

**THE DESCENDANTS OF JABEZ GORHAM (1725-1806) OF LIVERPOOL,  
NOVA SCOTIA, WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THEIR EARLIER ANCESTRY**

Eville Gorham and Anne (Gorham) Blakeney

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## PREFACE

Our chief aim has been to document, as far as possible, the descendants of Jabez, the great-great-grandson of Plymouth colonists John Gorham and Desire Howland, in Nova Scotia, Bermuda, and elsewhere. In doing so we have given accounts, for each generation, of the direct ancestors of the present authors and of the siblings of those ancestors, so that distant but interested relatives may readily connect themselves at the level of each generation. A secondary aim has been to provide brief accounts, from published and unpublished sources, of the earlier ancestry of present Gorhams in the direct line back to John and Desire, and of yet earlier Gorhams, not directly assignable as ancestors, in England, Brittany, and Denmark.

The lives of these persons can best be understood by considering contemporary circumstances such as wars, economic conditions, social and cultural attitudes, etc. We have not, however, attempted to do this more than occasionally and in a minor way.

We acknowledge gratefully the assistance of several Gorham relations, including especially our parents, Anne's older sister Margaret, Gordon Wiswell's daughter Mary Hanson, Eville's daughter Kerstin, our Bermuda cousins Betty Kitson and Joan Wilkie, Phyllis Ross, and our seventh cousin Paul (Raymond<sup>8</sup>, Joseph<sup>7</sup>, George<sup>6</sup>, Nathaniel<sup>5</sup>, Shubael<sup>4</sup>, George<sup>3</sup>, Shubael<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup> and Desire Howland) of the New Brunswick Gorham family. Terry Punch, also a distant relative (sixth cousin, twice removed), kindly made several corrections and helpful suggestions. Eville's son-in-law Adrian MacDonald helped in various ways, especially in reformatting the document

Readers are invited to send Eville corrections, additions, and suggestions of further sources (address 1933 East River Terrace, Minneapolis, MN 55414, USA; tel. 612-333-1605).

**PLAN OF TEXT (as far as available information allows)**

**NAME** (generation number)

*A. Birth, Relationships, and Death*

Parents

Birth/baptism

Marriage(s)

Children

Death and burial

*B. Background*

Education

Residences (and moves)

Religion

Politics

Recreations (e.g. sports, travel, reading, radio, TV, theatre, gardening, nature study)

Avocations (e.g. musical performances, writing, genealogy)

*C. Occupations*

Employment

Military service

Government service

Service to other organizations, including philanthropy

*D. Miscellaneous* (wills, notable events, awards, other recognitions, appearance, family resemblances, noteworthy information about spouses)

## CHAPTER 1: THE GORHAMS OF LIVERPOOL

This chapter deals with Jabez (4) and his children and grandchildren. It does not include his brother David, who also went to Liverpool, NS, in 1760, but returned with his family to Plymouth, MA, in 1768.<sup>1</sup>

### JABEZ (4)

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was baptized in October 1725, in Fairfield, CT, the third son of Jabez Gorham of Fairfield and an unknown mother (not Molly, as sometimes claimed). The chief source for information about him is E.P.White.<sup>1</sup> On 15 November 1750 he was living in Barnstable, MA, and on that date at Plymouth he married Mary Burbank, born in Plymouth on 24 July, 1730, the daughter of Timothy and Mary (Kempton) Burbank, Jr.

Six children were born in Plymouth: James, born 23 July 1751, died in infancy; Jabez, born 13 September 1753, died in infancy; Mary, born 23 July 1755; Jabez, born 14 May 1757; Hannah, born 14 February 1759; and James, born 7 September 1760.<sup>1</sup> In Liverpool another six children were added: Lucy, born 2 September 1762; Mercy, born 4 October 1764; Lydia, born 5 January 1767 (twin); Prince, born 5 January 1767 (twin); Isaac, born 13 July 1769; and John, born 29 September 1771.<sup>1</sup>

Jabez died in Liverpool on 13 December 1804<sup>1</sup> (his tombstone date of 13 December 1806<sup>2</sup> said to be in error<sup>1</sup>). He was buried in the Old Congregational Cemetery on Main Street in Liverpool.<sup>1</sup> His wife died in Liverpool of "a dead palsy" on 14 September 1811<sup>2</sup> (11 September according to her tombstone).

#### *Background*

In 1760 Jabez and his brother David moved with their families from Plymouth to Liverpool with other New England families. He was a Proprietor of Liverpool Township (1½ shares), and is mentioned in the land grant of 1764.<sup>1</sup> He was one of many New Englanders taking up lands, after the expulsion of the Acadians, in response to a proclamation by Governor Lawrence of Nova Scotia that was circulated in New England.<sup>3</sup> He was granted several town lots, wood lots, and fish lots, and "on one of the Town lots he built a home, a quaint low-roofed structure with a tiny porch over the front door and a room either side, a very small home for so large a family."<sup>4</sup>

In religion a "non-conformist" Congregationalist, on 16 February 1796 he joined the "New Lights" religious movement begun several years before by the preacher Henry Alline.<sup>1</sup> Alline was born in 1748 in Rhode Island and first visited Liverpool on 4 December 1781. He wrote<sup>5</sup> "I found a kind people, but in midnight darkness, and vastly given to frolicking, rioting, and all manner of levity." He was a mystic and speculative theologian who believed that salvation depended "neither upon any outward act of man nor upon any decree of God, but rather upon the union of the inner man to, and the turning of the inmost soul after, God." He was a charismatic preacher, and young ladies were said to fall into ecstasies and raptures, and often to swoon, sometimes more than once. The "New Lights" separated from the Congregational Church, causing it to decline.

### *Occupations*

Jabez was a sea captain and fisherman, but also engaged in buying and selling lands (principally fish lots) in what became the business centre of Liverpool.<sup>4</sup> As a fisherman, Jabez was mentioned in the Legislative Journals of the House at Halifax, NS, 1761, as "praying for a bounty on fish" with his brother-in-law Timothy Burbank.<sup>1</sup>

The Children of Jabez (4) Gorham and Mary Burbank

#### **MARY (5)**

Mary was born 23 July 1755<sup>1</sup>, and in 1778 married William Dunlop of Milton, NS.<sup>5</sup> They had four sons and five (or six?) daughters whose descendants lived in Sable River, Shelburne County, NS.<sup>6,7</sup> Of the daughters, Mercy married Benjamin Hayden in 1803 in Liverpool and her sister Mary married his brother Thomas 14 August 1803.<sup>8</sup> Hannah married Samuel Kenney 21 November 1809, Patty married John Hammond, Lucy married \_\_\_\_ Hayes, and Andrew Hammond married the other (a sixth?) daughter in Sable River. Two sons, John and James, served on the Liverpool privateer Rolla in the war of 1812<sup>9</sup> and were lost when she sank in a gale in January 1815.<sup>8</sup> Another son was David.<sup>10</sup>

#### **JABEZ (5)**

##### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

Jabez was born on 14 May 1757<sup>1</sup> in Plymouth, and eventually returned there from Liverpool,<sup>5</sup> marrying at Plymouth, on 26 November 1788, either Abigail Tobey (born about 1756, died 28 November 1808) or Abigail Bassett (born about 1762).<sup>8</sup> He later married Thankful Vaughn, of Middleboro, MA, on 27 July 1811 (born about 1760, died 7 June 1817)<sup>8</sup>, and finally the widow Desire Hewitt, who survived him. Jabez died 2 December 1830 and was buried with a monument in a cemetery near the Methodist meeting house in South Middleboro, MA.<sup>7</sup>

He had five children.<sup>7</sup> The first was Jabez born at Rochester, MA, on 31 December 1797, who married Rebecca Standish (born 30 August 1801, died 8 January 1843) at New Bedford, MA, on 27 August 1820. The second was James, who moved to Vergennes, VT. There were three daughters: Mercy, married \_\_\_\_ Bryant, Sarah, married \_\_\_\_ Shurtleff, and Mary, married James Cole about 1825.<sup>8</sup>

##### *Miscellaneous*

Jabez settled in Rochester, after service as a Revolutionary soldier from Plymouth.<sup>7</sup>

#### **HANNAH (5)**

Born 14 February 1759<sup>4</sup>, and on 4 March 1787 married John Coop(s), a sawyer of lumber for Simeon Perkins<sup>2</sup> and an alewife fisherman born about 1765 and said by R.J. Long<sup>5</sup> to bear "an old and well-known Plymouth name." However, another account<sup>2,9</sup> indicates otherwise, as follows: "tradition has it that John and another man, desirous of seeing the new world, came from England to the West Indies and worked up the coast to Boston at the time of the Revolution (1776-83), and appreciating the danger of being taken as a spy, he lost no time in joining the English forces in a regiment of light horse . . . many of whom later settled at Guysborough, now called Port Mouton, NS, in 1783. In the spring a fire swept that place. They lost all and left. Many settled east of Halifax and called that place Guysborough."

John and Hannah had five children in Liverpool: James, born 22 August 1787; Hannah, born 13 February 1789; Elizabeth, born 24 October 1791; John, born 22 July 1794, died 6 January 1866; and Thomas, born 27 November 1797.<sup>9</sup> They later settled in Milton.<sup>4</sup>

## JAMES (5)

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

James was born on 7 September 1760 in Plymouth.<sup>1</sup> On 15<sup>7</sup> or 23<sup>4</sup> August 1787 he was married by William Johnston<sup>4</sup> to Jedidah, daughter of Nehemiah Tracey of East Haddam, CT (born 6 October 1762, a sister of Mrs. Benajah Collins<sup>2</sup>). They had no children, but adopted a daughter Eveline. She married John Randolph of Annapolis, NS, on 23 January 1834.<sup>11</sup> James died on 5 August 1841<sup>7</sup> and Jedidah on 19 May 1849. They were buried on Gorham Street, with a monument surrounded by iron railings (still extant), in front of the Temperance Hall he endowed.

### *Background*

James was a strong supporter of the Congregationalist Church, and in later life of the temperance movement. He was also active in many other affairs of the town.<sup>2</sup>

### *Occupations*

As a businessman James amassed a large fortune. In 1786 he was Master of a schooner owned by Hallet Collins, and by 1790 he had launched his own schooner Brittany, followed by the Greyhound in 1794 with his youngest brother John as master.<sup>5</sup> He engaged in the fisheries as far away as Labrador and Newfoundland, and traded widely—Quebec, New England, Pennsylvania, the Azores, and the West Indies.<sup>2</sup> During the War of 1812 he held shares in privateers sailing from Liverpool, among them the Retaliation.<sup>12</sup> According to Thomas Raddall,<sup>13</sup> Enos Collins, the richest man in North America, together with James Gorham and Simeon Perkins, became wealthy through privateering, and their means enabled “booming the lumber trade” and becoming even wealthier. At the time pine lumber sold for \$8.75 a thousand at Liverpool and for \$24 in Demerara.

On 16 May 1797 James became a lieutenant in the militia, and in 1826 was a commissioner to facilitate “the location of emigrants and other poor persons; and for the better regulation of all matters regarding the settlement of the county.” He was also an overseer of the poor, assessor and foreman of the grand jury and in 1838 was made a justice of the peace.

James and his wife were major philanthropists in Liverpool. In 1812 he built and endowed a public school, and he was a major contributor to the Congregationalist (Zion) Church and to construction of the Temperance Hall<sup>8</sup>, for which he and his wife gave the land<sup>6\*</sup>. His widow endowed Gorham College, aimed at educating Congregational Christians. It was erected in 1848 with about \$12,000 from her husband’s will. Unfortunately it burned to the ground on 7 February 1854 and was not rebuilt. Details of fees, staff, and curriculum were given by Raymond P. Gorham<sup>14</sup> and by Grace M. Rogers<sup>15</sup>, who noted that the college was unusually progressive for its time in admitting both women and blacks—mulattos from the West Indies who were sponsored by the Congregational Societies and were training “to become teachers to their own

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\* In 1790 he was prosecuted for selling spirituous liquor<sup>10</sup>, and in 1799 for beating Captain Hoare<sup>7</sup>

race on these Islands". Fees for the session in 1851 were £12, with board and lodging at 7s 6d per week. A junior school was also organized to teach classics, French, mathematics, and music; sessional fees were £25 including board, lodging, and washing. College students were provided with horsehair mattresses, those wishing a feather bed "will be required to furnish it at their own expense." One student writing home greatly resented the admission of black students, who had to sit at a separate table in the dining hall, but he admitted that "at our singing period; they outdo us whites in that line, carrying the tunes off in a handsome style." He also complained that students were fed fish too often because of their abundance in the river, but the food was otherwise excellent.

### *Miscellaneous*

On 9 November 1816 James was appointed, on a surety of £400, guardian of four Ellinwood children of a deceased Liverpool mariner (presumably employed in one of his shipping enterprises).

Portraits of James and his wife in old age are being restored in the Rossignol Cultural Centre. Portraits at a younger age are in the Queens County Museum. According to Williams<sup>4</sup> the marriage was arranged by one of Jedidah's relatives and was not a happy one. She was apparently very able, for during one of her husband's voyages "his wife hired men, had a vessel built, loaded with lumber, and sent out, overseeing the workmen, keeping the accounts and paying them from her husband's store, weighing and measuring with her own hands"<sup>4</sup>. Jedidah's will (probated in 1849) describes her as Jedidah Osborn Gorham<sup>16</sup>. Their house has been described with a picture history.<sup>17</sup>

### **LUCY (5)**

Born 2 September 1762 in Liverpool, she married James Morton of Milton on 9 December 1784, and died 9 March 1838.<sup>18</sup> They had eight children: Abigail, born 26 September 1785; Lucy, born 12 October 1787; James, born 3 May 1790; Patty, born 30 June 1792; Jabez, born 7 November 1794; Hepzibah, born 1 May 1797; Melinda, born 3 September 1800; and Silvanus, born 13 August 1805.<sup>9</sup>

### **MERCY (5)**

Born 4 December 1764, she married Dennis Freeman of Milton, born 8 July 1766, on 21 December 1788.<sup>6</sup> They had ten children: Martha "Patty", born 23 September 1789; Lothrop, born 10 August 1791; George, born 28 September 1793; Dennis, born 20 August 1795; Dorinda, born 13 November 1798; Barnabas, born 27 April 1801; Gorham, born 29 August 1803; Tracy, born 18 February 1805; Lewis, born 24 December 1807; and Isaac, born 29 July 1810. She died 9 April 1846.

### **PRINCE (5)**

Born 5 January 1767, he married on 7 January 1796 Rebecca Mullins, daughter of John and Hannah Mullins.<sup>6</sup> Their son Thomas Freeman was born in Liverpool on 29 October 1796, and the family moved to New England, where other sons were born.<sup>4</sup> Prince Gorham arrived in Maine in 1812 and was listed as a resident of Penobscot, ME, in the U.S. census of 1820. His household, all male, included two persons aged 10-16, one aged 16-18, one aged 18-26, and one (himself) aged 45 and over. The City Directory for Bangor, ME, in 1848 listed a Prince W. Gorham, shoemaker (possibly a son?).

## LYDIA (5)

Prince's twin sister, on 23 September 1790 (or 22 December<sup>6</sup>) married Joseph Bangs Jr., a shipbuilder and the widower of Mary Pitt, whom he had married on 2 July 1764<sup>8</sup> and who died 3 June 1790.<sup>6</sup> He was born in Harwich, MA, 22 April 1743 and died at sea (reported on 3 February 1801)<sup>2</sup>. In July 1813<sup>8</sup> their daughter Lydia, born 5 April 1794, married Charles J. Wright, who came from Halifax to Liverpool and was the first sexton of Trinity Church. He died 20 February 1865, aged 79, and his wife died 8 September 1863.<sup>6</sup> They had a daughter Lydia who married George Freeman.<sup>2</sup> Other children were born as well.<sup>20</sup>

## ISAAC (5)

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

Isaac—the progenitor of the Halifax Gorhams—was born 13 July 1769. On 7 or 27 September 1794 Rev. John Payzant, of the Congregationalist Church in Liverpool, married Isaac to Elizabeth (Betsy) Tonge,<sup>4,20</sup> baptized at Christ Church Anglican Church at Shelburne on 15 October 1786 at age 13. She was a daughter of John and Mercy (Mary?) Tonge. No record of her death has been found.

Isaac's five children were born in Liverpool: Hepzibah Tonge, 31 July 1795; Robert, 17 April 1794<sup>6</sup> (well before marriage? more likely 1797); Freeman, 1799; Richard Tonge, 1800; and Edward, 1802.<sup>4,7</sup> Another source<sup>8</sup> states that it was Robert who was born 31 July 1795, whereas Hepzibah was born about 1804. Hepzibah married (1) Henry Gardiner, by whom she had a daughter,<sup>4,7</sup> and (2) Benjamin Davis, by whom she had five or six children<sup>21</sup>: Mary Eliza, born 15 May 1817; William, born 16 September 1821, baptized 1826, married Annie Sherrifs and had three children; Edward (birth date unknown), who later lived in Boston; Elizabeth (possibly another name for the following); Susanna, born 20 December 1830, married Hugh MacEwen and had five children, died 28 July 1866 in Boston; and Martha, born about 1837, married Alfred Alexander Fraser from Aberdeen, had a daughter Alice (died young) and a son Richard, and died 28 March 1875. Hepzibah died 17 June 1868. Isaac's son Robert died when the privateer Rolla sank in January 1815; sons Freeman and Edward were also lost at sea.<sup>4,6,7</sup>

The Rolla was commissioned 10 June 1814. It was a schooner of 138 tons, 79 feet long, with an armament of one long 18-pounder and four 12-pounder carronades. It had been an American privateer, built in Baltimore and captured by H.M.S. Loire 10 December 1813. Under Captain John Freeman it captured 9 vessels (2 in company) on two cruises. It was said that the pick of the privateering profession sailed on her last cruise in January 1815 with a crew of 60 under Captain Joseph Bartlett, including 15 masters of vessels (as potential prize-masters). On 13 January, weeks after the treaty of peace was signed but before news reached them, they captured the American schooner Comet off Martha's Vineyard and sent the prize off. A gale blew up, which the prize survived to return to Liverpool, but the Rolla sank with 42 crew and 9 prisoners. The disaster left 22 widows and numerous fatherless children, and was said to be the worst calamity to befall the Liverpool privateers.<sup>22</sup>

According to Long,<sup>6</sup> because so many American prizes were sold in Liverpool, vessels became "a drug on the market" and hard times came to Liverpool shipbuilding.

Isaac's son Richard left Liverpool as a young man, and his descendants in Halifax form the subject of Chapter 2.

Isaac died of consumption in early May 1810 at Gabarus, Cape Breton Island.<sup>2,4</sup> No record of his burial has been found.

### *Background*

Isaac spent most of his life in Liverpool, but moved with his brother John\* to Gabarus in 1806 or 1807.<sup>2</sup> The settlers returned to Liverpool in November 1810 in Mr. Knaut's shallop.<sup>2</sup>

### *Occupations*

In 1790 Isaac was recorded as a crewman on the ship Polly fishing for mackerel, and also as fishing for mackerel in 1804.<sup>2</sup> The 1791 Poll Tax record refers to him as a master shoemaker. He was also listed as a shoemaker in 1793, but in 1794 as a mechanic. Isaac went to Gabarus to take up land for (subsistence?) farming and fishing as far away as Labrador.<sup>23</sup> He and John received a warrant to survey two hundred acres, also a fish lot, in 1807.<sup>24</sup>

## **JOHN (5)**

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

John was born 29 September 1771<sup>7</sup> and married, on 3 September 1795, Hannah Matilda, daughter of Nathaniel and Hannah Freeman.<sup>6,7</sup> They had eight children, two of whom died in infancy.<sup>4</sup> One was lost on 12 March 1800 during a smallpox epidemic, shortly after the other, John, was born on 6 February<sup>2</sup>; he died 9 March 1801.<sup>19</sup> The others<sup>6</sup> were: James, born 16 September 1796 (name changed to Nathaniel at father's wish), who died January 1815 on the privateer Rolla; Matilda, born 15 January 1798; John, born 7 July 1802; Hannah, who married J. Smith Hatfield of Yarmouth, NS, and moved to Liverpool, England; Frederick; Lewis (or Louis), born about 1804<sup>24A</sup>; died about 1839<sup>24B</sup>, and Eliza, born March 1812,<sup>25</sup> who married James Baxter<sup>4</sup> from Aberdeen, Scotland, in 1846 and died 23 August 1905.<sup>9</sup>

John died in 1826 at the age of fifty<sup>4</sup>. Hannah died in Liverpool in 1854.<sup>6</sup>

### *Background*

John lived in Liverpool and Shelburne, where he was a member of the Hiram Lodge of Freemasons.<sup>4</sup>

### *Occupations*

John went to sea with his brother James and later worked for him as a sea captain, chiefly exchanging fish and lumber from Nova Scotia for West Indian molasses, sugar, salt (from Turk's Island) and rum (from Barbados)<sup>2</sup>. He was at mentioned often by Perkins<sup>2</sup> as the master of several vessels (a sloop, several schooners, and a brig), and also served at least twice (1798, 1800) as master of prizes taken during the war between England and France and her ally Spain, which often involved neutral shipping. One was a brigantine flying the American flag, the other was the brig Nostra Senr. Del Concepcion taken by the British ship Duke of Kent. On another occasion, Perkins<sup>2</sup> noted on 24 June 1798, "John Gorham is got home to Liverpool. He was taken

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\* Said by Letitia Williams,<sup>4</sup> a granddaughter of John (5), to be a cousin. Jabez (4) had a brother John baptized on 12 May 1728, but he lived in Scituate, MA, and no children have been found<sup>1</sup>. David, the other brother of Jabez (4), who moved with him to Liverpool, had only one son David, born there on 17 August 1763.

and carried to Portarico” (Puerto Rico, still ruled by Spain after an attempted capture by Britain in 1797). Letitia Williams<sup>4</sup> gives a vivid account of his later capture by an American privateer in the War of 1812, as follows:

“Those were the days when going to sea was by no means a pleasure excursion. The war between England and the American Colonies brought privateers continually about the home coast, while the other end of the trip was made equally interesting by the pirates who infested the islands.

Sitting around the open fire-place, with the flames leaping and curling around the great ‘back-logs’ and dancing over the kitchen floor and ceiling, many a tale of adventure and hair-breadth escape was told to the audience of open-mouthed and credulous neighbours.

They were anxious days for those who went and for those who stayed at home, for with slow-sailing ships, no mails, no telegraphs, the first tidings of them would often be that their vessel was coming up the harbour. ‘All well, for the colour is flying at the mast-head.’

Capt Gorham had made a number of voyages successfully and had again started with a cargo for the West Indies when his vessel was captured off ‘Moose Harbour’ (a cove half-way down Liverpool Bay) by an American privateer, himself and crew made prisoners, his vessel stripped of everything of value and set on fire.

In describing it afterwards he said it was the hardest thing he had ever experienced in all his sea-going, to have his ship burned before his eyes. The prisoners were put between decks but when it was known that he was a free-mason he was put on parole and treated with every kindness. They were taken to the states and kept until there was an exchange of prisoners. It was a long time before this occurred and then it was not his turn, however a fellow prisoner whose turn it was generously gave up his chance because Capt Gorham had a family depending upon him, while he had none. He also gave him 10 (pounds) saying if they ever met and he needed it, he could repay him and if not he should keep it. Years after they met but he would not take it. Capt Gorham had nearly reached home when he was again taken prisoner and carried back to the same place, but was immediately set at liberty and at last reached home in safety. In recounting his adventures he always remembered the kindness which he experienced while a prisoner of war.”

