

THE BENCHLEY-BENSLEY FAMILY

Roger D. Joslyn

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17. WILLIAM W.⁴ BENCHLEY (David³, William²⁻¹, Robert^{A-B}) was born in the Town of Fairfield, Herkimer County, New York, 4 January 1818 and died of apoplexy at his home on North Washington Street, Herkimer, New York, 28 May 1893, aged 75 years, 4 months, and 22 days (N.Y. Deaths, 1893, #23782; cem. card file, HCHS; *Herkimer Democrat*, 31 May 1893, p. 9 [obit. card file, HCHS]; 1791 *Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 260; Ethel Clements, *Jacob Anthony and Descendants* [hereinafter *Jacob Anthony Descs.*] [Washington, D.C., 1965], 78; 1855 Census, cited below, shows he was born in Schoharie Co., probably an error for his wife's birthplace, which is given as Herkimer Co.).

William married CATHERINE ANN HANER in Herkimer 11 July 1843 (*Mohawk Courier*, 13 July 1843, p. 3 [mar. card file, HCHS]). She was born 29 March 1817 in the Town of Sharon, Schoharie County, New York, and died of bronchitis and arteriosclerosis at her home at 130 North Washington Street, Herkimer, 28 January 1911, aged 83 years and 10 months, the daughter of Jeremiah and Mary (Anthony) Haner, who came to Herkimer County in 1833 (N.Y. Deaths, 1911, #1510; cem. card file, HCHS; 1855 and 1875 censuses, cited below, are probably in error that she was born in Herkimer Co., as noted above; *Jacob Anthony Descs.*, 78; obituary clippings from the *Evening Telegraph*, Herkimer, 1900-1920 [hereinafter *Evening Telegraph* Obits.], p. 33, HCHS).

In 1840 William came to the Town of Herkimer where he worked as a carpenter and builder from 1843 (1791 *Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 260). Besides the immediate family, the Benchley household in 1845 included others not identified; in all there were three males, one of whom was an adult, and two females, one of whom was under 16, and all five were born in New York. Two in the home were children attending school and William was credited with a quarter of an acre (1845 N.Y. State Census, p. 4).

The Benchleys were living in the Town of Fairfield in 1848 when they purchased a half-acre lot between East Main and Prospect streets in the Village of Herkimer, but they moved instead to the Town of Little Falls, selling the Herkimer lot the following year (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 53:154, 57:120). About the same time William purchased his father's farm in Fairfield and provided for his mother, who joined him in Little Falls (*ibid.*, 56:388; 1850 Census, p. 221, #310-317).

William sold his father's farm to brother-in-law Albert G. Ford on 17 December 1849 at a profit of \$420. The Benchleys returned to Herkimer in

1852, where they bought a lot on North Washington Street from Alexander Hall for \$500 (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 57:258, 61:176). Here William and Catherine lived the rest of their lives in a home located on the west side of the street, along the Hydraulic Canal, north of West Albany Street and the New York Central Railroad and just south of Carson (now Green) Street (*Atlas of Herkimer County, New York* [hereinafter *Herkimer Co. Atlas*] [New York, 1868; reprint ed., Churchville, N.Y., 1977], plate 28; *New Century Atlas of Herkimer County, New York* [Philadelphia, 1906], 20).

In 1855 Erven Haskins, 22, a tailor born in Herkimer County, was living with the Benchleys and listed as William's brother, but more likely he was William's half-nephew (1855 N.Y. State Census, 2d Election Dist., p. 55, #164-164). The Benchleys' home was worth \$500 in 1855 but their real estate was valued at only \$400 in 1860. In 1865 and 1870 their frame house was valued at \$800 and William's personal estate in the latter year was \$500. Catherine, a dressmaker, was listed as a land owner in 1865 and had real property worth \$1400 in 1870 (*ibid.*; 1860 Census, p. 1060, #150-152; 1865 N.Y. State Census, 1st Election Dist., p. 13, #73-87; 1870 Census, p. 197, #401-414). William was appointed the court crier for Herkimer County on 10 May 1873 (Herkimer Co. Oaths of Office, 2:219). By 1875 the value of the Benchleys' home had jumped to \$3000 (1875 N.Y. State Census, p. 69, #532-645). The higher value doubtless resulted from the purchase of the house and lot just north of the Benchleys' by Catherine in 1865 for \$704 (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 80:462-463). Here she lived after William's death, leaving her earlier home at 128 North Washington Street to son Henry (*New Century Atlas of Herkimer Co.*, 20).

William was still the court crier in 1880 and Catherine was still making dresses (1880 Census, ED 28, p. 46, #429-464). Daughter Carrie and her husband were living with the Benchleys in 1892 (1892 N.Y. State Census, 1st Election Dist., p. 8). William suffered a "shock" a year before his death and evidently was not expected to live, as the newspaper notice of his illness listed the names of his wife and children (*Herkimer Democrat*, 11 May 1892, p. 1 [obit. card file, HCHS]). Catherine was living at 130 East Albany Street, Herkimer, in 1900; with her were son W. Henry and daughter Mary and the latter's two stepchildren (1900 Census, ED 48, pp. 10-11, #196-224). At the time of her death Catherine was Herkimer's oldest female resident (obituary). William and Catherine Benchley were buried in Oak Hill Cemetery in Herkimer (cem. card file, HCHS). They had no known grandchildren.

Children (censuses; parents' obituaries; *Jacob Anthony Descs.*, 79-80, showing them all as born in Herkimer), surname *Benchley*:

- i. WILLIAM DAVID⁵, b. 20 Sept. 1844; d. 1 Jan. 1846; buried in Myers Park Cemetery, Herkimer (cem. card file, HCHS, incorrectly shows he d. 20 Sept. 1825, aged 1y). He was doubtless the grandson David Bensley, under 21, son of William, mentioned in the 5 March 1845 will of [No. 6] David Benchley, but whose name does not appear in any other papers relating to the estate.

- ii. EDWARD A., b. 8 Nov. 1845; d. 1905. A Civil War veteran, he was living in Arizona when his father died in 1893.
- iii. WILLIAM HENRY, b. 14 Sept. 1847; d. unm., of chronic interstitial nephritis and arteriosclerosis at Long View Sanitarium, Herkimer, 29 Jan. 1930, aged 82y 4m 16d [sic] (N.Y. Deaths, 1930, #4551), printer and carpenter.
- iv. ALBERT F., b. 29 Dec. 1849 [31 Dec. in *Jacob Anthony Descs.*]; d. 3 May 1856; buried in Myers Park Cemetery, Herkimer (cem. card file, HCHS, showing he d. 3 May 1850, aged 6y 4m 4d).
- v. MARY BESS, b. 1 Feb. 1855 in Herkimer; d. there of diabetes at her home 130 North Washington St., 13 June 1928, aged 75y 4m 11d [sic] (N.Y. Deaths, 1928, #38946; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's files, B-1928); m. there 30 Sept. 1890, as his 3d wife, Dr. ALLEN BRADFORD BARNES of Herkimer (N.Y. Mars., 1890, #16075; *Herkimer Citizen*, 30 Sept. 1890, p. 5 [mar. card file, HCHS]), b. in Plymouth, Mass., 30 Aug. 1851, d. of chronic catarrhal pneumonia in Herkimer 14 July 1892, aged 40y 10m 4d [sic], son of Winslow B. and Emily Putnam (Sweetser) Barnes. Dr. Barnes was a dentist, and by his 1st wife Alice Drummond had 2 children (Plymouth VRs, 4:152; N.Y. Deaths, 1892, #32110; *Herkimer Citizen*, 19 July 1892, p. 5 [obit. card file, HCHS], shows aged 42; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 939).
- vi. CARRIE J., b. 8 Dec. 1860 in Herkimer; d. there of a miscarriage, 30 April 1893, aged 32y 5m 22d [sic] (N.Y. Deaths, 1893, #19486; *Herkimer Democrat*, 3 May 1893, p. 9 [obit. card file, HCHS]); m. in Herkimer 26 Sept. 1888, as his 1st wife, LEWIS B. JONES JR. of Herkimer (N.Y. Mars., 1888, #15024; *Herkimer Democrat*, 3 Oct. 1888, p. 12 [mar. card file, HCHS]), b. on North Washington St., Herkimer, 9 Sept. 1852, d. of a heart attack at his home on Park Place, Herkimer, 22 Nov. 1912, son of Lewis B. and Sarah Reynolds (Kelsey) Jones. Mr. Jones was a druggist; he m. (2) Anna Sharp, by whom he had a daughter (*Evening Telegraph Obits.*, 286, 288; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's files, J-1914).

Children, surname *Jones*: 1. *child*. 2. *child*.

18. BENJAMIN⁴ BENCHLEY (*Joseph*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{^b}) was born in Smithfield, Rhode Island, 7 March 1781 and died in the Town of Ohio, Herkimer County, New York, 3 February 1857, in his 76th year (Arnold, 3:4:91; grave marker).

Benjamin married SARAH CHURCHILL, who was born about 26 July 1790, probably in Dutchess County, New York, and died in the Town of Fairfield, Herkimer County, at the home of her son-in-law, John A. Crumby, 7 March 1873, aged 82 years, 7 months, and 9 days (grave marker; *Herkimer Democrat*, 19 March 1873, p. 3 [obit. card file, HCHS], shows aged 83; 1850 Census shows b. Ireland, 1855 and 1865 censuses show Dutchess Co.; daughter Mary's death record incorrectly shows both parents b. Newport). She was possibly the daughter of the John Churchill enumerated in Clinton, Dutchess County, in 1790, and later in Newport, Herkimer County.

In 1810 Benjamin "Bensley" and an adult female, probably his wife, were living in the Town of Newport, Herkimer County, New York, with a male under 10, probably a son (1810 Census, p. 363). During the War of 1812 he was a private with his brothers Christopher and William in Captain Asa Chatfield's Company, Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel Wright's (90th) Regiment of New York Militia, enlisting at Trenton, New York, 5 October 1814 and serving at Sackett's Harbor until 10 November, when he accompanied his sick brother Christopher home (military service record; *1791 Hist. of Herkimer*, 72; unindexed War of 1812 Bounty Land files). In 1850 Benjamin Benchley "sometimes spelt Bensley" received 40 acres of bounty land for his service, and in 1855 he received 120 more acres; later he received an award of \$24.50 on a War of 1812 service claim made under a New York law of 1859 (*War of 1812 Awards*, 41; the original claim papers are missing).

Benjamin has not been found listed in the 1820, 1830, and 1840 Federal or 1825, 1835, and 1845 New York State Censuses, during which time he may have been living in Jefferson and/or Erie County, New York, as indicated by records of his latter children's birthplaces. He was doubtless in Jefferson County in 1832 when he witnessed and acknowledged his brother Jenks's purchase of a lot there in the Town of Le Ray (Jefferson Co. Deeds, K2:412-413). His 1855 Census entry indicates he moved to Ohio, Herkimer County, about 1841 and in 1850 he was a carpenter there, with real property worth \$1000. In 1855 he was a mechanic and land owner in Ohio, with his frame house valued at \$400, his land at \$600, stock at \$80, and tools at \$50. Daughter Lucina and her family were also living with the Benchleys in 1850 and 1855; it was probably her son Benjamin who was enumerated as Benjamin Benchley Jr. in 1850 but as Benjamin Gray in subsequent records (1850 Census, p. 283, #178-179; 1855 N. Y. State Census, p. 15, #122-121).

The real estate Benjamin owned in Ohio consisted of thirty acres in Great Lot 10 of the Jerseyfield Patent, deeded to him by his daughter Catharine and her husband Latham Gray of the Town of Norway on 30 December 1845 for \$700 (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 57:597). Benjamin and Sally sold part of this lot to son George on 28 February 1849 for \$466.66 and after Benjamin's death Sally, then living in Norway, sold the remainder to Michael Corcoran of Ohio for \$600 on 25 May 1863 (*ibid.*, 57:115, 81:537).

By his will of 30 January 1857, proved 11 May 1863, Benjamin Benchley of the Town of Ohio, age 75, left his wife Sarah his entire estate. W. A. Tompkins, Esq., of Grayville was named executor (Herkimer Co. Wills, M:245; original will not in file). Widow Sally Benchley of Newport petitioned 3 March 1863 to be executrix, stating that Benjamin had died in Ohio 3 February 1857, leaving as heirs herself and three children, Lucina Gray of Georgia, Mary Crumby of Norway, and George Benchley, "who has been absent about seven years if living his residence is unknown." On 20 April 1863 a special guardian was appointed for Charles B. and Helen Gray of Norway, minor heirs of Catharine Gray, deceased, for "their in-

terests...in proving the will of Benjamin Benchley" (Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 511).

