

Mary Tates daughter to Joseph Tates ab also to many y
 many Bells daughter to Jeremiah Bells ab also to Elizabeth y
 John Studden son to John Studden ab also to Jane y
 Steven Mason son to William Mason ab also to Anne y
 James Blamo son to M^r Nicholas Blamo ab also to Jane y

Marrages

Richard Paine and Susan Nash were married y
 John Howarth and Elizabeth Mason were married y
 Thomas Bell and Anne Smith were married y

Burials

The widow Cartton was buried y
 Donith Tunnon was buried y
 Susan Stutham was buried y
 Mary Loukin daughter to John Loukin buried y
 Robert Tates of Sunnystone was buried y
 Richard Coates son to Roger Coates buried y
 Roger Smith was buried y
 Juliette Bellamie was buried y
 Oliver Joy was buried y

Robert Abrahams daughter to Robert Abrahams ab also to Elizabeth y
 Dorothy Salisbury son to Richard Salisbury ab also to Anne y
 Ralph Dodge son to John Dodge ab also to Jane y
 Elizabeth Whitall daughter to John Whitall ab also to Margaret y
 Mathew Day son to Edward Day citizen ab also to many y

Marrages

William Tates and Susan Nash were married y
 Thomas Wignall and Elizabeth Perce were married y
 Samuel Bangerin and Margaret Dumb were married y

Burials
 Nancy servant to M^r Gilloy buried y
 Thomas Allsomridge jun. was buried y
 M^r Margaret Lambert was buried y
 M^r Roger Broomley was buried y
 James Smith son to George Smith was buried y
 Susan Stillbrost daughter to Francis Stillbrost was buried y
 Christopher Golding of Sunnystone was buried y
 Jane Church daughter to James Church citizen was buried y
 The wife of Robert Northman was buried y
 William Smith a poor man was buried y

English Origins of
NEW ENGLAND FAMILIES

From The New England Historical
and Genealogical Register

Second Series
in Three Volumes

VOLUME III

Selected and Introduced by
GARY BOYD ROBERTS

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PARENTAGE OF SUSANNA WRIGHT,
WIFE OF RICHARD PEARCE
OF PORTSMOUTH, R. I.

Contributed by BENJAMIN FRANKLIN WILBOUR of Little Compton, R. I.

IN the "Pearce Genealogy," by Col. Frederick C. Pierce, which was published in 1888 and relates chiefly to Richard Pearce of Portsmouth, R. I., and his descendants, it is stated that Richard Pearce's father was of Bristol, England, and that Richard himself was born in England in 1615, was at Portsmouth, R. I., as early as 1654, and married in Portsmouth, in 1642, Susannah Wright, who was born in 1620. Susannah Wright is said to have been the daughter of George Wright of Newport, R. I., who was probably at Salem, Mass., in 1637, and at Newport in 1648. (Pearce Genealogy, pp. 37, 38.) Without considering here the question whether the English home and the date of birth of Richard Pearce are given correctly in the "Pearce Genealogy," there is no doubt that the maiden name of Richard Pearce's wife was Susanna Wright; but she was the daughter not of George Wright of Newport but of John Wright of Waltham Abbey, co. Essex, England, yeoman, as the following entry in the "Aspinwall Notarial Records" proves:

14 (7) 1647 Richard Pierce of Prudence Island in the Narrowgansett Bay did acknowledge the receipt of twenty pounds of Elizabeth Dell Executrix of the last will & Testament of Raph Dell of Bow in Middlesex due as a Legacie unto his wife Susanna daughter of John Wrighte of Walton [Waltham] Abbey parish in Essex yeoman: & doth acquitt & discharge the said Elisabeth of the said Legacie & every part thereof. Signed & sealed the 14 (7) before me the Not. publ. 1647. (Aspinwall Notarial Records, pp. 85-86, Boston, 1903.)

The following records supply further information about the parentage and English connections of Susanna Wright, the wife of Richard Pearce, and show, *inter alia*, that she was baptized at Waltham Abbey 5 Aug. 1627 (*not* 1620) and was married there (*not* at Portsmouth, R. I.), 5 May 1642, to Richard Pierce [or Pearce]. He and his wife must, therefore, have migrated to New England between the date of their marriage and 14 Sept. 1647, when Richard Pierce acknowledged the receipt of the legacy due to his wife under the provisions of the will of Ralph Dell.

FROM THE PARISH REGISTERS OF WALTHAM ABBEY, CO. ESSEX,
1563-1650*

DELL

Baptisms

- 1607 Ralph son of John Dell 13 September.
1611 Ralph son of John Dell 21 April.
1621 George son of John Dell 4 November.
1627 Elisabeth daughter of John Dell 20 January [1627/8].
1632 Margaret daughter of John Dell — August.

Marriages

- 1624 John Write and Mary Dell 22 April.
1625 John Dell and Bridgett Warer[?] 28 July.

