



(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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PLATT ANCESTRY

PLATT—The surname Platt has been early found in many countries, the word meaning an open, level piece of land. In Norman French, the name was spelled Pradt, then Pratt; in German, Platz. Coats-of-arms were granted to half a dozen different branches of the family in England as early as the reign of Elizabeth, and some as early as 1326. Senator Orville Hitchcock Platt was descended through both father and mother, from long lines of New England farmers, who for many generations had held prominent stations in the communities in which they lived. They held offices in church and town affairs, were landowners, deacons, tithingmen, and captains of militia. One ancestor was imprisoned by Governor Andros in 1681, for daring to attend a meeting of delegates "to devise means to obtain a redress of grievances under his arbitrary rule." Another was among those who marched to Fishkill in the Burgoyne campaign, of October, 1777, to reinforce General Putnam. It was a sturdy, loyal, patriotic, efficient New England stock. ("History of the Colony of New Haven," by Atwater, p. 650. Dea. Richard Platt, 1603-1684, was the son of John Platt of Bovington, Eng.

1. DEACON RICHARD PLATT, emigrant ancestor, is believed to be the Richard who was baptized Sept. 28, 1603, son of Joseph, in the parish of Bovington, Hertfordshire, England. He settled as early as 1638, at New Haven, Conn., and was one of a party of sixty-one who formed a church settlement at Milford, in the same colony, being the first settlers in that place, Nov. 29, 1639, and at the time having four in his family. He was chosen deacon at Milford in 1669, and bequeathed a Bible to each of his nineteen grandsons. His will is dated Jan. 24, 1683/4. In August, 1889, a memorial stone, suitably inscribed, was placed in the new bridge over the Mapawaug. (D. A. C., p. 91, Deacon Platt a Founder and Deacon of Milford, Conn.) (Gen. Conn., Vol. II.)

Children:

1. MARY, married (first), May 1, 1651, Luke Atkinson; (second) January 3, 1667, Thomas Wetherell. 2. JOHN, settled in Norwalk; married Hannah Clark. 3. ISAAC, see forward. 4. SARAH. 5. EPHENETUS, baptized July 12, 1640; was an associate of his brother Isaac in his varied experiences. 6. HANNAH, born October 1, 1643. 7. JOSIAH, 1645. 8. JOSEPH, 1649; married, 1680, Mary Kellogg.

(History of New Haven, Fairfield, Conn., by Lewis Platt, p. 398.) The town of Plattfield, N. Y., is named after Richard Platt, a member of the family. (Platt Lineage, 1891, pp. 109-134) Comp. Am. Gen., Vol. III, p. 679, Richard Platt, born 1603; died 1684. From England, with his wife and 4 children to New Haven Colony, 1638. Founder of Milford, Conn., 1639; married Mary ——. History of New Haven, by Atwater, p. 137, Richard Platt, Proprietor. He joined the Church at New Haven, Jan. 2, 1640; removed to Milford. Savages Gen. Dic., Vol. I, p. 91, Richard Platt was a Founder and Deacon in Milford, Conn.,

born at Hertfordshire, Eng., 1603; died 1684; married probably at New Haven, Mary Shedd; she died 1676. Fairfield, Conn., by Scheink, p. 274, John Platt and Christopher Comstock, Grand Jurors, 1692.

Summary of Ancestry:

1. JOHN PLATT, b. 151—, of Bovington, Hertfordshire, Eng., d. 16—, in New England; m. in England, Mary —, b. Eng., 16—, d. Jan. 24, 1675/6, New England.
2. DEACON RICHARD PLATT, b. England, abt. 1603, d. prob. Milford, Conn.; Will dated Jan. 23, 1683/4; m. —, Mary —.
3. HANNAH PLATT, b. Oct. 1, 1643, Milford, Conn.; m. Oct. 6, 1663, Christopher Comstock, d. prob. Norwalk, Conn., bet. 1701 and 1703.
4. MARY COMSTOCK, b. Feb. 19, 1671, d. Oct. 17, 1747; m. Dec. 18, 1693, James St. John, b. 1674, d. June, 1754.
5. HANNAH ST. JOHN, b. 1703, d. June 30, 1746; m. 1723/24, Jeremiah Mead, b. Aug. 6, 1702, d. 1742.
6. STEPHEN MEAD, b. 1723, at —. d. Oct. 18, 1806, at —; m. Oct. 31, 1751. Rachel Sanford, b. July 23, 1733, d. —.
7. ESTHER MEAD, b. Aug. 11, 1760, d. Dec. 22, 1836, bur. Mystic Cemetery, Stanbridge, Que.; m. Isaiah Hungerford, b. Jan. 23, 1757, New Fairfield, Conn., d. June 16, 1833, Stanbridge, Que., bur. Mystic Cemetery.
8. ELIZABETH HUNGERFORD, b. Feb. 7, 1798, New Fairfield, Conn., d. Jan. 7, 1878, No. Stanbridge, Que.; m. April 29, 1821, St. Armand West, Que., Nash David Phelps, b. Oct. 4, 1796, Stanbridge, Que., d. April 15, 1884, No. Stanbridge, Que.

