

This compendium of records was created for William Bradford III (an ancestor of the author's spouse) as a set of references in November, 2017. By inference, this file will clearly contain duplicated and poorly formatted data elements, ancient English language spellings and a number of erroneous references; please direct any comments to the author?

Thanks!

Regards, DJ Shave

DJ.Shave@GMail.com

From a text embedded in the person, likely sourced by DJS

William, part of the "Mayflower Compact," was the third child of William and Alice (Hanson) Bradford, born 29 March, 1590 to some estate at Austerfield in the county of Yorkshire, England. Austerfield, adjacent to Scrooby, where the original Church of Plymouth was formed (which at this time was a royal manor) and the Bradford's were farmers of the demesne. The Bradford's and Hanson's belonged to the class of small landowners called yeomen, who, in the reign of Queen Elizabeth (A. D. 1558-1603), ranked next to the gentry, and were entitled to use coats-of-armor (aka a COA). He was later called the "Father of American History".

William's parents died while he was very young; he was raised first by his grandparents, then by his uncles. He was sickly as a child; when he was about 12 years old, he became much impressed by the reading of the Scriptures (via an Internet connection). In about 1608, aged about 18, he immigrated to Amsterdam, Holland, where he became an apprentice to a silk weaver, and having learned his master's trade, he set up in business for himself at Leyden as a fustian maker, which is a type of heavy cloth woven from cotton, chiefly prepared for menswear.

He was basically self-educated and became learned in Dutch, Latin, French, Greek and Hebrew; he studied the latter 2 languages, it is reported, because of his interest to know the Scriptures in their original languages. He was also well-learned in History, in Antiquity, in Philosophy, and in Theology. But the crown of all was his holy, prayerful, watchful and fruitful walk with God.

In December, 1613, he was married at age 23 to Dorothy May, aged sixteen years, a native of Witezbutts, England. They joined the little company of Pilgrims in Holland, and came to New England in 1620 in the Mayflower. William Bradford was the second signer of the Compact drawn up and executed by the Pilgrims on board their vessel in Cape Cod harbor 11 Nov., 1620. He left son John in Lieden Holland while he came to the colonies "WILLIAM BRADFORD is one of the few Pilgrims of whom much can be written without conjecture. He started his life with a record, and left one which admits of pride on the part of his descendants."

Dorothy Bradford was accidentally drowned while at anchor in Plymouth bay harbor 7 Dec., 1620, during the absence of William, on an exploring expedition. She was the first English woman who died at Plymouth, and the first whose death is recorded in New England. William returned to England later, which led him to become among the Pilgrim folk who sailed on the Mayflower.

In 1621, upon the death of John Carver, the first Governor of Plymouth Colony, William Bradford was chosen after the initial winter in the New World in an election held April 21, 1621; he was re-elected to the office every year till 1657, except five years--1633, '34, '36, '38 and '44.

He was one of the most efficient persons in directing and sustaining the new settlement; or, in the words of an ancient writer, he "was the very prop and glory of Plymouth Colony during all the whole series of changes that passed over it." His major writing was the "History of Plimoth Plantation, 1620-1647" (*sic*), covering 270 pages, folio, chiefly in the form of annals; a vivid account of the early settlement, extending from the inception of the Colony in 1602 down to the end of the year 1646 and became the major source of information about it. The work was not published in full until about 200 years after his death.

In 1621, Governor Bradford negotiated a treaty with Massasoit, Chief of the Wampanoag Native Americans. (Internet)

Governor Bradford was married (2nd marriage) on 14 Aug., 1623, to Alice, daughter of Alexander Carpenter of Wrenton, England, and widow of Edward Southworth; she had come to New England at Bradford's request in the early Summer of 1623, in the ship *Ann*, bringing with her sons Thomas and Constant Southworth.

Governor Bradford died at Plymouth 9 May, 1657, "lamented by all the Colonies of New England, as a common father to them all."

"This worthy gentleman was interred with the greatest solemnities that the jurisdiction to which he belonged was in a capacity to perform; many deep sighs as well as loud volleys of shot declaring that the people were no less sensible of their own loss, who were surviving, than mindful of the worth and honor of him that was deceased."

He was survived by his wife, two sons and one daughter. His widow Alice lived till 26 March, 1670. "She was a godly matron, and much loved while she lived, and lamented, though aged [about eighty years], when she died." Governor Bradford "was a good writer compared with others of those times, though his style may seem uncouth to modern ears.

From a text embedded in William's spouse, Dorothy May, likely sourced by DJS

[Embedded in the text, extracted for clarity]

THE MAYFLOWER COMPACT.

"IN YE NAME OF GOD, AMEN.

We whofe names are underwritten, the loyal fubjects of our dread fovereigne Lord. King James, by ye grace of God, of Great Britaine, France and Ireland, King, defender of ye faith, etc., having undertaken for ye glory of God and advancement of ye Christian faith, and honour of our King and countrie, a voyage to plant ye firft Colonie in ye Northerne parts of Virginia, doe by thefe prefents folemly, and mutually, in ye prefence of God, and of one another, covenant and combine ourfelves together into a civil body politik for our better ordering and prefervation and furtherance of ye end aforefaid, and by vertue hearof to enacte, confitute and frame fuch juft and equal lawes, ordinances, acts, conftitutions and offices from time to time, as fhall be thought moft meete and convenient for ye generall good of ye Colonie, unto which we promise all due fubmiffion and obedience.

"In witnes whereof we have hereunder fubfcribed our names at Cape-Codd ye 11 of November, in ye year of ye raigne of our fovereigne Lord, King James of England, France and Ireland, ye eighteenth, and of Scotland ye fiftie-fourth, Ano Dom. 1620."

From William Bradford III Research.doc authored by an entity named "Crow Family"

William Bradford was born at Ansterfield (sic), in the north of England, in 1588. He was educated as a farmer, and inherited a large patrimony. Embracing at an early age the tenets of the Puritans, he connected himself with the congregation of the celebrated John Robinson, and at the age of nineteen, after two unsuccessful attempts, joined his associates at Amsterdam. He remained in Holland until 1620, when he formed one of the ship's company of the Mayflower. While exploring the bay in a small boat, for the purpose of selecting a place for settlement, his wife was drowned. After the death of Governor Carver, April 5, 1621, he was chosen his successor. He established by gentleness and firmness a good understanding with the Indians, and conducted the internal affairs of the colony with equal sagacity. He was annually re-elected for twelve years, and then, in the words of Governor Winthrop, "by importunity, got off" from the cares of office for two years, when he was re-elected, and continued in power, with the exceptions of the years 1636, '38, and '44, until his death May 9, 1657. He was twice married, and left two sons by his second wife, Alice Southworth. The eldest, William, was deputy governor of the colony, and had nine sons and three daughters.

Numerous anecdotes are related of Governor Bradford, indicative of ready wit and good common sense. When in 1622, during a period of great scarcity in the colony, Canonicus, Sachem of Narragansett, sent him a bundle of arrows tied with the skin of a serpent, the messenger was immediately sent back with the skin stuffed with powder and ball, which caused a speedy and satisfactory termination to the correspondence. Suspecting one Lyford of plotting against the ecclesiastical arrangements of the colony, he boarded a ship, which was known to have carried out a large number of letters written by him, after she left port, examined them, and thus obtained evidence by which Lyford was tried and banished.

Governor Bradford's reputation as an author is decidedly of a posthumous character. He left a MS. History, in a folio volume of 270 pages, of the Plymouth colony, from the formation of their church in 1602 to 1747. It furnished the material for Morton's Memorial, was used by Prince and Governor Hutchinson in the preparation of their histories, and deposited, with the papers of the former, in the library of the Old South Church, in Boston. During the desecration of this edifice as a riding school by the British in the Revolutionary War, the MS. Disappeared. (It was given up for lost till 1655, when it was found complete in the Fulham Library, England.) A copy of a portion closing with the year 1620, in the handwriting of Nathaniel Morton, was discovered by the Rev. Alexander Young in the library of the First Church, at Plymouth, and printed in his Chronicles of the Pilgrim Fathers of the Colony of Plymouth, in 1841. A "letter-book", in which Bradford preserved copies of his correspondence, met with a similar fate, a portion only having been rescued from a grocer's shop in Halifax, and published in the Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, in 1794, vol. iii. of the first series of Collections with a fragment of a poem on New England. These, with two other specimens of a few lines each, first published by the same society in 1838, (third series, vii.) with the exception of some slight controversial pieces, the whole of his literary productions.

"I commend unto your wisdom and discretion," he says in his will, "some small bookes written by my own hand, to be improved as you shall see meet. In special, I commend you to a little booke with a black cover, wherein there is a word to Plymouth, a word to Boston, and a word to New England, with sundry useful verses."

