

Finson Family

Compiled by Bruce A. Fowler
Hartland Historical Society ~ 2014 (Updated October 1, 2024)

Thomas Finson

Revolutionary War

b. 4 Mar 1755 Gloucester, Massachusetts
d. 30 Jan 1807 Pejepscot (Danville) (Fitz Cemetery, Auburn)
m. 7 Sep 1777 Rockport, Massachusetts
Mary Dresser "Molly"
b. 23 Dec 1755 Gloucester, Massachusetts
d. 12 Oct 1812 Pejepscot (Danville)

They moved from Gloucester, Massachusetts to Pejepscot (now known as Danville) in 1793 settling at Woodbury Hill. He was very active in town affairs and was a farmer, merchant and tavern keeper. In 1800, he organized and served as Captain of the local Massachusetts Militia rising to the rank of Major.

Ch. FINSON: (10 known children; 2 settled in Hartland)

1. John Dresser Finson

b. 7 May 1786 Gloucester, Massachusetts

d. 5 Sep 1851 Hartland (Nevens Cemetery aka Finson Burying Grounds)

2. Ambrose D. Finson, Sr

b. 1 June 1789 Gloucester, Massachusetts

d. 5 July 1857 Hartland (NC)

m. 1 Mar 1809 Pejepscot

Elizabeth Jordan (See Jordan Family)

d/o James Jordan Jr & Elizabeth McKinney of Pejepscot

b. 15 Apr 1788 Pejepscot

d. 4 Aug 1858 Hartland (NC)

They moved from Pejepscot to West Hartland soon after C/1810. He signed the petition for Hartland to incorporate as a town in 1820 and was elected as the first Town Clerk as well as Town Selectman with several early Town Meetings held at his home. He was a delegate to the Maine Constitutional Convention in 1819 and served as the first State Representative from Hartland in 1820. He led the local Maine State Militia Company and held monthly training and annual Musters at his homestead. He also served as County Commissioner in 1842.



Ch. FINSON:

I. Ambrose D. Finson, Jr

b. 26 Feb 1811 Hartland

d. 29 July 1896 Hudson (Mohawk Cemetery, Hudson) at 85yrs

m.

Sarah J. Sibley

b. 1815

d. 30 Apr 1893 Hudson (Mohawk Cemetery, Hudson) at 78yrs

They were still living in West Hartland in C/1850 before moving to Alton by C/1860 then to Hudson by C/1880.

Ch. FINSON:

A) Emeline Helen Finson

b. 29 Mar 1840 Hartland

d. 28 July 1920 Hudson (Mohawk Cemetery, Hudson)

m. Henry Getchell

B) Ann Finson

b. 1842 Hartland

d. before C/1860?

She last appeared with the family in C/1850 at 8yrs old and likely died soon after as a younger daughter was given the same name by C/1860.

C) Clara Finson

b. 1844 Hartland

d. 1904

m. Samuel Benson Whitcomb

D) Amasa B. Finson

b. 1848 Hartland

d. 28 Aug 1907 Bangor (Mohawk Cemetery, Hudson)

E) Andrew Finson

b. 1851 Alton

d.

F) Elizabeth Finson "Lizzie"

b. 1854 Alton

d.

G) Fred Finson

b. 1856 Alton

d.

H) Ann Finson

b. 1860 Alton

d. before C/1870?

She does not appear with the family in C/1870.

II. Elizabeth Jane Finson
b. 27 Nov 1812 Hartland
d. 1884 Niobrara, Nebraska
m. 1834 Hartland

Greenleaf Church I (See Church Family)

s/o Benjamin Church & Martha Nute "Patty"

b. 2 Apr 1807 Hallowell
d. 29 Dec 1885 Eureka, California (Myrtle Grove Memorial Cemetery, Eureka, CA)
Greenleaf operated the Hartland House in the late 1870s. By C/1880, they had moved to Hudson, he at 73yrs old, she at 69yrs old, with their children Abbey & John. They headed west soon after and were in Niobrara, Nebraska at their daughter Sarah's home when Elizabeth died. Greenleaf continued onto Eureka, California where his daughter Hannah was living.

