



(HERBERT) ELIZABETH M. RIXFORD

Three Hundred Colonial Ancestors and War Service

Their Part in Making American History
From 495 to 1934

By Their Lineal Descendant

MRS. (OSCAR HERBERT) ELIZABETH M. LEACH RIXFORD

Author of

Families Directly Descended from all the Royal Families
in Europe

"Happy he, who with bright regard looks back upon his father's fathers, who with joy recounts their deeds of grace, and in himself, valued the latest link in the fair chain of noble sequence."—GOETHE.

"Remember the days of old, the years of many generations: ask thy father and he will shew thee: thy elders and they will tell thee."—DEUT., 32:7.

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3. ADAM GREGORY, of GREGOIRE, m. the dau. and co-heiress of Ada Ormeston, County Lancaster, England. He was born prob. as early as 1450.
4. WILLIAM, son of Adam Gregory, m. Dorothy, dau. of Parre of Kempenhaugh, Lancashire.
5. HUGO, son of William Gregory, m. Maria —.
6. THOMAS, son of Hugo Gregory, lived at Overbroughton, Nottinghamshire, Eng., on the borders of Leicestershire, North of Frisby and Asorby. He m. Dorothy Beeston.
7. JOHN, son of Thomas Gregory, was of De Broughton Sulney, Mayor of Nottingham, Eng., 1571-1586. He m. Alicia —. Children:
 1. William. 2. John. 3. Edward.
 4. Henry, "de Boston in Nova Anglia" (New England), according to the ancient pedigree of the English family. See N. E. Reg. July, 1860, page 306. Had a grant of land in South Boston, Nov. 22, 1634. He d. March 4, 1654.
8. HENRY, son of John Gregory, b. at Nottingham, Eng., about 1570, settled in Boston, Mass., as early as 1633; was at Springfield in that Colony in 1639. Removed few years later to Stratford, Conn., where he was one of the Founders. Est. distributed June 19, 1655, eldest son John being administrator. Children: John and Judah.
9. JOHN, son of Henry Gregory lived at New Haven and settled at Norwalk. Had Lot No. 1 in Norwalk, the S. E. Towne Street Home; d. 1689. "History of New London," by Caulkins (1860), p. 16—First settlers Matthias St. John, Sr. and Jr. and John Gregory, etc.
10. JUDAH OR JACHIN, b. Norwalk, son of John Gregory; m. Sarah Burt, dau. of Henry Burt; she m. 2nd, Henry Whepley. Had Mary, b. 1669; John 1671; Thomas, 1673, Samuel, Mar. 19, 1676, Sarah, 1678, Matthew, 1680, Jachan, 1682. Jachan Gregory, Deputy from Norwich, 1665-79-81; Selectman, 1665. Stevens Genealogy, Colonial Dames.
11. SAMUEL GREGORY, son of Jachan of Norwalk, b. March 19, 1676; m. Rebecca Wheeler, dau. of Sergt. Ephraim Wheeler; had dau. Rebecca and probably others. Samuel Gregory was among the Pequot settlers. See "Stevens Gen." 1891, Deed—Nat. Stephens, 1734 signed by John Gregory, Justice of the Peace and Samuel Gregory. He lived at the foot of Golden Hill. He was a soldier engaged in Pequot Fight, 1637-1638. Settled at Fairfield.
12. EZEKIEL² SANFORD, b. March 6, 1668; m. March, 1696 at Chester Hill, Conn., Rebecca Gregory, dau. of Samuel.
13. EPHRAIM SANFORD, b. Feb. 12, 1708; d. Feb. 6, 1761/2; m. Oct. 7, 1730 at Fairfield of Reading, Conn., Elizabeth Mix, b. 1715; d. Jan. 21, 1777.
14. STEPHEN MEAD, b. 1728; d. Oct. 18, 1806; m. Oct. 31, 1751, prob. Reading, Conn., Rachel Sanford, b. July 23, 1733; d. prob. 1800.
15. ISAAH HUNGERFORD, b. Dec. 26, 1756; bapt. Jan. 23, 1757; d. June 16, 1833; m. at New Fairfield, Conn., Esther Mead, b. Aug. 11, 1760; d. Dec. 22, 1836.
16. NASH DAVID PHELPS, b. Oct. 4, 1796; d. April 15, 1884; m. April 29, 1821, Elizabeth Hungerford, b. Feb. 7, 1798; d. Jan. 7, 1878.