OF BOSTON IN NEW ENGLAND

O Boston, though thou now art grown
To be a great and wealthy town,
Yet I have seen thee a void place,
Shrubs and bushes covering thy face;
And house then in thee none were there,
Nor such as gold and silk did weare;
No drunkenness were then in thee,
Nor such excess as now we see.
We then drunk freely of thy spring,
Without paying of anything;
We lodged freely where we would,
All things were free and nothing sold.
And they that did thee first begin,
Had hearts as free and as willing
Their poor friends for to entertain,
And never looked at sordid gain.
Some thou hast had whome I did know,
That spent theirselves to make thee grow,
And thy foundations they did lay,
Which do remain unto this day.
When thou wast weak they did thee nurse,
Or else with thee it had been worse;
They left thee not, but did defend
And succor thee unto their end.
Thou now hast grown in wealth and store,
Do not forget that thou wast poor,
And lift not up thyself in pride,
From truth and justice turn not aside.
Remember thou a Cotton had,
Which made the hearts of many glad;
What he thee taught bear thou in mind,
It's hard another such to find.
A Winthrop once in thee was known,
Who unto thee was as a Crown,
Such ornaments are very rare,
Yet thou enjoyed this blessed pair.
But these are gone, their work is done,
Their day is past, set is their sun:
Yet faithful Wilson still remains,
And learned Norton doth take pains.
Live ye in peace.
I could say more.
Oppress ye not the weak and poor.
The trade is all in your own hand,
Take heed ye do not wrong the land,
Lest he that hath lift you on high,

When, as the poor to him do cry,
Do throw you down from your high state,
And make you low and desolate.

FRAGMENTARY POEM ON NEW ENGLAND

Famine once we had,
But other things God gave us in full store,
As fish and ground-nuts, to supply our strait,
That we might learn on Providence to wait;
And know, by bread man lives not in his need.
But by each word that doth from God proceed.
But a while after plenty did come in,
From his hand only who doth pardon sin.
And all did flourish like the pleasant green,
Which in the joyful spring is to be seen.
Almost ten years we lived here alone,
In other places there were few or none;
For Salem was the next of any fame,
That began to augment New England's name;
But after multitudes began to flow,
More than well knew themselves where to bestow;
Boston then began her roots to spread,
And quickly soon she grew to be the head,
Not only of the Massachusetts Bay,
But all trade and commerce fell in her way.
And truly it was admirable to know,
How greatly all things here began to grow.
New plantations were in each place begun,
And with inhabitants were filled soon.
All sorts of grain which our own land doth yield,
Was hither brought, and sown in every field:
As wheat and rye, barley, oats, beans and pease,
Here all thrive, and they profit from them raise.
All sorts of roots and herbs in gardens grow,
Parsnips, carrots, turnips, or what you'll sow.
Onions, melons, cucumbers, radishes,
Skirets, beets, coleworts and fair cabbages.
Here grow fine flowers many, and 'mongst those,
The fair white lily and sweet fragrant rose.
Many good wholesome berries here you'll find,
Fit for man's use, almost of every kind,
Pears, apples, cherries, plumbs, quinces and peach,
Are now no dainties; you may have of each.
Nuts and grapes of several sorts are here,
If you will take the pains them to seek for.

* * * * *

But that which did 'bove all the rest excel,

God in his word, with us he here did dwell;
Well ordered churches, in each place there were,
And a learn'd ministry was planted here.
All marvell'd and said: "Lord, this work is thine,
In the wilderness to make such lights to shine."
And truly it was a glorious thing,
Thus to hear men pray, and God's praises sing.
Where these natives were wont to cry and yell
To Satan, who 'mongst them doth rule and dwell.
Oh, how great comfort it was now to see
The churches to enjoy free liberty!
And to have the Gospel preach'd here with power,
And such wolves repell'd as would else devour;
And now with plenty their poor souls were fed,
With better food than wheat, or angel's bread,
In green pastures, they may themselves solace,
And drink freely of the sweet springs of grace;
A pleasant banquet is prepar'd for these,
Of fat things, and rich wine upon the lees;
"Eat, O my friends (saith Christ), and drink freely,
Here's wine and milk, and all sweet spicery;
The honey and its comb is here to be had;
I myself for you have this banquet made:
Be not dismayed, but let your heart rejoice
In this wilderness, O let me hear your voice;
My friends you are, whilst you my ways do keep,
Your sins I'll pardon and your good I'll seek."
And they, poor souls, again to Christ do say:
"O Lord, thou art our hope, our strength and stay,
Who givest to us all these thy good things,
Us shelter still, in the shadow of thy wings:
So we shall sing, and laud thy name with praise,
"Tis thine own work to keep us in thy ways;
Uphold us still, O thou which art most high,
We then shall be kept, and thy name glorify,
Let us enjoy thyself, with these means of grace,
And in our hearts shine, with the light of thy face;
Take not away thy presence, nor thy word,
But, we humbly pray, us the same afford."

From William Bradford III Finding the Real Real Pilgrim Faith.htm (sic)

“There’s a wideness in God’s mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there’s a kindness in his justice,
which is more than liberty.”

— Faber, Frederick William, *Souls of Men, Why Will Ye Scatter?* 1862.

Bradford has been called a zealot – and so he may have been with regard to the matter of faith itself. As for the practices surrounding faith, he and the other original Pilgrims seem to have been quite open-minded:

“...we may err, and other Churches may err, and doubtless do in many circumstances. That honour of infallibility belongs, therefore, only to the word of God and pure testament of Christ, to be followed as the only rule and pattern for direction by all Churches and Christians. It is great arrogance for any man or Church to think that he or they have so sounded the word of God to the bottom as to be able to set down precisely a Church's practices without error in substance or circumstance, and in such a way that no one thereafter may digress or differ from them with impunity.”

— William Bradford. *Of Plymouth Plantation*. Kindle Edition. Edited by Paget, Harold. Mineola, NY: Dover Books, 2006.

While advocating tolerance for variety in religious practice, there are two groups recognized in this statement to which it could not have been extended: those Christians (Catholic and Anglican) who required conformity in practice; and all non-Christians who could not be or had not been converted. Consequently, it’s no surprise that the genocide of durably inimical Native Americans was completely acceptable. But it is surprising, that the legatees of this attitude should have become so durably narrow-minded. Since life in the new world was so difficult, it may be no surprise, but it is truly a pity that the Pilgrims’ fundamental tolerance got so completely lost in the wilds of New England....

BTW, F.W. Faber, the lyricist of the famous hymn at the top, took holy orders as an Anglican priest and later “seceded” to the Catholic Church. He also wrote the lyrics to the famous “Faith of Our Fathers”.

From William Bradford III Gov of the Puritans and Plymouth Col.htm

William was born at his father's house in Austerfield. He was baptized on 19 March 1589/90 by Rev. Henry Fletcher at St. Helens Church in Austerfield. After his father's death in 1591, William lived with his grandfather till he too died in 1595. A precocious but somewhat sickly orphan, William was then moved on to live with his uncle Robert in Scrooby, a small village in Nottinghamshire five miles from Austerfield and about 150 miles north of London. Although he had limited opportunity to gain a formal education, he taught himself Dutch, French, Latin, Greek and Hebrew (the latter two in order to read the bible in its original form). At his majority he inherited property in Bentley from his grandfather's estate and other property from his father's estate.

By the time he was twelve years old, William was walking a dozen miles to Rev. Richard Clifton's church every Sunday to attend services. He joined the church and became close friends with William Brewster, which soon led him to become a Separatist from the established Church of England.

The persecution of the Puritans increased over the years and, in 1608, Mr. Clifton's church resolved "with joint consent, to remove to Holland, where they heard was freedom of religion for all men." However, they weren't allowed to go in peace. "The strong arm of the law barred every harbor and vessel against them." In the Spring of 1609 they nevertheless managed to transport themselves to Amsterdam, South Holland, Netherlands, William among them. Seeing the fate there of Mr. John Smith's church, they moved again in 1610 to Leyden in South Holland, one of the most beautiful cities in Europe and the home of a large Protestant university, where they made a permanent settlement and the congregation grew to 300.

William learned fustian (frieze) weaving while in Holland and began the manufacture of corduroy. He returned briefly to England in 1611 to sell his Bentley inheritance which consisted of a house, cottage, garden, orchard and nine and a half acres of land.

William married first Dorothy May on 10 December 1613 in Amsterdam. Their banns were published in Leyden. Unusual for the time, she was quite literate. She was born on 19 March 1596 in Cambridgeshire, daughter of Henry May of Wisbeech, Cambridgeshire. William and Dorothy had a son, John.

