

# THE LOYALIST MELVINS OF CHARLESTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS AND NOVA SCOTIA

Howard Storm Browne UE  
Williamsburg, Virginia

**W**e learned in school about the Thirteen Colonies and the successful effort to throw off the tyrannical English yoke. Most of us were not taught that the British founded fourteen colonies in North America. The fourteenth was Nova Scotia, a colony since 1713, with a garrison and a Governor at Annapolis Royal. The land surrounding the capitol was occupied by Frenchmen, who were there before the land became British as a result of the Treaty of Utrecht that ended Queen Anne's War, The political climate was not settled until after the Seven Years War, which we call The French & Indian War. The British forcibly depopulated anybody (ie, French) who would not swear allegiance to Britain. In 1749, the official date of founding, a new capitol was established at Halifax. Thirteen transports with 2,576 settlers arrived 26 June 1749. The governor complained, because they were the dregs of London, of little use. The situation was mitigated by the death of more than a thousand of them during a typhus epidemic.

Work then turned to gaining peace with the Micmac Indians. When this was accomplished in 1759, the land was ready for settlement. The Lt. Governor offered free land to New Englanders and others. New settlers began coming in by the boatload.. The English-speakers already there corrupted the name of the new German settlers, "Deutsch," into "Dutch," as they were already known in the other Colonies. When these were supplemented by eager New Englanders things began to get underway.

Colonel Edward Cornwallis, brother of "our" Cornwallis was first of a long line of military governors who ruled by fiat. Governor Cornwallis passed the influx of settlers along to other settlements to build fortifications along the coast, and to grow food for the garrisons. He went home in 1752, replaced by Colonel Hopson. Hopson stayed a year, replaced by Colonel Lawrence. Every citizen between 16 and 60 was required to do Militia duty. The cream of the Militia became the New England Rangers. Colonel Lawrence used them and a few Regulars to depopulate the French who refused the Loyalty Oath. They were tough, probably experienced from the Indian wars back home. They were disdained by the Redcoats and their commander for their careless dress and free and easy ways, but put them behind a tree and they were the equal of any.

Halifax, population 1,755, was overwhelmed by 3000 Redcoats, sailors and New England Rangers. It got worse in 1757 when 16,000 soldiers and sailors arrived. This was relieved in part when the Fleet and some soldiers left. They left behind a smallpox epidemic which killed 700 before 1758. That year brought a new cadre of 12,000 men, commanded by Lord Jeffrey Amherst and assistant

commander, James Wolfe, both destined to gain fame elsewhere in the wars against the French.

In October, 1758, the first General Assembly of Nova Scotia was convened. More than half the population came from New England and were accustomed to a more democratic form of government. The Royal Navy made Halifax a major naval base and build dockyards and garrisons to support it. In May, 1759, the fleet and soldiers left. They stormed Cape Breton Island and took and demolished the thorny Fortress of Louisbourg, this time for good.

Québec fell in 1759 and the French and Indian War soon ended. The Indians were pacified, and the sprinkle of New Englanders turned into a torrent. Chester, Nova Scotia, was founded in 1759 out of the Shoreham Grant. The first permanent White settlers came to Chester in 1759 in response to an invitation from the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, sweetened by an offer of free land.

On 30 July 1761 a sloop sailed from Boston, commanded by Captain John McGown, Mate, Matthew McGomery, and arrived in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia on 4 August. On it were the Rev. John Seccombe, of Harvard, Massachusetts, and 30 families from the neighborhood of Boston. Among them were Robert Melvin of Concord and four motherless children, Sarah, Eleazer, “a child,” and James. Here lies a chink in the otherwise accurate “Palmer Groups.” Ms. Leavitt, the researcher and author, states the voyage was in 1759, Seccombe’s diary makes it 1761. She cites sales of land in Massachusetts and New Hampshire by Robert to Benjamin Melvin on 27 April 1761, Ephraim Spalding on 27 April 1761 and Daniel Stickney on 11 May 1761 as evidence that he returned from Chester and remained for two years before settling permanently in Nova Scotia. Seccombe’s diary proves that the ship sailed in July, 1761, after the above deals were completed. On 24 August a town meeting was held in Chester, and Capt. Timothy Houghton elected moderator. They drew lots for land. Clearing of land and construction of homes began.

Among the Crown grants registered in the Adjutant General’s office in Halifax, NS, is one dated October 31, 1765, in which is given to Rev. John Seccombe, Jonathan Prescott, Timothy Houghton, Simon Floyd, James Webber, Abraham Bradshaw, George Collicutt, Robert Melville, and many others under the seal of Governor Wilmot, a tract of twenty-nine thousand seven hundred and fifty acres of land in Chester Twp., NS, each share to consist of five hundred acres, on condition of paying a free yearly quitrent of one shilling sterling every Michelmass day, for every expiration of ten years, beginning with the date of the grant, for every fifty acres so granted, and so on, in proportions of fifty acres, forever.

The grantees promise to plant two acres with hemp [for the making of Naval rope] and a like quantity to be “improved.” One family, at least, with proper stock and material for said improvement, to be settled on every five hundred acres on or before the last day of November, 1767. (Crown Lands Grants, vol 6, p548.)

August 14, 1784, he received another grant, in company with over a

thousand others, under Governor John Parr, at Amherst, Nova Scotia, and in this same year, another grant at Point Mishpeck; the place then called Parr Town is now St. John's, New Brunswick.

June 1773, or four years before his will was drawn, he made a "deed of gift to my son, Eleazer Melvin, housewright, of Littleton, Middx. Co., Mass, of sixty acres of land at Nottingham West, in Massachusetts." This deed was signed at Halifax, before Jonathan Prescott, justice of the peace. *Palmer Groups*

**M**y Mother. Margaret May Melvin Browne, and her older sister, Maria Elizabeth Melvin Chamberlin, were proud of their Melvin heritage. In order to get into the DAR, they commissioned a genealogist about the time I was born, 1925, to find qualification for membership. I always wondered why they "came in under" Richard Marshall, of New Hampshire, instead of a Melvin. There were plenty of Melvins in New England since at least 1684, and they fought in wars and skirmishes against Indians and French. Now I know, but I am glad they didn't.

