

## Comments by the Compiler

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This genealogy follows the migration of the "Jeremiah Branch" Gillets from New Milford, Connecticut to Tinmouth and their cousins to Charlotte, Vermont. The migration continued with the next generation of Tinmouth Gillets west to upstate New York, looking for more farmland.

Tinmouth is surrounded by many townships where the inhabitants had contemporary stories about themselves recorded. This is not true for Charlotte. In fact, very little can be found about the Charlotte Gillets and their genealogy is not included here. They migrated west on the new Erie Canal into Ohio, Indiana and Iowa, always looking for better and cheaper farmland.

The descendants of my ancestor, Lucinda Gillet, who lived in Orwell, found Middlebury as their final destination. My brother, John, has moved back there, which is our mother's birthplace and our family's maternal roots.

This story was set aside nearly 20 years ago to pursue other genealogical interests. Fortunately, times have not changed that much in Tinmouth. Gail Fallar is still the Town Clerk and she maintains the town's genealogical records. The Vermont Genealogical Society now has my manuscript for editing and publication.

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**DESCENDANTS OF JEREMIAH GILLETT:  
EARLY SETTLERS IN TINMOUTH AND CHARLOTTE VERMONT**

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**THE INITIAL RESEARCH PROBLEM**

This project began with a fan chart entry for an ancestor: "Lucinda P. Gillet b. Apr 19-1800 d. Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> 1853 Orwell, Vt."<sup>1</sup> And the entry for her husband, John Thomas, of Orwell. Her known pedigree stopped there. The initial source for solving this mystery involved the Vermont 1800 census where all listed Gilletts are identified. Those nearest to Orwell were investigated first. Before long, the Tinmouth town clerk brought forth an 1829 land record signed by Lucinda Thomas (of Orwell) and her husband, John Thomas, concerning the "widdows dowry to the estate of Jonathan Gillett."<sup>2</sup> Jonathan Gillett's gravestone is located in the Lillie-Paul Cemetery on the Tinmouth-Danby township line. An account of the circumstances surrounding his death, at the age of forty, was obtained from the history of Wells, the next township west of Tinmouth.<sup>3</sup> These discoveries launched this project.

**STARTING AT THE BEGINNING**

Brothers Jonathan, Nathan and Jeremiah Gillett all came to America from England in the 1630s. Investigating descendants

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<sup>1</sup> Family fan chart, compiled ca. 1900, commencing with the 1898 marriage of Jessie Louise Chapman and Daniel Noble, property of the author.

<sup>2</sup> Tinmouth Vermont Deed Bk 6:62.

<sup>3</sup> Hiland Paul, *History of Wells, Vermont, for the First Century of its Settlement* (Wells, Vt.: Wells Historical Society, 1869), 94.

of the third brother, Jeremiah,<sup>4</sup> Donald Lines Jacobus stated, concerning those who migrated from Connecticut to Vermont, "Further research and study of this group is indicated."<sup>5</sup>

**This article is that study** --- those descendants of Jeremiah Gillett who settled in Vermont. Donald Lines Jacobus' confusions have been resolved, and these families have been taken forward several generations. They were large families originating in different towns in Connecticut and migrating at slightly different times. The Abraham Gillit family first came to Vermont in the mid-1780s and settled in Tinmouth, a few miles southwest of Rutland. Abraham's first cousins, the brothers Wheeler and Eliphal Gillett, and their families, arrived in Vermont in the late 1790s and traveled farther up the Champlain Valley to Charlotte, just south of Burlington.

In 1950, Jacobus attempted to unravel these Gillett families who migrated to Vermont. He referred back to his previous article in 1949 entitled, "The 'Other' Gilletts."<sup>6</sup> His initial error was to place Eliphal (who migrated to Charlotte) in Tinmouth, when it was Abraham who settled in Tinmouth. Believing that as fact caused him additional errors when he wrote: "Eliphal Gillett [No. 37, p. 181], baptized 27 Sept. 1747, is said to have died at Tinmouth,Vt., 20 July

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<sup>4</sup> Donald Lines Jacobus, "The 'Other' Gilletts," *The American Genealogist*, (New Haven: 1949), 25:174-191.

<sup>5</sup> Donald Lines Jacobus, "Gillett Addenda," *The American Genealogist*, (New Haven: 1950), 26:52-53.

<sup>6</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 25:181.

1807, and to have had sons Jonathan, Benjamin, and Sylvester M."<sup>7</sup>

The spelling of their surname changed over time from Gillit to Gillitt or Gillet to Gillett and even later, sometimes to Gillette. These changes are noted when they occur in wills, deeds and gravestones. In 1807 an acquaintance of this family wrote a letter and mentioned that "Mr. Jellet" had just died.<sup>8</sup> From that comment, it is learned that the "G" is soft.

Part I - The Abraham Gillit family of Tinmouth, Vermont

**ABRAHAM GILLIT** [5] (Abraham [4], Eliphail [3], Jeremiah [2], Jeremiah [1]), son of Abraham and Abigail (Prindle) Gillit<sup>9</sup> was born in New Milford, Litchfield County, Connecticut on 16 Dec. 1734,<sup>10</sup> and died on 20 July 1807 at the age of 73,<sup>11</sup> in Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont. He probably married **MARY ANDREW**, born in Milford 20 November 1736,<sup>12</sup> daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Smith) Andrew and who died in Tinmouth on 10 July 1821 at age 85.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 26:53.

<sup>8</sup> William Colegrove, *The History and Genealogy of the Colegrove Family in America*, (Chicago: pub. by the author, 1894), 44.

<sup>9</sup> Susan Woodruff Abbott, *Families of Early Milford, Connecticut*, (Clearfield: 1979), 302.

<sup>10</sup> Samuel Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater, Connecticut, 1703-1882* (Hartford: Press of the Case, Lockwood and Brainard Co., (1882), 707.

<sup>11</sup> Tinmouth Congregational Church of Christ Records, listed as Mr. Gillet (father of Benj. Gillet), [FHL 29001], 254, age was annotated later as 73.

<sup>12</sup> Abbott, *Families of Early Milford*, 6.

<sup>13</sup> Abby Maria Hemenway, *The Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, III (Burlington, Vt.: pub. by the author, 1877), 3:1149; Tinmouth Cong. Ch. Records, [FHL 29001], 258.

There is a difference of opinion concerning Abraham's birth date. Jacobus said it was "ca. 1736,"<sup>14</sup> yet Orcutt did not give a date, although he thought that Abraham was related to his father's family and gave the baptisms of two of his daughters.<sup>15</sup> Orcutt did give the date of birth of Jonathan, one of the other children, as 16 December 1734.<sup>16</sup> At Abraham's death, the church entry on 20 July 1807 stated that Abraham was "upwards of 70 years old" and later someone added "73."<sup>17</sup> The probate record of Abraham, the father, in 1736 added the statement, "The Heirs of this Estate being said Natural Children of the aforesaid deceased Abraham Gillit are Hannah Gillit Abigail Gillit and Jonathan, but now called Abraham Gillit."<sup>18</sup> The conclusion of these statements is that Abraham was in fact the same as the earlier named Jonathan and that his father wanted his own name remembered.

It is interesting to note that Abraham bought his first two pieces of land on 7 March 1754 when he was nineteen years old. He bought a total of eight acres from Benjamin Brown for eighty pounds. One was bounded by "Land Belonging to the heirs of Abraham Gillit."<sup>19</sup> Nothing in the deed suggests that it was inherited land, so it is a mystery how Abraham would be

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<sup>14</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 25:181.

<sup>15</sup> Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater*, 707.

<sup>16</sup> Ibid.

<sup>17</sup> Tinmouth Congregational Church of Christ Records, 254.

<sup>18</sup> Woodbury, Connecticut Probate Records, 1719-1749, [FHL 6171], 2:51.

<sup>19</sup> New Milford Land Records, 8:442.

allowed to buy land before he was elected a freeman at age twenty-one.

Another mystery concerns the married life of Abraham's mother, Abigail. After her husband died, church records show that she married John Hull on 1 November 1737.<sup>20</sup> Secondary sources agree that a son, John Hull, was born on 28 May 1738<sup>21</sup> from that union. Jacobus records that John Hull, the father, died in Cuba with Provincial troops in 1741, but his will was proved in Redding, Fairfield County, Connecticut.<sup>22</sup> Prindle maintains that Abigail married Benjamin Brown after Abraham Gillit,<sup>23</sup> which church records disprove. However, it could have been her third marriage. Nathan G. Pond thought Abigail married first, Abraham Gillit; and second, Benjamin Brown.<sup>24</sup> The marriage to John Hull may have been short lived, as suggested by Jacobus and Pond missed it. Benjamin Brown did sell land to Abraham in 1754 in New Milford, and he owned land adjacent to the Gillits.

There appears to be two John Hulls and both are claimed to have been born in New Milford in 1738. Orcutt believe that one lived in New Milford and married in New Milford, Eunice

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<sup>20</sup> New Milford Congregational Church Records, [FHL 1011946], 25.

<sup>21</sup> Donald Lines Jacobus, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield, Volume II, Part 1*, (Fairfield: DAR, 1932), 504; Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater*, 719.

<sup>22</sup> Jacobus, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield*, 503.

<sup>23</sup> Franklin C. Prindle, *The Prindle Genealogy*, (New York: The Grafton Press, 1906), 112.

<sup>24</sup> Nathan G. Pond, *Milford Families*, [FHL 3024], under Prindle. He lists early Milford and New Milford marriages.

Jackson, on 20 April 1762,<sup>25</sup> had seven children and died 28 December 1808.<sup>26</sup> Jacobus believed that the same one lived in Redding married (1) 3 February 1763 Molly Andrews,<sup>27</sup> had two children and married (2) Mary (Chapman), widow of Moses Bradley. He died in Redding in 1820.<sup>28</sup>

As we will see later, Abraham's son, Jonathan, named one of his sons John Hull Gillit. Jonathan would have known the John Hull who lived in New Milford and was his half-uncle. He grew up with John Hull's children, their being the same ages as his siblings. Without further study, these different marriage claims for Abigail and which son was hers will not be completely resolved.

A thorough search of Connecticut records of all kinds has not yet proved that Mary Andrew married Abraham Gillit. If no marriage proof is found, the following explanation provides strong circumstantial evidence. A death for a Mary Andrew(s) from Milford on 15 June 1785<sup>29</sup> was found, but the age of the same female was found to be seven years.<sup>30</sup>

Mary's grandfather, Rev. Samuel Andrew, (Harvard 1675) was pastor of the Milford Congregational Church for fifty-two

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<sup>25</sup> Barbour Collection, listed under "Jackson, Eunice, m. John Hull, Apr. 20, 1762," New Milford Vital Records, 1:4.

<sup>26</sup> Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater*, 719.

<sup>27</sup> Barbour Collection, listed under "Andrews, Mary m. John Hull, b. of Redding, Feb. 3, 1763, by Rev. Nathaniel Bartlet" Redding Vital Records 1:29.

<sup>28</sup> Jacobus, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield*, 504.

<sup>29</sup> Index to Milford Births, Marriages, Death Records 1640-1936, [FHL 1428120], 1.

<sup>30</sup> Barbour Collection, Milford Births, Marriages, Deaths 1640-1850, 4.

years and one of the principal founders of Yale College.<sup>31</sup> He was chosen Rector pro Tempore from 1707 to 1719, at which time Collegiate School was consolidated in New Haven and took the name Yale College.<sup>32</sup> He was also one of over one hundred original proprietors of New Milford land, (forty miles northwest of Milford) when it was purchased from the Indians in 1702/3.<sup>33</sup>

On 17 September 1739, Mary's father died at thirty-five before she was three.<sup>34</sup> Without a husband, Elizabeth (Smith) Andrew may have turned to her husband's nephew, Samuel Andrew [III], to help her run her household. Born in 1721, he was eighteen years old by 1739 and single.<sup>35</sup> Elizabeth had six children, all under twelve.<sup>36</sup>

By early 1756, Samuel was thirty-five and Mary, his first cousin, was nineteen. Samuel inherited land that included a farm in New Milford that his father had owned since 1717.<sup>37</sup> This necessitated various trips to New Milford to sign land records in January 1755,<sup>38</sup> March 1756,<sup>39</sup> May 1756<sup>40</sup> and August 1759,<sup>41</sup> and probably many others to attend to his properties.

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<sup>31</sup> Abbott, *Families of Early Milford*, 4.

<sup>32</sup> John Langdon Sibley, M.A., *Graduates of Harvard University, 1659-1677*, (Cambridge: University Bookstore, 1881), 2:459-460.

<sup>33</sup> Graton Press, *Two Centuries of New Milford, Connecticut*, 22; Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater*, 6-8.

<sup>34</sup> Abbott, *Families of Early Milford*, 5.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid.

<sup>36</sup> Abbott, *Families of Early Milford*, 5-6.

<sup>37</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5193], 9:245.

<sup>38</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5193], 9:63.

<sup>39</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5193], 9:262.

<sup>40</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5193], 9:245.

<sup>41</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5193], 9:393.



One could speculate that Mary may have accompanied him on some of these visits and met Abraham Gillit. They both could have attended the New Milford Congregational Church. Abraham also visited Milford during this period. He sold land there to his uncle, Eliphal Gillit, on 28 March 1757.<sup>42</sup> On 1 April 1757,<sup>43</sup> with his older sister, Hannah, Abraham sold land in Milford to his second cousin, Abel Gillet,<sup>44</sup> who also was from New Milford. This gave Abraham additional opportunities to meet Mary Andrew.

Coincidentally, during this period, another Abraham from New Milford married a Mary from Milford. Abraham Smith (b. 1731-2)<sup>45</sup> married Mary Smith (b. 1728) of Milford in 1757.<sup>46</sup> They were first cousins, which simplified knowing each other, but the approximately 50 miles between the two towns could probably be covered in one day by stagecoach. There was another family of Smiths who lived in Milford yet bought, sold or had laid out land in New Milford. John Smith of Milford (an original proprietor) gave land to his sons; James, Caleb, Abraham, and Ephriam in New Milford for the "Consideration of Love good will and affection which I bear to my four natural sons." Deeds in this family continued from 1740 to at least 1769 in New Milford,<sup>47</sup> yet the land owners remained in Milford.

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<sup>42</sup> Milford Land Records, [FHL 4922], 13:354.

<sup>43</sup> Milford Land Records, [FHL 4922], 13:105.

<sup>44</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 25:183.

<sup>45</sup> Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater*, 767.

<sup>46</sup> Abbott, *Families of Early Milford*, 672.

<sup>47</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5191], 5:19, 6:738, 6:780; [FHL 5194] 11:380.

These are just more indications of the close land ties between these two towns at that time.

Samuel died on 15 October 1760,<sup>48</sup> but by that time Abraham had married Mary Andrew and their first child, William, possibly named after Mary Andrew's twin brother, had been born. Abraham's closest relative named William was "Doctor" William Gillitt,<sup>49</sup> also of New Milford, who was Abraham's first cousin, once removed. Later, Abraham's son, William, would be known as William Junior, in New Milford, while the senior William still lived.<sup>50</sup> Abel Gillet, who is mentioned above, was a son of the older William. Another possibility was William Hutchins, the husband of Abraham's aunt, Elizabeth Prindle.

The next born was Jonathan, possibly named for Mary's father. Sarah, the third child, was the name of Mary's first cousin,<sup>51</sup> who was 10 years older than Mary and a sister of Samuel Andrew. Special significance can be attached to the name, Sarah. It is noted that Mary's mother, Elizabeth, is not honored. Either Mary's cousin Sarah, or another Sarah, may have been Mary's surrogate mother. The fourth child was

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<sup>48</sup> Abbott, *Families of Early Milford*, 6.

<sup>49</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 25:183.

<sup>50</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5197]17:37. This is only one of many records of Dr. William Gillitt. The last one found was dated 17 Sep. 1789, when land was sold to his son, Abel.

<sup>51</sup> Abbott, *Families of Early Milford*, 5.

Abigail, the name of one of Mary's sisters,<sup>52</sup> Abraham's mother<sup>53</sup> and Abraham's older sister.<sup>54</sup>

It has become increasingly clear that, at this time, there was a well-established migration route from Milford to New Milford, starting with the purchase of land for the town from the Indians in 1702/3. Descendants of families such as the Gillits, Prindles, Andrews, Hutchins, and Smiths migrated to New Milford, but kept in touch with their older relatives back in Milford. That pattern will be repeated with the next generation of Gillits, who move to Tinmouth, Vermont. The eldest son of Abraham returned to New Milford to live out his life.

At the age of twenty-two, Abraham Gillit from New Milford, enlisted for 18 days on 6 August 1757 in Capt. John Hitchcock's Connecticut militia company in Col. Ebenezer Mash's regiment<sup>55</sup> (part of a 5,000 man force).<sup>56</sup> This service was for the "Alarm for Relief of Fort William Henry [in New York] and Places adjacent."<sup>57</sup> There were 99 men in the company, of whom sixty-five horsemen were from New Milford. The French captured the fort (south end of Lake George) on 9 August 1757 and their Indian allies slaughtered up to 184 of

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<sup>52</sup> Abbott, *Families of Early Milford*, 6.

<sup>53</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 25:180.

<sup>54</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 25:181.

<sup>55</sup> *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society* (New London, 1903), 9:225-226.

<sup>56</sup> Ian K. Steele, *Betrayals* (New York: Oxford University Press, 1990), 125.

<sup>57</sup> *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, 9:225-226.

the English and provincial soldiers.<sup>58</sup> Abraham had traveled only as far as Albany, New York and was discharged on 25 August 1757.<sup>59</sup> His unit arrived too late to help the besieged defenders.

Between 7 March 1754 and 25 December 1784, Abraham bought and sold over 20 pieces of land in New Milford. The first purchase was for two pieces: a two-acre lot and a six-acre lot<sup>60</sup> on each side of Long Mountain.<sup>61</sup> (Long Mountain is a range of high land along the east side of the Housatonic River from Kent and above New Milford.) Next, on 15 January 1756, William Hutchings [Hutchins] gave Abraham forty acres "for the Consideration of the Love Goodwill and Affection which I have & bare to my well Beloved Nephew Abraham Gillit ... on the East side of the Great River [Housatonic] below the great falls and on the East side of the Highway South Eastward from my Dwelling house."<sup>62</sup> This land would legally revert back to Hutchings, if Abraham did not provide Hutchings and his wife, Elizabeth, every year with quantities of wheat, Indian corn, oats, firewood, a horse, and a cow for as long as they lived.<sup>63</sup> Abraham and William Hutchings had adjacent lands since on 21 November 1758, William sold three acres described as "... North

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<sup>58</sup> Steele, *Betrayals*, 144.

<sup>59</sup> Steele, *Betrayals*, 125.

<sup>60</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5192], 7:442.

<sup>61</sup> Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater, Connecticut*, 76.

<sup>62</sup> New Milford Land Records [FHL 5192], 8:132.

<sup>63</sup> New Milford Land Records [FHL 5193], 9:231.

by my own land West by Abraham Gillits Land."<sup>64</sup>

Elizabeth (Prindle) Hutchings, born 27 October 1700,<sup>65</sup> was the oldest sister of Abraham's mother, Abigail. William Hutchings, born about 1696<sup>66</sup> in Connecticut, wished Abraham to look after them in their old age.

On 21 October 1778, Abraham was given forty-seven and three-quarters acres and another twenty-one acres by William Hutchins "for the love and good will that I have and do bare to my Loving Cousin Abraham Gillit."<sup>67</sup> Since the term "Cousin" was used, this William Hutchins was probably the son of the one who gave Abraham land in 1756 making him and Abraham first cousins. On 25 December 1784, Abraham sold about one hundred acres for 300 pounds<sup>68</sup> "in the Neck so called."<sup>69</sup> (The Shepaug Neck is the land between the confluence of the Shepaug and Housatonic Rivers, commonly known as The Neck, that later became Bridgewater.) This is the last of Abraham's New Milford land records.

