Memoir of Joshua Treat, the Pioneer Settler on Penobscot River

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MEMOIR

OF

JOSHUA TREAT,

The Pioneer Settler on Penobscot River.

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JOSHUA TREAT, THE PIONEER SETTLER ON PENOBSCOT RIVER.

Joshua Treat was the son of Joseph Treat, of Boston, born Sept. 22, 1729. He was half brother of Major Robert Treat, an early settler in Bangor. Joshua learned the trade of gunsmith of his father, and seems to have been at Fort St. Georges in 1750, where he was Armorer of Capt. Jabez Bradley's company from Aug. 30, 1750, to June 16, 1753, and later until 1759. He was a skillful interpreter of the Indian language, and was one of thirty-two persons who witnessed the Treaty with the Indians Oct. 20, 1752.

In 1759 he accompanied Governor Pownal on his expedition to the Penobscot River. Fort Pownal was built this year at what is now Fort Point. Mr. Treat became Armorer there. He held a commission as Ensign in Capt. Geo. Berry's company from April 1, to July 16, 1759. In 1760, Dec. 17, he sent a petition to the General Court, (Mass. Archives 79:332) asking remuneration for money paid out while sick in the Province service. In his petition he says he has been in service as Armorer at Fort St. Georges upwards of ten years, that when Fort Pownal was built he was sent there, and was taken sick in August, 1759 and removed to St. George, and from thence to Boston, and expended over £11 which he had paid himself; he asks for consideration for this and also an addition to his wages. His day book beginning 1768, 237 pages is now in possession of Joseph Williamson, Esq., of Belfast.

Mr. Treat returned to Fort Pownal and there continued to be Armorer until the Fort was dismantled in 1775. He removed his family from St. George, and settled near Fort Pownal in what is now Stockton. Stockton was originally in the town of Frankfort which was incorporated June 25, 1789, and extended from Belfast line to Wheeler's Mills, now Hampden. Prospect was set off from Frankfort and incorporated Feb. 24, 1794, and included the territory between Marsh River and Halfway Creek. Searsport was incorporated Feb. 13, 1845; it took a little from Belfast and the rest from Prospect. Stockton was set off from Searsport and
incorporated Mar. 13, 1857. Mr. Treat's homestead lot was therefore in Frankfort, Prospect, Searsport and Stockton. His lot was situated near the head of what is now known as Fort Point Cove, on the shore, just above Stockton Village, and divided by the county road. His house was in the southeasterly corner of the lot, the cellar being now visible. Nearer the shore is his grave, unmarked by any monument. The lot was divided between his sons. Robert had the northerly half, and James the southerly half. In later years it has been again divided, and occupied by Ezra Blanchard, Samuel Blanchard, — Harriman, — Heath, James Griffin and Wm. Shute.


Mr. Treat moved his family to Camden during the Revolutionary War, but returned soon after. He died Aug. 17, 1802. He married first, Catherine, daughter of William and Catherine (Cunningham) James, of St. George, Dec. 9, 1755. She was born about 1735 and died May 4, 1790. He married second, Mrs. Polly Lancaster, Dec. 25, 1793. The children all by first wife except the last one, were born, the two first at St. George, and the others in what is now Stockton:

i. JOSHUA, b. Sept. 16, 1756; settled at Frankfort.
ii. CATHERINE, b. Mar. 4, 1757; d. Dec. 29, 1760.
iii. MARY, b. Sept. 29, 1758; d. Dec. 19, 1763.
iv. ANN, b. June 8, 1762; d. May 5, 1764.
v. JOSEPH, b. Jan. 14, 1764; settled at Frankfort.
vi. JOHN, b. June 4, 1766; d. Aug. 29, 1766.
vii. CATHERINE, b. June 14, 1768; d. June 30, 1768.
viii. ELIZABETH, b. July 10, 1769; married Nathan Griffin.
ix. WILLIAM JAMES, b. Dec. 26, 1771.
x. JOHN, b. Aug. 22, 1775.
xii. SAMUEL, b. Aug. 22, 1775, twin; d. unmarried at Winterport 1858.
xiii. ROBERT, b. June 6, 1777; settled in Stockton (now).
xiv. JAMES, b. Aug. 30, 1779; settled in Stockton.
xv. WARREN, b. Sept. 16, 1801; d. 1801.

JOSHUA TREAT, JR., OF JOSHUA TREAT, SEN.