Sally Benchley has not been found in the 1860 Federal Census but she was living with her daughter Mary in the Town of Norway in 1865 (1865 N.Y. State Census, p. 19, #123-126, listing her as mother of 9 children). She and Benjamin were buried in Newport Village Cemetery.

Children, born in N.Y. (censuses and father's estate rec.), surname *Benchley*:

- i. SON⁵, b. ca. 1810; probably d. young.
- ii. CHILD; d. young.
- iii. CHILD; d. young.
- iv. CATHARINE, b. ca. July 1817; d. of inflammation of the bowels in Gray, Town of Norway, 10 May 1855, aged 37y 10m (cem. card file, HCHS; *Herkimer Democrat*, 23 May 1855, p. 3 [obit. card file, HCHS]; 1855 N.Y. State Census deaths for Norway); m. as his 2d wife, LATHAM GRAY, b. in Groton, Conn., ca. April 1800, d. in Gray 25 or 26 Sept. 1884, aged 84y 5m, cabinetmaker, lumberman, and store keeper (*1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 271, which states he m. Catharine "Bentsley" who d. 1835; *Herkimer Democrat*, 8 Oct. 1884, p. 3 [obit. card file, HCHS], shows he d. 26 Sept.; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 3140 and cem. card file, HCHS, show 25 Sept.). By his 1st wife, Julia Pendleton, Latham was the father of sons William L. and Henry P., the latter of whom m. Catharine's sister Lucina Benchley. Latham's 3d wife was Mary Ann Vickery.
Children (surname *Gray*): 1. *Charles B.* 2. *Helen S.*
- v. CHILD; d. young.
- vi. GEORGE, b. ca. 1821-2, perhaps in Jefferson Co.; living in the Town of Salisbury, Herkimer Co., 1850 (1850 Census, p. 346, #270-278), hotel and tavern keeper and sawmill owner; m. ca. 1843, MARY JANE GIBSON, b. in Herkimer Co. ca. 1822-3, d. of senile debility at 19 Grand St., Gloversville, N.Y., 4 Dec. 1899 (N.Y. Deaths, 1899, #46333), daughter of John and Margaret (_____) Gibson (Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 2966).
Children (surname *Benchley*): 1. *William Benjamin.* 2. *George W.*
- vii. CHILD; d. young.
- viii. LUCINA, b. ca. 1827-8 in Jefferson Co.; living in Brunswick, Ga., 1870 (1870 Census, p. 144, #377-385, where her name is listed as Susan B.); m. as his 1st wife, HENRY P[ENDLETON?] GRAY, b. in Conn. ca. 1826, living in [Brunswick?], Ga., July 1889, when his half sister Helen (Gray) Hall died, son of Latham and Julia (Pendleton) Gray and stepson of Lucina's sister Catherine (Benchley) Gray, mechanic and carpenter (*Norway Tidings*, 3[1889]:3). Henry m. (2) Mary J. (_____) Brown.
Children (surname *Gray*): 1. *Benjamin B[enchley?]*. 2. *John C.* 3. *George L.* 4. *Mary Caroline.* 5. *Catharine.* 6. *Henry P[endleton?]*. 7. *William.* 8. *Charles F.* 9. *Hellen.*

- ix. MARY L., b. 17 June 1831 in Jefferson (1855, 1865 censuses) or Erie Co. (death cert.); d. of acute cardiac dilatation at 307 Greene St., Herkimer, N.Y., 14 Feb. 1921, aged 89y 7m 2d [sic] (N.Y. Deaths, 1921, #10650; *Evening Telegraph* Obits., 119; cem. card file, HCHS, shows 1832-1921); m. 1851, JOHN A. CRUMBY, b. in Newport, Herkimer Co., 6 June 1827, d. of stomach cancer in Fairfield, Herkimer Co., "at his home at the old city south of Newport," 11 April 1893, aged 65y 11m 25d [sic], son of Minor and Betsy (Whitmore) Crumby (George A. Hardin, ed., *History of Herkimer County, New York* [Syracuse, 1893], family sketches section, 141; N.Y. Deaths, 1893, #16399; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 1707; cem. card file, HCHS, shows b. 1829; *Herkimer Democrat*, 19 April 1893, p. 4 [obit. card file, HCHS], shows he d. 12 April), carpenter and farmer.
Children (surname *Crumby*): 1. *Elizabeth S.* 2. *Frederick J.*

19. JENKS⁴ BENCHLEY (*Joseph*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{A-B}) was born 8 May 1784 in Rhode Island, probably in Smithfield, and he died "in a fit" in Poland, New York, 9 October 1863, aged 79 years and 5 months (cem. card file, HCHS; A. J. Swezey, comp., "Swezey [Family]," *Daughters of the American Revolution in the State of New York Bible and Family Records* [hereinafter NYSDAR Bible Recs.], 56[1942-1943]:210; Benjamin Franklin Swasey, *Genealogy of the Swasey Family* [hereinafter *Swasey Gen.*] [Cleveland, 1910, 262; diary of [No. 21] Wm. S. Benchley, q.v., 25 Oct. 1863; *1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 231, shows he was 80).

Jenks Benchley was of Fairfield, Herkimer County, when he married MARY SWEZEY about 1808. She was born in the Town of Brookhaven, Suffolk County, New York, 26 May 1789 and died in Poland 21 August 1875, aged 86, the daughter of Deacon Daniel⁶ (*Christopher*⁵, *Stephen*⁴, *Joseph*³, *John*²⁻¹) and Sarah (Beal) Swezey (*Swasey Gen.*, 253, 262; cem. card file, HCHS; *Herkimer Democrat*, 25 Aug. 1875, p. 2 [obit. card file, HCHS]; NYSDAR Bible Recs., 56: 205, 210; *1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 231, shows they married in 1810; 1855 Census shows she was b. in Queens Co., 1865 Census shows Suffolk Co., where her father was enumerated in 1790 [censuses cited below]).

Right after their marriage, the Benchleys settled in what became the Village of Poland in the Town of Russia, Herkimer County, where Jenks eventually owned all the land on the west side of Main Street, between the town line and Cold Brook (*Hist. Newport*; 1855 Census). From 1809, when he first purchased two small lots just north of his house, Jenks recorded a good number of deeds and mortgages for land in the towns of Russia, Newport, and Norway. The location of most of his property was described as being in Lot 28 of the Third Allotment of the Royal Grant (Herkimer Co. Deeds, passim).

In 1810 Jenks "Bensley" and his family were enumerated in Russia, with two unidentified males age 16 to 26 years (1810 Census, p. 401). In 1820 there were two unidentified males 16-26 and Jenks was engaged in manufacturing (1820 Census, p. 20). The New York State Census for 1825

shows Jenks Benchley with six males, two of whom were subject to militia duty and able to vote, and three females. He was also listed with five acres, ten cattle, one horse, and two hogs (1825 N.Y. State Census, p. 7). In 1830 the Benchley household included other unidentified persons – two males 15-20, three males 20-30, and a female 15-20 – some or all of whom may have been farm and household help (1830 Census, p. 26).

The first tannery in Poland was established in 1817 by Jenks Benchley, on the south side of Cold Brook, but he later moved it to the north side of the brook. His son John and a hired man worked with him. Years later Jenks and Ambrose Nicholson purchased Colonel George Arnold's cotton factory and converted it to a tannery, where they made leather boots and shoes, later selling out to Nicholas Rider. Benchley also made the only bricks in the vicinity of Poland; his yard or kiln was a mile north of Poland, near the east side of West Canada Creek (*1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 229).

The "Jinks" Benchley family in 1835 consisted of five males, one subject to militia duty, two eligible to vote, and six unmarried females, one of whom was 16-45 and four under 16. Jenks had thirty-four acres, eleven cattle, three horses, four hogs, and forty yards of linen (1835 N.Y. State Census, p. 6). In 1840 there were two unidentified males, age 20-30 and 30-40 (1840 Census, p. 100). In 1845, besides Jenks and his wife, there were an adult and four young males and two females – one 16-45 and one under 16. Jenks had 5 acres, 10 cattle, one horse, and two hogs; brother Joseph lived nearby (1845 N.Y. State Census, p. 7). Jenks was enumerated in Russia as a farmer in 1850, 1855, and 1860. In 1855 his brick house was worth \$3000, his six acres \$600, his stock \$220, and his tools \$59. His real estate was valued in 1860 at \$4000 and personal estate at \$500 (1850 Census, p. 78, #422-448; 1855 N.Y. State Census, p. 20, #166-169; 1860 Census, p. 333, #801-743). "Polly" Benchley joined the Russia Union Church on 4 January 1863 (*Russia Union Church 110th Anniversary 1820-1930* [n.p., n.d.], 32).

Jenks and Mary Benchley joined her relatives in 1826, when they quitclaimed to Daniel and George Swezey the Newport real estate of her late father Daniel Swezey (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 20: 137). In 1832 he acquired 40.03 acres in the Town of Le Ray, Jefferson County, New York, which they sold in 1839 (Jefferson Co. Deeds, K2:412-413; 84:82-83). Jenks purchased his siblings' interest in their father's property in 1845 (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 67:66-67). And in 1854 Jenks purchased three lots on the west side of Oneida Street in Utica, New York, which he quitclaimed to son John in 1863. He must have also acquired a fourth lot in Utica, for which there is no record of purchase, but he deeded it to daughter Eliza Philleo in 1863 (Oneida Co. Decds, 215:423-424, 244:8-10).

Polly Benchley of Russia, widow, petitioned for administration of Jenks's estate 7 January and it was granted 5 February 1874; son-in-law John W. Taylor was one of the sureties to her bond (Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 648). She was enumerated in Russia in 1865 as a land owner with a brick house worth \$2500 and daughter Mary was living with her (1865

N.Y. State Census, 1st Election Dist., p. 27, #207-212). When Mary married later that year, Polly made her home in Russia with her (1870 Census, p. 378, #6-6; 1875 N.Y. State Census, 1st Election Dist., p. 2, #23-23).

Jenks and Mary Benchley were buried in Poland Cemetery (cem. card file, HCHS).

Children, born in New York, probably all in what is now Poland (*Swasey Gen.*, 262; NYSDAR Bible Recs., 56:210-211; censuses; father's estate rec.; 1791 *Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 231), surname *Benchley*:

- i. ELIZA⁵, b. 24 Feb. 1809; d. at her sister Mary's home in Poland, N.Y., 2 Feb. 1878 (cem. card file, HCHS; D. H. Van Hoosear, comp., *The Fillow, Philo And Philleo Genealogy* [Albany, 1888], 72-73); of Russia when she m. there as Eliza "Bensley," 9 Dec. 1827, Dr. BONAPARTE PHILLEO of Columbia, N.Y., b. in Dover, Dutchess Co., N.Y., March 1801, d. in Utica, N.Y., 10 Dec. 1855, teacher, physician, and postmaster, son of Enoch³ (*Samuel*², *John*¹) and Sarah (Agard) Philleo (*Philo-Philleo Gen.*, 72-73; *Peoples' Friend and Little Falls Gazette*, 20 Dec. 1827, p. 3 [mar. card file, HCHS]; cem. card file, HCHS, shows 1801-1835).
Children (surname *Philleo*): 1. *Marian Braidfoot*. 2. *Helen Marr*. 3. *Hart Benton*. 4. *Sarah Cornelia*. 5. *Sarah Maria Louise*. 6. *Julia Cornelia*. 7. *Gertrude Estelle*.
- ii. JOHN, b. 26 Dec. 1812; d. of kidney and heart problems in Centralia [now Wisconsin Rapids], Wisc., 19 June 1889 (*Centralia Enterprise*, 22 June 1889, p. 5), soldier, merchant, and businessman; m. (1) probably in Sacramento, Calif., ca. 1851, CECELIA CLEMENTINA TURLAY, b. in Havana, Cuba, ca. 1832, living Jan. 1862 (1852 Calif. State Census, Sacramento Co., copied by California DAR [n.p., 1934, 5:85; 1860 Census, San Francisco, 10th Dist., p. 257, #750-779; Ephraim W. Morse Collection, Folder 51, California State Library; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 19 Jan. 1862); m. (2) in England? 16 Sept. 1869? MARION LOUIS JEANNETTE MACDONALD (EVELEINE) GREVILLE, who d. in El Paso, N.M. Terr., 1889 or 1890, supposed widow of Hon. George Greville, M.P. (Hubert Howe Bancroft, *Chronicles Of The Builders Of The Commonwealth*, 7 vols. [San Francisco, 1891-1892], 3:215).
- iii. DANIEL, b. ca. 1814-5; d. 16 April 1818, aged 3; buried in Poland Cemetery (cem. card file, HCHS).
- iv. DAUGHTER, b. ca. 10 May 1819; d. 25 May 1819, aged 15d; buried in Poland Cemetery (*ibid.*).
- v. MARIA L., b. 12 July 1820; living in Buffalo, N.Y., 17 June 1884, when she and others quitclaimed land of her father's to sister Mary Taylor (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 126:103-105); m. in 1848 Rev. GEORGE HARVEY BALL, D.D., b. near Sherbrooke, Canada, 7 Dec. 1819, d. of stomach cancer in Clifton Springs Sanitarium, N.Y., 20 Feb. 1907, aged 87y 2m 11d, son of William and Marcy (Harvey) Ball (N.Y. Deaths, 1907, #9058; G. A. Burgess and J. T. Ward, *Free Baptist Cyclopaedia* [n.p., 1889], 35-36; *Evening Tele-*

graph Obits., 18), Free Baptist clergyman and president of Keuka College.