Abraham was active in the Congregational Church of New Milford between 1758 and 1783, then known as the "first Ecclesiastical Society in the town of New Milford." He was chosen to be "collector of the ministers rate for the Church

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<sup>64</sup> New Milford Land Records [FHL 5192], 8:371.

<sup>65</sup> Franklin C. Prindle, *The Prindle Genealogy* (New York: The Grafton Press, 1906), 91.

<sup>66</sup> William Hutchings FHL Ancestral File [AFN: CF 57-V7]. [unsubstantiated].

<sup>67</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5195], 14:64-65.

<sup>68</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5196], 15:303.

<sup>69</sup> Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater, Connecticut*, 78.

of England"<sup>70</sup> for a number of years and a member of the school committee and collector for district #7. Before the concept of separation of church and state, these meetings resembled annual town meetings and were conducted by the church. Individuals were chosen to collect church funds to pay for services, such as the salary of its minister, for regular church school districts and for the construction of a meeting house.

Abraham and his family probably moved to Tinmouth, Vermont in 1785. On 25 April 1785, Abraham Gillit (of New Milford, Connecticut) bought a total of 249 acres from Zenas Hill for 157 pounds in Tinmouth.<sup>71</sup> In 1786 he gave parcels of Tinmouth land to his eldest sons, William and Jonathan.

James Paul (1725-1805)<sup>72</sup> was a contemporary and neighbor of Abraham Gillit. He commented about those early days in the adjacent township of Wells (west of Tinmouth) and how strenuous life was:<sup>73</sup>

Since the early settlement of the town, time has wrought many and marked changes both natural and social. The first settlers here, full of courage and self reliance, brought but little with them, relying mainly on their own strong arms to furnish subsistence to sustain life. It was with great difficulty that they could obtain the necessaries of life for their families, when first they came here; for after erecting cabins to shelter their families and protect them from wild beasts, they were obliged to cut down and fall into heaps many a noble

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<sup>70</sup> New Milford Congregational Church Records 1716-1883, [FHL 1011946] 1:25, 33, 44, 56, 59, 61, 63, 85.

<sup>71</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, 2:8.

<sup>72</sup> Grace E. Pember Wood, *A History of the Town of Wells, Vermont from its Settlement*, (by the author, 1955), 73.

<sup>73</sup> H.P. Smith and W.S. Rann, ed., *The History of Rutland County Vermont*, (Syracuse, N.Y.: D. Masin & Co., 1886), 854.

pine, as well as oak and maple, and then burn them in order to raise their wheat and corn.

There was a lawsuit concerning the two hundred and forty nine acres of land Abraham had purchased from Zenas Hill on 25 April 1785.<sup>74</sup> Abraham must have defaulted on the note. Testimony mentioned his neighbors, the Bells, and Abraham's daughter, Abigail, and her husband, James Lynn. In August 1788 in Tinmouth, Irene Bell was deposed by Justice of the Peace, Thomas Porter, as follows:<sup>75</sup>

That Some time in the month of July or August in the year 1786 I was at the House of James Lynns in Tinmouth & Mr. Zenas Hill was present & Mr. Lynn & Mr. Hill was talking about the Note that Abraham Gillit Gave to said Hill & I asked Mr. Hill whether the word uses was put in when the Note was given & he told me it was put in a few days after.

On 3 February 1798, Abraham found himself in jail in Rutland for a debt of thirty seven dollars and fifty cents owed to Asher Adget of Peru, New York. Darius Chipman, the State's Attorney in Rutland County,<sup>76</sup> became surety for Abraham so that he could be freed and Chipman guaranteed future repayment.<sup>77</sup>

Along with sons, William and Sylvester, and James Lynn, his son-in-law, he became a "professor" of the Episcopal Church in 1788.<sup>78</sup> In 1803, Abraham represented St. Stephen's

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<sup>74</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, 1771-1810, [FHL 28997], 2:8.

<sup>75</sup> Rutland County Courthouse, Supreme Court Record, folder 56 paper 856.

<sup>76</sup> Abby Maria Hemenway, *The Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, III (Burlington, Vt.: pub. By the author, 1870), 3:1143.

<sup>77</sup> Rutland County Courthouse, Supreme Court Record, *Asher Adget vs Abraham Gillit*, folder 46B, paper 14.

<sup>78</sup> Tinmouth Scrapbook, 82, a volume of Tinmouth's earliest records.

Episcopal Church in Tinmouth as a delegate of its national convention.<sup>79</sup> On 1 January 1805, he acted "in the authority of the Church of England or the Episcopal Church" and with another church member, leased to a man in Danby, one hundred acres for ten years with a down payment of \$100 and annual equivalent payments in value of \$12.50 for a new rail fence and grain.<sup>80</sup>

His family had been members of the Congregational Church in New Milford, Connecticut. Possibly this change of loyalty had to do with church taxes, since the Tinmouth Congregational Church of Christ, at the time, was the established church. It should be noted that all his family's vital records were still listed in the Tinmouth Congregational Church records well into the 1840s. His strong religious feelings were evident from his will, where he devoted much of the prologue to his reverence for God.<sup>81</sup>

In February 1804, Samuel Allen was excommunicated from the Tinmouth Congregational Church for drinking, swearing, and trying to sell articles on the Sabbath. According to a portion of the testimony:<sup>82</sup>

We then went forward to the foot of the Gulf ... went up the hill ... When we came near Gillets tavern he says you Damn Gillets folks I asked him why - He answered because they have not broke [packed down the snow] the road - It will do for you to damn them for they will not take so much notion as If I should do it. He stopped at Gillets & drank 2 nips of sling ---

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<sup>79</sup> Hemenway, *The Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, 3:1150.

<sup>80</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, 1771-1810, [FHL 28997], 3:185.

<sup>81</sup> Rutland County Probate Court, file 314.

<sup>82</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Ch. Records, [FHL 29001], 81, 82.



The Gillet farm and tavern were located on the W. Scott farm on the Gulf Road, on the west side of town, as shown on the 1869 Beer's map of Tinmouth.<sup>83</sup> This road was described as follows:<sup>84</sup>

Up this road is the gulf in fact, which is a ravine or gorge on one side of the road and might make one giddy in riding along but for the under-growth which almost conceals the chasms. This gulf gave the name to District No. 7 in Tinmouth as the "gulf district" and the inhabitants "live up in the gulf."

The gulf road splits around a very deep ravine which can be pinpointed on a map of Tinmouth. The stream in the ravine forms the headwaters of the Poultney River.

On 3 September 1805, Abraham had his will drawn up.<sup>85</sup> The highlights are as follows: one third of his estate to his wife, Mary, and two thirds to his son, Benjamin, with Mary's share reverting to Benjamin upon her death. Benjamin, by 1805, was the only remaining son in Vermont. Abraham's sons were mentioned in order of age, the oldest first: William, Jonathan's heirs, Sylvester, Abraham and Benjamin, the youngest, was chosen executor of his father's estate. The surviving daughters were also listed in birth order with the oldest first: Abigail, Aner Brown [only one with her married name], Elizabeth, and Polly. Abraham signed his name Abraham Gillit, although throughout his will "Gillet" was the spelling

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<sup>83</sup> *Atlas of Rutland Co., Vermont*, (New York: F.W. Beers, A.D. Ellis and G.G. Soule, 1869), 8.

<sup>84</sup> Daniel Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, (Grinnel, Iowa: Ray & Frisbie, Printers, 1919), 23.

<sup>85</sup> Rutland County Probate Court, file 314.

used. All the children received money, the sons five dollars each and the daughters three dollars each.

Later that year, on 20 November 1805, Abraham testified in a legal matter. It involved his former daughter-in-law, Chloe (widow of Jonathan Gillet), and her second husband, Abner Ames. His statement is quoted in part:<sup>86</sup>

That on or about the Middle of January Last Past Abner Ames and wife of Orwell in said County was at my House in Tinmouth aforesaid and the said Ames said that they must start home I observed to him the said Ames that I was afraid he would meet with difficulty going through Middletown and his wife said she was afraid they should and he said Ames made reply and said he want [wasn't] concerned for he the said Ames had seen Mr Benjamin Coy Jr and I understand him the said Ames to say that he had agreed to settle with said Coy and gave him the Said Coy a Note Payable the next summer following for what they owed him.

Abraham's will was probated in Tinmouth on 25 August 1807.<sup>87</sup> He left thirty-four acres of "improved land and buildings thereon standing" and six acres of woodland. Personal property included a "yoke of oxen," a horse, a saddle, a bible, one testament and a common prayer book along with other household and personal items. His son, Benjamin, the executor of Abraham's estate, inherited his land, lived on the farm and in time bought back most of the original acreage.<sup>88</sup>

There are no gravestones today for either Abraham or Mary Gillit. It is likely, though, that they were interred near the graves of their sons, Jonathan and Philarmon, in the

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<sup>86</sup> Rutland County Courthouse papers 134-30, in possession of the author.

<sup>87</sup> Rutland County Probate Court, file 314.

<sup>88</sup> Based on discussions with Dawn Hance of Rutland, Vermont, who has done a thorough search of this property.

Lillie-Paul Cemetery in Tinmouth and the nearest one to their farm.

Certainly the families of Abraham's children could not sustain themselves on his land alone. They needed their own farms and better farmland was to be found in the west. Only the youngest son, Benjamin, stayed in Vermont.

A glimpse of the early 1800s in Vermont, from an ecological perspective, provides one of the reasons many families moved westward:<sup>89</sup>

The farmers who poured into Vermont after the American Revolution practiced subsistence agriculture that depended on family labor, small farms, and domestic animals. Vermont was totally unsuited to these uses ... [by 1801] settlers had cleared steep forests that never should have been cut. They'd plowed thin soils that never should have been cropped. They were driving off or killing the wildlife. Their pigs and cattle were devastating the woods and hillsides. For these small farmers, Vermont yielded a cold, miserable living, and as soon as better western lands opened, they began leaving.

Abraham's great grandson, Orin Ray, recounted in 188, his early memories of Abraham's sons:<sup>90</sup>

It will be remembered by some still living that they [the Gillett sons and grandsons] were all very large, strong, stalwart men and very supple of limb. I well remember seeing Uncle Ben come home to my father's house when I was a boy, and he, above fifty years old. We had a fence of sliding bars in front of the house. They were equal to a six rail fence in height. He never stopped to let them down, when he came to them, would place his left hand on the top and hop over without otherwise touching it. My mother often said her father [Sylvester] was the strongest and spryest of the Gillett family. She had frequently seen him stand, stoop a little and clear a lawful fence at a bound, without touching a rail.

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<sup>89</sup> John Fleischman, "Visions of Green," *Preservation, The Magazine of the National Trust for Historic Preservation*, 53:2, (March/April 2001), 73-74.

<sup>90</sup> Orin Linden Ray, "Old Memories Number Sixty-Four," *Poultney Journal* (Poultney, Vt.: 24 August 1888), 1.

Children of Abraham and Mary Gillit were all born in New Milford, Connecticut with the exception of Polly, who was probably born in Tinmouth:

1. i. WILLIAM GILLIT b. ca. 1760.
2. ii. JONATHAN GILLIT b. ca. 1761.
3. iii. SARAH GILLIT b. 1763, bpt. 1 Jan 1764.
4. iv. ABIGAIL GILLIT b. 17 May 1765, bpt. 30 June 1765.
5. v. SYLVESTER M. GILLIT b. ca. 1767.
6. vi. ABRAHAM GILLIT b. ca. 1769.
7. vii. GLORIANA "ANER" GILLIT b. 1771.
8. viii. ELIZABETH PRINDLE GILLIT b. 15 Dec. 1776.
9. ix. BENJAMIN GILLIT b. Sept. 1779.
10. x. MARY "POLLY" GILLIT b. 7 May 1786.

Unplaced Gilletts in towns near Tinmouth:

ANNA GILLET married in Middletown 11 Mar. 1821 EDWIN  
BARCE.<sup>91</sup>

ELIZA GILLET married in Orwell 6 Nov. 1825 HARRY AMES.<sup>92</sup>

WILLIAM GILLET/GELLETT of Orwell sold on 11 Oct. 1803 fifty  
acres of land to Ephraim Kidder.<sup>93</sup>

HARVEY GILLET was admitted to the Canaan Church 11 May  
1809<sup>94</sup> and dismissed from the Middletown Baptist Church  
13 Jan. 1810.<sup>95</sup>

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<sup>91</sup> Middletown Vital Records, [FHL 27559] 1:82.

<sup>92</sup> Orwell Land and Marriage Records, 1826-1831, [FHL 28636], 51.

<sup>93</sup> Orwell Land and Marriage Records, 1802-1812 [FHL 28633], 287.

<sup>94</sup> Notes could not be found.

<sup>95</sup> Notes from DAWN HANCE could not be found.

1. **WILLIAM<sup>6</sup> GILLITT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphal<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>) son of Abraham and Mary Gillitt,<sup>96</sup> was born in New Milford, Connecticut in 1760<sup>97</sup> and died in Bridgewater [the "Neck" region of New Milford] 21 December 1843 at age 83.<sup>98</sup> He married there 6 March 1781, **ANNA GARLICK**,<sup>99</sup> born 1761,<sup>100</sup> who died in Bridgewater on 27 October 1843 at age 82,<sup>101</sup> daughter of Read Garlick<sup>102</sup> and Mary Stone of New Milford.<sup>103</sup>

On 27 December 1784, at the anniversary meeting of the Congregational Church in New Milford, William was chosen to collect the rate on lists of 1780 during the ensuing year.<sup>104</sup>

On 21 October 1778, William was deeded seven acres of land by William Hutchins in New Milford "Bounded West on Ousatonic [Housatonic] River, East on Highway, with a dwelling house & two small Barns standing thereon."<sup>105</sup> (This is the same

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<sup>96</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, 2:31. Abraham mentions his son, William, in a deed; Tinmouth Vermont Probate file #314, Abraham Gillitt's will.

<sup>97</sup> Charles R. Hale Collection, A collection of vital records (newspaper death notices and cemetery inscriptions) found in the State of Connecticut: *Bridgewater Cemetery Inscriptions*, [FHL 3130], Cem: 2, p. 35.

<sup>98</sup> *Columbian Register*, New Haven, Connecticut, Death Notice, 18 January 1844, "In New Milford, Bridgewater soc, ... Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, Capt. Wm. Gillett, 83."

<sup>99</sup> New Milford Congregational Church Records 1716 - 1883, {FHL 1011946}, 34; FHL Ancestral file, Anna Garlick, AFN: SG6B-KP.

<sup>100</sup> Hale, *Bridgewater Inscriptions*, [FHL 3130], 2:35.

<sup>101</sup> *Columbian Register*, 18 January 1844, "In New Milford, Bridgewater soc, Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>, Mrs. Anna Gillet, 82, ..."

<sup>102</sup> Barbour Collection Connecticut Records Index, *New Milford Births, Marriages, Death 1712 - 1860*, roll #6 LR6:4; FHL Ancestral File, Read Garlick, AFN:HMP2-MB.

<sup>103</sup> Barbour Collection, *New Milford Births, Marriages, Deaths*, roll #6, LR6:4; FHL Ancestral File, Mary Stone, AFN:SG6B-F1.

<sup>104</sup> New Milford Congregational Church Records, (FHL 1011946), 86-87.

<sup>105</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5197], 18:430.

William Hutchins who, the same day, gave Abraham Gillit twenty-one acres.) On 27 March 1786, William Gillitt sold this land with an additional blacksmith's shop on the property.<sup>106</sup> On 31 May 1786, just two months later, his father, Abraham Gillit, for "the Consideration of Love & Good Will & parental affection I bare to him my son William Gillit Junior of New Milford" gave him thirty acres next to Abraham's fifty acres in Tinmouth, Vermont.<sup>107</sup>

The term "Junior" was also used in the New Milford land records noted above. There was a Dr. William Gillitt b. ca. 1700<sup>108</sup> in New Milford who was alive in 1789.<sup>109</sup> He would have been a great uncle of William. The term was one of generational differentiation.

Jacobus wrote about William Gillitt Junior in 1949, but he did not know his pedigree. When discussing Abel, the son of Dr. William Gillitt, he wrote:<sup>110</sup>

Probably he was father of the William who was called Jr. in 1780 when Abel's father was living in New Milford. Note that a William Gillett, b. ca. 1760, d. 21 Dec. 1843 ae. 83 (g.s., Bridgewater, formerly part of New Milford; but he was not listed in New Milford in 1790, and his parentage is not established).

On 9 January 1794, while living in Tinmouth, William bought in New Milford (in the neck "so called") a half interest in a gristmill with four and one half acres of land with Luke Livius Hill (also of Tinmouth) for a total of sixty

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<sup>106</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5196], 15:344.

<sup>107</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, 2:31.

<sup>108</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 25:183.

<sup>109</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5197], 17:349.

<sup>110</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 25:183.

pounds.<sup>111</sup> On 18 February 1794, it is recorded that William bought three and one-half acres of land adjoining his own (in Tinmouth) "beginning at the road that runs by Oliver Bells Dwelling"<sup>112</sup> (a family that also has been mentioned as living near Abraham, his father). By 7 October 1794, William had returned to New Milford to live<sup>113</sup> and he bought out his Tinmouth partner's share of the gristmill for thirty pounds at that time. On 30 September 1799, he sold thirty acres of his Tinmouth land while living in New Milford. His brother, Sylvester, was a witness.<sup>114</sup> His return to Connecticut has been verified by Orin Linden Ray in "Old Memories Number Sixty-Four" where he wrote: "William died in Connecticut."<sup>115</sup>

William was active in Tinmouth town affairs. He was elected Selectman in 1788, and through 1793, was chosen for other offices as well.<sup>116</sup>

Why did William return to Connecticut and buck the trend of his generation who moved west? One answer might be that Anna came from a large family of six children and an extended family of other Garlicks who stayed in Connecticut<sup>117</sup> and to be

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<sup>111</sup> New Milford Land Records, 19:514.

<sup>112</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, 2:475.

<sup>113</sup> New Milford Land Records, 19:511.

<sup>114</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, 2:492.

<sup>115</sup> *Poultney Journal*, Poultney, Vermont, August 24, 1888, 1, Castleton State College Library, Castleton, Vermont.

<sup>116</sup> Tinmouth Town Records [FHL 944196], 1.

<sup>117</sup> Orcutt, *History of New Milford and Bridgewater*, 795.

It will be noted that Anna is not mentioned as a child of Read Garlick. This must be an oversight by Orcutt. There is an unusually large gap between "Lucy, bapt. July 8, 1759" and "Lois, bapt. Mar. 11, 1764" where Anna should have been inserted, being born in 1761.

a pioneering wife was not appealing to her with a young son. She was approaching forty and probably New Milford offered a better life. William returned to the same area, now Bridgewater, then known as the Neck, that he had left in 1785 or 1786.

Farming was probably not his only occupation since he built a blacksmith shop on his property in the early 1780s and bought the aforesaid gristmill upon his return to New Milford in 1794.

When St. Mark's Episcopal Society (later to be called church) was formed in Bridgewater on 23 April 1810, William Gillitt was chosen to be one of two wardens and also the reading clerk. They met at members' houses and a church building was not constructed until 1835.<sup>118</sup>

William was either Grantor or Grantee on at least 40 land records between 1780 and 1840. Several in 1840, when he was 80 years old, are worth noting. This series of transactions highlight how the transfer of real estate could be handled legally, then, without a formal will or a bank's trust department. He created land records that would outlive him.

