

PETER GIBBONS

A short narrative of my life. My father was an only son and he lived in Boston and he was a ship joiner and got his living by his trade. He married Elizabeth Warrin who was my mother. They had two children, a son and a daughter, the son died when he was a child before his father died. My father catching the smallpox died with it and left my mother pregnant with me which was about Christmas 1729. My mother taking the smallpox had it very hard but got well and went from Boston to her father's in Waltham where I was born the 9th of April 1730 which was about three months and a half after the death of my father.

When I was about six months old my Aunt How came to visit her parents soon after she had lost her sucking child and having no other child she took me and brought me home with her and suckled me six months longer and became mother to me and I always called her mother. She was a kind mother to me and so was father as kind, he kept me in his care until I was almost 17 then he bound me to John Bradish in Hardwick to learn the trade of tanning and shoemaking. When I was 16 father sold his farm at Westborough and moved to Brookfield and let me out for that summer to a farmer in Westborough where I broke my ankle and became a cripple and so I lost the summer. In the fall I went to him to Brookfield, he had agreed with Bradish to take me as an apprentice. I went to him in Jan. 24th 1747. My sister dying the December following I was left alone, no more of the name left but my mother and she lived in Boston. I am so slow and blind, I make a great many mistakes, my mind runs faster than my pen. But to proceed. When my time was out with Bradish I worked at shoemaking the main of the summer and in the fall I was married to Sarah Green sister to Bradish's wife, and father How gave me 12 acres of land in Hardwick from a lot of land he had joining to Bradish's land and gave me timber to make a hued log house and allowed me to get rails to fence my land and shingle timber to shingle my house and a shop which I built afterwards and when I went to Brookfield to visit them I was never sent home empty while they lived and had I not a kind father and mother? and their children have used me as a brother and make me presents and come to visit me and write to me those that are yet living and had I not kind Brethren and Sisters? Well, after I had built me a small house I went to work at my trade the main of the time and gained property so fast that when I was six and twenty I thought I was doing well and gaining property so as to be forehanded and was going to set up tanning the next spring but old Serjeant Church coming to Hardwick the winter following invited me to come and settle this lot and I refused it but he got my wife engaged to go into the woods and then both of them worried me out and got me to yield to come and settle on this rocky mountain and that just undid me and when I got here I was as poor as poverty itself. I was deceived by the old man. He told me that he knew to be false in recommending the land to be better than it was. However, I had got into the woods and a howling wilderness it was. No roads in no direction to lead anywhere but by marked trees. The first summer I had to hire my team work when I could get it and sometimes it came to nothing, and when it did well the vermin of the woods destroyed half of it, no other field for them, and so I worked at shoemaking to support my family for a number of years. But I kept clearing my land yearly and I gained slowly and in about eleven years I built a 26 feet barn and I cut hay and grain enough to fill it, and had stock enough to eat it and in fifteen years I built me a house so that I lived in it and kept a finishing it and adding to it as I was able and I got to live tolerably comfortable and ride a good horse

and not wear myself out running afoot as I used to do, and my boys began to help forward business and my stock increased both cattle and horses. But the Revolutionary War coming on put a check to my business. My boys instead of helping me I had to support them in the war, and I was crowded too much, but I lived it through and in the year 1780 I was surveyor of highways and obliged to keep the roads open so as people could travel or pay a fine, and that made some of my district angry with me, but I got along through with that job and in the year 1780 I spent ten days and did no other work. The snow was kept blowing into the path and I kept them treading till it was full and then it blew over the path and then I had no more trouble with it, and in the year 1782 the town put me in constable and made me collect them two great which the mob party was so much against paying, but I got through with that job too and I am alive yet, but it cost me five years trouble but I lived it through that time also, and I am still living and in good health. But I met with some frowns of Providence. In the time of the Revolutionary War I had got so forehanded as to own two pairs of cattle, one pair four years old and the other three years old and in eight months I had but one ox. One three years came to the door in February and found a wilted turnip and that killed him and the man that said he could clear him killed him in the operation, and in September the boys went to bring out the oxen and I told them not to bring them through the orchard but they did not mind me, and a man stood there said he could slip the apple into his mouth and I let him try and he made such a violent push as to put the apple where we never could find it till after the ox was dead, then we found it crowded under his under jaw. I bought another ox to mate the ox that was left. So I had a yoke of oxen and two horses and so I had a small team and so I got along, and after that I kept a team until Eli undertook to take care of me, and then the land which was in a few years reduced down to twenty acres which I hold yet and intend to hold it as long as I live for Eli takes no care to save it. I have to take upon credit all I want except my victuals and I have chosen a man to care for me, and I expect he will be faithful to me. I have found him so yet.