By 1617, realizing that staying in Holland would inevitably result in their total absorption, the Puritans turned their attention to a possible emigration to America. Robert Cushman and another member of their congregation were sent to London to negotiate for their passage and settlement. They met with disappointment for, although the King would be happy to be rid of them, it would not be without preconditions. Cushman and William Brewster tried again in 1619. This time they succeeded in receiving a patent from the Virginia Company. A joint stock company was formed, a partnership among the emigrants and the capitalists who were to finance them—some 70 men who called themselves "The Merchant Adventurers."

In London, Cushman engaged the services of the Speedwell, a rather small ship. Needing additional room, he also contracted for the Mayflower, half again larger at about 180 tons and 90 feet long. The Pilgrims left Holland on 20 July 1620 on the Speedwell to meet with the Mayflower in Southampton, England. On 15 August they set sail for America, William and Dorothy among them. The Speedwell took on so much water that they returned on the 23rd. The Speedwell was repaired and they tried again. More trouble with leaks, and they returned to England a few days later, landing at Plymouth. The Speedwell was dismissed and some of the families (twenty people) had to stay behind. The Mayflower set off again from Plymouth with the remaining 102 people on 6 September, this time successfully, on a voyage of 65 days.

They arrived in the new world on 10 November 1620, off Cape Cod, probably near what is now Truro. After an overnight attempt to travel on to the Hudson River, their original destination, they gave up and arrived at Provincetown Harbor the next day. There they agreed to a form of self-government which

they recorded in the Mayflower Compact and signed on 11 November 1620. William signed second only to Governor John Carver.

The women were brought ashore on the 13th to wash the clothes that had remained unwashed during the long voyage. Legend has it that "light-hearted" Mary Chilton leaped off the dory before it was beached so that she would be the first Englishwoman to set foot in New England.

After several probes of possible sites for settlement during late November and early December in the Mayflower's shallop, a band of the men, William among them, landed at Plymouth on Monday, 11 December. Upon returning to the Mayflower that same day, William was told of a personal tragedy: Dorothy had accidentally fallen from the ship on the 7th and drowned.

On Saturday the 16th the Mayflower was brought to Clark's Island, a mile and a half off of Plymouth. A couple of days were spent in exploration of the local sites. Agreement was finally reached on Wednesday the 20th to settle at Plymouth, rather than Clark's Island. (Since Plymouth was the last place from which they left England, the Pilgrims named the new colony New Plymouth.) Temporary shelters were erected on Thursday and, after a storm on Friday, work on the new village was begun in earnest on Saturday the 23rd. They observed the Sabbath on Sunday and returned to work on Monday, Christmas Day, in keeping with Puritan beliefs.

The Mayflower stayed in port until the following 5 April when it returned to England. Captain Christopher Jones (after whom the Jones River was named) had needed to wait until the Pilgrims could be assured of their survival and until the remaining half of his crew who had survived the winter recovered their health. Indeed, more than half of the Pilgrims' number perished in that first terrible winter in the new world, from December to March, from its privations, hunger and the "Great Sickness" (a combination of scurvy and respiratory illness). The stone over their grave is inscribed:

This monument marks the first burying ground in Plymouth of the Passengers of the Mayflower. Here, under cover of darkness, the first dwindling Company laid their dead, levelling the earth above them lest the Indians should learn how many were the graves.

It wasn't until the harvest in the fall of 1623 that sufficient food was produced to last the colonists for a full year. But several years of hardship remained.

William married second Alice Carpenter on 14 August 1623 in Plymouth. Alice was baptized on 3 August 1590 in Wrington, Somersetshire, and daughter of Alexander Carpenter. Unlike Dorothy, Alice was not able to write.

Alice had a sister Mary Carpenter and another sister Juliana Carpenter (bp. 17 March 1584 St. James Church, Bath, Somersetshire—?) who married George Morton on 23 July 1612 in Leyden. George and Juliana arrived at Plymouth on 17–20 July 1623 aboard the Little James. George's brother Thomas Morton I (bp. 1 March 1589—?) arrived earlier in Plymouth, aboard the Fortune on 9 November 1621. Alice had married first Edward Southworth, a say-weaver of Leyden, on 28 May 1613 in Leyden. Edward was born in 1590, the son of Thomas Southworth and Jane Mynne of Wells in Somersetshire. Edward and Alice had two sons, Constant and Thomas.

The Southworth's and William lived in Heneage House on Duke's Place in London for about a year before the Mayflower sailed, so were probably well acquainted. Edward died by 1621, probably in Leyden, after the Mayflower sailed. Two years later Alice left to join William in the new world.

Alice arrived in Plymouth on the Anne about 10 July 1623 (which had sailed with the Little James but arrived a week earlier) accompanied by Thomas Morton II, the likely son of the Thomas Morton I of the Fortune. Less than a month later she married William. Robert Cushman sent a letter to William with the Annein which he said: "Some few of your friends are come, as &c. So they come dropping to you."

William and Alice's marriage was the fourth to take place in the new Colony, and Alice brought her own property into the marriage. Alice and Edward's son Thomas came over with his mother and Constant came over in 1628, and they were brought up in William's household.

William was elected governor of the Colony in 1621, following the death of Governor Carver. William was reelected governor annually in the periods 1621–33, 1635–37, 1639–44 and 1645–57. In between he was elected Assistant Governor. He lived in his house at the bottom of Burial Hill in Plymouth and kept a farm in Kingston. He authored many books on history, the best known and one of the few not lost being “History of Plymouth Plantations.”

William died on Saturday, 9 May 1657 in Plymouth, the richest man in the Colony. He left property worth £400 and a library of 275 volumes. He was buried on Burial Hill. His will exhibited on 3 June 1657 mentions wife Alice; Lt. Thomas Southworth; and sons John, William and Joseph Bradford.

Alice died on Saturday, 26 March 1670, in Plymouth and was buried there the next Tuesday near her husband. Her will dated 29 December 1669 and exhibited 7 June 1670 names her sister Mary Carpenter and sons Constant Southworth, Thomas Southworth (deceased), Joseph Bradford and Capt. William Bradford.

La Nopalera, A Mayflower Line, Lineage from Gov. William Bradford down to Sybil Chapin, Notes on Gov. William Bradford.

url: <http://www.lanopalera.net/Genealogy/Bradford.html>.

From William Bradford III About Alice Southworth.htm

“..it is supposed Bradford had been attached [to her] before his and her first marriage. He wrote his proposal of marriage to her in England, and she came out to him, with two Southworth children.”

— William Bradford. *Of Plymouth Plantation*. Kindle Edition. Edited by Paget, Harold. Mineola, NY: Dover Books, 2006.

From William Bradford III Cemetary.htm

William Bradford

Memorial

Photos

Flowers

Edit Share

Birth: Mar. 19, 1590

Death: Apr. 9, 1657

Colonial Governor. An Englishman who came to the New World on the "Mayflower" in 1620, in England he became one of the religious separatists known as "Pilgrims" Born in Austerfield, Yorkshire, he was an autodidact who met in secret with the other followers of the religious movement who later sought refuge in Holland in 1608. When it was decided that the group would come to the new world it was Bradford that made the arrangements (1617) and in July of 1620, his group traveled to Southampton, England to join the English separatists on the "Mayflower". When Plymouth Colony's original Governor, John Carver died in 1621, Bradford was unanimously elected to office. He was later reelected 30 times. Bradford kept Plymouth alive until the end of his term in 1660. He is considered by historians to be one of the most influential of the Pilgrim settlers for his outstanding leadership, his desire to steadfastly hold to his religious and moral ideals and his determination to keep Plymouth a thriving and independent colony. (Bio by: R. Digati)

Family links:

Parents:

William Bradford (1560 - 1591)

Spouses:

Dorothy May Bradford (1597 - 1620)*

Alice Carpenter-Southworth Bradford (1590 - 1670)*

Children:

John Bradford (1617 - 1678)*

William Bradford (1624 - 1703)*

Mercy Bradford Vermages (1627 - 1657)*

Joseph Bradford (1630 - 1715)*

*Calculated relationship

Search Amazon for William Bradford

Burial:

Burial Hill

Plymouth

Plymouth County

Massachusetts, USA

Maintained by: Find a Grave

Record added: Jan 01, 2001

Find a Grave Memorial# 124

William Bradford

Added by: Cinnamontoast4

William Bradford

Added by: bosguy

William Bradford

From William Bradford III Chronology.htm

William Bradford's life and influence have been chronicled by many. As the author of a manuscript journal and the long-term governor of Plymouth Colony, his documented activities are vast in scope...

His remarkable ability to manage men and affairs was a large factor in the success of the Plymouth Colony. The Pilgrims "desperate adventure" was marked by Bradford's stamina, versatility and vision.

