

CHAPTER VII.

THE AMERICAN BARLOWS

Connection with Slebech

THE earliest contact of a Barlow with the North American continent seems to be in connection with:—

“The first voyage made to the coasts of America with two Barks wherein Captaines Master Philip Aradas and M(aster) Arthur Barlowe . . . discovered part of the country now called Virginia, Anno 1584.”*

This was the first expedition sent out by Sir Walter Raleigh: the expedition started on April 27th, 1584, reached the West Indies on June 10th, and returned by the middle of September; the account expressly states that the expedition came back to report and did not stay in Virginia.

Captain Arthur Barlow, as appears from the document itself, wrote the account, but he gives no details of himself, nor is there any evidence of the family to which he belonged, or that he ever returned to Virginia: but as he expressly states that he sailed from, and returned to, the “West of England,” he very possibly was related to the Slebech branch, and this connection may have fired him to carry on Roger’s fine tradition of American exploration.

The next appearance of a Barlow on American soil occurs in 1623, when we find Henry Barlow living on a plantation at James City, Virginia, but nothing seems to be known either of his ancestors or of his descendants.†

The Barlows in America are a numerous clan, and took a definite and indeed noteworthy share in the early settlement of New England from about 1635 onwards. It is, however, by no means easy to trace the connection of these early Barlow settlers, either with one another, or with their ancestors in the old country. The index to American Genealogies‡ gives a fairly long list of authorities, of which the following are available in London, and have been consulted by the author:—

<p>Beckwith’s <i>Crests</i>. Bolton’s <i>Westchester, N.Y.</i> Freeman’s <i>History of Cape Cod</i>. Hinman’s <i>Connecticut Settlers</i>. Savage’s <i>Genealogical Dictionary</i>.</p>	<p>Todd’s <i>History of Redding, Conn.</i>, 1880. Wyman’s <i>Charlestown, Mass.</i> Goodwin’s <i>Pilgrim Republic</i>. Bishop’s <i>New England Judged</i>, 1661. <i>Records of Massachusetts</i>, Vol. III.</p>
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*See *Hakluyt Voyages*, Everyman’s Edition, Vol. VI., pp. 121-132.

†Hotten’s *Emigrants to America, 1600-1700*, p. 180, Brit. Mus.

‡Fifth Edition, 1903, Albany, Brit. Mus., B.B.T., c 8.

BARLOW FAMILY RECORDS

These contain numerous disconnected references to various Barlows, but do not outline any comprehensive pedigree. The author was, however, fortunate enough in the course of a recent visit to the States to establish contact with Miss C. B. Barlow, of 1364 Girard Street N.W., Washington, D.C., who kindly introduced to him a typescript volume of American Barlow records carefully compiled by Laura Campbell Hawkins and Emma Campbell De Vries in 1930 (referred to below as A.B.R.). Useful information has also been received from Mr. Samuel Barlow, of 11, Grammercy Park, N.Y.; and from the Institute of American Genealogy, of 440, South Dearborn Street, Chicago.*

George Barlow, who was the root of the main stock from which the New England families appear to have sprung, was an historical figure of very considerable importance.† The date of his birth, presumably in England, is unknown, but he appears to have emigrated in 1635,‡ was at Exeter, Mass., in 1639, and at Saco, Maine, in 1653: he preached at both places, being then apparently in orders as a clergyman of the Church of England, but he was forbidden, in 1653, by the Puritan General Court of Massachusetts to preach or prophesy, whereupon he started to practise law. He took the oath of Fidelity at Sandwich in 1657, having previously settled there, and he married first the daughter of Vincent Stetson, of Milford, and that prior to 1650, as he is mentioned in the latter's will of that date:§ this wife died in Sandwich about 1667, leaving five sons, Aaron, Moses, Samuel, George and William. George Barlow then married as his second wife, Jane, widow of Anthony Besse, by whom he had two sons, John and Nathan. The Government of Plymouth Colony, in order to keep Quakers under control, was forced to appoint State Constables, and George Barlow was sent as Special Marshall in 1658 to the Cape Cod area, namely, Sandwich, Barnstable and Yarmouth; he seems to have treated the Quakers with no little severity, and is often referred to as the "Cruel Marshall."‡‡

The Records should be consulted for fuller details of his career; his will was proved on October 31st, 1684, and that of his second wife Jane on October 3th, 1693.