Children (surname *Ball*): 1. *Marilla*. 2. *Mary Cecelia*. 3. *Julia E.* 4. *Ella J.* 5. *Edith*.

- vi. SAMUEL S., b. 1823; apparently living in Grand Rapids [now Wisconsin Rapids], Wisc., 1879, but d. probably before 17 June 1884, when he did not join siblings John and Maria in a quitclaim deed to sister Mary; merchant, teacher, lumberman; m. [1860?], ELMA [EMMA?] C. GARRISON, b. in N.Y. ca. 1842-3, d. 1863 (1860 Census, Centralia Twp., Wood Co., Wisc., p. 927, #351-298; NYS DAR Bible Recs., 56:210, showing they were m. in 1861).
- vii. MARY C., b. Oct. 1826 in Poland; d. at her home there of old age and general debility 29 Jan. 1901, aged 74 (N.Y. Deaths, 1901, #4692; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's files, T-1901), music teacher; m. 1865, JOHN W. TAYLOR of Poland, b. in Lenox, N.Y., 1807, d. 1891 (cem. card file, HCHS; 1791 *Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 278), geology and natural history professor and farmer.
Child (surname *Taylor*): *Gerrit S. B.*

20. CHRISTOPHER [BROWN?]⁴ BENCHLEY (*Joseph*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{A-B}) was born about 1786 in Rhode Island, probably in Smithfield, and he died 30 June 1866, aged 80, probably at Cold Brook in the Town of Russia, Herkimer County, New York (cem. card file, HCHS).

He married, first, PRUDENCE PERRY on 23 September 1809, probably in the Town of Newport, Herkimer County ("Sherman Woosters Book of Accounts with the town of New Port And for some Other records & Entering Marriages &c &c," p. 70, No. 9, in possession of Newport Village Historian Margery Foss), possibly the sister of Samuel Perry who was enumerated near Christopher in Newport in 1810. Census records indicate that Prudence was born about 1784-94 and died before 1850, by which time Christopher had married, second, LUCRETIA _____. She was born in New York about 1811-1818 and died 27 June 1862, probably in Herkimer County (1850 and 1860 censuses, cited below; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 29 June 1862).

The earliest discovered record of Christopher is under the name "Bensley," when he witnessed a deed by which his father sold land on 23 February 1809 (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 4:517). The following year Christopher B. "Bensley" was listed in the census in the Town of Newport as 16 to 26 years old, with one female under 10 and one 16-26 (1810 Census, p. 370). By 1820 he was in the Town of Russia, when his household consisted of one male 26-45, three females under 10, two 10-16, and one 26-45, with one person engaged in manufacturing (1820 Census, Russia, p. 36).

Christopher's whereabouts over the next several years are difficult to follow. He was not a party to any real property transactions in Herkimer County (except as noted below) and was not listed there in the 1825, 1835, or 1845 New York State Censuses, but he was evidently in Newport when daughter Emeline was married in 1827. (Although some of Christopher's

daughters settled in the New York City area, he was not the "C. Benchley" enumerated there in 1830, as that man was age 70 to 80 years and city directories indicate he was probably Clement Bensley, boxmaker, listed there from 1828 to 1831.) Perhaps he lived with his wives' families, his brothers, or with his employers.

In 1838 Christopher was working as a shoemaker in Buffalo, New York, and living with his brother Joseph (Buffalo city directory). His name is not found listed in the 1840 Federal Census, but he was back in Herkimer County in 1845, living in the Town of Russia, when he joined his siblings in quitclaiming their father's land to their brother Jenks (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 67:66-67). In 1850 he was a shoemaker in Newport (1850 Census, p. 169, #240-252).

Christopher served during the War of 1812, as a fifer in Captain Asa Chatfield's Company, Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel Wright's (90th) Regiment of New York Militia, enlisting at Trenton, New York, 5 October, and after he was granted a furlough home because of illness was discharged 12 November 1814. His brothers Benjamin and William served in the same regiment (military service record; *1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 72; unindexed War of 1812 Bounty Land files). Christopher B. Benchley "sometimes spelt Bensley" of Newport, Herkimer County, received 40 acres of bounty land for his service, and in 1859, as a resident of Antwerp, Jefferson County, New York, Christopher was allowed a \$24.50 award for his service (*War of 1812 Awards*, 41; his original claim is missing). A year later he was again back in Herkimer County, where he was enumerated in Newport as a cordwainer (1860 Census, p. 283, #442-420).

In March 1855 the Benchleys were in the Town of Gouverneur, St. Lawrence County, New York, when Christopher applied for 120 acres of bounty land. His son Benjamin was supposedly born there in June of that year, but the 1855 State Census schedules for that county have not survived. Because of domestic troubles, Christopher went to live with his brother William in January 1861. William wrote in his diary, 13 January: "The poor old man is driven from his poor home to avoid the abuse of his wife. I thank God that I have the means & disposition not to see him suffer." By August 1862 William and Jenks were paying \$20 a month for their brother to board with Abel P. Newbery at Cold Brook in the Town of Russia, and there Christopher was enumerated in 1865 as a shoemaker (Wm. S. Benchley diary, 17 Aug. 1862; 1865 N.Y. State Census, p. 37, #288-295). He was buried in Poland Cemetery in Herkimer County, near his brother Jenks and other relatives (cem. card file, HCHS).

Children, by first wife Prudence Perry, probably all born in New York, surname *Benchley*:

- i. (possibly) CHARLOTTE⁵. b. ca. 1808?: probably living with a young daughter in Newport, Herkimer Co., in 1840 (1840 Census, p. 67); of Fairfield, Herkimer Co., when she m. DAYTON BORDEN, son of [James and Anna (_____)?] Borden (Mrs. Jane S. Raynore,

Historic Events of The Early Settlers of Fairfield, White Creek and Vicinity [Newport, N. Y., 1909], 18). No further evidence of this couple has been found in Herkimer Co. estate, land, census, cemetery, or newspaper records.

- ii. EMELINE, b. ca. 1810 in N. Y.; living in New York, N. Y., 1850 and probably in Oct. 1863, when her uncle William S. Benchley visited his five nieces there (1850 Census, Ward 11, p. 296, #708-2913; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 25 Oct. 1863); m. as daughter of Christopher "Bensley" of Newport, N. Y., in Newport 25 Sept. 1827, ANDREW HARRIS of Fairfield (*Peoples' Friend and Little Falls Gazette*, 4 Oct. 1827, p. 2 [mar. card file, HCHS]), b. in Fairfield ca. 3 Aug. 1802, d. of old age and general debility at the home of Arch Johnson in Norway, Herkimer Co., 2 May 1891, aged 88y 9m 2d, carman and farmer, son of Olney and Mary (Borden) Harris (N. Y. Deaths, 1891, #19108; *Herkimer Democrat*, 5 May 1891, p. 1 [obit. card file, HCHS]; grave marker shows aged 89).
Children (surname *Harris*): 1. *Jeremiah*. 2. *Katherine*.
- iii. DAUGHTER ?, b. ca. 1812?
- iv. DAUGHTER ?, b. ca. 1814?
- v. NANCY, b. ca. 1816; living in or near New York, N. Y., Oct. 1863; m. before Aug. 1858, _____ ALLEN (Wm. S. Benchley diary, 1 Aug. 1858 and 25 Oct. 1863).
Child (surname *Allen*): *Son*.
- vi. MARY ANN, b. ca. 1821-6; living in or near New York, N. Y., Oct. 1863; of New York City when she m. there 16 Aug. 1843, BENJAMIN D. ALLEN of Apalachicola, Fla., b. in N. Y. ca. 1821-5, living Oct. 1863, [steam?] boat clerk and broker, probably son of Henry Allen (1850 Census, 6th Div., Franklin Co., Fla., p. 172, #204-204; 1860 Census, 9th Dist., Ward 17, New York City, p. 462, #47-138, showing her name as Mary Elisabeth; *The New York Herald*, 17 Aug. 1843, p. 3; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 25 Oct. 1863).
Children (surname *Allen*): 1. *Walter*. 2. *Henry*. 3. *Benjamin*.

Child, by second wife Lucretia _____:

- vii. BENJAMIN, b. 7 June 1855 in Gouverneur, N. Y.; d. of cerebral apoplexy and chronic nephritis at his residence, 102 1/2 Grand Ave., Syracuse, N. Y., 23 July 1933, aged 78y 1m 16d (N. Y. Deaths, 1933, #41919; 1900 Census, Sandy Creek, Oswego Co., N. Y., ED 144, p. 9, #236-237, shows b. June 1851; age 6 when enumerated with parents in 1860), machinist; m. ca. 1876-7, MARY PARSONS, b. in N. Y. 6 Feb. 1862, d. of an umbilical hernia at St. Joseph's Hospital, Syracuse, 14 Jan. 1935, daughter of John Parsons (N. Y. Deaths, 1935, #2583).
Children (surname *Benchley*): 1. *Hattie J.* 2. *Mary Bell*. 3. *Clarence Andrew*. 4. *Eva Nell*. 5. *Gladys M.*

21. WILLIAM SMITH⁴ BENCHLEY (*Joseph*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{A-B}) was born 17 February 1795 in the Town of Fairfield, Herkimer County, New

York, and he died in Newport, New York, 8 September 1886, aged 91 years, 6 months, and 22 days (grave marker; War of 1812 Pension and Bounty Land file SC22996; *Herkimer Democrat*, 15 Sept. 1886, pp. 2-3 [obit. card file, HCHS]; *1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 272; Lucy Mary Kellogg, comp., "John Willoughby of Goshen, Connecticut," *The Detroit Society for Genealogical Research Magazine* [hereinafter "John Willoughby"], 31[1967]:16).

On 17 October 1821 William married, first, MARY WILLOUGHBY of Fairfield. She was born about 1799 or 1800 in the Town of Norway, Herkimer County, New York, and died there 25 May 1836, aged 36, daughter of Arnold² (*Westel², John¹*) and Catharine (_____) Willoughby and sister of Ruth who married William's brother (No. 22) Joseph Benchley (grave marker; "John Willoughby," 16; *1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 272; *Mohawk Courier*, 2 June 1836, p. 2 [obit. card file, HCHS]; her marriage and death dates are also given in William's obituary).

"William S. Benchley, Esq." married, second, ROXY ANN POST (Roxanna, etc.) of Newport on 21 October 1838 in Newport (*Mohawk Courier*, 25 Oct. 1838, p. 3 [mar. card file, HCHS]; "John Willoughby," 16; *1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 272). She was born about 1812 in Herkimer County, probably in Newport, where she probably died, 5 November 1867, aged 55, daughter of Dan and Nancy (_____) Post ("John Willoughby," 16; *1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 272; *Hist. Newport*; 1855 Census, cited below).

Like some of his brothers, William was listed in some early records under the name "Bensley," such as when he witnessed his father's sale of some land in 1811 (*Herkimer Co. Deeds*, 5:483). During the War of 1812 he served from Newport as a drummer in Captain Asa Chatfield's Company, Lieutenant-Colonel Daniel Wright's (90th) Regiment of New York Militia, the same unit in which his brothers Benjamin and Christopher served. He was drafted in Newport 5 October, mustered in in Trenton, Oneida County, and was discharged in Sackett's Harbor, New York, 11 November 1814 (service record; pension file; *1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 72).

