

ISAAC CLEWLEY, FATHER AND SON

By MRS. ROYCE E. LORD, of Bangor, Maine

The Clewley name is identified with four New England communities: "Clewley's Corner" in Roxbury and "Clewley Street" in Malden, Mass.; "Clewleyville" in Holden, and by a settlement in Stockton Springs, Maine.

JOSEPH CLEWLEY (CLULY) was in Boston, Mass., as early as 1710 and was living in May 1742, but no record of his origin, his birth and death have been found. He married first, 6 April 1710, Mr. Ebenezer Pemberton (Presbyterian) officiating, MARY HARRAD;¹ and secondly, 3 May 1722, Mr. Joseph Sewall (Presbyterian) officiating, ELIZABETH BARBER.²

"At a meeting of the Selectmen Aug. 30, 1732 (Charlestown, Mass.) Petition for Tavernors allowed and Recommended viz—Joseph Clewley³ . . ." "July 27, 1733 Tavernors allowed Liberty to Revoue their Licences viz—Joseph Clewley to Hanover St."⁴

"The Town of Roxbury, Its Memorable Persons & Places, Old Landmarks & Noted Personages", by Francis S. Drake, states: "Returning to Walnut Avenue, formerly Back Street, and anciently the Way to the Great Lotts, next Gamblin's End, and so to Rocky Swamp, our starting point, is the locality once known as Clewley's Corner where were formerly two grist-mills." Clewley's lot extended from the school land at the corner of Walnut Avenue (Mead's orchard) to Circuit Street and up the hill to Fountain Street. His house stood at the corner of Mount Warren. In 1737 Joseph Clewley petitioned the town for a small strip of land, having, as he says "Purchased a grist mill with design to serve his good neighbors as well as himself, and so finds it necessary to build a small granary in order to lay in a supply of grain while ye same is cheapest". In 1741 he was allowed by the town of Boston to remove his grist mill. "May 14, 1742 Nine o'clock the Freeholders and Inhabitants of the Town of Boston being Assembled the Petition of Joseph Clewley read at the opening it was voted that said Joseph Clewley be Allowed to remove his Windmill from Roxbury and Erect the same on Fort Hill at his own

expeuce and in such a place as the Select Men shall appoint and Pay to the Town such a Quit Rent as the Select Men shall think proper, the said Wind Mill to continue there during the pleasure of the Town".⁵

Children by first wife:⁶

- i. JOSEPH, b. in 1711.
- ii. JOHN, b. in 1712. He bought a house in 1758 of Tabitha Newhall, Malden, Mass.
- iii. MARY, b. 10 Feb. 1714; m. 18 Jan. 1832, Mr. Elisha Callendar officiating (Presbyterian), NATHANIEL MASTON (*Boston Record Commissioner Reports*, vol. 28, p. 178).
- iv. ELIZA, b. in 1716.
- v. THOMAS, b. in 1719.
- vi. ANN, b. 31 May 1721; m. 6 Aug. 1742, Rev. Jeremiah Condy officiating, WILLIAM JONES (*ibid.*, p. 250).

Children by second wife:⁷

- vii. WILLIAM, b. 17 Jan. 1723.
- viii. SARAH, b. 1 July 1724; m. WILLIAM REYNOLDS.⁸
- ix. BENJAMIN, b. 3 Aug. 1726.
- x. REBECKAH, b. 4 March 1728.
- xi. ABRAHAM (twin), b. 15 Dec. 1729.
2. xii. ISAAC (twin), b. 15 Dec. 1729.

2. ISAAC CLEWLEY (CLULEY), born 15 Dec. 1729, died 4 Nov. 1800.⁹ He married first, in Malden, Mass., 10 Jan. 1754,¹⁰ Rev. J. Emerson officiating, SARAH BURDITT, died in Malden 6 June 1766, aged 28 years, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Burditt;¹¹ and secondly, in 1768,¹² SARAH STIMPSON of Frankfort, who married in 1801 Winthrop Sargent.¹³

Isaac Clewley was buried in the family plot in Mt. Recluse Cemetery, Stockton Springs, Maine. He died just three weeks after his friend and neighbor, Robert Hichborn, who donated the land for the Mt. Recluse Cemetery. They were the first two to be buried there. Later generations have been unable to state with certainty exactly where he was buried, but through intensive search of existing records in various hands, the writer was able to establish the location, procured a marble headstone, and placed it at the grave. Unveiling dedication ceremonies were held 6 June 1958. Six descendants, eleven DAR members and five invited guests attended the event at which time a SAR marker was placed, and a tribute was read to this pioneer settler and officer of the Revolution. The cemetery is located near his homestead on the road to Fort Pownal and Fort Point Light, Maine.

