### PART II.

# Signers of the Mayflower Compact.

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#### JOHN TILLEY, Sixteenth Signer.

John Tilley, for some cause unknown, does not strike the same responsive chord as John Howland, and though he would make still another ancestor on the Mayflower, the line does not generally begin with him.

True, his young daughter married John Howland, but he was not there to accord consent or watch over the welfare of the Elizabeth so dear to her father's heart.

A record sent me claims he left a son, but I have never been fortunate enough to prove this.

The very mention of Elizabeth Tilley Howland's name arouses the traditional spirit of her descendants to call out with one voice, loud enough to penetrate the mystery which seems to prevent the establishment of the records of generations—from which they have never swerved one iota, even in the face of the assertion that Bradford makes that Gov. Carver left no descendants—and claim their own.

For my part, there has never been a wavering thought; I believe the old Hartford Bible tells the tale, and my sorrow at not being able to carry the entire weight of conviction, when I wrote of Carver and Howland, was rendered doubly great, as I found in my notebook, but, sad to say, without any authority attached, that John Tilley married, in 1615, Bridget Van der Velde!

All search for the lost connection was without avail, and I began to feel that I must yield to the pressure of circumstances too strong for me.

#### SUCCESS.

Reluctantly I made what was to be my last effort, and the reward is before me.

There are tides in the affairs of history, as in all vital matters, and by some magnetic association, within the last few weeks, many claims to Mayflower descent have come to me, starting from John Tilley. I accept it as an omen, and put forth the authentic history, which may give to powerful, widespread, historical tradition the value I feel it deserves.

Mourt, in his "Relation of Plymouth," p. 14, note 41, tells that "Edward Tilley came with his wife Ann, and two children that were their cousens, Henry Samson and Humility Cooper."

"He was probably also elder brother of John, who brought over his wife and daughter Elizabeth. All of both families died in the first mortality except Henry Samson and Elizabeth Tilley, the former of whom married Ann Plummer, and had nine children; the latter John Howland, and had ten."

Mourt's "Relation," page 44, says: "John Tilley—I find in the Leyden MS. records: "This February, 1615, John Telley, silk worker, of Leyden, married Bridget Van der Velde,' which may be the hint of the man's occupation and affiliation. Bradford does not give his wife's Christian name."

#### HARTFORD BIBLE.

Again the old Hartford Bible comes to my rescue, which gives John Howland's marriage to "John Tilley's daughter, Elizabeth, granddaughter of Gov. Carver!"

As the Howland marriage took place, according to the official account of the "Society of the Mayflower Descendants," in 1621, and the Pilgrims started for Holland in 1609, John Tilley's marriage to Gov. Carver's daughter must have occurred before they left England, else Elizabeth Tilley, the child, would not have been 12 years of age in 1621, if she were born after their arrival in the Low Countries.

Then "Carver and Fuller joined the Pilgrims in Leyden," which lessens the time.

NOT TWO JOHN TILLEYS.

This entirely explodes the assumption that there were two John Tilleys, one who came to America with the colonists, and another who married Bridget Van der Velde.

Bradford wrote only after his arrival in New England, and the "Relation," edited by his brother-in-law, George Morton, who was left behind, by the unseaworthiness of the Speedwell, was sent out to him, history telling that the vessel was seized by the pirates, to secure the cargo of furs, etc., forwarded by the Pilgrims to the Merchant Adventurers, as an installment in payment of their bond.

The manuscript being utterly worthless to the pirates, with a little sympathy perhaps with the situation, ultimately reached its destination.

So the John Tilley who married, as Bradford put it, Van der Velde, was our Pilgrim, and she was not the mother of our Elizabeth Tilley Howland!

For my own part I am satisfied, and Bridget Van der Velde will no longer haunt me on every side as an obstacle to be overcome.

The leaf may be turned down.

#### JOHN TILLEY'S DEATH.

"John Tilley took the original of his death," on the expedition of the "ten principal men;" his work in the colonies was daily, hourly, until the seal of eternal rest was placed upon him, and if granted knowledge in his closing hours, died happy in the consciousness that his young daughter had a natural home with her grandfather, Gov. Carver.

Bradford was only eighteen when he left England, too young to be interested in much of the personal history of those he probably was surrounded by, even if he knew "John Carver, sonne of James Carver, Lincolnshire, Yeoman." He was fully occupied with his own troubles, repeated imprisonments, which were part of his history incidental to joining the Pilgrims in Holland.

Graver matters filled his mind than the parentage of John Tilley's daughter. She was in good hands, why heed things that in no way concerned him—the mother prob-

ably not in evidence.