Ch. CHURCH:

A) Hannah J. Church

b. Jan 1835 Hartland

b. 22 Feb 1914 Eureka, California (Myrtle Grove Memorial Cemetery, Eureka)

m. 1870 Eureka, California

George Kelton Henney

b. 1825 New Brunswick, Canada

d. 13 Nov 1887 Eureka, California (Myrtle Grove Memorial Cemetery, Eureka)

B) Ambrose Finson Church

b. 24 Oct 1836 Hartland

d. 19 Feb 1920 Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

m. 12 Mar 1862

Nancy Ann Saunders

b. 18 Jan 1840 Sidney

d. 16 Feb 1915 Boston, Massachusetts

C) Sarah Jane Church "Jennie"

b. 1839 Hartland

d. 29 Dec 1929 Hot Springs, South Dakota (Evergreen Cemetery, Hot Springs)

m. 16 Oct 1869 Omaha, Nebraska

William Richard Cross

b. 1839 Bennington, Vermont

d. 23 Dec 1907 Hot Springs, South Dakota (Evergreen Cemetery, Hot Springs)

D) Elizabeth Ann Church

b. 1 July 1842 Hartland

d. 21 Dec 1898 Victoria, British Columbia, CA (Ross Bay Cemetery, Victoria)

m. 31 Oct 1868 Hartland

Thomas Gage Moody, Sr (See Bowley & Spearin Family)

s/o Joshua Moody, Jr (Ross Bay Cemetery) & Amy Kendall Bowley (FC)

b. 11 Feb 1836 Hartland

d. 11 Apr 1913 Victoria, British Columbia, CA (Ross Bay Cemetery, Victoria)

E) Emeline Finson Church "Emma"

b. 1845 Hartland

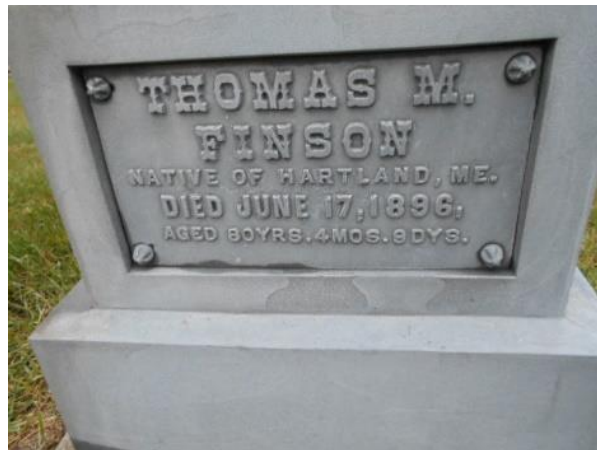
d. 24 Oct 1926 Oakland, California

m.
James B. Cole
b. 1845 England
d. before C/1880 San Francisco, California

F) Abbey C. Church
b. 1848 Hartland
d.
She was living with her parents in Hudson in C/1880. It is unclear if she left with her parents who moved to Nebraska soon after.

G) John Alkana Church
b. 1851 Hartland
d.
He was living with his parents in Hudson in C/1880. It is unclear if he left with his parents who moved to Nebraska soon after.

III. Thomas Major Finson
b. 8 Feb 1816 Hartland
d. 17 June 1896 Central City, Iowa (Mount Clark Cemetery)
m.
Sarah J. _____
b. 1819 Hartland
d. 30 May 1882 Central City, Iowa (Mount Clark Cemetery) at 63yrs
They had no known children.
They were living in Hartland in C/1850 & C/1860. They moved to Maine Township in Linn County, Iowa by C/1880. No children were noted on any Census.



IV. Emeline Jordan Finson "Emma"
b. 3 Feb 1818 Hartland
d. 19 Feb 1903 Hartland (NC) at 85yrs
m. c1847 Hartland
Darius Rand **(See Rand Family)**
s/o William Rand & Sally Pearson of Canaan
b. 1815 Canaan
d. 17 Dec 1889 Hartland (NC) at 74yrs old

They were living in West Hartland in C/1850 with their 2 oldest children next to her father's homestead remaining there until his death. She was living with her son Thomas and his family in West Hartland in C/1900 noted as his widowed mother at 82yrs old.

Ch. RAND: (Her obituary and C/1900 note 5 children born, 5 living)

A) Henry Aprilian Rand

b. 27 Apr 1848 Hartland

d. 25 Feb 1935 Boston (NC) at 86yrs

m. Bessie Pickles (divorced)

B) Mary Elizabeth Rand

b. 14 Apr 1850 Hartland

d. 5 Mar 1934 Brooklyn, New York (Pinelawn Cemetery, Long Island) at 84yrs

m. Frederick Fuller Davis (divorced) **Civil War 1st Maine Heavy Artillery**

C) Thomas F. Rand

b. 1854 Hartland

d. 1938 Hartland (NC) at 84yrs

m. Viola A. Barrett

D) Frank Prescott Rand

b. 1856 Hartland

d. 17 Mar 1934 Victoria, British Columbia, CA (Royal Oak Cemetery, Victoria)

His obituary notes he moved to Victoria about 1919.

