

THE DESCENDANTS

OF

ADAM MOTT,

OF HEMPSTEAD, LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

A GENEALOGICAL STUDY.

BY EDW. DOUBLEDAY HARRIS,

Member of the Massachusetts Historical Society,
of the New England Historic Genealogical Society,
and of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society.

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The subscriber is collecting material for a genealogical history of this Family, and in order to enlist the co-operation of its members issues this preliminary sketch of the earlier generations, for free distribution.

Only a very small proportion of those bearing the surname, and presumably descended from the settler, Adam Mott, can trace their lines back to him. There are two reasons for this—first, the almost entire absence of public vital statistics bearing upon the case, and, second, the frequent occurrence of the same christian names in the family, baffling the most careful and systematic search to identify the individuals. It is only by the collection of as large a number as is possible of family and bible manuscript records of undeniable authenticity, and by their careful study and comparison, that satisfactory results can be expected. The subscriber urges all those to whom this paper shall come, in the interest of their clan, to contribute copies of such records as they may possess, and supply him with other information that may place him in position to insure the best results of his labor.

Any incorrect statements in the following sketch he will most gladly correct, and will be as glad of the opportunity of furnishing members of the family with their lines of descent from the progenitor, Adam Mott, wherever it is possible.

EDW. D. HARRIS,
280 Broadway, New York City.

Adam Mott is first heard of in 1645, when he was of New York. On the 28th of July, 1647, he married there, Jane Hulet, he then as from county Essex, and she, a maid, from county Buckingham. His oldest children Adam and James were baptized in New York. Ten years later he was settled at Hempstead, on the north shore, where he continued to reside until his death. There are several important documents upon record concerning him. One, dated 1682, enumerates his "four sons by my First wife Jane Mott, viz. Addam, Jeams, John and Joseph." The second is his Will, dated March 12, 1681-2, wherein he names his "eldest son Adam," sons James, John, Joseph and Gershom, dau. Grace, three children of his deceased son Henry, "youngest son Adam," wife Elizabeth and "all ye children I have by her."

The third document is an agreement dated 1691 by which the widow confirms certain lands to sons by the first marriage, viz. Adam, James, John and Joseph, being joined therein by one of her own sons, Richbell, probably the only one then of age.

The last of these documents is a release given by John Okeson, in 1703, (who had meantime married the youngest daughter by the second wife,) of his interest in the estate which Adam Mott "did give to his six youngest children which he had by his last wife Elizabeth, unto Richbell Mott, William Mott, Charles Mott and Adam Mott, Jr.

The second wife of Adam Mott was the daughter of Ann, the wife of John Richbell of Mamaroneck, probably by a previous husband whose name was Redman. She married not long prior to Nov. 5, 1691, Robert Hubs, and was living as late as 1698, as his wife.

Adam Mott died probably a little while before Apr. 5, 1690.

His children were:—

Adam², James², Henry², Grace², John², Joseph², Gershom², by the first wife, and

Richbell², Maryanne², Elizabeth², William², Charles², and Adam², by the second wife.

Of the daughters, Grace married Jonathan Smith, Jr., and Elizabeth mar. John Okeson.

Adam², the oldest son, was bapt. in New York Nov. 14, 1649. His wife seems to have been Mary, the dau. of Nicholas Stillwell. He was of Hempstead, a Justice of the Peace, and in 1713 was living at the south side, at Rockaway. Nothing is known of him or of his wife after 1719. The only children known as his were Ann³, Mary³, and Adam³, all on the census list of 1698. Of the daus. nothing is known. The son Adam³ had, some time before 1719, married his half cousin Elizabeth Mott, and was living at Rockaway, but later was of Staten Island, where he was the county clerk from 1728 to 1738. He was alive the next year, but nothing later is known of him. His widow Elizabeth made her Will in 1777 (proved 1778) then of Staten Is. Their children were Elizabeth⁴, who before 1743 had mar. Benj. Seaman, and Richbell⁴, who mar. 1736 Mary Seamans, dau. of Richard and Sarah, and died before July 11, 1745, leaving a son Richbell⁵.