### *Miscellaneous*

Letitia (Baxter) Williams<sup>4</sup> told R.P.Gorham<sup>14</sup> that daughter Matilda was engaged at seventeen to a Captain Slocum, to be married on his return from the West Indies. She died before his return and was buried in the wedding dress she had made. Frederick was given, at twenty-two, command of a ship by his uncle James. He sailed it to Liverpool, England, to be sold, the crew being left to find its own way home. He fell in love with an English girl, Sarah Parry, married her on 30 April 1826 at St. John’s Old Haymarket Church, Liverpool,<sup>8</sup> and stayed in England.

They had five children listed at St. Peter’s Church, Liverpool, UK, as: Hannah Matilda, born 15 April 1827; John Freeman, born 8 June 1828 probably died young); James Frederick, born 10 June 1832; Joseph Parry, born 1 March 1835, and John, born 17 July 1836. After a voyage to Jamaica as supercargo, Frederick caught yellow fever and was buried there in Kingston cemetery. The Liverpool (NS) Transcript reported on 2 June 1861 that James Frederick Gorham, a native of Liverpool (UK), died 20 December 1860 in Melbourne, Australia, aged 29.

Having lost two sons, Hannah did not want her last son Lewis to go on distant voyages. He bought a fishing vessel and married Mercy \_\_\_\_\_, who lived to be 82<sup>26</sup>. They lived at Ragged

Island (Osburn Island in 1927<sup>14</sup>). Returning from the Grand Banks, he was lost with all his crew in sight of home. They had a daughter and son, aged about four and two at the time of his death, and a second son was born shortly afterward. All three were "deaf and dumb". Fifteen years later, on 26 January 1854, Mercy petitioned the Nova Scotia General Assembly for assistance to place her daughter, then nineteen, in a good school or "efficient asylum". The two sons were able to "follow the fishery" and to assist their mother, who depended on her own daily labour (sic). The petition was sent to the Commission on Deaf and Dumb five days later<sup>24B</sup>.

Letitia, a daughter of Eliza Baxter, had her own tragedy. Her husband was a ship captain and she often accompanied him. On a voyage to Demerara her youngest son, a three-year-old, fell overboard. His father dived in to save him, and was seen with the boy in his arms. When the ship turned, however, and a boat was sent to rescue them, both were gone. The captain was a strong swimmer, and they were presumed to have been taken by a shark.

## CHAPTER 2: THE FIRST TWO GENERATIONS IN HALIFAX

This chapter deals with Richard Tonge Gorham, the son of Isaac, and his descendants. Richard was born in Liverpool but spent most of his adult life in Halifax. Earlier military Gorhams in Halifax, Captain John and Colonel Joseph, are not included. They were sons of Colonel Shubael Gorham, and John served with him in the successful siege of Louisburg in 1745. The brothers were active in military and government affairs in Nova Scotia around mid-century, and Joseph later became Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland.<sup>1,14,27,28</sup> Also excluded are numerous Gorehams descended from Johan Hermann Gorckum of Westhofen, West Palatinate, Germany. He emigrated to Halifax (but died en route) in 1752 with his son Wilhelm, who anglicized his name to William Goreham, presumably because of the presence of John and Joseph (above) in the city<sup>29</sup>. (Others anglicized the same name to Corkum).

### RICHARD (6)

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born in 1800 in Liverpool, and on 17 or 24 April 1828<sup>11</sup> (or 1827<sup>30</sup>) married Margaret Nichol Johnstone, born 1806, eldest daughter of Captain A. Johnstone<sup>11</sup>. She died 25 April 1839, three days after giving birth to a daughter<sup>31</sup>. They had six children, Edward Johnstone, baptized 23 January 1829; John William, baptized 11 September 1831 and died 13 August 1833; James, baptized 26 May 1833, died unmarried in the United States; Sarah Elizabeth, baptized 9 August 1835; Jane, born 15 April 1837; and Margaret Nichol, born 22 April, 1839 and died 13 June 1839<sup>31</sup>. The first four were baptized at St. Matthew's Church in Halifax, the last two at Brunswick Methodist Church.

Richard married, on 4 April 1840, his second wife Margaret Helen Gentles<sup>31</sup>. She was baptized at St. Matthew's Church on 15 January 1815, the daughter of Thomas Gentles, a baker<sup>32,33</sup>, and Jane Nichols<sup>11</sup> (or Jane Nichol Dean<sup>25</sup> or Jennie Little Dean of Virginia<sup>27</sup>), who were married at St. Matthew's 22 January 1814.<sup>11</sup> Her father Thomas died 11 September 1828, leaving a widow and five children<sup>11</sup>. Richard and Margaret also had six children: Richard, born 22 February 1841; Thomas Gentles, baptized 17 September 1843<sup>31</sup>, died unmarried around 1877 after a long and painful illness; John William, born in Dartmouth 5 December 1844 and baptized at St James's Church<sup>31</sup> in Dartmouth; Freeman, who died at Dartmouth aged about fifteen months on 17 August 1848<sup>34</sup>, Margaret Helen, born 1849, died 7 August 1854; and Charles Freeman, baptized 29 July 1851. Richard died 23 June 1865 and was buried at Camp Hill Cemetery, Halifax, two days later. His date of death was often given wrongly as 1863. Helen died 20 July 1910<sup>35</sup>, at the home of her son Charles Freeman, 2 Smith Street, Halifax, and was also buried at Camp Hill.

#### *Background*

Richard was born in Liverpool, moved to Arichat, then to Dartmouth (Church Street) and finally to Halifax (23 Maynard Street at the time of his death). According to City Directories<sup>36</sup> his widow lived on at that address with various of her children until about 1874, when they moved to 19 Maynard Street. Her son Richard left at that time for Bermuda. She was at 19 Maynard Street until 1883/84, after which she was listed with son John W. at 131 Spring Garden Road.

#### *Occupations*

Richard stated in a Governor's Petition<sup>37</sup> that he received a liberal education and was brought up as a mechanic, and in 1823 was doing a good business at Arichat, Cape Breton, when he lost a

thumb and two fingers of his right hand in a gunnery accident. This occurred because Sir James Kempt learned that Richard had served in the militia and artillery in Liverpool and requested that he fire the guns. The accident made him unable to do manual labour, and as Kempt failed to find him a position he worked as a clerk, then moved to Halifax and started a business that he had to relinquish. He therefore petitioned in 1846, unsuccessfully, for a job in the Excise Department. The failed Arichat business was probably in shipping; Richard was registered in 1843<sup>38</sup> as owner of the 26 ton ship Margaret in Poulamon, a small fishing and farming settlement in Cape Breton<sup>39</sup>. In 1858-59<sup>40</sup> and in 1864<sup>36</sup> he had a warehouse at Brown's Wharf (later Furness-Withy Wharf according to Carlisle Norwood), where he dealt in provisions. R.P.Gorham<sup>14</sup> wrote that Richard shipped lumber and fish to the West Indies and imported molasses and sugar, owning quite a number of vessels in partnership with Henry Currie (actually Thomas Henry Carré) of Arichat, and later—because of failing health over several years—his son Richard, Jr. This son took over the business until he left for Bermuda. Mc Alpine's Halifax City Directory<sup>36</sup> noted that R. Gorham & Co. were "dealers in flour, meal, provisions and fishing supplies—country orders carefully attended to, and produce sold free of commission when sent in exchange for goods".

#### *Miscellaneous*

Another daughter of Thomas and Jane Gentles was baptized as Mary Elizabeth 27 June 1825 at St. Matthews Church, Halifax<sup>31</sup>. She was listed in the 1871 census as living with Helen, Richard, John, and Charles Gorham, and was buried, as Eliza May Gentels, in a Camp Hill cemetery lot owned by Helen Gorham on 12 April 1887, aged sixty-one.

### *The Children of Richard (6) Gorham and Margaret Nichol Johnstone*

#### **EDWARD JOHNSTONE (7)**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

Edward was baptized 23 January 1829, probably at St. Matthew's Church. At Brunswick Methodist Church he married Janet Grace Mackie, born in 1832. They had eight children<sup>31</sup>: Edward Johnstone, born 7 November 1857; Alice May, born 1 May 1859; Albert, born 26 October 1860; Eliza Ann (Dolly), baptized 27 January 1866 aged four years, died 13 April 1893; Alfred, baptized 27 January 1866, buried 3 February 1866; Charles Henry, born 3 October 1867, buried 3 March 1868; Arthur Campbell, born 24 January 1869, and Louise Jean, born 27 December 1871, buried 6 June 1873. Edward died 31 October or 2 November 1914<sup>41</sup> at 242 Tower Road, Halifax, and Janet died 29 April 1912<sup>42</sup>. All but Alice are buried in Camp Hill Cemetery.

#### *Background*

Edward was a regular attendant at St. Matthew's Church, and a prominent Mason. His funeral was attended by President MacKenzie and professors from Dalhousie, and by many Masons.

#### *Occupations*

After employment in the dry goods business of Chas. Robson, Edward became a partner. In 1864 he was listed in dry goods at 121 (old #11) Granville Street, with a house on Wallace near Pleasant<sup>36</sup>. Edward's obituaries stated that after retirement he devoted his time to charitable works, being especially concerned with the Association for the Relief of the Poor.

### *Miscellaneous*

A niece of Janet's, Eliza Annie Wood, born in 1873 the daughter of Captain Wood, a sea captain out of Boston and his wife from Burnt Island near Edinburgh in Scotland, lived with Edward and Janet for many years<sup>42</sup>. Later she looked after their invalid daughter Alice Mitchell, said by Phyllis Ross to be known as Dolly, and "odd". Cecelia Wood, (perhaps a sister of Eliza) who died 2 October 1865, is buried in the Edward Gorham plot at Camp Hill Cemetery. According to Marjorie Bell, Edward and Janet lived in old age with their daughter (and Marjorie's aunt) Alice and her family, as well as Eliza Wood, at 242 Tower Road. Marjorie and Hugh Bell also lived with the Mitchells for eight years after their marriage in World War I, and Marjorie managed the staff<sup>42</sup>.

### **SARAH ELIZABETH (7)**

Eliza was baptized 9 August 1835, and was married to the Reverend Hugh McMillan of Barrington, NS, 10 December 1861 by Reverend P.G. McGregor at Poplar Grove Church<sup>31</sup>. They lived for many years in Elmsdale, NS, and she died in March 1923. Their daughter, Edith Ann Barnhill, married in November 1887 Jacob C. Barnhill, K.C.<sup>14,36,43</sup> They lived at 39 Lucknow Street in Halifax, and she was known to Cyril Gorham as "Cousin Edie". She was born 19 August 1866 and died in 1950, according to the inscription on her cemetery stone at Camp Hill. He was born 7 November 1859 and died 10 November 1941. They had a son Clarence, who was a student in 1914 and rose to Chief Clerk at the Treasury, H.M. Dockyard. He lodged at 26 Lucknow Street<sup>36</sup>. Clarence was born 6 May 1889, died 17 March 1964, and married Dora Agnes MacDougall, born 14 May 1892<sup>43</sup>. In 1944 he became a member of the North British Society, and in his memorial<sup>44</sup> he was described as a Presbyterian (at St. David's Church), a charter member of its men's club, and active in supporting its mission school for children.

R.P.Gorham<sup>14</sup> says that Edward J., a son, was a merchant in New Glasgow. This might have been another son, born 1 May 1896. Margaret (Peg) remembers meeting Colin (later a teacher in Halifax<sup>36</sup>) and Audrey Barnhill, Clarence's children, at Edie's house in the 1930s, and Eville knew Audrey, of about his own age, slightly.

A son of Eliza, John McMillian (sic) died in infancy and was buried in J.W. Gorham's (formerly T.H. Carré's) lot at Camp Hill Cemetery on 15 January 1870, aged 2 ½ years. Edith Barnhill was buried 15 December 1950 in a different division of Camp Hill Cemetery (TT, lot 65)<sup>45</sup>.

### **JANE (7)**

She was born 15 April 1837, baptized 15 June, and on 29 October or 1 November 1862 married Thomas Henry Carré (sometimes mistaken as Currie) at the Poplar Grove Church, by Minister P.W. McGregor<sup>46</sup>. Their daughter Jane was born 13 March 1864, and the mother died in childbirth at their residence on Inglis Street on 15 or 18 March 1864, with the funeral at her residence. Coincidentally, her mother also died in childbirth after her namesake daughter was born, but in that case both mother and daughter died. She is buried (as Janie) in T.H. Carré's (later J.W. Gorham's) lot at Camp Hill Cemetery<sup>45</sup>. Her husband died 3 June 1868 at River Bourgeois, Cape Breton, after a brief lung inflammation<sup>47</sup>.

Regarding the daughter Jane, a pencilled note by Richard Gorham on the back of a petition of administration from Edward Gorham<sup>48</sup> to a probate judge, dated 7 October 1870, states that Henry Carré of River Bourgeois, Cape Breton, was appointed guardian of Jane Louise Carré, child of the late Tho. Henry Carré of Riviere Bourgeois. The 1861 census has Henry Carré at

River Bourgeois, household 2 males, 1 female. The 1871 census has Henry Currie (probably Carré anglicized), age 55, born in Guernsey, Anglican, Mrs. Currie, age 66, Jane Lewis (probably Louise), 7, born NS. According to Sally Ross<sup>49</sup> he was probably of Huguenot descent. According to R.P.Gorham<sup>14</sup> this daughter became an artist and married a college professor in India, where she was alive in 1923. Eville had the impression from something he read that she was a missionary, or married one.

### *The Children of Richard (6) Gorham and Margaret Helen Gentles*

#### **RICHARD (7)**

##### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born in Halifax 22 February 1841, the eldest of Richard's second family, and baptized at St. Matthew's Church<sup>31</sup>. On 10 June 1875 he married, at St. John's Church, Pembroke, Bermuda (Rev. Mark James), Georgiana Louise, daughter of George Karkeek Kirkham of Cornwall, and his wife Mary Ann Till, daughter of John and Marie Till of Cobham, Kent<sup>50</sup>. She was born 17 June 1846 in Bermuda. The couple had eight children: Georgiana Helen, born 18 March 1876, married William Jeffcoat Skeen in Bermuda, died 1973; George Edwin Karkeek, born 24 May 1877, married Alice Raymond and had one son who died in infancy, died 1939; Percy St. Clair, born 9 January 1879, died 13 November 1879; Emily May, born 1 May 1880, an unmarried nurse who died 8 October 1955; Richard Alexander Tait, born 23 January 1882, married Therese Maynard and had a daughter Marjorie May (still alive in 1975?); he died in the great influenza epidemic in Dallas, TX, 8 November 1918; Beatrice Kay, born 19 September 1884 and died 24 September 1885; Arthur John Gorham, born 3 December 1885, died 1 March 1963; and Clive William, born 18 November 1888 and died 1 December 1915. Richard died 12 October 1889<sup>50</sup> or 1888<sup>51</sup>, and Georgiana in 1940.

##### *Background and Occupations*

Richard studied at the Free Church Academy and College in Halifax, taking first prize for general excellence during the last two years. Although educated as a chemist and druggist, the illness of his father led to his taking over the family business<sup>41</sup>. Sally Ross (in a letter to Anne) found a land grant dated 1867 in Petit de Grat, on Isle Madame near Arichat, Cape Breton, jointly with T. H. Carré<sup>52</sup>. In 1868 Richard sold a vessel<sup>53</sup>.

Richard's own ill health led him in 1873 to the warmer climate of Bermuda, where he began as a drug clerk for Charles C. Keene, proprietor of the Medical Hall, Hamilton, Bermuda.<sup>51</sup> In 1874 he and the other clerk took over the business as Wainwright, Gorham & Co., but in 1875 Richard opened the London Drug Store and a soda water business on Burnaby Street<sup>50</sup>. After his death Georgiana kept the business until 1902.

## JOHN WILLIAM (7)

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born 5 December 1844 in Dartmouth, and baptized at St. James's Church there. On 15 August 1879 he married Helen Maude, born 25 September 1860, the daughter of Charles Neal\* and Mary Jane Wilson, at Poplar Grove Presbyterian Church in Halifax<sup>31</sup>. Eville's genealogical charts show that she was also a great granddaughter of Richard Creed, chief civilian builder of the present Halifax Citadel. They had eight children<sup>31</sup>: Mildred Helen, born 17 August 1880; John Wyckham (Jack), born 15 June 1881; Cyril Hebert (Cy, or Cyrrie), born 22 May 1883; Gerald, born 13 May 1885; Dorothy Constance, born 25 July 1890; Ernest Rae, born 17 November 1895; Marjorie MacGregor, born 8 February 1900; and Ralph Arthur (known as Jimmie), born 8 April 1902. Family baptisms are in the records of Poplar Grove Church<sup>31</sup>. John William died 27 July 1914 and Helen Maude died 21 March 1943. Both are buried in Camp Hill Cemetery.

### *Background*

John W. was educated in the Free Church Academy at Halifax, taking the first prize for general excellence during his last two years in the Academy<sup>32</sup> (note exactly the same, but much later, claim for his elder brother Richard<sup>50</sup>). He lived with his family at 23 (or 19) Maynard Street until his marriage in 1879, when he moved to 131 Spring Garden Road, then a new residential area, and lived there until his death in 1914<sup>36</sup>. In religion he was a Presbyterian, and in politics he was called "a Liberal Conservative"<sup>32</sup>.

John's obituary stated that in his youth he was an enthusiastic cricketer and a member of the Phoenix Cricket Club<sup>56</sup>, of which he was an original director in 1871<sup>57</sup>. He also was an outstanding quoit pitcher at the Studley Quoits Club<sup>58</sup>, and a pair of miniature silver quoits was recently in the possession of a great-granddaughter, Leslie Gorham; one is now owned by Hugh Paton, son of Anne's sister Eileen. In a long poem, in the style of Longfellow's "Hiawatha," John W. is described as follows:

*Now we have a man of muscle  
Gor-am-itee, brave, with profile,  
Man of stern, but gentle beauty,  
Mighty Quoit-ah, great prize winner<sup>59</sup>.*

According to Eville's father Jimmie, John W. was something of a Latin scholar and had poetry published in local newspapers (perhaps anonymously).

About 1898 the family bought property at Prince's Lodge: there must have been two Gorham houses, as the John W. Gorham family lived there in summers, while grandmother Helen Gorham lived there throughout the year with the Charles F. Gorhams. The "Bessie Books", recounting in verse the summer life at Prince's Lodge of the dozen or so families who combined

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\* Maude's father's obituary<sup>54</sup> states that he had a varied career as carpenter, lighthouse keeper, customs officer, and marine storekeeper at the Fisheries Department wharf. He was also an enthusiastic volunteer firewarden. His wife's obituary<sup>55</sup> gives their residence as 448 Brunswick Street).

to buy the "old Moir property", give several glimpses of Gorham family activities— playing tennis, Maude's and Mildred's cooking prowess, their dog Tramp, Johnny (J.W.) and his sons Jack and Cyril taking the train to Halifax for work, young people's flirtations, remarks on how many children the Gorhams had, Johnny's love of Gorgonzola cheese, and references to people working for him as tea tasters. These handwritten "Bessie Books" belong to Budge (Archibald) Wilson who allowed Anne to photocopy them.

### *Occupations*

City Directories show John W.'s working life began as a clerk and later bookkeeper for McLean, Campbell & Co., wholesale grocers, which later became J.S. McLean & Co<sup>36</sup>. After McLean's death John W. took over the business in partnership with Sherburne Waddell, in operation at the time of Piers's (1900) account of family history<sup>32</sup>. Eventually the business became J.W. Gorham & Co., listed by Isaacs<sup>60</sup> as Manufacturers' Agents, Commission Dealers and Warehousemen, Jerusalem Warehouse, a four-story stone building facing on three approaches at 251 and 253 Hollis Street. He described it as "one of the best-known and most reliable in its line here", and as having "the best and most commodious warehouse in the province". It was (or became) largely a wholesale grocery business. In 1896-97, Lovell's Business and Professional Directory of cities and towns listed J.W. Gorham and Co. (S.Waddell) as wholesale grocers, agents, Bras d'Or Steamship Navigation Co., 251-253 Hollis Street. In the early 1900's some of his sons worked for the business as travelling salesmen<sup>36</sup>.

In 1866, at age 22, John W. served in the military (Halifax Volunteer Battalion) in New Brunswick, and his Fenian Raid medal now belongs to his grandson John's daughter Margaret (Gorham) Nielsen, along with other family medals and souvenirs.

### *Miscellaneous*

In 1914 John W. died intestate, and son Cyril petitioned the probate court on 31 July (No.7864) on behalf of the widow (as sole administrator) and children. The value of the estate was estimated at whole property under \$14,000, personal property and effects under \$5,000, and real property under \$9,000.

Maude Gorham was fifteen years younger than John and lived much longer than her husband, who died long before any of his grandchildren were born. She was a little woman, known to them as "Gangee". Eville remembers her as a kindly little old lady, always in mauve or purple with a string of pearls, and hair carefully marcelled. They were both often at Sunday dinner (midday) with the family of her daughter Dorothy Wiswell, on Robie Street opposite the Forrest campus of Dalhousie University. She was an active person going about on her own and living in the Queens Hotel until a fire on 2 March 1939<sup>61</sup> forced her out of her room in the middle of the night. In later life she was a staunch Tory, canvassed for the party and kept a signed photo of former Prime Minister R.B. Bennett on her bedroom dresser, according to Eville's recollection.

Eville's parents told him that Maude was a changed woman after the fire, much less active, although still living alone at Hillside Hall. She died in 1943 in a Wolfville nursing home where Eville remembers visiting her with his parents.

## CHARLES FREEMAN (7)

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

Charles was baptized 29 July 1851, and on 1 September 1881 married Helen (Ella) N. Baxter, daughter of Eliza Gorham, in turn daughter of John (5) and married to James Baxter. The diary of Ella's sister Letitia Williams<sup>4</sup> deals with the history of the family in Liverpool. Charles and Ella had two sons. Charles Frederick was born 25 October 1883, went to Toronto in 1921, married Clare \_\_, and was a draftsman and later design engineer for Toronto Hydro<sup>62</sup>. They had a daughter Clarice Helen, who on 7 March 1931 married Roy Wesley Perkins in Toronto<sup>63</sup>. Frederick died 9 October 1938, at 67 Berwick Avenue, Toronto. The second son, Harold Kirkham, was born about 1890, married Charlotte Lane MacLennan on 2 February 1918<sup>64</sup>, and died 30 August 1948<sup>65</sup> in Montreal. He worked for the Bank of Montreal for many years before and after service in World War I (Lieutenant, 1<sup>st</sup> Depot Battalion, 1<sup>st</sup> Quebec Regiment, Canadian Expeditionary Force<sup>66</sup>). Anne, when a student at McGill University in the early 1950's, often visited his widow and believes they may have had a daughter who died young. Charles died 23 February 1934 in Liverpool, Nova Scotia, Helen W. (sic) in 1936<sup>67</sup>.

### *Background and Occupations*

His early life was spent in Halifax, and until 1876-77 he lived at home on Maynard Street. City Directories list him at 38 Carleton in 1882-83 after his marriage<sup>36</sup>. He and his family were in Rockingham (near Prince's Lodge) in 1891-92, and on Bedford Road, Rockingham, in 1902-03; son C. Fred was then a student. From 1907 to 1912 the family lived at 2 Smith Street, Halifax, with son Harold (a clerk in the Bank of Montreal)<sup>36</sup>. John W.'s obituary has Charles in Liverpool by 1914.