Joshua Treat, Jr., born Sept. 16, 1756. He was one of the first settlers at Marsh Bay, now Frankfort. He is said to have built the first log house, the first saw mill, and the first vessel built there.
1784, May 24, Joshua Treat, Jr., of Penobscot, Gentleman, buys of Ichabod Colson, of Penobscot, Gentleman, for £60 “one hundred acres butting upon a cove, called Green Cove, on the north part, and upon a stream called Northern Stream of Marsh Bay, on the southerly part, being a Point called Flying Point, on the west side of Penobscot River, being the head land on the northwest side of Marsh River, bounding on said Treat, on the northerly side running east from the above mentioned Green Cove, beginning at a Brook in said Cove.”—(Lincoln Co. Records, Book 16, Folio 313.) 1787, Sept. 1, Joshua Treat, Jr., sold the same to Robert Treat for £60.

1787, Sept. 1, Joshua Treat, Jr., sold Robert Treat “100 acres westerly side of the northerly branch of Marsh River, being the place I now live on, butting and bounding on said stream, being fifty rods in width and one mile in length, lying between land of Joseph Treat on the southerly side, and William Moor on the northerly side, the course of the lot being west and by north, with one-half of a double Saw Mill.” Feb. 13, 1788, he bought of Renben Goodwin land at the mouth of Marsh River.—(Lincoln Rec., Vol. 26, Fol. 45.) Oct. 27, 1795, he bought land of Phillip Danford, at a place called Goschen Settlement, in Frankfort, bounded on land of James Couillard and Samuel Clark.—(Hancock Rec., Vol. 3, Fol. 526.)

He married Lydia, daughter of Col. Jonathan and Lydia Buck, of Bucksport, March 5, 1780. She born in Haverhill, Mass., Oct. 23, 1761; died Nov. 18, 1842. He died Oct. 4, 1826. Children:

i. AMOS, b. Jan. 18, 1781; of Frankfort; was in the War of 1812; d. Sept. 18, 1858. m. first, Sally Gross, Dec. 15, 1805. She d. Dec. 18, 1858; m. second, Betsey Colson, July 15, 1821. She d. Dec. 24, 1826. Children of first wife:
   1. Irene, b. May 11, 1806; m. Edward T. Gross.
   2. Amos, b. April 17, 1808; m.
   3. Elmina, b. Feb. 7, 1812; m. Alfred Grant.

   1. Waldo Treat Pierce, b. Sept. 16, 1814; merchant of Bangor. He d. April 24, 1858; he m. Hannah J. Hills of Bangor; she b. Newbury, Mass., June 9, 1805; d. in Gorham, N. H., whither she had gone for health. Sept. 24, 1853. Children: Waldo T. Pierce, Jr., d. in infancy; Waldo T. Pierce, Jr., of Boston; Ada H. Pierce, m. Joseph Williamson, Jr., of Belfast, 1857. He was b. in Belfast; graduated Bowdoin College, 1849, and settled in the practice of law in Belfast. He is much interested in historical matters and a frequent contributor to this Magazine. Mrs. Williamson d. in March 1872, leaving a son and two daughters; Luther H. Pierce, m. and resides in Chicago; June Pierce, m. Gen. Charles W. Roberts, of Bangor, June 28, 1867; Florence McGeary, m.; resides in Chicago; Mellen C. Pierce, m. Anna C. Hayford, of Bangor, Dec. 24, 1882.

2. Emily J. Pierce, m. Hon. Charles Stetson, of Bangor, Sept. 12, 1833. He d. May 27, 1883; several children. Madam
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3. Hayward Pierce, Bangor merchant, deceased.
5. George A. Pierce, of Frankfort.
6. Harriet Maria Pierce.
7. Caroline Pierce.
8. Lucullus S. Pierce.
10. Silas F. Pierce.
12. Nancy A.
13. Valeria.

iii. Joshua Treat, Jr., b. Dec. 26, 1785, in Frankfort; lived there on southwesterly side of Marsh Stream at the end of the bridge. He was a merchant of fine business character and capacity. He d. Oct. 28, 1836. He m. Susan Parker. April 20, 1805; she d. Sept. 16, 1825. He m. second Widow Harriet Treat, Oct. 4, 1829. Children all by first wife:
1. Alice, b. Aug. 30, 1806; m. General Jonathan Merrill Nov. 27, 1826; she d. June 1, 1832.
3. Oliver Parker, b. May 2, 1810; m. Mary Ann, daughter of Ezra Treat Sept. 14, 1832. He died Dec. 8, 1853.
4. Jonathan B., b. Apr. 11, 1812; m. Lucy Ham. Apr. 18, 1841. He d. at sea July 20, 1853.
6. Upton, b. July 12, 1816; of Frankfort; m. Sarah M. Jones; m. second, Reunah A. Wiswell; Rose Whitney, third.
7. Adams, b. May 25, 1818; of Frankfort; m. his cousin, Laura Jane, daughter of Jonathan Treat, 1845. He died Dec. 19, 1886.
8. Nancy, b. Nov. 30, 1820; m. William Treat June 1, 1840.

