

CHAPTER FORTY

SAMUEL PEARSALL
of Near Rockaway, Long Island, N. Y.

This chapter has been in part deleted. See Note, page 1041.

SECTION 1.

SAMUEL PEARSALL, son of George Pearsall, Chapter 37, Section 2; resided at Near Rockaway, Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y.; married Elizabeth Bedell. Children:—

1. Nathaniel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 2.
2. Edmund Pearsall, born May 13, 1753, Chapter 40, Section 4.
3. Uriah Pearsall, Chapter 41, Section 1.
4. Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 8.
5. Elizabeth Pearsall, died August 15, 1799, aged 34 years.

Samuel Pearsall represents the branch of the family who were the last to sever their connection with the old Presbyterian Church at Hempstead. In fact some of his descendants have never ceased to be Presbyterians, thus they have had three centuries of continued connection with this religious body. The history of this church, so far as our family history is concerned, may be concluded briefly as follows: During the lifetime of Samuel Pearsall the congregation, in 1762, completed its fifth church building, which was located upon the site of the present church. The records disclosed that they enjoyed religious services among themselves and preaching by supplies until the Reverend Joshua Hart became the settled pastor in 1772. It took men of the highest character and of the strongest religious faith to stand by the Presbyterian Church during this period, when all the powers of the government, all the attractions of society, and all the force of superior numbers were drawing the people to the Episcopal Church. Samuel Pearsall was not only a leader in this band of worshippers, but he so impressed his religious views upon his children and grandchildren that they long remained faithful to this same church. He died before Joshua Hart came to be the settled preacher, so the only remaining incident in this church of importance to our family history was that in March, 1803, the church building was totally destroyed by fire, together with all its priceless records, but while these writings are no longer extant we have the human records in the association of our family with the church both before and after the building was destroyed by fire, thus evidencing the triumphs of this faithful band of worshippers in maintaining a continuous, unbroken existence of their society.

Robert Bedell, father of Elizabeth Bedell, was the son of a Dutch-English trader from Virginia. The family was divided at this time, very much as the Pearsall family, hence the records disclose members thereof during the seventeenth

century in Virginia, Maryland and Long Island. In Maryland the family was in Anne Arundel and Talbot counties where the Dutch-English traders were also located. In England the family were long resident in Staffordshire.

The family name was originally Bidulf, which discloses that they were descended from Orm le Gulden through his son Thomas, surnamed Bidulf. Orm le Gulden was from a long line of Yorkshire thegns. His grandfather, in the eleventh century married as his second wife, Aetheltryth, who was a daughter of our ancestor Ealdred, Earl of Northumberland. Orm le Gulden was not, however, descended from the Bernician Kings through this marriage, but from a former marriage into the royal family by his grandfather. The Bidulphs were part of the Northumbrian colony that settled at Stone Priory in Staffordshire shortly after the Conquest of England. The family of Bidulph or Bedell were active in Staffordshire at the time the Second Virginia Company was organized and this family is another of the several instances of Staffordshire families at Hellgate Neck and Hempstead on Long Island.

SECTION 2.

NATHANIEL PEARSALL, son of Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 1; died August 28, 1829; aged 75 years, 6 months and 19 days; resided at Herrick, Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y.; married March 28, 1782, Phebe Colwell, at St. George's Church, Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y. She died August 20, 1844, aged 82 years. Children:—

1. Andrew Pearsall, born September 15, 1783. See W, this Section.
2. Daniel Pearsall, born March 7, 1785. See X, this Section.
3. Ann C. Pearsall, born April 2, 1788; died April 2, 1866.
4. Abijah Pearsall, born March 25, 1790, Chapter 40, Section 3.
5. Mary Pearsall, born February 15, 1792; died August 20, 1876; married Richard Burt, who died November 12, 1873, aged 77 years, 10 months.
6. John Pearsall, born April 11, 1795; unmarried.
7. Amy Pearsall, born October 29, 1797; married Richard Burt.
8. Elizabeth Pearsall, born December 30, 1799; died April 8, 1893.
9. Nathaniel Pearsall, born February 4, 1802; unmarried.