The Melvins were Scottish, originally named Melville. John Melvin (1652-1726) came over from Fifeshire to Charlestown, Massachusetts. He was a tailor. We know he was Scottish because the Scots Charitable Society of Boston records show John Melvin, tailor, and Robert Melvin, carpenter, (his grandson), members in 1684. The Society was founded in 1657 for the relief of Scottish prisoners shipped by Cromwell to the Colonies as Bondsmen after the Battle of Dunbar, 1650. Only Scots were members until after 1701.

**J**ohn Melvin bought and sold land in Charlestown and Concord, where he moved in 1696, after his marriage to Hannah Lewis, born 1655, daughter of John and Mary (Brown) Lewis. She died in Charlestown in May, 1696. He then married Margaret Shamesbury in Malden, Massachusetts, in August, 1696. John died in Concord 26 July 1726.

**D**avid Melvin, cooper, son of John Melvin and Hannah Lewis, was born in Charlestown in 1690. He moved to Concord with his father in 1697. In 1727 he fought against the Abenacki Indians in the bloody battle of Pigwacket. He was a successful land speculator, possibly fueled by land awarded for his military services. Land speculation was a very popular activity in the early Colonies. In 1744 he was commissioned captain in the 5<sup>th</sup> Company of the 4<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Regiment. In 1745 he set out for the French fortress of Louisbourg with his company under Col. William Pepperell, of Maine. The fort guarded the entrance to the St. Lawrence Seaway and Québec and was a strategic target. The besieging force, mostly Colonists, was successful, but Captain David Melvin was wounded, and died of his wounds after returning home. In 1758, in the Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle, the fortress was returned to the French over the

objections of the Colonists. In this treaty, the French ceded their interest in India to the British. Overall, India was worth the price of Louisbourg.

David Melvin married in February 1715/16, in Concord, Mary Farrar born March 1695/96, daughter of Jacob Farrar and Susannah Radiat. He died in Concord 17 November 1745.

**R**obert Melvin, son of David and Mary Melvin was born in Concord 9 November 1716. His name appears on the tax rolls from 1741 to 1746 as a resident of Litchfield, New Hampshire. He took part in a dispute in which a boundary was drawn that removed them from part of Nottingham West, Massachusetts and placed them in Londonderry, New Hampshire. He speculated in land, a common pursuit. He owned considerable land, which makes me wonder why he responded to an offer of free land in Nova Scotia to settlers from New England and elsewhere. His will is recorded in the Probate Office at Lunenburg County, NS, and is as follows:-

In the name of God, Amen.

I, Robert Melvin, of Chester, being very sick and weak of body, but of perfect mind and memory, thanks be given unto God, calling into mind, the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men to die, do make and ordain this my last will and testament, that is to say, principally and first of all, I give and recommend this my last will and testament, that is to say, principally and first of all, I give and recommend my soul into the hands of Almighty God that gave it, and my body I recommend to the earth to be wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life I give, demise and dispose of the same in the following manner and form:

First, I give and bequeath to Phebe Melvin, my dearly beloved wife, the one-third part of my Real and Personal estate in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay and Province of New Hampshire in New England, to be raised and levied out of my estate in money and Lands, for the necessary support of my Executrix during her life, and the remaining two-thirds, both in New England and Nova Scotia, to be equally divided among my lawful heirs, of this my last will and testament, etc.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty-seventh day of December, in the year of our Lord, (1773)

Robert Melvin (seal)

Witness:

John Vaughan

Abraham Bradshaw

Thomas Floyd

This will was filed by his executrix, 24 July 1787.

Lieutenant Robert Melvin married

(1) ca.1740, probably in Concord, Sarah \_\_\_\_\_, who died in Carlisle Precinct of Concord, 18 February 1756; he married

(2) in Chester, NS, 7 September 1762, Phebe Wilson, daughter of William and Deborah

Wilson, who was born in Concord, 1 February 1739/40.

He died in Chester, between 23 December 1773 when will was made and 24 July 1787, the day it was entered into Probate Court. Carol Garron of Lunenburg provides a death date of 24 July 1787, in Chester, Lunenburg, N.S.

Robert and Sarah Melvin had children:

- 85. i. Sarah<sup>4</sup>, b Concord, 19 December 1740
- 86. ii. Eleazer, b Concord, 30 March 1743
- 87. iii. a child
- 88. ix. James, b Concord in 1749

Children by Phoebe (Wilson) all b in Chester, NS:

- 89. i. Lydia b 10 May 1762, Chester, NS, d. 9 Sept 1763, Chester, NS.
- 90. ii. Nathaniel, b 24 June 1765
- 91. iii. Elijah, b 14 January 1767
- 92. iv. David, b 9 April 1770
- 93. v. Amos, b 6 July 1772
- 94. vi. Jacob, b 1 December 1774
- 95. vii. Robert, b 25 April 1777, Chester, NS
- 96. viii. Lucy, b 8 October 1780 *Palmer Groups*

**E**leazer Melvin, son of Robert, was born in Concord, Massachusetts, 30 March 1743. He was a housewright, or joiner, by trade. Again, Ms. Leavitt says he was left behind in the army when his father and four children went to Chester because he was listed as discharged from the army in October, 1759, after the Seccombe journey. This has to be incorrect, as Robert Melvin at the time had only four children, one of them Eleazer, and Seccombe's diary et al give the date of the trip as 1761. There is confusion from another source, however. A deed was given 7 June 1773 by Robert Melvin, of Chester, Nova Scotia, for 63 acres of land in Nottingham West, New Hampshire, to his son, Eleazer Melvin, housewright, of Littleton, Massachusetts. (Middlesex County Deeds, vol. 27, p. 178) Also, he was married to Sarah Hartwell, both residents of Littleton, Massachusetts, on 4 September 1764.

That he always remained a Loyalist is shown by various records. In Mr. Dinsmore's *Hartwell Genealogy*, he states that "Eleazer Melvin, a Loyalist during the war, had his lands confiscated by General Court, went to Nova Scotia, where he received liberal compensation from the British government. He lived in Lincoln, Mass., some years after the end of the war." (*Hartwell Genealogy*, p 182 et seq.)

This record is substantiated by other prints and by his family letters, written while he was living at Halifax, NS. In these he offered a home to any of his relatives who might be suffering from the hardships arising from the losses entailed by the protracted struggle. The books of the Crown Grants in Halifax do not give any made to this Eleazer, nor of any sale of the same, which must have taken place, since he returned to Concord in a few years after peace was declared.

