History of Edward Garfield

Edward was born about 1604 in England. He married Rebecca Johnson in England. They had five children. The first child was born in Kilsby, Northamptonshire, England and the other four were born in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts.

Edward and Rebecca came from Kilsby and settled in Watertown. They came with Puritans. They were an early settlers of Watertown, were he was a freeman 6 May 1635. He was a selectman in 1638, 1655 and 1662.

Rebecca died 16 April 1661 at the age of 55 years, in Watertown.

Edward married second to Joanna Buckmiester.

Edward Garfield is the ancestor of the American Garfields, including President James Abram Garfield.

He died 30 December 1668 and his will was proved 16 July 1672.

Will of Edward Garfield

I, Edward Garfield, of Watertown, being sick in body, yet through God's goodness, sound in my memory, do declare this to be my last will and testament as follows:

Impri. I give and bequeath unto my son, Samuel Garfield, tenn pounds, to be paid in corn or cattle within one year after my decease and 40 acers of my land; lying on the side of prospect hill; and a piece of meadow which ye said Samuel have made use already for diverse years with my allowance; provided ye said Samuel allows a cartway through ye said piece of meadow to my meadow on the other side of Stony Brook; also I give unto ye said Samuel all my wearing clothes and my great bible; Now the reason

why I give no mor to my said son Samuel, is because he married many years ago, I have formerly given him bothe land and other estate.

I have given unto my son Joseph Garfield, ye house and land which he now lives in; ye land containing about 9 and 20 akers; also I give undo ye said Joseph ten akers of meadow, lying on farther side of Chester's brook, westward comainely called plaine meadow; also I give unto my said Joseph my farm as also a mare colt of about a year old.

Thirdly, I give unto my daughter Rebecca Mixer, 20 lbs to be paid her in corn or cattle within two years after my decease; as also two pewter platters.

Fourthly, I give unto my daughter, Abigail Garfield, twenty pounds, ten pounds to be paid at the time of the mg, & ten pounds to be paid two years after; but if ye said Abigail shall die unmarried, then my will is that ye said 20 lbs be equally divided to Samuel Garfield, my son, and Joseph Garfield, my son; and Benjamin Garfield, my son; and Rebecca Mixer, my daughter; and if ye said Abigail do live unmarried yet, then my will is she shall be allowed five and 20 shillings a year so long as she lives unmarried. Also I give unto ye said Abigail, a feather bed, a boulster, with a rug and two blankets and one pewter platter.

Fifthly, I give unto my grandchild, Sarah Parkhurst, one ewe sheep and ewe lamb.

6thly. I give unto Sarah Garfield, my grandchild, 7 lb provided she serves out her time; but if she serves not out her time, them my will is yet she shall have but 50 schillings only.

7thly. I give unto Ephraim Garfield, my grandchild, two cows, to be paid within three years of my decease.

8thly. I give and bequeath unto my beloved wife, a cow which my said wife, shall have liberty to choose, among all my cattle. Also I allow my said wife five pounds a year, as long as she lives, for which my wife had a bond of me before marriage. Ye said five pounds to be paid in wheat and peas and rye and Indian corn by equal portions; (if my executor have them growing) 1 at country price, at such place as Cambridge as my said wife shall appoint, also my will that my said wife shall continue in my house; she my said wife shall have my new bed chamber for her use with all the furniture in it, for the space of seven months; as also a sufficiency for firewood for oven particular burning; also my will is that my beloved wife, above said, and my daughter, Abigail, above said and maid Ann should enjoy the benefit of what flax or hemp or wool there should be in my house, at the time of my decease; and also yet they are to live at the expense of my estate for the space of seven months as above said. As an addition to my beloved wife's legacy, my will is yet, she shall enjoy a feather bed and boulster and two little pillows, which weare of her owne making; also wooling wheels and a linen wheele.

Also I doe nominate and appoint my loving son Benjamin executor to this my will and testament; to receive all due to mee; and to pay all my just debts.

Thus rezineing my spirit to God yet gave it, and my body to the dust from whence it was taken; I declare this to be my last will and testament; and do herunto set my hand this 30th day of December 1668; desiring my loving friends, Nathan Fiske Sr. and William Bond Sr. to see that this my will be performed.

The mark of

EDWARD X GARFIELD

Taken upon oath 11.5.1672 by William Bond & Nathan Fiske.

Tradition says, Edward Garfield's father, Edward Garfield Sr, came to Massachusetts too, and these two Garfields died the same day. Edward's father being 97 years old.

History of Rebecca Garfield

Rebecca, daughter of Edward Garfield and Rebecca Johnson, was born 10 March 1641 in Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts. He married Isaac Mixer, son of Isaac Mixer and Sarah Thurston, on 10 January 1661, in Watertown.

Rebecca Garfield and Isaac Mixer had 13 children all born in Watertown.

She died on 16 March 1682 or 1683 at Watertown, Middlesex, Massachusetts.