References: American Ancestry, Vol. I.
Genealogy of Conn., Vol. III.
Hall's "History of Norwalk."
Orcott's "History of Stratford."

See Ancestry of Joanna Arms of Yarmouth, 8th to 10th Generations; Daughters of the American Colonists, 1931, pp. 29-36, No. 2089; ancestry traced by the author of this book.

GRISWOLD ANCESTRY



Griswold

The Arms of Griswold are described as: Arg. a Fesse, Gu. between two greyhounds courant sa; within bordine or as a difference.

These heraldic terms are defined as follows: Argent—silver, in color white Abbreviation Arg. Fesse—A figure formed by 2 horizontal lines drawn across the shield. It is 1/3 of the field in width and it is always placed in the center.

Gules—Red—abbreviated Gu. The crest is a Greyhound, passant proper. The motto—"Fortiter et celeriter" (Strongly and quickly).

(Gen. Conn., Vol. I, p. 28), Griswold is an ancient English surname derived from the name of a place, like a large proportion of British patronymics. The ancient seat of the family was at Solihull, Warwickshire, prior to the year 1400. The ancient coat-of-arms is: Argent a fesse gules between two greyhounds courant sable.

John Griswold about the middle of the fourteenth century came from Kenilworth and married a daughter and heiress of Henry Hughford, of Huddersley Hall at Solihull, and the family has been known as the Griswolds of Kenilworth and Solihull. Solihull is on the northwest border of Warwickshire, and Yardly in Worcestershire is on the south and west. It is but eight miles from Kenilworth to the westward and twelve miles northwest of Stratford-on-Avon, and was a place of importance before the Norman Conquest. The two American immigrants, Edward and Mathew, came to Connecticut from Kenilworth. Mathew came over in 1639 and settled at Windsor, Conn.; died at Lyme, Conn., Sept. 21, 1698, and was buried at Saybrook; assisted in the settlement of Lyme and was a large landowner; was deputy to the general assembly in 1664 and afterwards.

THE GRISWOLD FAMILY IN ENGLAND

The history of the Griswold family in this country finds its source, as does that of most of the old families of New England, in Old England, and a brief sketch of the Griswold family in England from its earliest record, to the settlement of this country will afford a background for the generations that have carried on the name in this new land.

"The English Griswolds were an ancient county family established at Solihull, Warwickshire, England, prior to 1400: The name being generally written as Greswold but without doubt the "e" in the first syllable had the Latin sound as "i" short for it was often written Griswold or Grysword and sometimes with a final "e." The family had a pedigree and were entitled to a coat-of-arms, viz.: Arg. a fesse gu. betw. two greyhounds current Sa.

They were descended from a John Griswold who came from Kenilworth about the middle of the 14th century, married and settled in Solihull, later acquiring Langdon Hall; and by Burke, the family is called Griswold of Kenilworth and Solihull."

The same authority goes on to say, "The family was of local distinction they held county offices, were summoned by the Sheriff with the other gentlemen of the county to be present at the proclamation of Acts of Parliament and sworn to defend them. They sought and obtained wives from the local families, and an alliance with their daughters was considered honorable. They were not of the nobility, but belonged to the middle class landed gentry, that debout, patient, and, above all, valiant race, which has contributed so much to make England for centuries the foremost of nations."

The Family of Griswold descended from Humphrey Griswold of Greet, Lord of the Manor, are mentioned in English history as an honorable family in the sixteenth century. The Griswold family came into possession of the Malvern Estates about 1600 and have continued to be in possession of them thru all the changes of English law for over three hundred years. "It is a stately manor house in the style of Inigo Jones, set in the midst of a large park surrounded by a moat; and over the stone gate-way is carved the family crest."

The English records show the Malvern Estate and Coat-of-Arms in 1659 belonging to Humphrey Griswold of Malvern Hall, who died in 1671. His brother, Rev. Henry Griswold, who succeeded him, died about 1720.

The Connecticut Griswolds are descended from the brothers Edward and Matthew who came to Windsor in 1639, and from Michael, possibly another brother, who came to Wethersfield. There has been no positive proof offered of the relationship of these three, but the Rev. F. W. Chapman, whose extensive research in Griswold Genealogy was never published, is quoted as having written, "I have documentary evidence that he was a brother of Edward and Matthew; also of Francis, who settled in Cambridge, Mass., and died without male heirs."