iv. Jonathan Treat, b. Jan. 22, 1787, in Frankfort, where he lived between Treat's Point and the Village, on the north side of Marsh Bay. He d. May 16, 1868. He m. Deborah Parker, Dec. 23, 1812; she b. Mar. 2, 1795; d. May 12, 1887, aged 92. Children all b. Frankfort:
3. Henry, b. Sept. 22, 1817; he m. Abigail, of Ezra Treat. He had one son, Charles H. Treat, of Georgetown, Delaware.
10. Edwin Parker, b. Sept. 22, 1833; m.; resides in Frankfort.

vi. Lydia, b. June 10, 1791; d. Nov. 28, 1792.

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1. Webster, b. Dec. 4, 1827.
2. Robert Crosby, Nov. 4, 1829; d. in Bangor, Oct. 7, 1867.
4. Franklin, b. June 4, 1832; removed to Rhode Island; d. 1887.

viii. Lydia, b. April 29, 1795; m. James Buck of Bucksport, Dec. 31, 1820; she d. Dec. 17, 1872; he d. Mar. 31, 1867, aged 79 years 6 months.

JOSEPH TREAT OF JOSHUA TREAT, SENIOR.

Joseph Treat, born Jan. 14, 1764. Settled in Frankfort and cleared up a farm at Marsh Bay, on Tyler or Whittman Hill where he lived. He died May 6, 1836; married Abigail, daughter of Ezra Ide, of Frankfort, Nov. 27, 1788. She born Jan. 4, 1771; died Feb. 3, 1849. Children born Frankfort:

i. Ezra, b. Dec. 23, 1791. He was Representative from Prospect, 1825. He married Hannah McIntire, Feb. 16, 1817. He d. Oct. 8, 1827.
iv. Nathaniel, b. Dec. 29, 1798; settled in Orono; Representative from that town, 1834; m. Mary Parker, 1827. Late in life removed to Monroe, Wisconsin. Had children.
v. Hannah, b. April 16, 1802; m. William E. Butler; she d. April 9, 1879. One child, died young.
v. Mrs. Treat resides in Orono.

ELIZABETH TREAT OF JOSHUA TREAT, SENIOR.


v. NATHAN, b. Mar. 11, 1799; d. unmarried Feb. 27, 1876.
vi. ELIZABETH, b. 1802; d. 1804.
vii. NAHUM M., b. Mar. 16, 1805; m. first Amelia Colcord, Dec. 29, 1829; she d. November, 1838; he m. second Mrs. Mary Clifford.
viii. JAMES I., b. Nov. 16, 1807; m. Lydia Blanchard Jan. 20, 1831, He d. July 31, 1884.
ix. JESSE, b. Jan. 11, 1811; m. first Maria Ford Nov. 30, 1835; m. second Mrs. Sarah Patterson, Oct. 13, 1867. He died 1886.
x. ISAAC H., b. March 13, 1813; m. Delia E. Staples, Jan. 19, 1837.

WILLIAM JAMES TREAT, OF JOSHUA TREAT, SEN.

WILLIAM JAMES TREAT, born Dec. 26, 1771; lived in what is now Prospect; married Huldah, daughter of Ephraim Stinson, April 24, 1792. He died Sept. 16, 1801. Children born in what is now Prospect:
i. WILLIAM, b. Sept. 1, 1792; m. Sarah Davis; he d. Dec. 30, 1858.
ii. BETSEY J., b. Sept. 1, 1792; d. —.
iii. JOSEPH, b. Sept. 14, 1793; m. — Staples.
iv. SAMUEL, b. April 17, 1795; m. first Mary Perkins, December, 1818; m. second Lavinia Curtis Dec. 14, 1832; he d. 1882.
v. JOHN, b. April 17, 1795; d. in infancy.
vi. FOLLY, b. April 18, 1796; m. Samuel Matthews, Jr., Oct. 19, 1814.
ix. RICHARD, b. Oct. 14, 1798; m. Eliza Matthews, of Prospect, May 18, 1834.
x. JOHN, b. April 28, 1801.

JOHN TREAT OF JOSHUA TREAT, SENIOR.