His adherence to the British side caused his immediate family as much distress as such, to them, misguided devotion did in all the New England families and was the more embittered in Concord, inasmuch as to separate husband from wife, father from children in the little hot tempered town, where even the very

name of the erring was buried under a grim silence which was more eloquent than the severest words and wrought more highly on the imagination of the younger generations, who, outside of the rush of wounded feeling, naturally believed that the men whose very existence was a blight, must have committed some enormous crime.

Thus it was with the children of Captain Eleazer Melvin. They not only held a deadly silence but even his memory was shut away from all ken and thus the impression perpetuated that his conduct was too grievous for their knowledge, and it was not until the later recognition by the New England people that there was justification for the adherents to their mother country in the conflict of those early days that the thought gained ground that Eleazer Melvin might have had some toleration for his actions. *Palmer Groups*

**S**omewhere in family papers or legend is recorded the explanation Eleazer Melvin gave for his Loyalist stance: "I have fought for the King, and I cannot now in conscience fight against him."

Palmer Groups has this to say about Eleazer's son, Josiah. of Melvin Mills, Bradford, New Hampshire:

"He taught his five sons to become expert millers, and together they amassed a good fortune.

By his legal attainments, he acquired the title of "Judge Melvin" by which he was always designated during his latter years. From him, the children could never win aught concerning his Royalist father [Eleazer], whose life and deeds were so deeply sunken in the son's mind and so covered with the quiet dignity inherent in the early Puritan families of New England, that even the thought of questioning him was unapproachable. Thus it was that his early life was a reserve from which there was no appeal, and therefore much that would be of great interest has been almost lost from the family archives, and what has been obtained is the result of an active dragging together of the bits that cropped out in other members of his line.

It is reasonable to me that Eleazer did accompany his father to Chester in 1761. He returned and established residence in Littleton, Massachusetts and worked as a housewright. He married in Littleton in 1764 and had children there, First, Sarah, born 14 March 1767. His sympathies, and perhaps the action of his father, led him to return to Nova Scotia, where he remained above the fight. His Loyalist sympathies were resented by his neighbors, even to the point of discrimination. He finally had enough, and took his family to Nova Scotia to join his father and family. He returned to Littleton after the Revolution, proven by his death there 3 January 1783. If he received no land from the Crown, his land in Littleton might have caused his return. But like other Loyalists, if he still had land, it was confiscated. So we don't know how he survived, in addition to the obloquy shown by his neighbors.

His younger brother, James, was quite Eleazer's opposite. Because he couldn't get along with his young stepmother (Anna Brown qv) James was

apprenticed to a merchant in Halifax. He bided his time and stowed away on a sloop and returned to Concord, where Eleazer still lived. In 1775 he enlisted in Col. Dearborn's company and joined the Arnold Expedition to Québec. He was captured with the remnant and imprisoned until exchanged. His journal is one of the best sources of information about Arnold's March to Québec. He fought through the War as both soldier and sailor

Eleazer married 4 September 1764, Sarah Hartwell, daughter of Josiah Hartwell and Bethiah Wood b 30 March 1743 d.3 January 1783

Children:

Sarah b.Littleton 14 March 1767

Bethiah b. Littleton 1 August 1770

Nathan lost at sea

Josiah b. 5 November 1773 Bradford NH, m. Esther Marshall

16 April 1795, d. Melvin's Mill 13 March 1849

Lydia b. Littleton 26 September 1786

- 2 14 June 1785 in Littleton, Mrs. Anna Brown of Lincoln, Mass. I'll bet this date is wrong. See birth of Lydia above. All say Sarah Hartwell was her mother.

England's policy to use only Regulars in the conquest of Canada from the French led to the use of Nova Scotia as the main garrison. From there Redcoats were moved where needed. Prolonged contact with civilians led to friction, especially when soldiers were quartered in their homes. The Stamp Act and Tea Act in 1768 added to the hostility of the civilians. Things were so bad that most of the troops garrisoned in Nova Scotia were pulled out and sent to Boston. To attempt to placate the Bostonians, the new troops were not lodged in homes, but in tents, in freezing weather. This increased tension between the Redcoats and the townspeople.

Meanwhile, with the soldiers gone, the settlers in Nova Scotia felt temporary relief, but a hated military governor, Major Legge, caused peace to be replaced with sabotage and rebellion. In 1775 Nova Scotian rebels attacked Machias, Massachusetts (later Maine). They were promised support and weapons by the Continental Army to help clean out the few remaining Redcoats in the two main Nova Scotia garrisons. George Washington, at Cambridge, Massachusetts, wrote to the Continental Congress, recommending against the plan. He said:

As to the expedition proposed against Nova Scotia by the inhabitants of Machias, I cannot but applaud their spirit and zeal, but I apprehend such an enterprise to be inconsistent with the principle on which the Colonies have proceeded. That province has not acceded, it is true, to the measures of the Congress, but it has not

commenced hostilities against them nor is any to be apprehended. To attack it therefore is a measure of conquest rather than defense, and may be attended with very dangerous consequences. It might be easy with the force proposed to make an incursion into the province and over-awe those of the inhabitants who are inimical to our cause, but to produce a lasting effect the same force must continue. And our situation as to ammunition absolutely prohibits our sending a single ounce of it out of the camp at present.

At this time the Colony sent no representatives to the Continental Congress, because they were surrounded by Redcoats and sailors from the Fleet based there, and the Colony was under martial law. The restrictions of Governor Legge spurred the rebel sympathizers to acts of sabotage. Lt. Governor Francklin sent a delegation to London trying to get a new governor to replace Legge before he turned all the settlers against the Crown. They were successful, and Legge was replaced by a Naval officer, Mariot Arbuthnot, who left the colonials alone. Legge retaliated by removing Francklin from his post. Francklin was a dedicated Loyalist, and operated to cool tempers and strengthen support for the Loyalist cause. In March, 1776, General Howe returned from Boston, bringing the Fleet, the Army, and all the Loyalists he could carry aboard his ships. I wonder if this was when Eleazer Melvin returned to Chester. Halifax was overwhelmed by the numbers, and food and shelter became scarce. Congestion was relieved somewhat in the Fall of 1776. General Howe's force and the Royal Navy captured New York and remained there until 1783. The wealthy Loyalists in Halifax moved to Manhattan, but the poor ones remained, a problem to feed and house. Some of these men formed Loyalist regiments in order to try to retaliate against the rebels they fled from in New England.