W. ANDREW PEARSALL, born September 15, 1783; died February 20, 1864; aged 80 years, 5 months and 5 days; buried with his wife in the old cemetery at Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y.; resided at Hempstead, L. I., N. Y.; married, April 9, 1808, at the Presbyterian Church, Hempstead, Phebe A. Rogers, who died December 3, 1878, aged 94 years and 2 months. Children:—

1. Margaret M. Pearsall, died August 18, 1856, aged 35 years and 8 months; unmarried.
2. Amanda Pearsall, married Benjamin Mott, son of Augustus Mott, who resided at Hempstead, L. I., N. Y. Children:—*1. Emily Mott, married Edward Smith. *2. Augustus Mott, married first, Josephine Coles; married second, Katharine Pullmer. Children of first marriage:—1. Emily Mott. 2. William Mott. Children of second marriage:—3. Maud S. Mott. 4. Charles Mott. 5. Augustus Mott. 6. Lillie Mott. 7. Elizabeth Mott. *3. Elizabeth Mott.

X. DANIEL PEARSALL, born March 7, 1785; died August 22, 1866; aged 81 years, 5 months and 15 days; buried in the Presbyterian Churchyard, Hempstead, L. I., N. Y.; resided at Herrick, L. I., N. Y.; married, November 22, 1808, Abigail Losee, at the Presbyterian Church, Hempstead, L. I., N. Y. She died July 30, 1857, aged 61 years, 11 months, 19 days. Children:—

1. Elizabeth L. Pearsall, born March 3, 1811; died April 22, 1869.
2. Margaret Ellen Pearsall, died April 29, 1894; aged 71 years, 2 months, 18 days.
3. Charles H. Pearsall, died September 15, 1902; aged 72 years, 6 months and 19 days; married, December 26, 1850, Frances Newton, who died May 3, 1871; aged 38 years and 5 days. Children:—*1. Matilda Newton Pearsall, born December 26, 1851; married, March 26, 1873, Charles Augustus Ellison. He was born June 23, 1851; died March 9, 1904. *2. William H. Pearsall, born March 5, 1854; died August 16, 1854. *3. Ella Louise Pearsall, born February 23, 1856; married first, February 24, 1874, Thomas E. Pearsall. He was born December 25, 1825; died October 11, 1897. See Chapter 40, Section 9, Division Y. She married second, William Oakford, who was born October 2, 1855. Children of first marriage:—1. Frank S. Pearsall, born November 22, 1875. 2. Arthur E. Pearsall, born January 10, 1878. 3. Herbert E. Pearsall, born March 1, 1881. 4. John A. Pearsall, born January 19, 1883. 5. Grover C. Pearsall, born November 15, 1884; married, January 26, 1916, Dorothy Bliss. Child of second marriage:—6. Kennett Pearsall Oakford, born May 6, 1903. *4. Daniel Augustus Pearsall, born April 5, 1858; resided at Mineola and Springfield, L. I., N. Y.; married, March, 1883, Julia Seaman, who was born July 13, 1858. Children:—1. Augustus Pearsall, born May 23, 1885. 2. Frances Maria Pearsall, born August 16, 1886. 3. Walter Daniel Pearsall, born August 24, 1888. 4. Sarah Seaman Pearsall, born March 27, 1891. 5. Benjamin Pearsall, born March 28, 1892. 6. Newton Pearsall, born September, 1893. 7. Charles Henry Pearsall. *5. Isaac Newton Pearsall, born October 16, 1860; died February 18, 1894. *6. Charles H. Pearsall, born October 30, 1863; married, September 18, 1899, Ella West.
4. Phebe Pearsall, Chapter 44, Section 17.
5. Ann Maria Pearsall, died May 31, 1866; married Sept. 28, 1854, Smith Pine.

SECTION 3.

ABIJAH PEARSALL, son of Nathaniel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 2; born March 25, 1790; died October 9, 1829; buried with his wife in the Searingtown M. E. Churchyard; resided at Herrick, Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y., and Searingtown, Long Island, N. Y. married September 2, 1818, Elizabeth Searing, daughter of Rev. John Searing and his wife Freelove Carpenter. She was born August 23, 1798; died September 6, 1871. Children:—

1. Ann Eliza Pearsall, born November 25, 1819; married James S. Carpenter.
2. John Searing Pearsall, born July 13, 1821; married Eliza Jane Carpenter. See X, this Section.
3. William Sanford Pearsall, born October 27, 1823; died June 22, 1852.
4. Thomas E. Pearsall, born December 25, 1825; married first, Ruth A. Williams; second, Ella Louise Pearsall. See Y, this Section.

5. Richard Seaman Pearsall, born July 20, 1827; married Amy Van Dam. See Z, this Section.

SECTION 4.