JOHN TREAT was born in Prospect, Aug. 22, 1775. He was a small and energetic man, a Methodist and very religious. He lived in Prospect, removing to that part of Frankfort now Winterport, (1831.) He died in Hampden, April 11, 1870; his grave stone is in Hampden. He married first in Prospect, Sarah Sweetser, Jan. 1, 1799; she died Dec. 30, 1827, in Winterport. He married second, Mrs. Lucy (Porter) Littlefield, June 24, 1829; she was the widow of Aaron Littlefield, a soldier of the war of 1812, who was drowned in the Penobscot River, at Frankfort;* and daughter of Joseph Porter, of Frankfort; she died Feb. 12, 1879, aged 84; children, those by first wife born in Prospect, the other three in Winterport:
i. CATHARINE, b. Sept. 28, 1802; she m. Samuel Batchelder, of Prospect, published Nov. 3, 1827; he d. 1868; she d. 1876. A daughter m. — Haley, of Prospect.
ii. ROSILLA, b. Aug. 16, 1804; m. Josiah Hopkins, of Hampden, June 3, 1831; he d. in the autumn of 1869; she d. Jan. 15, 1888.
iii. ELIZA, b. Feb. 16, 1807; m. Capt. Paron Kilborne, of Hampden; he d. —; she d. Sept. 16, 1881. Three children.

* He left five children.
iv. Hiram, b. Mar. 13, 1809; Master Mariner of Winterport; m. Almira Grant Sept. 21, 1838.

v. John, d. young.


vii. Lydia, b. April, 1818; m. first Jacob Hopkins, of Hampden, and second George Brooks, of Orrington, Jan. 22, 1845; she d. Oct. 20, 1856.

viii. George, b. 1817; went to California about 1849; m. first ——; no children. He m. second Clarinda Littlefield; four children.

ix. John, b. Mar. 6, 1819; went to California about 1849. He was in the Mexican War, interpreter to General Scott. He m. Hannah Heagan about 1855. He d. Sept. 16, 1883; she d. 1854, leaving one daughter.

x. Abbie, b. April 6, 1825; d. May 3, 1838.

By second marriage:


xii. Simon, J. b. Nov. 19, 1832; resides in Rockland; soldier in late War; m. Mary J. Carlton.

xiii. Mary E., b. Dec. 29, 1836; m. James R. Hurd; she d.

ROBERT TREAT OF JOSHUA TREAT, SENIOR.

Robert Treat, born Friday, June 6, 1777; lived in what is now Stockton, farmer and fisherman; he died April 11, 1845. He married first, Mary Ridley, Nov. 12, 1801. He married second, Mrs. Rebecca (Berry) Crockett, May 15, 1834; she born in Bath, 1782; died April 15, 1883, aged 100 years. She was the widow of Captain Thomas Crockett, and married for her third husband, Daniel Goodell, Mar. 14, 1847; children:

i. William, b. 1802; d. Jan. 4, 1812.


iv. Upham Stowers, b. Mar. 10, (or 1st), 1808. In early life he settled in Eastport, where he was the pioneer in the canning business in this country, first canning lobsters, then fish. He afterward bought and moved on to Allan’s Island, now known as Treat’s Island. He was elected as a Democrat to the Legislature from Eastport in 1855. In 1876-7 Japan wished to have its people instructed in the art of canning and at the request of our government Mr. Treat left for Japan on July 1, 1877, for that purpose. He lived there for several years, and then returned to this country. He d. at St. Paul, Minn., Nov. 2, 1883. He married and had children.

v. Eliza, b. April 2, 1810; m. Leonard Shute, of Stockton, Feb. 19, 1829; she d. April 27, 1843.

vi. William, b. Jan. 21, 1812; d.


viii. Mary Ann, b. May 28, 1824; m. first Capt. William V. Park, of Stockton, Oct. 15, 1843; he d. and she m. second John Bradbury 1854; she died April 30, 1880.

JAMES TREAT OF JOSHUA TREAT, SENIOR.

James Treat, born Aug. 30, 1779; lived in what is now Stockton; he died Nov. 28, 1819. He married first, Lydia, daughter of Oliver and Lydia (Bicknell) Parker, April 20, 1806; she born in Weymouth, Mass., Dec. 26, 1788; died Feb. 5, 1885, aged 96 years, 1 mo. 19 days. (She married second, Joseph Park, of Prospect, June 15, 1828; he died November, 1851.)

Children:

v. Willard James, b. Feb. 7, 1817, Searsport; m. Esther M. Park March 4, 1852; He now resides at Searsport.

Note.—I am indebted to Mr. J. H. Treat, of Lawrence, Mass, for assistance in the preparation of this article. Mr. Treat is compiling a genealogy of the Treat Family and would be glad to receive contributions thereto.—Editor.