**T**he Fourteenth Colony was chaotic from 1776 when the Army pulled out to New York, to the end of the War in 1783,. Refugees flooded in, the rebel colonists resisted British rule, and the Micmac Indians were a constant menace. Washington attempted to win them over as allies, but devotion to former Lt. Governor Francklin kept them loyal. Francklin had lived with them and spoke their language. In 1782 they made a permanent peace with the British. The Colony was by no means firmly Royalist. The rebellious New Englanders still had links to Home, and their influence was strong in the Colony and in the General Assembly. But they were overwhelmed and the Colony's political future was fixed by 50,000 to 70,000 Loyalists who entered Nova Scotia at the end of the War. The numbers told the story.

The Treaty of Dorchester, 1795, decreed:

“Those Loyalists who have adhered to the Unity of the Empire, and joined the Royal Standard before the Treaty of Separation in the year 1783, and all their Children, and their Descendants, by either sex, are



to be distinguished by the following Capitals affixed to their names

U.E.

Alluding to their great principle  
The Unity of the Empire.”

### **Bibliography:**

*Palmer Groups. John Melvin of Charlestown and Concord, Massachusetts, and His Descendants*; Miss Emily Wilder Leavitt, Boston, David Clapp & Son, 1901-1905 (Reprint available on Amazon) **F**ortunate indeed is the Melvin researcher who comes across a copy of *Palmer Groups*. At one stroke one is given a priceless package of research on the descendants of John Melvin of Charlestown and Concord, Massachusetts. I should never have found it had a friend named Palmer not tipped me off.

*Home School Zone, 14<sup>th</sup> Colony*; Allen W. McDonnell

<http://www.homeschoolzone.com/unit-study/lessons/14th-colony>

*The Nova Scotia Planters in the Atlantic World 1759-1830*; T Stephen Henderson & Wendy G. Robicheau, Editors, Acadiensis Press MMXII

Carol Garron, Lunenburg, NS, *personal communication*

Debbie Simpson, Victoria, BC, *personal communication*

## **ADDENDA**

### **HARTWELL ANNEX**

**SARAH HARTWELL** (Josiah<sup>4</sup>, Jonathan<sup>3</sup>, Samuel<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>) was born at Littleton, Massachusetts 24 September 1744 (LVR 55) and died there 3 January 1783, age 39 She married at Concord, Mass., (Thomas Whiting, Esq. officiating) ELEAZER Melvin, born at Concord 30 March 1743 son of Robert and Sarah (-) Melvin. After Sarah's death Eleazer married  
(2) (int.) Littleton, Mass., 14 June 1783 (LVR 274), “Mrs.” Anna Brown of Lincoln.

Children:

1. SARAH Melvin b Littleton 03/14/1767 d. c1807, m 01/22/1783  
JONATHAN JEWETT (2) 06/03/ 1790

*ANCESTORS OF SARAH HARTWELL (WIFE OF ELEAZER MELVIN)*

1. **William HARTWELL** (Birth Date: 1613 Birth Place: Kent; Christen Place: Death Date: 12 Mar 1690 Settled in Concord 1636 in part now known as Lincoln. Granted land at Chelmsford,

1663. Quartermaster of troop under Capt. Wheeler,  
Spouse: Susan ( - ) Death Date: 1673

Children:

John, Samuel

2.A **John HARTWELL** Birth Date: 28 Spouse: Elizabeth WRIGHT

Children:

Edward

3. **Edward HARTWELL** Major, Spouse: Sarah WILDER

Children:

Joseph

4. **Joseph HARTWELL** Spouse: Phoebe EATON

Children:

Reuben

5. **Reuben HARTWELL** Spouse: Abigail RUGGLES

Children:

Relief

Other spouses: Abigail BLANCHARD

6A. **Relief HARTWELL** Spouse: Peter TARBELL

5. **REUBEN HARTWELL** Spouse: Abigail BLANCHARD

Children:

6B. **Calvin Blanchard HARTWELL** Spouse: Elizabeth RAGSDALE

Children:

Thomas Jefferson

7. **Thomas Jefferson HARTWELL** Spouse: Elizabeth HARRINGTON

Children:

John Wesley

8 **John Wesley HARTWELL**

Children: John Lewis

9. **John Lewis HARTWELL**

**2BSamuel HARTWELL (2) 1.2** Birth Date: 26 Mar 1645 Birth Place: ConcordMA Death  
Date: Circa 1725.

Spouse: Ruth WHEELER Birth Date: 23 Feb 1640 Death Date: 1704

Marriage Date: 26 Oct 1665

Children:

Jonathan, 10 other children

**2Ba Jonathan HARTWELL** Birth Date: 1686 Birth Place: "went to Littleton, MA 1720" Death  
Date: 19 Dec 1775

Spouse: Hannah BLANCHARD Birth Date: 29 Nov 1683

Death Date: 13 Feb 1753 Marriage Date: 11 Jun 1710 Marriage Place: Concord,MA

Children: Josiah

**3BaJosiah HARTWELL** Birth Date: 11 Sep 1714 Birth Place: Concord, MA Death Date: 20  
Jan 1791

Spouse: Bethiah WOOD [*PG says "Hannah"*]

Birth Date: 1722 Death Date: 30 Jan 1776

Spouse Father: John WOOD (1683-1763)

SMother: Sarah KIMBALL (1684-1759) Marriage Date: 16 Feb 1741

Children: Sarah

**4Ba Sarah HARTWELL (5) 1.2.1.1.1** Birth Date: 30 Mar 1743 Birth Place: Concord, MA

Death Date: 3 Jan 1783 Death Place: Littleton, MA

Spouse: Eleazer MELVIN Birth Date: 30 Mar 1743

Eleazer and Hannah Melvin, of Lincoln, he a housewright, or joiner, gave a mortgage deed, on a farm lately owned by Benjamin Brown and then occupied by the said Benjamin (Middx. Co. Deeds, vol 95, p142). In 1792, Eleazer's estate was levied upon, even his pew in the Lincoln meeting house.