He worked for J.W. Gorham and Co. in early life as clerk, accountant, and commercial traveller, but by 1903-04 and from 1907 to 1912 was listed as a commercial traveller for J. and M. Murphy<sup>36</sup>. According to his funeral home record he was a salesman and belonged to the Congregational Church in Liverpool<sup>68</sup>.

### *Miscellaneous*

At Charles's funeral his daughter-in-law Clare wore the ring shown in the Town Hall portrait of Jedidah Tracey, wife of James (5) Gorham, the Liverpool philanthropist<sup>69</sup>.

## CHAPTER 3: THE THIRD GENERATION IN HALIFAX

### *The Children of Edward (7) Johnstone Gorham and Janet Grace Mackie*

#### EDWARD JOHNSTONE (8)

He was born 7 November 1857, and in 1880 was serving as 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, No.3 Battery, Richmond County Militia<sup>70</sup>. He died 27 October 1887 and was buried in Camp Hill Cemetery. According to Marjorie (Lawson) Bell<sup>42</sup>, his death occurred because he opened a wrong door that led into a hatchway down which he fell. At the time he was visiting her father and mother at the Hazel Hill station near Canso, where the new transatlantic cable was coming ashore.

#### ALICE MAY (8)

She was born 1 May 1859 and on 18 June 1884 married Charles Head Mitchell. She was an invalid in later life, looked after by Cecelia Wood who had lived earlier with Alice's parents. She had a son Charles Campbell, who had a son Charles Gorham Mitchell whom Eville knew as a boy in Halifax. Alice died in 1923.

#### ALBERT (8)

He was born 26 October 1860 and according to Marjorie Bell went to work in the United States. He died there without issue, and probably unmarried, 27 June 1899. He was described as an active member of the YMCA and Dr. Nall's Presbyterian Church, where he was a good worker in the Young People's Society<sup>71</sup>.

#### ELIZA ANN (8)

She was baptized 27 January 1866 aged four years, and on 6 November 1890 married John William Lawson. They lived at Hazel Hill, near Canso, and she died three weeks after the birth of her daughter Mary Marguerite. Eliza was known as Dolly, and Mary Marguerite as Marjorie. Marjorie was brought up by her Gorham grandparents and married Hugh Bell, who taught Eville at Dalhousie and did much to make a professional botanist of him. He also taught Anne at Dalhousie, and Jimmie, Eville's father, long before at Morris Street School.

#### ARTHUR CAMPBELL (8)

He was born 24 January 1869 and was buried at Camp Hill Cemetery 3 February 1886. According to Marjorie Bell<sup>42</sup> he died of blood poisoning from an impure vaccine, having been vaccinated at the time of a smallpox epidemic with some cases in Halifax. He was a college freshman.

### *The children of John William (7) Gorham and Helen Maude Neal*

#### MILDRED HELEN (8)

She was born 17 August 1880 and on 23 March 1910 married Scott Lord Smith (believed to be medical student at Dalhousie) of Poughkeepsie, NY, at St. Matthew's Church in the presence of her sister Dorothy and father John<sup>31</sup>. They had three children: Gorham, Scott II, and Marian Williston, born March 1915. Gorham was a schoolmaster in Rochester, NY. His wife's name was Louise and they had an only child Paige. Scott II lived on the west coast of the United States (possibly Seattle). In 1968 Blanchard and Eleanor (Norie) Wiswell received an invitation to the wedding of Scott III, who was marrying Roberta Smiley (Smileg?) in Minneapolis. (She, her

mother, and grandmother were all models). According to Norie Wiswell, Marian was an educator, at one time assistant dean and director of residents at Barnard College, Columbia University, later a school headmistress at Buffalo and Chicago (Lake Forest). She is said to have died of cancer.

According to Anne's sister Margaret Ravault, Mildred attended Halifax Ladies College. She later graduated in Arts and Science from Dalhousie in 1901<sup>72</sup>. She was also mentioned frequently in the Bessie Books (described earlier). Blanchard Wiswell remembered being very impressed by the huge LaSalle convertible motorcar in which Mildred and family visited Halifax. Blanchard and Norie visited the Smiths in Poughkeepsie in 1949, when Mildred was an invalid and anxious to hear family news. Her doctor husband took care of President Franklin Roosevelt when he was at Hyde Park, the Roosevelt estate.

### **JOHN WYCKHAM (8)**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

Jack was born 15 June 1881 and by 1937 was married, in his mid-fifties, at Toronto, ON, to a widow, Gladys Lansdowne (Barber) Bowes. They lived at her house on 104 South Drive in Rosedale, Toronto, where her adult children Margaret and Thomas also lived for a time<sup>62</sup>. For 1939-41 John is listed at 5 Clarendon, after which he is back at 104 South Drive from 1942 to 1948. In 1949 Gladys (as widow of John W.) is listed at that address, and a document found by Anne stated that her will bore the date of 21 August 1948, described her as a widow, and was witnessed by John MacLean Magwood of 21 Lewes Crescent, Toronto. Eville was told by someone in his family that she was an invalid in later life and had a live-in doctor; that was S.J. Newton Magwood, John's father, who occupied the lower apartment<sup>73</sup>. Gladys died in 1959 and was buried with her first husband. The Ontario Registrar General's office has no record of Jack's death between 1945 and 1955.

#### *Occupations*

Jack started work as a clerk and then bookkeeper at J.C. MacLean & Co. but in 1890/91 was with his father's firm<sup>36</sup>. Anne believes that he was, like her father Cyril, a commercial traveler in the United States around 1908, and probably later. John W.'s obituary in 1914 notes Jack in Hamilton, ON. From 1914 to the mid-1930s we know nothing of his life, although Eville has a snapshot showing what he looked like in his thirties or early forties.

### **CYRIL HEBERT (8)**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born 22 May 1883 and on 15 May 1919 married Margaret Winifred, daughter of Louise Ross and James Bain. The wedding party travelled by private railway car to Quebec City (the Bain's earlier home) for the ceremony, using the privileges of her father, then superintendent of the Halifax and Southwestern Railway, based at Bridgewater, NS. Margaret was born 27 May 1891 at St. Raymond, QC. Cyril and Margaret had four children in Halifax: Margaret Helen, born 17 May 1920; Eileen Bain, born 15 April 1924; Anne Louise, born 11 July 1927; and John James, born 8 June 1932. Cyril died 31 December 1962 and his wife 2 October 1970. Both are buried in Camp Hill Cemetery.

## *Background*

Cyril (nicknames Cy or Cyrrie) was educated at Morris Street School and the Halifax Academy, where he said he was far more interested in sports than in studies. (Fortunately his Latin teacher was a sports fan.) He lived with his parents until his marriage, when he and Margaret moved to a flat at 20 LeMarchant Street. In 1926 they moved to 69 Edward Street, where they remained until about 1952, when they moved to an apartment on Coburg Road at Oxford St, thence to one on South Street, and last to one on Coburg Road at Walnut Street. After Cyril's death Margaret went to live with her sister in Toronto, spent her last few years in a nursing home, and died there.

The Cyril Gorhams belonged to the United Church, attending St. Andrew's on Robie Street around the corner from their home. Cyril, however, said his Masonic Lodge had enough religion for him, and went to church very seldom. He would sometimes quote the following grace used in his family:

*Great God, the giver of all good,  
Accept our praise and bless our food,  
Grace, health and strength to us afford  
Through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord.*

Margaret had trained as a nurse, joining the Royal Canadian Army Medical Corps in World War I. She preferred the short Army grace: "For what we are about to receive, thank God" (perhaps having in mind four hungry children waiting to begin their meal). Eville says he heard his father use her version on rare occasions when called upon.

As a bachelor Cyril played many sports. He belonged to the Red Cap Snowshoe Club and a gun club, but when young, football and hockey were his loves. J.E. Ahern, a long-time sports writer, had the following to say, under the title "The Nova Scotia Sports Hall of Fame" (of which Ahern was the president): "One of the first Nova Scotia hockey players to be invited to play for a New York amateur team was the late Cyril "Cerry" Gorham, long a star in football and senior hockey. Accompanying Gorham was the late Mike Keefe Jr., who was also a star in the early games of 1904 when Gorham broke into senior company. I recall that when I went to New York to play hockey many of the oldtimers asked about the two Haligonians who were top stars in the old St. Nicholas rink where the senior games were played. Cerry Gorham was a very fast skater and a deadly shot in the 1904 league and he so impressed a New York scout who watched the game that he offered the local a good job in the big city. He was also interested in Mike Keefe, who wasn't sure he could leave his father's contracting business to spend a winter in New York. However, Keefe senior was a lover of sport and told his son to go along with Cerry Gorham who had a fine reputation as an up-and-coming young citizen. The Halifax players, according to the New York experts, were the stars of the league and could have remained in New York indefinitely but their love for Halifax was too strong. The following year they played for the strong Wanderers' Club [their grounds were the city's centre for athletic events], on which were Stan Bauld and the late Cliff Wiswell, MacDonald and other stars. Cerry Gorham played his last game as a hockeyist in 1912 and his football career was ended with the champion Wanderers of 1913".

As a family man Cyril turned from male sports to taking his wife and children on many picnics, looking for mayflowers near the stream at Sackville. Kearney Lake was another favourite spot. In 1933 a cottage at Hubbards was acquired, and for twenty years Margaret and the children

spent two months there each summer. Cyril drove out for the half-day on Wednesday, and Saturday afternoon to Sunday night. Margaret's background (her railwayman father worked many years in Quebec as building superintendent for the Quebec and Lake St. John Railway) also included outdoor life, with summers spent first in a tent and later a cottage at Lake St. Joseph, Quebec. Summer life at Hubbards was therefore acceptable, especially as several other families followed the same pattern: twice daily trips to the beach, the mothers seated at intervals along the sand with eyes fixed on their children in the water, and stacks of towels ready to dry off shivering little bodies. Cyril's special water trick was to enter the water smoking a cigarette, then dive under, come up on the raft and start smoking again (he had a way of curling the cigarette stub into his mouth to keep it dry). In winter he sometimes took the older children skating at Frog Pond or Chocolate Lake, or even to Hubbards; at such times he would show how he could "cut a grapevine" and other skating tricks. Occasional fishing trips with men friends were based at Hubbards in the spring.

Cyril, like his mother, was a staunch Conservative, and did some "backroom" work for his candidates, but politics was not discussed much at home. During World War II he worked extra long hours at bringing food into the city, much of it being transferred to convoy ships waiting in Bedford Basin. His entertainment during those years was to meet friends at the Halifax Club on Saturday nights for dinner and a game of bridge or poker.

#### *Occupations*

At about sixteen Cyril became a clerk at the Bank of Nova Scotia<sup>36</sup>, but on 17 April 1902 he enlisted as a trooper in the Fourth Regiment, Canadian Mounted Rifles, for the Boer War, arriving in South Africa at its end. In 1903-04 he was a travelling salesman for the McAlpine Publishing Co., and after that for his father's firm<sup>36</sup>. In 1904 he played hockey in New York; around 1907-08 he was also a travelling salesman in the United States. In 1910 he was sales manager for J.W. Gorham and Co<sup>36</sup>. After his father's death he took over the firm, then at 47-49 Upper Water Street but later removed to 121 Hollis Street, where Eville remembers working for two summers during World War II. At some point, and certainly during World War II, his occupation became called "grocery broker". Retiring at age 70, at about the same time the Edward Street house was sold in 1952 or 1953, Cyril sold the business, which later closed down.

#### *Miscellaneous*

The notice of Cyril's death in the Halifax newspaper first had the heading "Cecil Gorham" and a second one had to be printed. At one time PANS records had both obituaries; Anne wrote a correction on the "Cecil" version (without asking permission).

### **GERALD (8)**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born 13 May 1885 and married L. Pearl Swim of Saint John, NB. They were childless. According to his obituary he died in Saint John after two months' illness at age 68 (1953 or 1954), and was survived by his wife. He was buried in Fernhill Cemetery, Saint John.

#### *Background*

Gerald was educated at Morris Street School. According to City Directories<sup>36</sup> he lived until 1924 in Halifax, at his father's house in 1919, in Westminster Apartments at 86 Morris Street in 1922,

in a house at 1 Bellevue in 1923, and at 20 Morris (owner J.B. Clark) in 1924. In 1924 he moved to Saint John, and from about 1932 to about 1947 was in Toronto, before returning to Saint John for the last six years of his life.

### *Occupations*

Gerald was listed in Halifax City Directories as early as 1902<sup>36</sup>. In 1909 and 1914 he was a traveller for Nickerson & Co., but by 1919 he was a salesman for his brother and in 1923 was a grocery broker for him. He was not listed in 1926. According to R.P. Gorham<sup>14</sup>, J.W. Gorham & Co. opened a branch in Saint John dealing with import and export of fruit and vegetables, and Gerald moved there to run it. The branch appears not to have lasted long – the Great Depression that began with the stock market crash of 1929 could explain that. By 1932 he was listed in the Toronto City Directory<sup>62</sup> as a salesman for Cruikshank Guild Ltd., and from 1934 to 1937 he was office manager for the same firm. There was no listing in 1938. Back in Saint John in the late 1940s, Gerald's obituary stated that he was proprietor of the East Coast Brokerage Co., 11 Canterbury Street. Cyril's son John (at Rothesay School 1945-49) visited him and judged that the business was not flourishing, and that he and Pearl may have looked after property for someone.

Gerald served in World War I with the 38<sup>th</sup> Battery of the Canadian Expeditionary Force in England, France, and Belgium, according to his obituary.

### *Miscellaneous*

Eville remembers visiting Gerald and Pearl with his father and mother in Toronto in 1937 and being taken to the Canadian National Exhibition. He was also greatly impressed by the black form of the grey squirrels there, which were said to come up the fire escape to scrounge in the kitchen. Margaret Ravault remembers visiting in the 1940s, when they were amused at her wanting to help serve customers in their grocery.

## **DOROTHY CONSTANCE (8)**

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

Dorothy Constance Gorham (8) was born 25 July 1890 and married Dr. Gordon Blanchard Wiswell, son of Arthur Blanchard Wiswell and Florence Edward Kinnear, on 26 November 1916 in London, England. Gordon, a prominent pediatrician and medical professor in Halifax, was born 11 November 1890 and died 26 December 1970. According to Eville's father he was also a very good hockey player – fast and tricky. He was among the earliest diabetes patients to be treated with insulin. Dorothy and Gordon had three children born in Halifax: John Gordon born 9 April 1919 and died 19 April 1982; Gordon Blanchard born 3 December 1922 and died 20 March 2000; and Nancy Gorham, born 16 September 1925. Dorothy died 14 April 1976 in a nursing home and is buried in Fairview Cemetery in Halifax.

### *Background*

Dorothy was educated at the Halifax Ladies College and graduated in Arts and Sciences from Dalhousie University in 1910<sup>72</sup>. The Wiswells lived at 186 Robie Street (now changed to 1322) opposite the Forrest Campus of Dalhousie, to which the house now belongs. She and her husband attended the Cathedral Church of All Saints (Anglican) and she voted Conservative. Dorothy had had a thyroid operation and always covered the scar at the neck with a string of pearls.

In 1916 the Halifax City Directory<sup>36</sup> listed her as a clerk with the Royal Bank of Canada, living with her mother and brothers at 131 Spring Garden Road. In World War I she lived with Gordon at Taplow, England, on Lady Astor's Cliveden estate (Nancy is named after her). Between the wars she played golf at the Ashburn Club on the Dutch Village Road, and bridge at the Saraguay Club across the Northwest Arm. During World War II she was active with the Red Cross, and received a silver tray in 1946 for having organized and directed the motor division, which included all the Red Cross drivers. She also volunteered at the Children's Hospital.

### *Miscellaneous*

Both Blanchard and Nancy resembled their father.

Mary Dorothy (Wiswell) Hanson remembers going with her father for her first airplane ride in 1964 at the age of eleven to visit her grandmother in Halifax. He stayed in his former room while Mary stayed in one of the maid's rooms in the back of the house, at that time used for storing suitcases and trunks. Dorothy's home always had the scent of homemade molasses bread (Eville remembers cornbread at dinner there), and also antiseptic from Grandad's doctor's suite in the basement. Mary has wonderful memories of playing there and helping herself to the tongue depressors. She and her brothers returned for many more visits to Halifax to see her grandparents over the years.

Eville's Aunt Dorothy was very kind to him. As a child he was invited frequently to play with Blanchard, and to have Sunday (midday) dinner with the family and grandmother Maude ("Gangee"). For a couple of summers when Eville's family stayed for several months at the Owl's Nest, an island camp in Lake MicMac owned by his mother and her siblings, he often went to Wiswells after school to wait for his father to pick him up. Toward the end of Dorothy's life, after Gordon's death, Eville stayed with her whenever he visited Halifax.

## **ERNEST RAE (8)**

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

Rae was born 17 November 1895 and died unmarried 15 August 1946.

### *Background and Occupations*

In 1914 he was a clerk in the Royal Bank of Canada, Northeast Branch, and residing at his parents' home, 131 Spring Garden Road<sup>36</sup>. In 1916 he was a clerk at the Southeast Branch (this could refer to the year previous to printing, or the bank may have kept him listed among their staff while he was overseas). In World War I he was a gunner and signaller for his battery, coming home a hero after serious wounds, described in a letter received from a fellow soldier: "He was a signaller in this battery, and together with another signaller was sent out to a pretty dangerous spot with an observing officer. His duty was to keep the telephone lines up and get good communication with the battery. They had fixed up the telephones, etc., in an old "pill-box" when a stray shot cut the lines. Gorham and his partner, a New Brunswick man named MacFarlane, went out to repair the break, when another shell landed almost beside them. MacFarlane was mortally wounded, and Gorham badly wounded on the head and face. The word was immediately passed for stretcher bearers, and MacFarlane was carried away. Gorham was about to go, when another signaller got hit. There were no more stretcher bearers to be had, and the other fellow was suffering pretty badly, so Gorham did the finest thing possible, viz: giving up his place in the ambulance for the other, and despite the fact that he was half blind, weak and

sick from loss of blood and pain, he went back to his job, repaired the lines, and carried on until relieved nearly ten hours later. By this time he was almost delirious, and his case most critical. He had to be carried away as he was too weak to move. His self-sacrifice cost him an eye, and might have cost him his life. In any case his fighting days are over, and you may expect to see him in Halifax as soon as he is fit to travel. Our latest addition to the battery is Hugh Morrow Stairs."

In 1918 Rae was living with his mother and Ralph A. (Jimmie) at the family home, still 131 Spring Garden Road<sup>36</sup>. From 1919 to 1930 he was an agent for the Dominion Life Assurance Co., living at the same address with his mother. In 1926 they rented at 155 Spring Garden Road. By 1933 and in 1935 he was listed as an insurance agent without affiliation, and by 1939 he was not listed<sup>36</sup>. According to Eville's father, Rae was still afflicted by his wartime wounds, with a silver plate in his head. He probably had a military disability pension, and he had a War Veterans' funeral. His tombstone in the Gorham plot in Camp Hill Cemetery is a military one.

### **MARJORIE MACGREGOR**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

She was born 8 February 1900, died unmarried on 30 September 1955, and was buried on 3 October.

#### *Background*

Marjorie was educated at Edgehill Church School for Girls (an Anglican boarding school) in Windsor, Nova Scotia, and trained as a nurse. She died on 30 September 1955.

#### *Occupations*

In 1919 Marjorie was a clerk at the Bank of Montreal, but not in 1920<sup>36</sup>. She lived with her mother.

Her nursing employment (and probably her training) was in Montreal, where she at one time did private-duty nursing for a wealthy Hart family and lived with and looked after the Hart children (according to son Wilbur in conversation with her brother Jimmie) after their mother and father died. Later she was on staff at the Royal Victoria Hospital. The family were very fond of her, keeping in touch and helping to support her.

#### *Miscellaneous*

On 5 July 1948 she was rescued unconscious from a fire in her apartment (cause unknown) by a fireman, and suffered second-degree burns<sup>74</sup>. In 1950 she was living in the Chateau Apartments. Nancy Norwood remembers as a child a visit by Marjorie, who impressed her with bright red lipstick and nail polish, and her singing of the popular song "Pink Elephants on the Ceiling." Eville's memory is that she looked rather like his father.

### **RALPH ARTHUR (8)**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born 8 April 1902 and for unknown reasons was always known as Jimmie. He married Shirley Agatha Eville, born 9 September 1902, daughter of Claude Kirkby Eville, a bank manager and later an officer in World War I, and Katherine Ida Smith, then of Greenwich, NS. Shirley was a granddaughter of the well known shipbuilder Bennett Smith, of Windsor, NS.

They had one son Eville, born 15 October 1925. Jimmie died at Greenwich, NS on 4 November 1957, and Shirley (on a visit to Eville in Minneapolis, MN) on 18 June 1974. He is buried in a Gorham plot at Camp Hill Cemetery, but she chose to be buried with her Eville parents and siblings, to whom she was very much attached, at Fairview Cemetery in Halifax.

### *Background*

Jimmie was educated to Grade 10 at Morris Street School and the Halifax Academy, and spent his early life in Halifax.

Jimmie and Shirley moved to Ottawa after Eville was born, and then to Wolfville, NS, when he was four. In 1932 they returned to Halifax, where they rented successively at Bloomingdale Terrace, Fenwick Street, the Commodore Apartments on Oxford Street, and College Street. In 1937 they bought a new brick house (for \$7,700) on Tupper Grove in a new subdivision near the Northwest Arm. In November of 1950 Jimmie and Shirley moved to Middleton and in 1955 to Siege Farm in Greenwich, NS. It had originally been the county Poor Farm, established in 1882, and was bought as a 60-acre apple orchard by Shirley's mother's trust in October 1922. The name came from her father's service in the war.

When Eville was about ten years old the family spent several months (perhaps late May to early October) for two or three summers at the Owl's Nest, the Eville family camp on an island in Lake MicMac, now surrounded by Dartmouth suburbs but then largely by woods except along one side where the road ran. It had a main cabin of two big rooms, one a living room with a huge stone fireplace, and the other a bedroom. There was also a bunkhouse, and a small kitchen shack with a kerosene stove. Most meals were eaten on a long trestle table between the cabin and the kitchen, under towering white pines. There was also a wharf for boats and swimming. Eville has the fondest memories of living and visiting there throughout his childhood.

Eville's parents never attended church, although his mother professed to be an Anglican. Jimmie, like his mother, was a staunch Conservative and helped get out the vote on election day (probably with a drink of rum and perhaps a few dollars—such was Nova Scotia politics in those days).

Jimmie was an expert player in the Halifax Billiards League in the 1940s and a member of the Elks Club team that won the city championship in 1946/47. He also played a lot of snooker, as well as forty-fives and cribbage, which he and Shirley played a great deal at home. (He could tell the value of a cribbage hand without having to count it.) On Sunday afternoons he liked to go for long drives and to pass everyone on the road. He was also a sports fan and frequently took Eville to baseball games at the Wanderers' grounds, hockey at the Forum, and boxing matches at the Armoury.

In Middleton Shirley became the top bowler on her league-leading Rockets team in the 1954 Ladies Bowling League, and in 1953 had won a trophy for high triple (319) and average (92). She was an avid reader of magazines: Saturday Evening Post, Colliers, Ladies Home Journal, Chatelaine, Good Housekeeping, etc., and of cheap magazines about crime that Jimmie also read. Eville, a compulsive reader, enjoyed stories in all of them.