Chronology of William Bradford's Life

- ~ 1590 William Bradford is born and then baptized on March 19 in Austerfield, Yorkshire, England.
- ~ 1602 William Bradford becomes a regular attendee at Puritan and Separatist meetings, coming under the influence of William Brewster and John Robinson of the Scrooby Separatist Congregation.
- ~ 1608 The Scrooby Separatists begin to leave England and settle in Holland.
- ~ 1609 William Bradford joins the Scrooby Separatists in Amsterdam.
- ~ 1613 William Bradford marries Dorothy May.
- ~ 1620 The Mayflower Pilgrims voyage to Plymouth. Dorothy May dies.
- ~ 1621 The first governor of Plymouth, John Carver, dies. William Bradford is elected governor, holding the position (except for 5 years) for the remainder of his life.
- ~ 1622 Mourt's Relation, based on writings by William Bradford and Edward Winslow among others, is published in London.
- ~ 1623 William Bradford marries the widow Alice Carpenter Southworth.
- ~ 1630 William Bradford begins the writings that eventually become Of Plymouth Plantation.
- ~ 1650 William Bradford stops writing Of Plymouth Plantation, ending with the year 1646 and adding a current list of the Mayflower passengers and their status in the year 1650.
- ~ 1657 William Bradford dies.

From: Pilgrim Hall Museum. WILLIAM BRADFORD, by Dorothy Honiss Kelso
www.pilgrimhall.org

From William Bradford III Death of His 1st Wife.htm

"The first Mrs. Bradford (Dorothy May) was drowned in the harbour soon after the arrival of the Mayflower, by falling overboard." — William Bradford. *Of Plymouth Plantation*. Kindle Edition. Edited by Paget, Harold. Mineola, NY: Dover Books, 2006.

"Curiously, Bradford does not mention [in his journal] the tragic loss of his own wife, Dorothy, who fell from the Mayflower's deck and drowned." — Kelso, Dorothy Honiss. William Bradford. 2012.
http://www.pilgrimhallmuseum.org/william_bradford.htm (accessed May 28, 2013).

From William Bradford III Excerpt journal of William Bradford.htm

A description of the hard circumstances of the winter of 1621:

(*sic*) "In these hard & difficulte beginings they found some discontents & murmurings arise amongst some, and mutinous speeches & carriags in other; but they were soone quelled & overcome by ye wisdom, patience, and just & equall carriage of things by ye Govr and better part, wch clave faithfully together in ye maine. But that which was most sadd & lamentable was, that in 2. or 3. moneths time halfe of their company dyed, espetially in Jan: & February, being ye depth of winter, and wanting houses & other comforts; being infected with ye scurvie & other diseases, which this long vioage & their inacomodate condition had brought upon them; so as ther dyed some times 2. or 3. of a day, in ye foresaid time; that of 100. & odd persons, scarce 50. remained. And of these in ye time of most distres, ther was but 6 or 7 sound persons, who, to their great comendations be it spoken, spared no pains, night nor day, but with abundance of toyle and hazard of their owne health, fetched them woode, made them fires, drest them meat, made their beads, washed their lothsome cloaths, cloathed & uncloathed them; in a word, did all ye homly & necessarie offices for them wch dainty & quesie stomacks cannot endure to hear named; and all this willingly & cherfully, without any grudging in ye least, shewing herein their true love unto their friends & bretheren. A rare example & worthy to be remembred. Two of these 7 were Mr. William Brewster, ther reverend Elder, & Myles Standish, ther Captein & military comander, unto whom my selfe, & many others, were much beholden in our low & sicke condition."

Pilgrim Hall Museum, Plymouth, Massachusetts

From William Bradford III Marriages.htm

Dorothy May, aged 16, and William Bradford, aged 23, were married in 1613. They lived in Leyden and Dorothy's name appears in the records:

"Wilson, Henrick (Henry Wilson) of Yarmouth in England, Pumpmaker, acc. by Willem Jepson and Jan Kerver (John Carver) his acq. betr. 13 May 1616, mar 27 May 1616 to Lijsbeth Claes (Elizabeth Nicolas) of Yarmouth in England, acc. by Sara Minther (Sarah Minter nee Willet) and Derreke Bretford (Dorothy Bradford nee May) her acq."

Johanna W. Tammel, *The Pilgrims and other people from the British Isles in Leiden 1576-1640 (Isle of Man : Mansk-Svenska Publishing Co., Ltd., 1989)*, p. 289.

William and Dorothy Bradford sailed on the Mayflower, leaving their young son John behind. Dorothy May Bradford died in December of 1620. Written in 1650, this is the only reference made by William Bradford to the death of his wife Dorothy:

"And seeing it hath pleased Him to give me [William Bradford] to see thirty years completed since these beginnings, and that the great works of His providence are to be observed, I have thought it not unworthy my pains to take a view of the decreasing and increasing of these persons and such changes as hath passed over them and theirs in this thirty years... his wife died soon after their arrival, and he married again and hath four children, three whereof are married."

William Bradford, *Of Plymouth Plantation 1620-1647*, ed. Samuel Eliot Morison (New York : Knopf, 1991), p. 443-4.

There are no other contemporary accounts of the death of Dorothy May Bradford.

Cotton Mather first published his *Magnalia*, which contains a biography of William Bradford, in 1702.

He wrote :

"...at their first landing, his dearest consort accidentally falling overboard, was drowned in the harbour"

Cotton Mather, *Magnalia Christi Americana* (Hartford :

Silus Andrus & Son, 1853), vol. 1, p. 111.

William Bradford's second wife was the widow, Alice Carpenter Southworth. She and her first husband had been members of the Separatist community in Leyden. The widowed Alice Carpenter Southworth arrived on the Anne in 1623 and soon thereafter married William Bradford.

The marriage of William Bradford and Alice Carpenter Southworth was noted in a letter written by Emmanuel Altham to his brother Sir Edward Altham in September, 1623:

"Upon the occasion of the Governor's marriage, since I came, Massasoit was sent for to the wedding, where came with him his wife, the queen, although he hath five wives. With him came four other kings and about six score men with their bows and arrows - where, when they came to our town, we saluted them with the shooting off of many muskets and training our men. And so all the bows and arrows was brought into the Governor's house, and he brought the Governor three or four bucks and a turkey. And so we had very good pastime in seeing them dance, which is in such manner, with such a noise that you would wonder... And now to say somewhat of the great cheer we had at the Governor's marriage. We had about twelve pasty venisons, besides others, pieces of roasted venison and other such good cheer in such quantity that I could wish you some of our share. For here we have the best grapes that ever you say - and the biggest, and divers sorts of plums and nuts which our business will not suffer us to look for."

Sidney V. James, Jr., editor, *Three Visitors to Early Plymouth*

(Plymouth, Mass. : Plimoth Plantation, 1963), p. 29-30.

From William Bradford III Mayflower passenger list.htm

The names of those which came over first, in ye year 1620 and were (by the Blessing of God) the first Beginers, and (in a sort) the foundation, of all the plantations, and Colonies, in New England. (And their families.

mr John Carver. Kathrine his wife. Desire Minter; & .2. man-servants John Howland. Roger Wilder. William Latham, a boy. & a maid servant. & a child yt was put to him called, Jasper More

mr William Brewster. Mary his wife, with .2. sons, whose names were Love, & Wrasling. and a boy was put to him called Richard More; and another of his brothers the rest of his children were left behind & came over afterwards.

mr Edward Winslow Elizabeth his wife, & 2 men servants, caled Georg Sowle, and Elias Story; also a little girle was put to him caled Ellen, the sister of Richard More.

William Bradford, and Dorathy his wife, having but one child, a sone left behind, who came afterward. mr Isaack Allerton, and Mary. his wife; with .3. children Bartholmew Remember, & Mary. and a servant boy, John Hooke.

mr Samuell fuller; and a servant, caled William Butten. His wife was behind & a child, which came afterwards.

John Crakston and his sone John Crakston

Captin Myles Standish and Rose, his wife

mr Christopher Martin, and his wife; and .2. servants, Salamon prower, and John Langemore

mr William Mullines, and his wife; and .2. children Joseph, & priscila; and a servant Robart Carter.

mr William White, and Susana his wife; and one sone caled resolved, and one borne a ship-bord caled perigriene; & .2. servants, named William Holbeck, & Edward Thomson

mr Steven Hopkins, & Elizabeth his wife; and .2. children, caled Giles, and Constanta a daughter, both by a former wife. And .2. more by this wife, caled Damaris, & Oceanus, the last was borne at sea. And .2. servants, called Edward Doty, and Edward Litster.

mr Richard Warren, but his wife and children were left behind and came afterwards

John Billinton, and Elen his wife: and .2. sones John, & Francis.

Edward Tillie, and Ann his wife: and .2. children that were their cossens; Henery Samson, and Humillity Coper

John Tillie, and his wife; and Eelizabeth their daughter.