A Record of my family as near as I can get i t.
 I, Peter Gibbons, was born April 20, 1730.
 Sarah, my wife, born Jan. 31, 1731.
 Elisabeth, my oldest child, born Nov. 7, 1752.
 Peter Gibbons 2nd born August 1, 1754.
 Lemuel Gibbons, born October 1, 1756.
 Bildad Gibbons, born February 2, 1759.
 Mary and Sarah, twins, born Dec. 31, 1760. Died Dec. 31, 1760.
 Timothy Gibbons, born Feb. 22, 1762.
 Sarah Gibbons, born May 5, 1764.
 Eli Gibbons, born Aug 28, 1767.
 Jedidiah How Gibbons, born Feb. 18, 1770.
 Mary Gibbons, born Aug. 1, 1772.
 Hannah Gibbons, born Apr. 5, 1775.

A list of my Gra ndchildren.

Peter's children are:

Oliver Gibbons, born Feb. 25, 1780.
 Hannah Gibbons, born Oct. 5, 1781.
 Peter Gibbons 3rd., born Sept. 10, 1783.
 Warrin Gibbons, born Oct. 17, 1785.
 Derrick Gibbons, born Aug. 19, 1737.
 Lois Gibbons, born Nov. 19, 1789.
 Miles Gibbons, born Oct. 3, 1791.

Lemuel's children are:

Amelia Gibbons, born June 5, 1781.
 William D. Gibbons, born Aug. 27, 1783.
 ---en G. Gibbons, born 179-.
 Lemuel Gibbons, born 1797.

is the best account I can get.

Bildad's children:

Bildad Gibbons, born March 13, 1781. Died Apr. 5, 1781.
 Joseph Gibbons, born May 19, 1782.
 Benjamin Gibbons, born Nov. 27, 1785.
 Clarissa Gibbons, born June 23, 1784.
 Sally Gibbons, born Oct. 13, 1787.
 Orle Gibbons, born Nov. 1, 1789.
 Alexander and Anna, twins, born Dec. 1, 1791, and died the same day.
 Norman Gibbons, born Nov. 10, 1792.
 James Gibbons, born Nov. 10, 1792.
 Sylvester Gibbons, born May 13, 1795.
 Phylemely Gibbons, born Feb. 11, 1797, and died Dec. 3, 1817.
 Chorintha Gibbons, born Jan. 24, 1801.
 William Green Gibbons, born Apr. 16, 1805.

Timothy Gibbon's children:

Timothy Gibbons Jr., born Oct. 9, 1783.
 Datus Gibbons, born Dec. 16, 1785.
 Elisabeth Gibbons, Born Aug13, 1787.
 Alpheus Gibbons, born Oct. 7, 1787.
 Affey Gibbons, born Jan 19, 1792, and died June 2, 1821.
 Lucius Gibbons, born June 9, 1794.
 Adah Gibbons, born Oct. 16, 1796.
 Debby Gibbons, born July 27, 1800.

Eli Gibbons' children:

Sophia Gibbons, born March 17, 1791.
 Timothy Wells and Lucy (Kellogg) (Kent) Gibbons, twins, born Apr. 19, 1793.
 Polly Gibbons, born June 9, 1795.
 Nancy Gibbons, born May 1, 1797.
 Ruhamah D. Gibbons, born June 12, 1800.
 Eli Dwight Gibbons, born Apr. 17, 1802. ~~John Green~~
 John Green Gibbons, born July 26, 1804.
 Sarah Jane Gibbons, born July 26, 1808, and died July 15, 1811.
 Henry Benjamin Gibbons, born Aug. 18, 1811.
 Isaac Decatur Gibbons, born Feb. 1, 1815.