In this same connection Mr. B. Howell Griswold of Baltimore supplied the following note from papers of the late Rev. F. W. Chapman, whose "genealogical labors will long preserve his name in memory." He said: "Michael Griswold of Wethersfield was undoubtedly a brother of Edward Griswold of Windsor and of Matthew of Lyme. He afterward removed to Killingworth and was one of the founders of that town. Isaac, a son of Michael, also settled at Killingworth and in a conveyance of land speaks of his Uncle Edward at the same place."

Said Frank Farnsworth Starr on this subject, ". . . Of the early Griswold family, Edward of Windsor, 1639-40, Matthew of Windsor and Saybrook, 1639-40, Michael of Wethersfield, 1640, Francis Grissell, Greshold or Gresshould of Cambridge and Charlestown, 1639, it is claimed that Edward and Matthew were brothers but whether proof is positive I do not know." Savage gives these different spellings of the name—Grissell, Grisill, Grisold, Gresold, Greshould, Griswold.

The Griswold Family is described as "Men tall of stature, strong of limb and stout of heart, men of affairs who brought to the new land a capacity for government and statesmanship." "And the rest of the acts which they did and their might and how they warred and overcame, are they not written in the book of the Chronicles of Ancient Windsor?" In his Ancient Wethersfield he speaks of them (Styles History of Ancient Wethersfield) as "A family that has furnished many mariners but more soldiers."

FRANCIS GRISWOLD of England.

GEORGE GRISWOLD (Son of Francis Griswold), of Kenilworth, England, was baptized April 28, 1548. Children: Edward, born 1607; Matthew, Michael, Thomas.

(From the Stiles' History of Windsor, Conn.), EDWARD AND MATTHEW GRISWOLD came from Kenilworth, County Warwick, England, in the year 1639, in company with Rev. Mr. Huit's party, who came to Windsor, Ct., that year. They had lived at Kenilworth and owned property there. They had a brother Thomas, who continued to reside there, and the record of his marriage in 1634,

is still to be found in the old Kenilworth records, also the baptisms of several of the children of Edward, and the burial of a daughter; but the old church records of Kenilworth suffered so greatly from the ravages of the war of the Great Rebellion, it has been found impossible to find any other connecting links between that parish and the two emigrant brothers. It has been claimed, though not proved, that they belong to the ancient family of Solihull, near Kenilworth, and such entitled to the use of the family arms. Whatever their local antecedents and connections in England, it is certain that the emigrant brothers Griswold were men of education and property; and after their arrival in the new colony were styled "Mr.," which was then equivalent to "gentleman," as distinguished from yeoman or tradesman.

Edward Griswold settled at Windsor where he held a prominent position in the town's affairs where he was representative to the General Assembly 1658-61, and Deputy to the General Court, 1662. In 1663, he deeded his land to his sons and removed to Killingworth which settlement he is believed to have given the name of his old home in Warwickshire. In 1667, he is enrolled as "Mr. Edw. Grissell." a Deputy, and as "Mr. Edward Griswold," a Commissioner for Kenilworth.

A grant of 200 acres of land was made to him in 1674 and in 1682 it was laid out "at the north end of Lyme bounds."

He was Deputy "for Killingworth" in 1678, his name being spelled this time "Mr. Edward Griswold." This same year he was nominated for election as Assistant, and as Commissioner and represented Killingworth in every Court from 1678 to 1689. He was repeatedly made Commissioner and in 1678 was on the committee for establishing a Latin school at New London. He was the first Deacon of the Killingworth Church.

His first wife, Margaret, who came with him from England died in 1670 and is buried in the little old cemetery known as The Indian River Cemetery, Clinton: A rude shaft of fieldstone marks her grave with just the initials M. G. and the date 1670, roughly cut upon it. It is the oldest stone standing in the cemetery today.

Both brothers, though young when they came to this country (Edward being then 32 and Matthew 19 years old), speedily allied themselves with the best social element of Windsor, took positions of commanding influence, and quickly became prominent in colonial affairs. Besides, if it be a principle of heredity that the characteristics, physical, intellectual, moral and social of a strongly marked ancestor are repeated in his descendants, so that from the offspring may be inferred what was the progenitor then apart from all we know of the first generation of the Griswolds of New England, the qualities developed by succeeding generations of the family have been an accumulating proof that its emigrant ancestors were high-minded, intelligent Christian gentlemen.