Francis Cooke, and his sone John; But his wife & other children came afterwards

Thomas Rogers, and Joseph his sone; his other children came afterwards.

Thomas Tinker, and his wife, and a Sone

John Rigdale; and Alice his wife.

James Chilton, and his wife, and Mary their dougter; they had another daughter yt was maried came afterward.

Edward fuller, and his wife; and Samuell their sonne.

John Turner, and .2. sones; he had a daughter came some years after to Salem, wher she is now living.

Francis Eaton. and Sarah his wife, and Samuell their sone, a yong child

Moyes fletcher, John Goodman, Thomas Williams, Digerie Preist, Edmond Margeson, Peter Browne, Richard Britterige, Richard Clarke, Richard Gardenar, Gilbert Winslow

John Alden was hired for a cooper, at South-Hampton wher the ship victuled; and being a hopefull yong man was much desired, but left to his owne liking to go, or stay when he came here, but he stayed, and maryed here.

John Allerton, and Thomas English were both hired, the later to goe mr of a shalop here. and ye other was reputed as one of ye company, but was to go back (being a seaman) for the help of others behind. But they both dyed here, before the shipe returned.

Ther were allso other .2. seamen hired to stay a year here in the country, William Trevore; and one Ely. But when their time was out they both returned.

These being aboute a hundred sowls came over in this first ship; and began this worke, which god of his goodnes hath hithertoo blesed; let his holy name have ye praise.

And seeing it hath pleased him to give me to see. 30. years compleated, since these beginings. And that the great works of his providence are to be observed. I have thought it not unworthy my paines, to take a veiw of the decreasings, & Increasings of these persons, and such change as hath pased over them, & theirs, in this thirty years. It may be of some use to such as come after; but however I shall rest in my owne benefite.

I will therefore take them in order as they lye.

mr Carver and his wife, dyed the first year, he in ye spring, she in ye somer; also his man Roger, and ye lisle boy Jasper, dyed before either of them, of ye commone Infection. Desire Minter, returned to her freind & proved not very well, and dyed in England. His servant boy Latham after more then .20. years stay in the country went into England; and from thence to the Bahamy Ilands in ye west Indees; and ther with some others was stavred for want of food. His maid servant maried, &c dyed a year or tow after here in this place. His servant John Howland maried the daughter of John Tillie, Elizabeth, and they are

both now living; and have .10. children now all living and their eldest daughter hath .4. children And ther .2. dougter, one, all living and other of their Children mariagable. so .15. are come of them.

mr Brewster lived to very old age; about .80. years he was when he dyed, having lived some .23. or .24. years here in ye countrie. & though his wife dyed long before, yet she dyed aged. His sone Wrastle dyed a yonge man unmarried; his sone Love, lived till this year . 1650. and 4. dyed, & left .4. children, now living. His daughters which came over after him, are dead but have left sundry children alive; his eldst sone is still liveing, and hath .9. or . 10. children, one married. who hath a child, or .2. Richard More, his brother dyed the first winter; but he is married, and hath .4. or .5. children, all living.

mr Ed: Winslow, his wife dyed the first winter; and he married with the widow of mr White, and hath .2. children living by her marigable, beside sundry that are dead. one of his servants dyed, as also the litle girle soone after the ships arivall. But his man Georg Sowle, is still living, and hath .8. children.

William Bradford, his wife dyed soone after their arivall; and he married againe; and hath .4. children, .3: wherof are married.

mr Allerton his wife dyed with the first, and his servant John Hooke. his sone Bartle is married in England but I know not how many children he hath. His daughter remember is married at Salem & hath .3. or .4 children living. And his daughter mary is married here, & hath 4. children. Him selfe married againe with ye dougter of mr Brewster, & hath one sone living by here but she is long since dead. And he is married againe, and hath left this place long agoe. So I account his Increase to be :8: beside his sons in England. mr fuller, his servant dyed at sea; and after his wife came over, he had two children by her; which are living and growne up to years. But he dyed some .15. years agoe.

John Crakston dyed in the first mortality; and about some .5. or 6. years after his sone dyed, having lost him selfe in ye wodes, his feet became frozen, which put him into a feavor, of which he dyed.

Captain Standish his wife dyed in the first sicknes; and he married againe, and hath .4. sones liveing, and some are dead.

mr Martin, he, and all his, dyed in the first Infection; not long after the arivall.

mr Molines, and his wife, his sone, & his servant dyed the first winter. Only his dougter priscila survied, and married with John Alden, who are both living, and have .11. children. And their eldest daughter is married & hath five children.

mr White, and his .2. servants dyed soone after ther landing. His wife married with mr Winslow (as is before noted) His .2. sons are married, and resolved hath . 5. children; perigrine tow, all living. So their Increase are .7.

mr Hopkins, and his wife are now both dead; but they lived above .20. years in this place, and had one sone, and .4. daughters borne here. Ther sone became a sea man, & dyed at Barbadoes, one daughter dyed here. and .2. are married. one of them hath .2. children, and one is yet to mary. So their Increase, which still survive, are 4. . But his sone Giles is married, and hath .4. children. his daughter Constanta, is also married, and hath .12. children all of them living, and one of them married.

mr Richard Warren dived some .4. or .5. years, and had his wife come over to him, by whom he had .2. sons before dyed; and one of them is maryed, and hath .2. children So his Increase is .4. but he had .5. daughters more came over with his wife, who are all married, & living & have many children.

John Billinton after he had bene here .10. yers, was executed, for killing a man; and his eldest sone dyed before him; but his .2. sone is alive, and married, & hath .8. children

Edward Tillie, and his wife both dyed soon after their arivall; and the girle Humility their cousen, was sent for into England, and dyed then But the youth Henery Samson, is still liveing, and is married, & hath .7. children.

John Tillie, and his wife both dyed, a litle after they came ashore; and their daughter Elizabeth married with John Howland and hath Isue as is before noted.

Francis Cooke is still living, a very olde man, and hath scene his childrens, children, have children: after his wife came over. (with other of his children) he hath .3. still living by her, all maried, and have .5. children so their encrease is .8. And his sone John which came over with him, is maried, and hath .4. children living.

Thomas Rogers dyed in the first sicknes, but his sone Joseph is still living, and is maried, and hath .6. children. The rest of Thomas Rogers came over, & are maried, & have many children.

Thomas Tinker, and his wife, and sone, all dyed in the first sicknes. And so did John Rigdale, and his wife. James Chilton, and his wife also dyed in the first Infection. but their daughter mary, is still living and hath .9. children; and one daughter is maried, & hath a child; so their Increase is .10.

Edward fuller, and his wife dyed soon after they came ashore; but their sone Samuell is living, & maried, and hath .4. children. or more.

John Turner, and his .2. sones all dyed in the first siknes. But he hath a daughter still living, at Salem, well maried, and approved of.

Francis Eaton, his first wife dyed in the generall sicknes; and he maried againe, & his wife dyed, & he

maried the .3. and had by her .3. children. one of them is maried, & hath a child; the other are living, but one of them is an Ideote. He dyed about .16. years agoe. his sone Samuell, who came over a sucking child is allso maried, & hath a child.

Moyses fletcher Thomas Williams Digerie preist John Goodman Edmond Margeson Richard Britterige Richard Clarke All these dyed sone after their arivall in the Generall sicknes that befell. But Digerie preist had his wife & children sent hither afterwards she being mr Allertons sister. But the rest left no posteritie here.

Richard Gardinar, became a seaman, and dyed in England, or at sea.

Gilbert Winslow after diverse years aboad here, returned into England and dyed then

Peter Browne maried twice, by his first wife he had .2. children, who are living, & both of them maried, and the one of them hath .2. children. by his second wife, he had .2. more; he dyed about 16 years since

Thomas English; and John Allerton, dyed in the generall siknes.

John Alden maried with priscila, mr Mollines his doughter, and had Isue by her as is before related

Edward Doty, & Edward Litster the servants of mr Hopkins. Litster After he was at liberty, went to Virginia, & ther dyed. But Edward Doty by a second wife hath .7. children and both he and they are living.

Of these 200 persons which came first over, in this first ship together; the greater halfe dyed in the generall mortality; and most of them in .2. or three monthes time. And for those which survived though some were ancient & past procreation; & others left ye place and cuntrie. yet of those few remaining are sprunge up above .160. persons; in this .30. years. And are now living in this presente year . 1650. beside many of their children which are dead and come not within this account.

And of the old stock, (of one, & other) ther are yet living this present year. 1650. nere .30. persons. Let the Lord have ye praise; who is the High preserver of men.

From William Bradford III Notes for Governor William Bradford.htm

Gov. William Bradford, the son of William Bradford and Alice Hanson, was born in about 1590 and was baptized on Thursday, 19 March 1590 o.s. in St. Helen's chapel, Austerfield, Yorkshire, England.