From here same as Summary of Arms Ancestry, 8th to 10th Generations; Colonial Daughters of the 17th Century, p. 136, No. 772; and Daughters of the American Colonists, 1931, pp. 26-36, No. 2089; ancestry traced by the author of this book.

REYNOLDS ANCESTRY

JOHN REYNOLDS OF LONDON, No. 68, CHURCH OF LEYDON

JOHN REYNOLDS, born in England, 1612; married Sarah —, born in England, 1614. They came to America from the Port of Ipswich on Ship "Elizabeth" early in 1633, to the New England colony in Massachusetts. They first settled at Watertown, where his first child, a daughter, was born, in 1634, and named in honor of Ship that brought them safely over. They took out papers as free-men in 1635. Joined the church, as all citizens at that time had to be registered on the church records. Some Historians have thought and asserted that John Reynolds had brothers here, one Robert Reynolds, of Boston, lived at Watertown a short time and they associated together in church capacity. Robert Reynolds was authorized by the Boston Church to organize and establish a church at Weathersfield, Conn. John Reynolds and family, with others from Watertown, Mass., moved in 1635, to Weathersfield, Conn., and joined and helped build up the Church (colony). Robert Reynolds moved back to Boston early in 1636. John Reynolds lived at Weathersfield, Conn., some five years, where his two sons were born. He moved to Stamford, Conn., in 1641, where his wife died, Aug. 21, 1657. He died in Stamford in 1660.

John Reynolds, William Mead, John Miller, on list of Pioneers pledged to build a plantation. His name was on the 2nd and 3rd lists of the Colonists at Stamford, Conn. He received allotment of 11 acres of land.

Their children were:

1. ELIZABETH, b. 1634, d. 1703; m. July 5, 1654, to Peter Ferris.
2. JONATHAN, b. 1636, d. 1673; m. Rebecca Husted.
3. JOHN, b. 1638, d. 1702; m. Juda Palmer.

ELIZABETH, daughter of John Reynolds and Sarah —, born at Watertown, Mass., 1634; died 1703; married Peter Ferris, July 5, 1654. He was born 1636; died Sept. 28, 1706.

Child:

- JOSEPH FERRIS, b. June 20, 1657; m. Mary Smith.
Child:
1. *Joseph Ferris*, b. 1688; m. Mercy Buxton.

JONATHAN, son of John Reynolds and Sarah —, born at Weathersfield, Conn., in 1636; died in Greenwich, Conn., in 1673; married Rebecca Husted, 1658. Jonathan was sent to General Assembly, in 1667. His first act of note was to get the Territory of land back to the jurisdiction of the New Haven Colony, that Capt. Daniel Patrick and Robert Feaks had signed over in 1642, to the jurisdiction of the Dutch at New Amsterdam. On Oct. 6, 1656, Jonathan Reynolds, with eleven other freeholders of Greenwich, Conn., declared their submission and loyalty to the New Haven Colony by article of agreement. In 1665, the Freeholders, which included Jonathan and John Reynolds, made rules and regulations by which to dispose of lands without fence and permit settlers to come amongst them, at Annual town meeting held 1669. He was selected, with four other Freeholders, to survey and lay out land of Horseneck into four-acre lots for settlement. In 1672, the Freeholders of Greenwich had grown to twenty-seven. Jonathan Reynolds' health was poor and he was compelled to retire from public service. He died 1673, and his brother John, was selected to take his place. Jonathan married Rebecca, daughter of Angell Husted, in 1658. He was one of the original patentees of New Haven Colony, in 1665.

Their children were:

1. REBECCA, b. 1659.
2. JONATHAN, b. 1660; m. Nevill Ridewere, Dec. 7, 1682.
3. JOHN, b. 1662, d. 1736; m. Ruth Knapp. No issue.
4. SARAH, b. 1665; m. Joseph Mead, 1687.
5. ELIZABETH, b. 1667; m. Joseph Knapp, March 16, 1687.
6. JOSEPH, b. 1669, d. 1727; m. 1st., Abigail Finch, 1698, dau. of Joseph Finch; m. 2nd., Abigail Rundel, 1727.
7. EBENEZER, b. 1673, d. 1749; m. Abigail Smith, 1703.