Jedediah How Gibbons' children

Carlos Gibbons, born July 12, 1793.
 Damaris Gibbons, born Apr. 13, 1796.
 Phylura Gibbons, born Oct. 25, 1798.
 Amorett Gibbons, born Aug. 20, 1800, and died June 4, 1802.
 Hiram Gibbons, born Sept. 26, 1802.
 Amorett 2nd Gibbons, born Feb. 19, 1804.
 Eliza Gibbons, born Oct. 10, 1806.
 Martha Gibbons, born Jan. 6, 1810, and died July 13, 1810.
 Jedediah Watson Gibbons, born Feb. 18, 1812.

Joseph Gibbons' children:

Henry Champion D. Wolf Gibbons, born Aug. 3, 1781.
 Ruhannah D. Wolf Gibbons, born June 3, 1783
 Jenserel Robinson, born June 5, 1785.
 Joseph D. Wolf Gibbons, born Apr. 6, 1787.
 Sally D. Wolf Gibbons, born Mar. 10, 1789.
 Catty D. Wolf Gibbons, born Nov. 6, 1790/
 Horatio D. Wolf Gibbons, born May 31, 1793.
 Elisabeth D. Wolf Gibbons, born Feb. 24, 1796, and died Dec. 27, 1812.

All recorded in Granby

Adaline D. Wolf Gibbons, born Mar. 12, 1802.
 Samuel D. Wolf Gibbons, born Jan. 22, 1804.
 Amanda D. Wolf Gibbons, born Apr. 22, 1806.
 Louisa D. Wolf Gibbons, born Mar. 27, 1797.
 Eli D. Wolf Gibbons, born Mar. 19, 1799.

Benoni Buttles' children:

Temperence Buttles, born Sept. 15, 1797, and died Aug. 31, 1798.
 Tempe Buttles, born Feb. 17, 1799.
 Polly Buttles, born May 1, 1800.
 Hannah Phelph Buttles, born Mar. 15, 1802.
 Sarah Buttles, born May 2, 1804.
 Joel Buttles, born Feb. 11, 1806.
 Anson Post, Buttles, born Oct. 1, 1807., and died Oct. 1, 1808.

Edward Final's children:

Hervey Final, born Aug. 13, 1783.
 Luther Final, born Sept. 15, 1785.
 Calvin Final, born July 21, 1787.
 Sally G. Final, born June 23, 1789.
 Almond Final, born July 15, 1791.
 Betsey Final, born Dec. 26, 1793.
 Lydia Final, born Feb. 21, 1796.
 Polly Final, born Aug. 15, 1798.
 Emarilla Final, born Sept. 18, 1800.
 Edward Final, born June 21, 1803.
 Edward Final found dead June 19, 1821. I make many mistakes for want of sight and memory. I hope you will overlook them. I do as well as I can. I hope you will find out what I mean. This I wrote when I was 92 years and 5 months old. Granville Sept. 30, 1822.

Cowdry.

Jedediah How Gibbons married Elizabeth Cowdry, daughter of Moses Cowdrey and granddaughter of Nathaniel Cowdrey who came from England

Peter Gibbons

A Short Narrative of My Life.

My father was an only son and he lived in Boston and he was a ship-joiner and got his living by his trade.

He married Elizabeth Warren, who was my mother. They had two children, a son and a daughter, the son died when he was a child, before his father died. My father, catching the small-pox, died with it, and left my mother pregnant with me, which was about Christmas 1729. My mother, taking the small-pox, had it very bad, but got well and went from Boston to her father's in Waltham, where I was born the 9th of April 1730, which was about 3 months and a half after my father died.