### *Occupations*

In 1918 Jimmie was a bank clerk in the Bank of Nova Scotia, boarding with his mother at 131 Spring Garden Road<sup>36</sup>. In 1919 he was a clerk at Samuel Cunard & Co, and in 1920 at Robert

Simpson Eastern Ltd. In 1923 he became a travelling salesman for Moir's chocolates and briefly (in Wolfville) for Patterson's chocolates. He returned to Moir's in Halifax until World War II, when he sold Neilson's chocolates and Weston's biscuits to naval and other ships. At that time he rented space in Cyril's warehouse to store goods before sale. Between 1950 and 1955 Jimmie and Shirley owned and operated a bowling alley in Middleton, but when the novelty of TV cut into the business severely they retired to Siege Farm and rented the Middleton building to the Nova Scotia Liquor Commission. Eville finally sold it and it was rented to the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment, where Eville's son-in-law Adrian MacDonald worked for a time.

### *Miscellaneous*

Eville's impression of the eighth generation of Gorhams is that they were not at all close, and he cannot remember ever seeing three of them together except at their mother's funeral. This was in stark contrast to his mother and her siblings, who saw each other frequently.

Jimmie was brown-eyed, about 5' 11" tall, and weighed about 190-200 lbs. In appearance he resembled his mother. Jimmie was proud of his ability to add columns of figures quickly, and claimed to have beaten colleagues using early adding machines. He had a very noticeable long scar diagonally down the middle of his forehead, incurred because of an accident in May 1929 in a car driven by his father-in-law, who died when the car rolled off the road into a depression just before they reached Siege Farm from Wolfville.

Shirley was brown-eyed, about 5'6" tall, and very slender. She was said by her maternal aunt Geraldine (Del) Medcalfe to look just like her paternal grandmother Arabella (Woodhouse) Eville. Shirley was a very organized and meticulous housekeeper, from whose instruction Eville benefited. She had a habit of whistling while she worked, which Eville inherited. (Secretaries said they always knew when he was approaching his department's office.) He still occasionally whistles those tunes of Shirley's from the twenties and thirties. Shirley was also the "fixer" in the family, as Jimmie was helpless (or pretended to be so). In addition she was a good cook, despite claiming that she did not enjoy food and would be glad when science made it possible to take a pill instead. Eville has an exercise book filled with her handwritten recipes, often naming the person from whom she got them. She managed the accounts of Siege Farm and the Owl's Nest for her siblings after their parents died.

Shirley was quite deaf from childhood and was also afflicted with tinnitus (ringing in her ears). Unfortunately, her condition worsened after a botched operation in Boston in her teens. Eville finally persuaded her in the early 1960's to have a stapedectomy in one ear at the University of Minnesota Hospital. She refused, however, to have the other ear done, because she found her world already too noisy.

## CHAPTER 4: THE DIASPORA FROM HALIFAX AFTER WORLD WAR II

None of the children of the eighth generation stayed in Halifax, and they became highly dispersed as shown in the following pages.

### *The Children of Cyril Hebert (8) and Margaret Winifred Bain*

#### MARGARET HELEN (9)

##### *Birth and Relationships*

She was born 17 May 1920 and married in Paris, France, on 10 May 1952, Jean Ravault, born 2 July 1922 in Paris. They have no children.

##### *Background*

Known in Halifax as Peggy or Peg (in Europe as Margaret), she attended Halifax Ladies College to Grade XI and became Head Girl. For grade 12 she attended the Halifax Academy, then went to Dalhousie University for an Arts degree in 1940, majoring in French, followed by a year of Education.

##### *Occupations*

After a year teaching in nearby Bedford, Peg was asked to teach French at the new Queen Elizabeth High School in Halifax in 1942, French teacher Harry Smith having joined the Navy. After one year there Peg joined the Royal Canadian Air Force (Women's Division). Following basic training in Ottawa she was posted to St. John's, NF, for the Operations Room situated at the US base Fort Pepperell. In 1945 she was transferred to Toronto and then discharged. With her veteran's gratuity she took secretarial training in Halifax and joined the Department of External Affairs in a secretarial capacity. After a year there, her application to UNESCO accepted, she flew to Paris in July 1947. In 1966-67 Peg took study leave to take a librarian's course at the Bibliothèque Nationale. Upon returning to UNESCO she left the Department of Education to work in the UNESCO library. She retired from UNESCO in 1980.

##### *Miscellaneous*

One summer while on vacation in Normandy Peg met Jean Ravault and his sisters, who were assessing war damage to their parents' summer home. After Margaret and Jean's marriage in 1952 they lived the first year in Neuilly and then for some years in an apartment in his mother's home before finding a suitable house in 1962 in Vaucresson, within commuting distance of Paris. In 1997 they moved back to the city, to Neuilly, in order to be nearer to friends and cultural resources.

#### EILEEN BAIN (9)

##### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

She was born 15 April 1924 and married 31 March 1950 James Arthur Hugh (Pete) Paton, born 22 December 1919 at Charlottetown, PEI, son of Rowland and Bonnie (Peters) Paton. They had five children: Christine Margaret, born 28 January 1954; Anna Louise, born 16 June 1955; Valerie Katherine, born 10 February 1957; Caroline Peters, born 25 June 1961; and Hugh Gorham Rowland, born 22 November 1962. Eileen died 12 July 1997 and was buried in St. Peter's Anglican Cemetery, Charlottetown.

### *Background and Occupations*

Eileen was educated first at Halifax Ladies College to grade 4, then in 1933 at LeMarchant Street School (when younger sister Anne was starting there), then in high school at the Halifax Academy. She went to work at HMCS Stadacona in the decoding room; this was exciting but exhausting shift work, and going to or from a south-end Halifax home to north-end work at midnight was a worry to her mother. After a year or so she stopped, went to Miss McLaughlin's secretarial school, finished the course in six months, and returned to "Stad" as secretary to Captain Woodhouse, who in turn was secretary to Admiral Murray. At the war's end, when Admiral Murray was accused of responsibility for the Halifax V-E (Victory in Europe) Day riot, Eileen assisted in typing his defence and remained his champion. In 1946-47 Eileen spent about a year working in Vancouver, then returned to Halifax where she became secretary to Dr. Ronald Hayes, a distinguished zoologist and head of the Biology Department at Dalhousie University.

After Eileen married Hugh ("Pete") Paton in 1950 they moved directly to Toronto, where all their children were born. About 1967 the family moved to Charlottetown and remained there. Eileen became a faithful and supportive member of St. Peter's Anglican Church, devoted most of her time to her children and their friends, and enjoyed the family cottage at Keppoch Beach. While music was always important to her, when she took up the craft of hooking rugs it became her major hobby and her fine work was displayed after her death at the annual meeting of the Rug Hooking Guild of Nova Scotia in autumn 1998.

### *Miscellaneous*

The calm and courage displayed by Eileen in the four months following diagnosis of gall bladder cancer in April 1997, including her final week in the hospital's palliative care unit, was a wonderful legacy to all those close to her.

## **ANNE LOUISE (9)**

### *Birth and Relationships*

Anne was born 11 July 1927 in Halifax while the family summered under supervision of Grandmother Bain at Bowsprit Cottage, Hubbards Cove. On 23 May 1959 she married Allan Emrys Blakeney of Regina, SK, son of John Cline Blakeney of Bridgewater, NS, and Bertha May Davies, originally from the Rhondda Valley in Wales. Allan was a widower; he married his first wife (and a good friend of Anne's) Molly (Mary Elizabeth) Schwartz of Halifax, daughter of Dr. Hugh Schwartz and Jessie Katherine Kirk, on 30 September 1950. She died 27 December 1957. They had two children: Barbara May, born 20 May 1953, and Hugh Emrys, born 10 June 1955. Allan and Anne had two more children: David Allan Lloyd, born 7 February 1964, and Margaret Eileen, born 15 October 1968. Margaret married Stanley Piechocinski on 22 May 1999 in Toronto.

### *Background and Occupations*

Anne attended LeMarchant Street School for grades one to nine and Queen Elizabeth High School for grade 10. For grade 11 she went to a boarding school, Edgehill, in Windsor, NS. From there she won an entrance scholarship to King's College in Halifax, affiliated with Dalhousie University. On graduation with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1948 Anne was hired by the Botany Department of Dalhousie as technician and laboratory assistant to Professor Hugh Bell. In the two years she stayed there she took Botany classes (some with Eville) and audited Dr

Pelluet's genetics class, while doing a variety of tasks including collecting and preparing plants for the herbarium. Then the Maritimer's urge to go West struck her and Anne went to McGill University in Montreal for a two-year M.Sc. programme in Plant Morphology under Professor Muriel Roscoe. Upon graduation in 1952 she found work at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, where, in her first year, she conducted the first-year laboratory classes in Botany. The second year she worked on a wheat-chromosomes project in the Faculty of Agriculture, and the third year was back in the Botany Department substituting for the junior lecturer. This gave her an easy introduction to being fully responsible for the whole of a Botany course. However, she thought it would be a better thing to become a high school teacher, and was in process of making applications for studies in Education when an opportunity arose to teach Botany at Victoria College, a two-year institution in Victoria, BC. She went there and enjoyed it very much, thinking it the best place in Canada to work with fresh plants through the winter. After four years there Anne married widower Allan Blakeney and moved to Regina, SK, in 1959, learning to keep house, to care for children, and to follow the intricacies of politics. In 1960 Allan "entered politics", becoming a Member of the Legislature and very soon a Cabinet Minister in the CCF government of Tommy Douglas, followed by several years in Opposition, by eleven years as Premier, then more years in Opposition. After twenty-seven years in politics he retired as leader of the provincial NDP, and in March 1988 he resigned from the Legislature where he had served continuously since 1960. There followed two years in Toronto at York University, then two years at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon, which stretched out in semi-retirement. Anne and Allan are still in Saskatoon. Barbara, Hugh and Margaret live in Ottawa, David in Calgary. Anne occupies her time with fitness and some volunteering among seniors, as well as reading and housekeeping. She and Allan spend a month each summer at Petite Riviere on the South Shore of Nova Scotia.

### JOHN JAMES (9)

#### *Birth and Relationships*

John was born 8 June 1932 in Halifax and married in October 1954 Noreen Norris at Toronto. They had three children: Leslie Ann, born 21 May 1955 and died 19 July 2002; Margaret Arlene, born 20 December 1957; and Barbara Jean, born 18 February 1959. John and Noreen divorced in 1976. On 27 December 1996 John was married again, to Karen Benge at Phoenix, AZ. John's daughter Margaret married Reed Nielsen on 14 February 1990 and divorced in 1995; they had two children: John Peter, born 19 January 1991, and Jessica Arlene, born 30 March 1993. The Nielsen family lives in Burlington, ON and Barbara in Oakville, ON.

#### *Background*

John went to LeMarchant Street School to grade eight, then to Rothesay Collegiate in New Brunswick for high school. He loved sports, especially basketball. He further educated himself in correspondence and night schools from 1950 to 1966, ending with an M.B.A. equivalent.

#### *Occupations*

On finishing school John entered the Bank of Nova Scotia in Halifax and later was transferred to North Sydney, NS, and after that to Ontario. He began to work as a salesman for Proctor and Gamble in 1952. By the 1960's John was in advertising agencies in Toronto and New York. He retired from the J. Walter Thompson Agency on 31 December 1979, and moved to his farm in Mayville, NY. John did part-time management consulting and pursued his small-business

interests from 1980 to 1998. He moved to Vancouver, BC, in 1984 then to Point Roberts, WA, in 1988, and Phoenix, AZ, in 1995. In 1998 he retired fully, moving with Karen back to British Columbia.

#### *Miscellaneous*

In the 1970s, while in Toronto, John acquired property in Mayville, N.Y., and developed it to raise horses, but the necessary "green card" was not forthcoming. He sold it in 1984 and moved to BC. In the 1990s Karen was a nurse working in Vision Rehabilitation Services for the BC /Yukon division of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. When Karen and John married they had to visit back and forth across the border before John became a resident of Canada again in 1999.

Hobbies during his earlier years included chess, pool, basketball (until age fifty-two), racquetball, farming, small-business ownership and financing, and travel (right around the world on one trip). In retirement his hobbies include bridge, personal fitness, sports viewing, computerizing, reading, and golf.

### *The Child of Ralph Arthur (Jimmie) (8) Gorham and Shirley Agatha Eville*

#### **EVILLE (9)**

#### *Birth and Relationships*

Eville was born on 15 October 1925 in Halifax and was an only child. On 29 September 1948 at the Presbyterian Church in Muswell Hill, London, England, he married Ada Verne MacLeod, daughter of Norman MacLeod and Sarah Hannah Ching of Summerside, PEI. She was born 12 March 1923. They have four children, the first being Anne Kerstin, born 29 May 1957 in Kendal in the English Lake District. On 27 December 1981 she married Todd Bartholomay in Minneapolis, MN, and they have two children, Anna Vivien Gorham Bartholomay, born 19 July 1987, and Neil Thomas Gorham Bartholomay, born 17 June 1992. They reside in Saint Paul, MN. The second is Sarah Vivien, born in Oakville, ON, 7 December 1958. On 15 September 1989 she married Adrian Joseph MacDonald in Halifax and they have two children, Amelia (Amie) Jane Ada MacDonald, born 22 March 1992, and James Innes Gorham MacDonald, born 13 September 1995. They reside in Dartmouth, NS. The third is Jocelyn Shirley, born in Oakville, ON, 27 June 1960. On 8 October 1993 she married Richard Ashcraft Wilson in Saint Paul, MN. They have one child, Rowan MacLeod Wilson, born in Saint Paul 21 December 2001. They reside in the country near Beldenville in western Wisconsin. The fourth is James Neil Eville, born in Minneapolis, MN, 7 April 1964. He is unmarried and lives in Minneapolis.

#### *Background*

Eville was educated first in three Halifax public schools, (Tower Road, grades 2-4, LeMarchant Street, grades 5-7, Sir Charles Tupper, part of 2, then 8-9), and was in the last graduating class of the Halifax Academy high school in 1942. He graduated from Dalhousie University in Halifax with a B.Sc. (Distinction) in Biology in 1945 and a M.Sc. in Zoology in 1947. From 1947 to 1951 he took a Ph.D. in Botany at University College, London, England, with an interim nine months (1950/51) research fellowship from the Royal Society of Canada at the Forest Research Institute in Stockholm, Sweden.

Eville's earliest years were spent in Ottawa, ON, where his only memory is of sitting in a gutter making mud pies (a harbinger of later work on lake sediments?). Another early memory is of searching with his mother for mayflowers at her family's apple farm in Greenwich, NS, (perhaps foreshadowing his future career as a botanist?). Eville's family moved to Wolfville, NS, about 1928 or 1929. About 1932 they moved to Bloomingdale Terrace in Halifax, and soon after to Fenwick Street. They next went to the Commodore Apartments on Oxford Street, then in 1935 to College Street, and finally in 1937 to Tupper Grove.

Eville lived in Halifax until 1947 and then moved to London, England, where Ada joined him in 1948, having looked after her ill father for a year. They moved to a small village, Outgate, in the English Lake District, in 1954 and stayed there until 1958, when they moved to Oakville, ON. In 1962 they moved to Minneapolis, MN, and apart from a year (1965/66) in Calgary, AB, have lived there ever since. Over the years Ada, Eville and the children often visited the Eville family farm at Greenwich in the Annapolis Valley. When Eville was young his family spent a few summers at a camp on an island, the Owl's Nest, in Lake MicMac near Dartmouth, which also belonged to the Eville family.

Eville was given no religious education and has no religious affiliation, although for several years he and the children attended the Unitarian Society in Minneapolis on Sunday morning, which requires no religious belief. Ada and the children later attended, for a few years, Prospect Park United Methodist Church in Minneapolis.

In politics, Eville's last vote in Canada was cast for the New Democratic Party. In the United States he was naturalized on 2 November 1984, so as to vote against Ronald Reagan (much good did it do!), and has usually voted for Democrats. In 2000, however, he voted for Ralph Nader of the Green Party, a vote he does not regret. Otherwise he has not been active in politics.

His recreation over the years has focussed on reading widely (favourite authors: Jane Austen, John Galsworthy, Nevil Shute, and Patrick O'Brien), botanizing, growing wildflowers in the yard in Minneapolis in the shade of several tall trees, bird watching, and of course radio and TV (mostly public). As a teenager he spent a lot of time at the YMCA and belonged to the Hi-Y Boys Club. He also played a good deal of tennis, including competitive junior tennis for the Waegwoltic Club in the Little Five Tennis League. During the years in London he and Ada accumulated a huge stack of theatre programmes. They were also fans of the ballet, and occasionally attended concerts and art galleries. During their last year there they watched several fascinating debates in the House of Commons, where the speakers seemed less concerned with issues than scoring points off one another.

Eville's chief avocation has been genealogy and family history, not only of the Gorhams but also of his mother's and his wife's family. As a scientific avocation he has pursued the history of ecology, biogeochemistry, and acid rain.

### *Occupations*

His earliest employment was assisting, for a couple of summers in 1941 and 1942, Harry Leslie, the warehouseman at J.W. Gorham & Co., where he worked partly for his Uncle Cyril and partly for his father. Harry was a wiry, strong, and very nice person with whom Eville got along very well. Their only unpleasant job was occasionally culling rotten onions or potatoes from bags stored in the warehouse. Eville's father sometimes took him on board ships while taking orders for chocolate and biscuits, and he was ecstatic to go once on board the battleship Revenge. He

also sometimes took orders for his father on corvettes in the harbour. After his freshman year at university Eville's father allowed him to spend the summer unpaid, learning the local flora and collecting specimens for the Dalhousie herbarium. Subsequent summers were spent (paid) at the Agricultural Experiment Station in Kentville, on a botanical pasture survey with Professor William Dore, and on inland fisheries surveys for Professor Ronald Hayes. During the academic year he served as a demonstrator (teaching assistant) for various biology classes.

From 1951 to 1954 Eville was employed as a Lecturer in Botany at University College, after which he became a Senior Scientific Officer at the Windermere laboratory of the British Freshwater Biological Association in the English Lake District. In 1958 he moved to the Botany Department of the University of Toronto, first as a Lecturer and then as Assistant Professor. This was followed by an Associate Professorship in Botany at the University of Minnesota from 1962 to 1965, a year as Professor and Head of the Biology Department at the University of Calgary, and a return to Minnesota as Professor of Botany, serving as Head of the Department from 1967 to 1971. In 1975 Eville moved to the Department of Ecology and in 1984 was appointed one of the University's twenty Regents' Professors. He retired as Regents' Professor Emeritus in 1998.

### *Research Career*

Eville's research has focussed on two interrelated, unifying themes: the ecological and biogeochemical importance of atmospheric deposition of diverse materials to infertile and unproductive lakes, peatlands and forests, and the acidification of such ecosystems both naturally and owing to air pollution caused by fossil-fuel combustion. In studies from 1955 to 1963 he described the spread of "acid rain" into rural areas from urban/industrial sources and its role in lake acidification. Included in these studies was the effect of sulfur-dioxide pollution from Ontario metal smelters upon forest vegetation, soils and lakes. In the late 1950's he also studied the relationship of mortality from three respiratory diseases, bronchitis, pneumonia, and lung cancer, to different kinds of air pollution. In 1984, with colleagues, Eville examined the ecological effects of acid deposition upon peatlands, and in the same year calculated the maximum rate of loading for wet-sulfate deposition in the eastern USA that, if not exceeded, would protect most sensitive lakes and streams. Natural acidification of lakes by coloured organic acids from peat bogs – very common in the boreal zone – was demonstrated in 1986, when he and his colleagues showed that both it and acid deposition had acidified lakes around Halifax, NS. The work described above has been assessed by Ellis Cowling<sup>75</sup>. Eville was a member of a four-man committee, reporting in 1978 to the President's Council on Environmental Quality in Washington, DC, that provided a draft plan for the National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program and laid the foundation for its mandate in President Carter's Second Environmental Message to Congress in 1979 and for its legislative mandate enacted as Public Law 96-294.

In 1958 he discovered the extreme ability of mosses and lichens to concentrate radioactive fallout. In a later paper he indicated its strong potential to contaminate northern food chains. In 1961 this played a small but significant role in the battle to protect the Alaskan coast from a proposal to use nuclear explosives to blast a harbour in an area important both to caribou and to the local Inuit population. Winning this battle in turn provided an impetus for the wider cause of banning nuclear-weapon tests in the atmosphere<sup>75A</sup>.

Eville has carried on a great deal of research on northern peatlands, which cover 12 percent of Canada and comparably large areas in Russia and Fennoscandia. His special interests have been their acidification and their role in the carbon cycle. A widely cited 1991 article dealt with the important role of northern peatlands in the global carbon cycle and their likely responses to global warming.

During the 1960s and 1970s Eville published a series of papers on the role of fossilized plant pigments (chlorophyll derivatives and carotenoids) in lake sediments as indicators of lake productivity and evolution, and of the balance between inputs to sedimentary organic matter from within lakes and from their drainage basins. The series culminated in a 1976 paper on pigments in a core of lake sediment that demonstrated their palaeoecological usefulness in establishing the onset of cultural enrichment by phosphorus (eutrophication), which results in "blooms" of blue-green algae.

In 1979 Eville published a widely cited paper on biomass/density relationships in pure stands of plants in natural habitats that set upper limits for above-ground standing crop at varying stem densities. Other papers covered such diverse topics as salmon embryology, forest litter production, the development of woodland humus layers, floristic boundaries, physical limnology, and factors influencing the distribution of purple photosynthetic bacteria. In addition he has published several papers on the history of science, most recently in 1991 a major contribution concerning the origins and development of the field of biogeochemistry.

#### *Teaching and Service*

Eville has collaborated in devising three new courses in environmental science for both scientists and non-scientists: Biology and the Future of Man, Ecological Assessment of Environmental Pollutants, and Our Changing Planet, as well as teaching standard courses in general biology, ecosystem ecology, limnology, and wetland ecology. He has given hundreds of talks on environmental problems – many on radio and TV – to the general public. He has also been active in service to his university and to several professional societies, including the National Academy of Sciences and the Royal Society of Canada as well as governmental and private agencies and organizations in the United States and abroad<sup>76,77</sup> He served most recently on the Water Science and Technology Board of the National Research Council, its Committee on Hydrologic Science, and the Council of Scientific Advisors of the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole, MA.

#### *Honours and Awards*<sup>76,77</sup>

Several scholarships and a fellowship allowed Eville to pursue his graduate career. His contributions to science have been recognized by election as a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, an honorary member of the Swedish Phytogeographical Society, and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Royal Society of Canada. He has been awarded the G. Evelyn Hutchinson Medal of the American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, the Regents' Medal of the University of Minnesota, the Benjamin Franklin Medal in Earth Science of the Franklin Institute, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Society of Wetland Scientists, and honorary degrees from his *alma mater* Dalhousie University, McGill University, and the University of Minnesota. His environmental activities led to the award, by the North Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, of the title Environmentalist of the Year in 1986.

### *Miscellaneous*

Eville is brown-eyed, six feet tall, and weighed 160-165 lbs in his twenties, reached a maximum of 195 lbs, and is now back to 160 lbs. He is said to resemble his mother's family more than the Gorhams, but has the hooded eyelids of his grandfather Gorham (see his photo). Daughter Jocelyn also has them, and a strong resemblance to Eville's Aunt Dorothy. His son Jamie, on the other hand, greatly resembles both his maternal Uncle Neil and Neil's mother Sarah (Ching) MacLeod.

