

arah married Thomas Eastman; Huldah married Samuel Kingsbury. The youngest daughter is mentioned in the will as "Sarah Corley."

This history of Mary Neff, the eldest child, and the first Corliss born in this country, is associated with such a remarkable Indian exploit that it is worth relating in detail. Mary Neff was born at the old homestead in Haverhill, September 8, 1646, and died October 22, 1722. On January 23, 1663, being then in her seventeenth year, she was married to William Neff, of Newbury, Massachusetts, who then lived at Haverhill. He died with the army at Penaquid, now Bristol, Maine, in February, 1689, at the early age of forty-seven. On March 15, 1697, Mrs. Neff, who was acting as nurse for Mrs. Hannah Dustin, of Haverhill, who had a new-born child, was captured with others of the family by a party of Indians. The women were obliged to march half-clad, through the snow, up the valley of the Merrimack. It was probably the original intention to carry them to Canada, but the Indians for some reason decided to encamp on what is now known as Dustin's Island, at the junction of the Merrimack and Contoocook rivers, six miles above Concord, New Hampshire. On the night of March 30, Mrs. Dustin, with the help of Mrs. Neff and a youth, Samuel Lennardson, rose on their captors and scalped ten Indians, afterwards escaping down the river in canoes. They subsequently appeared before the general court in Boston, which voted to Thomas Dustin, in behalf of his wife, the sum of twenty-five pounds, and to Mrs. Neff and Samuel Lennardson the sum of twelve pounds ten shillings each. In 1738 the general court made a grant of two hundred acres of land to Joseph Neff, son of William and Mary, in behalf of the services rendered by his mother. Many presents were made them by their friends, and Governor Nicholson, of Maryland, sent to Mrs. Dustin and Mrs. Neff a heavy pewter tankard, suitably engraved. Statues of Mrs. Dustin have been erected on Dustin's Island and at Haverhill, Massachusetts.

(11) John, only son and second child of George and Joanna (Davis) Corliss, was born at Haverhill, Massachusetts, March 4, 1648, and died at the same place, February 17, 1698. He lived on the ancestral farm all his life, and at his death left an estate which was appraised at one hundred pounds in land and thirty-seven pounds in personal property. Among the items in the inventory occurs this statement: "To 3 pounds of sheep wool 3s—

to ax hillyo 18s." The latter commodity must be left for some future antiquarian to interpret. The name of John Corliss appears among the soldiers paid by the town, August 24, 1676, and also in the list of those who took the oath of allegiance at Haverhill, November 28, 1677. On December 17, 1684, John Corliss married Mary, daughter of Gilbert Wilford, of Haverhill, Massachusetts, who was born November 18, 1667, at Merrimack, New Hampshire. Children: John, born March 4, 1686; Mary, February 25, 1687; Thomas, March 2, 1689; Hannah, 1691; Timothy, December 13, 1693; Jonathan, whose sketch follows; and Mehtable, May 15, 1698. After the death of John Corliss, his widow, Mary (Wilford) Corliss, married (second) William Whittaker, and had two daughters: Rachel, born November 4, 1703; and Susannah, January 13, 1705.

(111) Jonathan, fourth son of John and Mary (Wilford) Corliss, was born at the old homestead in Haverhill, Massachusetts, July 16, 1695, and died at Salem, New Hampshire, March 22, 1787. He first settled in Haverhill, on land given him by his father, but soon after sold out and moved to the nearby town of Salem, New Hampshire, where he bought three hundred acres of land and began farming in the wilderness. Perhaps the reason for his moving to Salem was that his grandfather, George Corliss, had originally owned land there. In the latter's will occurs this item: "I give to my son John (father of Jonathan) the farm, that he lives on with two comanages and my lower Spicket meadow and my meadow at policy." The latter place means Policy Pond, now called Canobie Lake, which lies in the town of Salem, New Hampshire. Jonathan Corliss was an honest, upright man, and for many years a prominent member of the Congregational church. At the advanced age of ninety-one, only a year before his death, by his own request he was taken down into the water in a chair, and baptized by Rev. Mr. Fletcher. On January 3, 1716, Jonathan Corliss married Elizabeth Moore, of Haverhill, Massachusetts, who died August 2, 1786, after a wedded life of seventy years. Children: Mary, born July 27, 1717; Elizabeth, April 14, 1719; Priscilla, September 7, 1722; Jonathan, October 8, 1724; Lydia, June 22, 1727; John Moore, whose sketch follows; Asa, 1732; Daniel, 1734; David, died in the French war; Abel, Susannah; and one whose name has been lost.