Who were George Barlow's parents? It is always dangerous to ignore established tradition, and in this case tradition seems fairly clear that George Barlow was son of William Barlow, the Archdeacon of Salisbury, famous for his works on navigation, who was himself the son

*See the Magazine publ. by the Institute, Nos. 19 and 20, for May and July, 1931, esp. No. 19, p. 168.

†A good contemporary account of George Barlow is to be found in *New England Judged*, by George Bishop, Lond., 1661, pp. 136-141; see also *Records of Massachusetts*, Boston, 1854, Vol. III., p. 336: both in Brit. Mus.; also A.B.R., p. 151.

‡See *Mag. Inst. Am. Gen.*, No. 19, p. 168.

§Savage's *Genealogical Dict.*, Vol. I., p. 117.

‡‡See *New England Judged*, cited above, p. 141.

THE AMERICAN BARLOWS

of Bishop William Barlow of Chichester, and who died and was buried at Easton, Hants, in 1625, of which he was Rector for 48 years, from 1577 to 1625.*

The will of Archdeacon William Barlow† has been examined at Somerset House, and mentions his brother John and three sons, Thomas, William, and Barnaby, but not a son George, though George was a familiar name in other branches of the Slebetch family. On the other hand, as George was apparently in Episcopal orders prior to his arrival in New England, which probably took place about 1635, it is very likely that he sprang from an ecclesiastical family. He may be identical with George, son of Richard Barlow of Orton, Westmoreland, who entered Queen's College, Oxford, December 9th, 1636, aged 16, and was brother of Thomas Barlow, Bishop of Lincoln, 1675-1691; ‡ but, if so, he must have landed in America several years later.§

The early settlers naturally made a merit of large families; the New England Barlows were no exception: the authors of A.B.R. have worked out tables of numerous descendants, including the female lines, from George Barlow down to the tenth and even the eleventh generations, representing some 250 persons at the present day. It is not possible to print in full these tables here, but a sketch pedigree is annexed showing descent as far as a grandson Peleg, who married Elizabeth Perry, great-granddaughter of John Cooke, last male survivor of the *Mayflower*; and who with his family in 1692, though then well over 60, courageously left Sandwich, sailed up the Hudson to Poughkeepsie, and settled in Amenia, N.Y. Amenia became the main home of this family for some eight further generations, down to 1930 (A.B.R., p. 140). Descendants have in recent years settled in Iowa, Indiana, California, etc., but the early family names, e.g., Mehitabel, Moses, Nathan and Peleg, appear constantly in all the branches. Peleg in particular figures in practically every one of these Barlow households, and in each of the eight generations, from 1700 to the present day.

The most distinguished member of the clan in America is presumably Joel Barlow,¶ who was famous as a poet, a politician and

*Easton Church, near Winchester, contains an interesting memorial to the Archdeacon's mother, Agatha Welsborne, the wife of Bishop William Barlow of Chichester.

†P.C.C. will proved by Julyan Barlow, the widow, June 15th, 1625. The Archdeacon's sons William and Barnabas were both Etonians, fellows of King's Coll. Camb. 1601 and 1618, and held Prebends at Southwell: William had two sons, William and Matthew, also Etonians and fellows of King's 1636 and 1640, Matthew becoming Vice Provost. For these dates thanks are due to the Bursar of King's: curiously, King's was also the author's college.

‡B.P.R., pp. 197 and 199; *Ath. Ox.*, Ed. 1721, p. 876.

§The Records in Queen's College Library give no information.

¶Peleg, according to the Old Testament authorities, signifies "Division," *Gen. x.*, 25, *I. Chron.*, i., 19, but in American Barlow records it clearly represents the contrary.

‡See Plate 17.