D. P. Corey's *History of Malden*, p. 704, states: "Isaac Clewley, private, with Capt. Ebenezer Marrowe's Company March-November 1758". In May 1759 a force of 400 men left Boston and on arrival at Fort Point Harbor in Maine under Governor Pownal's instructions built a Fort completed in July 1759. Joseph P. Martin, a Revolutionary soldier and son-in-law of Isaac Clewley, drew a plan of the Fort and

described it in Williamson's *History of Maine*, vol. 2, p. 336. Isaac Clewley came with Governor Pownal, helped construct the Fort and remained as a member of the Garrison.

On 12 Oct. 1767 he signed a petition to Governor and Council of Massachusetts "requesting a minister at Fort Pownal". In 1774 he was on the last payroll of the Garrison at Fort Pownal under Capt. Thomas Goldthwaite before it was dismantled.¹⁴ The "Wast Book" of Fort Pownal is a book of accounts kept by Francis Archibald, bookkeeper and son-in-law of Col. Thomas Goldthwaite, commander of the Fort in 1772. The book covers a period, 1772-1777, and has many entries for Isaac Clewley. The Fort at this time was a trading post. This book, if still in existence, has not been located (THE REGISTER, vol. 90, p. 85).

"Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War", vol. 3, states: "Clewley, Isaac. Lieutenant Capt. Benjamin Shute's (4th) Co., Col. Josiah Brewer's (Penobscot) regt.; list of officers of Massachusetts militia, dated Penobscot, July 1, 1776; ordered in council July 20, 1776 that a commission be issued; reported commissioned July 20, 1776."

Lincoln Decds, vol. 7, folio 239: "Isaac Clewley, ship-carpenter, for 10 pounds paid by Andrew Grant of Jeremysquam, sells land on Penobscot, 100 acres, with house and improvements, being the same lot of land granted to me by heirs of Brig. Samuel Waldo, deceased, being given on condition that I build a house not less than 20 ft x 16 ft, a 7 ft. studd, and clear five acres of land within six years from 1 March 1770 and which is bounded as follows: N. E. on Penobscot River and thence 40 rods furtherly on occupation of Thomas Simmons, West on land under no improvement and there measures 40 rods. North on land improved by T. Goldthwait, which land contains 100 acres. The said Grant having completed the conditions of the heirs of Brig. Waldo as before said is to have the granted house and land to him, his heirs and executors, etc. . . ." signed 11 Sept. 1770 by Isaac Clewley. The Waldo Proprietors granted 2,700 acres in the region of Fort Pownal on agreement that there would be a settlement of 30 families, a minister, and chapel. On a petition from Penobscot River to the General Court in 1777 a signer was "Lieut. Isaac Clewley" ("Bangor Historical Magazine," vol. 4, p. 12). By 1784 there were 24 families in Prospect. In 1789 Robert Hitchborn purchased what is now known as Cape Jellison, Stockton Springs, and he sold an undivided half for the committee on sale of unappropriated lands of Lincoln County. In 1790 Isaac Clewley bought 76 acres of this land,¹⁵ which became his homestead, and where he continued his occupation as ship's carpenter and farmer. Prospect was incorporated in 1794 and at the first town meeting, 7 April 1794, Isaac Clewley was chosen to fill an office.¹⁶

Between 1790 and 1800 there were many shipyards building vessels and schooners, and Isaac Clewley's name is in many of these records as ship's carpenter and builder. The *History of Gouldsboro, Maine*, mentions the "ship Java built for Capt. Isaac Clewley of Prospect".