His children were *[all by Sarah Hartwell]*:

i. Sarah, b in Littleton March 14, 1767, married there January 22, 1789, Jonathan Jewett, he of Lincoln, she of Littleton.

ii. Bethiah, born in Littleton August 1, 1770, married there November 20, 1791, William Lincoln [prob. named Eaton acc. to Hartwell book], both claiming from Lincoln.

iii. Nathan, lost at sea.

iv. A daughter, married Mr. Wright.

**v. Josiah**

vi. Lydia, born in Littleton September 26, 1786; married there, May 15, 1794, Williard [sic] Tenney; went to Vermont.

## NOVA SCOTIA MELVINS

### Outline version

All descended from Robert Melvin and Phœbe Wilson.

3. Nathaniel MELVIN son of Robert Melvin and Phœbe Wilson (qv) was born on 24 Jun 1765 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. He was married to Elizabeth. Nathaniel MELVIN and Elizabeth had the following children:

11 i. Anne MELVIN was born on 7 Jan 1796 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.

12 ii. William MELVIN was born on 29 Apr 1798 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.

13 iii. Elizabeth MELVIN was born on 3 Apr 1800 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.

14 iv. Sarah Jean MELVIN was born on 17 Aug 1803 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.

15 v. Louisena MELVIN was born on 14 Feb 1805 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.

4. Elijah MELVIN (Robert & Phœbe) was born on 14 Jan 1767 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. He was married to Johanna (Hannah) COLICUT (daughter of George COLICUT and Elizabeth HOGIN (HOAGG)) on 20 Mar 1797 in SPAC, Halifax. Johanna (Hannah) COLICUT was born on 19 Apr 1775 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. She died in 1841. Elijah MELVIN and Johanna (Hannah) COLICUT had the following children:

- + 16 i. Lydia MELVIN.
- + 17 ii. Stephen MELVIN.
- 18 iii. Elizabeth MELVIN was born on 15 Sep 1799 in  
Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- +19 iv. Dorothey MELVIN.

5. David MELVIN (Robert & Phœbe) was born on 9 Apr 1770 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. He was married to Abigail FLOYD (daughter of Thomas FLOYD and Mary BRADSHAW) on 5 Nov 1794 in Baptist Church, Chester, Lunenburg. Abigail FLOYD was born 11 Sep 1775 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. David MELVIN and Abigail FLOYD had the following children:

- 20 i. Phoebe MELVIN was born on 15 Mar 1795 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 21 ii. David MELVIN was born on 14 Aug 1796 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 22 iii. Susanna MELVIN was born on 6 Dec 1799 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 23 iv. Thomas MELVIN was born on 4 Dec 1801 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 24 v. Ruth MELVIN was born on 12 Mar 1803 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 25 vi. Issac MELVIN was born on 6 Nov 1805 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 26 vii. Robert MELVIN was born on 8 Feb 1811 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- +27 viii. Abraham MELVIN.
- +28 ix. Rebecca MELVIN.
- 29 x. Merriam MELVIN was born on 6 Dec 1817 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 30 xi. John Ephraim MELVIN.
- +31 xii. Sarah Ann MELVIN.

6. Amos MELVIN (Robert & Phœbe was born in 1772 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. He was married to Dorithy WEBBER on 31 Jan 1796 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. Amos MELVIN and Dorithy WEBBER had the following children:

- 32 i. Heriot MELVIN was born on 2 Apr 1797 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 33 ii. James MELVIN was born on 24 Oct 1798 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 34 iii. Sarah MELVIN was born on 18 Aug 1801 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 35 iv. Hannah MELVIN was born on 16 May 1803 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.

7. Jacob MELVIN (Robert & Phoebe) was born in 1774 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia He was married to Mary FLOYD on 3 Jul 1796 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. Jacob MELVIN

and Mary FLOYD had the following children:

- 36 i. Mary MELVIN was born on 6 Feb 1797 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 37 ii. Lucy MELVIN was born on 18 Oct 1798 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 38 iii. Hannah MELVIN was born on 2 Dec 180 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- +39 iv. Elijah MELVIN.
- 40 v. Elizer (?) MELVIN was born on 5 Dec 1806 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 41 vi. Sophia MELVIN was born on 6 Apr 1808 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 42 vii. Rachel MELVIN was born on 10 Jan 1813 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 43 viii. Ann MELVIN was born on 16 Mar 1816 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 44 ix. Amos MELVIN was born on 27 Jul 1810 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 45 x. Issac MELVIN was born on 25 Feb 1815 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.

9. Lucy MELVIN (Robert & Phæbe was born in 1780 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia. She was married to Richard  
HOUGHTON on 7 Feb 1798 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova  
Scotia. Lucy MELVIN and Richard HOUGHTON had the following  
children:

- 46 i. Jacob HOUGHTON was born on 3 Nov 1798 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 47 ii. Robert HOUGHTON was born on 14 Feb 1800 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 48 iii. Willard HOUGHTON was born on 27 Dec 1802 in  
Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 49 iv. Nathaniel HOUGHTON was born on 20 Apr 1805 in  
Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 50 v. Elisabeth HOUGHTON was born on 12 Jul 1807 in  
Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 51 vi. Levi HOUGHTON was born on 9 Jan 1810 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 52 vii. Lucy HOUGHTON was born on 1 Dec 1812 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 53 viii. David HOUGHTON was born on 14 Dec 1815 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 54 ix. Sarah HOUGHTON was born on 17 Sep 1818 in Chester,  
Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.

## DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT MELVIN AND PHÆBE WILSON

According to *Palmer Groups*

**3. NATHANIEL MELVIN** 1765-, was born in Chester, Nova Scotia, June 24, 1765. He was the first son and the oldest child by this second marriage. October 9, 1790, he bought for eight pounds, of Daniel Vaughan, two shares in Oak Island. (*Lunenburg County Deeds*, Vol. 3, p. 447.)

