinane, Ballynacourty, Kerry tax

Kildare
Robert Webb, Esq. 1834 Bridgetown Inches, Bridgetown, Kildare Commissioner
Capt. Webb 1827 Ballitore, Timolin, Kildare tax

Kilkenny
Richard Webb 1834 Dysart, Kilkenny rent - signed
Richard H. Webb 1834 Dysart, Kilkenny rent - signed

Widow Webb 1833 Knocknaboola, Jerpointchurch, Kilkenny tax
Widow Webb 1833 Leapstown, Kilmademoge, Kilkenny tax
George Webb 1825 Websborough, Mothel, Kilkenny tax
Widow Webb 1833 Websborough, Muckalee, Kilkenny tax
Mr. Webb 1828 Talbots Inch, St. Canice, Kilkenny land

King’s
Rev. John Webb 1825 Ballykean, King’s Vicar of
William Webb 1828 Clenninans, Borrisnafarney, King’s
tax
Mrs. Mary Webb 1827 Lower Heath, Eglish, King’s
tax
John Webb 1825 Cullybeg, Killoughy, King’s
tax
Samuel Webb 1825 Cullybeg, Killoughy, King’s
tax
Dora Webb 1825 Ballyfarrell, Killoughy, King’s
tax
Dora Webb 1825 Pallas, Killoughy, King’s
tax

Limerick
John Webb 1827 Garroose, Bruree, Limerick tax
Thomas Webb 1827 Drumacrow, Bruree, Limerick tax
Mr. William Webb 1827 Knockfenora, Bruree, Limerick tax
Mr. William Webb 1824 Knockfenora, Bruree, Limerick tax
Widow Webb 1824 Knockfenora, Bruree, Limerick tax
William Webb 1824 Knockfenora, Bruree, Limerick tax
William Webb Esq. 1825 Knockfenora, Cahernarry, Limerick tax
Thomas Webb 1825 Knockfenora, Cahernarry, Limerick tax
Thomas Webb, Esq. 1825 Drumacmmer, Cahernarry, Limerick tax
Thomas Webb, Esq. 1824 Dromacummer, Bruree, Limerick tax
John Webb 1825 Garroose, Cahernarry, Limerick tax
John Webb 1827 Garhouse, Bruree, Limerick tax
John Webb 1824 Garroose, Bruree, Limerick  tax
John Webb 1824 Gariouse, Bruree, Limerick  tax
James Webb 1833 Cloher, Dromin, Limerick  tax
John Webb 1830 Ballingarry, Kingsland, Limerick  tax
James Webb 1833 Hackmys, Limerick  Commissioner

**Longford**

Richard Webb 1823 Longford, Columbkille, Longford  Commissioner
William Webb, Esq. 1825 Granard, Conbroney, Longford  proprietor of Castle Nugent

William Webb, Esq. 1833 Castle Nugent, Granard, Longford  tax
Charles Webb, Esq. 1833 Coolagherty, Granard, Longford  tax
William Webb 1833 Granard, Longford  Commissioner
Charles G. Webb, Esq. 1833 Coolaharty, Granard, Longford  tax
Thomas Webb 1835 Grillagh Loss, Killashee, Longford  tax
Mr. Webb 1825 Cranlymore, Longford  tax

**Louth**

James Webb 1830 Riverstown, Ardee, Louth  tax
Thomas Webb 1830 Riverstown, Ardee, Louth  tax

**Meath**

William Webb, Esq. 1825 Glanboy, Kilbride, Meath  tax
William Webb, Esq. 1825 Garrysollagh, Kilbride, Meath  tax
William Webb, Esq. 1825 Castlecor, Kilbride, Meath  tax
George Webb 1833 Killeen, Killeen, Meath  tax
J. N. Webb 1829 Knockaney, Knock, Meath  tax
John Webb 1825 Stanesmore, Rathmolyon, Meath  tax

**Monaghan**

Richard M. Webb 1833 Drummully, Drummully, Monaghan  Chairman

**Tipperary**

John Webb 1824 Clonmel, Clonmel, Tipperary  tax
___ Webb 1823 Killiriflett, Dolla, Tipperary  tax
Estate of D. Jas Webb, Esq. 1825 Rorardstown, Drom, Tipperary  tax
Richard Webb 1824 Killodiernan, Killadangan, Tipperary  tax
Daniel J. Webb, Esq. 1825 Woodville, Templemore, Tipperary  tax

**Westmeath**

John Webb, Esq. 1827 Graingerstown, Castletowndelvin, Westmeath  tithe paid to
John Webb 1827 Ceyponly, Castletowndelvin, Westmeath  tithe paid to
Patrick Webb 1830 Grangebeg, Killucan, Westmeath  tax
John Webb 1831 Kilpatrick, Kilpatrick, Westmeath  signed
John Webb 1831 Kilpatrick, Kilpatrick, Westmeath  payable to
Thomas Webb 1827 Curry, Lickbla, Westmeath  tax
Mr. or Wm Webb 1830 Wardenstown, Killucan, Westmeath  overtaxed
William Webb 1833 Rathaspick, Westmeath  Commissioner
Rev. A. L. Webb 1833 Rathowen, Rathaspick, Westmeath  tax
William Webb 1833 Ballydory, Rathaspick, Westmeath  Commissioner
William Webb 1826 Ballymanus, Rathgarve, Westmeath  tax
William Webb 1826 Ballymanus, Rathgruff, Westmeath  tax
William Webb 1833 Russah, Russagh, Westmeath  Commissioner
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**Waterford**

- Anne Webb 1825 Town Lands, Tallow, Waterford | tax |

**Wexford**

- Michael Webb 1833 Barnahask, St. Margaret's, Wexford | tax |

**Wicklow**

- Samuel Webb 1824 Kilbride, Killiniskyduff, Wicklow | tax |
- Joseph Webb 1837 Clonegall, Moyacomb, Wicklow | tax |
- Samuel Webb 1837 Rathensraney, Moyacomb, Wicklow | tax |
- Michael Webb 1837 Ballyshonock, Moyacomb, Wicklow | tax |

[Source: National Archives of Ireland, FamilySearch, Tithe Applotment Books, Ireland, 1814-1855]

The Webb Bulletin is a monthly newsletter for members of the Webb Surname DNA Project and is NOT produced for mass circulation or for profit. If there are questions about any of the transcriptions, please refer to the original source[s]. Records provided in this publication should be used for research purposes only. The Webb Bulletin should NOT be cited as a source in any publication or website. For publication purposes and for documentation, always go to and consult the original source. The editor of this publication cannot be responsible for errors in transcription. In most cases, but not all, the original spelling was adhered to.

I welcome any suggestions or requests for future issues!

Eileen Sturner [nee Webb]
Webb Surname DNA Project Administrator