Children by first wife:¹⁷

3. i. ISAAC, b. in Malden, Mass., 11 July 1755.
- ii. SARAH, b. 17 Dec. 1757. A Sarah Clewley m. 6 March 1796 Thomas Wadsworth.
- iii. DORCAS, b. 7 Aug. 1761; m. 6 Oct. 1785 THOMAS HOPPIN, JR., of Charlestown, Mass.¹⁸
- iv. DANIEL, b. 28 July 1763.
- v. A DAUGHTER, d. in 1766, aged 3 months and buried with her mother in Malden.

Children by second wife:¹⁹

- vi. ELIZABETH, b. 12 Feb. 1769; m. 16 July 1789, Benjamin Shute, Esq., officiating, JOHN CLIFFORD.
Children (surname *Clifford*):
 1. *Elizabeth* (triplett), b. 10 April 1790; d. 12 April 1790.
 2. *Mary* (triplett), b. 10 April 1790; d. 22 April 1790.
 3. *Elizabeth* (triplett), b. 10 April 1790; m. 17 March 1808 Hugh Ross. Child: (a) Capt. Andrew McGilvery, m. Lucy Merithew, and had Blanche, Martha Jane, Henrietta Lucy, Rebecca Merithew, Emily Jackson, and Lucy True.
 4. *Sarah*, b. 2 April 1793; m. in 1809 Sheppard Blanchard.
 5. *John*, b. 23 March 1795; d. 3 July 1795.
 6. *Catherine*, b. 14 Aug. 1796; d. 18 Nov. 1799.
 7. *Abigail*, b. 5 Jan. 1799; m. 1 Jan. 1822 Nathan Stowers.
 8. *Catherine*, b. 3 Dec. 1800; m. in September 1822 David Nickels.
 9. *Susanna*, b. 20 Nov. 1802; m. (1), 28 Sept. 1826, John Gilmore; m. (2), Deca. ——— Baker.
 10. *Mary*, b. 17 April 1805; m. in 1823 James Blanchard.
 11. *Jonathan*, b. 26 Nov. 1808; m. in 1832 Susan B. French.
 12. *Frances*, b. 28 Jan. 1812; d. in 1887; m. Zethan Shute.
 13. *John*, b. 19 Sept. 1814; d. 12 June 1837.
- vii. MARY, b. 12 Dec. 1771; m. 28 July 1791 SAMUEL YOUNG, a Revolutionary soldier.
- viii. JOSEPH, b. 25 Jan. 1774; m. 29 Nov. 1795 JENNEY DICKEY.
Children:
 1. *Joseph*, b. in 1796.
 2. *Sarah*, b. in 1797.
 3. *Mary*, b. in 1798.
 4. *Jane*, b. in 1801.
 5. *Harriet*, b. in 1802.
 6. *Eleanor*, b. in 1804.
 7. *Eliza*, b. in 1805.
 8. *John*, b. in 1807.
 9. *Lucy*, b. in 1809.
 10. *Margaret*, b. in 1810.
 11. *James*, b. in 1811.
 12. *Malvina*, b. in 1813.
- ix. LUCY, b. 24 Jan. 1775; m. 22 May 1794 JOSEPH P. MARTIN,²⁰ noted writer, poet, artist, Revolutionary soldier, and town clerk of Prospect, Maine.

Children (surname *Martin*):