May 1, 1805, he, with his wife, Elizabeth, sold for fifty pounds to Henry Haubolt, land on the west side of Hammond's Cove. (*Ibid*, Vol. 5, p. 604.) November 1, 1802, he bought for sixty pounds from Michael and Mary Wallace, of Halifax, a house and two lots of land in Chester. (*Ibid*, Vol. 5, p. 726.) December 12, 1810, he sold for one hundred pounds to Moses McClear, school master, a house and land in Chester, with wharf privileges, and his wife, Elizabeth, signed. (*Ibid*, Vol. 6, p. 216.) January 6, 1813, he, "now of County Halifax, Nova Scotia," sold for seven hundred and sixty pounds, to John Broom, eight acres of land, a lot Nathaniel had previously purchased from Nicholas Floyd; another lot, bought from David Floyd, which lots were a part of the one hundred acres of land, lying on the east side of the Windsor road "I had undivided from my father Robert Melvin and from my brother, Robert Melvin." (*Ibid*, Vol. 7, p. 35.)

With his eight children he bought a large farm in Hammond Plain, Halifax County, Nova Scotia.

His will is filed at Halifax; it was drawn August 3, 1844. In it he mentions his wife, Elizabeth, gave to his second son, John three hundred and fifty acres of land; to his third son, James, the homestead and "my new house"; mentions daughters, Ann Matthews, second daughter Elizabeth, Sarah Vernon, Jane Frizzle, fifth daughter Louisa.

Nathaniel Melvin married Elizabeth Mervin [*Simpson*] in Chester, where all his children were born excepting one.

They had children:

222. i. Anne, 5 born, in Chester, June 7, 1796; [*Jan. 7, Simpson*] married William Matthews; resided in Boston, Mass,

223. ii. William, born in Chester, April 29, 1798.

224. iii. Elizabeth, born in Chester, April 3, 1800; unnm.

225. iv. Sarah Jane, born in Chester, August 17, 1803 married Augustus Vernon of Shelburne, N. S., where she died in 1809.

226. v. Louisa, born in Chester, February 14, 1805; d.unnm.

227. vi. John, born in Chester, April 12, 1807. [*March, Simpson*]

230. ix. Nathaniel, born in Hammond Plain in 1817; died there May, 1835, aged 18 years.

**4. ELIJAH MELVIN** 1767 was born in Chester, January 14, 1767. On December 20, 1797, Elijah Melvin, farmer, bought for twenty-two pounds, from John Smith and his wife, Sarah, part of a sixty acre lot of land in Chester, of twenty-eight acres, "which was willed to my wife, Sarah, by her late deceased grandfather, Simon Floyd." Robert Melvin was one of the witnesses to this deed. (*Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia, Deeds*, Vol. 5, pp. 57, 66)

On August 6, 1806, Richard Houghton, with the consent of his wife, Lucy, a daughter of Robert Melvin, late deceased, sold for ten pounds to the heirs of Elijah Melvin, also late deceased, a farm lot No. 7, it being the late home estate of their father, Robert Melvin always excepting the house on the said farm lot and the widow's dower right, to one-third part in the estate of the said Robert. (*Ibid*, Vol. 61, pp. 138, 303.)

By these deeds, we learn that Elijah Melvin resided on the homestead after his father's decease, that he married a wife named Sarah, who was probably one of the Floyd family, since the deed shows that they held land which was originally owned by old Simon Floyd, and that Elijah died before 1806, or before he had attained his fortieth year. No children have been traced. *According to Carol Garron, Chester, NS:*

Elijah was married to Johanna (Hannah) Elizabeth Colicut, daughter of George Colicut and

Elizabeth Hogin (Hoagg) on April 19, 1795,[*March 20, 1797 Simpson*] in Chester, NS. She was b. April 19, 1775, d. in 1841.

Elijah Melvin and Johanna Colicut had children:

91.1 i. Lydia Melvin

91.2 ii. Stephen Melvin

91.3 iii. Elizabeth Melvin, b. Sep. 15, 1799, in Chester, NS

91.4 iv. Dorothy Melvin

*According to Debbie Simpson, Victoria, BC:*

Children of Elijah Melvin and Johanna Collicut were:

i. Elizabeth Melvin, b. September 15, 1799.

ii. Dorothy Melvin, b. May 15, 1802.

iii. Lydia Melvin, m. William Bezanson.

iv. Stephen Melvin, b. December 06, 1797; m. Anna Maria Corkum, March 02, 1828, Baptist Church, Chester, Lunenburg; b. May 31, 1800.

**5. DAVID MELVIN** 1770-, son of Lieutenant Robert<sup>3</sup> (Captain David<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>) and Phebe (Wilson) Melvin was born in Chester, N. S., April 9, 1770. October 7, 1806, David Melvin and wife Abigail sold for seven pounds, to Michael Kezzer, land on the Windsor road, bounded by land belonging to the heir of Robert Melvin, late deceased, of Chester, one hundred acres.(*Lunenburg County, N. S., Deeds, Vol. 5, p. 14.*) June 12, 1812, Mary, widow of Thomas Floyd, David Melvin, wife Abigail, Jacob Melvin, wife Mary, Henry Laune, wife Miriam, John Smith, wife Ann, Thomas, Rachel and William Floyd, all heirs of Thomas Floyd, who died intestate, with Susannah Melvin of St. Martin's, New Brunswick, and Hannah Broom of St.. Martin's, unite in a deed in which the widow of Thomas Floyd purchased the share of all the other heirs for her daughter in St. Martin's. The widow agreed to give ninety pounds and an obligation from Thomas and William Floyd to yield her a decent maintenance and burial; said obligation to date from April 24, 1800, together with all household furniture and clothes except one bed and bedding. Abigail and David Melvin to accept as their full share the eastward half of a lot on the west side of the Windsor road, between the farm lot of John Bradshaw and James Ward Acker's land.

Mary and Jacob Melvin to have Floyd's grant, lots No. 4, 5, 10, of one hundred and fifty acres. Miriam and Henry Laune to accept the west side of the lot that Abigail and David Melvin were to receive. Ann and John Smith to have their father's home estate and lot No. 8.

Rachel Floyd to have fifty pounds. (*Ibid, Vol. 7, p. 109.*) October 9, 1828, Abigail Melvin, Mary Melvin, Rachel Brothers and her husband, Richard Brothers, of Falmouth N. S., agree to pay towards the support of their mother, yield to their brother, William Floyd, all claim in their brother Thomas Floyd's land. (*Ibid, Vol. 414, p.5*)

David Melvin remained in Chester, where he married Nov. 5, 1794, Abigail Floyd, a daughter of Thomas Floyd and Mary-Bradshaw Floyd, born Sep. 11, 1775.