Burials

- 1607 Ralph son of John Dell 1 November.
1629 A nurse child of Bridgett Dell 21 November.
1634 Margaret daughter of John Dell — February [1634/5].

PIERCE

Births

- 1655 John son of Robert Pierce 22 January [1655/6].
1659 Charity daughter of Robert Pierce 6 April.

Marriages

- 1642 Richard Pierce and Susan Write 5 May.
1655 George Wilson and Martha Pierce 22 January [1655/6].

Burials

- 1661 Robert Pierce, innkeeper, 22 October.
1661 Charles Morgan died at Richard Pierce's and was buried 19 November.

WRIGHT

Baptisms

- 1563 Thomas son of Richard Wright 26 ——.
1564 Lawrence son of George Wright 7 May.
1565 Thomas son of Robert Wright 3 June.
1567 Jane daughter of George Wright 12 January [1567/8].
1567 Henry son of John Wright 5 March [1567/8].
1569 Robert son of George Wright 14 August.
1569 Thomas son of John Wright 30 August.
1570 Margaret daughter of John Wright 30 July.
1570 Robert son of Robert Wright 5 March [1570/1].
1572 Bridgett daughter of George Wright 2 April.
1573 Henry son of Henry Wright 30 August.
1574 John son of John Wright 24 January [1574/5].
1576 Robert son of John Wright 26 August.
1582 Magdalen daughter of John Wright 8 July.
1599 Elisabeth daughter of Thomas Wright — February [1599/1600].
1600 Robert son of Robert Wright 25 May.
1601 Philip son of Robert Wright 27 June.
1601 Sarah daughter of Henry Wright 17 January [1601/2].

*The parish registers of Waltham Holy Cross (Waltham Abbey), co. Essex, begin 1 June 1563. A description of them, with some of the more interesting entries and much antiquarian lore relating to this parish, may be found in *Our Parish Registers*, by W. Winters, Waltham Abbey, 1885.

- 1603 Margaret daughter of Philip Wright 18 June.
- 1603 Mary daughter of Thomas Wright 17 August.
- 1603 Robert son of Robert Wright 28 August.
- 1605 William son of Robert Wright 12 July.
- 1605 William son of Thomas Wright — November.
- 1605 Catharine daughter of Philip Wright 2 February [1605/6].
- 1606 Frances daughter of Robert Wright 1 June.
- 1608 Frances daughter of Robert Wright 29 May.
- 1608 Sarah daughter of Hary Wright 30 July.
- 1610 Ann daughter of Philip Wright 29 July.
- 1624 John son of John Write* 20 February [1624/5].
- 1627 Susanna daughter of John Write 5 August.
- 1629 William son of William Wright 28 June.
- 1630 Henry son of Christopher Wright 20 May.
- 1631 William son of Robert Wright 22 January [1631/2].
- 1633 Ann daughter of John Write 29 August.
- 1635 Ralph son of John Write 26 September.
- 1637 Henry son of John Write 16 May.
- 1646 John son of William Wright — August.

Marriages

- 1568 John Wright and Ellen Lightsent 27 June.
- 1569 John Wright and Margaret ——— 26 May.
- 1569 John Wright and Agnes Pecock 15 August.
- 1574 Clement Basley of Sapwood and Agnes Wright 2 May.
- 1598 Henry Wright and Sarah Marble 6 November.
- 1599 Robert Wright and Alice Green 17 June.
- 1602 Robert Wright and Susan Cawell 18 July.
- 1602 Philip Wright and Mary Meghill 4 November.
- 1607 William Bellamy and Jane Wright 29 January [1607/8].
- 1617 Richard Stock and Katherine Wright 16 June.
- 1620 Anthony Benton and Jane Wright 5 November.
- 1624 John Write and Mary Dell 22 April.
- 1628 George Burton and Frances Wright 14 April.
- 1630 Henry Wright and Elisabeth Barker 14 July.
- 1636 Bazzell Bull and Jane Wright 1 September.
- 1642 Richard Pierce and Susan Write 5 May.
- 1642 Patrick Wright and Elisabeth Stock 20 October.

Burials

- 1568 Alley wife of John Wright 15 July.
- 1570 John Wryght, tanner, 20 December.
- 1573 George Wryght of leberts hell† 20 January [1573/4].
- 1573 Jane [Wright], late widow, 28 February [1573/4].
- 1574 Henry son of Henry Wright 5 March [1574/5].
- 1577 William Wright 29 September.
- 1586 Alice Wright — March [? 1586/7].
- 1597 Catherine Wright 21 January [1597/8].
- 1600 Robert son of Robert Wright 30 May.
- 1603 Ellen wife of John Wright 11 September.
- 1603 John Wright 1 October.
- 1603 Susan wife of Robert Wright — January [1603/4].
- 1606 Robert son of Susan[?] Wright 9 October.
- 1610 Margaret daughter of Philip Wright 2 January [1610/11].