His daughter, Mary Diana, whose husband had deserted her, preferred to use her maiden name, Gillitt, as a witness on one of his deeds.<sup>119</sup> William, however, needed to acknowledge her married status by using her married name, Ford, in his legal documents concerning her. He established a real estate trust

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<sup>118</sup> Orcutt, *History of New Milford and Bridgewater*, 424.

<sup>119</sup> New Milford Land Record, [FHL 5208], 38:745.



for her sole benefit because, at that time, husbands were legally joint owners of real estate with their wives. In this case, William wanted to insure that Mary Diana's husband didn't suddenly reappear and claim one half of William's property, upon his death.

The following deeds were efforts by William essentially to create a legal will giving his daughter all his property upon his death and to eliminate his debts:

16 March 1840: William Gillitt received \$150 from John C. Smith in return for eight and three quarters acres with buildings near the Housatonic River bordering on land of Carlostine Cole and "... one other piece where I live containing one acre more or less with a dwelling house & barn ... also the shop with all the land contained within it ...". In return Smith executed a note "... on demand with annual interest ...". This was a mortgage deed on Gillitt's property to secure a loan.<sup>120</sup> Gillitt probably owed Smith \$150 and this transaction created a mortgage that was held by Smith, whereby Smith would collect annual interest on his loan to Gillitt until it was paid in full.

This next transaction, in the form of a deed, was really a trust whereby this same property mentioned above was held for Mary Diana. It is unusual, since money was supposedly passed from the grantee to the grantor, although in this case, the grantee did not own the land as a result of this transaction, but was still expected to do the work of the trust, i.e., pay

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<sup>120</sup> New Milford Land Record, [FHL 5208], 38:437.

the taxes, manage the property and handle any other administrative tasks that were required. It is possible that William Gillitt was collecting a debt and that no money actually changed hands. It is also possible that all the papers connected with this transaction are not available.

16 March 1840: William Gillitt received from Adolphus Hallock \$200 for " ... all the land & buildings which I have conveyed to John C. Smith by mortgage deed bearing date the 16<sup>th</sup> day of March 1840 ...." Hallock was to hold this property:<sup>121</sup>

... in trust for the sole and only use and benefit of my daughter Mary D. Ford; the rents use and profits at all times during said trust to be paid to her only. Or she may occupy & use the same at her option as she shall direct and whenever the trustee shall be required by the said Mary D. to sell and convey the same for her benefit. [sic.] he the said trustee shall sell & convey the same according to her directions.

A similar transaction was initiated on another piece of land owned by William Gillitt:

10 April 1840: William Gillitt received \$30 from Adolphus Hallock to hold in trust three acres of land:<sup>122</sup>

... for the sole & only use & benefit of my daughter, Mary D. Ford the rents use and profit at all times during said trust to be paid to her only use or she may occupy or use the same at her option as she shall direct ...

To have and to hold the above granted & bargained premises with the privileges & appurtenances thereof unto him the said Hallock in trust & for the purposes aforesaid ...

William's death notice three years later printed his name

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<sup>121</sup> New Milford Land Record, [FHL 5208], 38:90.

<sup>122</sup> New Milford Land Record, [FHL 5208], 38:106.

as "Capt. Wm. Gillett, 83."<sup>123</sup> The title, captain, could mean that he served in a local militia after his return to Connecticut.

All children of William and Anna (Garlick) Gillitt were born in New Milford, before his move to Tinmouth in 1785/1786 and after his return to New Milford in 1794:

- i) DAUGHTER b. 1781-84.<sup>124</sup>
- ii) DAUGHTER b. 1781-84.<sup>125</sup>
- iii) WILLIAM GILLITT, JR., b. 1795, d. Bridgewater, Conn. 8 November 1831.<sup>126</sup> He married (1) Bridgewater 26 February, 1822,<sup>127</sup> JULIA A. BEACH, b. Bridgewater 22 November 1804,<sup>128</sup> daughter of Caleb Beach and Clara Treat.<sup>129</sup> She was married (2) New Milford 6 September 1832, JONATHAN [JOHNATHAN] E. FULLER.<sup>130</sup> Existing land records show that William Jr. accumulated 75 acres of land in New Milford

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<sup>123</sup> *Columbian Register*, 18 January 1844.

<sup>124</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, New Milford, Litchfield County, Connecticut, roll 2, 111. Two presumed daughters shown to be 16 to 26 in age. Probably the same two females listed in the 1790 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 45. This places their births before 1785 but probably not earlier than the marriage of William and Anna on 6 March 1781. These daughters are not found in later census records.

<sup>125</sup> *Ibid.*, See note above.

<sup>126</sup> Hale, *Bridgewater Inscriptions*, [FHL 3130], 2:35.

<sup>127</sup> Barbour Collection, *New Milford Births, Marriages, Deaths*, 1:34.

<sup>128</sup> IGI Family Group Record, Julia Antoinette Beach; 1850 U.S. Census, New Milford, Litchfield County, Connecticut, Julia Fuller, 131.

<sup>129</sup> IGI Family Group Record, Caleb and Clara (Treat) Beach.

<sup>130</sup> Barbour Collection, *New Milford, Births, Marriages, Deaths*, 1:254; Index to Marriages (Brides), Town of New Milford, [FHL 1516559], B:254.

between 1818 and 1825 and had sold it all by 1827.<sup>131</sup>

Child of William and Julia (Beach) Gillitt, born in  
Bridgewater:

1. *Henry S. Gillett*, b. 1824.<sup>132</sup>

iv. MARY DIANA GILLITT<sup>133</sup> b. Jan. 1801,<sup>134</sup> d. Stratford,  
Conn.<sup>135</sup> 7 Jul 1881 with burial in Bridgewater.<sup>136</sup> She  
married 18 Sept. 1831 (1) SERENO FRENCH FORD b.  
Chaplin, Conn.<sup>137</sup> 29 Mar. 1805, son of Stephen and  
Lydia (Ford) Ford.<sup>138</sup> She divorced him Feb. 1845.<sup>139</sup>

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<sup>131</sup> New Milford Index of Land and Property Records, [FHL 5187].

<sup>132</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Washington, Litchfield County, Connecticut, [FHL 1254101], 337B, states father's birthplace as Vermont, mother's as Connecticut.

<sup>133</sup> New Milford Land Records [FHL 5208], 38:745. The name "Mary Diana Gillitt" appears as a witness to a land transaction by William Gillitt for the sale of eight acres in 12 March 1840. This is presumably the same female first found in the 1810 U.S. Census, New Milford, Litchfield County, Connecticut, roll 65, 143 as 0 to 10 years old, and found progressively in all subsequent census records. William called her "my daughter, Mary D. Ford," in two deeds in 1840, New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5208], 38:90, 38:106.

<sup>134</sup> *Bridgeport Daily Standard*, Bridgeport Connecticut, Deaths, 8 July 1881. Death was given as "aged 80 years and 6 months."

<sup>135</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Stratford, Fairfield County, Connecticut, [FHL 1254095], 408A. She was living in nearby Stratford, although her obituary was in the Bridgeport newspaper.

<sup>136</sup> *Bridgeport Daily Standard*, 8 July 1881. Burial was to be in Bridgewater.

<sup>137</sup> Litchfield County Divorce Records 1752 - 1922, [FHL 1666750], Mary D. Ford.

<sup>138</sup> Elizabeth Cobb Stewart, *The Descendants of Andrew Ford of Weymouth, Massachusetts, Part I*, (Montpelier, Vt.,: Capital City Press, 1968), 125.

<sup>139</sup> Litchfield County Divorce Records 1752 - 1922, [FHL 1666750], Mary D. Ford

She m. (2) Bridgewater aft. 20 Aug. 1857<sup>140</sup> (2) JOHN  
 RANDOLPH BOSWICK, b. Bridgewater 27 May 1805,<sup>141</sup> son of  
 Jonathan and Abigail (Trowbridge) Bostwick, d.  
 Bridgewater 26 Mar. 1872.<sup>142</sup>

This was the second marriage for both.<sup>143</sup>

After her parents' deaths in 1843, Mary Diana lived  
 alone. She had divorced her first husband for desertion  
 and adultery. Sereno Ford had left her for another woman  
 on 13 October 1834 and was living in Hartford, Connecticut,  
 according to her court statement.<sup>144</sup> She petitioned the  
 Connecticut Superior Court on 8 January 1845 and the court  
 discharged her from all obligations of her marriage  
 contract in its February term in 1845.<sup>145</sup>

Sereno Ford did marry, in Hartford, Rachel W. Roberts on  
 18 June 1837 and had two children, William born 3 Jan.  
 1838, and Lydia or Louisa born 25 Jul. 1843. He was a  
 laborer and died after 1862. Sereno was a bigamist. The  
 compiler of *The Descendants of Andrew Ford* did not mention

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<sup>140</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Bridgewater, Litchfield County, Connecticut,  
 roll 82:602. Bridgewater Land Records, 1:107-8.

<sup>141</sup> Henry Anton Bostwick, *Genealogy of the Bostwick Family in  
 America*, (New York: pub. By author, 1901), 382.

<sup>142</sup> Bostwick, *Genealogy of the Bostwick Family*, 382; Hale,  
*Bridgewater Inscriptions*, [FHL 3092], 2:33.

<sup>143</sup> Bostwick, *Genealogy of the Bostwick Family*, 382.

<sup>144</sup> Litchfield County Divorce Records 1752-1922, [FHL 1666750],  
 Mary D. Ford.

<sup>145</sup> *Ibid.*

the previous marriage of Sereno to Mary Diana Gillitt.<sup>146</sup>

On a farm adjacent to the Gillitts, in 1840, lived John R. Bostwick with his younger brother's family, David E. and Sophrona (Mary Ann Somers) Bostwick<sup>147</sup> and their children: Susan M., Charles W. and Mary "Polly" B.<sup>148</sup> John's first wife, Minerva (Clark) Bostwick had died on 28 May 1833.<sup>149</sup>

On 27 July 1850 Sophrona, David Bostwick's wife, petitioned the Connecticut Superior Court for a divorce from David. It was granted in August 1850.<sup>150</sup> The grounds were cruelty and intemperance. She also asked to revert to her maiden name. David continued to live in New Milford until his death on 1 January 1852.<sup>151</sup> Secondary records say March 1852.<sup>152</sup> By 1850, Mary Diana had accepted into her household Sophrona, her children, and John R. Bostwick, who farmed probably her land as well as his own.<sup>153</sup>

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<sup>146</sup> Elizabeth Cobb Stewart Eastwood, *The Descendants of Andrew Ford of Weymouth, Massachusetts, Part II*, (Cleveland: pub. By compiler, 1982), 95.

<sup>147</sup> New Milford Vital Records, [FHL 1516559], B.275. David E. Bostwick m. Sophrona M.A. Somers on 16 March 1834.

<sup>148</sup> Bostwick *Genealogy of the Bostwick Family*, 383; 1840 U.S. Census, New Milford, Litchfield County, Connecticut, 137.

<sup>149</sup> Bostwick, *Genealogy of the Bostwick Family*, 382.

<sup>150</sup> Barbara B. Ferris and Grace Louise Knox, *Connecticut Divorces, Superior Court Records for the Counties of Litchfield 1752-1922 and Hartford 1740-1849*, (Bowie, Md.: Heritage Books, 1989), 61.

<sup>151</sup> New Milford Vital Records, [FHL 1516559], D:199.

<sup>152</sup> Bostwick, *Genealogy of the Bostwick Family*, 383; Hale, *Bridgewater Inscriptions*, [FHL 3092], 2:32; Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater*, 404.

<sup>153</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, New Milford, Litchfield County, Connecticut, 146.

On 2 May 1853, Mary D. Gillitt was deeded, from John R. Bostwick, one acre of land near her house and which adjoined land of Carlostine Cole. A note on the deed said in effect that Mary had a mortgage on the property. The mortgage would be voided, if he paid back the \$40 with interest within five years.<sup>154</sup>

On 26 April 1855, Mary paid John C. Smith \$150, erasing the mortgage deed on her property, that was established by her father in 1840.<sup>155</sup> On the same day, she and Adolphus Hallock sold for \$100 the three acres of land her father had given to Hallock to hold in trust for Mary in 1840 for \$30.<sup>156</sup>

On May 1855, Mary sold twenty-two acres bordering some Cole and Bostwick land near "the Ferry fishing place on the Housatonic River."<sup>157</sup> The names of Cole and "ferry" are important landmarks. On the 1867 map of Bridgewater, it will be noted that on a highway along the Housatonic River the house of Mrs. Bostwick is near the C. Cole property and that a toll house and bridge probably replaced the ferry. This was the William Gillitt house later owned and occupied by his daughter, Mary Diana, after her father's death.

On 20 August 1857, Mary Diana Gillitt followed her father's example and passed along her real estate in the form

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<sup>154</sup> New Milford Land Record, [FHL 5212], 44:420.

<sup>155</sup> New Milford Land Record, [FHL 5212], 44:618.

<sup>156</sup> New Milford Land Record, [FHL 5212], 44:613.

<sup>157</sup> New Milford Land Record, [FHL 1516550], 46:33.

of two deeds, to Mary "Polly" B. Schriber.<sup>158</sup> It will be remembered that Polly was the daughter of David Bostwick, the youngest of his three children. Polly was born on 27 December 1840, had married Henry Schriber on 30 March 1854<sup>159</sup> and probably had been living with Mary Diana with her mother Sophrona after Sophrona's separation and divorce from David. Polly must have been like a daughter to Mary Diana, a child she never had.

Although Polly was only sixteen in 1857, Mary Diana probably wanted to marry John R. Bostwick, but did not want her land to legally be inherited by him. She therefore, like her father before her, created a trust whereby she would be:<sup>160</sup>

. . . reserving to myself the sole use and improvement of said land for and during my natural life and also provided the said Henry Schriber and Mary B. Schriber come into and reside with me in the said Dwelling House and take care of me when I am not able to take care of myself for and during my natural life.

After this real estate document was concluded, Mary Diana Gillitt felt free to marry John R. Bostwick, which was true in 1860, when she was listed as Diana Bostwick.<sup>161</sup> After Bostwick's death in 1872,<sup>162</sup> Mary Diana continued to live in her house in Bridgewater.

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<sup>158</sup> Bridgewater, Litchfield County, Connecticut Land Records, [FHL 1522046], 1:107-108.

<sup>159</sup> Bostwick, *Genealogy of the Bostwick Family*, 383.

<sup>160</sup> Bridgewater Land Records, [FHL 1522046], 1:107-108.

<sup>161</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Bridgewater, Litchfield County, Connecticut, 601.

<sup>162</sup> Bostwick, *Genealogy of the Bostwick Family*, 382; Hale, *Bridgewater Inscriptions*, [FHL 3092], 2:33.



By 15 November 1875, she had on her property a “. . . building erected for a tobacco barn standing thereon to the amount of eleven hundred and thirty-five dollars . . .” At that time a document was recorded entitled “Harritt Beach’s Lien vs Mrs. John R. Bostwick.”<sup>163</sup> That lien was released on 6 February 1880.<sup>164</sup> It appears that she was leasing her farm after her husband had died and the farmer needed a tobacco barn. High grade broadleaf tobacco, used in making cigar wrappers, was a specialty west of the Connecticut River since the 1830s.

When Mary Diana died in 1881 in Stratford, Connecticut at the home of Polly Schriber, she was probably there because of illness. She had been there since before the 1880 census and was listed as “GMother,”<sup>165</sup> which was not strictly true.

There were two John R. Bostwicks with land records in New Milford. The other one was John Robert Bostwick<sup>166</sup> who lived in New York City, was employed as a hotel manager and was 10 years younger than John Randolph Bostwick.<sup>167</sup> He sold land in New Milford on 14 August 1854<sup>168</sup> and with the money apparently purchased other land there for his wife, Ann L.

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<sup>163</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 1516554], 52:408.

<sup>164</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 1516554], 55:201.

<sup>165</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Stratford, Fairfield County, Connecticut, [FHL 1254095], 408A.

<sup>166</sup> Bostwick, *Genealogy of the Bostwick Family*, 243.

<sup>167</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Ward 21, New York City, District 1, roll 819, 737.

<sup>168</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 1516551], 47:290,400, 48:189, 190.

Bostwick, the same day. Other land records followed in 1876 and 1880.<sup>169</sup> Both Bostwick families had lived for generations in New Milford.

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<sup>169</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 1516553], 54:19, 40; [FHL 1516554], 54:548.

2. **JONATHAN<sup>6</sup> GILLET/GILLETT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphal<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>) son of Abraham and Mary Gillit,<sup>170</sup> was born in New Milford, Connecticut ca. 1760<sup>171</sup> and died in Wells, Vermont, February 1801 in 40<sup>th</sup> year.<sup>172</sup> He married probably in Kent, Connecticut **CLOE [CHLOE] BEARDSLEY**, born 12 January 1767,<sup>173</sup> daughter of Jabez Beardsley and Martha Paine of Kent,<sup>174</sup> she died in Fair Haven, Vermont, 19 March 1828 age 61.<sup>175</sup> Chloe married, secondly, 8 November 1804, in Orwell, Addison County, Vermont, Abner Ames,<sup>176</sup> fourth son of Joseph Ames and Elizabeth Parker of Shaftsbury, Bennington County, Vermont<sup>177</sup> This would also be Abner's second marriage.

Since no Kent land records show his ownership of land, it is assumed that, after his marriage to Chloe, Jonathan worked his father-in-law's land until his father gave him thirty-five acres in Tinmouth on 30 September 1786.<sup>178</sup> He was listed in the 1790 census of Kent,<sup>179</sup> as well as the 1790 [1791] census

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<sup>170</sup> Tinmouth Land Record, 2:307. Abraham mentions his son, Jonathan, in a deed; Tinmouth Probate file 314.

<sup>171</sup> Jenks, *Tinmouth Cemetery Inscriptions*, 14.

<sup>172</sup> Ibid.

<sup>173</sup> Kent, Litchfield County, Connecticut, Vital Statistics, 1723-1903, [FHL 1516999], 2:24: Barbour Collection, roll 1, 2:24. The surname, "Beardsley," was the middle name of her son, Philarmon, spelled "Barzley."

<sup>174</sup> Barbour Collection, roll 1, 2:24.

<sup>175</sup> Margaret R. Jenks, *Fair Haven and West Haven Cemetery Inscriptions Rutland County Vermont*, pub. By the author, (1990) 4; Andrew N. Adams, *A History of the Town of Fair Haven, Vermont* (Fair Haven: Leonard & Phelps, Printers, 1870), 290.

<sup>176</sup> Orwell Land Town and Marriage Records, [FHL 28633], 4:507.

<sup>177</sup> Faber K. Ames, *The Ames Family of Bruton, Somerset, England*, (pub. By the author, 1969) 59, 62.

<sup>178</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, 2:307.

<sup>179</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, Kent, Litchfield County, Connecticut, 58.

of Tinmouth.<sup>180</sup> In Kent, his family shows only three sons. However, the next year in Vermont, the family had added a daughter, so we know that daughter's birth year.

Jonathan died from a freak accident on 2 February 1801. A biographical sketch of Jonathan states:<sup>181</sup>

Gillet, Jonathan, was one of the first settlers in the eastern part of the town; he settled on a lot a few rods north of the residence of Franklin Hadaway; he had two sons and a daughter; one of his sons lived and died in Tinmouth; his name was Philarmon. Mr. Gillet came to his death by falling off from a hay mow upon a rake stale standing upright against the mow; the force of his descent caused it to enter his body which killed him instantly.