1. *William*, b. in 1794.
 2. *Susannah*, b. in 1795; d. in 1812.
 3. *Lucy*, b. in 1798.
 4. *Joseph*, b. in 1801.
 5. *Thomas Goldthwait*, b. in 1802.
 6. *Thomas Goldthwait* (twin), b. in 1805.
 7. *Nathan* (twin), b. in 1805.
 8. *James Sullivan*, b. in 1810.
 9. *Susannah P.*, b. in 1814.
- x. **WILLIAM**, b. 1 Dec. 1777; m. 4 Dec. 1801, Ebenezer Price officiating, **JANE PORTER**. William was a well-known sea captain, part owner in "the tide-mill", and the first keeper of Fort Point Light. He and his son, Capt. Robert Clewley, continued to live on the old homestead.
- Children:
1. *Isaac*, b. in 1802.
 2. *Sally*, b. in 1804.
 3. *Polly*, b. in 1807.
 4. *William*, b. in 1808.
 5. *Capt. Robert*, b. in 1811; m. *Celia* ———. Children:
 - (a) *James*, d. aged 6.
 - (b) *Edna*, b. 11 April 1836; m. ——— Cousins, and had a daughter, *Celia*, who m. *Albert Shute*.
 - (c) *Isaac P.*, b. in 1838; d. in 1855.
 - (d) *Annie*, b. in 1843.
 - (e) *Sarah*, b. and d. in 1845.
 - (f) *William*, d. an infant.
 - (g) *Celia*. *Capt. Robert Clewley's* children were among the first choir singers and were charter members of the Sandy Point Church. *Edna (Clewley) Cousins* played the melodeon for thirty years in this church.
 6. *Amanda Jane*, b. in 1815.

3. **ISAAC CLEWLEY**, born in Malden, Mass., 11 July 1755, died in North Brewer, Maine, 18 Feb. 1839.²¹ He married in Wrentham, Mass., 5 Aug. 1784,²² **ABIAH HAWES**, born 23 Dec. 1760,²³ died 26 Dec. 1839, daughter of Daniel Hawes, Jr., and Abiah Braman. Isaac Clewley and wife Abiah are buried in the North Brewer Cemetery.²⁴

Isaac Clewley was aged ten when his mother died in Malden, and his father went to Maine with Governor Pownall's expedition. His military record gives him as a resident of Wrentham.

Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolutionary War, vol. 3, p. 638, states: "Isaac Clewley. Wrentham [also given Orrington]. Pvt. Capt. Oliver Pond's Co. of minute men, which marched on the alarm of April 19, 1775; service 8 days; Also enlisted Apr 27, 1775 service 3 months 12 days; Also list of men mustered in Suffolk Co., by Nathaniel Barber, muster master dated Boston May 11, 1777; Col. Crane's (artillery) regiment; enlistment 3 years. Also gunner, Capt. Seward's Co., Col. John Crane's (artillery) regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from Mar. 10, 1777 to Dec. 31, 1779; reported as serving 12 months as gunner, 21 months 21 days as Bombardier; promoted to Bombardier Mar. 10, 1778; Also descriptive list of enlisted men dated Capt New Windsor

Jan 12, 1780, age 26 yrs.; stature 5 ft. 8½ in.; complexion light; residence Wrentham; enlisted Nov 28, 1779 by Lt. Price; joined Capt. Thomas Seward's Co. 3d Artillery regt. enlistment, during war; reported re-enlisted; Also Bombardier, Capt. Seward's Co. Col. John Crane's (artillery) regt.; Continental Army pay accounts for service from Jan 1, 1780 to Dec. 31, 1780.

"Cluley, Isaac, Wrentham. Private, Capt. Oliver Pond's Co., Col. Joseph Read regt.; company return dated Sep 25, 1775.

"Cluly, Isaac, Wrentham. List of enlisted into Continental Army as returned by Maj. Metcalf of Col. Wheelock's regt. June 17, 1777; also return of men enlisted into Continental Army from Capt. Samuel Cowell's Co., Col. Benj. Hawe's (4th Suffolk) Co., regt. dated Wrentham Feb 16, 1778; residence Wrentham; enlisted for town of Wrentham; joined Capt. Bailey's Co., Col. John Crane's (artillery) regt.; enlistment 3 yrs. to expire March 1780."

The "Bangor Historical Magazine", vol. 3, p. 45, shows him a Revolutionary pensioner, of Penobscot County, Maine; vol. 6, p. 80, gives a list of his children; and vol. 7, p. 193, shows him a settler of Brewer, Maine, in 1790. Roger Treat's Day-book 1786-90 (Bangor Trading Post) has entries for Isaac Clewley, Jr., vol. 5, p. 93.

The 1790 Census, Orrington, Maine, shows Isaac Clewley with 1 male under 16 and 2 females. The 1800 Census shows him a resident of Holden, Maine, and as coming from Malden, Mass. The New Wrentham Religious Society of Holden, Maine, shows him as on the first list of its members in 1813,²⁵ and town records show him holding office in 1791, 1799-1804 and 1811.