EDMUND PEARSALL, son of Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 1, was born May 13, 1753; died August 20, 1781; resided at Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y., Martha's Vineyard Island, Duke Co., N. Y., now Massachusetts; buried in the graveyard of the Congregational Church at Tutbury on Martha's Vineyard Island. He married November 19, 1772, Elizabeth Pope, daughter of John Pope and his wife — Alton. She was born May 15, 1755; died August 6, 1848; she married for her second husband, Joseph Tobey, November 11, 1784, who was born May 13, 1759. Children:—

1. Mary Pearsall, born August 30, 1774; married Selby Picket.
2. Sarah Pearsall, born August 28, 1776; married Benjamin F. Pope.
3. Thomas Edmund Pearsall, born July 29, 1778, Chapter 40, Section 5.
4. Elizabeth (Betsy) Pearsall, born December 4, 1780; married first, — Welch; married second, — Picket.

Edward Persell, private in Capt. Benjamin Smith's Co. from January 18, 1776, to May 31, 1776, 4 months, 14 days; Company stationed at Martha's Vineyard for defense of sea coast. [Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution.]

The second family that settled in the town of Smyrna, N. Y., was that of Joseph Tobey, who married Mrs. Elizabeth Pearsall, older sister of Jerusha Pope, wife of Joseph Porter. Mr. Tobey accompanied Joseph Porter in his settlement and helped him to build his log cabin, returning in the fall to Conway, Mass., his native place. The following March, Mr. Tobey brought in his family, consisting of his wife and six children, four of the latter of whom were his wife's children by her first husband. When they arrived at Pleasant Brook it was much swollen and full of running ice from the spring floods, making its passage difficult. They crossed upon logs, carrying their effects upon their backs. Mrs. Tobey sat down upon a log and wished that she might die. What wonder is it? She had changed a comfortable home and friends in Massachusetts for what was now before her, an unbroken forest, the home of the Indians and wild beasts. The 7th of May following their arrival, Jerusha Tobey was born, being the first white child born in the town of Smyrna. The journey was made with a yoke of oxen and two cows, which were hitched mis-matched to a wooden sled which contained their children and household effects. Edmund Pearsall came from Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y. He was therefore a stranger in Massachusetts.

When the war of the Revolution came on, Martha's Vineyard Island was early abandoned to its own defense. Captain Benjamin Smith was placed in command of any local forces he might be able to organize. Edmund Pearsall did not at first join this company, but a later roll of service from the time of their going upon duty or their marching from their homes to their respective stations to the last day of February, 1776, contains the name of Edward Parsall, private. This company was mostly composed of Edgartown men, but there were in it a number of transients probably seafaring men. This company was stationed at the east end of the Isle. [Mass. Soldiers and Sailors, vol. 1, page 341.]

Edmund Pearsall served also on the vessels of the American Navy:—Edmond Parsol. Pay of officers and crew of the Brigantine Rising Empire, commanded by Capt. Richard Whellon, engaged May 1, 1776; discharged September 4, 1776; service 4 months, 3 days. Rolls sworn to in Bristol County.

Both John Pope and his son-in-law Edmund Pearsall were taken prisoners by the English. Banks in his History of Martha's Vineyard Island, says: There are no available lists of our soldiers who suffered captivity during the war either in prisons maintained on shore or on shipboard, in this country or who were transported to their established military prisons in England. Fragmentary references in scattered and unofficial records, family tradition and a few direct documentary evidences make up our source of information about the many who died or suffered living deaths in the pestilential prison ships and the unsanitary confinement in Mill prison, Plymouth, England. But the infamous prison ship Jersey claimed the greatest number of victims of all the devices by the king to punish and discourage the rebellious subjects. Among those known to have died as prisoners of war, or as a result of captivity after release, are Edmund Purcell, returning from captivity 1781; John Pope, returning from captivity 1781. In the published list of eight thousand prisoners on board the old prison ship Jersey in New York Harbor during the Revolution, on page 479, appears the name of Edward Parsol.

SECTION 5.

THOMAS EDMUND PEARSALL, son of Edmund Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 4; born July 29, 1778; died during the war of 1812; resided at Coopers-town, N. Y.; married Philothe Warren, daughter of David and Mary Warren. She was born May 5, 1784; died August 29, 1837. Children:—

1. Mary Ann Pearsall, born April 4, 1807; died June, 1870; married Elisha Doubleday, who was born June 29, 1801.
2. Simon Pearsall, born August 20, 1809, Chapter 40, Section 6.
3. Darius Warren Pearsall, born September 13, 1811, Chapter 40, Section 7.
4. Emma Elvira Pearsall, born April 15, 1813; married March 21, 1833, Sanford R. Knowlton, who was born June 15, 1813; died September 8, 1899.