William S. Benchley was a hatter in Newport until 1821, when he became a hotel keeper and merchant, retiring in 1858. A justice of the peace from 1834 to 1836, he also held nearly all the town offices – supervisor in 1841 and 1842, town clerk 4 years, assessor 3 years, commissioner of schools 5 years, and postmaster from 6 August 1845 to 11 December 1848. He was elected a trustee of the Village of Newport at the election of its first officers on 5 May 1867 and held other village offices as well. From 1819 or 1821 he was a member of Newport Masonic Lodge, No. 455. William and Roxy A. Benchley were baptized as members of the Newport Universalist Church on 4 November 1866. William accumulated a considerable estate, as evidenced in the numerous deeds and mortgages recorded in his name (*1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 224, 225, 272; *Hist. Newport*; *Herkimer Co. Oaths of Officers*, 1:20; Charles L. Fellows, comp., *Biography of Newport Lodge, No. 455, F. & A. M. Newport, N.Y. From 1858 to Jan. 1st. 1904* [hereinafter *Biog. of Newport Lodge*] (n.p., n.d.), n.p.; *Herkimer Co.*

Deeds, passim). On 20 December 1831 he was appointed guardian of his wife's minor sister, Catherine Willoughby. His children William and Mary were minor heirs to the estate of their granduncle, Dr. Westel Willoughby ("John Willoughby," 15-16). In later life William was urged to run for State Assembly, "but I would not consent. I am too much attached to my home & family to think of spending a cold winter away from them" (Wm. S. Benchley diary, 18 Oct. 1857).

Beginning in 1825, William Benchley is found listed in Newport in all the Federal and New York State censuses. In 1825 there were five unidentified persons in his household and that year William had an acre, one cow, eight sheep, two hogs, and six yards of flannel. There were six other persons with the Benchleys in 1830 and five in 1835. In the latter year William was listed with one acre, three cattle, and two hogs (1825 N.Y. State Census, p. 5; 1830 Census, p. 36; 1835 N.Y. State Census, p. 1). Son Leonidas, possibly away at school, does not seem to have been enumerated with the family in 1840, but again there were unidentified persons living with the Benchleys. One person was engaged in commerce and another in manufacturing and trade (1840 Census, p. 70). The 1845 Census provides a more detailed list of the household, from which it can be suggested that some or all of the unidentified persons were William's hotel or mercantile help. Among the seven males, two were married and under 45, one was subject to militia duty, and six were eligible to vote. Of the five females, two were age 16 to 45 years and one under 16, all unmarried. There was a child age 5-16, two attending public school, and one alien not naturalized. Ten in the household were born in New York State, one in Great Britain, and one in Germany. William Benchley was credited with 8 1/2 acres (1845 N.Y. State Census, p. 11, #21).

In 1850 William was listed in the census as a hotel "landlord" and in 1855 as an innkeeper and land owner. By this time he was probably keeping the Eagle Hotel. In the latter year, with the help of son Frederick, he took the census for the towns of Newport, Russia, and Schuyler, and his brother-in-law Watson Post was living with him (1850 Census, p. 155, #36-36; 1855 N.Y. State Census, p. 35, #44-51). On 5 April 1853, Dan Post, father of Watson and "Roxyann," made his will, bequeathing to his daughter \$500 and naming her husband William S. Benchley one of the executors (Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 5886). In noting Watson's death in 1859, Benchley recorded he "had been one of our family for 7 years, causing us much trouble" because of his "weak mind" and intemperance and because he was "ungovernable" (Wm. S. Benchley diary, 27 March 1859). For a while William also ran the Osgood House in Ilion in the Town of German Flats, a hotel built in 1852 (*1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 163).

In October 1856 the Benchleys left the tavern they had run for twenty years and moved into a house on the east side of Main Street in the Village of Newport, between Norway and North streets and two houses north of William's sister Lucina Porter's home (Wm. S. Benchley diary, 19 Oct.

1856; *Herkimer Co. Atlas*, plate 21). William was listed as a gardener in 1860, with \$3500 worth of real and \$6000 personal estate, and his wife Roxy had \$300 real and \$1000 personal estate (1860 Census, p. 261, #232-217). By 1865 he was "retired" and his frame house was valued at \$3500. His wife's niece, Mary Hale, was living with the family (1865 N.Y. State Census, p. 21, #136-150). The 1870 Census lists William as a retired hotel keeper, with \$6500 of real and \$15,000 of personal estate. Daughter Mary and her husband were in the household (1870 Census, p. 332, #141-157).

For his military service, William S. Benchley "sometimes spelt Bensley" was warranted forty acres of bounty land in 1851 and an additional forty acres in 1855; some of part of this land was evidently located in Illinois. In March 1878, when he was in his eighties, William S. Benchley of Main Street, Village of Newport, made application for a pension, stating he was too lame to travel to the nearest county clerk to make his statement. He was admitted a pensioner at eight dollars a month on 3 July of that year, retroactive to 9 March (pension file; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 2 March 1856 and 5 April 1863). Under a New York Law of 1859 for War of 1812 veterans' claims he received \$24.50 in 1869 (War of 1812 Awards, 269, N.Y. State Archives).

William S. Benchley kept at least three diaries. The surviving book, inscribed as "my 3^d Vol. of Record," covers 15 June 1851 through 25 October 1863, and is in possession of Muriel Fenner of Newport. An earlier volume owned by her, probably the second book, was stolen when loaned for a historical exhibit in Newport. Benchley made his entries practically every Sunday, commenting on a wide range of topics, including the proverbial weather. There were local politics (Benchley was an ardent Democrat), church affairs (the Benchleys attended the Universalist Church), the local railroad, bank, and other businesses, numerous fishing trips, business trips to New York City for supplies, pleasure trips to the Midwest. There were many social calls by and to the Benchleys, including William's siblings, in-laws, friends, and those who formerly lived in his hotels. He mentioned problems with his hired help, the devastating Civil War, and his constant worry over the well-being of his sons in California and the frail health of sons William and Frederick.

In his will of 11 October 1882, proved 25 October 1886, William Benchley named his daughter Mary Mather (who was to pay the trustees of the Universalist Society of Newport \$1000), son Leonidas, and the latter's wife Helen A. and children Gertrude C. Tefft, Edward Kellogg Benchley, and Helen K. Benchley (Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 830). Daughter Mary received the bulk of her father's estate, which was estimated to be \$20,000, and included the house and lot on Main Street (pension file).

William and his wives were buried in Newport Village Cemetery, behind the Baptist Church on Main Street, where a large marker includes their names and dates and those of all their children (except Leonidas) and those of daughter Mary's first two husbands. A marker for Leonidas and

his wife is nearby. It is stated in William's obituary in the *Herkimer Democrat* that he buried his father, mother, four children (two of them infants), two sons-in-law, six brothers, and one sister.

Children, by first wife Mary Willoughby, born in Newport ("John Willoughby," 16; censuses; father's will), surname *Benchley*:

- i. LEONIDAS BROWN⁵, b. 29 Sept. 1822; d. of senility at 2206 First Ave. South, Minneapolis, Minn., 26 Nov. 1906 (Minneapolis Deaths, 1906, #433; grave marker, Newport Village Cemetery; *The Builders of a Great City. San Francisco's Representative Men* [San Francisco, 1891], 109), merchant; m. probably in Herkimer Co., 22 Jan. 1845, HELEN AUGUSTA KENYON, b. in Middleville, N.Y., 29 Aug. 1826, d. of chronic myocarditis at 2206 First Ave. South, Minneapolis, 6 Jan. 1917, daughter of Varnum S. and Rebecca A. (Griswold) Kenyon (Minneapolis Deaths, 1917, #92; Collection of Stephen J. Turtelot of Herkimer Co. & Syracuse, NYS DAR Cem., Ch., & Town Recs., 451[1976]:3:2; grave marker, Newport Village Cemetery, shows 28 Aug. 1825 - 8 Jan. 1917; *Builders of San Francisco*, 110).
Children (surname *Benchley*): 1. Charles K[enyon?]. 2. Gertrude C. 3. Edward Kellogg. 3. Helen Kenyon. 4. child. 5. child.
- ii. WILLIAM FRASER, b. 1 Feb. 1828; d. in St. Paul, Minn., 21 Jan. 1861, aged 33; styled "Jun" on the 1850 Census when he was a clerk, probably in his father's hotel; merchant (grave marker, Newport Village Cemetery; *Biog. of Newport Lodge*; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 27 Jan. 1861).
- iii. FREDERICK, b. ca. May 1831; d. 1 July 1831, aged 5w (grave marker, Newport Village Cemetery).
- iv. GEORGE P., b. ca. 12 Aug. 1833; d. 25 Aug. 1834, aged 1y 13d (ibid.).
- v. MARY W., b. ca. 28 Feb. 1836; d. of nervous prostration and subacute mania in Newport 7 March 1899, aged 63y 7d (ibid.; N.Y. Deaths, 1899, #11992; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 3263); m. (1) probably in Newport, 9 Oct. 1861, WILLIAM GETMAN, b. in Ephratah, N.Y., 8 March 1830, d. of consumption in Newport 12 Aug. 1874, aged 44, bank cashier, son of Benjamin⁵ (*George*⁴⁻³⁻², *Fredrick* 1) and Marytje (Van Antwerp) Getman (Wm. S. Benchley diary, 13 Oct. 1861; *Herkimer Democrat*, 19 Aug. 1874, p. 2 [obit. card file, HCHS]; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 3047; William Laimbeer, comp. and ed., *The Getman Family 1710-1974* [n.p., 1975], 27, 28, which incorrectly calls her Mary Bentley); m. (2) in Newport 21 Dec. 1875, CHARLES J. MATHER of Fairfield, Herkimer Co., b. there ca. 1847-8, drowned in West Canada Creek while duck hunting, 28 March 1884, aged 36, merchant, son of Jarius Mather (*Herkimer Democrat*, 29 Dec. 1875, p. 3, and 2 April 1884, p. 3 [mar. and obit. card files, HCHS]; grave marker; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 5234); m. (3) in Newport 16 Jan. 1889, as his 2d wife, WILLIAM A. GRISWOLD, Esq. of Newport (N.Y. Mars., 1889, #1202; *Herkimer Democrat*, 30 Jan. 1889, p. 12 [mar. card

file, HCHS]), b. in Fairfield ca. 9 May 1821, d. of uremic poisoning and old age in Newport 25 April 1903, aged 81y 11m 16d, son of William and Anna (Willard) Griswold, and whose 1st wife Elizabeth D. d. in 1880 (N.Y. Deaths, 1903, #17040; cem. card file, HCHS; Herkimer Co. Surrogate's files, G-1903).

Child, by second wife Roxy Ann Post, born in Newport:

- vi. FREDERICK POST, b. 15 July 1840; d. in San Francisco 23 Sept. 1873, aged 33, clerk (*Biog. of Newport Lodge*, which shows he d. in 1870; *Daily Evening Bulletin*, San Francisco, 24 Sept. 1873, p. 3; grave marker, Newport Village Cemetery).

22. JOSEPH⁴ BENCHLEY JR. (*Joseph*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{A-B}) was born about 1797 in Herkimer County, New York, probably in the Town of Newport, where he died 1 October 1860, in his 64th year ("John Willoughby," 16; grave marker; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 7 Oct. 1860).

Joseph married, probably in 1824, RUTH A. WILLOUGHBY, who was born in Herkimer County about April 1805 and died of cardiac ossification in Sacramento, California, 7 July 1884, aged 80 years and 3 months, daughter of Arnold³ (*Westel*², *John*¹) and Catharine (_____) Willoughby and sister of Mary who married Joseph's brother (No. 21) William S. Benchley ("John Willoughby," 16; Sacramento Co. Deaths; *The Sacramento Bee*, 8 July 1884, p. 3).

The Benchleys first lived in the Town of Russia, Herkimer County, in that part which became the Village of Poland, and here in 1825 Joseph "Bensley" Jr. made his first recorded purchase of land, next to his dwelling lot, along West Canada Creek (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 19:479-480). In the 1825 Census he was listed near his brother Jenks and had 6 ½ acres, 2 cattle, and 2 hogs (1825 N.Y. State Census, p. 7). About 1828 Joseph built the "first and only permanent" hotel in Poland and he is credited with naming the village, known earlier as Danielsville, "because, like Poland in Europe, it lies in the southwest part of Russia." He was a "distinguished" violinist and many Herkimer County residents danced to his music. When a post office was established in Poland in 1838, Benchley was the first postmaster, with the office in his hotel (*1791 Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 230).

In 1830 Joseph Benchley Jr. was enumerated in Russia with an unidentified female age 15 to 20 years (1830 Census, p. 25). In the 1820s and 1830s he bought and sold various pieces of land in Russia and in 1831 began to buy land in the Town of Newport, to which he moved his family by 1835. That year he had 7 ¼ acres, 3 cattle, 1 horse, and 2 hogs (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 25:322-323 and passim; 1835 N.Y. State Census, p. 1). About two years later the Benchleys moved to Buffalo, where city directories show they lived on Franklin, south of Church Street, and where Joseph had a grocery. Joseph's brother Christopher lived here with him for a while. Just when the family returned to Herkimer County is unclear; Joseph and Ruth sold land in Newport from Buffalo in March 1839 (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 38:417-418) and the family has not been found in the 1840 Census for New

York, although the 1855 Census indicates they moved back to Newport about this time. Joseph was in the Village of Newport by May 1842, when he purchased land there, and in 1845 his household included an extra adult male and one of his children was attending private school; Joseph then had 12 ½ acres of land (*ibid.*, 57:100; 1845 N.Y. State Census, p. 11, #4).