Nothing further has been learned of this branch of the family. The residence on Staten Island, place of burial, and particulars of the descendants of Adam³ and Elizabeth are much desired.

James², the second son of Adam¹, was bapt. in New York Oct. 15, 1651. A license was granted Sep. 5, 1670 for his marriage to Mary Redman, the daughter-in-law (step-daughter) of John Richbell. He was living at Hempstead in 1682, but had removed to Mamaroneck in 1690, where his wife died before 1698. He married again Elizabeth—who survived him and administered his estate 1707. His children were Elizabeth³, Grace³, James³, Phebe³, and Martha³, all living in 1698. The son James³, was of Mamaroneck in 1728, but nothing further of this branch has been learned.

Henry², (probably the third) son of Adam¹ Mott died Nov. 21, 1680, and administration was issued to his widow Hannah Nov. 13, 1682. His real estate was a house and seventeen acres of land at Hempstead. Three minor children were living in 1682, their names unknown. Nothing further is known of them, and in 1698 none appear on the census list of Hempstead, unless the Grace Mott, living in family of John Cornwell, was a daughter.

John², son of Adam¹ Mott, born about 1658, mar. Sarah (said to have been daughter of John Seaman,) was of Hempstead, and had living in 1698 children John³, James³, Sarah³, and Martha³. He is traced to the year 1725, and then disappears from the record. It has not been possible as yet to identify a John of Hempstead with wife Rebecca, as his son, although there is a strong probability of the connection. Nor is the son James³ traced. One James was of Hempstead, whose son James mar. Anna Rogers at Huntington in 1723 and gave rise to a long line of descendants, but the connec-

tion with John² is problematical. Mrs. Bunker gives John² two other sons, Henry³ and Patrick³, but I can find no proof of the assumption, and until Henry's² children are known, it is unsafe to ascribe these two men, who were certainly brothers, to John². The discovery of John's bible or family record is very much to be hoped for, and it seems highly probable that some Long Island home will yet prove to be its possessor, and so solve many perplexing questions.

Joseph² (probably the fifth) son of Adam¹ Mott, and the eldest of the sons from whom descent can as yet unquestionably be traced, was of Cow Neck, a vestryman of St. George's parish, and had wife Mariam. His Will was made Mar. 24, 1734-5 and was proved in Feb. following. His children were Mariam³ married Samuel Cornell, Jane³ mar. Benj. Seamans, and three sons, Joseph³, Samuel³ and Jacob³ (the last born Aug. 9, 1714 or '15). All had issue.

Joseph³, the oldest, born 1696 or earlier, mar. his half cousin Deborah³, dau. of Richbell² Mott, and for 2d wife, June 3, 1759, Cathren Boerum. He removed to Charlotte Precinct, Dutchess Co., and made a Will in 1762, which was proved in 1765. His sons were Joseph⁴, Samuel⁴, Richard⁴, and Jacob⁴, all apparently alive in 1762 and in Dutchess Co., and four daughters, Martha⁴, wife of James Vallentine, Jane⁴, wife of Timothy Smith, Jr., Elizabeth⁴, wife of Samuel Smith, and Jemima⁴, wife of John Cannon. The eldest, Joseph⁴, mar. Jan. 19, 1748-9 Phebe Smith, had a son Joseph⁵, and was living in Charlotte Precinct 1767 and in Clinton 1789. Nothing later is known of the descendants of Joseph³, and they apparently removed from Dutchess Co.

Samuel³, the second son of Joseph², was born in 1707, married May 27, 1728 Martha Smith. He died Feb. 15, 1736-7, leaving a Will of the previous Dec. 21, in which his wife and "children" are mentioned. The widow married John Hicks. Nothing whatever has been learned of his descendants, not even the names of his children, but it is probable that some of the families of the name now in the neighborhood of Hempstead are of this branch.