BARLOW FAMILY RECORDS

a diplomat. He was born at Redding, Conn., March 24th, 1754, and studied at Dartmouth College and at Yale. He wrote the *Columbiad* (1787), but his best-known production is the *Hasty Pudding*. The friend of Paine and Fulton, and of the founders of the American Constitution, he was sent on a Mission to France in 1788 and as Consul-General to Algiers in 1795-97. He returned to America in 1805 and remained there until 1811, when he was appointed Ambassador of the United States and Minister Plenipotentiary to France; in November, 1812, he made the difficult winter journey to Wilna hoping to meet the Emperor and negotiate a treaty, but the latter had been defeated at the Beresina and was retreating on Paris; Joel Barlow's mission having failed, he turned back, was taken ill, died, and was buried at Zarnowiec, near Cracow, on December 24th, 1812.*

Joel was the great-great-grandson of John Barlow of Fairfield, who was living in Fairfield in 1668 and died there in 1674; his son John and grandson Samuel lived on in Fairfield, but the latter's son Samuel moved to Redding in 1740 and acquired an estate near Bradley Hill; Joel Barlow was Samuel's fourth son† by his second wife.

The connection, which seems very probable, of Joel's great-great-grandfather John Barlow of Fairfield with the family of George Barlow of Sandwich does not appear to have been clearly worked out; but John Barlow seems to have been held entitled to the arms of Barlow of Slebech, presumably on the basis of his descent from George Barlow of Sandwich and the latter's connection with the Archdeacon of Salisbury. ‡

Francis Channing Barlow, born October 19th, 1834, in Brooklyn, New York, who rose to be a Major-General in the Civil War, and was subsequently Secretary of State in the State of New York and Attorney General, has sons now living in Boston; his grandfather was David Barlow of Windsor, Vermont, died 1807, and his connection with the descendants of George Barlow of Sandwich appears probable, but has not so far been traced.

Descendants tracing connection with the clan in the old country are also to be found in Canada and Newfoundland: Dr. W. R. Barlow of Port-aux-Basques shows his descent from the Lancs. branch, and his great-great-grandfather was Joseph Barlow, Governor of Cheetham's Hospital, Manchester, 1775-1808, buried at Rostherne, Cheshire.

*An exhibition of MSS., portraits, etc., relating to Joel Barlow was held at the American Library in Paris, March, 1931; many of these are preserved in the Musée de la Coopération franco-américaine at Blérancourt. See also *Life of Joel Barlow*, by C. B. Todd, New York, 1886; also Allibone's *Critical Dict. of Eng. Lit.*, and Didot, *Nouvelle Biogr. Univ.*

†Todd's *History of Redding, Conn.*, N.Y., 1880, p. 174.

‡See *Mag. Inst. Am. Gen.*, No. 20, p. 102.

THE AMERICAN BARLOWS

PEDIGREE No. 16.

GEORGE BARLOW OF SANDWICH, Mass., U.S.A.

George Barlow. = 1st. Mary Vincent Stetson,
 Born in England, date unknown. Emigrated 1635 and settled at Sandwich, Mass. : was at Exeter, Mass., in 1639, and Saco, Maine, in 1653. Special Marshall of Sandwich, Barnstable and Yarmouth, 1658 : a preacher and lawyer : D. at Sandwich 1684 : Will proved Oct. 31st, 1684.

dr. of Vincent Stetson of Milford : she died before 1667.

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 Aaron.
 Moses.
 Samuel.
 George.
 William.

= 2nd. Jane, widow of Anthony Besse : she D. 1693 : Will proved Oct. 5th, 1693.

John = Elizabeth Dillingham.
 B. Sandwich, circa 1669.

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 Samuel.
 John.
 Nathan.
 William.

Nathan = Mary.
 B. Sandwich 1671 :
 D. Dec. 1744.

Zebulon.

Peleg = Elizabeth Perry.
 B. Sandwich, 1692.
 Moved to South Amenia, N.Y., in 1756 : D. S. Amenia, 1759.

B. Sandwich 1690 :
 Great-granddaughter of John Cooke, last male survivor of the *Mayflower* : D. S. Amenia, 1759.

Susannah.
 Prudence.
 Ruth.

Thomas = Mehitable Wing.
 B. 1718

Seth B. 1720
 = Hannah

Mary B. 1724.

Nathan = Joanna Swift.
 B. 1726

Moses = Sarah Wing.
 B. Sandwich, 1728 :
 D. S. Amenia, 1799.

Sarah B. 1731.