Summary of line of Ancestry:

1. JOHN REYNOLDS, b. 1612, England, d. 1660, Stamford, Conn.; m. England, Sarah —, b. 1614, England, d. prob. 1657, in Stamford, Conn.
2. JONATHAN REYNOLDS, b. 1636, d. 1673; m. 1658, Rebecca Husted, b. abt. 1645, d. —.

3. SARAH REYNOLDS, b. 1665, d. —; m. 1687, Joseph Mead, b. abt. 1657, d. 1714.
4. JEREMIAH MEAD, b. Aug. 6, 1702, d. 1742; m. 1725, Hannah St. John, b. 1703, d. June 30, 1746.
5. STEPHEN MEAD, b. 1728, d. Oct. 18, 1806; m. Oct. 31, 1751, Rachel Sanford, b. Feb. 12, 1708, d. abt. 1800.
6. ESTHER MEAD, b. Aug. 11, 1760, d. Dec. 22, 1836, Stanbridge, Que.; m. abt. 1777, Isaiah Hungerford, b. Dec. 26, 1756, d. June 16, 1833, Stanbridge, Que.

From here same as Summary of Arms Ancestry, 8th to 10th Generations; Colonial Daughters of the 17th Century, p. 136, No. 772; and Daughters of the American Colonists, 1931, pp. 26-36, No. 2089; ancestry traced by the author of this book.

ROBERT REYNOLDS ANCESTRY

ROBERT REYNOLDS was one of the Planters of the Commonwealth of Mass. Bay Colony.

Winthrop's Fleet, 1630; Ship "Arabella":

Robert Reynolds, probably of Boxford, Suffolk, Eng., to Boston.

Mrs. Mary Reynolds
Nathaniel Reynolds
Ruth Reynolds
Tabitha Reynolds
Sarah Reynolds

REYNOLDS—ROBERT AND JOHN REYNOLDS, were both very early settlers of Watertown. Robert was adm. freeman, Sept. 3, 1634, and was dismissed from Wat. Church, May, 1635, in order, with others, to organize a church on the Connecticut River. John was adm. freeman May 6, 1635, and about the same time (in 1635), he was appointed on a committee in Wat. for dividing to every man, his share of meadow and upland. There is no further notice of either of them in the town records. They probably both belonged to the colony that first went from Watertown to Wethersfield. John Reynolds was one of the original purchasers of Stamford, and a John Reynolds was a freeman and "townsman" of Norwich, in 1669. As the name of Robert Reynolds does not occur, after a very early date, in the Conn. Col. Records, it is conjectured that he returned to the Bay Colony; that two of his daughters, Ruth (Whitney) and Mary (Sanger) settled in Watertown, where he had first settled, and that he died in Boston, in 1659. (See his Will, in Geneal. Reg., lx., p. 137.)

References: "Watertown, Mass.," Bond, 2nd Edition, Vol. II, p. 912. "Planters of the Commonwealth," by Banks, p. 81.

Summary of Ancestry:

1. ROBERT REYNOLDS, b. England, d. 1639, Boston, Mass.; m. England, Mary —.
2. RUTH REYNOLDS, of Boston, d. after husband; m. John Whitney, Jr., b. 1624, d. Oct. 12, 1692. (See Royal Line, Vol. I for Whitney.)
3. RUTH (WHITNEY) SHATTUCK, b. April 15, 1645; m. March 6, 1676/7, Enoch Lawrence, b. Jan. 5, 1648/9, d. Sept. 28, 1744.
4. CAPT. DANIEL LAWRENCE, b. March 7, 1681, d. 1777; m. Sarah —, b. —, d. prob. Canaan, Conn.
5. ISAAC LAWRENCE, SR., b. Feb. 25, 1704/5, d. Dec. 2, 1793; m. Lydia Hewitt, b. —, d. Nov. 14, 1765.

6. ISAAC LAWRENCE, JR., of Canaan, Conn., m. May 18, 1760, Mary Brown, 7th child of Dea. Samuel Brown.
7. LYDIA LAWRENCE, b. 1761/2, d. Sept. 20, 1813; m. New Haven, Vt., Phineas Phelps, b. April 10, 1767, d. April 20, 1813.
8. DAVID NASH PHELPS, b. Oct. 4, 1796, d. April 15, 1884; m. April 29, 1821, Elizabeth Hungerford, b. Feb. 7, 1798, d. Jan. 7, 1878.

From here same as Summary of Arms Ancestry, 8th to 10th Generations; Colonial Daughters of the 17th Century, p. 136, No. 772; and Daughters of the American Colonists, 1931, pp. 26-36, No. 2089; ancestry traced by the author of this book.

