

**TOWNSEND GENEALOGY; A
RECORD OF THE DESCENDANTS OF
JOHN TOWNSEND, 1743-1821, AND
OF HIS WIFE, JEMIMA TRAVIS,
1746-1832. [NEW YORK-1909]**

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Townsend Genealogy; A Record of the Descendants of John Townsend, 1743-1821, and of His Wife, Jemima Travis, 1746-1832. [New York-1909] by Cleveland Abbe & Josephine Genung Nichols

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CLEVELAND ABBE & JOSEPHINE GENUNG NICHOLS

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TOWNSEND GENEALOGY

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PREFACE

From early boyhood the writer has found pleasure in collecting items relative to the history of the family of each of his beloved grandparents, and from these his relative, Mrs. Josephine Genung Nichols, has compiled the present little volume on the genealogical relations of the descendants of John Townsend and Jemima Travis. After fifty years of fruitless search for his or her parentage, or the date and place of their marriage, we have concluded that it is wisest to publish at once, and stimulate all to further search in that direction.

It may be worth while to mention the traditions, that John Townsend was of Oyster Bay, that he had a brother Thomas, that two of his sisters married Tompkins and Appleby, that he came into Putnam county from the east (viz. Connecticut?), that he was related to Penn Townsend or to Platt Townsend, that he came from the Society of Friends, that the family had gone to Rhode Island with persecuted Friends from Long Island, and that the ancestor was one Christopher Townsend. But these are vague statements and uncertain traditions, depending on the memory of persons advanced in age, and are liable to need much correction, so that we ought not to include them in a history that is generally based on reliable documentary evidence. Such items preferably go in foot notes or appendices.

All that is definitely known of John Townsend's early life comes from entries in a family Bible in the possession of his Ganong descendants in Wayne Co., Mich., which states the birthplace of his daughter, Elizabeth (No.

412), as Southeast, Dutchess County, N. Y., and the place of her marriage to Jeremiah Ganong as Fredericks, N. Y. These statements bear out many of the traditional localities. We have examined many collections of church records, cemetery inscriptions, census and probate records, land transfers, and the like, but nothing is found that satisfies us. There were living, at the same period, many John Townsends, and the names, Elijah and Gilbert, as well as other names in this family, were very common among the Putnam and Dutchess County families of Townsends, but there is no positive proof of their connection with this particular John Townsend.

His son, Gilbert Townsend (No. 4), was one of the early settlers in Delaware County, N. Y., and lived near the large tract of land taken up by Platt Townsend, of the Long Island ancestry, but diligent search in the records of that locality, and of Platt Townsend's family, fail to give evidence of relationship between the two families. After a few years in Delaware County, Gilbert Townsend migrated with his family further westward, to the "Lake Country," and there, at the settlement named Townsendville in his honor, he was joined by his father, John Townsend, and his brother, Elijah. From this point as a center, many generations of their descendants have spread in all directions. The old homestead is still in the possession of the family, and a younger Elijah Townsend (No. 406) is now living near the site of the original house, and of the old Townsendville Methodist Church, in which so many of the family have been leaders, and near the cemetery where so many of the family have been buried.

The records of Elijah Townsend (No. 273) and Elizabeth Townsend (No. 412), with their descendants, and giving the Ganong ancestry back to Jean Guenon, the

Huguenot, are also to be found in the Genung-Ganong Genealogy (1906), compiled by L. Nelson and Josephine Genung Nichols.

Large collections have also been made by the writer of data concerning other branches of the Townsend family, but it does not belong to our intention to publish these fragments; on the contrary they are put at the disposal of those other searchers to whom they may be most useful. They will probably be deposited eventually in the archives of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society.

I hope all who are descended from our John Townsend and Jemima Travis will contribute facts and data additional to what is here published, and thus enable Mrs. Nichols to prepare for a second edition, if ever anyone is so fortunate as to discover the history of the family to which the founders of our branch belong.

CLEVELAND ABBE,
United States Weather Bureau,
Washington, D. C.