There is another version of this story and since eighty years had passed, before the telling of it, the author was mistaken as to the victim but it does give more details:<sup>182</sup>

His death occurred in a most singular manner. He rose before light on a Sunday morning in winter, designing to take his family in a sleigh to church at a distance of some miles. He went to the barn to feed his team. Climbing to a high hay-mow he threw down some hay, and slid down the mow to the barn floor. He was large and heavy. A rake, hidden by the hay, was leaning against the mow. As he descended, the rake handle penetrated his body to a distance of 28 inches, passing through the intestines and resting against the left shoulder blade. He drawn it out, went to the house and said: "I am a dead man." He expired in great agony within an hour . . ."

Jonathan, in addition to being a farmer, was a carpenter, judging from his probate inventory. He possessed a broad axe, three saws, three planes, a trimming chisel, a hammer, two

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<sup>180</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 45.

<sup>181</sup> Paul, *History of Wells*, 94.

<sup>182</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 12.

joiners, a draw knife, etc.<sup>183</sup> In 1798 and 1800, he was chosen by Wells to be a lister and in 1800, a petit juror.<sup>184</sup>

On 5 February 1796, he bought seventy-five acres of land<sup>185</sup> in Wells and on 9 June 1798 he sold thirty-five acres of land in Tinmouth.<sup>186</sup> When he died, he owned seventy-five acres of land in Wells and another fifty acres in Tinmouth, adjoining the land of his father.<sup>187</sup> He farmed along the boundary between the two townships.

Jonathan was buried in the Lillie-Paul Cemetery on the Tinmouth-Danby township town line. The headstone was supposedly carved by Enos Clark of Middletown Springs. The inscription reads:

In memory of Mr.  
Jonathan Gillett who died  
February 2<sup>nd</sup> 1801 in the  
40<sup>th</sup> year of his age

Forebear my friends to weep  
Since death has lost its sting  
Those Christians that in Jesus sleep  
Our God will with him bring

Chloe was left with seven children and no breadwinner.<sup>188</sup>  
Abner Ames of Orwell (twenty-five miles to the north of

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<sup>183</sup> Fair Haven Probate Records, *Estate of Jonathan Gillett No. 47*, 4:21.

<sup>184</sup> Wells Proprietary Records 1795-1813, [FHL 29224], 274, 432, 433.

<sup>185</sup> Wells Land Records 1795-1813, [FHL 29224], 176-177.

<sup>186</sup> Tinmouth Land Records 2:492-493.

<sup>187</sup> Rutland County Probate Records in Fairhaven, Jonathan Gillett, 4:187-188.

<sup>188</sup> Rutland County Probate Records in Fairhaven, Jonathan Gillett, 4:309; 1800 U.S. Census, Wells, Rutland County, Vermont, 130.

Tinmouth) was a widower with six children.<sup>189</sup> After they married, they had two children of their own.<sup>190</sup> The three youngest daughters by Jonathan: Electy, Jemima and Lucinda Gillett, were put under the guardianship of Abner Ames on 19 November 1804.<sup>191</sup>

In 1826, Abner and Chloe moved from Orwell to Fair Haven, Vermont where Abner bought a farm and raised merino sheep. After Chloe died, he moved away and died in Shoreham, Addison County, Vermont 17 September 1833 at age 67.<sup>192</sup>

Children of Jonathan Gillett and Chloe Beardsley:

- i. PHYLARMON or PHILARMON BEARDSLEY GILLIT/GILLETT,
  - b. Kent, Conn. 1784; D. Tinmouth 21 Nov. 1854;<sup>193</sup> married first, at Wells 26 Dec. 1804<sup>194</sup> FRANCES "FANNY" PAUL b. Thompson Conn. 1788, dau.<sup>195</sup> of David and Mary (Evans) Paul<sup>196</sup> d. Tinmouth 26 Jan. 1814.<sup>197</sup> Married secondly perhaps in Tinmouth, where her parents were living, 24 Nov. 1814<sup>198</sup> ELECTA NEWELL

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<sup>189</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, Orwell, Rutland County, Vermont, 116.

<sup>190</sup> Ames, *The Ames Family*, 61.

<sup>191</sup> Fair Haven Guardianship Records, 5:207.

<sup>192</sup> Ames, *The Ames Family*, 60.

<sup>193</sup> Jenks, *Tinmouth Cemetery Inscriptions*, 14; Tinmouth Death Certificate (true copy); Vermont Vital Records, [FHL 27559], under Mrs. Gillet.

<sup>194</sup> Wells, Vermont Marriages [FHL 2025060], 1:30; Vermont Vital Records [FHL 27559], under Philamon B. Gillett.

<sup>195</sup> Barbour Collection

<sup>196</sup> Ibid.

<sup>197</sup> Tinmouth Death Certificate (true copy); Tinmouth Cong. Ch. Records, [FHL 29001], 256.

<sup>198</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records 1778-1904, [FHL 29000], 40; Tinmouth Cong. Ch. Records, [FHL 29001], 236.

b. 1798,<sup>199</sup> d. 31 Dec. 1857,<sup>200</sup> dau. Of Joseph and Ruth Newell.<sup>201</sup>

On 24 October 1804, Philarmon sold to his brother, Russel, for \$100, seventy-five acres of land "Decended in Common to me and others the Right heirs of Jonathan Gillet" in Wells.<sup>202</sup> On 5 February 1806, Philarmon sold the remaining fifty-nine acres of land he had inherited from his father for \$580.<sup>203</sup> He remained in Tinmouth though for the 1810 census.<sup>204</sup>

Philarmon was given a "Warning Out" from Castleton (fifteen miles northwest of Tinmouth) on 16 March 1813.<sup>205</sup> That meant that he was new in town with no strong financial resources and the town would not be responsible for his welfare; that was the responsibility of the town where he formerly resided. The next year when he married Electa, he was living in Pawlet, Vermont.<sup>206</sup> In 1850, he was listed as a painter in Tinmouth.<sup>207</sup>

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<sup>199</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, 355.

<sup>200</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records, [FHL 29000], 3:127.

<sup>201</sup> Sworn document, 9 October 1840, lists children of recently deceased (3 Feb. 1839) Joseph Newell, in possession of this compiler.

<sup>202</sup> Wells Land Records 1795-1813, [FHL 29224], 345.

<sup>203</sup> Wells Land Records, [FHL 29224], 390.

<sup>204</sup> Elijah Ellsworth Brownell, *Rutland County Vermont Genealogical Gleanings*, (Philadelphia: pub. By the author, 1942), 101. This book is an 1810 Rutland County census.

<sup>205</sup> Rutland County Miscellaneous and Vital Records (FHL #28107) 359.

<sup>206</sup> Tinmouth Town Records [FHL 944196], 236.

<sup>207</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 355.

When Philarmon died, a friend wrote a letter describing the burial. It is quoted in part:<sup>208</sup>

Friday Eve - - Nov 24<sup>th</sup> / 54 - - On the hill . . .  
 at Gillett's all day Wed with Ann Eli . . .  
 Edmund's wife and Mrs. Gillett's black dress . .  
 . it home and she and Lucretia finished it.  
 Thursday morning Dan [Clark] carried Maria  
 [Clark] to Gillett's and she fixed them off and  
 Dan carried the corpse and Valentine [Edson  
 Valentine, age 30, was the next door neighbor in  
 1850 census] carried Mrs. Gillett. They started  
 off with seven teams in procession and carried  
 him to the Lilly burying ground and laid him  
 beside his first wife. His coffin was butternut  
 finely polished, his shroud the finest kind of  
 book muslin. Everything was arranged with care  
 and great order. Maria stayed there all day and  
 watched the treasure.

Philarmon was buried in the Lillie-Paul Cemetery in Tinmouth in the same row as his father, his first wife, Frances, and Phylander B., his young son.<sup>209</sup>

"Book muslin" was bookbinder muslin, a thin white muslin also used in women's dresses.

Children of Philarmon Gillett and Fanny Paul:

The 1810 census statistics shows early daughters.<sup>210</sup>

1. *Almeda Gillett*, m. Tinmouth, 1 Aug. 1824 James Jones.<sup>211</sup> She is unsubstantiated, but she was

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<sup>208</sup> Letter from Aunt Esther to Esther and Mary Barnum in Brooklyn, 24 Nov. 1854. Esther Pratt of Tinmouth was the widow of Friend Pratt. Transcription in the possession of this compiler.

<sup>209</sup> Jenks, *Tinmouth Cemetery Inscriptions*, 14.

<sup>210</sup> Brownell, *Rutland County Vermont Genealogical Gleanings*, 101.

<sup>211</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records, [FHL 29000], 1:45.



- from Tinmouth and could have been born in 1805/6. Chloe had a sister named Almeda.<sup>212</sup>
2. *Female*, b. 1805-1810.<sup>213</sup> An Anna Gillet married Edwin Barce in Middletown on 11 March 1821.<sup>214</sup> No confirmation but Anna Brown was Philarmon's aunt.
  3. *Female*, b. 1805-1810.<sup>215</sup> Another unplaced female is Elisa Gillet, who married Harry Ames in Orwell in 1825.<sup>216</sup> Harry Ames was probably a relative of Abner, who married Chloe Gillett in 1804 in Orwell.
  4. *Phylander B. Gillett*, b. Jan. 1809, d. 14 Feb. 1810.<sup>217</sup>
  5. *Jonathan Gillett*, b. 10 Dec. 1810, m. of Gransville, N.Y., 13 Oct. 1833 Naomi Noble, b. 6 Feb. 1809. He was a Tinmouth farmer.<sup>218</sup>
  6. *Nathaniel Gillett*, d.y.<sup>219</sup>

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<sup>212</sup> Francelia C. Johnson, Kent, Connecticut genealogist and author.

<sup>213</sup> Brownell, *Rutland County Vermont Genealogical Gleanings*, 101.

<sup>214</sup> Vermont Vital Records, a true copy, under both Anna Gillet and Edwin Barce.

<sup>215</sup> Brownell, *Rutland County Vermont Genealogical Gleanings*, 101.

<sup>216</sup> Orwell, Vermont, Land, Town and Marriage Records, 8:51.

<sup>217</sup> Vermont Vital Records, a true copy, under Phylander B. Gillitt.

<sup>218</sup> Flora S. Clark, *The Gillett Genealogy*, "Descendants of Jeremiah-2 of Simsbury, CT., son of Jeremiah-1 who returned to England." (Unpub. Elkins Park, Pa., 1965), Syracuse New York Library, R929.2, G40c., 3:82.

<sup>219</sup> Lucius M. Boltwood, *History and Genealogy of the Family of Thomas Noble, of Westfield, Massachusetts*, (Hartford: Case, Lockwood & Brainard Co., 1878), 533.

7. *Philarmon Gillett*, b. ca. 1814,<sup>220</sup> m. ca. 1839  
O. [Olive?]<sup>221</sup> Cordelia Hocum, b. ca. 1823.<sup>222</sup>

Children of Philarmon Gillett and Electa Newell:

8. *Joseph Gillett*, b. 1815,<sup>223</sup>
9. *Female*, m. 19 Apr. 1835 Michael Happany [sic]  
Halfpenny, son of Phillip Halfpenny.<sup>224</sup>
10. *Ruth Maria Gillett*, b. 19 Nov. 1819, m. East  
Hamburg, Erie County, N.Y., 2 Feb. 1838 Truman  
Adams Chandler.<sup>225</sup>
11. *Chloe Gillett*, b. Aug. 1824, d. 24 Mar.  
1859,<sup>226</sup> m. May 1840 Jonathan Hoadley,<sup>227</sup> b.  
1814.<sup>228</sup>
12. *Joseph Gillett*, b. 1826, m. from Vermont,  
Rosanna (\_\_\_\_\_) b. 1828.<sup>229</sup>
13. *Electa Gillett*, b. ca 1828,<sup>230</sup> d. Tinmouth, 30  
Jul 1846.<sup>231 232</sup>

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<sup>220</sup> 1855 Granville, Washington County, N.Y. Census, family 306.

<sup>221</sup> Olive was the given name of her mother.

<sup>222</sup> 1855 Granville, N.Y. Census, family 306.

<sup>223</sup> Notes could not be found.

<sup>224</sup> Notes could not be found.

<sup>225</sup> Rutland Herald, Rutland, Vermont, 4 May 1835, "Married 19 April at Tinmouth, Miss Gillet and Michael Happany."

<sup>226</sup> S. Whitney Phoenix, *The Whitney Family of Connecticut, and its Affiliations*, (New York: privately printed, 1878), 797.

<sup>227</sup> IGI Vermont Vitals, Ord. 8593 [FHL 453846], A card showing her birth, place of birth, death, parents, and marriage. Shows her mother as "Esther" Electa Newell.

<sup>228</sup> Ibid.

<sup>229</sup> Ibid.

<sup>230</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Porter, Delaware County, Ohio, 318.

<sup>231</sup> Clark, *The Gillett Genealogy*, 3:82.

<sup>232</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Ch. Records, [FHL 29001], 230.

14. *John T. Gillett*, b. 1830,<sup>233</sup> m. Phebe Ann  
(\_\_\_\_\_) b. Dorset, Vermont in 1836.<sup>234</sup> He was  
a carpenter in Tinmouth in 1860.<sup>235</sup>
15. *Betsey Gillett*, b. 1835, d. Tinmouth 10 Jul  
1842.<sup>236</sup>
16. *Mary Gillett*, b. 1837.<sup>237</sup>
17. *Nathaniel Newell Gillett*, b. 9 Jul 1841, d.  
near Gothenberg, Nebraska 25 May 1925;<sup>238</sup> m.  
Tinmouth Laura (\_\_\_\_).<sup>239</sup> Entered the Civil  
War in 1863.<sup>240</sup>
18. *Elias Gillett*, b. Jan. 1845,<sup>241</sup> d. Tinmouth 26  
Jul 1846.<sup>242</sup>
- ii. RUSSELL RANSOM? GILLETT, b. Kent, Conn. 11 Mar. 1786;<sup>243</sup>  
d. Laenna township, Logan County, Illinois 14 Mar.  
1872;<sup>244</sup> married Tinmouth by 1810 PHEBE OWEN, b.  
Tinmouth 1794, d. Porter, Delaware County, Ohio,

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<sup>233</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 420.

<sup>234</sup> Ibid.

<sup>235</sup> Ibid.

<sup>236</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 228.

<sup>237</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, 355.

<sup>238</sup> Clark, *The Gillett Genealogy*, 3:82.

<sup>239</sup> Vermont Vital Records, [FHL 27559] under Ruth R. Gillet (a  
daughter born 7 May 1868).

<sup>240</sup> Hemenway, *The Vermont Historical Gazetteer*, 657.

<sup>241</sup> Clark, *The Gillett Genealogy*, 3:82.

<sup>242</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Ch. Records, [FHL 29001], 230.

<sup>243</sup> Logan County [Illinois] Cemetery Inscriptions, 1:73.

<sup>244</sup> Ibid.

May 1843;<sup>245</sup> daughter of Samuel Owen.<sup>246</sup> Samuel's first wife is unknown and (2) is Louisiana (\_\_\_\_).<sup>247</sup> On 7 February 1937, Ellsworth C. Owen wrote his cousin, "... grandfather [Warren] had two sisters all I know of one married a Clark and one a jillett ...."<sup>248</sup>

Russel's middle name has yet to be found in print; however, a Russel Ransom was born in Kent in 1773.<sup>249</sup> The spelling of "Russel" is unique to both. Establishing a strong connection between the two Kent families of Ransom and Beardsley would add weight to this theory, making it more than a coincidence.

Russel and Phebe probably moved in 1817 to Franklin township, Knox County, Ohio with her father, Samuel Owen, Phebe's brother Warren (born 28 Dec. 1792, died 26 Jan. 1887)<sup>250</sup> and his wife, Rachel (Ray);<sup>251</sup> and half-sister Electa (born in 1804).<sup>252</sup> Electa married Aaron

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<sup>245</sup> Esther Weygandt Powell, *Tombstone Inscriptions and Other Records of Delaware County, Ohio* (Akron, Ohio: pub. by the author, 1972) 201.

<sup>246</sup> Evidence is circumstantial but strong. Samuel Owen lived three farms away from Russel R. Gillett and his wife in the 1810 Tinmouth census. They all moved to then Knox County, Ohio.

<sup>247</sup> Research done by Nancy E. Clague of Royal Oak, Mich. and an Owen descendant. Louisiana is listed with Samuel in a Knox [now Morrow] County land record, 23 Nov. 1830, 1:11.

<sup>248</sup> This is proof that Russel Gillett married Phebe Owen.

<sup>249</sup> Kent Vital Statistics, [FHL 1516999], 1:144.

<sup>250</sup> *Delaware Gazette*, Delaware County, Ohio 27 Jan. 1887, obituary of Warren Owen.

<sup>251</sup> Vermont Vital Records, Rachel Ray; Tinmouth Birth, Marriage and Death Records 1:42; Tinmouth Congregational Church Records, 238.

<sup>252</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Middlebury, Knox County, Ohio, 5.

Burr Angevine,<sup>253</sup> later in Ohio. They used a "yoke of Oxen and a horse."<sup>254</sup> The Owens and the Gilletts farmed in an area south of the northern boundary of the Greenville Treaty line (the Old Indian Boundary). There are six deeds where Russel bought or sold land with Samuel and Warren Owen and Aaron Angevine between 1818 and 1830.<sup>255</sup> In 1837, Russel moved south twelve miles,<sup>256</sup> to the Porter township in Delaware County, Ohio.

Russel's only son, Jonathan, died in 1842 at age 30; and Russel's wife, Phebe, died 23 February 1843 at age 48.<sup>257</sup> Along with Phebe's brother, Warren, all three are buried near Olive Green in Stark Cemetery, on the edge of the Porter township. Probably after Phebe's death, Russel's nephew, Joseph Gillett, son of Philarmon, began to help Russel work his farm of 139 acres.<sup>258</sup> Russel and Phebe sold this land in 1838 to Chloe and Asher Lyon, his daughter and son-in-law, for \$2,000 but they were allowed to use it for "their Natural lives as long as

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<sup>253</sup> Knox [now Morrow] County Land Record, 8 Dec. 1830, 1:89 stated: Aaron Angevine sold a lifetime lease of 42 acres to " ... my father-in-law, Samuel Owen." He was the grandson of Esther Burr, the first cousin of Aaron Burr, a Vice President of the United States.

<sup>254</sup> *Delaware Gazette*, obituary of Warren Owen.

<sup>255</sup> The dates are 18 Sept. 1818, 18 Sept. 1821, 1 Oct. 1821, 22 Aug. 1823, 23 Nov. 1830, 23 Nov. 1830; all in Knox County.

<sup>256</sup> Russel sold 100 acres of Franklin township land on 20 February 1837 and is presumed to have moved to the Porter township soon thereafter.

<sup>257</sup> Powell, *Tombstone Inscriptions*, 201.

<sup>258</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Porter, Delaware County, Ohio, 318.

they both shall live."<sup>259</sup> The families of Truman and Ruth Maria Chandler, and Abner and Dyrexa Morehouse moved nearby from the Bennington Township,<sup>260</sup> just north of Porter by 1850.<sup>261</sup> Ruth was Joseph Gillett's sister and Dyrexa had been born in Vermont, too.

Russel probably accompanied Asher and Chloe Lyon, when they moved to the Laenna township, in Logan County, Illinois in 1853.<sup>262</sup> By 1860, they lived probably next door to the family of Asher's sister, June (S.), and her husband William M. Allen.<sup>263</sup> The Allens had arrived there in October 1839 by wagon, an 18 day trip from Knox County, Ohio.<sup>264</sup> Russel died in 1872 and is buried in Mt. Pulaski Cemetery under a small obelisk presumably next to the unmarked graves of Asher and Chloe.

Children of Russel R. Gillett and Phebe Owen born in Tinmouth:

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<sup>259</sup> Porter Land Record dated 6 Nov. 1838, Asher Lyon Lease to Russel R. Gillett. It was known as a Lifetime Lease.