He immigrated in 1620 to Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts and died at the age of about 67 on Tuesday, 19 May 1657 o.s. in Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.

He (aged about 33) married Alice (Carpenter) Southworth (also aged about 33) on Thursday, 14 August 1623 o.s. in Plymouth, Plymouth county, Massachusetts.

Alice (Carpenter) Southworth, the daughter of Alexander Carpenter, was born in about 1590 and was baptized on Monday, 3 August 1590 o.s. in Wrington [Wrentham], Somerset, England. She immigrated in July 1623 to Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts. She died at the age of about 80 on Saturday, 26 March 1670 o.s. in Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts. She was buried on Tuesday, 29 March 1670 o.s. in Plymouth, Plymouth county, Massachusetts.

Their children were:

Maj. William Bradford, born on Thursday, 17 June 1624 o.s. in Plymouth, Plymouth county, Massachusetts, died on Sunday, 20 February 1704 o.s., buried in Burial Hill cemetery in Plymouth, Plymouth county, Massachusetts. He married Mary (Atwood) Holmes in 1677 in Plymouth, Plymouth County, Massachusetts.

Mercy Bradford, born before 1627. She married Benjamin Vermayes on Thursday, 21 December 1648 o.s. in Plymouth, Plymouth county, Massachusetts.

Joseph Bradford, born in 1630, died on Sunday, 10 July 1715 o.s. in Kingston, Plymouth county, Massachusetts, buried in Burial Hill cemetery in Plymouth, Plymouth county, Massachusetts. He married Jael Hobart on Wednesday, 25 May 1664 o.s. in Hingham, Plymouth County, Mass.

The Will of William Bradford

The last Will and Testament Nunckupative of Mr William Bradford senior:

Deceased May the Ninth 1657 and exhibited to the court held att Plymouth June 3d 1657

Mr William Bradford senir: being weake in body but in prfect memory having Defered the forming of his Will in hopes of haveing the healp of Mr Thomas Prence therin; feeling himselfe very weake and drawing on to the conclusion of his mortall life spake as followeth; I could have Desired abler then myselfe in the Desposing of that I have; how my estate is none knowes better then youerselfe, said hee to Lieftenant Southworth; I have Desposed to John and William alreddy their proportions of land which they are possessed of;

My Will is that my son Joseph bee made in some sort equall to his brethern out of my estate;
My further Will is that my Deare & loveing wife Allice Bradford shalbee the sole Exequitrix of my estate;
and for her future maintainance my Will is that my Stocke in the Kennebecke Trad be reserved for her Comfortable Subsistence as farr as it will extend and soe further in any such way as may bee Judged best for her;

I further request and appoint my welbeloved Christian ffrinds Mr Thomas Prence Captaine Thomas Willett and Lieftenant Thomas Southworth to be the Suppervissors for the Desposing of my estate according to the prmises Confiding much in their faithfulness

I comend unto your Wisdome and Descretions some smale bookes written by my owne hand to bee Improved as you shall see meet; In speciall I Comend to you a little booke with a blacke cover wherin there is a word to Plymouth a word to Boston and a word to New England with sundry usefull verses;

These pticulars were expressed by the said William Bradford Govr the 9th of May 1657 in the prsence of us Thomas Cushman Thomas Southworth Nathaniell Morton; whoe were Deposed before the court held att Plymouth the 3d of June 1657 to the truth of the abovesaid Will that it is the last Will and Testament of the abovesaid Mr William Bradford senir. Source: Research of D. G. Weymouth, Donald G. Weymouth, Person Sheet, Governor William BRADFORD

url: weymouthtech.com/Genealogy/ps03/ps03_358.htm

From William Bradford III Persecution.htm

At an early age, he was attracted to the "primitive" congregational church, in nearby Scrooby, and became a committed member of what was termed a "Separatist" church, since the church-members had wanted to separate from the Church of England. By contrast, the Puritans wanted to purify the Church of England.

The Separatists instead felt the Church was beyond redemption due to unbiblical doctrines and teachings. When James I began to persecute Separatists in 1609, Bradford fled to the Netherlands, along with many members of the congregation.

These Separatists went first to Amsterdam before settling at Leiden. Bradford married his first wife, Dorothy May (1613 – December 7, 1620), on December 10, 1613 in Amsterdam. While at Leiden, he supported himself as a fustian weaver.

Shifting alignments of the European powers (due to religious differences, struggles over the monarchies and intrigues within the ruling Habsburg clan) caused the Dutch government to fear war with Catholic Spain, and to become allied with James I of England. Social pressure (and even attacks) on the separatists increased in the Netherlands.

Their congregation's leader, John Robinson, supported the emerging idea of starting a colony. Bradford was in the midst of this venture from the beginning. The separatists wanted to remain Englishmen (although living in the Netherlands), yet wanted to get far enough away from the Church of England and the government to have some chance of living in peace. Arrangements were made, and William with his wife sailed for America in 1620 from Leiden aboard the Mayflower.

Wikipedia, William Bradford (Plymouth governor), Biography

From William Bradford III References.htm

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Families of the Pilgrims - William Bradford (Boston: Mass. Soc. of Mayflower Descendants, Boston 1955), 5, 8, 9, 16;

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The American Genealogist Quarterly (TAG), Demorest, Georgia, 57:50-54;

Anderson, Robert Charles, George F. Sanborn, Jr., Melinde Lutz Sanborn, The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634-1635 (Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1999-2007.), p. 314.

From William Bradford III Research 2.htm

WILLIAM BRADFORD (1590—1657), American colonial governor and historian, was born in Austerfield, Yorkshire, England, probably in March 1590.

He became somewhat estranged from his family, which was one of considerable importance in the locality, when in early youth he joined the Puritan sect known as Separatists, and united in membership with the congregation at Scrooby.

He prepared in 1607, with other members of the church, to migrate to Holland, but the plan was discovered and several of the leaders, among them Bradford, were imprisoned. In the year following, however, he joined the English colony at Amsterdam, where he learned the trade of silk weaving.

He subsequently sold his Yorkshire property and embarked in business on his own account at Leiden, where the English refugees had removed and became an active advocate of the proposed emigration to America, was one of the party that sailed in the "Mayflower" in September 1620, and was one of the signers of the compact on shipboard in Cape Cod Bay.

After the death of Governor John Carver in April 1621, Bradford was elected governor of Plymouth Colony, and served as such, with the exception of five years (1633, 1634, 1636, 1638 and 1644) until shortly before his death. After 1624, at Bradford's suggestion, a board of five and later seven assistants was chosen annually to share the executive responsibility. Bradford's rule was firm and judicious, and to his guidance more than to that of any other man the prosperity of the Plymouth Colony was due. His tact and kindness in dealing with the Indians helped to relieve the colony from the conflicts with which almost every other settlement was afflicted. In 1630 the council for New England granted to "William Bradford, his heirs, associates, and assigns," a new patent enlarging the original grant of territory made to the Plymouth settlers. This patent Bradford in the name of the trustees made over to the body corporate of the colony in 1641. Bradford died in Plymouth on the 9th of May 1657. He was the author of a very important

HISTORICAL

historical work, the History of Plimouth Plantation (until 1646), first published in the Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society for 1856, and later by the state of Massachusetts (Boston, 1898), and in facsimile, with an introduction by John A. Doyle, in 1896. The manuscript disappeared from Boston during the War of Independence, was discovered in the Fulham library, London, in 1855, and was returned by the bishop of London to the state of Massachusetts in 1897. This work has been of inestimable value to writers on the history of the Pilgrims, and was freely used, in manuscript, by Morton, Hubbard, Mather, Prince and Hutchinsom.

Bradford was also undoubtedly part author, with Edward Winslow, of the "Diary of Occurrences" published in Mourt's Relation, edited by Dr H. M. Dexter (Boston, 1865). He also wrote a series of Dialogues, on church government, published in the Massachusetts Historical Society's Publications (1870.) For Bradford's ancestry and early life see Joseph Hunter, Collections concerning the Founders of New Plymouth, in Massachusetts Historical Society's Collections (Boston, 1852): also the quaint sketch in Cotton Mather's Magnalia (London, 1702), and a chapter in Williston Walker's Ten New England Leaders (New York, 1901).