Jacob³, the youngest son of Joseph², was born Aug. 7, 1714 or '15. He was first of Cow Neck, and later of Oyster Bay, and the progenitor of several prolific lines. He married, July 16, 1735, Abigail Jackson, and died Oct. 6, 1805. Of his thirteen children seven only lived to maturity, Isaac⁴, Ruth⁴, who mar. successively Jordan Lawrence and Stephen Coles, Samuel Jackson⁴, Jacob⁴, Miriam⁴, who mar. Benjamin Birdsall, Richard⁴, and Joseph⁴.

Isaac⁴, the oldest, born May 6, 1743, married Anne Coles, and was the distiller of New York. He died in 1780, leaving issue, Samuel Coles⁵, of Sing Sing, Jordan⁵, of New York, Jacob⁵, of New York, and Jerusha⁵ who mar. Rev. George Strebeck, rector of Grace Church, Jamaica.

Samuel Jackson⁴, second son of Jacob³, born Feb. 6, 1753, lived at North Hempstead, married Glorianna Coles, and died about 1828. His children were James⁵, Joseph⁵, Miriam⁵, the wife of John Carpenter, Elizabeth⁵, the wife of Charles Kissam, Benjamin⁵, Mary⁵, the wife of Titus Boerum, Abigail⁵, the wife of Timothy Townsend, and Jacob C.⁵

Jacob⁴, the third son of Jacob³, born June 30, 1756, was of New York, and an alderman, married Deborah Lawrence, and died

Aug. 16, 1823. He had four sons, William Lawrence⁵, grocer, of New York, and the grandfather of the present Rev. George S⁷. Mott, of Newark, Richard Lawrence⁵, of New York, Jacob Lawrence⁵, Quaker preacher, of Tarrytown, and Jordan Lawrence⁵, of New York, the father of the present Jordan L⁶, of Mott Haven.

Richard⁴, the fourth son of Jacob³, born May 9, 1761, was of Roslyn, died Nov. 1, 1814, and had Jacob S.⁵ of Roslyn, Abigail⁵, wife of Isaac Kirby, Elisha S.⁵, Phebe⁵, wife of Samuel Kissam.

Joseph⁴, the youngest son of Jacob³, born Aug. 21, 1763, had died before 1803, leaving a minor daughter Phebe⁵.

Gershom², the youngest son of Adam¹ Mott by his first wife, had removed to Monmouth, N. J., before 1685, married Catherine Bowne, was high-sheriff and member of the Provincial Assembly, and died about 1733. None of his descendants appear later in Long Island. The late General Gershom⁶ Mott was the great grandson of his son William³. A notice of this branch of the family is in the N. Y. Gen. & Biographical Record of 1894.

Richbell², the oldest son of Adam¹ Mott by his second wife, was of Great Neck. He married, 1696, Elizabeth Thorne, and died in the fall of 1734. His children were Edmund³, Richbell³, who apparently died soon after his majority and unmarried, Elizabeth³, the wife of Adam³ Mott, Mary³, the wife of Jo. Treadwell, Richard³, Ann³, the wife successively of Daniel Kissam and Jotham Townsend, Jemima³, wife of Stephen Wood, Kezia³, wife of John Jackson, and Deborah³, wife of Joseph³ Mott.

Edmund³, the oldest son, was of Cow Neck. He married Catherine Sands in 1726 and died in 1743. They were Friends. His son Richbell⁴ was the only one of his children that had issue, and at his death no male descendants survived.

Richard³, the other surviving son, married 1741 Sarah Pearsall, and died 1743 leaving an only child James⁴, born 1742, of New York and Mamaroneck. He was a Friend, married Mary Underhill and died May 9, 1823. His descendants have been made known by the publication of Mr. Cornell's book "Adam & Anne Mott," a dau. of this James⁴ being the Anne of the narrative.

William² Mott, the second son of Adam¹ by the second wife, was born Jan. 20, 1674. His wife was Hannah Ferris. They lived at Great Neck, where he died June 30, 1740. Issue were an only son William³, Hannah³, wife of Philip Pell, Martha³, and Elizabeth³, both of whom died unmarried.