They had children, all born in Chester, Lunenburg Co., NS:

231. i. Phebe<sup>5</sup> Melvin, born November 15, 1795. (*March-Garron*) D. August 21, 1855, S. John NB

232. ii. David Melvin, born August 14, 1796.

233. iii. Susannah Melvin, born December 6 1799. [*Dec 6-Garron*]

234. iv. Thomas Melvin, born December 4, 1801.

235. v. Ruth Melvin, born November 12, 1803. [*March 12-Garron*]

236. vi. Isaac Melvin, born November 6, 1805.

237. vii. Robert Melvin, born February 18, 1807. [*8 Feb.-Garron*]

238. viii. John Crane Melvin, b August 9, 1809. [*possibly child xi. Garron lists as "John Ephraim 8/9/1819"*]

239. ix. Abraham Melvin, born May 4, 1812, d 1905

240. x. Rebecca Melvin, born August 14, 1814.

241. xi. Mariam Melvin, born December 6, 1817.

242. xii. Sarah Ann Melvin, born June 4, 1821.

242x. xiii Rosannah Melvin b 1822 (not in PG)

**6. AMOS MELVIN** 1772-, was born in Chester, July 6, 1772 [26-Simpson]. He m. Jan. 31, 1796, in Chester, Dorothy Webber. On April 3, 1801, Amos Melvin joined with Nicholas and Catherine Floyd in the sale of one hundred acres of land in Chester, for forty-two pounds, to Francis and Jacob Millett, which said acres were a part of the original grant to Thomas and Simon Floyd. (*Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia, Deeds*, Vol. 5, pp. 176, 212.)

On January 4, 1803, Amos Melvin bought for fifteen pounds from Ebenezer Fitch, one-third of Seccombe's Island, a lot of four acres. (*Ibid*, Vol 5, pp. 727, 746.) John Seccombe of Granville, Washington County, New York State, with his wife, Sarah, sold for seven pounds to Amos Melvin, one-third part of Seccombe's Island, which one-third part had been given to John by his late deceased father, Rev. John Seccombe, in his will. (*Ibid*, Vol. 5, p. 455.)

In 1805 Amos Melvin bought sixty acres of land in Chester; in 1810, one half part of a saw mill on "Rowling Dow April 22, 1811, Amos Melvin with his wife, Dorothy, sold for six hundred and sixty-six pounds to John Adams Acker, several parcels of land, namely, Lots No. 6, No. 7, on Middle river, Lot No. 1, of one hundred acres, with all the houses, barns and out housings, two-thirds of Seccombe's Island, one half of the saw mill lot, Lot No. 6, being on the Windsor road. (*Ibid*, Vol. 6, pp. 264, 504.)

This most likely marked the period when Amos Melvin intended to remove from Chester. On June 23, 1805, Amos, with his wife, Dorothy, sold for thirty pounds to Willard Houghton, a lot of land which had been bequeathed to them by their late deceased father, James Webber. (*Ibid*, Vol 7, p. 122.)

The heirs of James Webber were: Abraham Whitman, wife Hannah, James and Catharine Swallow, Willard and Susannah Houghton, David Webber and Amos and Dorothy Melvin. Some time after this Amos Melvin removed to Hammond Plains, County Halifax, Nova Scotia. His will was drawn March 5, 1829. In that instrument he mentions his wife, Dorothy, and his children, Harriet Mixner, son James Melvin, daughter Sarah Wamholt, daughter Hannah Thomson, Naomi Thomson, Dorothy Bezanson, Amos, daughters Caroline, Isabella, Emily, and appoints his sons-in-law, James Mixner and James Thompson as administrators. This will was presented at the Probate Court in Halifax on April 29, 1829.

Amos and Dorothy (Webber) Melvin had children:

243. i Harriet<sup>5</sup> [*Heriot?*] Melvin, born in Chester, April 2, 1797.

245. iii. Sarah Melvin, born August 18, 1801

246. iv. Hannah Melvin, born May 16, 1803.

247. v. Naomi Melvin.

248. vi. Elisha Melvin.

249. vii. Dorothy Melvin.

250. viii. Amos, junior Melvin.

251. ix. Caroline Melvin,

252. x. Isabella Melvin.

253. xi. Emily Melvin

**7. JACOB MELVIN** 1774-, son of Licutenant Robert<sup>3</sup> (Captain David<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>) and Phebe (Wilson) Melvin, was born in Chester, December 1, 1774. He married Mary Floyd in Chester, NS, on July 3, 1796 On March 14, 1796, Jacob Melvin, yeoman, of Chester, sold for three pounds, ten shillings,, to Daniel McKinnon Lot No. 22, on Oak Island (*Lunenburg Countydeeds*, vol. 4, p. 140, 170).

On April, 1813, Jacob Melvin, with his wife Mary, sold for ninety-five pounds to Jacob Broom the land which had fallen to him as "an heir to my father, Robert Melvin" which was his proportion of the estate, namely twenty acres of land that crossed the Point from shore to shore, together with a barn, blacksmith's shop, and one share in his father's late dwelling house, that "my said father, Robert Melvin built for himself." (*Ibid*, Vol. 6, pp. 345, 773)



On June 12, 1812, Jacob Melvin, with his wife, joined with the other heirs of Thomas Floyd in the settlement of their late deceased father, Thomas Floyd's estate. By this same deed, we learn that three of the sons of Lieutenant Robert Melvin married three of the daughters of Thomas Floyd. On October 9, 1828, Abigail Melvin, Mary Melvin with her husband, Jacob Melvin, Ann Smith, Miriam and Henry Lantz, Rachel Brothers, with her husband, Richard Brothers, they of Falmouth, Nova Scotia, joined in signing a deed for the support of their mother, in which deed they renounce all claim to any rights in the estate of their late deceased brother, Thomas Floyd (*Ibid*, Vol.8 pp. 414, 554).

On January 9, 1857, the will of Jacob Melvin, mariner, late of Bedford Basin, Nova Scotia, whither this same Jacob Melvin had removed several years previously, was written. In it he mentioned his son, Eleazer, grandson Isaac Melvin and gave them all his property at Bedford Basin, consisting of three hundred and fifty acres of land, mentions land occupied by his brother, Amos Melvin's widow, and bequeaths to his daughters, Ann Smith, Sophia Norton, Mary Ann Hartley, Rachel Russell, Hannah Coosely.