E) William G. Rand

b. 1 Aug 1857 Hartland

d. 26 Dec 1917 Waterville (NC) at 60yrs

V. James Jordan Finson

b. 25 Feb 1820 Hartland

d. 25 Apr 1895 Levant (South Branch Cemetery, Levant) at 75yrs

m.

Mary Esther Church

d/o John Church & Esther Richards of Levant

b. 11 Mar 1823 St Albans

d. 21 Aug 1895 Bangor (South Branch Cemetery, Levant) at 72yrs

Ch. FINSON:

A) Cassia E. Finson

b. 26 Nov 1847

d. 26 Sep 1874 Levant (South Branch Cemetery, Levant) at 26yrs

m. _____ Frost

B) Augusta Finson

b. 29 July 1849 Glenburn

d. 28 Mar 1866 Levant (South Branch Cemetery, Levant) at 16yrs

C) Jerome Church Finson

b. 30 Dec 1851 Glenburn

d. 9 July 1918 Bangor (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor) at 61yrs

D) Walter R. Finson
b. 15 Dec 1853 Glenburn
d. 2 Apr 1915 Bangor (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor) at 61yrs
m. Laura A. Killen

E) Charity May Finson
b. 3 Sep 1856 Glenburn
d. 19 Feb 1941 Bangor (Mt Hope Cemetery, Bangor) at 84yrs
m. William Heughen

F) James True Finson
b. 4 July 1858 Levant
d. 8 Nov 1944 St Paul, MN (Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Maplewood, MN) 86yr

G) John Winslow Finson "Johnnie"
b. 12 May 1864
d. 26 Dec 1865 (South Branch Cemetery, Levant) at 1yr

VI. John Finson
b. 11 July 1823 Hartland
d. 21 May 1909 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 86yrs
m. 16 Jan 1856 Boston
Sarah Hill Homer
d/o Thompson Kidder Homer & Hannah Piedmond Hersey
b. 6 Apr 1834 Boston
d. 30 June 1896 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 62yrs
They were living in Boston in C/1860 where he was working as an Expressman with the Railroad. His brother Henry Finson was also living with them. They returned to St Albans by C/1870 where they remained.

A) Elmira Eison Finson "Myra"
b. 1858 Boston
d. 1942 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery w/Stuart) at 86yrs
m1. 1881
Stuart H. Goodwin

m2. 1920
Lovell Jacob Boston

B) Amelia Finson
b. 1861 Boston
d. 1920 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 58yrs
She never married.

C) Fred Finson
b. 12 Jan 1865 Boston
d. 1954 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 88yrs
m. 29 Oct 1892 Palmyra
Medora F. Chase "Dora"
b. 1867
d. 1931 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 62yrs

Ch. FINSON:

- a) Ruth Ann Ellen Finson
 - b. 21 Nov 1895 St Albans (noted as 1st child by Dr. Charles A. Moulton)
 - d. 1997 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery)
 - m. 9 June 1916 St Albans
- Earle Evert Robertson
 - s/o Isaac Robertson & Rose M. Varney*
 - b. 5 June 1895 St Albans
 - d. 1959 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery)
- b) Unnamed Daughter Finson
 - b. Oct 1897 St Albans
 - d. 3 Jan 1898 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 3mos, 3dys
- c) Winfred Isaac Finson
 - b. 29 Nov 1901 St Albans
 - d. 12 Dec 1987 St Petersburg, Florida
 - m. 4 Sep 1926 Florida
- Helen Lawrence
 - b. 24 Apr 1905 New York
 - d. 18 Feb 1982 St Petersburg, Florida
- d) Harry Amasa Finson, Sr
 - b. 9 May 1904 St Albans
 - d. Aug 1967 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 63yrs
 - m. 29 Nov 1931
- Helen M. Baird (See Baird Family)
 - d/o Harold Ernest Baird & Etta Florena Bennett*
 - b. 7 June 1913 St Albans
 - d. 7 Oct 2008 St Albans (St Albans Village Cemetery) at 95yrs

- D) George Finson
 - b. 1870 St Albans
 - d. 1938 Wells (Ocean View Cemetery, Wells) at 67yrs
 - m. M. Ethel Day

VII. Amasa Bigelow Finson

Civil War U. S. Army Signal Corps

- b. 5 July 1825 Hartland
- d. 1888 Corry, Pennsylvania (Pine Grove Cemetery, Corry, PA)
- m1. 23 Nov 1858 Boston
- Anna Thompson Dimon
 - d/o Bradley Dimon & Elizabeth "Eliza" Humphrey of Fairfield, Connecticut*
 - b. 25 Mar 1835 Fairfield, Connecticut
 - d. 27 Feb 1867 Corry, Pennsylvania (Pine Grove Cemetery, Corry, PA) at 31yrs
 - He moved from Hartland to Boston by C/1850 where he was working for the railroad as an Expressman when they married. He became a Police Officer and enlisted for the war in 1864 in Boston at 37yrs old. They were still living in Boston in 1865 before moving to Corry, Pennsylvania around 1866 where Anna died soon after and he remarried.*

Ch. FINSON:

A) Minnie Eliza Finson

b. 1 Feb 1860 Boston

d.

