

**STEPHEN LINCOLN OF
OAKHAM, MASSACHUSETTS;
HIS ANCESTRY AND
DESCENDANTS; PP. 6-109**

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Stephen Lincoln of Oakham, Massachusetts; His Ancestry and Descendants; pp. 6-109 by John E. Morris

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JOHN E. MORRIS

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STEPHEN LINCOLN

OF

OAKHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

HIS ANCESTRY AND DESCENDANTS

Compiled by John E. Morris

HARTFORD, CONN.
PRESS OF THE CASE, LOCKWOOD & BRAINARD COMPANY
1895

facts of the death of a young man named Thomas Cooke, given in this wise:

"The Cooke aged about twenty yeares, late of Ipswidge, traelling towards Equednett, accompanied with a youth about Twelue yeares of age, both of them lodging att the ordinary att Taunton the 2cond day of May, 1650. and vppon the 10th day of the said month the body of the aforesaid Tho Cooke was found dead in the riuer of Taunton about six miles from the towne. Whervppon a jury of twelue men was empannelled to inquire how and by what meanes hee came by yt vntimly death." "The eleventh day of May the jury brought in there verdict, yt the youth by the aduise of the said Tho Cooke, did take a cannooe without the knowledge of the owner thereof, and making hast away lest hee should bee pursued, did stand in the end of the cannooe to paddle It away, and did fall into the riuer and so by yt accident was drowned and came to his end."

Other quaint records of jury duty might be quoted, but one will suffice. June 4, 1650, Thomas Lincoln was appointed one of the "survayors of Hiewayes" for Taunton. The land records of Bristol County show many evidences of title to estates possessed by Thomas Lincoln, and he is reputed to have been the largest land owner in the Town of Taunton in his time. He was a man of substance. We learn of him in connection with a very interesting industry early established in that new country. Iron ore had early been discovered to be abundant in the flats bordering on Two Mile River and other localities in Taunton, and in October, 1652, steps were taken to establish the first iron works in the Old Colony in Taunton, and leading citizens of the town, interested in the enterprise, formed a stock company. Among "the names of those who hath put themselves to be proprietors in the Bloomerie," were Thomas Lincoln, Sen., Richard Williams, Richard Stacey, and George Watson, all ancestors of Stephen Lincoln of Oakham.

The building of a dam across Two Mile River, preparing the timber for the necessary buildings, obtaining from abroad the hammers and heavy machinery and tools required for the manufacture of bar-iron, occupied a long time before the works could be put in practical operation, but this was finally accomplished in 1656. In 1660 the works were leased to George Hall, Hezekiah Hoar, and Francis Smith, "to whom full liberty was given that they might take into this contract with themselves, whom they liked of." They took into the partnership, among others, Thomas Lincoln, Sen., and Jonah Austin, Sen.

(another ancestor of Stephen Lincoln). These works thus early established, remained in operation until 1883, when the old buildings were demolished and the dam and foundation walls alone remained of the ancient Taunton Iron Works of two and a quarter centuries, the oldest successful iron manufactory in New England. A fact worth noticing in connection with this industry relates to the use of the iron manufactured at these works, as currency. The pioneer settlers were greatly embarrassed in their business transactions by the scarcity of money. They had very little specie, there were no banks, no Bank of England notes were in circulation, and so resort was made to the bar-iron made at the Taunton works as a "circulating medium of exchange," at about twenty shillings per hundred. It entered largely into the transactions of business, and, as iron was as much in demand in Dorchester and Boston as in Taunton, these works, of which Thomas Lincoln was a proprietor, proved in more ways than one a blessing to the people.

Thomas Lincoln brought with him to this country, probably, two or three children. Of the identity of his wife there is no trace, but he married for a second wife, Elizabeth Streete, Dec. 10, 1665. She was the widow of Francis Streete, by whom she had one child, a daughter, Mary.