William³, the only son, born 1709, was of Great Neck and married 1741 Elizabeth Valentine. They were Friends. He died Apr. 25, 1786, leaving a large family, William⁴, James⁴, of whom nothing appears except that he was dead 1782, Elizabeth⁴, the wife of David Underhill, Samuel⁴, Hannah⁴, unmarried 1782, John⁴, Henry⁴, Richard⁴, Joseph⁴, and Benjamin⁴.

William⁴, the oldest, was a merchant of New York, and the father of William W.⁵, Robert W.⁵, and James W.⁵, all of New York. Samuel⁴ was a New York merchant, and father of William F.⁵ and Samuel F.⁵. The present John L. B.⁷ Mott of New York is of this branch. Henry⁴ was the distinguished physician, married Jane Way, and was the father of John Way⁵ and the well known Dr. Valentine⁵ Mott who died in 1865.

Charles² Mott, the third son of Adam¹ by the second wife, was married probably not much before 1695 to Elizabeth——, who apparently died in his life time. His Will was made Feb. 10, 1740 and proved Mar. 11 of same or next year. He was the owner of lands in Cacayas or Kakiat (New Hempstead) in Orange Co. His children were Charles³, Gershom³, Jacob³, Amos³, Benjamin³, Adam³, Maryann³ who having been first the wife of a Starkin, then married, 1730, Patrick Carrell, Elizabeth³, who married a Hunter, and John³.

Charles³, the eldest, born in 1696 or earlier, had wife Deborah before 1729, settled on his father's tract at Kakiat and was dead in 1748, leaving three sons, Joseph⁴, Samuel⁴, and Sylvanus⁴, the last of whom was probably the Haverstraw man of that name who made his Will in 1785. The surname still is found about Haverstraw, but documentary proof is wanted to complete the connection.

Gershom³, the second son of Charles² Mott, was also a settler at Kakiat, with his wife Ruth. He died 1758-9, and information is much needed as to his issue, Solomon⁴, Gershom⁴, Mary⁴, the wife of Peter Lott, Elizabeth⁴, the wife of a Clark, Charles⁴ and Benjamin⁴, all of whom were alive in 1758.

Jacob³, Amos³, and Benjamin³, the third, fourth and fifth sons of Charles² Mott, all died before 1748 without issue.

Adam³, the sixth son of Charles², was perhaps the same man that married Elizabeth Smith and lived at Cow Neck. He certainly was the father of Jacob⁴, David⁴, Jonathau⁴ and Mary Ann⁴, all alive in 1748, but nothing further is known of them.

John³, the seventh son of Charles², was alive in 1748 with two children, Mary Ann³ and Benjamin³, but nothing further is known of father or children.

Adam², the youngest son of Adam¹ Mott, lived at Cow Neck. He mar. 1732 Phebe Willets and died Dec. 10, 1738. They were Friends. His two sons were Adam³ and Stephen³.

Adam³, older son of Adam² Mott, born 10, 10, 1734, was of Cow Neck, (North) Hempstead, married 1755 Sarah Willis, and, secondly, 1785, Abigail Batty. He died 12, 18, 1790. His two sons Adam⁴ and Samuel⁴ both left male issue. Adam⁴, born (10) 11, 1762, mar. 1785, Anne⁵, dau. of James Mott, of the Richbell² Mott branch, and died at Rochester 1839. Their children were James⁵, Sarah⁵, the wife of Silas Cornell, Mary W.⁵, the wife of Robert Hicks, Abigail L.⁵, wife of Lindley M. Moore, and Richard⁵. The eldest of these, James⁵, born 6, 20, 1788, married Lucretia Coffin, who was afterwards famous as a lecturer and preacher. Their son, Thomas⁶, is of Cow Neck, and the oldest representative of the youngest branch of Adam¹ Mott's family. The youngest son of Adam⁴, Richard⁵, born July 21, 1804, removed to Toledo, where he became a prominent citizen, and died 1888 without male issue.