OUTLINE OF FIRST FOUR GENERATIONS

- (1) John Townsend, 1743-1821.
 (4) Gilbert Townsend, 1764-1843.
 (8) Horace Townsend,
 (9) Hiram, (10) William C., (16) Caroline, m. Ward,
 (11) Lorenzo D., (12) Onaldo, (32) Lavinia Maria,
 m. Barnes, (13) Emory O., (65) Horace Gilbert,
 (14) Orlando, (75) Herman, (106) Charlotte Lavinia,
 m. Holden.
 (114) Tamnah Townsend, m. 1st, Wagner, 2nd, Buck.
 (115) Amanda Wagner, (116) Emeline Wagner, m.
 1st, Howth, 2nd, Kusee, 3rd, Stone, (117) Edwin
 S. Buck, (118) Mary Ann Buck, m. Howth, (119)
 Eudora Buck, m. Whitfield.
 (120) Louisa Townsend, m. Wamsley.
 (121) William C., (125) Gilbert T., (134) Lourina,
 m. Crisfield, (122) Ann, m. Kinch, (123) Abigail,
 m. Clarkson, (124) Edwin.
 (140) Ira Townsend,
 (141) Amanda Ann, m. Ray, (144) Jacob Shaver,
 (150) Lourina, m. Fortmeyer, (142) Elizabeth, m.
 Ray, (156) Abram Shultz, (143) Bowles Colgate.
 (164) Travis Townsend,
 (165) Jemima, m. Dayton, (166) Mary, (167)
 Charlotte Amanda, m. Barnes, (168) Jane Buck,
 m. Predmore, (169) Sarah, m. Van Vleet.
 (170) Lourina Townsend, m. Colgate.
 (173) Charlotte Colgate, m. Abbe, (197) Abigail
 Colgate, m. Baker, (171) Maria Colgate, m. Judd,
 (211) Charles Carroll Colgate, (216) Harriet Colgate,
 m. Lord, (233) John Henry Colgate, (172) Frances
 Colgate, (238) Stephen Bowles Colgate.
 (246) Jeremiah Townsend,
 (247) Gilbert Colgate, (248) Orville, (249) Eveline,
 m. Godfrey, (250) Jane, (251) Ann, m. Greeley.
 (252) Sarah Townsend, m. Kinch.
 (253) Abigail Kinch, m. Kinch, (254) Sarah A.
 Kinch, m. Finney, Ruth Kinch, William Kinch.
 (5) Clara, m. Tertullus D. Townsend (338).
 (6) Miranda, m. Jedediah Townsend (312).
 (257) Ann, m. 1st, Buckbee, 2nd, Newcomb.
 (258) John Buckbee, (259) Charles Alvah Buckbee,
 (260) Ann Newcomb, (261) Charles Newcomb.
 (262) Amanda, m. Sprague.
 (263) Gilbert Sprague, (264) Parker Sprague, (265)
 James Sprague, (266) Bowles C. Sprague, (267)
 Peter H. Sprague, (268) Laurina Sprague, m.
 Kaufman, (269) Louisa Sprague, (270) Andrew J.
 Sprague, Thomas J. Sprague, James M. Sprague.
 (7) Lorenzo,

- (1) John Townsend, 1743-1821.
 (273) Elijah Townsend, 1767-1862.
 (274) Jeremiah Townsend,
 (277) Rachel Townsend, m. Cole.
 (278) Sallie Cole, m. Shannon, (286) Asenath Cole, m. Meeker, (293) Emeline Cole, m. Smith, (279) Elijah T. Cole, (298) David Cole, (280) Gilbert M. Cole, (302) Cornelius Cole, (281) Lourina Cole, m. Severns, (282) Joseph Warren Cole, (283) George W. Cole, (284) Martha A. Cole, m. Burke, (285) Mary A. Cole, m. Stewart.
 (312) Jedediah Townsend.
 (313) Tertullus, (314) Elijah, (315) Amy, m. Van Houten, (327) Martha Ann, m. Miller, (316) Jeremiah, (334) Elizabeth, m. Coleman, (317) Jedediah, (318) Elmira, (319) Charlotte, (320) Alfred, (321) Gilbert, (322) Ann, (323) Francis C., (324) Delia, m. Goodsell, (325) Charles O., (326) Jessie, m. Rogers.
 (338) Tertullus Dickerson Townsend.
 (339) Cole, (340) Washington, (341) Jackson, (342) Augustus, (343) John, (344) Converse, (345) Rachel.
 (346) Jemima Townsend, m. Van Vleet.
 (348) Peter Van Vleet, (356) Townsend Van Vleet, (359) Isaac Van Vleet, (347) Ezekiel Blue Van Vleet, (362) Martha Van Vleet, m. Sanford, (366) Emeline Van Vleet, m. Kase.
 (370) Gilbert Townsend.
 (371) Maris, m. Sears, (372) Augustus C., (373) Orvilla, m. Updike, (379) Martha, m. Terry, (388) Delos H.
 (397) Mary Townsend, m. 1st, Van Vleet, 2nd, King.
 (400) Maria Van Vleet, m. Neal, (398) Elijah Van Vleet, (401) Floretta Van Vleet, m. Neal, (399) Melissa King.
 (275) Sarah Townsend, m. Campbell.
 Harriet Campbell, John Campbell, Elijah Campbell, Henry Campbell.
 (276) Martha Townsend, m. King.
 Jerome H. King, Ann King.
 (402) John Townsend.
 (403) Martha, m. Kelsey, (404) Elizabeth, m. Coleman, (405) Lewis Meeker, (406) Elijah, (407) Sarah Meeker, m. Cole, (408) Helen, (409.) Robert Hogeboom, (410) John Meeker, (411) Ida, m. Clark.