In 1848 and 1850 Joseph and Ruth joined her Willoughby relatives in selling land in Russia they inherited from her uncle, Dr. Westel Willoughby (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 55:122-125, 58:251-254). In the latter year, no occupation was listed for Joseph in the census, but in 1855 he was the enumerator for Newport, for which he was paid \$2 a day, and he listed himself as a musician and land owner, with a frame house valued at \$900 (1850 Census, p. 154, #16-16; 1855 N.Y. State Census, p. 39, #7-7; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 10 June 1855). Joseph and son Hayden sailed to California in August 1851, but whether for business or pleasure is not known; they returned "very unexpectedly" in March 1853. From October 1857 to April 1858 Joseph kept a hotel in the Village of Ilion, the Remington House, prompting his brother William to write in his diary "I think he has made a mistake" but on his return commented that Joseph had "made some \$500 clear" (1791 *Hist. Herkimer Co.*, 230; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 10 Aug. 1851, 13 March 1853, 18 Oct. 1857, and 24 April 1858). The 1860 Census shows Joseph as a farmer in Newport, with \$1600 worth of real and \$1400 personal estate (1860 Census, p. 279, #404-382). He was elected town clerk in March 1854 and held that office at the time of his death (*Hist. Newport*; Wm. S. Benchley diary, *passim*).

In his will of 27 September 1860, proved 11 March 1861, Joseph Benchley of Newport, age 63, named his wife Ruth and children Catherine, Hayden, and Willoughby. His wife, daughter, and Milton Howe were to be executors, and W. S. Benchley and John C. Harris, both of Newport, were witnesses (Herkimer Co. Wills, L: 378-380, original not in file). Ruth Benchley of Newport petitioned for letters testamentary on 14 February 1861, stating that Joseph died 1 October 1860, and she was appointed executrix 11 March 1861 (Herkimer Co. Surrogate's file 484). Joseph was buried in Newport Village Cemetery 2 October 1860 (Wm. S. Benchley diary, 7 Oct. 1860).

Over the next few years, Ruth sold off Joseph's land and in May 1865 sold the family home in Newport Village to Elias and Sally A. Jones, with whom she was boarding (Herkimer Co. Deeds, 82:362-363, 82:536, 88:444; 1865 N.Y. State Census, p. 26, #178-210). She had joined her daughter Katherine in Sacramento by 1868, when she was first listed in the city directories there, and she was buried in Sacramento's New Masonic Cemetery (grave marker, read by Jim W. Faulkinbury).

Children, born in New York ("John Willoughby," 16; censuses; father's will), surname *Benchley*:

- i. CORNELIA^s, b. ca. 17 May 1825; d. 1 June 1825, aged 15d (grave marker, Poland Cemetery).

- ii. HAYDEN, b. 6 March 1827 in Herkimer Co., probably in Poland; d. of apoplexy in Jamestown, N.Y., 1 July 1900, aged 73 (N.Y. Deaths, 1900, #26757, indexed under the surname Hayden; Civil War Pension file 501322), Civil War soldier, car joiner, musician, and farmer; m. in Jamestown 15 Feb. 1854, SUSAN M. HOWARD, b. in Trenton Falls, N.Y., 28 Aug. 1836, d. of pulmonary congestion, mitral regurgitation, and myocarditis in Jamestown 9 March 1915, aged 78y 7m 11d [*sic*], daughter of Jesse and Esther (_____) Howard (pension file; N.Y. Deaths, 1915, #13236).
Children (surname *Benchley*): 1. *Jennie K.* 2. *John J.* 3. *Heyman A.* 4. *Howard.*
- iii. GERTRUDE, b. ca. 20 Sept. 1833; d. 2 Jan. 1835, aged 1y 3m 13d (grave marker, Poland Cemetery).
- iv. KATHERINE WILLOUGHBY, b. ca. 8 or 9 Dec. 1834 in Herkimer Co.; d. of bronchitis and asthma at 2401 N St., Sacramento, 21 June 1898, aged 63y 6m 13d (Sacramento Co. Deaths; *Sacramento Bee*, 22 June 1898, p. 5, shows 12d), teacher; m. in Mohawk, N.Y., 30 Aug. 1861, ARNOLD HEYMAN, b. near Cologne, Prussia, 31 Oct. 1822, d. of malarial fever at his residence, 620 I St., Sacramento, 24 March 1887, aged 64, son of Arnold Heyman (Sacramento Co. Deaths; Biographical Card File for Arnold Heyman, California Room, State Library, Sacramento; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 1 Sept. 1861, indicates they were m. 31 Aug.), violinist and piano teacher and dealer.
Children (surname *Heyman*): 1. *Arnold.* 2. *Katherine Ruth Willoughby.*
- v. WILLOUGHBY/WILLIAM J., b. ca. 1839 in Buffalo; living in Sacramento in 1883 (*List of Pensioners on the Roll January 1, 1883*, 5 vols. [Washington, D.C., 1883], 4:787); farmer, laborer, and Civil War soldier. His name is found as Willoughby in the 1850 and 1855 censuses and in his uncle William's diary, as Willete H. in one service record, and as William in other records.

[To be continued]

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THE BENCHLEY-BENSLEY FAMILY

Roger D. Joslyn *

[Continued from page 69]

23. JOHN B[UCKLIN?]⁴ BENSLEY (*Samuel*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{A-B}) was born 11 May 1796 in the Village of Pawtucket in North Providence, Rhode Island, and he died there at 3 Prospect Street of kidney disease 21 May 1867, aged 71 (Pawtucket Deaths, 1:171; grave marker shows he died 29 May in his 72d year). His son John was listed as "Jr." in the 1850 Census, in which case they may have shared the same middle name.

He married in Pawtucket, 14 December 1820, ROMA ANN GOFF (Arnold, 10:312). She was born about 22 August 1799 in North Providence and died of apoplexy in Pawtucket 29 October 1882, aged 83 years, 2 months, and 7 days, the daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth (____) Goff (Pawtucket Deaths, 2:258; 1865 Census gives her birthplace as Mass.).

The Bensleys lived in the Village of Pawtucket in the Town of North Providence which today is part of the City of Pawtucket. In 1830 the John "Benchley" household was missing a daughter and in 1840 John was living next to his brother James and had three persons with him engaged in agriculture and one in manufacturing and trade (1830 Census, p. 215; 1840 Census, p. 217).

In July 1833 John was apparently in Ludlow, Massachusetts, when he witnessed a deed between his brother James and brother-in-law Warren Wakefield (North Providence Deeds, 7:221). Returning to Pawtucket, he operated and perhaps owned eating places. On 8 April 1845 he was licensed to keep an oyster house and in 1850 he had a "Cook Cellar," indicating his establishment was probably one of the several small dining rooms in town which were down a few steps from the street level. In 1860 his place was referred to as a saloon but in 1865 John was working as a clerk (North Providence Town Council, 6:136; 1850 Census, p. 357, #349-521; 1860 Census, p. 69, #136-267; 1865 R.I. State Census, 12:114, #182-364). John joined his siblings in mortgaging a piece of property in North Providence in 1855 (North Providence Deeds, 20:208).

In the spring of 1870, John's widow Roma and surviving children were parties in the settlement of his parents' home in Pawtucket--the "Benchley Place" (*ibid.*, 48:318, 320-326). Roma was living with son Albert at 4 Prospect Street in Pawtucket in 1880 (1880 Census, ED 131, p.

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24, #198-235). By her will of 26 October 1881, proved 23 June 1883, Roma Ann Bensley left all her property to daughters Emily M. and Sarah A. Bensley, the latter of whom was to be executrix (Pawtucket Probate file 2050).

John Bensley was buried in Mineral Spring Cemetery on Pleasant Street and Roma was buried in Riverside Cemetery, both located in Pawtucket.

Children, probably all born in North Providence (now Pawtucket), surname *Bensley*:

- i. SAMUEL⁵, b. 22 Nov. 1819; d. of dyspepsia in Pawtucket 22 March 1882, aged 62y 4m (Pawtucket Deaths, 2:244; grave marker, Mineral Spring Cemetery), grocer, waiter, laborer; m. in Somers, Conn., 19 Sept. 1849, CORDELIA H. WAKEFIELD (Somers VRs, 3:221), b. there ca. 18 May 1822, d. of breast cancer in Pawtucket 22 Sept. 1892, aged 70y 4m 4d, daughter of David W. and Love (Loomis) Wakefield (Pawtucket Deaths, 3:111; Pawtucket Probate file 2974) and sister of Warren Wakefield who married Samuel's aunt Clarissa Benchley.
Children (surname *Bensley*): 1. Eugene Edgar. 2. Oscar D. 3. Willie Sumner. 4. Isabella A. 5. Cornelia Hattie. 6. Henry Emerson.
- ii. ALBERT, b. ca. 1821; d. unm. of cancer in Pawtucket 25 March 1879, aged 57 (RI Deaths, 1879, p. 1118; Pawtucket Probate file 1837; 1880 Mortality Schedule for Pawtucket shows aged 55 [RIDAR, 1947, p. 68]), saloon keeper.
- iii. ANGELINE, b. ca. 22 Nov. 1825; d. of dropsy in Pawtucket, Mass., 25 June 1848, aged 22y 7m 3d (Pawtucket Deaths, 1:153; grave marker, now illegible, showed she d. in her 24th yr. [Mineral Spring Cemetery recs., p. 11, Arnold Coll.]).
- iv. EDWIN FRANCIS, b. ca. 11 Oct. 1827; d. unm. of liver cancer in Pawtucket 30 Sept. 1890, aged 62y 11m 19d (RI Deaths, 1890, p. 730; Pawtucket Probate file 2574).
- v. EMILY/EMMA MARY, b. ca. 1828; d. of old age at 18 Fruit St., Pawtucket, 16 Dec. 1900, aged 72 (Pawtucket Deaths, 4:2), dressmaker and tailor.
- vi. ELLEN JANE, b. ca. 7 May 1833; d. of arteriosclerosis at 18 Fruit St., Pawtucket, 19 Feb. 1912, aged 78y 9m 12d (Pawtucket Deaths, 5:4); m. CALVIN CARPENTER, machinist and laborer, b. in Seekonk, Mass., 8 July 1827, who d. probably before 1860, when he is not found listed in the census, son of Calvin⁵ (*Daniel*⁴⁻³⁻², *William*¹) and Abbie (Tisdale) Carpenter and brother of Tisdale who m. Ellen's sister Clarisa (Amos B. Carpenter, *A Genealogical History of the Rehoboth Branch of the Carpenter Family In America* [hereinafter *Gen. of Rehoboth Carpenters*] [Amherst, Mass., 1898], 327).
Children (surname *Carpenter*): 1. Charles A. 2. Angeline. 3. Ernest. 4. Edwin P.
- vii. JOHN BUCKLIN, b. ca. 1833; of Swansea, Mass., when he d. of consumption in Savannah, Ga., 9 Feb. 1876, aged 42 (Mass. VRs, 283:136; Pawtucket Probate file 1675; Bristol Co. [Mass.] Probate file; son William's birth rec. shows John was born in Seekonk, Mass.), laborer and

saloon keeper; m. (1) in Smithfield, R.I., 24 Sept. 1856, CATHERINE LOUISA BROWN (Smithfield Mars., 3:41), b. in Scotland, or Strabane, Ire., or Pawtucket, Mass., ca. 27 Nov. or 22 July 1836, d. of consumption in Pawtucket, Mass., 29 or 30 April 1858, aged 21y 5m 2d or 21y 9m 8d, daughter of Joseph and Jane (____) Brown (Pawtucket Deaths, 1:58, C:191); m. (2) ca. 1863?, CATHERINE M. LEONARD, b. in Whitinsville, Mass., ca. 1845, daughter of William and Mary (____) Leonard, living in Johnston, R.I., 12 May 1887, when she m. in Providence (2) as his 2d wife, William Cruthers Jr. of Johnston, laborer, b. in Crompton, R.I., ca. 1845-6, son of William and Ann (____) Cruthers (Providence Mars., 15:86).