The will of Thomas Lincoln was made August 28, 1683, when he was about eighty years of age, and was proved at Plymouth, March 5, 1683-4. He left an estate valued at £205: 8. Here follows the will and inventory of his estate :

THE WILL OF THOMAS LINCOLN.

(From Plymouth Colony Record. Wills, Vol. 4, p. 57.)

This twentieth & Eight day of August in ye year of our Lord one thousand six hundred eightie & three, I Thomas Linckon Senir, being eighty years or thereabouts, of Taunton in Plymouth patent. being of perfect understanding blessed be god for it doe make this my last Will & testament as followeth.

Imprimis. I give and bequeathe unto my loving wife Elizabeth, ye use of my house & orchard on which my house now standeth, and also my pasture joyning to Mr. Poole's land, also part of my movables in my house, not to sell nor dispose of any thing of my movables but to have ye use of them, & one Cow & one bed, all these fore named mentioned. It is to be understood that in case my wife should marry then my bed and all my movables, house orr land & pasture to return to my children, but if she remaine a widow then to enjoy ye use of all above mentioned during her life & at her decease to return all to my children only ye cow to my wife forever. And I have given to my Eldest son Thomas,

my great lott at Hingham & thirty acres over three mile River, and also twenty & two acres at a place ye twenty acre division, and six acres of land lying on ye west side of ye mill river, & have given to my son John Linckon, thirtie acres of land which my son John now Inhabits & dwelleth on & six acres more joyning to it; and half my meadow on this side Skaddens river so called, & half my right of lands not yet devided, & half my right in ye north purchase so called: & have given to my son Samuel Linckon, thirty acres of land on which my son now dwelleth, & half my meado and ye south side of Skaddens River & half my undevided lands thereat, and my north purchase & all my right in ye south purchase; and my mill to be devided betwixt my son John Linckon and my son Samuel Linckon, and to let my loving wife have duly paid to her fifteen bushells of good corne every year as long as she remains a widdow. And I have given to my daughter Mary, Twenty acres of land, and after my loving wife is deceased that I doe give and bequeath to my daughter Mary, my orchard & little lland lying on ye south side of ye high way that cometh to mill & also my pasture ioyning to ye land of Mr John Poole after my wife is deceased, & my other orchard to my daughter Sarah's son Thomas; and as for my house & ye land it standth upon to remaine to my sons & theirs forever after my wifes decease; and for my son in law Joseph Willis I have given him three acres of land be it more or less and also ye part of my house that he now dwelleth in & ye part of meadow on ye north side Skaddens river after my decease. And it is my will that my loving wife & my son Samuel should be the Executors to this my last will. I doe give & bequeathe to my son John Linckon, six acres of land be it more or less lying & being betwixt ye land of (blank) Wlatte, and ye house & the land of Georg Malyd on ye south, to him and his heirs forever. I give to my two sons John Linckon & Samuel Linckon, five acres a peece of my last division and I give & bequeathe to William Hack twenty acres of land of my last division that is to lay out. And I give to my loving wife ye Indian boy & my Indian girle, & give to Mr. Georg Shawe one heifer that is at my son Thomas Linckon, and I give to my loving wife one heifer & it is a browae one & it is about two years old. & I give to my daughter Sarah one browne cow after my decease. I give my great brass Kittle to my son Samuel Linckon, and I give to my son John Linckon my great brass pott, and I give to my daughter Mary my great brass pan, & I give my two small brass pans to my daughter Sarah. And I give to my loving wife one bed & all belongste to it during her widowhood & then to returne to my son Samuel Linckon, and it is my will that my executors should pay all debts due from me & take up all yt is due to me from all men. I give one white cow to Mary Street.

Witness.

JOSEPH WILBORNE,
WALTER DEANE,
JOHN DEANE,

The mark of
THOMAS X LINCKON.