From Online Encyclopedia, Encyclopedia Home :: BOS-BRI, WILLIAM BRADFORD (1590—1657). url: http://encyclopedia.jrank.org/BOS_BRI/BRADFORD_WILLIAM_15901657_.html

From William Bradford III Research Data.htm

Parents:

William Bradford (1560 - 1591)

Spouses:

Dorothy May Bradford (1597 - 1620)*

Alice Carpenter-Southworth Bradford (1590 - 1670)*

Children:

John Bradford (1617 - 1678)*

William Bradford (1624 - 1703)*

Mercy Bradford Vermages (1627 - 1657)*

Joseph Bradford (1630 - 1715)*

From William Bradford III The Atlantic Passage of the Puritans.htm

"The Separatist sects of Puritans, later to be called Pilgrims, were to sail across the Atlantic aboard a ship called the Mayflower in 1620. The ... Pilgrims was the more radical sect of Puritans which wanted to set up a new church separate from the Church of England, where they would practice the catholic religion as they thought it should be practiced. The other Puritans were the conservatives who just wanted change from within the Church. None of them could have expected how hard the ride would have been and all of the hardships they faced along the way. The Mayflower left England on September 6, 1620 and would be at sea for sixty-seven days or nine and a half weeks. In all, there were one-hundred and three total passengers aboard the Mayflower and this does not include the crew. The Mayflower was a cargo ship and was not made to carry people, which meant that there were really no places designed for the passengers to sleep, they had to figure that out on their own. The passengers were incredibly cramped below deck and nobody ever went on deck because for the most part the weather did not permit this to happen. The layout of the Mayflower

Of the many problems that the crew and passengers had to face one of the biggest problems before they even left was some people had to leave some family behind. William Bradford himself, one of the people that made the voyage possible, had to leave his four year old son behind. On the subject of some families having to leave some of their other siblings behind, Bradford had to say, "they knew they were pilgrims, and looked not much on those things, but lifted up their eyes to the heavens, their dearest country, and quieted their spirits." This example shows how determined the Puritans were to start their new lives. It takes a lot to leave a member of your family behind while they have no clue of what is to become of themselves or the rest of their family. The fact that people would leave some of their family behind shows how much they truly cared about their (sic) faith. Living conditions aboard the Mayflower were the biggest problems for passengers. For the most part passengers spent all sixty-seven days drenched by the waters of the Atlantic. The Atlantic was described as, 'of violent storms, westerly gales piling up huge waves, easterly gales drenching everyone on board.' The few days that the sun was out, the passengers would try to dry their clothes or bedding. It was these winds that also made the trip across the Atlantic anything but smooth. People would get sea sick on board and since there was no place for people to go when they were to get sick, they would try not to get their vomit on anyone else. The quarters below deck can be described as, 'reeking of vomit and bilge.' Provisions also were never very good. Since there was no way to keep the meats and other foods fresh, passengers would be eating foods that were not as fresh as they were when they were purchased before the trip. It is this poor supply of food which led to more of the passengers on board becoming ill. An illustration showing the Mayflower's living quarters for the passengers

Working on the Mayflower was not an easy task for the crew. The Mayflower itself was bulky and hard to maneuver and also fatiguing to steer. The maps that were being followed on the voyage were no (sic) one-hundred percent accurate. These were maps drawn up by people who have usually made the voyage more than once and usually had an idea of the lay of the land of the east coast of the New World. The compass was the main source of navigation. One of the hardest jobs for the crew was adjusting the sails. Because the sails had to constantly be adjusted due to things such as changing winds, the crew had to constantly keep a close eye. Because the ropes were made from hemp and the Mayflower was constantly getting drenched, the crew had to make sure that the ropes were never too tight or too loose. The hemp rope would tighten when wet and loosen up when dry which did not make the crew's job any easier, just made it more tedious. Fog was one of the more troubling elements that the crew had to face. When fog was present the crew would constantly have to take soundings or figure out the depth by using a lead ball attached to rope which would be dropped to the bottom so they could figure out if they were approaching land or a shoal. Squalls were one of the biggest problems both for crew and the passengers. The Mayflower had many leaks, and during these squalls both the crew and

the passengers would spend the whole time getting soaked by combination of the ocean water splashing aboard and the rain. During these squalls the crew would have to take down the sails to keep the mast from breaking under the pressure of the high winds. It was these high winds that would blow the Mayflower off course causing the crew to have to work that much harder to find its current bearings so it can get back on course. Around the mid-point of the voyage the main mast had snapped and it left the crew and passengers wondering if they should turn back and head back to England. If it was not for William Bradford who persuaded the crew to fix the mast with supply that they had brought with them to set up the colony in the New World, the Mayflower probably would have turned around and headed back."

..... The Atlantic Passage of the Puritans.

<http://www3.gettysburg.edu/~tshannon/hist106web/site15/TED/Puritans.htm>

From William Bradford III The Separatists.htm

William Bradford was born in Austerfield, England in about 1590. He joined the Separatists, a Puritan religious group who were highly critical of the Anglican Church. They were followers of Robert Browne, a preacher who thought the Church of England should abolish bishops, ecclesiastical courts and other relics of Roman Catholicism such as kneeling and the use of priestly vestment and altars. The Separatists also believed that the government was too tolerant towards those who were guilty of adultery, drunkenness and breaching the Sabbath.

The Separatists, who held their church services in secret, were persecuted and several members were imprisoned for their activities. The Dutch government had a reputation for tolerance towards dissenters and in 1608 Bradford and a group of Separatists decided to emigrate to Holland. Bradford and his friends soon became disillusioned with life in their new home in Leyden. They could only find low-paid work and they feared that their children were losing their English identity.

In 1620 Bradford, John Carver, Edward Winslow, William Brewster and other Separatists based in Holland decided to emigrate to America. One hundred and two people boarded the Mayflower in Delft Harbour and after crossing the Atlantic they decided to settle at a place they called Plymouth in Massachusetts Bay.

The Separatists established their own government and John Carver was elected governor of the colony. The plan was for the pilgrims to live on fish caught from the sea. However, they were not very successful at this, and by the spring of 1621 half of them had died of starvation or disease. This included Bradford's wife who had drowned in Cape Cod harbour.

When John Carver died in 1621 Bradford became the new governor of the colony. He was re-elected governor 30 times during the next thirty-four years and developed a reputation as a firm and fair leader. He completed his book, a History of Plymouth Plantation, just before his death in 1656.

url: <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/USAbradfordW.htm>

From William Bradford III Will.htm

The last Will and Testament Nunckupative of Mr William Bradford senir: Deceased May the Ninth 1657 and exhibited to the court held att Plymouth June 3d 1657

Mr William Bradford senir: being weake in body but in prfect memory haveing Defered the forming of his Will in hopes of haveing the healp of Mr Thomas Prence therin; feeling himselfe very weake and drawing on to the conclusion of his mortall life spake as followeth; I could have Desired abler then myselfe in the Desposing of that I have; how my estate is none knowes better then youerselfe, said hee to Lieftenant Southworth; I have Desposed to John and William alreddy their proportions of land which they are possessed of;

My Will is that my son Joseph bee made in some sort equall to his brethern out of my estate; My further Will is that my Deare & loveing wife Allice Bradford shalbee the sole Exequitrix of my estate; and for her future maintainance my Will is that my Stocke in the Kennebecke Trad be reserved for her Comfortable Subsistence as farr as it will extend and soe further in any such way as may bee Judged best for her;

I further request and appoint my welbeloved Christian ffrinds Mr Thomas Prence Captaine Thomas Willet and Lieftenant Thomas Southworth to be the Suppervissors for the Desposing of my estate according to the prmises Confiding much in their faithfulness

I comend unto your Wisdome and Descretions some smale bookes written by my owne hand to bee Improved as you shall see meet; In speciall I Comend to you a little booke with a blacke cover wherin there is a word to Plymouth a word to Boston and a word to New England with sundry usefull verses ; These pticulars were expressed by the said William Bradford Govr the 9th of May 1657 in the prsence of us Thomas Cushman Thomas Southworth Nathaniell Morton; whoe were Deposited before the court held att Plymouth the 3d of June 1657 to the truth of the abovesaid Will that it is the last Will and Testament of the abovesaid Mr William Bradford senir.