Eville was an unusual child in calling his parents Jimmie and Shirl instead of Mum and Dad, which horrified the parents of his earliest girlfriend. How this began he does not know.

His memory of downtown Halifax was that it had three different scents. When there was little wind it smelled of chocolate from Moir's factory. When the wind blew from Imperoyal across the harbour there was a terrible petrochemical smell. The rest of the time there was a smell of the sea and fish.

Eville's family has always liked to have pets. As a boy in Wolfville they had a small, black long-haired mongrel, at Tupper Grove an Irish terrier, and in the Lake District Ada and Eville had a bloodhound that took part in a movie: *The One That Got Away*. In Minneapolis they have had cats, four of whom lived to be 16-18 years old.

Eville's wife Ada is brown-eyed, 5'6" tall, and weighed 130-145 lbs. until middle age. With a B.Sc. in Home Economics from Acadia University, she worked for two years as a research assistant in child nutrition for Professor E. Gordon Young in the Biochemistry Department at Dalhousie University, where Eville met her. In London she worked as a research assistant doing chemical analyses for his Ph.D. supervisor, Professor William H. Pearsall. Thereafter she was a homemaker, but participated for years in Meals on Wheels, a service for homebound persons, and in getting out the local church newsletter. A favourite activity was the weekly rotating coffee morning with neighbourhood women, most of whom continued to participate even after leaving the neighbourhood. Like Eville, she has been an avid reader, and unlike him, a very good cook. A beautiful woman, she has always had a sweetness of temper, and a cheerful interest in and a liking for all sorts of people that remained with her far into the depths of Alzheimer's disease.

### *The children of Dorothy Gorham (8) and Gordon Blanchard Wiswell*

#### **JOHN GORDON WISWELL (9)**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born 9 April 1919 in Halifax and married, on 29 October 1949, Priscilla Merrill in Brockton Massachusetts. She was born on 15 July 1917, the daughter of Gertrude Coggins and William Lang Merrill. They had no children but they adopted Philip Merrill who was born 16 June 1953 and Virginia Gorham who was born 29 December 1955. John had been diagnosed with a type of lateral sclerosis (not ALS). He died on 19 April 1981 of cardiac arrest and is buried in Dulaney Valley Memorial Gardens in Cockeysville, Baltimore, MD.

#### *Background and Occupations*

John grew up in Halifax and attended Dalhousie University where he graduated with three degrees: a Bachelor of Arts in 1938, a Bachelor of Science in 1940 and an MDCM (medical

degree) in 1942. As this was wartime, many graduates at the time were enlisting. John was unable to serve in the war because he had suffered from tuberculosis and was bedridden for one year. He lived in Montreal from 1944 until 1946, worked as an intern at the Victoria General Hospital, and also was an Assistant Resident at the Royal Victoria Hospital. In 1946 he moved to Boston, MA, because he was offered a position at the Massachusetts General Hospital and was also a Fellow at the Damon Runyon Memorial Fund in Medicine. After his marriage to Priscilla, they left for Salt Lake City, where he became a Fellow of the American Cancer Society in steroid biochemistry from 1949 to 1951.

In 1953 John moved to Maryland as Assistant Professor of Medicine at the Maryland School of Medicine and at Johns Hopkins Hospital and was also a visiting physician at the Baltimore City Hospital. He continued to work at these two hospitals for 26 years becoming an associate professor and then a full professor. Because John was really making a name for himself as a noted endocrinologist in the States, and realized that his future in the medical field was south of the border, he became a United States citizen in 1958. In 1967 he was Professor of Medicine and Assistant Chair at the University of Maryland as an endocrinology (thyroid) specialist and consultant. He was also a member of the American Federation of Clinical Research and the American Thyroid Association and a diplomate of the American Board of Internal Medicine. He was named the Secretary Treasurer to the Endowment Fund at the University of Maryland in 1974.

#### *Miscellaneous*

Because of his long affiliation with the University of Maryland, a room was dedicated in his honour after his death on 18 November 1983. "The Wiswell Teaching and Conference Room" is used by medical students and house officers and is located on the third floor.

### **GORDON BLANCHARD WISWELL (9)**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born 3 December 1922 in Halifax, and married Margaret Eleanor (Norie) Douglas on 11 June 1949 at Trinity United Church in New Glasgow, NS. She was born 2 July 1922 to Margaret Anderson Ritchie and Andrew Marshall Douglas of New Glasgow. Gordon and Norie had three children: Andrew Blanchard, born 14 July 1951, Mary Dorothy, born 12 May 1953, both in Toronto, ON, and James Douglas, born 7 July 1957 in Winnipeg, MB. Gordon died of Huntington's Disease on 20 March 2000 after a lengthy illness.

#### *Background and Occupations*

Gordon, who grew up as Blanchard in Halifax and was known as Gordon or Wis in Winnipeg, lived at 186 (now 1322) Robie Street and attended LeMarchant Street School. He taught his children the school song at an early age, and whenever they mentioned their schools he would gently remind them by singing "LeMarchant Street, LeMarchant Street, the best school of them all". He attended the Halifax Academy and then, for Grades 11 and 12, he went to Lennoxville QC for Bishop's College School. From there he took his Bachelor of Science degree and graduated from Dalhousie University in 1943. He joined the Royal Canadian Navy and was a torpedo officer on the aircraft carrier HMCS Magnificent. When the war was over in 1945 it took him a year to get back to Halifax, arriving in May 1946. Following his return he took his Engineering degree at the University of Toronto where he lived at the Zate (Zeta?) House and

graduated in 1948. From there he went to Boston to attend the Harvard Business School for two years and attain his Master's degree in Business Administration. After his first year at Harvard, he married Norie, she moved to Boston to be with him, and they lived on Dunster Street. She accepted a job there at Sears, in the Public Service Area in the Accounting Department, for a respectable wage of \$40.00 a week. She had graduated from Dalhousie University with a Bachelor of Commerce degree in 1943 and had been working in the Accounting Department at Simpson's in Toronto, making \$25.00 a week.

In 1950 they returned to Toronto, where Gordon was hired by the General Electric Company, and they lived on Broadway Avenue. He taught Business Administration at the University of Toronto in the evenings and Norie worked again at Simpson's. After Andy was born in 1951 she left her job and became a homemaker. In 1955, with two kids in tow, they moved to 326 Kingsway Avenue in Winnipeg, MB, where they lived for 30 years. Gordon had accepted a position of Vice President with Winnipeg Supply and Fuel and he worked for them until 1971. He was responsible for setting up the Land Development Division. Under his watch, the subdivisions of Westwood and Westdale were built and the apartments named Westwood House and 555 River Avenue were erected. He was also involved in building houses in northern Manitoba in Flin Flon and Thompson. Muskeg was a new challenge for him! After leaving the company, he became self employed and started a company called Wiswell Lands Limited. He was responsible for developing Old Mill Road, and the areas of River West Park, Richmond Lakes, and Richmond West in Winnipeg and also a development in Minneapolis, MN. His partner in the US subdivision under the company name of Parklands Ltd. was Guy Hobman. Gordon's family always wanted him to name a street "Wiswell Way" but he never would agree to that. Gordon also taught business administration in evening school at the Ryerson Institute in Toronto and at the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg.

### *Miscellaneous*

Victoria Beach on Lake Winnipeg was a very special place for the family. They purchased the cottage in 1960 and for many years, the family would spend the entire summer there. Gordon, like all the other fathers at the time, would come and go every weekend.

Gordon was accomplished at many sports: hockey (for Dalhousie), curling and golf in particular. He was a regular curler both in the mixed and the men's leagues and his team got an 8-Ender in a bonspiel in 1964. His love of golf was apparent and he played three times a week later in life and belonged to four different courses at the same time. He got a Hole in One at Pinehurst Golf Course in Augusta, GA, on 11 April 1985

He had a love of music and throughout his life sang in choirs and with the Barbershop Quartet, attending the Symphony and concerts on a regular basis. After work he usually could be found winding down with a glass of Scotch and his earphones in his special chair reading the newspaper. Eville remembers a ride in his 1929 Model A Ford on a visit to Winnipeg.

Gordon was active in the community and served on a variety of boards, among them the University Grants Commission, St. George's Church, Chamber of Commerce, Rotary, Community Planning Association, and Urban Development Institute of Canada, of which he was twice president.

Gordon and Norie spent many winters together renting the same home in Bermuda from 1979 until 1996. They were very involved in the community and joined two golf courses. Gordon

attended Rotary and sang in the choir at St. John's Anglican Church and Norie volunteered at the hospital. They made many close friends over the years. Both enjoyed traveling to other places as well, and visited England and Europe many times. They also went to Australia, New Zealand and Greece.

Gordon had always been in good health, but when he was 55 years old he started to exhibit signs of irritability and involuntary movements. His daughter always commented on how he was so much like his father and namesake, Gordon because they had the same mannerisms and behaviour. He was finally diagnosed in 1989, at the age of 67, with Huntington Disease, a hereditary neurological disorder. He died in 2000, after living in a nursing home for three years.

### **NANCY GORHAM WISWELL (9)**

#### *Birth and Relationships*

Nancy was born 16 September 1925 in Halifax and married John Christopher Crace, son of Jan Crace and Eileen Maud, in Halifax on 28 June 1950. Christopher was born 31 July 1926 and graduated from King's College, Cambridge, reading History. After the wedding he worked for the government in London, England. He was fortunate enough to get an overseas placement as a civil intelligence agent in Singapore, but while there was diagnosed with lung cancer. Upon being transferred by airplane to London, England, he died in Habbaniya, Iraq, on 18 August 1954. Nancy and Christopher had two children: John Jeremy, born 14 August 1952 in London, England, and Christopher Gordon, born 30 December 1954 in Halifax, after the death of his father.

On 20 April 1959, Nancy married Laird Leslie Fairn, who was born 10 August 1921 in Halifax. He had three children from a previous marriage: Pat, Holly and Robert (Bobby –deceased 26 December 2004). Nancy and Laird had a son Richard William Benjamin (Ben), who was born 12 May 1960. Nancy and Laird divorced in 1975.

Nancy married Carlisle Norwood on 3 May 1977. Carlisle had three children (Toby, Peter, and Kate) from a previous marriage.

#### *Background*

Nancy grew up at 186 (now 1322) Robie Street in Halifax and was educated at the Halifax Ladies' College and at Netherwood in Rothesay, NB. She was an accomplished pianist at a very young age and her siblings remembered the hours she spent honing her skill and giving recitals in the ballroom at the Nova Scotian Hotel. Nancy trained at the Toronto Conservatory of Music and studied privately in New York and London. Her gift led her on a concert tour of the Maritimes, and CBC broadcasts. She played in local concerts in New York, and was also on WNYC radio. Nancy was a Licentiate of the London Royal Academy of Music, and taught piano in Singapore at the Singapore Academy.

Nancy lived in Halifax, Toronto, New York, London, and Singapore. After Christopher died, she returned to Halifax until after the birth of her son Christopher. On 21 May 1955 she and her two sons moved to Cornwall, and then to Henley-on-Thames where she lived with her husband's family from 1955 to 1959.

She returned to Halifax 18 April 1959 to marry Laird Fairn and they resided on Birchdale Avenue until 1974, when she moved into an apartment with her son Christopher. After marrying

Carlisle in 1977 they lived at 130 Shore Drive in Bedford until 1984, when they bought a house on the ocean at 29 Hiltz Hill Road in Mahone Bay. At this time they traveled to Russia with Veterans Against Nuclear Arms (VANA), sailed the Aegean, explored Turkey with friends, and visited the south of France, England, and Florida. In 1991 they moved to a condominium on Summer Street in Halifax for the winter months.

### *Miscellaneous*

While living in Bedford, Carlisle and Nancy bought a sailboat and named it "Last Chance IV". Sailing was a love of theirs and they made frequent trips up and down the coast. Nancy became a bee keeper at this time and was known for her honey. She also spends countless hours gardening and their place is beautiful in the summertime with all the colourful flowers.

Nancy supports the New Democratic Party and has always been an activist for environmental causes and peace groups. She was known for her recycling even before it became popular; envelopes would arrive with several addresses scratched out and they would be taped over. She is a supporter of Doctors without Borders, the Sierra Club, Amnesty International, and many other organizations. She also delivers Meals on Wheels to shut-ins.

Nancy and Carlisle had a love of Bermuda and visited there many times. They loved to play tennis, and he won several tournaments, so they had to return year after year for him to defend his title. They played for many years together. Nancy has many interests. She is an avid reader, enjoys walking, and was a founding member of the Neptune Theatre in Halifax. She has been a supporter of the Arts throughout her life, particularly in the area of Music.

## CHAPTER 5: THE GORHAMS IN BERMUDA

Information about the descendants of Richard (7) and Georgiana Louise Kirkham has been provided by his granddaughters Joan Helen Wilkie and Elizabeth (Betty) Muriel Kitson.<sup>50,51</sup> They have also provided us with a genealogical chart.

### *The Children of Richard (7) Gorham and Georgiana Kirkham*

#### GEORGIANA HELEN (8)

Helen was born 18 March 1876 and married on 14 April 1909 an Englishman, William Jeffcoat Skeen (1878-1958), in Hamilton, Bermuda, where he worked in the post office. After his death she moved to Halifax to live near her only daughter Phyllis. Helen was active in her church and in the Imperial Order of Daughters of the Empire, and died 8 June 1973.

#### GEORGE EDWIN KARKEEK (8)

He was born 24 May 1877 and went to New York, where he was a commission merchant<sup>14</sup>. His wife's name was Alice Frances Raymond of New York<sup>51</sup>; they had one son who died in infancy, according to a handwritten memorandum by John Till, grandfather of Georgiana Kirkham. George spent his final years in Bermuda, where he died in 1939. A memorial plaque at White's Island there honours his interest in young people<sup>50</sup>.

#### PERCY ST. CLAIR (8)

He was born 9 January 1879 and died 13 November 1879 at Hamilton, Bermuda<sup>51A</sup>.

#### EMILY MAY (8)

She was born 1 May 1880 and became a nurse in New York<sup>14</sup>, returning eventually to Bermuda to look after her mother<sup>50</sup>. She died unmarried 18 October 1955.

#### RICHARD ALEXANDER TAIT (8)

He was born 22 January 1882, and married Therese Maynard 4 June 1913 at Dallas,<sup>51A</sup>. They had a daughter Marjorie May. He died 8 November 1918 in Dallas, TX, during the influenza epidemic<sup>51</sup>.

#### BEATRICE KIRKHAM (8)

She was born 19 September 1884 and died 24 September 1885<sup>51A</sup>. **ARTHUR JOHN (8)**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*<sup>50,51</sup>

He was born 3 December 1885 and on 12 April 1909 married Muriel Irene Masters, daughter of Bermuda M.P. James Henry Masters and Emily Cooper of Rockville, Pembroke. They had five children: Lillis Emily, born 31 December 1910; Grace, born 9 September 1914; Richard Masters, born 3 October 1917; Elizabeth Muriel, born 18 December 1918; and Joan Helen, born 2 September 1921. He died 1 or 3 March 1963.

#### *Occupations*<sup>50</sup>

A.J., as he was known, started as a junior clerk at Trimmingham Brothers but soon shifted to the shipping firm W.T. James, going to sea as a purser. He and his wife honeymooned on one of his firm's ships, visiting thirteen West Indian ports and British Guiana (now Guyana). In 1910 he

moved to New York to work for the United Fruit Co. Then he and two others formed a company to trade with Trinidad, but it failed when sugar and cocoa prices fell sharply, whereupon he sold his home to start A.J. Gorham & Co. By 1933 he was a successful commission merchant. In 1934 he founded the Gorham Lumber Co. With his son Richard and John Hinson Young II he helped to found the Supermart, Modern Supply, Bermuda Air Conditioning, Bermuda Office Supplies, and other businesses. With his son-in-law Geoffrey Kitson he began the Somers Isles Insurance Co., later the Argus Insurance Co., and for twenty years he was vice-president of the Bank of N.T. Butterfield & Son Ltd.

He served on many government boards, including the juvenile panel of the magistrate's court. In 1956 he was appointed to the Legislative Council and served for three years, when his health failed.

A.J. was greatly concerned with social problems, in particular those of the handicapped, and served on a variety of boards. He was vice-chairman of the Society for the Blind and helped to finance Beacon House, where a plaque commemorates his service. For twenty years he chaired the advisory fund-raising committee of the Salvation Army. He also chaired the management committee of the Bermuda High School for Girls, and helped to provide scholarships.

#### **CLIVE WILLIAM (8)**

He was born 18 November 1888, and in 1915 volunteered to join a Canadian regiment for overseas service in World War I. Shortly before the sailing date from Halifax he attempted, with another man, Valentine Truen, to rescue a woman on whom an electrical wire had fallen. On 1 December 1915 both men were electrocuted in trying to save her<sup>14,50</sup>.

#### ***The Children of Georgiana Gorham (8) and William Skeen***

#### **PHYLLIS (9)**

Phyllis was born 14 October 1910 in Bermuda and baptized as an Anglican. Moving to Halifax for university study, she married Dr. Edwin (Eddie) Fraser Ross, born in Stellarton, N.S., 2 October 1906, on 10 October 1936 in the chapel of All Saints Cathedral in Halifax, given in marriage by Cyril Gorham. They had two daughters, Margaret Helen (Sally), born 7 June 1941, and Janet Fraser, born 27 March 1947. Sally (B.Sc., M.A., Ph.D.) is an author and editor, and has done teaching and translation. Janet (B.A., M.A.) teaches at Dalhousie University, and married Stephen Burns, a professor at Dalhousie and Kings College, 23 July 1972. They have three children: Susanna Margaret (Maggie) Gorham, born 2 January 1974 in London, England; Emma Carolyn MacLeod, born 2 October 1976; and Ross Llewellyn, born 6 May 1981. Eddie died 6 May 1999 and was cremated.

#### ***Background***

Phyllis graduated with a B.Sc. from Dalhousie in 1931, lived originally in Bermuda, and has been for a long time at various locations in Halifax (twenty-two years near the corner of Oxford Street and Jubilee Road), with a summer residence (a former rector's house) at French Village, Tantallon. She is an Anglican, and for recreation has enjoyed tennis and golf, as well as reading and craft work.

Eddie also graduated from Dalhousie in 1931 in medicine, and did post-graduate work at Montreal General and Johns Hopkins (Maryland) Hospitals. He has lived in Stellarton, Halifax,

and (briefly) in Baltimore. He was originally Presbyterian, and later Anglican. He played tennis, football, and squash, and was a passionate opera buff as well as a singer in male quartets.

#### *Occupations*

Phyllis trained to be a technician in blood chemistry at the Victoria General (VG) Hospital and worked there until after her marriage. She served the Kiwanis Music Festival for sixteen years as secretary to the senior piano adjudicator, was a choir mother at All Saints Cathedral, and served on the Board of the Isaac Walton Killam (IWK) Hospital for its children's' auxiliary, as well as the Junior League and the United Appeal.

Eddie was in medical practice as a surgeon, and from 1945 a part-time professor at Dalhousie. He was chief surgeon at the IWK Hospital for children, and had a ward at the VG Hospital with Dr. Alan Currie. He enlisted at the outbreak of World War II, with a final rank of Colonel in the 22<sup>nd</sup> Field Ambulance Service, and transferred to 16 Hospital in Bruges, Belgium.

#### *Miscellaneous*

Phyllis remembers enjoying afternoon teas at Cyril and Margaret Gorham's home on Edward Street in Halifax, visiting their cottage at Hubbards, and baby-sitting the children. She also remembers receiving from Uncle Charlie and Aunt Ellie Gorham in Liverpool little boxes of orange and lemon slices with a card at Christmas, and sometimes a note from them. Phyllis's grandmother evidently kept in touch with them.

Phyllis met Eddie in the lab at Dalhousie; where she cut her thumb and he sewed it up for her; a prelude to courtship. She still has a good friend, Tig Wickwire, whom she met on arriving in Canada and got to know at Dalhousie. She still visits her long-time favourite restaurant, the Esquire on the Bedford Highway, where she orders a lobster sandwich and pecan pie.

Eddie was awarded an OBE for his service in World War II. A prize in pediatric surgery is given in his name at Dalhousie, and there is an endowed annual lecture series in his name at the IWK Hospital.

#### ***The Children of Other Ninth-Generation Gorhams in Bermuda***

Kay Gorham Gartner is presently researching the entire Bermuda branch of the family, and we hope to incorporate her findings here eventually. We have included the Skeen descendents because of their link to Halifax, where Phyllis Ross has provided us with information.

## CHAPTER 6: ANCESTORS IN NEW ENGLAND

### JOHN (1)<sup>1</sup>

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

The Gorhams of Liverpool, Halifax and Bermuda can be traced back to Plymouth, MA, and to Captain John Gorham and his wife Desire Howland, daughter of Mayflower passengers John Howland and Elizabeth Tilley. She was born in the Plymouth Colony of Massachusetts about 1625 or 1626, whereas he was born in England (see the next chapter for consideration of his likely parentage). They married about 1643, and had eleven children in four Massachusetts settlements: Desire, born 2 April 1644; Temperance, born 5 May 1646; Elizabeth, born 2 April 1648; James, born 28 April 1650; John, born 20 February 1651/52; Joseph, born 1653/54; Jabez, born 3 August 1656; Mercy, born 20 January 1658; Lydia, born 11 November 1661; Hannah, born 28 November 1663; and Shubael, born 21 October 1667. John was buried in Swanson, MA, on 5 February 1675. Desire died in Barnstable, MA, on 13 October 1683.

#### *Background*

John and Desire lived first in Plymouth, where their first child was born, and in 1646 moved to Marshfield, where they lived for about six years. Their middle child Joseph was born in Yarmouth in 1653/54 and the remaining children were born in Barnstable<sup>1</sup>. John's great-grandson, Colonel John Gorham, said that his ancestor was a founder of Barnstable township, where it was said<sup>78</sup> that "there were few better farms in the Colony... it was well watered, convenient to the meadows, and contained soils adapted to the cultivation of a great variety of crops".

The couple were Puritans and said to be exemplary Christians, although John was fined forty shillings in 1655 for "unseemly carriage toward Blanche Hall at unseasonable time being in the night", she being a married woman. As to Desire, her servant Tooto was so fond of her that his dying request was to bury him "as near his mistres feet as conveniently may be"<sup>1</sup>. He left a will leaving much of his estate to Desire's daughter Temperance and her Baxter family; other items went to her siblings and their families. John died at age fifty-four of a fever resulting from a wound in his side, caused by a shot (in King Philip's War) that split his powder horn<sup>1</sup>.

#### *Occupations*

As well as farming, John owned a gristmill, a tannery, and a wharf. In 1654 he surveyed highways in Yarmouth<sup>78</sup>.

In 1673 John was appointed a lieutenant to serve in the third Anglo-Dutch war, after which Amsterdam (now New York) was returned to the English, following its recapture by the Dutch in 1673. In 1675 he was a captain in the Yarmouth forces raised to respond to King Philip's attack on Swansea, and on 19 December of that year he was wounded in a bloody and decisive battle to defeat King Philip at the Narragansett Indians' great swamp fort in what is now Rhode Island. Swift<sup>78</sup> provides a description of the background to and action in the battle, in which it was estimated that a thousand Indians lost their lives either directly or later from wounds, while many old men, women and children were later lost from fire, cold, and hunger. The colonists lost about eighty soldiers, whereas about a hundred and fifty were wounded and recovered. Unfortunately, John did not.