Mr. Edward Griswold came to America at the time of the second visit of Mr. George Fenwick, at which date also came a large number of new settlers to the Connecticut settlement. It was at a time when many of the gentry of England, and wealthy persons connected with the Warwick patent, were intending removal hither, but the breaking out of the Scotch rebellion compelled King Charles to call a Parliament, and they stayed at home to carry out their struggle with the King and Archbishop Laud. Mr. Griswold undoubtedly came in the interest of some of these patentees. He was attorney for Mr. St. Nicholas, of Warwickshire, who had a house built in Windsor, and also a tract of land impaled (fenced), as had Sir Richard Saltonstall. The Rev. Ephraim Huit, who came also 1639, was from the same parish, as also the Wyllys family, who settled in Hartford. His first location in Windsor is not known; but he had a grant of land in Poquonock, to which he removed in 1649, accompanied by a few families, who there found an

"outpost" settlement. His residence at Poquonock was on the site of the present dwelling of the heirs of the late Eliphalet S. Ladd, who, on the female side, are Griswold descendants. The spot is a beautiful knoll which overlooks the brook on the west, and the Tuxis River on the south and east. As soon as he had fairly established his home he began to take that active part in public matters which was natural to a man of his character. In 1650, he built the "old Fort" at Springfield for Mr. Pyncheon. In 1656, he was a deputy from Windsor to the General Court, and continued, with the exception of one session to represent the town until the reception of the charter from King Charles. At this time he was the principal promoter of a new settlement authorized by the Court, called Hommonoscett, which lay immediately west of Saybrook, Ct., and to which, about 1663, he removed with his younger children, deeding to his sons, George and Joseph, who remained behind, his Windsor lands, reserving a small life annuity therefrom. The settlement was organized as a town in 1667, and received, probably from him, the name of his old English home, "Kenilworth," afterwards corrupted to Killingworth, and now known as Clinton. He was the first deputy from Killingworth and continued to be its Magistrate and Representative for more than twenty years—1662-1678-'89—and was succeeded by his son John. The Colonial Records show him to have been a very active, influential member of the legislature—prominently one of those men who, in the first half century, did so much to make the small colony of Connecticut so important a factor in American affairs. As a member of Sessions he had the pleasure of meeting his brother Matthew, and his own son Francis; both Governors of Connecticut, and there has since that time rarely been an Assembly, in which some lineal descendant has not been a member. He was frequently a Commissioner and in 1678, was on a committee for establishing a Latin School in New London, and was first deacon of Killingworth church. He died at Killingworth, it is said, in 1691, in eighty-fourth year.

Children, all by first wife (Kenilworth, England Records):

1. SARAH, b. in 1631.
2. GEORGE, b. in 1633; m. Mary, dau. of Thomas Holcomb. ✓
3. FRANCIS, b. in 1635; d. October, 1671.
4. LIDDA, b. in 1637.
5. SARAH, b. in 1638; m. first Nov. 10, 1650, Samuel Phelps, son of William; m. second, July 21, 1670, Nathaniel Pinney, son of Humphrey.
6. ANN, b. in Windsor; bapt. June 19, 1642.
7. MARY, b. in Windsor; bapt. Oct. 13, 1644; m. March 19, 1661, Timothy Phelps, son of Wm., Sen.
8. DEBORAH, b. in Windsor; bapt. June 28, 1646; m. Samuel Duel; lived in Killingworth. She died Feb. 7, 1719.
9. JOSEPH, b. Mar. 22, 1648; m. Mary, dau. Walter Gaylord, 1670; b. Mar. 13, 1647.
10. SAMUEL, b. Nov. 18, 1649; d. July 6, 1672.
11. JOHN, b. Aug. 1, 1652.

The last six children's births are from Colonial and Parish Records.

References: 1 to 5 generations—History of Windsor, 1859, Thomas Nash of New Haven.

5 to 8 generations—Records of Elizabeth M. Rixford, Family Records.