From William Bradford III Biography.htm

William Bradford was born in 1590 in the small farming community of Austerfield, Yorkshire. His father William died when young Bradford was just one year old. He lived with his grandfather William, until his grandfather died when he was six. His mother Alice then died when he was seven. Orphaned both from parents and grandparents, he and older sister Alice were raised by their uncle Robert Bradford. William was a sickly boy, and by the age of 12 had taken to reading the Bible, and as he began to come of age he became acquainted with the ministry of Richard Clyfton and John Smith, around which the Separatist churches of the region would eventually form about 1606. His family was not supportive of his moves, and by 1607 the Church of England were applying pressure to extinguish these religious sects. Bradford, at the age of 18, joined with the group of Separatists that fled from England in fear of persecution, arriving in Amsterdam in 1608. A year later he migrated with the rest of the church to the town of Leiden, Holland, where they remained for eleven years. Bradford returned to Amsterdam temporarily in 1613, to marry his 16-year old bride, Dorothy May. In Leiden, Bradford took up the trade of a silk weaver to make ends meet, and also was able to recover some of the estate in England that he had been left by his father, to support himself and his new wife in Leiden. They had a son, John, born about 1615-1617. By 1620, when a segment of the church had decided to set off for America on the Mayflower, Bradford (now 30 years old) sold off his house in Leiden, and he and his wife Dorothy joined; however, they left young son John behind, presumably so he would not have to endure the hardships of colony-building. While the Mayflower was anchored off Provincetown Harbor at the tip of Cape Cod, and while many of the Pilgrim men were out exploring and looking for a place to settle, Dorothy Bradford accidentally fell overboard, and drowned. John Carver was elected governor of Plymouth, and remained governor until his death a year later in April 1621. Bradford was then elected governor, and was re-elected nearly every year thereafter. In 1623, he married to the widowed Alice (Carpenter) Southworth, and had a marriage feast very reminiscent of the "First" Thanksgiving, with Massasoit and a large number of Indians joining, and bringing turkeys and deer. Bradford was the head of the government of Plymouth, oversaw the courts, the colony's finances, corresponded with investors and neighbors, formulated policy with regards to foreigners, Indians, and law, and so had a very active role in the running of the entire Colony. With his second wife, he had three more children, all of which survived to adulthood and married. Beginning in 1630, he started writing a history of the Plymouth Colony, which is now published under the title *Of Plymouth Plantation*. A number of his letters, poems, conferences, and other writings have survived. William Bradford was generally sick all winter of 1656-1657; on May 8, Bradford predicted to his friends and family that he would die, and he did the next day, 9 May 1657, at the age of 68.

From William Bradford III Excerpt Of Plymouth Plantationd.htm

William Bradford III Excerpt Of Plymouth Plantationd.htm

"But here I cannot but stay and make a pause, and stand half amazed at this poor people's present condition, and so I think will the reader, too, when he well considers the same. Being thus passed the vast ocean, and a sea of troubles before in their preparation . . . they had now no friends to welcome them nor inns to entertain or refresh their weatherbeaten bodies, no houses or much less towns to repair to, to seek for succour . . . and for the season it was winter, and they that know the winters of that country know them to be sharp and violent, and subject to cruel and fierce storms, dangerous to travel to known places, much more to search an unknown coast. Besides, what could they see but a hideous and desolate wilderness, full of wild beasts and wild men--and what multitudes there might be of them they knew not . . . If they looked behind them there was the mighty ocean which they had passed and was now as a main bar and gulf to separate them from all the civil parts of the world."

Governor William Bradford

Plymouth Colony

From William Bradford III Motive for Fleeing with the Separatists.htm

William Bradford III Motive for Fleeing with the Separatists

...for seventeen-year-old Bradford, who would lose the people upon whom he had come to depend if he did not follow them to Holland, there was little choice in the matter. Despite the vehement protests of his friends and relatives, who must have pointed out that he was due to receive a comfortable inheritance at twenty-one, he decided to sail with John Robinson and William Brewster to a new land. — Philbrick, Nathaniel. *Mayflower: A Story of Courage, Community, and War*. New York: Penguin Group (USA) Inc, 2006.

From Inventory of Major William Bradfords Estate

The Inventory of the Estate of Major William Bradford deceased taken & apprized by Us the Subscribers.
To Wearing apparrill to Cash to a Ring to arms 06 00 00 to Cattell 08 14 00 to Chares & Cushings 00 13
00 to a Chest & Cubbert & trunk 00 00 9 00 to mantel 00 08 00 to a Carpitt 00 03 00 to Plate 07 10 02 to
pewter 01 12 00[p. 43] To Earthen ware 00 02 02 to Iron ware 01 04 00 to table Linnen 02 00 00 to a bell
00 03 06 to a spinning wheel 00 00 5 00 to a desk & two trunks 00 08 00 to other old Lumber 00 00 9 00
to bookes IS 03 00 to beds & furniture 04 08 00 to brass & bellmettle 01 08 0070 00 00

Thomas Loring

Elisha Wadsworth

Memorandum that on the 10th day of March 1703/4 before Nathl: Thomas Esq . Judge of the Probates
&c: Major John Bradford & Samuel Bradford Executors to the last will & testament of their father Major
William Bradford Deceased made oath that the above written is a true Inventory of the Estate of the sd
deceased so far as they know & when they know of more that they will discover the same.

Nathaniel Thomas Register

From William Bradford III Biography.htm

William Bradford father of Governor Wm Bradford

William Bradford, Sr. (born c. 1515 in Almholme, Parish of Tickhill, Yorkshire, England-buried 1595 Austerfield, Yorkshire, England) who lived in Austerfield, Yorkshire in 1575 and was a Yeoman farmer.

His first wife is thought to be Alice Morton (born ? - died bef Oct 1567), the mother of 3 children. His burial recorded on 10 January 1596. They had the following children: (All born in Austerfield, Yorkshire, England.)

1. Alice Bradford (born bef 28 Nov 1552-died ?)

2. William Bradford, Jr. (born c. 1557-buried 15 July 1591 Austerfield, Yorkshire, England) See more below.

3. Robert Bradford (born 1561 -buried 23 April 1607 Austerfield, Yorkshire, England) was baptized on 25 June 1561. He was married at Austerfield on 31 January 1585-86 to Alice Waigestafe (buried 13 July 1600). There is an assessment record for him in 1598. He made a will 15 April 1607. They had 7 children who were all born in Austerfield. Robert was Gov. Wm Bradford's uncle and helped raise him after parents and grandparents died. William Bradford, Sr. married his 2nd wife, Margaret Fox, daughter of William Fox of Harworth, Nottingham, England. Margaret and William had 1 child:

4. Elizabeth Bradford (born c. 1570 Austerfield, Yorkshire, England-died after January 1596) was baptized 16 July 1570. Married 20 January 1595-96 to James Hall. They had 4 children.

There is no known birthdate for William, Jr., of Austerfield, Yorkshire, England. (born c.1557 Austerfield, Yorkshire, England- buried 15 July 1597 Austerfield, Yorkshire, England).

He married on 21 June 1584 in Austerfield an Alice Hanson (baptized 8 Dec 1562 Austerfield, Yorkshire, England-1597 Austerfield) buried 23 May 1597 at Austerfield. Alice was the daughter of John Hanson and Margaret (Gresham) Hanson. Alice married again after the death of William Bradford in July 1591. Her 2nd marriage took place on 23 Sep 1593 to Robert Briggs. (She had 2 children by this 2nd marriage to Briggs: Agnes Briggs bpt. 22 Sep 1594 and Robert Briggs bpt. 8 May 1597.)

William Bradford, Jr. and Alice Hanson had 3 children:

1. Margaret Bradford (baptized 8 March 1585- buried 9 March 1585).

2. Alice Bradford (baptized 30 Oct 1587- d. 30 January 1607).

3. William Bradford the future Governor of Massachusetts (baptized 19 March 1589-d. 9 May 1657 Plymouth, Massachusetts, America).

He was on the "Mayflower" with his wife Dorothy. William Bradford (Gov.) On 9 Nov 1613 in Leyden, Holland he married 1st Dorothy May (born 1596 Wisbeach, Cambridgeshire, England-died 7 Dec 1620 falling off the "Mayflower" in Cape Cod Harbor, Massachusetts Colony). She was the daughter of John May and Cordelia Bowes of Shouldham Abbey, Norfolk, England. Her background and illustrious ancestors have only recently come to light. William Bradford and Dorothy (May) Bradford had one child, a son:

1. John Bradford (born c. 1615 Leyden, Holland- died 7 Sep 1679 Norwich Connecticut, America) He did not sail on the "Mayflower" with his parents. He was about 4 years old and left behind in the care of others. He came to Plymouth in 1627 and only stayed with his father and his new wife a short time. He moved to Duxbury before 1645 and then around 1562 on to Norwich, CT as an early settler of that place, where he remained. He married in 1653 Martha Bourne daughter of Deacon Thomas Bourne and his wife Elizabeth ?. They had no children. William Bradford (Gov.) married 2nd in 1623 in Plymouth, Massachusetts Colony, America Alice Carpenter (1591-1670) who was the daughter of Alexander Carpenter and Priscilla Dillen. Alice was the widow of Edward Southworth who died in 1621. It has come to light that Alice and William Bradford probably knew each other when they were teenagers in Yorkshire. Alice had arrived in Plymouth, MA in 1623 with her 2 small sons by Southwick. William and Alice had 3 children:

1. William Bradford (later called Major) (born 1624 Plymouth, MA -died 1704)
2. Mercy Bradford (born 1626 Plymouth, MA-died before 1657)
3. Joseph Bradford (born 1630 Plymouth, MA-died 10 July 1715 Rocky Nook, MA)

One of the confusing things about this family is the number of times the names William and Alice are repeated in marriage partners.