<sup>260</sup> 1840 U.S. Census, Bennington, Delaware County, Ohio 160-161.

<sup>261</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Porter, Delaware County, Ohio, 318.

<sup>262</sup> *The Clinton Republican*, St. Johns, MI. 19 Jan. 1922, pg. 1 col. 1. In the body of this article, it states: "Phoebe Jane Lyon was born in Delaware County, OH, December 16, 1842. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Asher Lyon, and when she was 10 years old, her parents removed to Logan County, IL."

<sup>263</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Mt. Pulaski Precinct, Logan County, Illinois, 204, dwelling houses 1456 and 1457. Russel is in the household of Asher Lyon.

<sup>264</sup> *Logan County History*, 1878, Mt. Pulaski Township. This publication gives alphabetical biographies of families in the community. William M. Allen commanded four column inches.

1. *Jonathan Gillett*, b. 3 Jun 1811, d. 5 May 1842,<sup>265</sup>  
m. by 1839 Elizabeth (\_\_\_\_).<sup>266</sup>
  2. *Chloe A. Gillett*, b. 1815,<sup>267</sup> d. aft. 1888,<sup>268</sup> m.  
Asher Lyon, b. 1809,<sup>269</sup> d. 1888.<sup>270</sup>
- iii. JOHN HULL GILLETT/GILLETT,<sup>271</sup> b. Kent, Conn. Ca. 1788.<sup>272</sup>
- He was issued a "Warning of Sundry Persons to depart Town" on 26 October 1809 in Berkshire, Franklin County Vermont.<sup>273</sup> On February 1810, he sold to his father-in-law, Abner Ames, for \$30, land he had inherited from his father; "Containing in the Town of Wells about Seventy five acres and in Tinmouth about four acres."<sup>274</sup>

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<sup>265</sup> Powell, *Tombstone Inscriptions*, 201.

<sup>266</sup> Porter Land Record, Jonathan Gillet deed to Charles Beard, 369. The document was dated 6 February 1839 and said in part: "In testimony whereof the said Jonathan Gillet and Elizabeth his wife party of the first part." This document was signed by both people.

<sup>267</sup> 1870 U.S. Census, Laenna, Logan County, Illinois, 2.

<sup>268</sup> *The Clinton Republican*, St. Johns, Michigan, 19 Jan. 1922, p. 1, col. 1., a transcription in the possession of this compiler.

<sup>269</sup> 1870 U.S. Census, Laenna, 2.

<sup>270</sup> *The Clinton Republican*, p. 1, col. 1.

<sup>271</sup> Well Land Records, 1810-1813, [FHL 29224], 143, gives his full name as "John Hull Gillett." His name was normally written "John H." John Hull was the second husband of Abigail Gillit, whom she married on 1 November 1737 and was Abraham Gillit's step-father (the only father he ever knew). This remembrance could also have been for John Hull, Jr. (b. 1738), a half-brother to Abraham, and about his own age.

<sup>272</sup> No record of his birth or death has been found. He was probably younger than Russel and was born by the 1790 U.S. Census, Kent, Litchfield County, Connecticut, 58. By the 1791 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont; his younger sister, Martha, is a statistic, so it is probably that he was born in 1787, 1788 or 1789.

<sup>273</sup> Berkshire Vermont Town and Vital Records 1800-1855, [FHL 27876], 138.

<sup>274</sup> Wells Land Records 1810-1813, [FHL 29224], 143.

His Berkshire land records start appearing on 20 November 1828, about twenty years after his arrival.<sup>275</sup> On 10 August 1835, he was living in Orwell; and he appointed John A. Learned of Berkshire as "my agent and Attorney to transact business in my name and all agreements he may make ... shall be binding on me."<sup>276</sup> While residing in Orwell, he bought from and fold land in Berkshire to his brother-in-law, John Thomas of Orwell, (among others). He made his last land transaction in Berkshire on 21 April 1837.<sup>277</sup>

There is a record of a marriage of a John Gillet to Hannah Norton (both of Orwell) in Orwell on 8 July 1832. This may not be John G. Gillett not only because of the difference in the name spelling and no middle initial, but because John H. would have been 44 years old.<sup>278</sup> Also, two weeks earlier, on 20 June 1832, he was living in Berkshire and bought land worth \$199.<sup>279</sup>

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<sup>275</sup> Berkshire Vermont Deed Book #5 1824-1834, [FHL 27878], 354.

<sup>276</sup> Berkshire Vermont Deed Book #7 1834-1840, [FHL 27879], 199.

<sup>277</sup> Berkshire Deed Book 7:300.

<sup>278</sup> Orwell Land Records, [FHL 28637], 10:241.

<sup>279</sup> Berkshire Land Records, [FHL 27878], 6:313.



iv. MARTHA "PATTY" GILLETT, b. Tinmouth ca. 1791.<sup>280</sup>

On 5 Dec. 1805, Patty [Martha] Gillett was listed as a member of the Orwell Baptist Church.<sup>281</sup> She would have been about fourteen. She could have been living there with her mother and her younger sisters. On 7 Dec. 1809, Martha Gillett was issued a "Warning Out" from Wells.<sup>282</sup> Her older brother, Philarmon, was living in Tinmouth at that time. She could have been living with his family for the 1810 census.<sup>283</sup> It is statistically possible.

In 1840, the Thomas Robler, Jr. family lived in Granville, Washington County, New York with a daughter under 5.<sup>284</sup> In the 1850 census, the wife, Sophia, was head of household with a 9 year old daughter, Rory, and a Martha Gillet, age 63, was also listed.<sup>285</sup> There is some skepticism as to whether this is the right Martha because the age should be 60 years of age, not 63. On the other hand, she was listed as born in Vermont, which was true. Granville is five miles west of Wells, Martha's last known address.

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<sup>280</sup> 1790 U.S. Census Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 45. No record of her birth has been found, however she was apparently a statistic, since there were two females listed. The census was taken from April to June in 1791. She was not present in the 1790 U.S. Census, Kent, Litchfield County, Connecticut, 58.

<sup>281</sup> Book of Records for the Baptist Church of Christ in Orwell, Vermont, 86.

<sup>282</sup> Wells Land Records 1800-1811, [FHL 29224}, G.144.

<sup>283</sup> Brownell, *Rutland County Vermont Genealogical Gleanings*, 101.

<sup>284</sup> 1840 U.S. Census, Granville, Washington County, New York, 207.

<sup>285</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Granville, Washington County, New York, 338.

v. ELECTA "ELECTY" GILLETT, b. Tinmouth 5 July 1792;<sup>286</sup> d.

Poultney, Vermont 29 Nov. 1857;<sup>287</sup> married at Tinmouth in 1807,<sup>288</sup> LOUDEN "LOWDEN" RAY, b. Wilmington, Vt., 11 May 1787, d. Poultney 4 Mar. 1860,<sup>289</sup> son of Gilbert Ray and Rachel (Perry) of Wrentham, Mass.<sup>290</sup>

Louden was a finished carpenter and supervised the erection of many buildings in the Tinmouth area.<sup>291</sup> He was active in Tinmouth affairs between 1817 and 1843. At various times he was a Petit and Grand Juror, a Survey of Highways, and a Tything man.<sup>292</sup>

Children of Electa Gillett and Louden Ray born in Tinmouth:<sup>293</sup>

1. *Paulina Ray*, b. 1809, d. 24 Feb. 1878 at age 68,<sup>294</sup>  
m. of Poultney 8 April 1834 Josiah Williams,<sup>295</sup> b.  
1800, d. 7 July 1863.<sup>296</sup>

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<sup>286</sup> Margaret R. Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, transcribed August 1978, July 1980, June 1982, 74. This record lists her as being born on 5 July 1792. See below for alternative date.

<sup>287</sup> Vermont Vital Records to 1870, [FHL 27665], Electa Ray. Death record gives age in month and day, revealing birth date as 23 May 1792.

<sup>288</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 12. Orin Ray mentions that Electa married at fifteen.

<sup>289</sup> Vermont Vital Records to 1870, [FHL 27665], birth and death dates given; Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 74.

<sup>290</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 3.

<sup>291</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 12.

<sup>292</sup> Tinmouth Town Meeting Records [FHL 944196], 272, 207, 273, 214, 221, 225, 229, 274, 231, 235, 240, 219.

<sup>293</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 18. All the children are listed in order.

<sup>294</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 76.

<sup>295</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records [FHL 29001], 247.

<sup>296</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 76.

2. *Elos Ray*, b. 8 June 1811, d. 7 Sept. 1890,<sup>297</sup> m. 8 Jan. 1835 Abigail Hopkins, of Wallingford<sup>298</sup> b. 13 Feb. 1814, d. 13 Feb. 1883.<sup>299</sup>
3. *Emeline Ray*, b. 25 Dec. 1812, d. 30 Aug. 1888,<sup>300</sup> m. 27 Feb. 1838 Benoni Davis<sup>301</sup> of Wallingford,<sup>302</sup> b. 1814, d. 1851.<sup>303</sup> They lived in Poultney by 1850.<sup>304</sup>
4. *Lucinda Ray*, b. 1815, d. 30 Sep. 1897,<sup>305</sup> m. 20 Feb. 1834 Truman Youngs [Young]<sup>306</sup> of Wallingford,<sup>307</sup> b. May 1808, d. 31 Oct. 1882.<sup>308</sup>
5. *Infant*, d. 27 Mar. 1817.<sup>309</sup>
6. *Eli Ray*, b. 1818, d. 1898,<sup>310</sup> m. Priscilla Wait b. 1823, d. 1914.<sup>311</sup>

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<sup>297</sup> Gravestones in the Mountain View Cemetery, Orwell, Vt.

<sup>298</sup> Vermont Vital Records to 1870, [FHL 27665].

<sup>299</sup> Gravestones in the Mountain View Cemetery, Orwell, Vt.

<sup>300</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 75.

<sup>301</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records 1778-1904 [FHL 29001], 1:49.

<sup>302</sup> Vermont Vital Records to 1870, [FHL 27665].

<sup>303</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 75.

<sup>304</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont, 225.

<sup>305</sup> Jenks, *Tinmouth Cemetery Inscriptions*, 9.

<sup>306</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records 1778-1904 [FHL 29000], 1:49.

<sup>307</sup> Vermont Vital Records to 1870, [ 27665].

<sup>308</sup> Jenks, *Tinmouth Cemetery Inscriptions*, 9.

<sup>309</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records 1778-1904, [FHL 29000], Cong. Church Record, 257.

<sup>310</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 24.

<sup>311</sup> Ibid.

7. *Caroline Ray*, b. 7 June 1823,<sup>312</sup> moved to Fair Haven,<sup>313</sup> d. 17 Jan. 1908.<sup>314</sup> She m. Benjamin F. Dewey, b. 2 Feb. 1811, d. 11 Mar. 1881.<sup>315</sup>
8. *Ellen D. Ray*, b. 16 Oct. 1828, d. 2 Aug. 1895,<sup>316</sup> m. Lorenzo D. Larrabee.<sup>317</sup>
9. *Rodney T. Ray*, b. 1829, d. 1910,<sup>318</sup> m. Lydia P. (\_\_\_\_\_) b. 1829, d. 1915.<sup>319</sup>
10. *Angeline T. Ray*, b. Apr. 1830, d. 23 June 1886,<sup>320</sup> m. (1) 15 Oct. 1844 Chauncy L. Hill, b. 1823, d. 13 Oct. 1860,<sup>321</sup> m. (2) Samuel Adams.<sup>322</sup>
- vi. JEMIMA GILLITT, b. Tinmouth ca. 1794;<sup>323</sup> married Orwell 3 Dec. 1812 JOHN G. DOWNS of Poultney.<sup>324</sup> They were living in Pittstown, Rensselaer County, New York by 1820 with a daughter under ten and another adult male between 26 and 45.<sup>325</sup> On 2 November 1830, John and Jemima sold Jemima's share of her mother's "widdows dower" of her father's estate for \$25 to Abner Ames.

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<sup>312</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 74.

<sup>313</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 12.

<sup>314</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 74.

<sup>315</sup> Ibid.

<sup>316</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 76.

<sup>317</sup> Ibid.

<sup>318</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 24.

<sup>319</sup> Ibid.

<sup>320</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 76.

<sup>321</sup> Ibid.

<sup>322</sup> Ibid.

<sup>323</sup> No factual data, only estimate based on the ages of Jemima's siblings and her marriage date to John Downs.

<sup>324</sup> Orwell, Vermont, Land, Town, Marriage Records, 1812-1820, [FHL 28635], 6:62.

<sup>325</sup> 1820 U.S. Census, Pittstown, Rensselaer County, New York, 168.

They were still living in Pittstown N.Y. and Abner was living in Fair Haven, Vermont.<sup>326</sup> It may be only a coincidence, but in 1850 ten miles from Pittstown in Schaghticoke, New York, there was the family of a John Downs, age 30, and his wife, Caroline, age 26. He was a bartender.<sup>327</sup>

vii. LUCINDA "LUCINDY"<sup>328</sup> P. GILLIT/GILLET, b. Tinmouth 19 Apr. 1800,<sup>329</sup> d. Orwell 28 Dec. 1853,<sup>330</sup> married Orwell 25 May 1819 JOHN THOMAS,<sup>331</sup> b. Orwell, 20 Oct. 1792,<sup>332</sup> son of Capt. Joseph and Esther (Sanford) Thomas,<sup>333</sup> d. 32 Mar. 1849.<sup>334</sup> Lucinda was nine months old when her father died. She moved to Orwell when her mother married Abner Ames in 1804, so her step-father was the only father she ever knew. John took the freeman's oath on 5 Sep. 1815.<sup>335</sup> He became a land investor and helped his brother-in-law, John H. Gillett, with his Berkshire land transactions. He was chosen a town Surveyor of Highways in 1828 and a Grand Juror in

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<sup>326</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28999], 6:61.

<sup>327</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Pittstown, Rensselaer County, New York.

<sup>328</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28998], 4:215. "Lucindy Gillit" was a witness to a deed signed by Abner Ames and Lucinda's mother, Chloe, on 16 March 1819, two months before Lucinda's marriage to John Thomas.

<sup>329</sup> Family fan chart in possession of this compiler.

<sup>330</sup> Record of Deaths at Middlebury, Vt., NEHGR, 1917, 71:55; Orwell Town and Vital Records, [FHL 28638], 12:460.

<sup>331</sup> Carlton E. Sanford, *Thomas Sanford, The Emigrant to New England, Acedstry, Life and Descendants*, 1632-4, (Rutland, Vt.,: The Tuttle Co., 1911), 1:488.

<sup>332</sup> Sanford, *Thomas Sanford*, 1:488.

<sup>333</sup> Sanford, *Thomas Sanford*, 1:267.

<sup>334</sup> Sanford, *Thomas Sanford*, 1:488.

<sup>335</sup> Orwell Records to 1820 [FHL 28635], 454.

1829.<sup>336</sup> In 1844 and 1845, he was chosen one of the town auditors, and in 1846 and 1848 Highway Surveyor.<sup>337</sup> When he died, he was buried above ground in the John Thomas crypt in the Orwell town cemetery, not far from his father, Joseph. It is assumed that Lucinda is there, too.

Children of John and Lucinda (Gillett) Thomas born in Orwell:

1. *Janet "Janette"*<sup>338</sup> *Lucinda Thomas*, b. 25 Aug.

1825;<sup>339</sup> d. 11 July 1858;<sup>340</sup> m. Orwell 3 Oct.

1849<sup>341</sup> John Leonard Hammond.<sup>342</sup>

2. *John Henry Thomas*, b. 21 May 1827;<sup>343</sup> m. Sep. 1849

*Rebecca C. White*,<sup>344</sup> b. 1827.<sup>345</sup>

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<sup>336</sup> Orwell Town & Vital Records 1826-1831, [FHL 28637], 9:183, 285.

<sup>337</sup> Orwell Town & Vital Records 1842-1887, [FHL 28638], 12:26, 40, 53, 86.

<sup>338</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Orwell, Addison County, Vermont, 268; Her name was often written Janette, the way her family addressed her; the compiler is a descendant.

<sup>339</sup> Sanford, *Thomas Sanford*, 1:488.

<sup>340</sup> Sanford, *Thomas Sanford*, 1:488; Orwell Town and Vital Records, [FHL 28638], 12:461.

<sup>341</sup> Sanford, *Thomas Sanford*, 1:488; Orwell Town and Vital Records, [FHL 28638], 12:476.

<sup>342</sup> Frederick Stam Hammond, *History and Genealogies of the Hammond Families in America*, (Oneida, N.Y.: Ryan & Burkhart, 1904), 2:193.

<sup>343</sup> Sanford, *Thomas Sanford*, 488.

<sup>344</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>345</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Orwell, Vermont, 50. John Henry [J.H.] and Rebecca [R.C.] Thomas were living with Lucinda Thomas and their ages were both given as 23.

Orin Ray made a few comments about these Thomas children in 1885:<sup>346</sup>

Eli, Rodney Ray and the writer are double cousins. Our mothers were both Gilletts, and our fathers' own brothers. They were own cousins, and I a second cousin of John H. Thomas of Orwell, whose recent death I regret to have seen in the papers. The latter and I were classmates at T.C.A. in 1841 and '42. The sister of John H. was also a pupil of the school at that time. Janet Thomas was a bright, lovely lady of twenty summers, amiable, good-tempered and adorned with every womanly attribute. She married a Mr. Hammond, and died within a year from her bridal day, leaving one child.

As noted above, Janet died of consumption in 1858, not 1850. She had three children, not one.<sup>347</sup> The school T.C.A., referred to, was the Troy Conference Academy in West Poultney and was operated by the Methodist Episcopal Church.<sup>348</sup>

This genealogy started by mentioning a fanchart with one line that abruptly ended with the birth of Lucinda Gillett. The reason now becomes apparent. Because of the death of her daughter, Janet Thomas, at age 33, Janet's children, who were very young, never knew their grandmother who had died in 1853. Their father, John Hammond, understandably told them about his own family, who lived in Orwell, but did not investigate the family of his mother-in-law, who lived in

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<sup>346</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 9.

<sup>347</sup> Frederick Stam Hammond, *History and Genealogies of the Hammond Families in America*, (Oneida, N.Y.: Ryan & Burkhart 1904), 193.

<sup>348</sup> Zadock Thompson, *History of Vermont, Natural, Civil, and Statistical, in Three Parts* (Burlington: Chauncey Goodrich, 1842), 184.

Tinmouth. By then, all of Lucinda's close relatives had died or moved away. It is fortunate that her birth date and maiden name survived. These clues made this genealogy possible.

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3. **SARAH<sup>6</sup> GILLITT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphal<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>) daughter of Abraham and Mary Gillit, was baptized in New Milford, Connecticut 1 Jan. 1764<sup>349</sup> (born in 1763) and presumably died young. She was not mentioned in Abraham's will of 1805 whereas the heirs of Jonathan who died in 1801 were remembered.<sup>350</sup>

There was a Sally Gillett who married Gideon Prindle and died in Charlotte, Vermont on 8 Nov. 1803 at age 30.<sup>351</sup> Her birth would have been in 1773, not 1763. This possibility is compelling because Gideon Prindle was Sarah Gillit's second cousin.<sup>352</sup> He was born 18 Jan. 1767 in Litchfield, Litchfield County, Connecticut. His father, Mark, (later labeled a Tory during the American Revolution)<sup>353</sup> sold land to John Hull in 1760 in New Milford,<sup>354</sup> so the Prindle cousins were known to the Gillits. Gideon probably migrated from Harwinton (east of Litchfield) to Charlotte in the 1790s and could have met Sarah in Tinmouth on the way there and married her on 30 July 1795.<sup>355</sup> Her gravestone, which is illegible now in the Barber Cemetery in Charlotte, was probably legible in November 1919, when the true copy Vermont vital record card was created.<sup>356</sup> This Sally bore three children.<sup>357</sup>

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<sup>349</sup> Orcutt, *The History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater*, 707.