We Joseph Wilborne & John Deane do testifie & saye & each for himselfe saith yt we were present & saw Thomas Linckon late of Taunton, deceased, signe this paper now ye _____ to ye court & heard him declare it to be his last Will & testament according to ye understanding, & yt he was of sound understanding & memory when he so did & we sett our hands as witnesses to it, and

Joseph Wilbone further saith yt he heard ye said Lincon verbally declare what is therein written before it was written and at ye time of sd writing sd papers, & John Deane testifieth yt he heard sd Linkolu by words declare ye substance of what is contayned in sd paper or will at ye before sd time of signing of it;

Joseph Wilbone, John Deane, their oaths taken in court held at Plymouth ye fifth of March 1683,

An Inventory of ye estate of Thomas Lincon grand Senir deceased, of Tanton in ye Colony of New Plymouth, taken by us whose names are underwritten, this 14 October 1683.

In silver money	£3. 02. 0
his wearing clothes	4. 15. 0
A feather bed & ye furniture, with ye bed sheets	6. 00. 0
Another old little bed with that which belong to it,	08. 0
A brass pan	1. 05. 0
Two little brass pans	08. 0
A brass Kettle	10. 0
two small brass Kettles	12. 0
A Iron pott	10. 0
A warming pan & a frying pan	10. 0
[Iron, pewter, & copper ware, and household stuff, amounting,]	6. 07. 0
five cowes at fifty shillings ye cow & of them, one at forty,	12. 00. 0
A heifer & a Caffe	2. 10. 0
One heifer at Thomas Linecons Senir	1. 05. 0
fower swine	3. 05. 0
Two young Indians, a boy & a gicle,	5. 00. 0
The dwelling house & ye barns & ye orchard joynting to it	20. 00. 0
with ye land without ye same then about ye said orchard	20. 00. 0
the flume so called withe ye little orchard by ye dwelling house southward of ye dwelling house	6. 00. 0
the pasture containing three acres by estimation	9. 00. 0
the rights in ye south purchase	9. 00. 0
the rights in the north purchase so called	12. 00. 0
the division of land westward of Tanton being twenty two acres of upland and meadowish land	8. 00. 0
A parcell of meadow land at ye meadow called Skaddins meadow	6. 00. 0
Thirty acres of land due to him on ye last division of land made by ye Towne of Tanton	7. 00. 0
the right of ye Towne in ye undivided land of ye township	10. 00. 0
The corne mill with such things belonging to it	70. 00. 0
a flax combe	08. 0
	The whole sum
	205. 08. 0
On ye oath of ELIZABETH LINCON taken in ye Court as altogether,	WILLIAM HARVEY, JOSEPH WILBORNE, JOHN HATHAWAY.
NATHANIEL MORTON, Secretary.	

CHILDREN OF THOMAS LINCOLN, THE MILLER.