An old newspaper clipping (1905) states: "When Mr Clewley first came to this town [Holden] he built a log house and later a frame house on the lot where George Severance now lives. After living here some years he moved to East Holden and built a frame house about ¼ mile above the East Holden post office on the Bend road. Living here only a few years, he moved his family to North Brewer and built another frame house on what was then called Eaton's Mill Stream. This house is still standing and there it was that he died on Feb. 18, 1839."²⁶ This house is located in North Brewer, a Cape Cod type, modernized, and in 1958 owned by the Houston family.

Children:

- i. WALTON, b. 30 June 1785; d. 5 Aug. 1871; m. (1), JANE TOWNSEND; m. (2), MARY PRAY.

Children, order uncertain:

1. Charles H., b. in August 1809; m. Harriet Roberts, d. in 1887.
2. Flavilla, b. 13 Nov. 1825; m. John Coster (?).
3. Montraville Miles, b. 13 Aug. 1830.

4. *Sarah H.*, b. 13 Aug. 1831; m. Felatus Fletcher (?).
 5. *John C.*, b. 10 June 1838; m. Jane A. Smith.
 6. *Elizabeth J.*, b. 5 Sept. 1838; m. Thomas Hanscom.
 7. *Josiah*, b. 4 Aug. 1839; m. Amanda Parks.
 8. *Valentine*, m. (1), Lucy Orcutt; m. (2), Maranth Hadley.
 9. *Sabrina*, m. Peter Sumner.
 10. *Marcia*, m. Joseph Ring.
 11. *Augustus*, d. in the Army.
 12. *Antha*, m. Charles Giles.
- ii. CYNTHIA, b. 31 Sept. 1788; m. 22 May 1805 ABIA POND.
- iii. SARAH, b. 4 Sept. 1790; m. in 1811 WILLIAMSON JOHNSON.
- iv. DANIEL, b. 30 July 1792; d. 13 Aug. 1797.
- v. ELIZABETH, b. 24 June 1794; d. 4 Oct. 1878; m. 25 April 1815 ELIJAH ORCUTT, son of Emerson Orcutt.¹⁷
 Children (surname *Orcutt*):
1. *Elizabeth*, b. 4 Dec. 1823; d. 5 Dec. 1823.
 2. *Mary W.*, b. 29 Jan. 1828; d. 14 June 1906; m. (1), Ithamar Kenney; m. (2), Frank Roberts. The writer of this article is the granddaughter of Ithamar and Mary (Orcutt) Kenney, being the daughter of Frederick Ithamar and Elizabeth (Crowder) Kenney.
 3. *Andrew*, a Civil War veteran, b. 31 Jan. 1828.
 4. *Olive*, b. 16 May 1830; m. (1), Reuben Estes; m. (2), Frank Roberts, widower of her sister Mary.
 5. *Angeline*, b. in 1831; d. in 1833.
 6. *Benjamin*, b. 3 Dec. 1833; m. Nancy Clewley.
 7. *Elijah*, b. 5 Jan. 1835; d. 19 Sept. 1899; m. Hannah Clewley.
 Children: (a- Annie, (b) Bertie.
- vi. ABIAH, b. 5 July 1796; d. 12 Jan. 1880; m. WING SPOONER.
- vii. ISAAC, b. 7 Sept. 1798; d. 6 March 1879; m. (1), 27 Feb. 1822, MARY WHITE, b. 17 Dec. 1797; m. (2), NANCY RHODES; m. (3), SUSAN KENNEY, b. in 1814, d. 7 Oct. 1860; m. (4), BETSY NICHOLS, b. in 1806, d. 24 Jan. 1880.
 Children:
1. *William*, b. 24 Nov. 1822.
 2. *Mary Adeline*, b. 10 Oct. 1824; m. George Bullock.
 3. *Charles Walton*, b. 6 April 1828.
 4. *Sarah Maria*, b. 21 March 1830; m. Daniel Waite.
 5. *Elisha*.
 6. *Nancy*, m. Benjamin Orcutt.
 7. *Hannah*, b. in 1839; d. in 1916; m. Elijah Orcutt, Jr.
 8. *Martha*, m. Peltiah Ring.
 9. *Emily*, m. Charles Reed.
 10. *Judith*, m. Sanford Bills.
 11. *George*, 1847-1900, m. Louisa (Ring) Lunt who d. in 1917, age 74. Children: (a) Lewis, who had Eleanor and Pauline. (b) George.
 12. *Isaac Elrade*, m. Elfreda Ash. Child: (a) Eugene, father of Isaac E. Clewley, who d. in World War II.
 13. *Alberta*, m. Albert Winslow.
- viii. DORCUS, b. 16 July 1800; d. in 1857; m. ANEUS SINCLAIR.
- ix. DANIEL, b. 27 Sept. 1702; d. in 1884; m. (1), ABIGAIL MERRILL; m. (2), Mrs. ——— BURRILL.
- x. JOHN C., b. 23 Oct. 1805; d. 7 April 1865; m. JANE ANN ORCUTT, d. 13 April 1892, aged 84 years 7 months.
 Children:
1. *Miranda Jane*, b. 7 June 1828; d. in 1876; m. Thomas Gibbs.
 2. *Eleanor Ann*, b. 2 May 1831; m. Russell Day. They had