<sup>350</sup> Rutland County Probate Court, file 314.

<sup>351</sup> Prindle, *The Prindle Genealogy*, 100, 102.

<sup>352</sup> Prindle, *The Prindle Genealogy*, 97, 100, 102, 112.

<sup>353</sup> Prindle, *The Prindle Genealogy*, 100.

<sup>354</sup> New Milford Land Records, [FHL 5193], 9:551.

<sup>355</sup> Prindle, *The Prindle Genealogy*, 102.

<sup>356</sup> Vermont Vital Records, [FHL 37559], Sally Gillett.

<sup>357</sup> Prindle, *The Prindle Genealogy*, 102.

4. **ABIGAIL<sup>6</sup> GILLIT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphah<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>,) daughter of Abraham and Mary Gillit, was born in New Milford, Connecticut on 17 May 1765<sup>358</sup> and died in Oswegatchie, St. Lawrence County, New York after 10 September 1845.<sup>359</sup> She married in New Milford, on 18 October 1783, **JAMES LINN**,<sup>360</sup> born Haddam, Connecticut 1 Aug. 1760,<sup>361</sup> who died in Oswegatchie on 19 January 1813,<sup>362</sup> son of James and Priscilla (Weeks) Linn of Washington, Connecticut<sup>363</sup> and later Rupert, Vermont. They both died in Rupert, James in March/April 1800<sup>364</sup> and Priscilla on 28 June 1809.<sup>365</sup>

The surname Lynn can also be written Linn and Lyn, sometimes in the same document, but Lynn predominates until the Revolutionary War Pension Declaration of 1845, when Linn is used.<sup>366</sup> The surname will be spelled as found.

James Linn, the father, enlisted in the French and Indian War Campaign of 1758 for six months, joining the ninth company of the second regiment of Connecticut.<sup>367</sup> Later his son, James

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<sup>358</sup> Revolutionary War Pension Declaration #6361, James, Abigail Linn, 10 Sept. 1845. On 8 pages of microfilm, numbered by this compiler.

<sup>359</sup> Date the Pension Declaration was signed by Abigail Linn.

<sup>360</sup> Pension #R6361, 7.

<sup>361</sup> Pension #R6361, 4; Barbour Collection, Haddam Vital Records, LR5:272.

<sup>362</sup> Ibid.

<sup>363</sup> Barbour Collection, Washington Vital Records, 2:35.

<sup>364</sup> The last land record of James Lynn, Jr. was 1 Mar. 1800 and the indenture between James and his mother was 1 May 1800.

<sup>365</sup> Vermont Newspaper Abstracts 1783-1816, (Boston: The New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2001) 331. From the Green Mountain Farmer, 10 July 1809: "Died at Rupert on 28<sup>th</sup> June last, of the dropsy, Mrs. Lynn, widow of the late James Lynn, aged 73 years," 331.

<sup>366</sup> Pension #R6361.

<sup>367</sup> *Collections of the Connecticut Historical Society*, 5:46.

Lynn, Jr., enlisted in Capt. John Starks Company in Col. Ira Allen's Regiment in 1780, first for seven days and later for 21 days.<sup>368</sup>

It is interesting to note that although James and Priscilla were married in Washington, Connecticut on 11 March 1760, their son, James, was born five and one half months later in Haddam on 31 July 1760. It is assumed that they traveled 45 miles away to avoid embarrassing their families with this premature birth.

There are many land records for James Lynn, Jr., which traces his life with Abigail from Tinmouth, Vermont to Rupert and Dorset (seven miles from Rupert), Vermont. His first land record in Tinmouth was probably drawn up in Washington, Connecticut where his parents were married and he probably lived. He would have been 21 years old on 30 October 1781. For 100 pounds, he purchased 105 acres of land in Tinmouth from Jeremiah Ingreham of Washington. His father probably lent him the money. (Over the years, they worked as partners in land transactions.) He then could have traveled to Tinmouth to inspect his land and to have the deed recorded, which was done in Tinmouth on 1 April 1782. This parcel of land was first laid out to the original grantee, Elinizer Fink, who sold it to Ingreham. James Linn and his wife, Abigail Gillit, were probably the very first part of the Gillit extended family to purchase land in Tinmouth. Abraham

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<sup>368</sup> John E. Goodrich, *Rolls of the Soldiers in the Revolutionary War 1775 to 1783*, (Rutland Vt., the Tuttle Co., 1904), 176, 287.

Gillit's first recorded deed in Tinmouth was in 1785.<sup>369</sup> On 30 June 1793, he sold the same land in Tinmouth, having moved to Rupert.<sup>370</sup>

James Lynn bought land from Oliver Bell on 8 April 1782,<sup>371</sup> supporting the statement in the Abraham Gillit history, where at the house of James Lynn, Irene Bell (wife of Oliver) heard a conversation concerning a note of Abraham's. They all must have been neighbors in west Tinmouth. On 9 March 1792, Jonathan Gillit was a witness to a sale of land by James Lynn.<sup>372</sup> Jonathan lived on the boundary between Tinmouth and Wells to the west.

During the period they lived in Tinmouth, he often traveled to Rupert to buy and sell small pieces of land with his father. Once he had moved to Rupert, he bought larger pieces of land, totaling over 250 acres by 1800.<sup>373</sup> One parcel was called the [Oliver]<sup>374</sup> Scott Mill lot, straddled the Rupert and Dorset township lines.<sup>375</sup> On 1 March 1798, he bought an interest in 34 acres from him.<sup>376</sup> At this point, his father

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<sup>369</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28997], 2:42.

<sup>370</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28997], 2:445.

<sup>371</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28997], 2:50.

<sup>372</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28997], 2:238.

<sup>373</sup> Rupert Land Records, [FHL 28793], 3:62; [FHL 28794], 4:278, 4:280, 5:231, 5:6.

<sup>374</sup> Rupert Land Records, [FHL 28792], 3:63. This deed states that "...a Fifty acre lot of the third Division laid out to Oliver Scott ..."

<sup>375</sup> Rupert Land Records, [FHL 28793], 3:62, 4:278.

<sup>376</sup> Rupert Land Records, [FHL 28794], 5:231.

was probably in his mid-sixties and was slowing down. He died in early 1800.<sup>377</sup>

On 1 May 1800, James Lynn, then of Dorset, recorded an indenture with his mother to the effect that he would manage her property for \$10 a year, which contained 75 acres ad well as in "... Tinmouth that the said James Lynn lately lived on with a dwelling house & barn thereon standing ..."<sup>378</sup> She died in 1809 at age 73.<sup>379</sup> There are several deeds between 1801 and 1808 where James Lynn of Rupert sold land in Dorset. One transaction for \$1,200 was for land, a house and a barn requiring payment over three years: 1805, 1806, 1807.<sup>380</sup>

On 22 June 1807, the sheriff of Bennington County was ordered to jail James Lynn, now of Rupert, for non-payment of debts. He was cited three times that day involving two men both from Manchester, Vermont. He could pay his debts in "goods and chattels" and was to be jailed in Manchester until he did.<sup>381</sup> Later on 24 June 1808, he was ordered back to the same jail on a fourth complaint by one of the same men.<sup>382</sup>

Maybe to raise money, James sold 590 acres of land for \$500, one piece in Rupert and the other in Dorset on 19 December 1807.<sup>383</sup> He apparently was liquidating his land holdings, but probably continued to manage his mother's

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<sup>377</sup> He died before the Priscilla indenture [FHL 28795], 8:247, which was on 1 May 1800.

<sup>378</sup> Rupert Land Records, [FHL 28795], 8:247.

<sup>379</sup> Vermont Newspaper Abstracts 1783-1816, 331.

<sup>380</sup> Dorset Land Records, [FHL 28141], 3:209, 4:98, 4:367.

<sup>381</sup> Rupert Land Records, [FHL 28795], 8:127, 8:183, 8:186

<sup>382</sup> Rupert Land Records, [FHL 28795], 8:322.

<sup>383</sup> Rupert Land Records, [FHL 28795], 8:156.

property until she died in 1809. By 1810, he had moved to Tinmouth for about six months<sup>384</sup> and then on to upstate New York, where he died in 1813,<sup>385</sup> leaving a large family.

Abigail, at age 80, applied for a widow's pension on 10 September 1845.<sup>386</sup> This document contains a description of her husband's Revolutionary War service, a copy of vital records from her family bible, and a deposition by her daughter, Margaretta Millions, describing their early life in Tinmouth, Vermont, before moving to Oswegatchie, New York. The names of the children's surnames in the bible were Lyn.<sup>387</sup> Abigail in 1845 preferred to remain with both Gillit and Linn in her written remarks, even though she signed her names with an "X."<sup>388</sup>

Margaretta stated that she was born in Rupert, and at age 16 the family moved to Tinmouth about 1810 where they stayed for six months. They then moved to the town of Oswegatchie.<sup>389</sup> No documentation of this family has been found in this town, possibly because town records were destroyed in a fire at nearby Ogdensburg, New York on 17 April 1839.<sup>390</sup>

Children of James and Abigail (Gillit) Linn; William, Polly, and James were born in Tinmouth; the others probably in Rupert:

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<sup>384</sup> Pension #R6361, 1.

<sup>385</sup> Ibid.

<sup>386</sup> Pension #R6361, 8.

<sup>387</sup> Pension #R6361, 5. Names are all spelled Lyn.

<sup>388</sup> Pension #R6361, 7, 8.

<sup>389</sup> Pension #R6361, 1.

<sup>390</sup> L.H. Everts, *History of St. Lawrence County, New York, 1878*, reprint, (Interlakes, N.Y.: Hearst of the Lakes Publishing Co., (1882), 200.

- i. WILLIAM LYN, b. 6 April 1786; d. 1791.<sup>391</sup>
- ii. POLLY LYN, b. 20 May 1788.<sup>392</sup>
- iii. JAMES LYN, b. 4 Feb. 1791; d. 24 Oct. 1814.<sup>393</sup>
- iv. MARGARETTE LYN, b. 4 April 1794;<sup>394</sup> m. JOHN  
MILLIONS.<sup>395</sup>
- v. ABY LYN, b. 1 Dec. 1798.<sup>396</sup>
- vi. HULDAY? LYN, b. 5 Sept. 1803.<sup>397</sup>

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<sup>391</sup> Pension #R6361, 5.

<sup>392</sup> Ibid.

<sup>393</sup> Ibid.

<sup>394</sup> Ibid 5.

<sup>395</sup> Pension #R6361, 1.

<sup>396</sup> Pension #R6361, 5.

<sup>397</sup> Ibid.

5. **SYLVESTER**<sup>6</sup> "**VESTER**" **M. GILLETT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphah<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>) son of Abraham and Mary Gillit, was born in New Milford, Connecticut ca. 1767 and died in Lysander, Onondaga County, New York on 25 Aug. 1825 at age 58.<sup>398</sup> He married first in Tinmouth, Vermont, 17 July 1788, **SARAH OWEN**,<sup>399</sup> daughter of Samuel and Sarah (Nutting) Owen of western Mass.<sup>400</sup> She divorced him in Jan. 1801 on grounds of adultery and abuse in December 1795.<sup>401</sup> He married second in Pownal after 1802, **HULDAH KELLOGG**,<sup>402</sup> daughter of Stephen and Mary (Austin) Kellogg.<sup>403</sup> She died on 12 Aug. 1806 in Pownal.<sup>404</sup>

In 800, Sarah (over age 26) was living as a single mother with a daughter under ten.<sup>405</sup> She actually had two daughters, but the older one could have been living with grandparents, Abraham and Mary Gillit. In the 1800 census, they were listed as having two young females, one could have been 10 years of age.<sup>406</sup> Her brother, Samuel, and his family moved from Tinmouth to Knox County, Ohio, in 1817 as part of the Russel Gillett discussion.

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<sup>398</sup> Lesley E. Voorhees, *The Lesley E. Voorhees Records*, (Syracuse: History's People 1965), 147.

<sup>399</sup> Tinmouth Marriage Records performed by Rev. Obediah Noble, [FHL 29000], 11.

<sup>400</sup> Research of Nancy E. Clague.

<sup>401</sup> Rutland Supreme Court Records, folder 118, paper 34.

<sup>402</sup> Timothy Hopkins, *The Kelloggs in the Old World and the New*, (San Francisco: Sunset Press and Photo Engraving Co., 1903), 1:126.

<sup>403</sup> Hopkins, *The Kelloggs in the Old World and the New*, 1:125.

<sup>404</sup> Vermont Newspaper Abstracts, *Vermont Gazette, An Epitome of the World*, 15 Sept. 1806, 307.

<sup>405</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 128.

<sup>406</sup> Ibid.



On 12 June 1804, Sylvester, while living in Pownal, was in jail because of a judgement against him, and he did not wish to " ... take the oath prescribed by statute for the relief of persons imprisoned."<sup>407</sup>

Recollections of Sylvester's grandson, Olin Linden Ray:<sup>408</sup>

My mother often said her father was the strongest and spryest of the Gillett family. She had frequently seen him stand, stoop a little and clear a lawful fence at a bound, without touching a rail. Sylvester was a doctor, and attended to his medical practice traveling on foot. He also worked at farming. One day when she was an eight year old girl, her father went to do a day's work on the Ripley place a mile and a half away. He started for home at dark. There was but a footpath through the dark spruce woods. In the hollow by the Poultney brook, a little north, he heard a panther scream on the western hill. He stopped at Owen's and got a brand of fire, and started for home. He had not proceeded but about fifty rods when he found that the panther had scented him and got into his path behind him and between him and Owen's house. Having no weapon but fire he hastened on. The panther pursued and came within a few feet of him, every little while fetching some terrible screams. He ran sideways holding out his brand of fire, which deterred the animal from leaping upon him. The beast was at times so near that he could have touched him with the brand, its eyes glaring like two sparks of fire. It made every effort to get around the fire and tackle him, but my grandfather would head him off by keeping the brand before its nose. In this way they ran on till they came to the opening around the Gillett house. A lighted candle shone brightly from the window. It deterred the panther from further pursuit. It sheered off to the western hills, making at times a most terrible noise. My grandfather burst in the door of their dwelling and fell breathless upon the floor. It was sometime before he could speak and tell what was the matter. The family comprehended all at once. They went out and heard the panther's screams as it was making off. My grandfather with uncle Ben, then but a boy of a dozen years, went out to the corner of the house and fired heavy guns several times to frighten the panther away. Its noise soon died in the distance."

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<sup>407</sup> Vermont Newspaper Abstracts, The Vermont Gazette, 12 June 1804, 270.

<sup>408</sup> The Poultney Journal, Poultney, Vermont, August 24, 1888, *Old Memories Number Sixty-Four*, Judge O.L. Ray.

This story was written in 1888 and Orin Ray's memory sometimes was inaccurate. In this case, with Sylvester's daughter, Gloriana, (Orin's mother) being eight years old, one would think the year of this event was 1802. However, we know that in 1802 Sylvester was divorced and living in Pownal with Huldah Kellogg. It was more likely that this incident took place about 1791, when Sylvester and Sarah were still happily married. With Sylvester's youngest brother, Benjamin, in the household, it was also likely that Sylvester and Sarah were with Abraham and Mary Gillit that evening.<sup>409</sup>

The comments made about places along Sylvester's route from the Ripley to the Owen to the Gillett house can be traced in the 1810 census as neighbors.<sup>410</sup> Mention was made of the Poultney brook, actually the Poultney River, which has its headwaters along the Gulf Road and is still a brook at that point. The "footpath" was probably what is today the Gulf Road.

Orin Ray spoke about his grandfather, Sylvester, in another one of his "Old Memories" articles:<sup>411</sup>

My mother's name was Aner Gillett, daughter of Sylvester Gillett. (He sometimes wrote it Vester). He was a doctor and a Universalist minister, a very smart man, but left no writings but doctor's charges. He died in central New York 61 years ago. (He lived at Lysander...

It is not known when he left Vermont and when he arrived in Lysander, New York (a few miles northwest of Syracuse). A

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<sup>409</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 45.

<sup>410</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 304.

<sup>411</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 19.

group of Tinmouth residents migrated to Lysander after 1810. The family of George White was one of them. His wife, Polly, who is thought to be Sylvester's youngest sibling, will be discussed later. Sylvester Gillet, Polly White, and the other former Tinmouth residents are all buried in Cold Spring Cemetery in Lysander.<sup>412</sup>

The middle initial "M" of Sylvester may have significance as to why he was given this fairly uncommon name. It is found in two places. First, Jacobus used it when referring to Sylvester in the *American Genealogist* in 1950, writing, "... sons Jonathan, Benjamin, and Sylvester M. ..." <sup>413</sup> Second, it appears in a Vermont Gazette article in 1806, "... consort of Vester M. Gillet." <sup>414</sup>

Children of Sylvester and Sarah (Owen) Gillett born in Tinmouth:

i. LAURA GILLETT, b. 1790;<sup>415</sup> d. in Pawlet 9-15 Nov. 1824.<sup>416</sup>

She had a milliner shop in Pawlet<sup>417</sup> and according to probate, she died with few personal effects.<sup>418</sup> Pawlet claimed \$185 for her care from Tinmouth.<sup>419</sup> Her estate

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<sup>412</sup> Voorhees, *The Leslie E. Voorhees Records*, 147.

<sup>413</sup> Jacobus, *The American Genealogist*, 26:53.

<sup>414</sup> Vermont Newspaper Abstracts, Vermont Gazette, An Epitome of the World, 15 Sept. 1806, 307.

<sup>415</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 45; Ray/Lindenfeld families & ancestors, Robert L. Hill.

<sup>416</sup> Dawn D. Hance, *Extracts from the Rutland Weekly Herald, 1821-1825*, 55.

<sup>417</sup> Dawn D. Hance and Joann H. Nichols, *Historical Sketches Published in the Poultney Journal Between 1884 and 1889*, 2004, (Old Memories Number Forty-Three), 90.

<sup>418</sup> Rutland Probate Court, 12:874.

<sup>419</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records 1778-1904, [FHL 2900], 202.

was administered by Benjamin Ray,<sup>420</sup> her brother-in-law.

ii. GLORIANA "ANER" GILLETT, b. 9 Apr. 1794;<sup>421</sup> d. Feb.

1864;<sup>422</sup> m. in Tinmouth 11 July 1813<sup>423</sup> BENJAMIN RAY, b. in Hubbardton, Vermont on 26 Nov. 1788; d. at Middletown, Vermont on 22 Oct. 1835,<sup>424</sup> son of Gilbert and Rachel (Perry) Ray of Wrentham, Mass.<sup>425</sup> Gilbert married Rachel in Wilmington, Vermont on 4 May 1786.<sup>426</sup> Benjamin became a Freemason on 1 Sept. 1812.<sup>427</sup>

Children of Benjamin and Gloriana (Gillett) Ray:

1. *Infant*, d. 1814.<sup>428</sup>
2. *Infant*, d. 1815.<sup>429</sup>
3. *Infant*, d. 19 Mar. 1819.<sup>430</sup>
4. *Orin Linden Ray*, b. 11 Aug. 1821;<sup>431</sup> d. 25 July 1890.<sup>432</sup>
5. *Barbara Ray*, b. abt. 1826; d. abt. 1878.<sup>433</sup>
6. *Franklin Ray*.<sup>434</sup>
7. *Eliza Ray*.<sup>435</sup>

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<sup>420</sup> Rutland Probate Court, 12:874.

<sup>421</sup> Ray/Lindenfeld families & ancestors, Robert L. Hill, but cannot be verified.