Children (surname *Bensley*), by 2d wife: 1. *John H. Francis*. 2. *William E.* 3. *Albert Warren*. 4. *Alice Roma*. 5. *Jessie Bucklin*.

viii. WARREN W., b. 2 Feb. 1835; d. in North Providence 22 June 1865, aged 29y 4m 20d (Pawtucket Deaths, 1:145), bookkeeper.

ix. CLARISA/CLARA E., b. 7 June 1837 in North Providence; d. in Pawtucket 19 April 1896, aged 56 (RI Deaths, 1896, p. 734; grave marker, Riverside Cemetery, shows 19 June 1895), school teacher; m. in Providence 16 March 1857, TISDALE CARPENTER of Providence (Providence Mars., 7: 9), b. in Seekonk, Mass., 23 Aug. 1829, d. in Cranston, R.I., 13 Oct. 1867, aged 38, son of Calvin⁵ (*Daniel*⁴⁻³⁻², *William*¹) and Abigail (Tisdale) Carpenter and brother of Calvin who m. Clarisa's sister Ellen (*Gen. of Rehoboth Carpenters*, 327; grave marker, Riverside Cemetery; RI Deaths, 1867, p. 988, shows son of Thomas and Deborah), machinist.

Children (surname *Carpenter*): 1. *Sidney*. 2. *Mabel*. 3. *Howard W.*

x. SARAH ALICE, b. ca. 1839-41; d. unm. at 18 Fruit St., Pawtucket, 9 March 1915, aged 73 (Pawtucket Deaths, 5:96).

24. JAMES BUCKLIN⁴ BENSLEY (*Samuel*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{A-B}) was born 11 June 1805 in the Village of Pawtucket, North Providence, Rhode Island, and he died in Pawtucket of senile prostratitis on 15 July 1890, aged 84 years, 1 month, and 4 days (RI Deaths, 1890, p. 726; grave marker, Mineral Spring Cemetery [p. 10, Arnold Coll.]; RIDAR, 1(1934):85).

James married, first, in Ludlow, Massachusetts, 14 November 1835, MARY DURHAM (*Hartford Times*, 25 Nov. 1835 [Conn. Newspaper VRs], 38:398). She was born about 1815 or 1816, in Rhode Island according to daughter Elizabeth's death record, and died 18 February 1843 in her 28th year, probably in Pawtucket (grave marker, Mineral Spring Cemetery [p. 10, Arnold Coll.]).

He married, second, in Pawtucket, Massachusetts, 27 February 1844, MARIA HARRIET WALKER of Vernon, Connecticut (Pawtucket Mars., B:42, C:117). She was born in [Vernon?] Connecticut about 10 January 1820 and died of paralysis in Norwich, Connecticut, 26 March 1872, aged 52 years, 2 months, and 16 days, the daughter of Roderick and Catherine (____) Walker (Pawtucket Deaths, 2:6).

In the 1830s James was in Ludlow, Massachusetts, perhaps in connection with the Jenksville textile mills there, established by men from

Rhode Island. James B. "Benchley" and Warren Wakefield of Ludlow, for \$150, purchased the "Davis lot" in North Providence from George and Abraham Wilkinson on 6 October 1832. James mortgaged his rights to this land to Wakefield on 12 July 1833 for \$150 (North Providence Deeds, 7:163, 164, 221). With his siblings and nephew Albert, James mortgaged land in North Providence on 30 January 1855 to Nancy Carpenter and Mary Perrin of Seekonk (*ibid.*, 20:208). The "Benchley Place," originally the Pawtucket home of their parents, was divided among James and his siblings in the spring of 1870 and in June of that year he quitclaimed half his lot to daughter Mary M. "Benchley" (*ibid.*, 48: 318, 320-326, 366).

The James Bensleys were enumerated in North Providence in 1840, where he was engaged in agriculture. In 1850 he was a laborer in Pawtucket and his nephew Samuel was living with him (1840 Census, p. 217; 1850 Census, p. 353, #309-454). At the time of his death, James was working as a carpenter (death rec.).

Administration of the estate of Maria Bensley of North Providence was granted 2 December 1872 to her husband James B. Bensley (Pawtucket Probate file 1063).

James and his first wife Mary were buried in Mineral Spring Cemetery in Pawtucket.

Children, by first wife Mary Durham, born in Mass., surname *Bensley*:

- i. ELIZABETH W.⁵, b. 9 July 1837 in Ludlow; d. of mitral regurgitation of the heart on Broad St., Barre, Mass., 19 May 1921 (Mass. Deaths, 1921, 4:174); m. in North Providence, R.I., 11 July 1859, JOHN HANCOCK of Sacramento, Calif. (North Providence Mars., 1:55), b. in Barre, Mass., 12 Jan. 1821, d. there of chronic cystitis 11 Sept. 1907, son of Nathan and Catherine Williams (Lee) Hancock (*Vital Records of Barre, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* [Worcester, Mass., 1903], 38; Mass. Deaths, 1907, 4: 274; *Boston Evening Transcript*, 12 Sept. 1904, p. 4), physician, farmer, and Civil War soldier.

Children (surname *Hancock*): 1. *John Jr.* 2. *Susan.* 3. *Mary Catharine.* 4. *George Carleton.* 5. *Mabel D.* 6. *Maud B.*

- ii. MARY B., b. ca. 1838-9; living with the Warren Wakefields in 1865 and mentioned in Warren's will in 1885.

Children, by second wife Maria Walker, born in Pawtucket (Pawtucket Births, C:7, 21, 35, 45):

- iii. MARIA LOUISE, b. 10 Jan. 1845; d. in Minneapolis, Minn., 13 Feb. 1918 (Civil War Pension file 722324); m. as Maria Louise "Bentley" in Norwich, Conn., 14 June 1865, JOHN THOMAS FANNING (Norwich VRs, 12:23), b. there 31 Dec. 1838, d. of acute lobar pneumonia at the Hotel Waverly in Minneapolis, 6 Feb. 1911, son of John Howard⁶ (*John*⁵, *Thomas*⁴, *Richard*³, *Thomas*², *Edmund*¹) and Elizabeth (Priddle) Fanning, Civil War soldier and engineer (pension file [in which Fanning gave his date of birth as 1837]; *Vital Records of Norwich 1659-1848*, 2 vols. [Hartford, 1913], 2:790; Walter Frederic Brooks, *History of the Fanning Family* [Worcester, Mass., 1905], 474).

Children (surname *Fanning*): 1. *Jennie Louise*. 2. *Rennie Bensley*.
3. *Clara Elizabeth*.

- iv. JAMES RODERICK, b. 22 Dec. 1846; d. unm., of cancer of the tongue, at 554 Pleasant St., Pawtucket, 12 May 1901, aged 53 (RI Deaths, 1901, p. 89; grave marker, Riverside Cemetery, shows his name as John Roderick), bartender and machinist.
- v. FRANCIS ADELBERT, b. 12 June 1848; d. of a stomach ulcer at 6 Holly St., Central Falls, R.I., 31 Oct. 1908, aged 59y 4m 20d (RI Deaths, 1908, p. 17), cook; m. in Pawtucket 9 Oct. 1882, BESSIE CHAPLIN of Pawtucket (Pawtucket Mars., 2:372), b. in Nova Scotia Dec. 1857, came to the U.S. in 1876, and d. at 16 Fruit St., Pawtucket, 21 Dec. 1937, daughter of Robert and Sarah (____) Chaplin (1900 Census, Pawtucket, Ward 1, ED 254, p. 8, #158-188; Pawtucket Deaths, 8:245).
- vi. ADALAIDE, b. 14 Dec. 1850; d. in Pawtucket, Mass., 8 Sept. 1851, aged 8m (Pawtucket Deaths, 1:167).

25. ISAAC⁴ BENCHLEY (?Isaac³, William²⁻¹, Robert^{A-B}) was born about 1800, possibly in North Providence, Rhode Island, where he probably died between 1840 and 1850.

He married ELIZABETH THORNTON in Johnston, Rhode Island, before 12 October 1827 (*Rhode Island American*, in Arnold, 19:340). Census records indicate she was born about 1790.

In 1825 Isaac Benchley or his presumed father Isaac witnessed a lease of the Pawtucket town landing to the Pawtucket Steamboat Company (North Providence Miscellaneous Papers, Box 21). In 1830 he was enumerated in North Providence near his presumed father Isaac and first cousin William Benchley, with one male under 10, one 20-30, and one female 40-50 (1830 Census, p. 217). In 1840 the "Isac Bensley" household there consisted of one male 10-15, one 40-50, one female 10-15, and one 40-50, with one person engaged in agriculture (1840 Census, p. 218). (The Isaac "Bensley" enumerated in Milford, Connecticut, in 1840 was probably another person [1840 Census, State Copy, 7:531-532, Connecticut State Library]). No other record of a Benchley or Bensley has been found in the Milford area, so this Isaac's surname may have been miswritten.)

No other information about Isaac has been found, unless it was he and not his father who was warned out of North Providence in 1841. The younger Isaac probably died before 1850, as he is not found listed in the census for that year. His wife Elizabeth has also not been found in that census, unless she was the "Betsy Bensley," 53, born in Smithfield, an inmate of the Smithfield Poor Farm because her husband was intemperate (1850 Census, p. 144, #635-955; Thomas R. Hazard, *Report on the Poor and Insane in Rhode-Island* [Providence, 1851], 32).

Children, surname *Benchley*:

- i. CHARLES W.⁵, b. ca. 1828 in North Providence; d. of apoplexy on Charles St., Providence, R.I., 15 Sept. 1850, aged 22, married (Pro-

vidence Deaths, 9:9, showing his name as "Bensley"). Earlier that year Charles "Bensley," tipper, was enumerated in the Providence household of Lydia Burlingame (1850 Census, 1st Ward, Providence, p. 49, #609-855).

ii. ? DAUGHTER, b. ca. 1830.

26. JAMES HEALEY⁴ BENCHLEY (*Stafford Stukeley*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{A-B}) was born 28 June 1796 in Smithfield, Rhode Island, and he died of "stop-page" at 6 King Street in Worcester, Massachusetts, 1 June 1872, aged 76 (WKB; Mass. VRs, 249:405).

James married, first, in Providence, Rhode Island, 30 January 1819, HANNAH WETHERBY/WETHERBEE (WKB). She was born in Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, 2 October 1799 and died in Providence 13 June 1826 in her 27th year, the daughter of Lewis⁵ (*Thomas*⁴, *Silas*³, *Thomas*², *John*¹) and Hulda (Wesson) Wetherbee (WKB; *Vital Records of Shrewsbury, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* [Worcester, 1904], 113; *Providence Journal*, in Arnold, 12:422, and *Rhode Island American*, in Arnold, 20:575, which show her name as "Bensley").

James Benchley was of Grafton, Massachusetts, when he married, second, in Providence 8 August 1827, NANCY HEMENWAY ALLEN of Providence (WKB; *Rhode Island American*, in Arnold, 19:340). She was born in Thompson, Connecticut, about 22 November 1802 and died of heart failure at her home at 6 King Street, Worcester, Massachusetts, 11 February 1887, aged 84 years, 2 months, and 20 days, the daughter of Phineas⁴ (*Phineas*³, *Ebenezer*², *Lewis*¹), and Polly (Carroll) Allen of Monson, Massachusetts (WKB states she was born 1804; Mass. VRs, 384:550, show she was born in Monson).

Leaving school at the age of fourteen, James was apprenticed as a machinist. He and Hannah first lived in Connecticut, moving to New Haven in April 1819 and to Hamden in December 1820, where James worked in Captain Whitney's gun factory. While in Hamden "Annah" was baptized 5 April 1821 in the Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church in New Haven (WKB; "New Haven, Connecticut Trinity Church (Protestant Episcopal) Records 1767-1939," transcribed by Edward Collins Beecher, 7 vols. [hereinafter Trinity PE Ch. recs.] [1904], 2:29, MS., Connecticut State Library).

The Benchleys continued to move frequently, for apparently James went where he could find work as a gunsmith. In August 1821 they went to Pennsylvania, first to Philadelphia; to what is now Valley Forge in January 1822; to Lower Dublin Township, Montgomery County, in July; to Frankford Borough in January 1824; and to Holmesburg Village in June, the latter three places all in Philadelphia County. In August they went back to Providence, then to Pawtucket, and in November to Valley Falls. In October 1825 the Benchleys again went back to Providence, where they lived on Martin Street (WKB; 1826 city directory).

On 21 July 1826, after Hannah's death, James "broke up housekeeping" and for a short time may have gone to Harpers Ferry, (West) Virginia, to work for the government. In the latter part of 1827 he returned to Massachusetts, settling in Grafton, where he first worked at Allen and Thurber's pistol shop near the depot and for a while kept the New England Tavern (WKB). His household there in 1830 included an extra male and female 20-30 and two extra females 15-20 (1830 Census, p. 212).