He also served in government<sup>78</sup>, first in 1648 as constable of Marshfield, when he was nominated as a freeman of the colony (admitted in 1650). In 1651 he joined the Grand Inquest of the colony, and in 1653 was a deputy from Yarmouth to a special session of the Plymouth Colony court dealing with military affairs. In 1673 and 1674 he was one of the Selectmen of Barnstable.

#### *Miscellaneous*

John died intestate. The inventory of his estate in 1675 was valued at £710/4/3, and included land, house, barn, two tannery buildings, its vats, a bark mill, and a Negro man, presumably Tooto. According to the will, Desire was to have the "liberty to dwell in her now dwelling house and have improvement of the Negro during her life". The division of the estate among the family was described by White<sup>1</sup>, and a list of the household goods has been recorded<sup>79</sup>.

#### *The Children of John (1) and Desire Howland*

##### **DESIRE (2)<sup>1</sup>**

She was born 2 April 1644 and married, in Barnstable on 7 October 1661, John Hawes of Yarmouth, a cutler. They had eleven children: Elizabeth, born 5 October 1661 (but probably 1662<sup>1</sup>); Mary, born 10 June 1664; Edmund, born 2 May 1669; John, born 14 May 1671; Joseph, born 16 July 1673; Jabez, born 20 May 1675; Ebenezer, born 24 March 1678-79; Isaac, born 9 March 1679-80; Desire, born last of February 1681-82; Benjamin, born 20 March 1682-83; and Experience, born 24 September 1686. Desire died at Yarmouth 30 June 1700, her husband on 11 November 1701.

##### **TEMPERANCE (2)<sup>1</sup>**

She was born 5 May 1646 and in 1663 married Edward, son of Edward and Elizabeth (Hinckley) Sturgis. (His two sisters married Temperance's brothers.) He died 8 November 1678. They had seven children in Yarmouth: Joseph, born about 1664; Samuel, born about 1665; Desire, born about 1666; James born about 1668; Edward, born about 1673; Thankful, born 20 May 1675; and Fear, born about 1678. White<sup>1</sup> suggests that because Fear was born as her father was dying, or was already dead (8 November 1678), this may have caused her mother to "fear" for the future. Apparently this sort of thing was often a reason for unusual names at the time. Two of Fear's brothers and two of her sisters gave daughters her name.

Temperance remarried, on 27 January 1679-80, Thomas Baxter, who was born in England about 1653 and died 22 June 1713. He served and was wounded—losing the use of a hand—under Captain John Gorham in King Philip's War<sup>78</sup>. He was a bricklayer but could not work owing to his wound, so was employed in public affairs. He also participated with relatives in building a fulling mill and a gristmill. They had three sons: John, born about 1680; Thomas, born about 1685; and Shubael, born about 1687.

White's account<sup>1</sup> provides details of various family wills.

##### **ELIZABETH (2)<sup>1</sup>**

She was born 2 April 1648, and before 5 March 1666-67 married Joseph Hallett, a shoemaker born in 1630 in England, the son of Andrew Hallett Sr. and his wife Mary. They had two, or probably three, daughters in Barnstable: Mary, born about 1666-67; Lois, born about 1672; and probably Elizabeth, born before 1678 or 1679. Elizabeth died before 5 March 1683-84.

## JAMES (2)<sup>1</sup>

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was the ancestor of the Liverpool, Halifax, and Bermuda Gorhams, born 28 April 1650 in Barnstable. There he married, on 24 February 1673, Hannah, daughter of Thomas and Rose Huckins. She was born 14 October 1653, also in Barnstable. They had eleven children: Desire, born 9 February 1674; James, born 6 March 1676-77; Experience, born 28 July 1678; John, born 2 August 1680; Mehitable, born 20 April 1683; Thomas, born 16 December 1684; Mercy, born 22 November 1686, died 12 June 1689; Joseph, born 25 March 1689; Jabez, born 6 March 1690-91; and Ebenezer, born 14 February 1695-96.

James died in Barnstable in November or December 1707. Hannah died there 13 February 1727-28.

### *Occupations*

He was a farmer, active in public affairs, and was probably the richest man in Barnstable in 1703, with "a large and elegant mansion"<sup>78</sup>. In 1675 he was a member of the colony's Grand Inquest, and in 1689 became a freeman of Barnstable.

### *Miscellaneous*

White<sup>1</sup> summarizes James's inheritances under his parents' wills, and his own will. Plymouth Colony Records of Wills give little further information.

## JOHN (2)<sup>1,78</sup>

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born 20 February 1651-52, and on 24 February 1674 married Mary Otis, born 14 March 1652-53 to John and Mary (Jacobs) Otis. They had nine children born in Barnstable: John, born 18 January 1675-76 and died 1 April 1679; Temperance, born 2 August 1678; Mary, born 18 September 1680; Stephen, born 23 June 1683; Shubael, born 2 September 1686; John, born 28 September 1688; Thankful, born 15 February 1690; Job, born 30 August 1692; and Mercy, born 1 December 1695. John died 11 November 1716 and was buried near the Unitarian Meeting House; Mary died 1 April 1732.

### *Occupations*

He was a wealthy man like his brother James, being a tanner like his father and also a conveyancer, writing wills and preparing public documents. Later in life he was "almost constantly employed in the public service".

In 1675 he served with his father in King Philip's war. In 1690 he served as a captain in the Phipps expedition against the French and Indians at Port Royal in what is now Nova Scotia. According to R.P. Gorham<sup>14</sup> he served on military expeditions in 1696, 1697, 1702, and 1704, the last one attacking French settlements on the Bay of Fundy. John became a lieutenant colonel in 1703-04. Other public service included duties as Constable in 1684, Deputy to the General Court in 1689-91 and in 1702, and Justice of the Court of Common Pleas 1711-14.

### *Miscellaneous*

John's estate was valued in 1716 at more than £2,000, and included an Indian servant. Further will details are given by White<sup>1</sup>, with appropriate references.

A grandson, Benjamin, was captain of the brig Fortune, from which twenty-eight chests of Bohea tea were emptied overboard by citizens disguised as Indians at the famous "Boston Tea Party" in December 1773.

### **JOSEPH (2)<sup>1</sup>**

He was born 16 February 1653-54 and married before 1678 Sarah, probably the daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (Hinckley) Sturgis, born about 1656. They had eight children in Yarmouth, MA: Sarah, born 16 January 1678-79; Joseph, born 15 April 1681; Samuel, born October 1682; John, born 28 February 1683-84 and died young; Desire, born April 1685; Isaac, born October 1687 and died childless in 1714; Hezekiah, born August 1689 and died childless in 1714; and Josiah, born 2 December 1692. Joseph, a shoemaker, died 9 July 1726, and his wife died before 3 February 1738-39.

### **JABEZ (2)<sup>1</sup>**

#### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was the ancestor of the Rhode Island Gorhams (the silversmith family), born 3 August 1656. He married, about 1675, Hannah (Sturgis) Gray, a widow with a son John. They had eleven children, the first two in Yarmouth and the last nine in Bristol, Rhode Island: Hannah, born 23 December 1677, died 28 March 1682; Elizabeth, born about 1680; Samuel, born 15 April 1682; Jabez, born 31 January 1683-84; Shubael, born 12 April 1686 and died childless; Isaac, born 1 February 1689; John, born 8 November 1690; Joseph, born 22 August 1692; Hannah, born 21 February 1693-94; Benjamin, born 11 December 1695; and Thomas, born 30 October 1701.

Jabez died between 15 March 1675-76, when his will was made, and 20 April 1725 when it was proved. Hannah died 17 October 1736.

#### *Occupations*

He was a landowner and farmer, and at one time a carpenter. His widow became a seamstress. He served and was wounded in King Philip's War, and in 1680 served as Constable. In 1683 he took oath as a freeman and was on the colony's Grand Inquest<sup>78</sup>.

#### *Miscellaneous*

The will of Jabez valued his estate at only £129-5-6, with a half-interest in a negro slave at £30-0-0.

### **MERCY (2)<sup>1</sup>**

She was born 20 January 1658 and married about 1677 George, the son of George and Ann (Boredell) Denison, born about 1653. They had nine children in Stonington, CT: Edward, born 1678; Joseph, baptized 14 November 1683; Mercy; baptized 1 March 1685; Samuel, baptized 26 September 1686; Desire, baptized 15 July 1688 and died young; Elizabeth, born 11 September 1689; Desire, baptized 16 April 1693; Thankful, baptized 1 April 1695; and George, baptized 7 May 1699. They moved later to Westerly, RI, where George died 27 December 1711. Mercy died in Stonington 24 September 1725.

## LYDIA (2)<sup>1</sup>

She was born 11 November 1661, and on 1 January 1683-84 married John Thacher, the son of Anthony and Elizabeth (Jones) Thacher and a widower with eight children. He was born much earlier, 16 March 1638-39, and became a colonel in the militia. They had ten children in Yarmouth: Lydia, born 11 February 1684-85; Mary, born 5 February 1686-87; Desire, born 24 December 1688; Hannah, born 9 October 1690; Mercy (or Marcy), born 23 July 1692 and died 27 August 1692; Judah, born 20 August 1693; Mercy (or Marcy) born 28 December 1695 and died 22 August 1696; Ann, born 7 May 1697; Joseph, born 11 July 1699; and Benjamin, born 25 July 1702. Lydia died 2 August 1744 and John 8 May 1713.

Swift<sup>78</sup> tells "an amusing story" about their courtship and marriage. "The first wife of Col. Thacher was Rebecca, daughter of Josiah Winslow of Marshfield, and niece of Governor Edward. He was married Nov. 6, 1661, and some little time after his return to Yarmouth he and the bride called at Capt. Gorham's. Lydia was then an infant only a few months old. Col. Thacher taking the babe in his hands, presented it to his wife, and said in a sportive manner, "allow me to introduce you to my second wife." Mrs. Thacher took the babe and kissed it. July 15, 1683, Mrs. Rebecca Thacher, wife of Col. Thacher, died, and "many lamentable verses" he wrote on the occasion. Before the ink was dry with which he penned the elegies, he thought of Miss Lydia who was then twenty-two and unmarried. Common decency required that he should wait three months before proposing to marry her; but passing the house of the widow Gorham one evening, he saw his son Peter's horse hitched at the door. Mistrusting that Miss Lydia was the object of his visit, Col. Thacher on the morrow privately asked his son if he thought of marrying Miss Lydia. The young man blushed, and frankly admitted that to be the object of his visit. "Now," said the colonel, "if you will agree to discontinue your visits, I will give you my black oxen." Peter accepted the oxen, and the Colonel married Miss Lydia 5 months and 16 days after the death of his first wife, whom he had so deeply lamented, and in most dolorous rhymes."

## HANNAH (2)<sup>1</sup>

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

She was born 28 November 1663 and about 1682 married Joseph Whilldin (Wheldon), born in Yarmouth about 1660 to John and Mary (Folland) Whilldin. They had five children, first probably in Yarmouth and later in Cape May, NJ: Hannah, born about 1683; Joseph, born about 1690; Mary, born about 1693; Experience, born about 1696; and Isaac, born about 1698. Hannah died about 1728, and Joseph about 1727.

### *Background*

He was an early member of the Presbyterian church in Cold Spring, and helped to buy the parsonage.

### *Occupations*

Joseph was a sea captain and farmer. In 1699 he became Coroner for Cape May County, High Sheriff 1705-09, Collector 1709, Commissioner of Pleas 1713, and Justice of the Peace 1715.

## SHUBAEL (2)<sup>1</sup>

### *Birth, Relationships, and Death*

He was born 21 October 1667 and in May 1695 married Puella, daughter of Stephen and Martha (Bunker) Hussey, who was born 10 October 1677. They had ten children, the first eight in Barnstable: George, born 29 January 1696-97; Abigail, born March 1699; Lydia, born 14 May 1701; Hannah, born 28 July 1703; Theodate, born 18 July 1705; Daniel, born 24 September 1708; Desire, born 26 December 1710; Ruth, born 7 May 1713; Deborah, born after 1714; and Jonathan, who died young.

Shubael died in Barnstable in 1750 and his wife died there before 23 September 1748.

### *Background*

He was given £50 from his father's estate to learn a profession but "fell short of ambition and instead of spending his minority in college he served an apprenticeship with a carpenter."<sup>13</sup> Because he was a minor at the time of his father's death he chose to have as guardian James, his older brother. In later life he was declared by the Inquisition of Selectmen to be *non compos mentis*, and the husband of his daughter Abigail, James Lovell Jr., became guardian to care for him and his estate.

### *Occupations*

Shubael was a farmer with orchards as well as a house-carpenter. After marriage he located in Southsea, Barnstable County, and built a tavern close to Hyannisport.

### *Miscellaneous*

According to Colonel John Gorham's "Wast Book"<sup>80</sup>, Shubael sailed with family and friends to Nantucket for his wedding, but they "were taken prisoner by a French shallop from Port Royal and were stripped of all their valuables". One of Shubael's grandsons, Jonathan<sup>1</sup>, and three of his great grandsons, Nathaniel, John and Samuel, were Loyalists who went to the Saint John River in New Brunswick because of the American Revolution. Jonathan and Nathaniel both left descendants there, the latter being the ancestor of Raymond P. Gorham and his son Paul, now living in Edmonton, AB.

### *The children of James Gorham and Hannah Huckins*

#### DESIRE GORHAM (3)<sup>1</sup>

She was born 9 February 1674-75 and married about 1695 Edward Springer, probably born in Newport, RI. They perhaps had two children: James, who died before 4 November 1707, and Mary, who also died before that date, neither being mentioned in the will of her grandfather. Edward Springer died before 11 February 1712, and Desire married again, 15 November 1715, the twice-widowed Daniel, born 17 February 1671 to Thomas and Lydia Hamilton. He died 8 December 1838 and Desire died before 20 January 1735-56, when her second husband made a will in favour of his fourth wife Elizabeth.

#### JAMES (3)<sup>1</sup>

He was born 6 March 1676-67 and on 29 September 1709 married, as her first husband, Mary, daughter of Hosea and Elizabeth (Chipman) Joyce. She was born 19 September 1680 in

Yarmouth. They had five children: Thankful, born 25 May 1711; Isaac and Hezekiah, twins baptized 17 April 1715; James, baptized 12 May 1717; and Mary, born after her father's death and baptized 19 July 1719.

James, who became very wealthy, died after 10 September and before 5 November 1718.

### **EXPERIENCE (3)<sup>1</sup>**

She was born 28 July 1678 and on 23 April 1697 married, as his first wife, Thomas Lathrop, born in Barnstable 6 January 16713-74, the son of the Reverend Joseph and Mary (Ansel) Lathrop. They had thirteen children in Barnstable: an unnamed son, born 10 January 1697-98 and died the following month, 3 February; Deborah, born 21 April 1699; Mary, born 4 April 1701; James, born 9 August 1703; Thomas, born 8 July 1705; Ansel, born July 1707; Joseph, born 8 December 1709; Seth, born last of March 1712; John born about 1715; Lydia, born about 1716; Elisabeth, born about 1718; Mehitable, born about 1720; and Rebecca, born about 1722.

Experience died 23 December 1733 and Thomas died 23 July 1757. He served on the Petit Jury four times between 1729 and 1736, as Constable in 1735, and on the Grand Jury in 1739, 1743, and 1750.

### **JOHN (3)<sup>1</sup>**

He was born 2 August 1680 and on 14 February 1705-06 married Ann Brown, born in Ireland. They had six children in Yarmouth: Matthias, born 18 December 1706; Mercy, born 26 September 1708; Desire, born 26 August 1710; Rose, born 19 March 1711-12; Elizabeth, born 27 June 1714; and Anne, born 12 January 1716-17.

John died between 20 July and 5 November 1729; Ann died after 26 February 1729-30.

### **MEHITABLE (3)<sup>1</sup>**

She was born 20 April 1683 and on 12 May 1715 married, as his first wife, Joshua Oldham of Scituate, the son of Thomas and Mercy (Sproat) Oldham, Jr. They had a daughter Mehitable, baptized 1 December 1717. Mehitable died before 28 September 1747, he died after 16 April 1759.

### **THOMAS (3)<sup>1</sup>**

He was born 16 December 1684 and on 7 May 1707 married Rachel, the daughter of John and Ann Trott. She was born on Nantucket Island 23 August 1683. They had ten children in Barnstable: Benjamin, born 8 September 1708; Reuben, born 10 December 1709; Priscilla, born 18 December 1711; Samuel, born 18 December 1713; Peter, born 19 December 1714; Paul, born 6 January 1717-18; Abraham, born 10 July 1720; James, born 23 June 1723; Gershom, born 22 June 1725; and Abigail, born 13 May 1729.

Thomas, a blacksmith, died before 3 December 1771 and Rachel died before 1758.

### **JABEZ (3)<sup>1</sup>**

He was born 6 March 1690-91 and about 1718 married an unidentified wife (called Molly in error by early genealogists). They had four children, the last three baptized in Fairfield, CT: James, born about 1719; David, baptized 24 February 1722-23; Jabez, baptized October 1725; and John, baptized 12 May 1728.

Jabez died before 5 March 1739-40. Unfortunately, little else is known of him.

*The Children of Jabez (3)<sup>1</sup>*

**JAMES (4)<sup>1</sup>**

He was born about 1719 and in April 1744 married Miriam, daughter of Eliphalet and Sarah (Barlow) Hull. They had three children baptized in Greenfield Hill Church, Fairfield: Mary, born 18 March 1744-45 and died young; Jabez, born April 1746; and Mary, born November 1747. He died 9 October 1748 and she died 4 August 1770.

**DAVID (4)<sup>1</sup>**

He was baptized 24 February 1722-23 and on 1 July 1751 married Abigail Jackson. They had four children, the first two in Plymouth and the last two in Liverpool, NS: Mary, born 20 February 1751-52; Penelope, born 10 July 1757; Abigail, born 11 July 1760; and David, born 17 August 1763.

He died 18 November 1785 and she died 3 January 1794.

David moved to Liverpool as a Proprietor (owning a fish lot) with his younger brother Jabez, but returned in 1768 to Plymouth where they were "warned out" (told to leave town) on 17 January 1769.

**JABEZ (4)<sup>1</sup>**

This Jabez and his descendants have been described in Chapter 1.

**JOHN (4)<sup>1</sup>**

He was baptized 12 May 1728 and married a woman named Mary. No children have been identified. He died before 1 January 1759 and she died after 5 June 1770.

John was a "housewright, lived in Scituate, MA, and died with an estate of only £57-18-0, against which were debts of £46-9-9. His wife's dower rights included "the easterly front part of the dwelling house, one-third part of the cellar under the kitchen, and the easterly oven, with liberty to pass to and from the cellar and oven". The other part of the house belonged to Samuel Hatch. On 5 June 1770 Mary was warned to leave Pembroke, to which she had moved six months earlier, "the town" being unwilling to receive her as an inhabitant lest she become "chargeable", presumably as an indigent.

## CHAPTER 7: GORHAMS IN ENGLAND, BRITTANY, AND DENMARK

### *The Ancestry of Captain John (1) Gorham of Plymouth, Massachusetts*

There remains considerable uncertainty about John (1)'s origin. He is said by most writers to be the son of Ralph Gorham of Benefield, Northamptonshire, who married on 20-23 May 1610 Margaret Stephenson at Benefield or Oundle, Northamptonshire<sup>8</sup>. Early records of Plymouth include both names, and the Benefield Parish Register, according to them, records the christening, on 28 January 1619\*, of "John Gorram sonne of Ralph Gorram". (In New England the name became Gorum before being altered to the present form). It has further been claimed that Ralph was the son of James Gorham and Agnes Bennyngton, married 25 November 1572 according to the Benefield register. Audulphus (sic) Gorham was recorded as baptized 30 September 1575, but his parents were not named. Audulphus seems (in ornate writing difficult to read, according to the transcriber) likely to be Radulphus, a Latinized form of Ralph. Strangely, the register also records Agnes Bennyngton as marrying Humfrey Juifson on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of November 1573, while Jacobus (Latinized diminutive of James) Gorham is recorded as buried 19 February 1575, 19 months before Audulphus was baptized<sup>82</sup>.

Further records indicate that Ralph Gorram had two other children: James, baptized 21 August 1614; and Eleanor, baptized 15 June 1617 (both before John)<sup>81,82</sup>. The register also shows William, son of John Gorham, buried 21 October 1635, and John Gorram buried 17 December 1650. Might that John have been Ralph's son? To make matters still more complicated, the register records a John Gorham marrying Joanna Butcher 13 November 1640, and a John Goram marrying Elizabeth Broughton 22 October 1667. Another John was buried 5 May 1671. Eville also found (in the International Genealogical Index) that there were John Gorrans (or Gorhams) baptized in nearby Glapthorne in 1601, 1610, 1622, and 1635; a John Gorham was also baptized in nearby Kingscliffe in 1610.

Other speculations on Ralph's descent have him descended from John Gorham of

Glapthorne, who died in 1588, through his son James (or perhaps his other son John, said by one account to have had a son James who married Agnes Bennyngton). John's 1588 will<sup>83</sup> enumerates sons Francis, Willm, Mattheve, and John, as well as daughters Elizabeth and Elnor, and wife Elnor. It runs as follows:

*I, John Gorham of Glapthorne. In the name of God Amen the xi daye of maie Anno Dni 1588. I John Gorhame sicke of bodye but whole of minde and of pfitte Remembrance towards god doe make this my last will and Testamente in manner & form followinge. Ffirst I bequeathe my soule to all mightie god my criatour & maker and my bodye to be buried in the churchyard of Glapthorne. Item I give and bequeathe to my sonne Ffrancisc Gorham 20 shillings & 2 payre of sheets Item I give unto my sonne Willm Gorhame 20*

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\*This date is according to the then-current Julian calendar<sup>81,82</sup>. Paul Gorham points out that in September 1752 the Gregorian calendar was adopted, involving a loss of ten days for dates from 5 October 1582 through 28 February 1700, and eleven days for subsequent dates through 28 February 1800. In addition, New Year's Day was moved to 1 January from 25 March (e.g., 24 March 1700 Julian, or Old Style, was followed by 25 March 1701 to convert to Gregorian, or New Style). John Gorham's birthdate of 28 January 1619 (Old Style) becomes 7 February 1620 (New Style)<sup>81A</sup>.

*shillings and 2 payre of sheetes Item I give unto my sonne Matthewwe Gorham 20 shillings and 2 payre of sheetes Item I give to my sonne John Gorhame 20 shillings & 2 payre of sheetes Item I give to my daughter Elizabeth 20 shillings and 3 payre of sheetes 2 bordecloathes 2 pillowbeares the greate panne 4 platters 2 Candlestickes one matteresse one Covlid one blanckitte 2 pillowes and a boulster Item I give and bequeathe unto Elnor my Daughter 20 shillings 3 payre of sheetes 2 bordeCloathes 2 pillowbeares 2 pillowes one boulster one greate panne 4 greate platters 2 candlestickes one matteresse one Coverlid one blanckitte. The residewe of my goodes moveable & unmoveable my debtes and legacyes payde & my funeral ended I give and bequeathe unto Elnor my wife whome I make and constitut the full executrix of this my laste will and Testamente. And I give to Elnor my wife the use & intereste of my two houses to lett or to sett (sell?) Keepinge herselfe widow These being witnesses Willm Judd Mathewe Deisborowe Willm Desborowe.*

Confusing matters still further, there appear to have been two John Gorhams in the Plymouth Colony listed to bear arms in 1643<sup>80,84</sup>, one (Gorame) in Plymouth and one (Goarum) in Marshfield, and two Ralphs<sup>1</sup>, generally supposed to be father and son (but no son Ralph appears in the Benefield register). Swift<sup>78</sup> noted that Ralph was in Plymouth from 1637 to 1642, after which there was no record of him.