*The Wrights of Surestone (Sewardstone), a village near Waltham Abbey, were recorded in the parish registers under the spelling *Write*.

†That is, Lippets Hill.

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THE
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NEWPORT, R. I.

THE NEWPORT HISTORICAL PUBLISHING CO.

Nov. 2, 1658, he was a member of the General Assembly at Warwick.

June 6, 1659, he was chosen constable for the year, and was also ordered to take up what "lickers" come into town.

June 4, 1660, he was chosen constable for the year.

June 8, 1661, he was chosen constable for the year, and

PERCY, PERCE, PEARCY, PEARCE, PEIRCE, &c.,
IN RHODE ISLAND, 1650-1700.

DURING the latter half of the 17th century, at least four Freemen, heads of families, of the above names, were to be found in the colony of Rhode Island. They were:

- I. HENRY PEARCY, of Portsmouth.
- II. RICHARD PEARCE, of Portsmouth.
- III. JOHN PEARCE (mason) of Portsmouth.
- IV. EPHRAIM PEIRCE, of Warwick;

and it is not known that these men were in any way related to each other, although from the sameness of Christian names in the descendants of the last two, they may have had a common ancestor.

I. HENRY PEARCY, as he persisted in having his name spelt, was at Portsmouth as early as 1653, as in that year he bought lands of George Parker. [Portsmouth Records].

February 12, 1654, he bought a house and 12 acres of land of William James. The deed was witnessed by Richard Pearce, which is the earliest record of Richard. It is hardly possible that with the known purchases of property made by Henry Pearcy prior to 1655, he should not have been by that year a free-man of the town and colony, and it is thought that the name "Henrie ———," page 300, Vol. 1, R. I. Colonial Records, should be Henrie Pearcy.

March 16, 1666, he bought 2 acres, 7 rods of land, of Jacob Cole.

— —, 1669, he bought of Joseph Parker 14 acres of land in Portsmouth.

He married, probably, in 1642, Susanna, daughter of George Wright of Newport, who was probably of Salem, 1637, and of Newport, 1648, and who in 1649 stabbed one Walter Lettice, as Roger Williams writes to John Winthrop, Jr.

Richard Pearce is said, by tradition, to have been born in 1615, and his wife Susanna in 1620; also that he had a brother William born in 1613, who settled in Yarmouth, Mass.

His will was dated April 22, 1677, and was proved in Portsmouth, October 28, 1678. In it he states:

"IMPRIMIS: I do will and bequeath unto my eldest son
" Richard Pearce my now dwelling house and land and
" fencings, orchard and swamps, house and outhouses,
" with all appurtenances thereunto belonging. * * *

" My will is to give unto my son, John Pearce, one
" shilling in silver, and unto my son Giles Pearce one shil-
" ling in silver, and unto my son James one shilling in sil-
" ver, and unto my son William one shilling in silver, and
" unto my son George one shilling in silver, and unto my
" son Jeremiah Pearce one shilling in silver, and unto my
" four daughters one shilling apiece in silver, to be paid
" within six months after my decease if demanded by the
" elder of them, and unto the younger when they come to
" full age according to law."

From this will, other Portsmouth records, and the publications of Col. E. W. Peirce, who had very exact information concerning the dates of birth and death of some of his children, the family of Richard Pearce is believed to have been as follows:

Nov. 2, 1658, he was a member of the General Assembly at Warwick.

June 6, 1659, he was chosen constable for the year, and was also ordered to take up what "lickers" come into town.

June 4, 1660, he was chosen constable for the year.

June 3, 1661, he was chosen constable for the year, and also surveyor "for wine and strong waters."

May 12, 1662, his bill of charges on account of William Barker, deceased, was ordered to be paid, and he was also chosen constable for the year.

Oct. 12, 1664, he was chosen petit juryman.

June 5, 1665, he was chosen constable for the year.

June —, 1666, he was chosen constable for the year.

Between June, 1666, and the spring, probably, of 1667, he moved to New Jersey, to the Monmouth County Settlements, and resided at Portland Point, near what is now the Highlands of Neversink. In December, 1667, at the first General Assembly of the inhabitants of these new settlements, he was elected an official for Portland Point. It is not known that he was ever married, and no records of the kind are to be found at Portsmouth. He may have had a family in New Jersey.

II. RICHARD PEARCE was at Portsmouth as early as 1654, when, as stated above, he was a witness to a deed of 12 acres of land and a house, purchased of William James by Henry Percy.

Jan. 14, 1657, he was a witness to a deed.

June 8, 1657, he was chosen surveyor of marks of all "cattell that goe" from this town.

Jan. 11, 1658, he was a witness to a will.

May 18, 1658, he was admitted a freeman of the colony from Portsmouth.