Last noted living with her father & step-mother in C/1880 in Pennsylvania.

B) William H. Finson

b. 1863 Boston

d. 20 Jan 1919 Corry, Pennsylvania (Pine Grove Cemetery, Corry, PA) at 55yrs

m. Katherine E. Parker

"January 20, 1919 - CORRY CITY HALL DESTROYED BY FIRE EARLY YESTERDAY - ONE FIREMAN SUFFOCATED - While the fire was burning fiercely it was learned that William Finson and C. Kelley were asleep at fire headquarters located in City Hall Building. Kelly was rescued alive but Finson was suffocated, being dead when carried into the hospital. He leaves two children." Titusville Herald - January 21, 1919

C) Anna Dimon Finson

b. 14 Dec 1866 Corry, Pennsylvania

d. 20 Sep 1927 Corry, Pennsylvania (Pine Grove Cemetery, Corry, PA) at 61yrs

m. Henry W. Gretzler

m2. 1868 Pennsylvania

Louise Temple McIntyre

d/o William McIntyre & Harriet Davis

b. 20 Jan 1849 Pennsylvania

d. 3 Aug 1920 Corry, Pennsylvania (Pine Grove Cemetery, Corry, PA) at 61yrs

She filed as his Widow for his Civil War Pension as a member of the U. S. Army Signal Corps on July 9, 1890.

D) Carrie Finson

b. 1869 Pennsylvania

d. 1910 Corry, Pennsylvania (Pine Grove Cemetery, Corry, PA)

m. Charles Doane

E) Hattie Finson

b. 1871 Pennsylvania

d.

Last noted living with her parents in C/1880 in Pennsylvania.

F) Amasa B. Finson

b. 1878 Pennsylvania

d.

Last noted living with his parents in C/1880 in Pennsylvania.

VIII. Henry Warren Finson

b. 30 Sep 1827 Hartland

d. 1912 Hollywood, California (Hollywood Forever Cemetery, Hollywood, CA)

m1. 1861 Boston

Harriet A. Haskel "Hattie"

b. 23 July 1838 Thomaston

d. 21 Sep 1872 Linn County, Missouri

Ch. FINSON:

A) Henry Harry Finson
b. 1862 Boston
d. 24 Sep 1909 Boston

m2. 26 Sep 1874 Linn County, Missouri (divorced)
Nancy Flynn
b. 2 Dec 1837 Hamilton, Ontario, Canada
d. 7 Oct 1918 Creighton, Nebraska (Greenwood Cemetery, Creighton, Nebraska)

Ch. FINSON:

B) Thomas Orlando Finson **Spanish-American War 1st South Dakota, Co. G**
b. 18 Mar 1877 St Catharine, Missouri
d. 19 Feb 1958 Montana (Custer County Cemetery, Miles City, Montana)
m. Susan Newlon

C) Elmer Floyd Finson
b. 11 May 1881 Missouri
d. 8 Jul 1950 Los Angeles, California
m. Edna A. Wanser

IX. Mary Jordan Finson
b. 14 Mar 1830 Hartland
d. after 1880
m. c1850 Hartland
John Butterfield, Jr **(See Butterfield Family)**
s/o John Butterfield, Sr & Margaret Moor
b. 1823 Hartland
d. 12 June 1898 Hartland (Ireland Cemetery) at 75yrs
They were living with his brother Hiram and family in Exeter in C/1860 when Mary was noted as Insane. She was living at a Poor House in Exeter in C/1870 noted as a Town Pauper and Insane with the same status noted again in C/1880.

Ch. BUTTERFIELD:

A) Estelle Butterfield
b. 1854 Hartland
d. 19 Feb 1861 Hartland? (IC) at 6yrs, 4mos

B) Flora Butterfield
b. 1858 Hartland
d. 25 Oct 1861 Hartland? (IC) at 3yrs, 3mos

X. Greenleaf Church Finson
b. 16 Sep 1832 Hartland
d. 29 Apr 1907 Los Angeles, California
m. 26 Sep 1861 Boston, Massachusetts
Ellen Taylor
b. 1839
d.

He moved from Hartland to Massachusetts around 1860. Soon after marrying they moved to Humbolt County, California living there by 1867.