SECTION 6.

SIMON PEARSALL, son of Thomas Edmund Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 5; born August 20, 1809; died May 28, 1900; resided at Fly Creek, Otsego Co., N. Y.; married first, February 13, 1833, Sabina Marvin, daughter of Daniel Marvin and his wife Abigail Greenman. She was born November 9, 1811; died August 28, 1852. He married second, April 9, 1854, Miranda Cheney, who was born June 1, 1831; died January 8, 1863. He married third, December 24, 1867, Jane A. Drake, widow of Eli Ferris. She was born December 25, 1830. Children of first marriage:—

1. Edwin Ruthven Pearsall, born August 15, 1834; died January 11, 1902; married January 19, 1857, Helen M. Smith. She was born December 29, 1833; died February 18, 1898. Children:—*1. Charles Judd Pearsall, born July 20, 1860; married November 1887, Hattie Ellis. *2. Nellie S. Pearsall,

born June 17, 1862; married January 18, 1916, Maurice King Parsons.

- *3. Hattie M. Pearsall, born May 20, 1864; married October 27, 1891, William C. Jocelyn. *4. Benjamin Simon Pearsall, born July 29, 1866; married December 20, 1893, Leah C. Calkins. *5. Clifford Rowe Pearsall, born March 10, 1868; married February 2, 1896, Ella Davidson.
- 2. Frances Ella Pearsall, born August 16, 1836; died September 22, 1836.
Children of second marriage:—
- 3. Frederick Eugene Pearsall, born May 25, 1858; married Alice G. Sawyer.
- 4. Miranda May Pearsall, born May 28, 1862; died April 26, 1865.

SECTION 7.

DARIUS WARREN PEARSALL, son of Thomas Edmund Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 5; born September 13, 1811; died May 21, 1882; resided at Harpersville, Broome Co., N. Y.; married first, September 19, 1833, Ann Elizabeth Waterman, daughter of Timothy Waterman and his wife Lucy Tannor. She was born October 23, 1814; died March 11, 1836. He married second, November 2, 1836, Caroline Cecelia Walter, daughter of F. Walter and his wife Lucy Meyers. She was born October 20, 1808; died August 4, 1883. Child of first marriage:—

- 1. Ann Elizabeth Pearsall, born October 29, 1835; married first, November 14, 1855, Oscar Dickinson, who died December 14, 1864, aged 34 years. She married second, June 18, 1867, Erwin E. Lawton, who died April 12, 1916.
Children of second marriage:—
- 2. Franklin W. Pearsall, born October 6, 1842; died September 13, 1847.
- 3. Lucy Philothea Pearsall, born April 5, 1845; died August 26, 1914; married November 28, 1871, George E. Hathaway.

SECTION 8.

SAMUEL PEARSALL, son of Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 1; resided at Near Rockaway, Long Island, N. Y.; married April 13, 1793, Abigail Denton at St. George's Church, Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y. Children:—

- 1. Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 9.
- 2. Nathaniel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 12.
- 3. Joseph Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 14.
- 4. Jemima Pearsall, married February 19, 1815, William Bedell.
- 5. Elizabeth Pearsall, married April 20, 1825, John Combs.
- 6. Letitia Pearsall, married January 13, 1832, William Simonson.

SECTION 9.

SAMUEL PEARSALL, son of Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 8, married ———. Children:—

- 1. Jeremiah Pearsall, married Catharine Abrams. See Z, this Section.
- 2. Peter Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 10.
- 3. Oliver Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 11.
- 4. Phoebe Pearsall, born December 10, 1822; died March 9, 1853; married Nicholas W. Francis, who was born March 21, 1818; died February 9, 1908.
- 5. Daniel Pearsall, died September 11, 1829.

SECTION 10.

PETER PEARSALL, son of Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 9; born 1819; died January 2, 1901, aged 82 years, 1 month, 2 days; resided at Rockaway, later called Lawrence, Long Island, N. Y.; married first, Phebe A. —, who died August 11, 1887, aged 64 years, 5 months, 17 days. He married second, May 6, 1888, Catherine Hall. No children by second marriage. Children of first marriage:—

1. Phoebe Elizabeth Pearsall, married — Fry.
2. Elsey Ann Pearsall, died April 6, 1847.
3. Robert Henry Pearsall; married Sarah Elizabeth Smith. See Z, this Section.
4. Ann Jane Pearsall; born February 3, 1848, died March 24, 1868.
5. Lucinda Pearsall; married October 21, 1860, Platt Frost.
6. Melvina Pearsall.
7. George Edward Pearsall; married Jean St. Clair Williams.