When I was about six months old, my Aunt How came to visit her parents soon after she had lost her sucking child, and having no other child, she took me and brought me home with her and suckled me six months longer and became mother to me and I always called her mother. She was a kind mother to me, and so was father as kind, he kept me in his care until I was almost seventeen, then he bound me to John Bradish in Hardwick to learn the trade of tanning and shoe making. When I was 16, father sold his farm at Westborough and moved to Brookfield, and let me out that summer to a farmer in Westborough where I broke my ankle and became a cripple, and so I had ~~agreed~~ lost the summer. In the fall, I went to him to Brookfield, he had agreed with Bradish to take me as an apprentice. I went to him in January 24, 1747.

My sister dying the December, ~~following~~ following, I was left alone, no more of the name left but my mother and she lived in Boston. I am so slow and blind, that I make a great many mistakes. My mind runs faster than my pen. But to proceed.

When my time was out with Bradish, I worked at shoe-making the main of the time, and in the fall I was married to Sarah Greene, sister to Bradish's wife, and father How gave me 12 acres of land in Hardwick from a lot of land he had joining Bradish's land, and gave me timber to make a hewed log home and allowed me to get rails ~~to which I built~~ to fence my land, and shingle timber to shingle my house and a shop which I built afterwards, and when I went to Brookfield I was never sent home empty while they lived, and had I not a kind father and mother? And their children have used me as a brother, and call me brother and make me presents and come to visit me, and write to me, those that are yet living, and had I not kind Brethren and Sisters?

Well, after I had built me a small house, I went to work at my trade the main of the time and gained property so fast that when I was six and twenty I thought I was doing well and gained property so as to be forehanded and was going to set up tanning the next spring, but old Sergeant Church coming to Hardwick the winter following, invited me to come and settle this lot and I refused it, but he got my wife engaged to go into the woods and then both of them worried me out and got my to yield to come and settle on this rocky mountain, and that just undid me, and when I got here I was as poor as poverty itself. I was deceived by the old man. He told me what he knew to be false in recommending the land to be better than it was. However, I had got into the woods, and a howling wilderness it was. No roads in no direction to lead anywhere but by marked trees. The first summer, had to hire my team work when I could get it and some times it come to nothing and when it did well the vermin of the woods destroyed half of it, no other field for them, and so I worked at shoemaking to support my family for a number of years.

But I kept clearing my land yearly, and I gained slowly, and in about eleven years I built a 26 ft. barn and I cut hay and grain

enough to fill it, and had stock enough to eat it, and in 15 years I built me a house so that I lived in it and kept a finishing and adding to it as I was able, and I got to live tolerably comfortable, and ride a good horse, and not wear myself out running a foot as I used to do, and my boys began to help forward business, and my stock increased, both cattle and horses. But the Revolutionary War coming on, put a check to my business. My boys, instead of helping me, I had to support them in the War, and I was crowded too much, but I lived it through, and in the year 1780 I was surveyor of highways and obliged to keep the roads open so as people could travel, or pay a fine, and that made some of my district angry with me, but I got along through with that job, and in the year 1780 I spent ten days and did no other work. The snow was kept blowing into the path and I kept then a treading it till it was full and then it blew over the path and I then had no more trouble with it, and in the year 1782 the town put me in constable and made me collect them two great x x x which the mob party was so much against paying, but I got through with that job too, and I am alive yet, but it cost me five years trouble but I lived it through that time also and I am still living and in good health. But I met with some frowns of Providence. In the time of the Revolutionary War I had got so far rehanded as to own two pairs of cattle One pair four years old and the other three years and in eight months I had but one ox. One three years came to the the door in February and found a wilted turnip and that killed him, and the man that said he could clear him, killed him in the operation. And in September the boys went to bring out the oxen, and I told them not to bring them through the orchard but they did not mind me and a man stood there said he could slip the apple into his mouth and I let him try and he made such a violent push as to put the apple where we never could find it till after the ox was dead, then we found it crowded under his under jaw. I bought

another ox to mate the one that was left. So I had a yoke of oxen and two horses and so I had a small team and so I got along, and after that I kept a team until Eli undertook to take care of me, and then the land which was in a few years reduced down to twenty acres, which I hold yet and intend to hold it as long as I live for Eli takes no care to save it. I have to take up on credit all I want, except my victuals, and I have chosen a man to care for me and I expect he will be faithful to me. I have found him so yet.

Peter Gibbons