Farther afield in England we should be aware that Gorhams were widely distributed about the country at this time, for instance in Huntingdonshire. It is interesting that Colonel John Gorham (Shubael<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, Captain John<sup>1</sup>) in his Dayly Journal (1737), claimed that his family came from Huntingdonshire, and further in his "Wast Book" (1745) that the family came from Huntingdonshire and that Captain John's father was also John<sup>80</sup>.

Captain John (but not Ralph) has been said to have come to Plymouth on the brig Phillip (Master Richard Morgan) in 1635<sup>85</sup>. The actual record states that the passengers were to be embarked and transported to Virginia\* from the town of Gravesend (near London) in Kent, where "the men have been examined by the Minister of the towne of Gravesend of their conformities to the orders and disciplines of the Church of England, and took the Oath of Alleg. die of A<sup>o</sup> prd.". They don't sound, therefore, like Puritans. The record, dated 20 June, notes both John (age 18) and Thomas (age 19) Gorham. Were they brothers? If so, Thomas is not recorded at Benefield, Glapthorne, or Kingscliffe. Did these two perhaps come from Kent? There were Gorhams in Kent in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries; for example, Robert Gorham, Jurat of Gt. Chart, 20 March 1634, certified Joseph Rootes of Gt. Chart to embark on the Hercules of Sandwich for New England<sup>87</sup>. The International Genealogical Index<sup>8</sup> records that Thomas and John, sons of Thomas Gorham (born about 1590, married about 1611), were christened 30 April 1615 at Egerton in Kent. Might these be the two on the Phillip in 1635? The ages are not quite congruent, but close. A further consideration is that John is listed as age eighteen, whereas John of Benefield would be only sixteen unless his baptism was delayed a couple of years after his birth.

Given all these complexities, and because the Benefield parish register is not explicit about the line of descent there, we remain uncertain (to put it mildly) about Captain John's ancestry. If he

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\* Note that New England was sometimes referred to as Northern Virginia<sup>78</sup>, also that the Phillip is not described by Banks<sup>86</sup> as transporting immigrants to New England.

did come from Northamptonshire, he may be descended from William de Gorham, who in 1332 sold the manor of Churchfield in the parish of Oundle<sup>88</sup>. The grandson of Thomas, the brother of the William, had arms of "Gules, 3 shackbolts conjoined in fess point Or". There were, however, Gorhams also in Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Huntingdonshire, Kent, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, and Norfolk around this time<sup>88</sup>, so we cannot be certain.

### *Early History of the Gorhams in England*

R.P.Gorham<sup>14</sup> states that, according to De Moulin's list, Hugh de Gorram came with William the Conqueror to England in 1066 and that in 1086 his son William held a confiscated Saxon estate in Suffolk from Henry of Bordeaux, being listed in the Domesday book. The actual Domesday reference apparently does not mention Hugh or William directly; according to G.C. Gorham<sup>88</sup> the record is: "W. filius Gorham, a tenant of lands at Cippenhall near Fresingfield\*, Suffolk, 1086". He suggests that it may have been this person who accompanied the Conqueror. It is doubtful that the record of Hugh de Gorram accompanying William the Conqueror is correct. Douglas<sup>89</sup> presents a scathing critique of nineteenth-century scholarship on this issue, and does not include Hugh in his very limited list of companions.

This W. filius was, presumably, the ancestor, of the Gorham families in Hertfordshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, and Northamptonshire in the twelfth to fourteenth centuries, described in considerable detail by G.C. Gorham<sup>88</sup>, from whom the following information was extracted.

The Hertfordshire branch is notable for being established by Geoffrey de Gorham, who came from Maine in Brittany around 1100 at the invitation of the Norman Abbot of St. Alban's to take charge, as a layman, of its school. He arrived late and, as the place was filled, read lectures at Dunstable and composed a miracle play about St. Katherine. He then became a monk at St. Alban's, and in 1120 was elected the sixteenth Abbot. There he built a guests' hall with a special room for the queen, the only woman allowed to dwell in the Abbey, and a shrine for St. Alban. During a famine he used some of its silverplate to spend on the poor<sup>90</sup>. He also founded a lepers' hospital. Geoffrey valued greatly the advice of Christina, "a recluse much famed for sanctity", and built a nunnery for her. He brought four other family members to England, and was described a century later by one of the monks as promoting their interests to the detriment of the convent. He also built a manor house at Gorhambury, on an estate originally owned by Saxon kings, for his brother-in-law Hugh, but it devolved to a Gorham relative, probably because Geoffrey's sister had no issue. Geoffrey died in 1146.

A nephew, Robert, became the eighteenth Abbot, and was also censured for enriching his relatives from the Abbey's lands. A later owner of the manor at Gorhambury was Sir William de Gorham, whose wife Cecilia de Sanford became, about 1232, governess to Eleanor, sister of King Henry III, because of her "learning, wit, and eloquence". She later, with her pupil, took a vow of celibacy before the Archbishop of Canterbury. She maintained her vow, although Eleanor repented, was absolved by the Pope, and in 1238 married Simon, Earl of Leicester. The Gorhambury estate passed from Gorham hands when John de Gorham, Cecilia's grandson, and his wife Isabella sold it in 1307 to Alicia, Countess of Oxford.

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\* Bartholomew's Road Atlas of Great Britain spells it Fressingfield.

The branch in Leicestershire, established at about the same time as the foregoing, was notable only in producing a number of clerics – a priest, a vicar, and a rector.

The Northamptonshire branch spanned the same period. In 1202 Henry de Gorham sold a knight's fee in Cransley to Peter de Cransley, to be held for an annual provision of two shillings or one sorel sparrow-hawk. His descendant, Sir Hugh de Gorham, possessed the manor of Churchfield in the parish of Oundle, as well as land in Benefield, and – through his wife – at Whaplode in Lincolnshire. He was called in 1296 and in 1301 to military service against the Scots, and in 1324 attended the Great Council of Westminster. His son William sold Churchfield manor in 1332, and nothing is known of his descendants. The Whaplode estate passed to another son, Thomas, and through his descendants to Margaret de Gorham, who married Sir John Littlebury around 1400.

“Gorham's Meadow” in Benefield still kept its name in 1837<sup>88</sup>. It was to this branch of the family that George Cornelius Gorham (21 August 1787-1857)<sup>91</sup> of St. Neot's in Huntingdonshire assigned his origins, dating by family tradition back to John of Glapthorne whose will in 1588 has been quoted. As well as a family historian he was an antiquarian of note, and a botanist who sold his herbarium to the Marquis of Buckingham for “a considerable sum”. As a clergyman he became embroiled with his bishop on the Church of England's position on baptismal regeneration<sup>90</sup>. Gorham believed that divine grace was not necessarily conferred by baptism or conversion but might be conferred before, or even long after, being apparently at odds over this with both low- and high-church Anglicans. The bishop refused to institute him in a living to which he had been presented by the Lord Chancellor, whereupon Gorham took him to an ecclesiastical court where he lost his case. He appealed, however, to the judicial committee of the Privy Council, which supported him. After the bishop failed in further attempts to avoid the institution, it took place, the doctrinal position remaining unresolved after more than two years of dispute. The case was a celebrated one, about which more than fifty works were published.

### *Ancestors in Brittany and Denmark*

It seems clear that the English Gorhams descended from the de Gorrans of La Tannière, a small town seven miles west of the town of Gorram (Gorron) and twenty miles northwest of Mayenne, close to the border – often fluid and ill-defined – with Brittany and Normandy. There the family had successive chateaux<sup>88</sup>. King and Daniels<sup>92</sup> indicate a chateau being built there in 1050. Researches by Louis D. Jackson, quoted by R.P. Gorham<sup>14</sup> and by Paul R. Gorham, Raymond's son<sup>93</sup>, suggest that the de Gorrans were descended from a Danish Viking named Gorm who helped to conquer Brittany early in the 10<sup>th</sup> century, sacking Marmoutier Abbey in 907. They may likewise have been descended from the chieftain Gorm who invaded Anglesey in Wales in 855 and was killed there in 856, and perhaps were related to the King Gorm who ruled Denmark\* from 935 to 945. (The royal affinities of the de Gorrans of La Tannière were suggested by their coat of arms in 1210, with three crowned golden lions rampant on an azure

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\* Paul Gorham points out that the eleventh Viking ruler (899-902) of the Danelaw, occupying much of England from 878-904, was Gorm, the son of Hardeknut (Cnut). On news of the death of his father, then King of Denmark, Gorm resigned the Danelaw to “cousins” and succeeded his father as King Gorm III of Denmark. Paul speculates, therefore, that some of the Gorhams (titled or untitled) of northeastern England may have been descendents of Gorm rather than the De Gorrans of La Tanniere.

field, the royal arms of Denmark). The Vikings in France soon became christianized and often took a complementary French name; the Gorm who ruled Brittany from 907 to 912 took the Bretonized name of Gurmaleon<sup>14</sup>.

In the early tenth century Geoffrey de Gorram was given an estate in La Tannière and presumably built the first chateau there, a fortified stronghold. A Geoffrey de Gorram, possibly a son, signed a deed of land to the monks of Notre Dame de Mars sur-la-Futze at Villarenton in 992. The family continued at La Tannière until the thirteenth century<sup>14</sup>. G.C.Gorham<sup>88</sup> identified de Gorram of Maine (presumably La Tannière) as the first of the family in the area, well after those indicated above by later investigators. He next identified Ralph de Gorram, who granted Brecé, near Gorram (Gorron), to Marmoutier Abbey around 1100, and was married to Hersendis, sister of Juhal II, Lord of Mayenne (a district of Maine in western France), about 1120. His son William, whose castle was destroyed or severely damaged early in the twelfth century during the war in which Henry I of England defeated Count Fulk of Anjou in France, built a new castle at La Tannière. Its chapel was given by William in 1128 to the monastery of Mount St. Michael near Avranches. He married Matrída (or Matilda) and had a son Giles, who took the Cross for a Crusade with Geoffrey, son of Juhal II, and 108 other knights in 1158. He returned from the Holy Land in 1162 with only thirty-five companions, "the rest having died in Sinai for the faith". Subsequently, perhaps to give thanks for being saved from death, he gave various lands to the Church. His seal, made about 1175-1180, depicts a Crusader kneeling in a coat of mail and sword and shield, probably to show him receiving the Cross. He died about 1180; his wife Osanne was living about 1178. His eldest son William was taken prisoner by Henry II of England in 1173 and later, in 1199, gave his eldest son Ralph, along with other relatives, as hostages to King John to guarantee service with him against Juhal III of Mayenne. His was the (royal) coat of arms mentioned above. He died about 1210, leaving a wife Oliva and two sons, Sir Ralph and Sir Robert, neither of whom left descendants.

## CHAPTER 8: CHARACTERISTICS OF GORHAM FAMILIES OVER TIME

From the data compiled here we have examined the influence of date of birth upon both longevity and numbers of children. To compensate for declining family size over time, we expanded coverage from a single line of descent for seven generations to include descendants of Cyril, Jimmie and Arthur (Bermuda). The numbers involved in the longevity study (for whom both birth and death dates are available)\* are 45 males (53%) and 40 females (47%). Among the 280 children examined over 10 generations in the study of family size, including children of siblings of our direct lines, the balance was the same.

### *Average Ages At Death Over Three Centuries (1620-1902)*

For those who reached adulthood the average age increased, from the 1600s to the 1800s by 4 years for females, but decreased very slightly by 0.5 years, for males (Table 1 below). This entailed an increasing difference between the sexes over time, with females exceeding males by only 2.8 years in the 1600s but by 8.2 years in the 1800s. The average age overall (weighted by the numbers for each sex) was 66.6 years for those reaching adulthood, but if infants who died are included the average age dropped to 49.4 years.

### *Age-Related Mortality*

The pattern of death over time (Table 2 below) indicates a very substantial degree of infant mortality, 27.3% overall, or about one in four babies. (The high percentage for the 1700s may be an accident of small numbers). This undoubtedly reflects the prevalence of infectious childhood diseases throughout the entire period. Once past childhood, mortality was less than 7% until age 50, after which it rose sharply. Peak adult mortality came between 51 and 70 from 1601 to 1700, and between 61 and 90 thereafter. Few survived beyond 90.

### *Age at Marriage*

From the second to the tenth generation the age of males at the time of marriage increased from 25.8 to 30.3 years, an increase of 4.5 years, whereas for females it rose from 20.5 years in the second generation to 29.1 years in the tenth generation, an increase of 8.6 years. The result is that in the second generation men were 5.3 years older than their wives, whereas by the tenth generation they were only 1.2 years older. The relationships are linear and statistically significant in both cases, though much more so in the case of females. The equations for age at marriage (A) on generation number (G) are:

Males (30):  $A = 24.6 + 0.567G$  (correlation coefficient  $r = 0.36$ )

Females (30):  $A = 18.3 + 1.08G$  (correlation coefficient  $r = 0.62$ )

### *Family Size Over Time*

For 68 women in ten generations there is a highly significant, declining linear relationship of family size (N, total number of children) to date of birth, (B, years C.E.), as follows:

$N = 41 - 0.020 B$  (correlation coefficient  $r = -0.62$ )

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\* Baptismal dates have been used where birth dates are not available, although they can sometimes be several years later.

From this relationship it is evident that N declines by 2 children per century, being 9 for women born in 1600, 7 for 1700, 5 for 1800, 3 for 1900, and 2 for 1950. Date of birth accounts for a large proportion (38%) of the variation in family size, partly because of later female marriage over time, although the sum of other factors such as disease, accident, changes in physical activity and diet, etc., is more important overall. We may also note that the linear relationship, if extrapolated to the future, suggests the unhappy possibility that our line of Gorhams will cease to produce sons to carry on the name within the next couple of generations. Eville's son Jamie is 39 and unmarried, so continuation may depend on Richard's sons in Bermuda, or unknown male descendants whom we have so far failed to find.

#### *Family Names*

Only a few names, including second names, have been popular through the children of the ninth generation. Among men the favourite was John (11 occurrences), followed by James (7), Richard (6), Arthur (4), William (4) Jabez (4), Joseph (3) and Edward (3). Among women the numbers were: Eliza/Elizabeth (5), Ann/Anne/Anna (5), Margaret (4), Helen (3) and Mercy (3). John, James, Joseph and Elizabeth spanned the generations; whereas Jabez and Mercy were early, and Richard, Arthur, Edward, William, Margaret, Ann and Helen were relatively later.

#### *Physical Characteristics of Cyril and Jimmie Gorham and Their Descendants (including spouses)*

For 18 men height ranged from 5 feet 6 inches to 6 feet 4 inches, with a median of 5 feet 11 inches. For 19 women the range was 5 feet 3 inches to 5 feet 10 inches, with a median of 5 feet 8 inches, or 3 inches less than the men. Eye colour was predominantly brown (38%) or hazel (30%), with green and blue much less common (16% each). Likewise, hair colour was predominantly brown (49%) or dark brown (38%), with blonde (8%) and auburn (5%) less common. Similarly, right-handedness predominated (78%), with left-handedness (16%) and ambidexterity (5%) much less common. In terms of personality, 30% were classed as distinctly outgoing, and only 5% as distinctly shy.

#### *Medical Conditions Affecting John W. Gorham and His Descendants (including spouses, excluding Wiswells)\**

Table 3 summarizes the available information over 5 generations. Those conditions observed more than 5 times are allergies (13), near-sightedness (11), headaches (9), alcoholism (9), depression (7-8), insomnia (7), varicose veins (7), and anxiety (6). Grouping certain categories is also of interest, with vision problems (25-26), mental-health problems (21-22), addictions (11), cancers (6-8), and reproductive problems (6) leading the list. (Note that many individuals were affected by more than one category in a group). Surprisingly, heart disease has not been a problem.

After the difference in numbers of direct descendants (25) and spouses (17) was taken into account, addictions, vision problems, and headaches were slightly more prevalent in the direct line (22, 22, and 30% respectively). Much more prevalent in the direct line were reproductive problems (38%) and mental-health problems (43%).

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\* Accidents and infections were excluded.

TABLES

**TABLE 1. Average age at death of Gorham men and women, including spouses. (A) Those reaching adulthood. (B) Overall, including those who died as infants.**

YEAR OF BIRTH

	1601 - 1700		1701 - 1800		1801 - 1902		All	
	No.	Age	No.	Age	No.	Age	No.	Age
<b>A. Adult female</b>	9	67.0	4	71.8	11	71.9	24	70.0
<b>Adult male</b>	14	64.2	5	65.8	15	63.7	34	64.2
<b>Difference</b>		2.8		6.0		8.2		5.8
<b>Both sexes (weighted by numbers)</b>	23	65.3	9	68.4	26	67.2	58	66.6
<b>B. Both (including infants who died)</b>	31	49.0	14	44.7	34	51.8	79	49.4

TABLE 2. Age of death, by decade, over three centuries.

YEAR OF BIRTH

	1601 - 1700	1701 - 1800	1801 - 1902	All	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	%
Infants	8 (26%)	5 (36%)	8 (24%)	21	27.3
11 - 20					
21 - 30			2	2	2.6
31 - 40	1		2	3	3.9
41 - 50	2	2	1	5	6.5
51 - 60	6	1	3	10	13
61 - 70	5	0	5	10	13
71 - 80	3	3	6	12	15.6
81 - 90	4	3	5	12	15.6
91 - 100			2	2	2.6
Total	29	14	34	77	

**Table 3. Medical conditions (excluding accidents and infections) affecting John W. Gorham and his descendants (including spouses but excluding Wiswells).**

Generation (n= no. of individuals)	7(n=2)			8(n=7)			9 (n=11)			10 (n=9)			Overall (n=29)		
	Line	Spouse	Total	Line	Spouse	Total	Line	Spouse	Total	Line	Spouse	Total	Line	Spouse	Total
<b>Addictions</b> Alcohol Drugs Gambling	1		1	2	1	3				3	2	5	6	3	9
							1		1	1		1	1		1
							1	1	2	7	4	11	8	5	13
<b>Allergies</b>															
<b>Arthritis (severe)</b>															
<b>Cancer</b> Unknown type Breast Gall bladder Kidney Lung Prostate				1		1							1		1
					1	1	1	1	1	1				2	2
							1		1				1	1	1
				1?		1?							1?		1?
				1	1	2							1	1	2
							1		1				1		1
<b>Cholesterol (high)</b>				4	1	5	3	1	4	1		1	8	2	10
<b>Deafness</b>					1	1								1	1
<b>Dementia</b>		1?	1?	1?	1	1-2		1	1				1?	2-3	2-4
<b>Eczema</b>										1		1	1		1
<b>Emphysema</b>				1?		1?							1?		1?
<b>Gall-bladder disease</b>							2	1	3	1		1	3	1	4
<b>Gout</b>							1?			1?			1?		1?
<b>Headaches</b> Migraine Tension							1		1	2	1	3	3	1	4
					1	1				4		4	4	1	5
<b>Hernia</b>								1	1	1?		1?	1?	1	1-2
<b>Insomnia</b>					1	1	1	1	2	4		4	5	2	7

Table 3. (Cont'd)

Generation (n= no. of individuals)	7(n=2)			8(n=7)			9 (n=11)			10 (n=9)			Overall (n=29)		
	Line	Spouse	Total	Line	Spouse	Total	Line	Spouse	Total	Line	Spouse	Total	Line	Spouse	Total
Mental health															
Anxiety					1	1	2			3		3	5	1	6
Depression				1?		1?			6	1	7	6-7	1	7-8	
Eating disorders									3		3	3		3	
Obsession/ Compulsion							1	1	2		2	3	1	4	
Suicide				1		1					2	1		1	
Osteoporosis							1	1	2				1	1	2
Prostate enlargement							1	1	2				1	1	2
Reproductive problems															
Premenstrual										4		4	4		4
Miscarriage								1	1					1	1
Stillbirth										1	1	1			1
Restless-leg syndrome					1	1	1		1	1	1	2	1	3	
Tooth problems															
Missing				1?		1?	1		1		2	2	1-2	2	3-4
Deformed							1		1	1	1	2	2		2
Thyroid disease															
Hyper-				1		1				1		1	2		2
Hypo-							1	1	2				1	1	2
Varicose veins				1		1	1	2	3	2	1	3	4	3	7
Vision problems															
Astigmatism							1		1	3	1	4	4	1	5
Cataracts								1	1					1	1
Colour deficiency										1		1	1		1
Far-sightedness				1		1		1	1	1	1	2	2	2	4
Glaucoma				1		1							1		1
Macular degeneration							1-2		1-2				1-2		1-2
Near-sightedness					1	1	2		2	6	2	8	8	3	11
Ocular migraine							1		1				1		1

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82. Letter to Eville from Walter W. Folger (23 March 1978) providing records copied from the Benefield Parish Register by W.G.D. Watts, Rector, and by John Ellis of Elton near Peterborough. Also provided were records from the Parish Register of St. Leonard's Church, nearby in Glapthorne, and other Gorham-related documents. Records from nearby Kingscliffe were obtained by Eville from microfilm supplied by the Church of Latter Day Saints.
83. Copy obtained by Eville.
84. Parsons, G.J. and L.W. Hagen (1955) Ancestors and Descendants of Ephraim Gorham (1753-1780). Rochester, NY.
85. Hotten, J.C. (1931) The Original Lists of Quality of Persons from London 1600-1700. (See p.94).
86. Banks, C.E. (1981) Topographical Dictionary of 2885 English Emigrants to New England 1620-1650. Genealogical Publishing Co., Baltimore, MD.
87. New England Historical and Genealogical Register 75: 220. (1921).
88. Gorham, G.C. (1838) Genealogical account of the Breton and Anglo-Breton families De Gorram, in the Maine, Hertfordshire, Leicestershire and Northamptonshire during the 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries. Drawn up for, and extracted from, The Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica, Vol. V, 1838 (35p.), with some additional particulars and charters relating to the

Anglo-Breton family De Gorram (42p. from vol. VI, 1840, and Vol. VIII, 1843). Eville has a copy of this, as presented by the author to the British Museum with some MSS additions.

89. Douglas, D.C. (1943) *Companions of the Conqueror*. *History* 28: 129-147.

90. *Dictionary of National Biography* 7: 1011-1012 (1908).

91. *Dictionary of National Biography* 8: 243-245 (1908).

92. King, H.H. and L.A. Daniels (1955) *Some Descendants of Capt. John Gorham of Plymouth Colony*. Walker Printing Service, Cleveland, OH.