About 1840 the family moved to Millbury, Massachusetts, where they also had unidentified persons in their home (1840 Census, p. 260). For several years James ran the tavern here that was later known as the Tourtellott House. He later made guns at the armory in Armory Village, and when the Providence and Worcester Railroad was completed about 1848--the tracks ran through Benchley's property--James was the first depot master in Millbury for about four or five years. He also had an interest in the Blackstone Canal (WKB).

James bought property on Mabel Street and built a residence. He laid out the cemetery in which his family would be buried, sold other lots there, and also sold parts of his Mabel Street land. In 1850 his real estate was valued at \$9500 (when he was still the depot master). By that year his father had come to live with him (1850 Census, p. 64, #76-87). With Nathaniel P. Jackson he ran a machine shop in Brownsville, which they abandoned after it was destroyed by fire. James was at one time the fire chief for Millbury and he served as a justice of the peace for seven years from 1847, being reappointed for another seven years in 1861, his son Henry serving the time in between (WKB).

In the late 1850s James and son Albert went to Montague where they established a plow manufacturing business. Here they purchased land in 1858, set up a sawmill, and built a house, but since the shipping points were so far away, they soon left. James and Nancy then went to Worcester, where their sons were already established, and here they first lived with son Albert at 43 Salem Street and James continued to manufacture plows for a while (WKB; Worcester city directories; 1860 Census, Ward 6, p. 491, #1372-2037). As a member of the State Militia, James's duties during the Civil War included guarding "bounty jumpers" for the provost marshal and escorting draftees to Boston Harbor (WKB).

About 1866 James built a house on Chandler Street which he later sold, moving to the Roberts House for about six months. Then he and son Edwin purchased a lot on King Street and built another home, where the family moved in the spring of 1869. About this time James became the city weigher, holding that position until his death. For a while he also ran the Farmers Hotel in Worcester and began the first package express company between that city and Boston (WKB).

In his petition for probate of his father's estate, 20 June 1872, James E. Benchley stated that James H. Benchley of Worcester died 1 June 1872,

leaving widow Nancy H.; children James E. Benchley of Worcester, Martha E. Murdock of Boston, and Julia A. Boyd of Worcester; and grandson Charles Farnum, a minor. Administration was granted 2 July 1872 (Worcester Co. Probate, Series A, file 4998).

James and his second wife Nancy were buried in the family cemetery in Millbury. In belief, James was a Unitarian, although he attended the Salem Street Congregational Church in Worcester. Politically he was a Whig and made the expected move to the Republican Party when it was established. He was a member of the Mechanics Association, was a "great lover of nature," "a true sportsman," and "would leave a good dinner to go fishing." He was also noted as a "remarkable billiard player" (WKB).

Children, by first wife Hannah Wetherbee (WKB), surname *Benchley*:

- i. ALBERT LEANDER⁵, b. 2 Aug. 1819 in New Haven; d. in Worcester 31 Dec. 1866, aged 47y 4m 27d [sic] (Mass. VRs, 194:278; 1850 Census shows he was b. in Pa.), armorer; of Millbury when he m. in Grafton 27 Sept. 1840, ELIZABETH VICKERS of Grafton (*Vital Records of Grafton, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* [hereinafter *Grafton VRs*] [Worcester, 1906], 169), b. in Braintree, Mass., ca. 24 May 1818 or 1819, d. of premature senility in Worcester 7 Aug. 1881, aged 62y 2m 14d, daughter of George and Dorothy (McNast) Vickers (Mass. VRs, 330:456).
Children (surname *Benchley*): 1. *Albert Fernando*. 2. *William Wetherby*.
- ii. SON, b. and d. 15 April 1821 in New Haven, Conn. (*Vital Records of New Haven 1649-1850*, 2 vols. [Hartford, 1917-1924], 2:603, indicate he died 6 April, but Trinity PE Ch. recs., 3:125, show he was buried 16 April).
- iii. HENRY WETHERBY, b. 20 Feb. 1822 in what is now Valley Forge, Pa.; d. in Houston, Texas, 24 Feb. 1867 (Harris Co. [Tex.] Probate, T:49; *Boston Evening Transcript*, 15 March 1867, p. 2), armorer; Massachusetts assemblyman, senator, and lieutenant-governor; and railroad conductor; of Norwich, Conn., when he m. (1) in Millbury 9 May 1845, JULIA ANN GODDARD (*Vital Records of Millbury, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* [hereinafter *Millbury VRs*] [Worcester, 1903], 63, which also shows their marriage intention date as 10 May), b. in Millbury 25 April 1822, d. of consumption at 43 Salem St., Worcester, 30 July 1854, aged 32, daughter of Nathaniel⁵, (*Samuel*⁴ *Benjamin*³⁻², *William*¹) and Rhoda (Gale) Goddard (*ibid.*, 25; Mass. VRs, 86:192; Charles Austin Goddard, comp., *The Samuel Goddard Families* [Fayetteville, W. Va., 1935], 6); m. (2) in Dorchester, Mass., 20 Nov. 1855, MARIA/MARIETTA K. ALLEN of Sackets Harbor, N.Y., b. there ca. 1829-30, living 3 June 1869, daughter of Judge Zeno and Eunice Laura (Strong) Allen (Mass. VRs, 88:181; Harris Co. Probate, T:49).

Children (surname *Benchley*), by 1st wife: 1. *Charles Henry*, b. 6 Aug. 1848 in Worcester; d. there 12 May 1923; m. there 23 June 1874, Maria Jane Moran, b. in Worcester 27 Oct. 1851, d. there 19 Dec. 1936, daughter of Charles and Mary Ann (Shumway) Moran. They were

the parents of Robert Charles Benchley (1889-1945), humorist, critic, and actor. 2. *Julian Goddard*; by 2d wife: 3. *Laura Isabella*. 4. *Paul Zeno*.

- iv. EDWIN HEALEY, b. 22 April 1824 in Frankford, Pa.; d. in Providence 19 Sept. 1826.
- v. WILLIAM SHEPHERD, b. 13 April 1826 in Providence; d. there 4 July 1826, aged 4m ("William Sheperd Bensley" in *Providence Journal*, in Arnold, 12:422; "William Shepherd Bensley" in *Rhode Island American*, in Arnold, 20:575).

Children, by second wife Nancy Hemenway Allen, vi-ix born in Grafton, the rest in Millbury (WKB; *Millbury VRs*, 12):

- vi. FRANCES EUGENIA, b. 26 May 1828 in Grafton, Mass.; d. of consumption in Worcester 6 Aug. 1861, aged 33y 2m (Mass. VRs, 149:321); m. in Millbury 30 Jan. 1850, CHARLES WILLARD FARNUM (*ibid.*, 47:199), b. in Grafton 14 June 1826, son of Mowry and Evelina J. (Gibson) Farnum, d. of "Arteris Schlerosis (Old Age)" at 85 Wood St., Providence, R.I., 24 May 1921 (*Grafton VRs*, 47; Mass Deaths, 1921, 75:141), railroad engineer who m. (2) Caroline Bishop.
Children (surname *Farnum*): 1. *Isabel*. 2. *Charles Mowry*.
- vii. JAMES EDWIN, b. 2 Oct. 1832; d. of heart disease at 6 King St., Worcester, 15 Nov. 1905, aged 73y 1m 13d (Mass. Deaths, 1905, 101:209), machinist, bookkeeper, and lumber dealer; m. (1) in Worcester 18 Nov. 1858, SARAH ELIZABETH BRYANT (Mass. VRs, 119:230), b. in Worcester 12 March 1833, d. there of heart disease, 21 Feb. 1863, aged 29y 11m 9d, daughter of Ira and Elizabeth (Parsons) Bryant of Worcester (Franklin P. Rice, comp., *Worcester Births, Marriages and Deaths* [hereinafter *Worcester VRs*], Collections of the Worcester Society of Antiquity, Vol. 12 [Worcester, 1894], 38; Mass. VRs, 167:303); m. (2) in Worcester 25 Nov. 1875, MABEL OLIVIA (KNOWLES) MORAN of Belfast, Me. (Mass. VRs, 271:367, 273:338), b. in Belfast 24 Jan. 1843, d. of uterine cancer at 33 Harrison St., Newton, Mass., 22 Sept. 1916, aged 73y 7m 29d, daughter of Lafayette⁶ (*Simon*⁵, *John*⁴, *Amos*³, *John*²⁻¹) and Eliza (Crocket) Knowles and widow of Edmund Moran (Virginia Knowles Hufbauer, comp., *Descendants of John Knowles 1660-1978* [La Jolla, Calif., 1979], 104; Mass. Deaths, 1916, 64:158).
Children (surname *Benchley*), by 1st wife: 1. stillborn son. 2. *Howard B.*; by 2d wife: 3. *Walter Knowles*. 4. *Edwin Allen*.
- viii. MARTHA ELIZABETH, b. 15 Jan. 1835; d. of angina pectoris in Tenants Harbor, Me., 26 Aug. 1906, aged 71y 7m 11d (Maine VRs; Suffolk Co. [Mass.] Probate, file 135515); m. in Worcester, Mass., 3 Jan. 1860, EDWARD HAMILTON MURDOCK, salesman of Worcester (Mass. VRs, 137:251, showing his name as Edwin), b. in Winchendon, Mass., 25 March 1831, d. of chronic interstitial nephritis at his home, 22 Rutland Sq., Boston, 7 May 1893, son of Capt. Edward and Philinda (Walker) Murdock (*Vital Records of Winchendon, Massachusetts, To the End of the Year 1849* [Worcester, 1909], 54; Mass. VRs, 438:195).
Children (surname *Murdock*): 1. *Anna Cleveland*. 2. *Louise M. Hamilton*.

- ix. WILLIAM ALLEN, b. 17 March 1836; d. from a fall off a barn in Millbury 29 Sept. 1843, aged 7y 6m (*Millbury VRs*, 131).
- x. SUSAN CAROLINE, b. 26 June 1841; d. of consumption in Millbury 7 June 1849, aged 7y 11m 12d (her occupation given as harness maker!) (*ibid.*).
- xi. JULIA ALICE, b. 21 June 1844; d. of abdominal cancer in Worcester 12 Feb. 1893, aged 47y 7m 22d (*Mass. VRs*, 438:766); m. in Worcester 3 Jan. 1867, GEORGE HENRY BOYD of Worcester (*ibid.*, 201:307), Japanner, machinist, and Civil War soldier, b. there 25 May 1847, d. of broncho pneumonia at Holden (Mass.) Hospital, 30 Dec. 1920, son of Henry and Catherine (Davis) Boyd (*Worcester VRs*, 31; *Mass. Deaths*, 1920, 52:588).
Children (surname *Boyd*): 1. *Elizabeth Hamilton M.* 2. *Harry Edwin.* 3. *Anna Louise.*
- xii. MARION ISABEL, b. 29 Sept. 1846; d. of whooping cough in Millbury 21 Sept. 1847, aged 11m 29d [*sic*] (*Millbury VRs*, 131).

27. ARNOLD POWER⁴ BENCHLEY (*Stafford Stukeley*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{A-B}) was born 13 September 1800 in Smithfield, Rhode Island, and he died 9 April 1860 in Lowell, Massachusetts, aged 59 years, 5 months, and 17 days (WKB; *Mass. VRs*, 139:114; *Boston Evening Transcript*, 10 April 1860, p. 2).

Arnold married in Sutton, Massachusetts, 13 May 1827, ANN MARBLE (*Vital Records of Sutton, Massachusetts, To the end of the year 1849* [Worcester, 1907], 211; WKB gives 12 May 1826). She was born in Sutton 21 April 1802 and died of a dislocated wrist and hip at [3?] Linden Street, Fitchburg, Massachusetts, 15 February 1880, the daughter of Captain Samuel⁵ (*Alpheus*⁴, *Enoch*³, *Freegrace*², *Samuel*¹) and Mehitable (Putnam) Marble (WKB; *Mass. VRs*, 321:370; Rev. William A. Benedict and Rev. Hiram A. Tracy, *History of the Town of Sutton, Massachusetts, From 1704 to 1876* [Worcester, 1878], 688). In his undated will filed 12 October 1849, Samuel Marble of Millbury named his daughter Ann Benchley and one of the witnesses was J. H. Benchley, Ann's brother-in-law (Worcester Co. Probate, Series A, file 38626).

Arnold and Ann lived most of their married lives in Millbury, where they were first enumerated in 1830 (1830 Census, p. 169, listing the name as "Benseley"). In 1840 "Power" Benchley was engaged in manufacturing and trade and he was a gunsmith in 1850 (1840 Census, p. 260; 1850 Census, p. 64, #77-88). Arnold soon moved to Lowell, where he continued his armorer business and lived at 1 Vine Street (Lowell city directories).