(1V) John Moore, second son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Moore) Corliss, was born at Salem, New Hampshire, in 1730, and died at

Alexandria, that state, in 1823. In the report of the Centennial Celebration at Orford, New Hampshire, published in 1865, is found the following interesting statement, which illustrates some of the hardships of pioneer settlers: "John Moore Corliss and his brother Jonathan were the first settlers of the town of Alexandria, N. H., and at the time of his wife's death were the only men in the town. They cut a log from a pine tree and dug it out for a coffin, and buried her in the woods. In 1852, while repairing the roads, her remains were found, and buried by the side of her husband's. Her hair was in a good state of preservation, only changed from black to flax color, though having been buried over eighty years. Hayward's 'New England Gazetteer,' published in 1839, says that Alexandria, New Hampshire, was first settled by Jonathan, John M., and William Corliss, in 1769. Who William was, does not appear; possibly he may have been a cousin of the other two. John M. Corliss lived to be ninety-three, one year older than his father, Jonathan Corliss; and by all accounts was a man of remarkable physical strength. The Orford report, previously referred to, says that John Moore Corliss was what was called in his day, 'a double-jointed man.' He must have possessed great vitality, for 'when young, his hair was black; at eighty it was white; it then began to turn dark, and at the age of ninety-three (the time of his death) it was as black and glossy as a young person's."

John Moore Corliss had three wives and nine children. His first wife, Lydia Sanborn, died in 1770. It is probable that at least five of the children belonged to her: Elihu, born March 22, 1758; Daniel, mentioned in the following paragraph; John Moore, 1765; Sampson, and Lydia. John Moore Corliss's second wife was a Simons; but nothing further is known of her except that she died in 1772, probably within a year of her marriage. The third wife was Betsey Langley; and the last four children were: Olive; Dolly, born October 27, 1780; Jonathan; and one whose name has been lost.

(V) Daniel, second son of John Moore and Lydia (Sanborn) Corliss, was born at Alexandria, New Hampshire, May 20, 1762, and died there in May, 1842. He married Rachel Bailey, of Salem, New Hampshire, born April 2, 1766. Among their children were: David, died at the age of twenty-three; John, died at forty-five; Folsom; Ransom; and Rachel, who is mentioned below.

(VI) Rachel, daughter of Daniel and Rachel (Bailey) Corliss, was born January 22, 1802, at Alexandria, New Hampshire, and died January 4, 1880, at Bristol, in that state. In 1821 she was married to Josiah Hill, who was born in 1795, and died at Alexandria, in 1835, at the early age of forty. The name of Hill is one of the most numerous and distinguished in this country; but, owing to the imperfection or records, it is exceedingly difficult to trace. The only Josiah Hill recorded in the vital statistics of New Hampshire was the son of Jonathan Hill, and was born at Candia, New Hampshire, March 25, 1798. Among the children of Josiah and Rachel (Corliss) Hill was Sylvester Bradley, mentioned below.

(VII) Sylvester Bradley, son of Josiah and Rachel (Corliss) Hill, was born at Alexandria, New Hampshire, February 8, 1827, and died at Chicopee, Massachusetts, May 21, 1900. On April 4, 1857, he married Catherine Amelia Blauvelt, daughter of Henry Kanol and Christine (Diedrick) Blauvelt, who was born at Athens, Green county, New York, September 13, 1833. (See Blauvelt, VI). Their daughter, Katharine, was born December 8, 1858, and was married, December 8, 1880, to William McClench, of Chicopee, Massachusetts.

This name, which originally signified *blue field*, is one of the oldest Dutch patronymics in this country.

The first American record dates back to November 18, 1646, when Captain William Blauvelt appears as a witness at a New York baptism. The name does not appear again for several years, owing to the fact that most of the early Hollanders seemed to have dropped their surnames when they came to this country. It is said that down to the closing years of their first century in America the Dutch settlers scarcely used their surnames in address or church records, but called themselves simply Jansen, or Hendricksen, or the like, meaning son of Jan or son of Hendrick. In course of time they saw the need of clearer family identification, and assumed or resumed the designations of the old country.

The following family, on their arrival in America, appear to have been known simply as Gerritsens, but soon after taking up their new home revealed themselves as Blauvelts. Several of them settled on the Tappan or Orangtown patent, which coincides with the present Orangtown. The civil history begins with the grant of this land to sixteen men on March 24, 1686. The church history begins