<sup>422</sup> Find A Grave Index 165874087, Sawyer Cemetery, Tinmouth, VT.

<sup>423</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records [FHL 29000], 1:39.

<sup>424</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 8.

<sup>425</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 3.

<sup>426</sup> Wilmington, Vermont, Marriage Records, [FHL 27665], 1:1.

<sup>427</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records, [FHL 29000], 70.

<sup>428</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 256.

<sup>429</sup> Ibid.

<sup>430</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 258.

<sup>431</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 3.

<sup>432</sup> Ibid.

<sup>433</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 19.

<sup>434</sup> Ibid.

8. *Harriet Ray*, b. Oct. 1831; d. 7 Feb. 1850.<sup>436</sup>

9. *Laura Electa Ray*, b. 15 Feb. 1836.<sup>437</sup>

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<sup>435</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 19.

<sup>436</sup> Jenks, *Poultney Cemetery Inscriptions*, 64.

<sup>437</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 19.

6. **ABRAHAM<sup>6</sup> GILLIT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphah<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>) son of Abraham and Mary Gillit, was born in New Milford, Connecticut ca. 1769<sup>438</sup> and died probably in Lysander, Onondaga County, New York before 1850.<sup>439</sup> He married probably in Middletown [Springs], Rutland County, Vermont, **POLLY COLEGROVE**,<sup>440</sup> born 1774,<sup>441</sup> daughter of Nathan and Miriam (Fillmore) Colegrove.<sup>442</sup> She was listed in the 1850 census in two households a few miles apart; she had moved between family members at the time the census was being taken.

Vermont land records for Abraham "Junior" show him buying forty acres of land from his father on 16 October 1797<sup>443</sup> in Tinmouth and selling it on 4 November 1799.<sup>444</sup> He had moved from Tinmouth to Rupert, Bennington County, Vermont, by 1799, probably to live near his sister, Abigail Linn.

By 1818, Abraham and Polly had migrated west to Camillus, New York, when the first land records are found in nearby Lysander.<sup>445</sup> Later land records placed him there as late as

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<sup>438</sup> 1830 U.S. Census, Van Buren, Onondaga County, New York, 124. Shows Abraham Gillitt as between 60 and 70 years old. He would have been born before 1770.

<sup>439</sup> He does not appear in census records after 1830 and his wife, Polly, is a widow by the 1850 census. In the last land record found, he was listed as being from Lysander, N.Y.

<sup>440</sup> Colegrove, *The History and Genealogy of the Colegrove Family*, 110.

<sup>441</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Ira, Cayuga County, New York, 31; 1850 U.S. Census, Lysander, Onondaga County, New York, 462.

<sup>442</sup> Colegrove, *The History and Genealogy of the Colegrove Family*, 110.

<sup>443</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28997], 2:489.

<sup>444</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28997], 2:516.

<sup>445</sup> Letter from Genealogy J. Roy Dodge of Syracuse, N.Y. to Mrs. Beatrice M. Mattson of Sacramento, California, 8 June 1993. Lysander, N.Y. deeds, KK:479, U:207.

1834,<sup>446</sup> when he sold 50 acres,  $\frac{1}{2}$  to his son, William, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  to Gregory White. However, in 1830, he was listed as being from Van Buren, N.Y.<sup>447</sup> All three townships are adjacent to one another. See the map of upper Onondaga County.

The Gillettes must have been close friends of the White. Gregory born ca. 1800,<sup>448</sup> in Tinmouth, was the son of Gregory White (1762-1811)<sup>449</sup> and his wife, Thankful<sup>450</sup> (1774-1813). No evidence has been found substantiating that Abraham and Polly Gillit moved west earlier than 1818, but they could have made the trip with the Whites from Tinmouth to Lysander in 1810/11. Gregory White was in Tinmouth in 1810<sup>451</sup> and he died in Lysander in 1811 as shown above, pinpointing his departure. In 1850, Polly Gillitt was found living with the Gregory White family. Gregory was listed as from Vermont and Polly from Connecticut as expected.<sup>452</sup>

It should be remembered that James and Abigail Linn also migrated from Tinmouth to upstate New York at that time. Families often moved together although, in this case, the destinations were different.

Children of Abraham and Polly (Colegrove) Gillit:

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<sup>446</sup> Clark, *The Gillett Genealogy*, 5:123. "The last record of Abraham is a discharge of a mortgage given by him to William R. Gillett & is dated Oct. 29, 1834. (Clerk's Office, Syracuse, N.Y.)

<sup>447</sup> 1830 U.S. Census, Van Buren, Onondaga County, New York, 124.

<sup>448</sup> Tinmouth Proprietor's Records, 1761-1809, [FHL 944196], 24.

<sup>449</sup> Lesley Voorhees Records, 147.

<sup>450</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records, 1778-1904, [FHL 29000], 1:13.

<sup>451</sup> Lesley Voorhees Records, 147.

<sup>452</sup> Elijah Ellsworth Brownell, *Rutland County Vermont Genealogical Gleanings*, (Philadelphia: 1942), 1810 Census of Rutland County, Vermont, 92.

1. NATHAN COLEGROVE GILLITT, b. 26 Feb. 1799;<sup>453</sup> d. in Adrian, Wayne County, Michigan in 28 Aug. 1849.<sup>454</sup> He m. 25 Dec. 1829 JEMIMA (ASH) GLEASON,<sup>455</sup> b. 17 May 1804,<sup>456</sup> daughter of David and Phebe Ash of Half Moon, New York,<sup>457</sup> d. in La Crosse, Wisconsin on 27 March 1861.<sup>458</sup> She was the widow of Joseph Gleason and had two children by her first marriage; Heman Gleason and Amasa Gleason.<sup>459</sup> Nathan signed a land lease from his father in Camillus in 1822.<sup>460</sup> It was handwritten in a ledger book from 1823.

Camillus this first Day of Dec. 1822 this Day Agreed Between Abraham Gillitt and Nathan C Gillitt that the said Nathan C Gillitt is to take this farm of Abm Gillitt for the term of two years and to work the farm in the Best husbandry Manner and he is to Pay to the Said Abm Gillitt the Sum of one hundred fifty Dollars at the Expiration of the said two years to Be Paid in Stock or Grain.

Abm Gillitt  
N. C. Gillitt

Children of Nathan and Jemima (Ash) Gillitt:<sup>461</sup>

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<sup>453</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Ira, Cayuga County, New York, 31. Two weeks later, Polly was living with the Brittain family seven miles away in Lysander.

<sup>454</sup> Letter from Bea Mattson, 4413 Engle Rd., Sacramento, Calif. dtd. 20 July 2001, *Individual Report*. She gives Nathan's birth.

<sup>455</sup> Letter from Bea Mattson, *Individual Report*. She gives Nathan's place and date of death.

<sup>456</sup> Letter from Bea Mattson, *Individual Report*. She gives Jemima's birth date.

<sup>457</sup> NEED FOOTNOTE

<sup>458</sup> Letter from Bea Mattson, *Individual Report*. She gives Jemima's place and date of death.

<sup>459</sup> *The Gleason Genealogy*, 261.

<sup>460</sup> Ledger in possession of Bea Mattson. "Document contained in an old Gillitt family ledger book, from 1823 on. Located on inside cover. Land lease is dated 1822."

<sup>461</sup> Letter from Bea Mattson, *Individual Report*. She is the only source for information on these children.



1. *Harvey Gillitt*, b. 26 Sept. 1830; d. 3 Oct. 1903; m. Georgeana Rebecca Shubert, b. 1835, d. 1924.
  2. *William (Willie) Gillitt*, b. 19 Jun. 1832; d. 21 March 1902; m. Chloe Leete, b. ca. 1849, d. 23 Feb. 1881.
  3. *Phebe Ann Gillitt*, b. 9 Feb. 1834; d. 18 Aug. 1858; m. 4 Feb. 1856 William Albert Roosevelt, b. 1833, d. 1894.
  4. *Lorenzo Gillitt*, b. 1836; m. Sarah \_\_\_\_\_.
  5. *David M. Gillitt*, b. 28 Apr. 1838; d. 28 Apr. 1891.
- ii. ADELINE GILLITT, b. 13 Aug. 1801; m. CALVIN BRITTAIN of New York City.<sup>462</sup> Polly Gillitt was in their household in Lysander, New York in 1850. (She was 75 years old and was born in Connecticut.) It is assumed that Adeline was her daughter. There was a 5 year old child in the household also named Polly.
- iii. WILLIAM R. GILLITT,<sup>463</sup> possibly moved to Volney, Oswego County, New York by 1840.<sup>464</sup>
- iv. HARRIET GILLITT, m. \_\_\_\_\_ LANE abt. 1825.<sup>465</sup>

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<sup>462</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Lysander, Onondaga County, New York, 462.

<sup>463</sup> Clark, *The Gillett Genealogy*, 5:123.

<sup>464</sup> 1830 U.S. Census, Volney, Oswego County, New York, 51.

<sup>465</sup> Clark, *The Gillett Genealogy*, 5:123.

7. **GLORIANA**<sup>6</sup> "**ANER**" **GILLIT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphail<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>) daughter of Abraham and Mary (Andrew) Gillit, was born in New Milford, Connecticut in 1771, and she died in Hebron, Washington County, New York on 8 Dec. 1842.<sup>466</sup> She married in 1789/90 in Tinmouth **JOHN BROWN**,<sup>467</sup> born in Blandford, Massachusetts on 8 Sep. 1767, son of Solomon and Jane "Jenne" (Anderson) Brown.<sup>468</sup> He died in Hebron, New York on 15 Oct. 1846.<sup>469</sup>

Gloriana's marriage was recorded as "Aner Gillett."<sup>470</sup> She was remembered in Abraham's will as "Aner Brown."<sup>471</sup> Her gravestone reads Gloryany Brown, wife of John.<sup>472</sup> They are the couple found in Rupert, Vermont<sup>473</sup> in 1790, in Tinmouth in 1800 with four daughters under 10 years<sup>474</sup>, and later in Hebron, Washington County, New York with four daughter of ten and under twenty-six years of age and three sons under 10 years.<sup>475</sup>

Abraham Gillit sold to John Brown fifty acres of land in Tinmouth for 200 pounds,<sup>476</sup> while John Brown still lived in

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<sup>466</sup> Charles B. Moore, *Cemetery Records, the Town of Hebron, Washington County, New York*, (Glens Falls, N.Y.: Historical Data Services, 1999), 7. Her age was given as 71 years.

<sup>467</sup> Tinmouth Marriages by Rev. Obediah Noble, [FHL 29000], 11.

<sup>468</sup> Blandford, Hampden County, Massachusetts Town Records, Births & Marriages, 1765-1875, [FHL 186138], 114. List of children. Margaret R. Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions Washington County New York*, (Pub. By the author: 1993), 101.

<sup>469</sup> Moore, *Cemetery Records, the Town of Hebron, Washington County, New York*, 7. His age was given as 79 years.

<sup>470</sup> Tinmouth Marriages by Rev. Obediah Noble, [FHL 29000], 11.

<sup>471</sup> Rutland County Probate Court, file 314.

<sup>472</sup> Moore, *Cemetery Records, the Town of Hebron, Washington County, New York*, 7.

<sup>473</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, Rupert, Bennington County, Vermont, 20.

<sup>474</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 127.

<sup>475</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Hebron, Washington County, New York, 389.

<sup>476</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28997], 2:319.

Rupert. In 1798, Abraham Gillit bought back the fifty acres he had sold to John Brown in 1795 for fifty pounds.<sup>477</sup> This time John Brown lived in Tinmouth. One wonders if Abraham was ever actually paid the 200 pounds in 1795. This exchange of land is the rationale for believing that "Aner" Gillit married this John Brown. Also, Orin Ray mentioned that a Gillit girl married a Brown.<sup>478</sup>

John Brown bought land in Rupert from 1790 to 1795 and sold land there in 1796 and 1798,<sup>479</sup> overlapping his land transactions with Abraham Gillit in Tinmouth. The last land record of John Brown was when he sold 100 acres of land in Tinmouth on 26 May 1801 to Levi Calkins, with Gregory and George White as witnesses.<sup>480</sup>

By 1810, John and Gloriana had moved to Hebron, New York, about 30 miles away, to live near his brother, Silas Brown. Silas had moved from Blandford, Massachusetts right after his Revolutionary War service in February 1781,<sup>481</sup> to Salem, Washington County, New York. About twelve years later, he moved to Hebron.<sup>482</sup> By 1830 Silas and John were next door neighbors.<sup>483</sup> Both families lived in Hebron until their

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<sup>477</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28977], 2:409.

<sup>478</sup> Ray, *The Ray Genealogy*, 22. It is in Letter #64 entitled: About the Gilletts.

<sup>479</sup> Rupert Land Records, [FHL 28793], 2:13, 2:142-3; 3:179, 3:183; [FHL 28794] 5:298.

<sup>480</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28997], 2:530.

<sup>481</sup> *Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War*, (pub. Wright & Potter Printing Co., State Printers, Boston: 1896), 688.

<sup>482</sup> Revolutionary War Pension Declaration, S14988, Silas Brown.

<sup>483</sup> 1830 U.S. Census, Hebron, Washington County, New York, 239.

deaths. Silas, six years older, was born on 2 Nov. 1761,<sup>484</sup> and died on 14 March 1840.<sup>485</sup> His wife, Lucretia, was born in 1765, and died on 21 April 1853 being 88 years old.<sup>486</sup> She lived with her daughters Polly and Sally in her old age.<sup>487</sup> Their infant daughter, Betsey, who died in 1789, was buried just across the New York border in West Rupert, Vermont in the same cemetery where her grandfather, Solomon Brown, and her eldest uncle William and his wife Molly Lee Brown were later laid to rest.<sup>488</sup>

Solomon Brown and his family of nine children moved from Blandford, Massachusetts to Salem, New York in 1781 when John would have been about 15 years old.

Children of John and Gloriana (Gillit) Brown:

- i. DAUGHTER, b. before 1800.<sup>489</sup>
- ii. DAUGHTER, b. before 1800.<sup>490</sup>
- iii. DAUGHTER, b. before 1800.<sup>491</sup>
- iv. DAUGHTER, b. before 1800.<sup>492</sup>
- v. SON, b. before 1805.<sup>493</sup>

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<sup>484</sup> Pension S14988, Silas Brown. Blandford Births & Marriages, 1756-1875, [FHL 186138], 114.

<sup>485</sup> Moore, *Cemetery Records, the Town of Hebron, Washington County, New York*, 7.

<sup>486</sup> Ibid.

<sup>487</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Hebron, Washington County, New York, -.

<sup>488</sup> Levi Henry Elwell, *The Gravestone Inscriptions of Rupert, Bennington County, Vermont*, (Amherst, Massachusetts Composition and Presswork: 1913), 42.

<sup>489</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 127.

<sup>490</sup> Ibid.

<sup>491</sup> Ibid.

<sup>492</sup> Ibid.

<sup>493</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Hebron, Washington County, New York, 387.

vi. JOHN BROWN, b. 1805; m. MARGARET ANN,<sup>494</sup> b. 1806.<sup>495</sup>

In 1846, John, a carpenter, was the prime builder of the East Hebron United Presbyterian Church. He had the title, Captain, probably of a local militia company.<sup>496</sup>

Children of John and Margaret Ann Brown:<sup>497</sup>

1. *Susanna Brown*, b. 1834.

2. *Francis Brown*, b. 1836.

3. *Sarah Brown*, b. 1845.

vii. SON, b. about 1808.<sup>498</sup>

viii. SON, b. about 1811.<sup>499</sup>

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<sup>494</sup> Hebron, Washington County, New York, Land Records, II:321. Deed of John Brown, Jr. and his wife, Margaret Ann.

<sup>495</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Hebron, Washington County, New York, 293.

<sup>496</sup> Hebron Preservation Society, *Hebron, a Century in Review*, 81.

<sup>497</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Hebron, Washington County, New York, 293.

<sup>498</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Hebron, Washington County, New York, 293.

<sup>499</sup> 1820 U.S. Census, Hebron, Washington County, New York, 196.

8. **ELIZABETH<sup>6</sup> PRINDLE GILLIT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphal<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>) daughter of Abraham and Mary (Andrew) Gillit, was born in New Milford, Connecticut on 15 Dec. 1775<sup>500</sup> and she died in Granville, New York on 31 Dec. 1839.<sup>501</sup> She married probably in 1789,<sup>502</sup> **SAMUEL BROWN**, born in Blandford, Massachusetts,<sup>503</sup> son of Solomon and Jane "Jenne" (Anderson) Brown on 11 Aug. 1765<sup>504</sup> and died in Granville, New York on 20 July 1829.<sup>505</sup> In his last will and testament, he stated his wife to be Elizabeth P.<sup>506</sup>

The Samuel Brown family lived along the state line in New York State from Tinmouth and Wells. A number of documents trace their movements from 1790 to 1819. In the 1790 census, they are shown in Salem, New York with a daughter. This means that Elizabeth was only 13 when she married Samuel. In February 1795,<sup>507</sup> they were still living in Salem, in 1796<sup>508</sup> in Westfield [Fort Ann]; by 1800<sup>509</sup> they had moved to Granville. His will was made from Granville in 1825.<sup>510</sup> The land transactions involved about 100 acres each time.

Samuel Brown had at least two older brothers, Silas and Solomon Brown, who both served in the Revolutionary War from

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<sup>500</sup> Boston Transcript, Sept. 28, 1933, 7197, #2, Gillette, Brown.

<sup>501</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 98.

<sup>502</sup> 1790 U.S. Census, Salem, Washington County, New York, 192.

<sup>503</sup> Boston Transcript, Sept. 28, 1933, 7197, #2.

<sup>504</sup> Blandford Births & Marriages, 1765-1875, [FHL 186138] 114. Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 101.

<sup>505</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 98.

<sup>506</sup> Washington County, New York, Probate Records, 92-94.

<sup>507</sup> Washington County Land Records, B:419.

<sup>508</sup> Washington County Land Records, C:208.

<sup>509</sup> 1800 U.S. Census, Granville, Washington County, New York, 293.

<sup>510</sup> Washington County, New York, Office of the County Clerk, Samuel Brown's will, 92-94.

Blandford, Massachusetts. Solomon Brown, born on 3 Sep. 1763,<sup>511</sup> performed the same duty as Silas, that of guarding the Ordnance Laboratory and a variety of military stores in Springfield, Massachusetts for nine months in 1780-1781.

(Both Silas and Solomon stated in their pension declarations that they were drafted into service.) Solomon was elected Town of Westfield Collector on 4 April 1786.<sup>512</sup> He married Sally McCracken in and of Westfield [Fort Ann], New York on 8 March 1792<sup>513</sup> and moved to Cayuga County, New York<sup>514</sup> after 1810.<sup>515</sup> He had been living in Hartford, which is six miles west of Granville, where Samuel was indicted for forgery in 1808.<sup>516</sup>

It is now known that Silas, Solomon, Samuel, and John Brown were all brothers from Blandford, Massachusetts, born two years apart from 1761 to 1767, and were all living in Washington County, New York in the early 1800s. Silas and John lived on adjacent properties in Hebron, and Solomon and Samuel lived six miles apart in Hartford and Granville respectively. The pension declarations tie Silas and Solomon together. The Blandford birth record ties all four brothers together. All the sons of Solomon and Jenne Brown in order

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<sup>511</sup> Revolutionary War Pension Declaration R1339, Solomon and Sally Brown. Blandford Births & Marriages, 1765-1875, [FHL 186138], 114.

<sup>512</sup> Crisfield Johnson, *1737 History of Washington Co., New York*, (Philadelphia: Everts & Johnson, 1878), 304.

<sup>513</sup> Revolutionary War Pension Declaration R1339, Solomon and Sally Brown.