Jacob Melvin married, in Chester, Mary Ann Floyd, a daughter of Thomas and Mary (Bradshaw) Floyd and a sister of the wives of his brothers, David and Robert.

She was b. Oct. 23, Chester, NS, d in St. Martins, New Bruns.

Jacob and Mary Melvin had children, all born in Chester:

254. i. Mary<sup>5</sup>, born February 6, 1797.

255. ii. Lucy, born October 18, 1798.

256. iii. Hannah, born December 2, 1800.

257. iv. Elijah, born January 20, 1803.

258. v. Eliza, born December 5, 1806.

259. vi. Sophia, born April 6, 1808.

260. vii. Amos, born July 27, 1810.

261. viii. Rachel, born January 10, 1813.

262. ix. Isaac, born February 25, 1815.

263. x. Ann, born March 16, 1816.

*according to Debbie Simpson, of Victoria, BC:*

i. Hannah Melvin, B. December 02, 1797; M. Joseph Costly.

ii. Lucy Melvin, B. October 18, 1798.

iii. Elijah Melvin, B. January 20, 1803.

iv. Eleazor Melvin, B. December 05, 1806.

v. Sophia Melvin, B. April 06, 1808.

vi. Amos Melvin, B. July 27, 1810.

vii. Rachel Melvin, B. January 10, 1813.

viii. Isaac Melvin, B. February 25, 1815.

ix. Ann Melvin, B. March 16, 1816.

x. Mary Melvin, B. February 06, 1797; M. Wendell.

**8. ROBERT MELVIN**, junior 1777-, son of Lieutenant Robert<sup>3</sup> (Captain David,<sup>2</sup> John<sup>1</sup>) and Phebe (Wilson) Melvin, was born in Chester, Nova Scotia, April 25, 1777.

April 21, 1800, Robert Melvin, yeoman, sold for twenty-four pounds to his brother, Nathaniel Melvin, one seventh part of the estate of his late deceased father, Robert Melvin, on Chester Lot No. 18, on the Windsor road, of one hundred acres. (*Lunenbuig County Deeds*, Vol. 5, p. 341). May 23, 1798, Robert Melvin sold for six pounds his part of Oak Island in Malone Bay, Lot No. 8, of eight acres, to Samuel Ball (*Ibid*, Vol. 6, p. 26, 51). October 9, 1809, George and Hannah Broom, Robert and Susannah Melvin, of the Parish of St. Martin's, County St. John's, New Brunswick, sold for seventy-six pounds to our mother, Mary Floyd, all our rights in the estate of our late deceased father, Thomas Floyd." (*Ibid*, Vol. 6, p. 365.)

Robert Melvin married, probably in Chester, July 31, 1800, Susannah Floyd, daughter of Thomas and Mary, possibly (Bradshaw) Floyd, who was b. May 15, 1778 in Chester. He died in 1862. They had children, born in St. Martin's, New Brunswick:

- 264. i. Elijah<sup>5</sup>, born 1803; d. y.
- 265. ii. Thomas, born 1805; d. y.
- 266. iii. David, born 1807; married Rachel Berry.
- 267. iv. Jacob, born 1809; married Mary Ann Sharpe.
- 268. v. Susannah, born 1811; d. unm.
- 269. vi. Robert, born 1814; 4. unm.
- 270. vii. (Captain) Amos, born St. Martin's, NB, 1816; married Isabella Townes., d. Oct.2, 1881, St. Martin's
- 271. viii. Isaac, born 1817; married Sarah Brown.
- 272. ix. Joseph, born 1819; d. unm.
- 273. x. Hannah, born 1822; married Hector MacInnis.

**9. LUCY MELVIN** 1780-, a daughter of Lieutenant Robert<sup>3</sup> (Captain David<sup>2</sup>, John<sup>1</sup>) and Phebe (Wilson) Melvin, was born in Chester, October 8, 1780, the youngest of this large family and, seemingly, the only daughter by this second marriage who attained adult years. She married Richard Houghton, and his brother, Willard Houghton, married Susannah Webber, a sister of the wife of Amos Melvin, thus creating a very close set of family ties. The Houghtons were from a very prominent family which was early settled in Lancaster, Mass., and had been resident in that part of Lancaster which was set off as the town of Harvard. When Rev. John Seccombe started for Nova Scotia, Timothy Houghton, then styled captain, accompanied by his wife and three children, signing as lately a resident of Bolton, Worcester County, Mass., made a part of the small company that started the new settlement. With him was John Houghton, from Bolton.

On July 22, 1815, Levi Houghton of Harvard, Mass, who had received a power of attorney from Philemon and Ann (Houghton) Priest of Harvard, sold for thirty-eight pounds to James Smith of Chester, Lot No. 7, in Timothy Houghton's grant, of one hundred acres of land, by the authority to sell this grant which fell as heirship, to the said Philemon and Anna (Houghton) Priest. (*Ibid*, Vol. 6, pp 216, 541.)

On April 5, 1816, Richard and Lucy (Melvin) Houghton, sold for sixty-one pounds to David Melvin, the north half part of Lot No. 6, on Houghton's Neck, or grant, which was on the east side of the Windsor road, consisting of fifty acres of land. (*Ibid*, Vol. 8, p. 213.) After this, the farm formerly owned by Levi Houghton, which was a part of the original Houghton grant, became the town school house and this original grant was bounded in part by the grant of the Webbers.

Richard and Lucy (Melvin) Houghton had children:

- 96.1 i. Jacob Houghton was born on 3 Nov 1798 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 96.2 ii. Robert Houghton was born on 14 Feb 1800 in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS
- 96.3 iii. Willard Houghton was born on 27 Dec 1802 in Chester, Lunenburg County, NS
- 96.4 iv. Nathaniel Houghton was born on 20 Apr 1805 in Chester, Nova Scotia.
- 96.5 v. Elisabeth Houghton was born on 12 Jul 1807 in Chester, Nova Scotia.
- 96.7 vii. Lucy Houghton was born on 1 Dec 1812 in Chester, Lunenburg County, Nova Scotia.
- 96.8 viii. David Houghton was born on 14 Dec 1815 in Chester, Nova Scotia.
- 96.9 ix. Sarah Houghton was born on 17 Sep 1818 in Chester, Nova Scotia.