Samuel⁴, the younger son of Adam³, born 9, 29, 1773, married Catherine Appleby and lived at Cow Neck. He died in 1864. His issue were Leonard⁵, Thomas⁵, Sarah⁵, the wife of Benjamin Willis, and Silas⁵. Leonard⁵, the oldest, born 1799, married Hannah C. Willis and died in 1866; his sons Edward⁶ and Samuel⁶ are of Port Washington. Thomas⁵, born 1801, died 1860. Silas⁵, the youngest of the family, born 4, 4, 1807, married Mary Willis, and died 1881, leaving an only son, Thomas⁶.

Stephen³, the youngest child of Adam², born (2) 1, 1736, was of Cow Neck. His wife was Amy Willis. He died 11. 11, 1813. His issue were Daniel⁴, Phebe⁴, Mary⁴, Jane⁴, Abigail⁴, Stephen⁴ who died a child, and Henry⁴.

Daniel⁴, the eldest, born 10, 10, 1763, married Amy Searing and died 1837, leaving a large family of children, none of whom have been traced. Henry⁴, the youngest child of Stephen³, born 7, 17, 1782, married Temperance Hicks 1811, and died 8, 17, 1851, leaving three children, Adam⁵, (born 1813, died 1881, whose son George F⁶. is of Brooklyn,) Benjamin⁵, who died childless in 1891, and Elizabeth⁵, the wife of Henry H. Barrow.

Among the many branches of the Motts that are not, as yet, to be connected, indisputably, with the parent stock, is a large detachment descended from one John of Hempstead by his wife Rebecca. He was born as early as in 1690, and died 1750-1, at Hempstead. It is likely that he was the oldest son of John². Proof of the connection should be carefully sought among private records about Hempstead. His Will, proved 1751, furnishes the only authentic record of the family that has yet appeared. His children were John⁴, died in his father's life time, Samuel⁴, Jacob⁴, Sarah⁴, Martha⁴, Jehu⁴, Rebecca⁴, Phebe⁴, and Micajah⁴.

Samuel⁴, b. 1712, married Hannah Wood, was of Hempstead, died 1780, leaving sons Richard⁵, John⁵, and Samuel⁵. Richard⁵, born 1738, married Phebe ——— and died 1775, leaving one son James⁶ of Westbury, the weaver, whose son James⁷ was the father of the present William K.⁸ of Glenwood Landing. John⁵, second son of Samuel⁴, born 1745, died 1824. married Abigail Hall. Their son John⁶, born 1783, married Hannah Townsend and died 1848, leaving many descendants. Samuel⁵, the youngest son, born 1742, married Amy Raynor, was of Merricks, and died 1793, had sons William⁶ of Merricks, Willet⁶, grocer of New York, Elijah⁶ of Merricks, Samuel⁶, the Sheriff of Queens County, who died 1859, Joseph⁶ of Freeport (whose son Silvanus⁷ is now of Freeport,) and Benjamin⁶.

Jacob⁴, son of John³ and Rebecca, was of Bethpage, married Keziah Seaman, and died about 1782. Of his children, Jacob⁵ was merchant of New York, and seemed to have died 1820, leaving only two daughters. Samuel Nottingham⁵, the other son, married Phebe Gedney, was a merchant of New York and father of John Gedney⁶ of New York, whose son Lawrence Proudfoot⁷ died in New York 1897, leaving only son, the present Lewis Camp⁸ Mott of New York.

Jehu⁴, the next son of John and Rebecca, was born 9, 26, 1723, married Ruth Powell, was a Quaker preacher, and died 1782, leaving two sons, John⁵ and Jehu⁶. John⁵ was of Patchogue, died 1828, leaving many descendants who are to be found to-day in that vicinity. Jehu⁵, born 1756, came to New York, married Ruth Burtis and was the father of William Burtis⁶ Mott, for a long time Keeper at Blackwell's Island.