93. Gorham, P.R. (2004) *The Anglo-Mayenne DeGorram Family (with Supplement)* New Brunswick Provincial Archives, Fredericton, MC3-810

**NOTE**

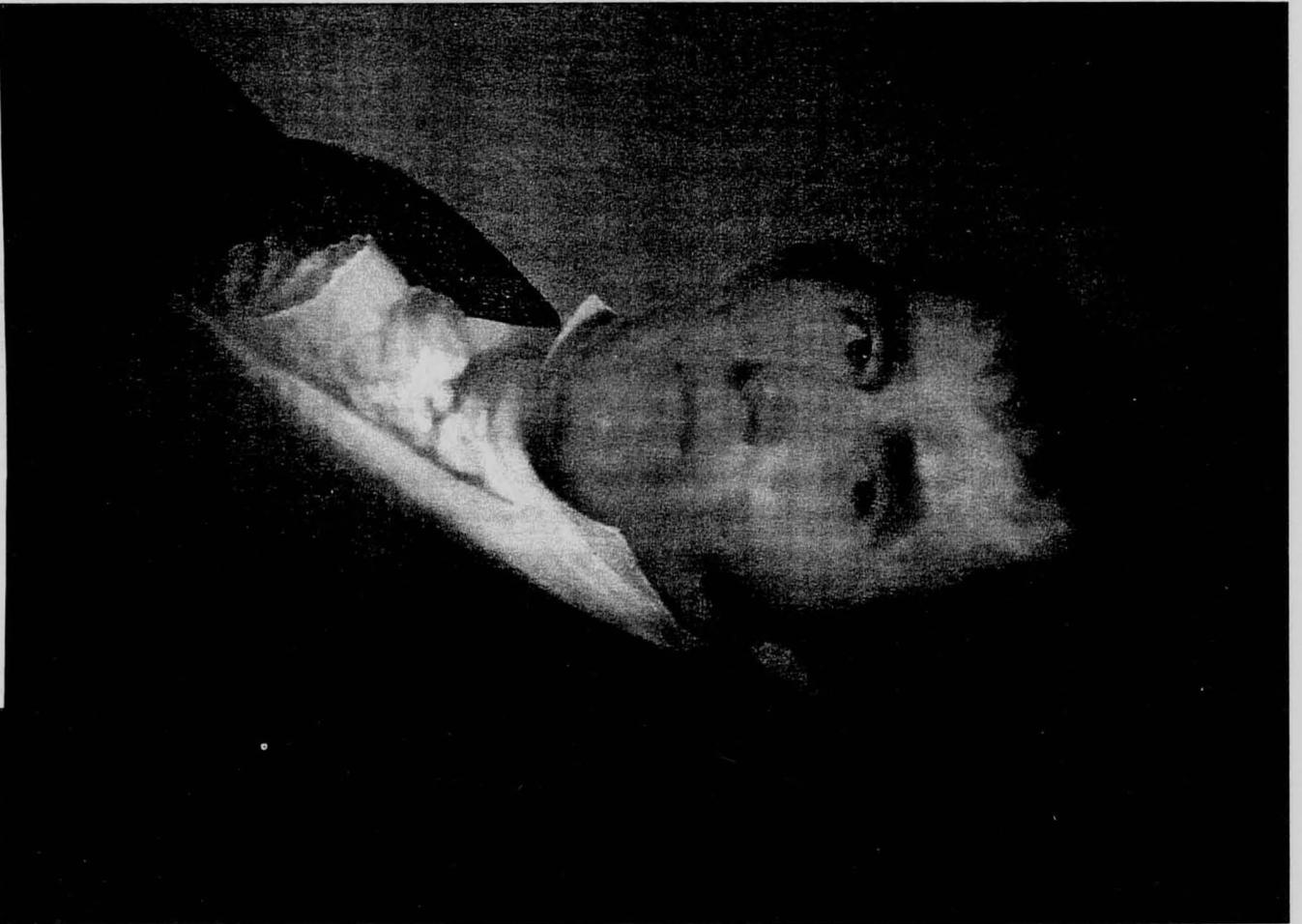
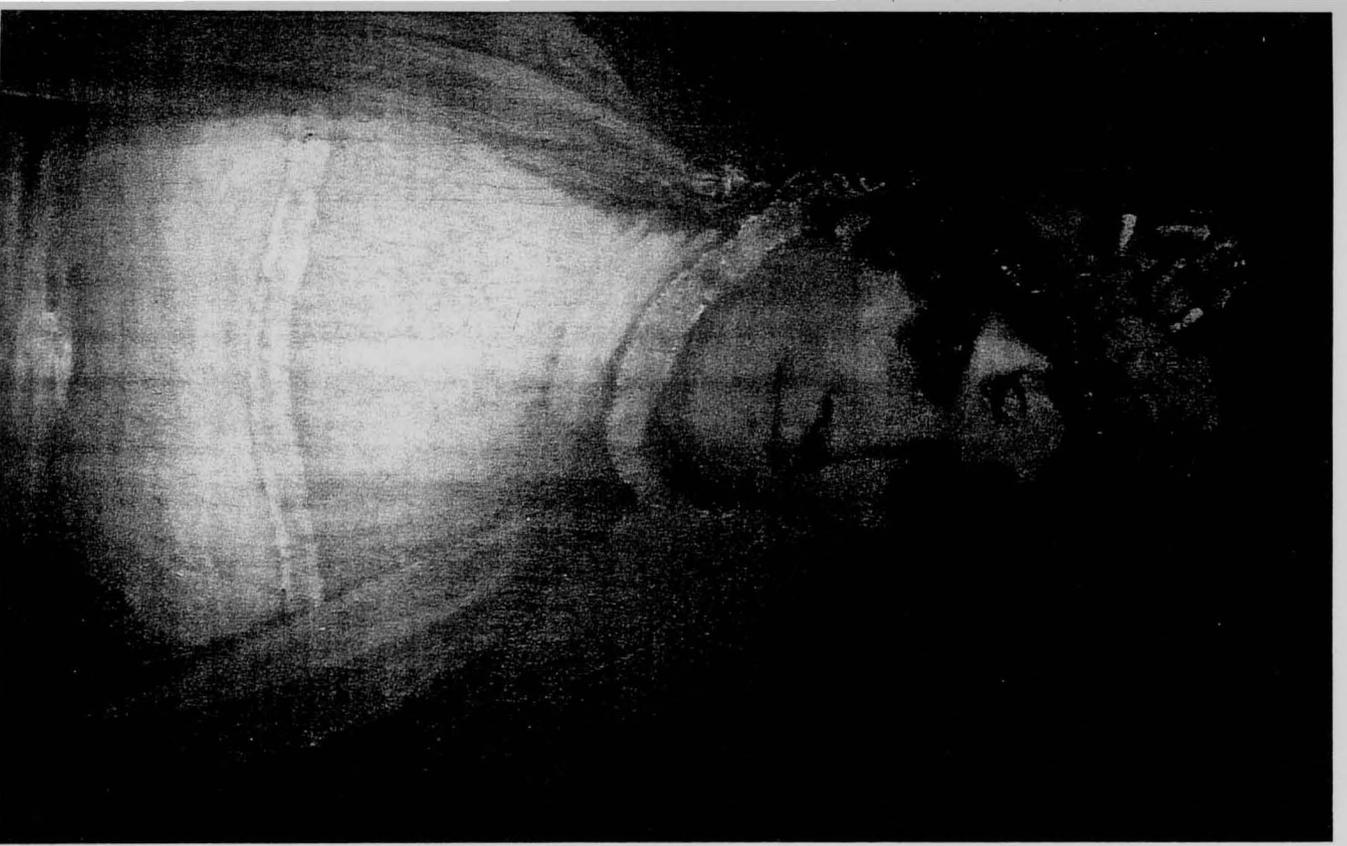
Many Gorhams and relatives are buried in Camp Hill Cemetery, Halifax, in the following lots:

Lots 56, 65: Owner John W. Gorham, transferred from T.H. Carre

Lots 80, 81: Owner Margaret H. Gorham

Lots 88, 89: Owner Edward Gorham

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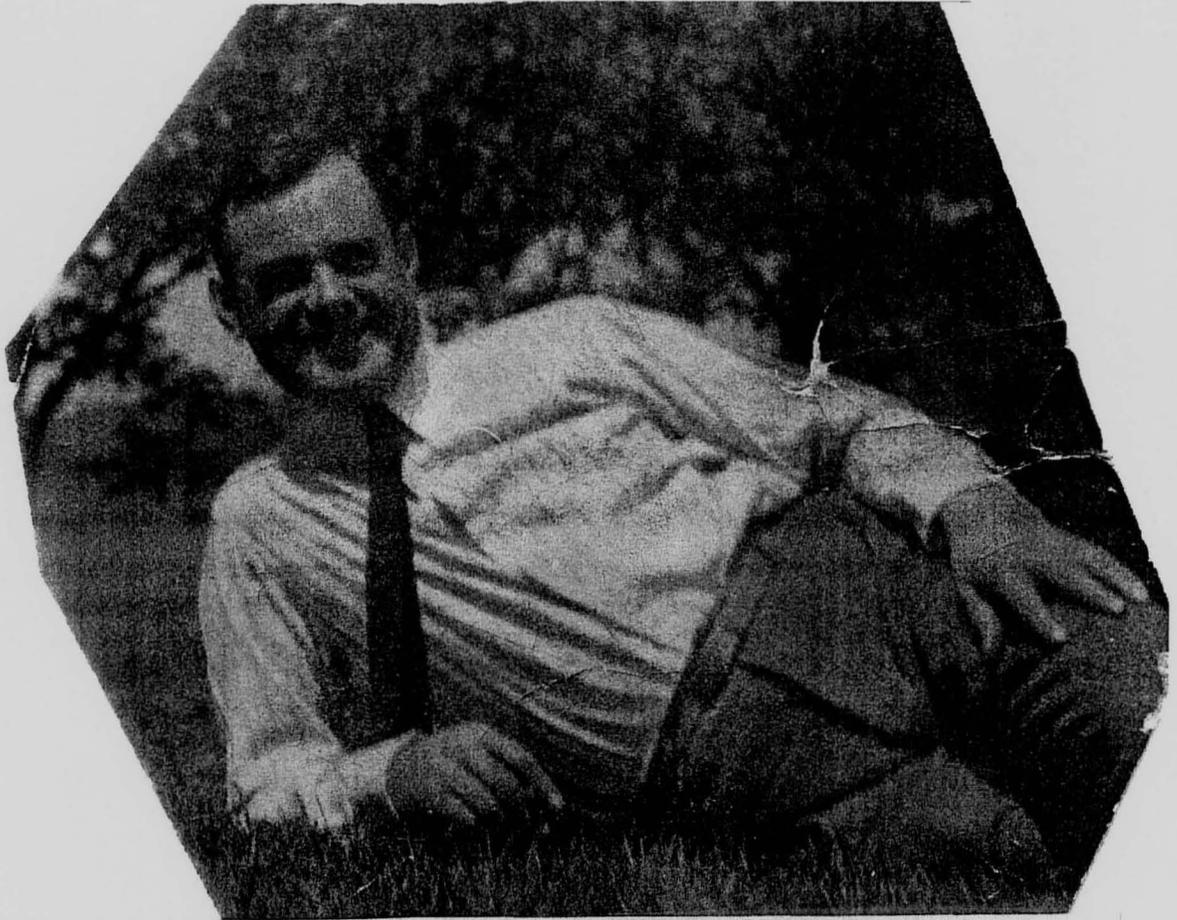
James Gorham b 7 Sept 1760 d 5 Aug 1841 son of Jabez<sup>4</sup>, brother of Isaac,  
m Aug 1787 Jedidah Tracy she d 19 May 1849 - no issue  
-James & Jedidah became benefactors of Liverpool NS; their portraits were displayed in Town Hall



Cyril Hebert b 22 May 1883 Maude  
Gerald b 13 May 1885 Ernest Rae b 17 November 1895



John William Gorham b 5 December 1844 Dartmouth NS d 27 July 1914 Halifax (RTG)  
15 August 1879 m Helen Maude Neal b 25 September 1860 d 21 March 1942



John Wyckham (Jack) Gorham born 15 June 1881 Halifax d 1948? Toronto? (JW, RTG)

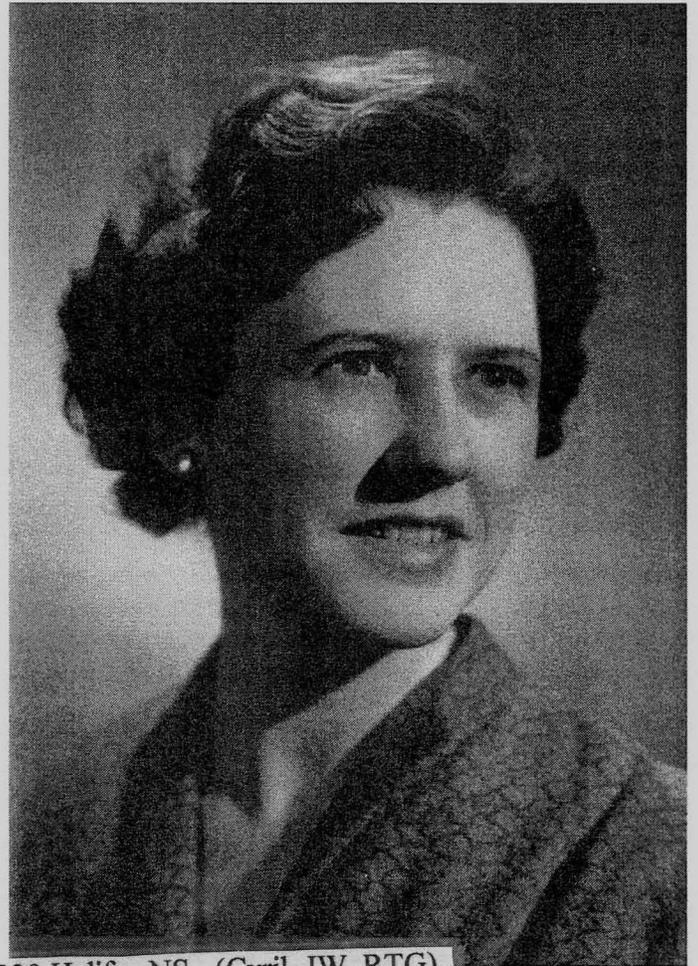


Gerald Gorham b 13 May 1885 Halifax d 1953/54 St John NB (JW, RTG)



Cyril Hebert Gorham b 22 May 1883 d 31 December 1962 (JW, RTG)  
m 15 May 1919 Margaret Winifred Bain born 27 May 1891 d 2 October 1970





Margaret Helen Gorham b 7 May 1920 Halifax NS (Cyril, JW, RTG)  
m 10 May 1952 Jean Ravault Paris France





Eileen Bain Gorham b15 April 1924 Halifax d 12 July 1997 Charlottetown PEI (Cyril, JW, RTG)  
m 31 March 1950 Hugh (Pete) Paton,





Anne Louise Gorham b 11 July 1927 Halifax (Cyril, JW, RTG)  
m 23 May 1959 Allan Emrys Blakeney at Victoria BC





John James Gorham b 8 June 1932 Halifax (Cyril, JW, RTG) m 27 December 1996 Karen Benge  
Karen Jean Benge b 7 June 1939 Manitoba



seated, Barbara Jean Gorham b18 February 1959 & Leslie Ann Gorham b 21 May 1955 d 19 July 2002



Margaret Arlene Gorham b 20 December 1957 & Leslie with father John J (John J, Cyril, JW, RTG)



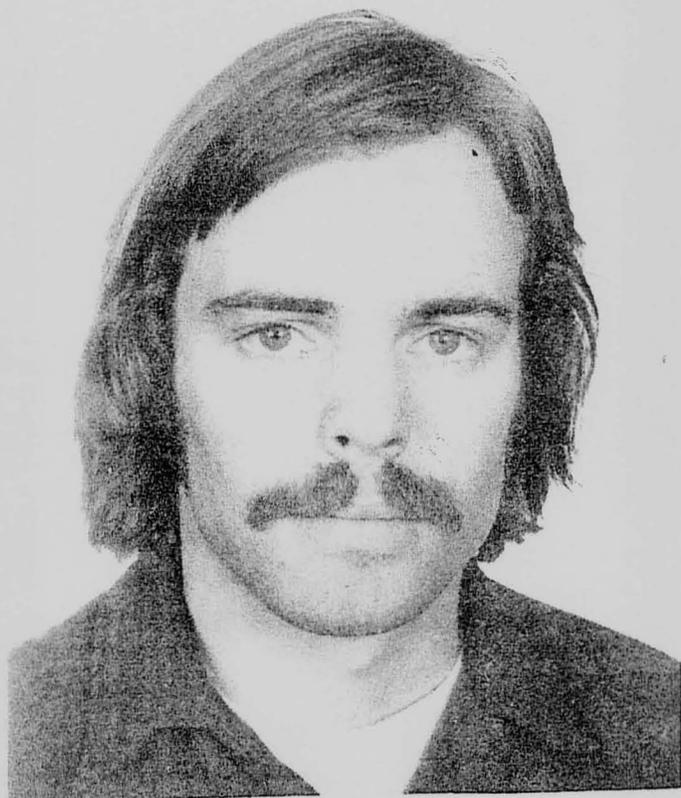
Ralph Arthur Gorham (Jimmie), b 8 April 1902.d 4 November 1957 (JW, RTG)  
m Shirley Agatha Eville b 9 September 1902 d 18 June 1974





Eville Gorham b 15 October 1925 (Jimmie, JW, RTG)  
m 25 September 1948 Ada Verne MacLeod b 12 March 1923





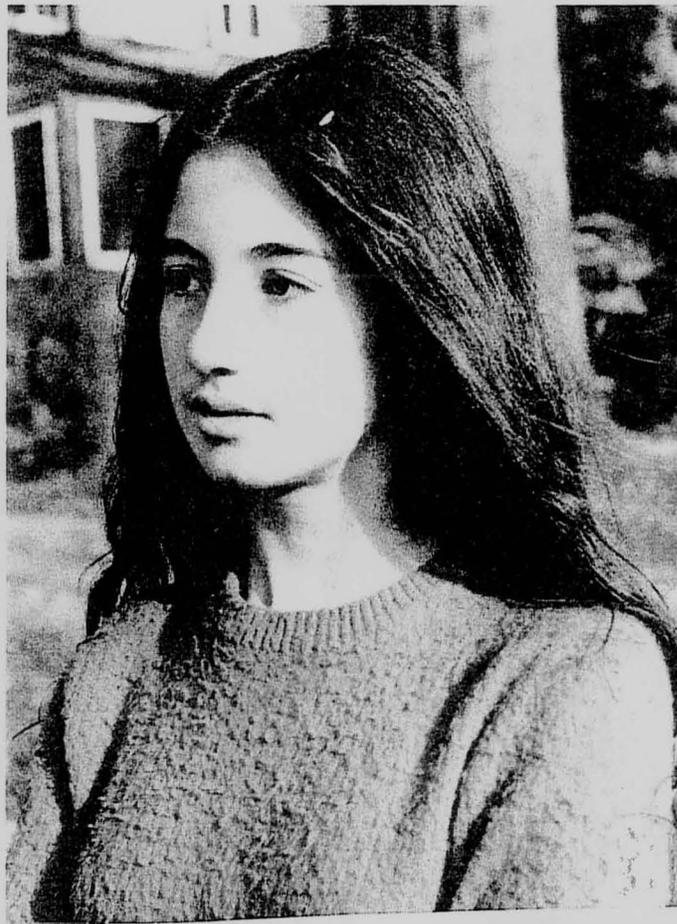
Anne Kerstin Gorham b 29 May 1957 (Eville, Jimmie, JW, RTG)) m 27 Dec 1982 Todd Bartholomay





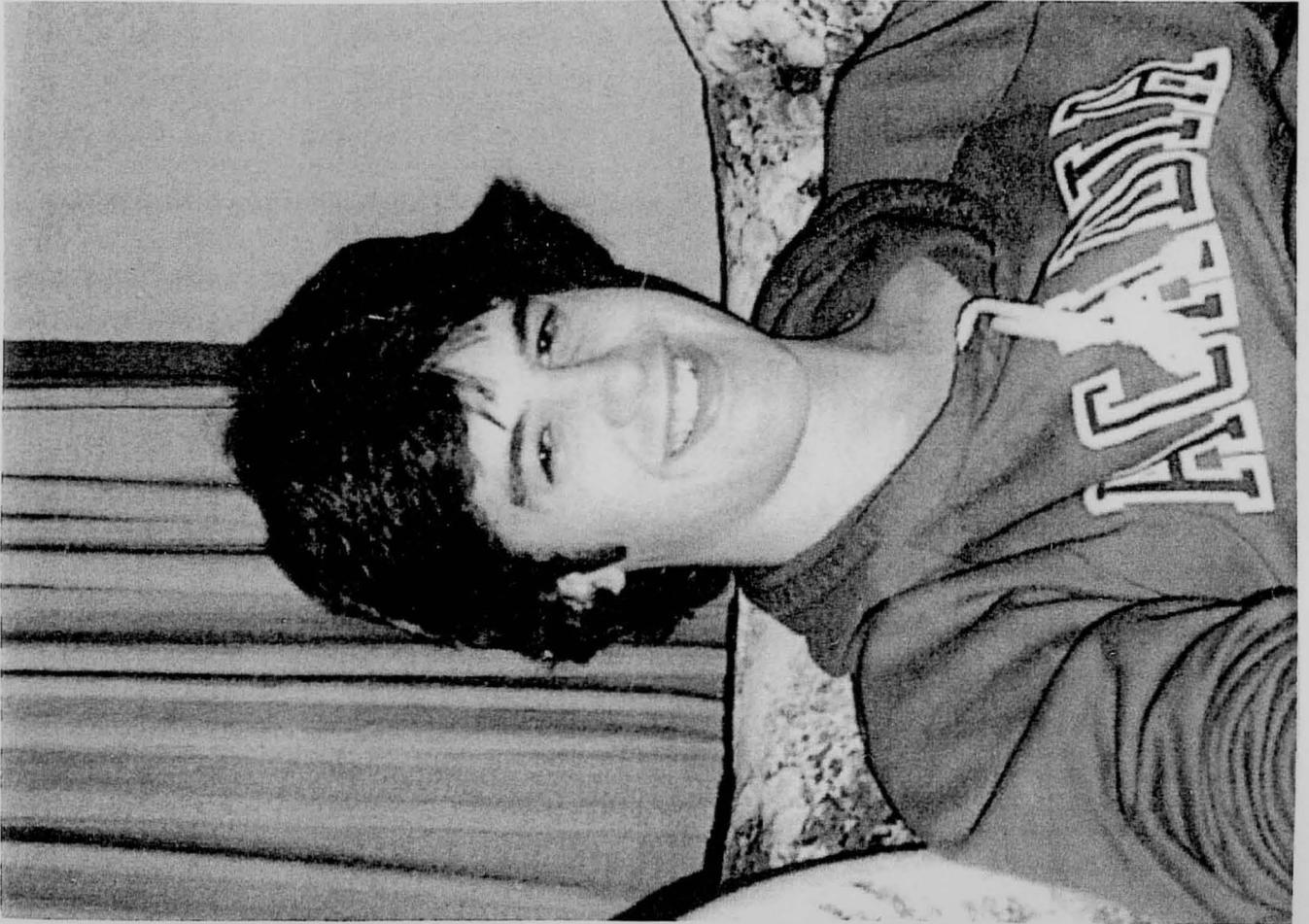
Sarah Vivien Eville Gorham b 7 Dec 1958 (Eville, Jimmie, JW, RTG)  
m 15 Sept 1989 Adrian Joseph MacDonald b 15 Mar 1954





Jocelyn Shirley Gorham b 27 June 1960 (Eville, Jimmie, JW, RTG) m 2 Oct 1993 Richard A. Wilson





James (Jamie) Neil Eville Gorham b 7 April 1964 (Eville, Jimmie, JW, RTG)



Dorothy Constance Gorham  
b 25 July 1890 d 14 Apr 1976  
m Gordon Blanchard Wiswell 26 Nov 1916



Gordon Blanchard Wiswell b 3 Dec 1922 d 20 Mar 2000  
m. Margaret Eleanor Douglas 11 June 1949



Dorothy Constance Gorham



Nancy Gorham Wiswell b 16 Sept 1925 (m 3 times)