- I. JOHN, b. —; "History of Hingham" says: "John Lincoln, born probably in England, removed from Hingham with his parents, and became a resident of Taunton. The christian name of his wife was Edith." He left no will. Their children born in Taunton were:
- i. JOHN, b. Oct. 11, 1665.
 - ii. THOMAS, b. Sept. 15, 1667; m. Esther Smith, daughter of Samuel. She was born Jan. 6, 1671.
 - iii. MARY, b. 1679; m. Nathaniel Shove, son of George and Hopestill (Newman) Shove. He was b. Jan. 29, 1668.
 - iv. DANIEL, b. 1685; m. Abigail Nichols; (2d), Mrs. Hannah Knapp.
 - v. JOSIAH, b. —; m. Jane —.
- *2. II. THOMAS, bap. in Hingham, Feb., 1637-8.
- III. SAMUEL, bap. in Hingham, Feb., 1637-8. With his father, he removed to Taunton, and became a resident of that place. He m. Jane —. He left no will. His children, probably b. in Taunton, were:
- i. SAMUEL, b. June 7, 1664; d. May 10, 1738, aged 75.
 - ii. HANNAH, b. March 24, 1666. She m. Daniel Owen of Braintree. His will was dated Feb. 13, 1732, and proved April 7, 1735 (Bristol Probate, viii, 212). He names wife Sarah (perhaps a second wife) and children — Daniel, William, Ephraim, Joseph, Nathan, Seth, Mehitabel, and Elizabeth White.
 - iii. TAMSON, b. Oct. 27, 1667; m. April 20, 1692, Jonah Austin, Jr. He was b. Aug. 17, 1667. His will was dated Feb. 5, 1745, and proved March 12, 1755 (Bristol Probate, xiv, 307). He names wife Tamson and children Jonah, John, Ebenzer, Zechariah, Jacob, William, and William, George, and Jonathan, children of his daughter Sarah Knapp, deceased.
 - iv. ELIZABETH, b. April 24, 1669; m. Oct. 13, 1693, William Briggs, son of Richard and Rebecca (Hoskins) Briggs. He was b. Nov. 21, 1663, and d. April 21, 1725, aged 62 years. He was a cooper. His will was made April 19th, and proved June 14, 1725 (Bristol Probate, v, 117). He names wife Elizabeth and "my two eldest sons, William and Isaac," Noah (youngest son), and daughter Elizabeth (not then 18). His son William "to have as many apples out of my orchard if it Bares apples Plentifully as it hath done some years past, as to make Two Barrills of Cyder annually Dureing ye space of seven years." Elizabeth, the wife of William Briggs, d. Nov. 27, 1729, aged 59 years, and was buried at "Neck o' Land."

- v. EBENEZER, b. Oct. 15, 1673.
 - vi. RACHAEL, b. Sept. 16, 1677; m. Jan. 20, 1696-7, Thomas Randall.
 - vii. JOHN, b. Sept. 15, 1679.
 - viii. THOMAS, b. Sept. —, 1683.
 - ix. DANIEL, b. 1685; m. Susannah —. He died Oct. 11, 1768. She died Nov. 6, 1761.
- iv. MARY, bap. in Hingham, Oct. 6, 1642. She m. William Hack, who went in 1664 to England to settle his affairs there, intending to return the following summer, but he never came back. In June, 1667, his wife, having had no intelligence of him, applied to the court at Plymouth, "producing divers testimonies to make it manifest to the Court that William Hacke, her husband, is dead," and obtained letters of administration on his estate, which consisted of personal property appraised at £33: 8: 6, and a dwelling-house and nine acres of land. She married (2d) Richard Stevens. Her children were:
- i. WILLIAM HACK, b. Nov. 15, 1663.
 - ii. RICHARD STEVENS, b. March 20, 1667 or 8.
 - iii. NICHOLAS STEVENS, b. Feb. 23, 1669.
 - iv. MARY STEVENS, b. June 8, 1672.
 - v. THOMAS STEVENS, b. Feb. 3, 1674.
 - vi. TAMMIE STEVENS, b. July 3, 1677.
 - vii. NATHANIEL STEVENS, b. July 30, 1680.
- v. SARAH, bap. in Hingham in Dec., 1645. She m. Joseph Willis of Taunton, a proprietor from 1668 to 1684. He was the son of John and Elizabeth (Hodgkins-Palmer, widow of William,) Willis. He removed to Scituate. He died Jan. 31, 1704-5, aged 60 years, and was buried at "Neck o' Land." The inventory of his estate disclosed property valued at £286: 3: 7 (Bristol Probate, ii, 131). July 2, 1705, his widow petitioned that administration be granted his eldest son, Joseph Willis of Taunton. His children, so far as we know:
- i. JOSEPH, b. —.
 - ii. THOMAS, b. —.

SECOND GENERATION.

2.

Thomas Lincoln, Jr. (distinguished in the records by the title of grand senior), was born, probably in England, and was baptized in Hingham in Feb. 1637-8, by Rev. Peter Hobart. He early became a resident of Taunton. He married Mary, daughter of Jonah and Constance Austin. He was a husband-