John Tilley's spirit of adventure has fallen upon one, at least, of his descendants, and while the Pilgrim succumbed to the privations more than he could endure, Gen. A. W. Greely, the Arctic explorer, watched over by the God of his Pilgrim forefathers, even when the portals of heaven seemed wide open for his entrance, was saved by the naval relief expedition to do good to the country, which is his on a claim of more than two centuries.

His descent will be very important from the variety of names and many locations which after all are sectional.

I. John Tilley's first wife, Elizabeth (Carver?); second, Bridget Van der Velde, died 1621.

II. Elizabeth Tilley, born 1607, died December 21, 1687, married August 14, 1628 (?), John Howland.

III. Hope Howland married before 1646 John Chipman, born 1615, died July 8, 1684.

IV. Hope Chipman, born August 13, 1652, died July, 1728, married (1) John Huckens 1649-1678; she married (2), March 1, 1683, Jonathan Cobb (son of Henry Cobb, of Plymouth, 1629), born April 10, 1660,

died at Middlesborough, Mass., October 8, 1727;

V. Samuel Cobb, born February 23 (baptized April 6), 1684, died October, 1767, married about 1708 Abigail Stewart, born 1686, died September, 1766, "aged 80."

VI. Chipman Cobb, born March 5, 1708-9, died after October, 1775, at or near Falmouth, now Portland, Me., married in 1731 Elizabeth Ingersoll (daughter of Elisha Ingersoll and — Mary), born July 12, 1705, died before 1765.

VII. Andrew Cobb, born March 27, 1734, at Falmouth, Maine, married 1754, Hannah Green (daughter of Daniel Green); Andrew Cobb, married (2) April 21, 1804, Hannah, widow of Moses Fowler.

VIII. Andrew Cobb, born February 7, 1764, at Gorham, Maine, died February 22, 1822, married (1) December, 1782, Betsy Irish (daughter of Joseph Irish and Hannah Doane), born about 1764, died after 1800. Andrew Cobb, married (2) December 10, 1808, Mary Cobb (widow of Ebenezer Bangs), daughter of Jedediah Cobb and Reliance Paine.

IX. Samuel Cobb, born March 11, 1785, at Gorham, Maine, died December, 1854, at

Bartlett, N. H., married August 12, 1812, at Baltimore, Md., Eleanor Neale (daughter of John Neale and Mary Lona), born August 16, 1793, at Baltimore, died August 22, 1882

1882, at Webster, Mass.
X. Frances Dunn Cobb, born April 20, 1819, in Limerich, Mass. (now Maine), yet living in 1897, married (2) October 30, 1842, at Newburyport, Mass., by Rev. Darius Forbes, John Balch Greely (son of Stephen Greely and Betsy Balch), born July, 1802, at Newburyport, Mass., died October, 1864, at Newburyport, Mass.

at Newburyport, Mass.

XI. Adolphus Washington Greely, born
March 27, 1844, yet living, 1897, married
June 20, 1878, at San Diego, Cal., by Rev.
Mr. Camp, Henrietta Cruger Hudson Nesmith (daughter Thomas L. Nesmith and
Maria Antoinette Gale.

Another line from John Tilley is in entirely different families, and makes many connections with the Nantucket early set-

Starting with Mrs. James L. Morgan, Jr. (Alice M. Hill Morgan).

John J. Hill, who married in Albany, N. Y., September 3, 1840, Mary Elizabeth McCurdy, born July 21, 1822, daughter of Isaac McCurdy and Mary Warner, of Albany, married April 28, 1821.

Mary Warner, daughter of William Sm'th Warner, and Mary Wood, of Albany, married 1798.

Mary Wood, daughter of James Wood, of Albany, and Lydia Swain, of Nantucket, married 1780.

Lydia Swain, daughter of William Swain, Nantucket, and Lydia Gorham, of Barnstable, married February 14, 1750.

Lydia Gorham, of Barnstable, daughter of Stephen Gorham, of Barnstable, and Elizabeth Gardner, of Nantucket, married December 25, 1703, Stephen Gorham.

Stephen Gorham, son of John Gorham, of Barnstable, and Mary Otis, of Hingham, married February 24, 1674.

John Gorham (2), son of Capt. John Gorham, of Plymouth, married Desire Howland, of Plymouth, 1643, daughter of John Howland.

John Howland, of Plymouth, married in 1621, Elizabeth, daughter of John Tilley, of the Mayflower.

John Tilley married (1) Elizabeth, daughter of Gov. Carver (?) (2) Bridget Vandervelde.

# FIFTEENTH SIGNER.

# Edward Tilley.

DIED FIRST WINTER.

## Ann Tilley

His Wife.

DIED FIRST WINTER.