SECTION 11.

OLIVER PEARSALL, son of Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 9; born 1816; died December 15, 1885; buried in Sand Hole M. P. Churchyard, at Pearsalls, now Lynbrook, Long Island, N. Y.; resided at Rockville Center and village of Jamaica, Long Island, N. Y.; married May 20, 1836, Mary Ann Brower at Sand Hole Methodist Protestant Church, near Rockaway Center, Long Island, N. Y. She died 1891. Children:—

1. Oliver Pearsall, born June 7, 1839; died October 18, 1842.
2. DeMott Pearsall, born December 11, 1841; married Elizabeth Hertinstein. See Z, this Section.
3. Mary Amanda Pearsall, born 1845; died October 21, 1894; unmarried.
4. Phebe Catharine Pearsall, born 1848; died July 10, 1896; married John Bennem, who died June 1, 1910. Children:—*1. Henrietta Bennem, married William Coleman. *2. Maud Bennem, married Oliver Pearsall of Brooklyn, N. Y., son of De Mott Pearsall. See Division Z, this Section. *4. Edna Bennem, married Gustave Platzer. No children.

SECTION 12.

NATHANIEL PEARSALL, son of Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 8, died December 3, 1866, aged 69 years; buried in the Old Sand Hole M. P. Churchyard; resided at Far Rockaway, Long Island, N. Y.; married first, April 20, 1822, at St. George's Church, Hempstead, Long Island, N. Y., Lydia Shaw, daughter of Henry Shaw. She died January 8, 1854, aged 47 years. Nathaniel Pearsall married second, Jane —. Children of first marriage:—

1. Daniel Pearsall. See X, this Section.
2. Robert Pearsall; married Mary Wood. See Y, this Section.
3. Henry Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 13.
4. Elizabeth Ann Pearsall; married Thaddeus Van Nostrand.
5. William Pearsall; married Elizabeth —. See Z, this Section.
6. Mary Jane Pearsall; married Alexander Pearsall.

SECTION 13.

HENRY PEARSALL, son of Nathaniel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 12; born 1822; died July 18, 1894, aged 72 years; buried in Methodist Churchyard, Cedarhurst, Long Island, N. Y.; resided at East Rockaway, Long Island, N. Y.; married at the Old Sand Hole M. P. Church, near Pearsalls, now Lynbrook, Long Island, N. Y., March 11, 1848, Elizabeth Ann Murray, daughter of James Murray. She was born 1830. Children:—

1. William Pearsall, born July 23, 1854; married Julia Tilly. See X, this Section.
2. Charles Pearsall, born March 5, 1852; married Margaret A. —. See Y, this Section.
3. Louis Pearsall, born January 14, 1857; married Ephphame Abrams. See Z, this Section.
4. Henry I. Pearsall, born May 10, 1858; married June 1, 1903, Catherine Goslar, who was born January 16, 1868.
5. George Washington Pearsall, born November 10, 1860.
6. Frank Pearsall, born June 10, 1864.
7. Jennie Pearsall, born January 20, 1869; died March 29, 1916; unmarried

SECTION 14.

JOSEPH PEARSALL, son of Samuel Pearsall, Chapter 40, Section 8; born December 23, 1807; died June 12, 1872; buried with his wife in Cedarhurst, Long Island, N. Y. Methodist Episcopal Churchyard. In the same lot are a number of unmarked graves. He resided at Rockaway Neck, Long Island, N. Y.; married at the Dutch Reformed Church, Jamaica, February 1, 1834, Mary Elizabeth Abrams, who died March 19, 1898, aged 80 years. Children:—

1. Alfred Pearsall, married Lavina Craft. See X, this Section.
2. Hiram Pearsall, married first, Clarissa Sprague; second, Minnie L. Bedell. See Y, this Section.
3. Thaddeus (Thomas) Pearsall, married Sarah Ganett Sprague. See Z, this Section.
4. Silvia Ann Pearsall, died March 9, 1904, aged 58 years; married Daniel Bolton.
5. Louise Pearsall, baptised November 1854; married John Hendrickson.
6. Josephine Pearsall, baptised June 1856.
7. Rachel Etta Pearsall, married Henry Rider.
8. Mary E. Pearsall, baptised March, 1851; married Samuel Francis.
9. Hannah Jane Pearsall, married John Abrams.
10. Aleda Pearsall, baptised May 3, 1847.
11. Anna Pearsall, married May 27, 1882, Benjamin Ryder.