among others a daughter Alice who m. Lewis E. Clewley, son of George and Louisa (Lunt) Clewley.

3. *Georgianna York*, b. 14 Nov. 1835; m. Frank Smith of Providence, R. I.

4. *John Wesley*, b. 21 Oct. 1842; d. 24 March 1864.

In the seventh generation of the Clewley family is another outstanding Isaac, great-great-grandson of Isaac and Abiah (Hawes) Clewley. Corporal Isaac E. Clewley was the first member of eastern Maine's famed 152d Field Artillery Battalion to die in World War II, one of the first to arrive in the Pacific area of fighting. He died at Munda 31 July 1943, aged 20. The "Isaac E. Clewley Post, VFW of Brewer, Maine" was named in his honor.

REFERENCES

- ¹ *Boston Record Commissioner's Report*, vol. 28, p. 27.
- ² *Ibid.*, p. 105.
- ³ *Ibid.*, vol. 13, p. 220 (Charlestown records).
- ⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 234.
- ⁵ *Ibid.*, vol. 12, pp. 295, 302.
- ⁶ *Ibid.*, vol. 24, pp. 74, 82, 97, 120, 141, 149.
- ⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 154, 164, 175, 180, 191.
- ⁸ *Roxbury Vital Records*, p. 78.
- ⁹ *Boston Record Commissioner's Report*, vol. 24; p. 191; *Malden Vital Records*.
- ¹⁰ *Malden Vital Records*, p. 217.
- ¹¹ *Ibid.*, p. 337; *THE REGISTER*, vol. 97, p. 306.
- ¹² Town Records of Prospect, Maine.
- ¹³ *Ibid.*
- ¹⁴ "Bangor Historical Magazine," vol. 6, p. 106.
- ¹⁵ Hancock Registry Deeds, Book 1, p. 282.
- ¹⁶ Town Records of Prospect, Maine.
- ¹⁷ *Malden Vital Records*, p. 16.
- ¹⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 217.
- ¹⁹ Prospect Vital Statistics; "Bangor Historical Magazine," vol. 9, pp. 166, 189; additional data on grandchildren through the kindness of Mrs. Harriette Levensaler.
- ²⁰ "Bangor Historical Magazine," vol. 9, pp. 171, 202; *THE REGISTER*, vol. 30, p. 330.
- ²¹ Brewer, Maine, Vital Statistics.
- ²² *Wrentham Vital Records*, p. 269.
- ²³ *Ibid.*, p. 119.
- ²⁴ "Bangor Historical Magazine," vol. 6, p. 83; Family Bible records; notes in the possession of the writer of this article; Brewer and Holden town records.
- ²⁵ "Bangor Historical Magazine," vol. 5, p. 91.
- ²⁶ Newspaper clipping through the kindness of Mrs. Elfreda Clewley.
- ²⁷ Eddington Vital Statistics; "Bangor Historical Magazine," vol. 6, p. 83.