Although he was not a church member, Arnold Benchley usually attended the Universalist Church in Worcester. Politically he was a "Native American" and he was a member of the Royal Arch Masons. He apparently served in the local militia, holding the rank of musician in 1820, ensign in 1830, and lieutenant in 1832 (WKB).

His obituary in the *Boston Evening Transcript* states that Arnold was formerly of Worcester and had lived many years in Millbury, where he was "well known." He died after falling from a second-story window of the gun factory on Willey Street.

Ann M. Benchley and son George H. were enumerated in Ward 5 of Lowell in 1860 (1860 Census, p. 814, #2608-3383). They appear to have lived together until her death.

Children, born in Millbury, Mass. (WKB; *Millbury VRs*, 12), surname *Benchley*:

- i. ORRIN⁵, b. 9 Dec. 1831; d. perhaps in New Hampshire before 1855, as he was not listed with his wife in the 1855 Mass. State Census; machinist in Millbury when he m. in Grafton 13 April 1851, NANCY F. AIKEN [Aitkens?] of Warner, N.H. (Mass. VRs, 56:203), b. in Fisherville, Warner, or Maracknot, N.H., July 1830, d. of mitral regurgitation in the House of Providence, Holyoke, Mass., 19 Feb. 1906, aged 76, daughter of Samuel and Anna (Trap) Aiken (Mass. Deaths, 1906, 45:550, 82:333).

Children (surname *Benchley*): 1. *Frank E.* 2. *Frederick A.*

- ii. GEORGE HENRY, b. 7 March 1843; d. unmarried, of mitral disease, at his residence, rear 150 Washington St., Westwood, Mass., 18 Jan. 1920, aged 76y 10m 11d, mechanic, Civil War soldier, and railroad clerk (Civil War Pension file C2554338; Mass. Deaths, 1920, 107:85; Norfolk Co. Probate file 58367).

28. GEORGE ARNOLD⁴ BENCHLEY (*Stafford Stukeley*³, *William*²⁻¹, *Robert*^{A-B}) was born 19 April 1810 in Smithfield, Rhode Island, and he died 17 June 1836 in Savannah, Georgia (WKB).

George B. Benchley and RACHEL WESTON BOWE, both of Cape Elizabeth, were married in Scarborough, Maine, 23 September 1832 (Scarborough VRs, 1817-1879, p. 41, microfilm, Maine State Archives, Augusta; the marriage intention, recorded in South Portland VRs [p. 6], 2 June 1832, shows his name as George A. Benchley; Brown Thurston, comp., *1635-1892 Thurston Genealogies* [hereinafter *Thurston Gens.*], 2d ed. [Portland, Me., 1892], 306, shows his name as "George Angell Bensley"; daughter Ruth's death record shows her father as George A. Bensley, b. Mass., and her mother as Rachel Rowe, b. Saco, Me.). Rachel was born in Saco, Maine, about 1811 or 1812, or about December 1808, and she died in Saco 21 March 1875, aged 66 years and 3 months (Saco Deaths, p. 12; 1860 Census, Ward 7 of Portland, p. 455, #1631-2083, gives her age as 48). She was possibly the daughter of Nathaniel or Alexander Bowe/Boey, both of whose Cape Elizabeth households had a female under 10 years in 1810 (1810 Census, p. 337), although neither had a female with them age 10-16 in 1820.

On 12 March 1825 George was apprenticed for six years to his brother James by their father, to learn the machine trade. He later "shipped be-

fore the mast" (WKB). The Thurston genealogy states the Benchleys lived in Cape Elizabeth, but no further record of George has been found in vital, church, land, and estate records. His widow Rachel married, second, in Portland, 27 May 1845, George H. Robbins, house painter of Portland, who was born in Massachusetts about 1822 or 1823 and died of a tumor in Portland 23 April 1880, aged 57. They had two children, born in Portland (surname *Robbins*): Georgiana, 4 September 1846, and Mary H., 19 September 1850 (Portland VRs, microfilm, Maine State Archives).

Children, recorded in Portland (Portland Births, 5:91, microfilm, Maine State Archives, showing their name as Bensley), surname *Benchley*:

- i. RUTH HEALY⁵, b. 28 or 29 July 1833 in Scarborough; d. of apoplexy in Newington, N.H., 7 March 1907, aged 73y 7m 8d; of Saco when she m. there 12 March 1856, ALBION KEITH PARRIS GOOGINS, b. in Saco 29 Dec. 1827, d. of old age in Newington 3 Nov. 1906, aged 78y 11m 4d, son of Nathaniel⁴ (*David*³, *John*², *Patrick*¹) and Lucy (Thurston) Googins, seaman, farmer, town clerk of East Hiram, Me. (Saco mars.; *Thurston Gens.*, 306; Charlotte H. Googins, *The Googins Family in America* [Portland, Me., 1914], 19, giving his first middle name as King; NHVRs show he was born in Old Orchard, Me.).
Children (surname *Googins*): 1. *Mary Louisa*. 2. *Edith Cressey*. 3. *Fred Carlton*.
- ii. JANE W[ESTON?], b. 23 May 1835; no further record found.

[Concluded]

ADDENDUM

ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO BENCHLEY-BENSLEY FAMILY IN REGISTER VOLUME 142 [1988]

- Page 184, line 49. *After 493 add* and as "Betsey Bensley" when they were also listed in the census for North Providence (1870 Census, p. 365, #571-937).
- Page 186, line 40. *After 1858 add* [obit. card file, HCHS]
- Page 192, line 34. *After where add* they bought a lot in 1848 and where
- Page 192, line 36. *After (add* Livingston Co. Deeds, 45:15-16;
- Page 192, line 40. *For He and Rebina substitute* In 1860 the Bensley's farm in Geneseo was worth \$2300 and Mary St. John still lived with them (1860 Census, p. 444, #301-298). They sold their lot in 1869 (Livingston Co. Deeds, 69:13) and
- Page 194, line 11. *For 3-obit. card file, HCHS substitute 3* [obit. card file, HCHS]
- Page 281, lines 6 and 7. *For cem. card file, HCHS substitute* grave marker shows in his 77th yr
- Page 281, lines 14 and 15. *For 20 Sept. 1844 [cem. card file, HCHS] substitute 23 Sept. 1814* in her 53d yr
- Page 281, lines 20 and 21. *Omit from before through) and substitute* on 29 January 1815 in Newport ("Sherman Woosters Book of Accounts with the town of New Port And

- for some Other records & Entering Marriages &c &c," p. 73, No. 35, in possession of Newport Village Historian Margery Foss).
- Page 281, line 22. *For* 6 March 1853, aged 85, *substitute* 6 February 1853, in her 85th year,
- Page 281, lines 24-27. *Omit from* Charlotte *through* showing *and substitute* Claude Willis Barlow, *John Steevens of Guilford, Connecticut* [Worcester, Mass., n.d.], 162, showing Jane b. 1768, d. 1753, m. _____ Blatchley; Wm. S. Benchley diary, 6 Feb. 1853; grave marker incorrectly shows she d. 6 March 1853 and gives
- Page 284, lines 3 and 4. *Omit and substitute* Joseph and his wives were buried in Newport Village Cemetery, where their inscriptions are together on one marker with son Pardon.
- Page 284, line 13. *For* (1) _____ *substitute* (1) Prudence Perry
- Page 284, lines 19 and 20. *Omit after ; and substitute* (grave marker)
- Page 284, line 21. *Omit from* 1808 *through* HCHS) *and substitute* 11 June 1808; d. 9 June 1882 (grave marker)
- Page 284, line 22. *After* Co. *add* 12 July
- Page 284, line 46. *After* Newport *add* Village
- Page 284, line 47. *After* (*add* *ibid*;
- Page 284, line 48. *After* b. *add* 24 Sept
- Page 284, line 49. *For* cem. card file, HCHS *substitute* grave marker
- Page 285, lines 1 and 2. *Omit from* N.Y. *through* HCHS *and substitute* Cohoes, Albany Co., N.Y., 5 Nov. 1849, d. of scleroderma in Dansville, N.Y., 29 Oct. 1889, aged 39y 11m 29d [sic], daughter of George and Eva M. (Pike) Miller (N.Y. Deaths, 1889, #38240; grave marker
- Page 285, lines 4 and 5. *Omit from* ca. *through* files) *and substitute* 7 Aug. 1833; d. of "La Grippe tending to pneumonia" at "The Crouse" on Warren St., Syracuse, N.Y., 11 April 1891, aged 57y 8m 4d (NY Deaths, 1891, #14996);
- Page 285, line 6. *After* 1878, *add* as his 2d wife,
- Page 285, line 7. *After* Syracuse *add* , physician
- Page 285, line 8. *Omit from ; through* settled *and substitute* b. in Pompey, N.Y., 19 Oct. 1818, d. of mitral insufficiency of the heart in Lysander, Onondaga Co., N.Y., 19 Feb. 1908, aged 89y 4m, son of Hezekiah W. and Lois (Field) Stevens (NY Deaths, 1908, #8561; Dwight H. Bruce, *Onondaga's Centennial*, 2 vols. [(Boston), 1896], 2:2:370)
- Page 285, line 9. *For* ca. 4 *substitute* 6
- Page 285, line 11. *After* 29d *add* [sic]
- Page 285, line 12. *For* cem. card file, HCHS *substitute* grave marker
- Page 285, line 14. *For* New York, N.Y., 26 June 1894 *substitute* London, Eng., 5 May 1908
- Page 285, line 15. *For* Jessie's *substitute* Elizabeth's
- Page 285, line 15. *For* New York *substitute* Onondaga
- Page 285, line 20. *After* b. *add* 30 Jan
- Page 285, line 23. *Omit from* cem. *and substitute* grave marker shows d. 1892
- Page 285, line 31. *After* N.S.D.A.R. *add* [hereinafter RIDAR]
- Page 285, line 28. *For* W21, 653 *substitute* W21653
- Page 286, line 27. *After* 163). *add* In June 1794 he joined other North Providence residents in a petition for a "durable watering place for Cattle in a dry time between John Sweetings in Attleborough and the Mill Bridge in Providence," suggesting one be "made in Pawtucket by taking the water from near Samuel Healey's Cellar and carrying it in Logs or otherways about one hundred and fifty feet to a suitable place over Sergeant's Trench so called" (North Providence Miscellaneous Papers, Box 21).
- Page 287, line 7. *For* July *substitute* January
- Page 287, line 15. *After* 362 *add* ; Miscellaneous Papers, Box 8

- Page 289, line 8. *For 14 substitute 11*
 Page 289, line 41. *After Maria add Harriet*
 Page 290, line 25. *After 76 add ; North Providence Miscellaneous Papers, Box 8*
 Page 292, line 12. *For industry substitute industr[ious]ly*
 Page 292, line 24. *For Benchley substitute Benchly*
 Page 294, lines 26 and 27. *For New York Branch substitute Northeast Region*
 Page 294, line 41. *For War substitute War[e]*
 Page 372, line 27. *After d. add of old age,*
 Page 372, line 28. *For 78 (RI Deaths, 1895, p. 625) substitute 78y 5m 22d [sic] (Bristol Deaths, 5:154; grave marker, North Cemetery, Bristol, gives birthdate)*
 Page 372, line 30. *For ca. substitute 3 March*
 Page 372, line 31. *After #204-282 add ; grave marker*
 Page 373, line 14. *After 281). add Among the surviving Seneca tax lists for the 1810s and 1820s, he appears only in 1821, as "John" Benchley, occupying forty acres owned by J. Lee (Seneca Assesment for 1821, p. 7, Ontario Co. Records Center).*
 Page 382, line 14. *After (2) add after 1871, as his 2d wife,*
 Page 382, line 15. *For in Texas; m. (3) [after 1883?] substitute , b. in Brimfield, Ohio, 20 April 1834, d. at his residence, 1704 South Bonnie Brae St., Los Angeles, Calif., 25 Sept. 1919, divorced in Cook Co., Ill., 30 June 1883 (Civil War Pension file W.O. 1149418); m. (3)*
 Page 382, line 28. *Omit 1859 and substitute 30 June 1859, aged 11 (grave marker)*
 Page 382, line 36. *For Child; d. before 1875 substitute RALPH, b. ca. Sept. 1856; d. 24 July 1859, aged 2y 10m (grave marker)*
 Page 385, line 3. *For his substitute Sanford's*

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- Page 57, lines 4 and 5. *Omit from cem. through -1821) and substitute grave marker, Newport Village Cemetery, shows b. 1832*
 Page 57, line 12. *For cem. card file, HCHS, substitute grave marker*
 Page 60, line 19. *For [BROWN?] substitute B[ROWN?]*

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