<sup>514</sup> Ibid.

<sup>515</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Hartford, Washington County, New York, 376.

<sup>516</sup> Washington County, Hartford, Samuel Brown "late of the town of Fort Ann," Indictment for Forgery, 14 June 1808.

were: William, Silas, Solomon, Samuel, John, David, Seth, Joseph, and Levi.<sup>517</sup> Levi was born in 1781 at Salem, Washington County, New York. A daughter, Mary (Polly) was born in Blandford, Massachusetts.<sup>518</sup> Samuel was to name two of his sons David and William, as well as Solomon, probably after his father.

Jenne Brown, the mother of all of these sons and daughter, apparently came to live with Samuel because she is buried in Granville, New York. Two of her grandchildren were later buried on either side of her. She died on 19 July 1802, in her 63<sup>rd</sup> year, and under the name of Jane (Anderson) Brown.<sup>519</sup> Samuel named his seventh and tenth child Jane.

Elizabeth was probably named for her great aunt, Elizabeth Prindle, wife of William Hutchings, who gave Abraham land in New Milford, Connecticut, in 1756 in return for taking care of them in their old age. Abraham's mother, Abigail Prindle, was a sister of Elizabeth Prindle. The Gillits were still living in New Milford when Elizabeth was born.

Children of Samuel and Elizabeth P. (Gillit) Brown:

- i. SALLY BROWN, b. 1793. She married Winslow Marchant.<sup>520</sup> (named after Sally McCracken?)
- ii. SOLOMON M. BROWN, b. 1794; d. 1868;<sup>521</sup>

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<sup>517</sup> Blandford Births & Marriages, 1765-1875, [FHL 186138], 114.

<sup>518</sup> Asa Fitch M.s.s. Vols. 107, entry 1719, New York Public Library [Microfilmed 1952].

<sup>519</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 101.

<sup>520</sup> Washington County, New York, Office of the County Clerk, Samuel Brown's will, 92-94. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850* by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y., 1834:2c.



He married Sarah Ketchum.<sup>522</sup> He inherited his father's farm,<sup>523</sup> but later sold it in 1833 and moved elsewhere.<sup>524</sup>

iii. RHODA BROWN, b. 1796, d. 1 Apr. 1803 in her 8<sup>th</sup> year.<sup>525</sup>

iv. DAVID S. BROWN, b. 27 Mar. 1797, Washington County, New York<sup>526</sup>, d. Janesville, Rock County, Wisconsin 28 Feb. 1868 at the residence of his son, James H. Brown.<sup>527</sup> He married Orpha Duell,<sup>528</sup> b. 1797, d. aft. 1880.<sup>529</sup> By 1840 they were living in Hamden, Delaware County, New York,<sup>530</sup> by 1850 in Delhi, Delaware County, New York.<sup>531</sup>

v. WILLIAM H. BROWN, b. 12 Jun. 1798, d. Fairfield, Bureau County, Illinois 9 Jan. 1871.<sup>532</sup> He married Polly Brown, his first cousin, the daughter of John and Gloriana (Gillit) Brown. By 1850 they were living in Warsaw, Wyoming County, New York,<sup>533</sup> and by 1865 in Fairfield, Bureau County, Illinois. (Note: The William Brown d. Whitehall, N.Y., 12

<sup>521</sup> Ibid.

<sup>522</sup> *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850* by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y., 1834:2c.

<sup>523</sup> Washington County, New York, Office of the County Clerk, Samuel Brown's will, 920-94.

<sup>524</sup> Washington County Land Records, HH:581-2.

<sup>525</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*. 98.

<sup>526</sup> Findagrave.com/memorial/93479776, David S. Brown (1797-1868).

<sup>527</sup> Death Notice, *The Delhi Gazette* (Delhi, Delaware County, New York) March 18, 1868.

<sup>528</sup> *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850* by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

<sup>529</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Clinton, Hunterdon County, New Jersey.

<sup>530</sup> 1840 U.S. Census, Delhi, Delaware County, New York, 2.

<sup>531</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Delhi, Delaware County, New York, 261.

<sup>532</sup> Washington County, New York, Office of the County Clerk, Samuel Brown's will, 92-94. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850* by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

<sup>533</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Warsaw, Wyoming County, New York, 313.

Dec. 1838 is the grandson of William Brown (1760-1805), eldest brother to John and Samuel.)

- vi. AMANDA BROWN, b 1799. She married Owen Marchant.<sup>534</sup>
- vii. JANE BROWN, b. 1801, d. 12 Apr. 1803 in her 2<sup>nd</sup> year.<sup>535</sup>
- viii. MARIA ELIZA BROWN, b. 1803. She married Hervey Evans.<sup>536</sup>
- ix. BETSEY BROWN, b. 1805. She married Elias Wright.<sup>537</sup>
- x. JANE B. BROWN, b. 1806. She married Thomas Rich.<sup>538</sup>
- xi. ADELIN BROWN, b. 1808. She married Lucien Miller.<sup>539</sup>
- xii. SAMUEL E. BROWN, b. 1810. He married Olive and Sarah Eli.<sup>540</sup>
- xiii. EMILY BROWN, b. 1812, D. 5 May 1817 in her 6<sup>th</sup> year.<sup>541</sup>

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<sup>534</sup> Washington County, New York, Office of the County Clerk, Samuel Brown's will, 92-94. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850*, by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

<sup>535</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 98. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850*, by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

<sup>536</sup> Washington County, New York, Office of the County Clerk, Samuel Brown's will, 92-94. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850*, by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

<sup>537</sup> Ibid.

<sup>538</sup> Ibid.

<sup>539</sup> Ibid.

<sup>540</sup> Ibid.

xiv. LUCINDA K. BROWN, b. 1813. She married Shirman Remington.<sup>542</sup>

xv. HARRIET A. BROWN, b. 1815, d. 7 Nov. 1824 in her 10<sup>th</sup> year.<sup>543</sup>

xvi. JAMES H. BROWN, b. 1817. He married Mary Nye.<sup>544</sup>  
(Note: The James H. Brown, b. 1811 living in Whitehall, N.Y. in 1850, is also the grandson of William Brown (1760-1895), eldest brother to John and Samuel. William Brown (1807-1838) and James H. Brown (1811-1883) were brothers.)

xvii. MAHALA BROWN, b. 1820, d. 7 Dec. 1821 in her 2<sup>nd</sup> year.<sup>545</sup>

xviii. LOISA M. BROWN, b. abt. 1821. She married Ozro Ferrington.<sup>546</sup>

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<sup>541</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 101. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850*, by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

<sup>542</sup> Washington County, New York, Office of the County Clerk, Samuel Brown's will, 92-94. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850*, by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

<sup>543</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 98. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850*, by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

<sup>544</sup> Washington County, New York, Office of the County Clerk, Samuel Brown's will, 92-94. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850*, by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

<sup>545</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 101.

<sup>546</sup> Washington County, New York, Office of the County Clerk, Samuel Brown's will, 92-94. *Ancestors and Descendants of Robert Brown of Madison County, N.Y. 1768-1850*, by Leon R. Brown, Rochester, N.Y. 1834:2c.

9. **BENJAMIN**<sup>6</sup> **GILLITT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphal<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>) son of Abraham and Mary (Andrew) Gillit, was born in New Milford, Connecticut in Sep. 1779, and he died in Tinmouth, Vermont on 11 May 1845.<sup>547</sup> He married ca. 1802 in Tinmouth **TALITHA BELL**,<sup>548</sup> born in Tinmouth in 1783,<sup>549</sup> probably the daughter of Oliver Bell and Irena Rice.<sup>550</sup> The Bells were neighbors to the Gillits.<sup>551</sup> Talitha died in Tinmouth on 6 June 1862. The family of Jonathan and Susannah (Canfield) Bell, also early settlers of Tinmouth, are possibilities since Susannah had a sister named Sabra.<sup>552</sup>

This was Talitha's second marriage. She first married Allen Stewart in Tinmouth on 26 Mar. 1799,<sup>553</sup> but he died prior to Nov. 1800 at Crown Point, New York.<sup>554</sup> A daughter, Sabra, was a result of this marriage.<sup>555</sup>

Benjamin, the youngest son of Abraham, was the executor of his father's estate and inherited his father's farm, which he enlarged to 253 acres by his death.<sup>556</sup> This was partly due to buying back the nearby land of his brother, Jonathan, which the probate court had distributed to Jonathan's children.<sup>557</sup> Benjamin's farm was the W. Scott place on the Gulf Road as

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<sup>547</sup> Jenks, *Tinmouth Cemetery Inscriptions*, 12; Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 230. Birthdate given.

<sup>548</sup> **NEED FOOTNOTE**

<sup>549</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland, Vermont; 422.

<sup>550</sup> Find-a-Grave Memorial, Oliver Bell, Memorial ID 87221581.

<sup>551</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 944196], 161.

<sup>552</sup> *Connecticut Town Birth Records, pre-1870 (Barbour Collection)*.

<sup>553</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records, [FHL 29000], 37.

<sup>554</sup> Rutland County Probate Court, file 165.

<sup>555</sup> Ibid.

<sup>556</sup> Rutland County Probate Court, file 1267.

<sup>557</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, 4:322, 4:422, 6:63.

shown on the 1869 map. It is thought that the Gillit Tavern on the Gulf Road was also on this property. It appears that Benjamin's mother, Mary Gillit, was living in his household in 1810, after her husband's death.<sup>558</sup>

Benjamin was active in Tinmouth affairs. On 20 Oct. 1807, he was admitted to the Congregational Church of Christ.<sup>559</sup> On 21 Oct. 1821, Talitha, Abraham and Mary also joined.<sup>560</sup> Tinmouth town records show that toward the end of his life, on 26 Mar. 1840, he was named a voter in an annexation of a farm to the district adjoining Danby, along with Lowden Ray.<sup>561</sup> (Lowden Ray was the husband of his niece, Electa Gillett, and the brother of Benjamin Ray, husband of another niece, Gloriana Gillett.)

In early 1841, 1842 and 1844, Benjamin was chosen to be Surveyor of Highways.<sup>562</sup>

After Benjamin died, his inventory listed 11 cows, three yearlings, a two year old bull, a gray mare, and an old mare, and other farm animals. He owned a wagon, a double sleigh, and many farm tools, including a bellows and a set of blacksmith tools. Talitha inherited 1/3 of his estate as her dower.<sup>563</sup>

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<sup>558</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 304.

<sup>559</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 944196], 9.

<sup>560</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 221; Tinmouth Proprietor's Records [FHL 944196], 13.

<sup>561</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 944196], 236.

<sup>562</sup> Tinmouth Proprietor's Records, 1:230, 240, 247, 249.

<sup>563</sup> Rutland County Probate Court, file 1267.

All children of Benjamin and Talitha (Bell) Gillitt were born in Tinmouth:<sup>564</sup>

i. SABRA STEWARD, b. 1799; d. Tinmouth 15 Jul. 1816.<sup>565</sup>

ii. ABRAHAM "ABRAM" GILLETT, b. 6 April 1803; d.

Granville, N.Y. 7 May 1872;<sup>566</sup> m. Tinmouth 27 Mar.

1827<sup>567</sup> JERUSHA ALLEN, b. 11 Sep. 1802, d. 7 Jan.

1889.<sup>568</sup> Abraham (along with his father) was a

member of the state militia in 1821-22,<sup>569</sup> and he was

sworn in as a Freeman, Sep. 1824.<sup>570</sup> They moved to

South Hero, Vermont by 1830,<sup>571</sup> then Pawlet,

Vermont<sup>572</sup> and then Fort Ann, N.Y. by 1835.<sup>573</sup>

Children of Abraham and Jerusha (Allen) Gillett:

1. *Rowena E. Gillett*, b. 18 Nov. 1833; d.

Granville, N.Y. 27 Dec. 1906.<sup>574</sup>

2. *Benjamin Gillett*, b. Fort Ann, N.Y. 23 Jan.

1836; d. Granville, N.Y. 2 Jan. 1903.<sup>575</sup>

iii. MARY GILLETT, b. 31 Mar. 1805;<sup>576</sup> d. 7 Oct. 1872.<sup>577</sup>

She never married and was head-of-household in

Tinmouth in 1860 for her mother and sister, Clara.<sup>578</sup>

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<sup>564</sup> Rutland County Probate Court, 5:340-314.

<sup>565</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 257; age given as 17. Rutland County Probate Court, file 168.

<sup>566</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 71.

<sup>567</sup> Tinmouth Town Records, [FHL 944196], 243.

<sup>568</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 71.

<sup>569</sup> Tinmouth Town Records, [FHL 944196], 1821 enlistment.

<sup>570</sup> Tinmouth Congregational Church Records, [FHL 29001], 71.

<sup>571</sup> 1830 U.S. Census

<sup>572</sup> **NEED FOOTNOTE**

<sup>573</sup> **NEED FOOTNOTE**

<sup>574</sup> Jenks, *Granville Cemetery Inscriptions*, 71.

<sup>575</sup> Ibid.

<sup>576</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 422.

- iv. ALLEN GILLETT, b. ca. 1807;<sup>579</sup> d. near the mouth of the St. Joseph River in Michigan in 1830. His childhood is mentioned in *Old Memories—Number Twenty-Four*.<sup>580</sup>
- v. INFANT, d. 1809.<sup>581</sup>
- vi. ADELINE GILLETT, b. ca. 1810;<sup>582</sup> m. ca. 1832 ELMER MORGAN, b. ca. 1806, son of Jonathan Morgan. They lived in Poultney, Vermont with his parents for 8-10 years and divorced in Feb. 1846 with 3 or 4 children. Adeline then went to work in a factory in Lowell, Mass. See *Old Memories—Number Thirty-Seven* about their marriage.<sup>583</sup>
- vii. IRENA GILLETT, b. ca. 1815;<sup>584</sup> m. \_\_\_\_\_ OSTRANDER.<sup>585</sup>
- viii. INFANT, b. 1814/1815; d. 26 Mar. 1817.<sup>586</sup>
- ix. INFANT, b. 1816; d. 23 June 1818.<sup>587</sup>
- x. TALITHA GILLETT, b. 1821;<sup>588</sup> m. Tinmouth 3 July 1843 CHARLES PACKARD,<sup>589</sup> b. 1815.<sup>590</sup> The family was living at the Benjamin Gillitt homestead in 1850.<sup>591</sup>

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<sup>577</sup> Tinmouth Vital Records, deaths.

<sup>578</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont.

<sup>579</sup> Age estimate based on the other sibling births.

<sup>580</sup> Hance and Nichols, *Historical Sketches*, 51.

<sup>581</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 255.

<sup>582</sup> 1830 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 57.

<sup>583</sup> Hance and Nichols, *Historical Sketches*, 79.

<sup>584</sup> 1830 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 57.

<sup>585</sup> **NEED FOOTNOTE**

<sup>586</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 257; age 2.

<sup>587</sup> Ibid.

<sup>588</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 359.

<sup>589</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 250.

<sup>590</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 359.

<sup>591</sup> 1950 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 359; Talitha Gillitt was living with them.

## Children of Charles and Talitha (Gillett)

## Packard:

1. *Henry C. Packard*, b. 1844.<sup>592</sup>
  2. *Stephen M. Packard*, b. 1846.<sup>593</sup>
  3. *Webster Packard*, b. 1849.<sup>594</sup>
  4. *Selestia M. Packard*, b. June 1851; d. 18 Jan. 1852.<sup>595</sup>
  5. *Marcellus Packard*, b. July 1853; d. 19 Mar. 1855.<sup>596</sup>
  6. *Alice Packard*, b. Dec. 1855; d. 12 Aug. 1860.<sup>597</sup>
- xi. INFANT, d. 16 May 1823.<sup>598</sup>
- xii. CLARISA "CLARA" GILLETT, b. 1827.<sup>599</sup> Single in 1860 and living with her mother and sister, Mary, in Tinmouth.

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<sup>592</sup> 1850 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 359.

<sup>593</sup> Ibid.

<sup>594</sup> Ibid.

<sup>595</sup> Jenks, *Tinmouth Cemetery Inscriptions*, 7.

<sup>596</sup> Ibid.

<sup>597</sup> Ibid.

<sup>598</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 259.

<sup>599</sup> 1860 U.S. Census, Tinmouth, Rutland County, Vermont, 422.



10. **MARY "POLLY"**<sup>6</sup> **GILLIT** (Abraham<sup>5</sup>, Abraham<sup>4</sup>, Eliphail<sup>3</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>2</sup>, Jeremiah<sup>1</sup>) daughter of Abraham and Mary (Andrew) Gillitt, was born in Tinmouth, Vermont on 4 May 1786 and died in Lysander, Onondaga County, New York on 22 Oct. 1861.<sup>600</sup> She married **GEORGE WHITE**, born on 17 Nov. 1783, son of Gregory White,<sup>601</sup> and who died in Lysander, New York on 29 Oct. 1862. George joined the Tinmouth Congregational Church of Christ, along with his father, on 1 Jan. 1804.<sup>602</sup>

Little is known about Polly. It is believed that a group of Tinmouth families left together in 1810 or 1811 for Lysander that included those of Levi Calkins, Gregory White, his son, George White, and Seth McHuron<sup>603</sup> of Middletown.<sup>604</sup> They are all buried together in the Cold Spring Cemetery in Lysander.<sup>605</sup> Sylvester Gillett, Polly's older brother, was also buried there in 1825.<sup>606</sup> There is a Tinmouth land record from 1801 where Levi Calkins sold land to Gregory White with John Brown, Aner (Gillit) Brown's husband, and George White as witnesses.<sup>607</sup> These families must have been close friends when they moved to upstate New York. It is unclear if Sylvester and Abraham Gillett, who also moved to Onondaga County, New York, traveled with them.

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<sup>600</sup> Voorhees, *The Lesley E. Voorhees Records*, 147. Gives birthdate.

<sup>601</sup> Ibid.

<sup>602</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 944196], 9.

<sup>603</sup> Voorhees, *The Lesley E. Voorhees Records*, 147. The families traveled to Lysander after the Tinmouth 1810 U.S. Census and before Gregory White died on 27 Oct. 1811.

<sup>604</sup> 1810 U.S. Census, Poultney, Rutland County, Vermont, 195.

<sup>605</sup> Voorhees, *The Lesley E. Voorhees Records*, 146-147.

<sup>606</sup> Voorhees, *The Lesley E. Voorhees Records*, 147.

<sup>607</sup> Tinmouth Land Records, [FHL 28997], 2:529.

There is only circumstantial evidence that this is Polly Gillit. Orin Ray mentioned that one of the Gillit daughters married a White.<sup>608</sup> He could be in error, but no better proof has been found for other Polly Gillets in the area. Mary Gillit would have been 49 years old at Polly's birth.

Children of George and Polly (Gillit) White:<sup>609</sup>

1. *Abigail*, b. 5 July 1803; d. 15 Oct. 1878;<sup>610</sup> m. Lyman McHuron; b. 14 Dec. 1798; d. 29 Dec. 1884.<sup>611</sup>
2. *Almina*, b. 24 June 1810.<sup>612</sup>

The Tinmouth 1810 census would suggest three daughters, with one 11 years old or older.<sup>613</sup> In 1820, George and Polly's children numbered three boys and three girls.<sup>614</sup>

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<sup>608</sup> Hance and Nichols, *Historical Sketches*, 159.

<sup>609</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 29001], 24.

<sup>610</sup> Voorhees, *The Lesley E. Voorhees Records*, 147.

<sup>611</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>612</sup> Tinmouth Cong. Church Records, [FHL 944196], 28.

<sup>613</sup> Brownell, *Rutland County Vermont Genealogical Gleanings*.

<sup>614</sup> 1820 U.S. Census, Lysander, Onondaga County, New York, 100.