Summary of Ancestry:

1. DEACON EDWARD GRISWOLD, b. England about 1607; d. Killingworth, Conn., 1691. He m. in England, 1630, Margaret, b. England; d. Killingworth, Conn., Aug. 23, 1670.
2. MARY GRISWOLD, bapt. Oct. 13, 1644, Windsor or Killingworth, Conn.; d. before 1719; m. prob. Windsor, Conn., March 19, 1661, Lieut. and Capt. Timothy Phelps, b. Sept. 1, 1639, Windsor, Conn.; d. 1719.
3. LIEUT. SAMUEL¹ PHELPS, b. Jan. 29, 1675, Windsor, Conn.; d. —; m. April 3, 1707, prob. Windsor, Conn., Abigail Eno, b. March 1, 1686, at —; d. March, 1728, at —.
4. LIEUT. SAMUEL² PHELPS, b. April 5, 1708; d. Aug. 14/17, 1754, at —; m. 1731, Ruth Phelps, dau. of Wm. and Ruth (Barber) Phelps, b. Jan. 23, 1713, at —; d. —.

5. JOEL PHELPS, b. 1732, Windsor, Conn.; m. Sept. 8, 1757, Goshen or Farmington, Ct., Jerusha Nash, b. Oct. 5, 1734, Goshen, Conn.; d. 1796, Goshen, Conn.
6. PHINEAS PHELPS, b. April 10, 1767, at —; d. April 20, 1813, Stanbridge, Que.; m. New Haven, Vt., Lydia Lawrence, b. Jan. 15, 1762, prob. Canaan, Conn.; d. Sept. 20, 1813, Stanbridge, Que.
7. NASH DAVID PHELPS, b. Oct. 4, 1796, New Haven, Vt.; d. April 15, 1884, Stanbridge, Que.; m. April 29, 1821, St. Armand West, Que., Elizabeth Hungerford, b. New Fairfield, Conn., Feb. 7, 1798; d. Jan. 7, 1878, North Stanbridge, Que.

From here same as Summary of Arms Ancestry, 8th to 10th Generations; Daughters of the American Colonists, 1931, pp. 26-36, No. 2089; ancestry traced by the author of this book.

GULL ANCESTRY

Savage—Genealogical Dictionary, Vol. II, D-J, p. 322), WILLIAM GULL, Wethersfield, 1649; married after 1654, Eliz., widow of Nathaniel Foote, dau. of Lieut. Samuel Smith, had no sons but several daughters, certain. Mary and Ann, before he removed to Hadley in 1663; there had Esther, born 21 Nov., 1665; and Mercy, 27 June, 1668; was freeman, 1673. Ann married 1680, Jonathan Root, is named in the will of her father, as living, 1701, when he died and names also, as liv., his wife Eliz., daughters, Mary, wife of Robert Bardwell, who was married 21 Nov., 1676; Mercy, wife of Jeremiah Alvord; and a child of his dec. d. Esther, who has been wife of Joseph Gillet.

References: See Dickinson Ancestry, this book.

GUNNE ANCESTRY

1. RICHARD GUNNE, of Saintbury Co., Gloucester, died before 1587. He married Mary —, whose will, dated 23 Oct. 1587, was proved at Gloucester, Feb. 17, 1587/8.

Children:

1. RICHARD, of Saintbury, eldest son, mentioned in the will of his son-in-law, Joseph Phelps, dated Oct. 26, 1579, and in that of his (Richard's) mother, dated Oct. 23, 1587; m. ANNE FULWOOD (see Fulwood Ancestry, this book), dau. of Robert Fulwood of Little Alne, in the parish of Aston Cantlow, Co. Warwick (whose will, dated Aug. 6, 1574, was proved at Worcester, May 31, 1576).

Children:

1. Richard { both mentioned in the will of their paternal grandmother,
2. John { Mary Gunne, dated Oct. 23, 1587.
3. Ellen, d. before Aug. 3, 1601; m. (1) Joseph Phelps of Bengeworth, Co. Worcester, of whose will, dated Oct. 26, 1579, and proved at Worcester in Dec., 1579, she was sole executrix by whom she had issue; m. (2) John Tomes (No. 3 of Tomes pedigree, q.v.), by whom also she had issue (See Tomes Pedigree—supra).
4. Anne, d. before May 23, 1626; m. Henry Izod of Todington, Co. Gloucester, who d. between May 20, 1628, when his will was dated, and Apr. 7, 1632, when it was proved at Gloucester, by whom she had issue. He m. (2) (marriage settlement dated May 23, 1626) Bridgett Penny, by whom he had issue.