READ ANCESTRY



Arms—Gules, a saltire between four garbs or.

Crest—On the stump of an oak-tree, a falcon rising proper belled and jessed or.

Motto—*Cedant arma logae.*

The family name, Read, found in a variety of spellings, such as Reade, Reed and Reid, originated as a personal name to designate a person of red or ruddy complexion. It is found not only in England, where it has been common since surnames first came into use, but also in Scotland and various countries on the Continent. (Bardsley: "Dictionary of English and Welsh Surnames.") The history of the Read family of Kent, England, dates back to 1139, to Brianus de Rede, or Morpeth, on the Ensback River in the North of England. In this country since the date of the family's landing, the name has been upheld and cherished, many of those bearing it having been awarded distinction and honor.

In his "Ancestry of Priscilla Baker," 1870, the late William Sumner Appleton, Esq., devoted a chapter to the Reade family of Wickford, Co. Essex, England, four members of which emigrated to

America. They were a brother and three sisters: Col. Thomas Reade, who was of Salem, Mass., in 1634, and was later an officer in Cromwell's army; Mrs. Margaret (Reade) Lake of New London, Conn., and Ipswich, Mass.; Mrs. Martha (Reade) (Eppes) Symonds, second wife of Deputy Governor Samuel Symonds of Ipswich; and Mrs. Elizabeth (Reade) Winthrop, wife of John Winthrop, Jr., Governor of Connecticut.

Mr. Appleton examined the parish registers of Wickford and found many items therein relating to Edmund and Elizabeth (Cooke) Reade, the parents of the four emigrants; but between the years 1595 and 1604 no entries pertaining to this family appeared. This lack has now been explained through a search, made for another purpose, in the registers of the parish of North Benfleet, Co. Essex, now deposited in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. North Benfleet lies a few miles southeast from Wickford, and at the period in question the Lord of the principal manor was Edmund Church, who had inherited it from his Tyrrell ancestors. Church was twice mentioned as "brother" in the will of William Reade of Wickford (1603), the father of Edmund Reade; and it was doubtless as Church's tenant at the manor house, which is still standing and is now the rectory, that Edmund Reade resided in North Benfleet.

The first Reade entry in the registers of North Benfleet is given here verbatim, in the Latin employed by the rector, but the entries that follow have been translated and condensed.

BAPTISMS

- 1597 Maria Reade filia Edmundi Reade et Elizabethæ ux de Northe Bemfleet nata fuit decimo octavo die mensis Junii et baptizata vicesimo sexto die ejusdem mensis in Ecclesia North Bemflette A° 1597 p'd.
- 1598 Margaret Reade daughter of Edmund Reade and Elizabeth his wife born 11 July and baptized 16 July. (Afterwards Mrs. Margaret Reade Lake.)
- 1599 William Reade son of Edmund Reade and Elizabeth his wife born 28 Oct. 1599 and baptized 1 Jan. 1599/1600.
- 1602 Martha Reade daughter of Edmund Reade born 13 July and baptized 22 July. (Afterwards Mrs. Martha Reade Eppes Symonds.)
- 1605 Thomas Reade son of Edmund Reade and Elizabeth his wife, born 2 Jan. and baptized 7 January 1605/6.
- 1609 Samuel Reade son of Edmund Reade born 23 July and baptized 31 July.
- 1612 Thomas Reade son of Edmund Read and Elizabeth his wife baptized 15 August. (Afterwards Col. Thomas Reade).

BURIALS

- 1600 Edmund Reade son of Edmund Reade and Elizabeth his wife of North Bemfleet 30 March.
- 1602 Mary Reade daughter of Edmund Reade, 13 April.
- 1607 Thomas Reade son of Edmund Reade, 15 September.
- 1629 John Read, 12 October.
- 1631 Ellen Read, widow, 9 February (1631/2).

MISCELLANEOUS

- 1601 Boundes of the upland groundes of the said parishe of North Beamflette . . . perambulated, etc. Edmund Read (first name).

(1) JOHN READ, the first of this branch of the family to come to America, is thought to have been a son of William and Lucy (Heneage) Reade. He was born probably at Maidstone, County Kent, near London, England, in 1598, and sailed from London for America on April 1, 1630, with the great fleet of eleven ships, which accompanied Governor John Winthrop, with about seven hundred persons, arriving at Salem, Massachusetts, June 22, 1630. He was of Weymouth, Massachusetts, in 1637, of Dorchester in 1638, and from there removed to that part of Braintree which is now Quincy, where he was a freeman, May 13, 1640.