Micajah⁴, the youngest son of John and Rebecca, born Mar. 23, 1735, was of Hempstead with wife Rachel. He died 1781, leaving three sons Micajah⁵, Israel⁵ and John⁵. Information of this branch is much desired. Of Micajah⁵ and John⁵ nothing is known. Israel⁵ married Charity Haviland and died in 1859 leaving a large family, of whom William⁶ and Solomon⁶ were the oldest.

Another large branch, as yet unidentified, is of the descendants of one Henry Mott, who, with his brother Patrick*, were of Hempstead, south side. Mrs. Bunker, in her Long Island Genealogies, makes them sons of John², but without evidence, while there is some reason to believe that they belong to Henry's² line.

Henry² was born certainly as early as 1693, and perhaps some time before. His will was made in 1767. His children then living were Adam⁴, Hannah⁴, the wife of a Lewes, Abigail⁴, the wife of a Foster, Henry⁴, Sarah⁴, Richard⁴, Mary⁴, John⁴, and Elizabeth⁴.

Adam⁴, named as the executor of his father's Will, but of whom we know little, was of Woodsburgh, the father of Henry H.⁵ (who mar. Mary Seaman and died 1844 leaving children Henry⁶, Adam⁶, David Seaman⁶, Hannah⁶, Elizabeth⁶, Abigail⁶ and Mary⁶, of whom we would like to know more.)

Henry⁴, the second son, born Nov. 22, 1730, was of Hempstead, mar. Mary Southard and died 1768, about the time his father did. The widow married Garret Burtis and removed to Dutchess Co. The children were William⁵, Henry⁵, James⁵ and Samuel⁵. William⁵ was of Verbank, Dutchess Co., married Lutetia Losee, and died 1799: descendants are now of Poughkeepsie. Of Henry⁵ and James⁵ nothing can be gathered; their descendants must be looked for in Dutchess Co. Samuel⁵, b. after his father's death, in 1768, married Meribeth Richetson and died in Durham, Greene Co., 1842. His children were Henry⁶, of Gorham, Rowland⁶, of Greene Co. and later of Poughkeepsie, where his son Samuel⁷ now lives, Ricketson⁶, Elizabeth⁶, mar. Morgan Jones, Jane⁶, mar. Edmund Brant, and Ruth⁶, mar. Gilbert Titus.

Richard⁴, the third son of Henry, was of Valley Stream and alive in 1768. He had two sons, Elkanah⁵, born 1761, died 1822, with no issue, and Richbell⁵, a tobacconist of New York, and later of Far Rockaway with son Stephen⁶ of whom we know nothing.

John⁴, the youngest son of Henry, born Apr. 17, 1748, was of Far Rockaway. He was married twice, first to Martha Sammis, and last to Lucy Nichols. He was the owner of large real estate and the father of Sammis⁵, David⁵, Daniel⁵, William⁵, now of Far Rockaway, Richard⁵, who lately died at Bayswater, Calvin H.⁵, John⁵, and Benjamin Birdsall⁵, now of Far Rockaway. Most of the Motts of Far Rockaway are of this stock.

Another group of Motts has been long located at Coram, Selden, and Patchogue. One Major Mott, said to have been of Neversink, Dutchess Co., had sons Jacob, b. 1751, Thomas, his twin, Samuel, Abram, b. 1766, Isaac, William, and Ebenezer. Of these, Jacob was the forefather of the present Coram people, Thomas was of Cortlandt Co., Abram was father of the Motts of Tompkins Co., Samuel was of Islip, and Ebenezer of Patchogue. A dau. of Ebenezer mar. John Mott, grandson of Jehu and Ruth, thus uniting in his descendants the blood of two families of the name.

*Of this Patrick, who was a man of prominence in Hempstead, we know strangely little. He had presumably a son of the same name, and either father or son (probably the latter) had wife Deborah, who d. 1792 aged 64. Apparently there were four men of this christian name who may have been of as many successive generations, but thus far nothing has been learned that can identify either. The last died in 1845, then of New York, aged 55 yrs., leaving son Richard W. and dau. Mary W.