

THOMAS LOMBARD (abt. 1583-1665)
 JOYCE _____ ()

The DAR report on the life of Thomas Lombard gives the several spellings of the name as Lombard, Lambert, Lumbard and Lumbert.¹ A brief review of Thomas Lombard was found in "Rathbone Genealogy of Ohio Families" by Neikirk as follows:

"Thomas Lambert res. at Barnstable, Mass., 1639 where he died 1663. He came from Dorchester, Eng. bringing his wife Joyce, son Bernard and others (two more) in the 'Mary and John' ship, 1630. He requested to be made Free (a voter) 19th of 10 Mo. 1630. Was admitted Freeman May 10, 1631. He removed to Scituate, Mass., first but to Barnstable by 1640. (Savage) Had Jedidiah there, Bap. 19 Sept. 1641; Benjamin 27 Aug. 1643; that he had other children, one or two must have been born in England, is plain enough in his Will 23, Mar. 1663 in which he names his son Bernard, Joseph, b. 1638; and son-in-law Edward Coleman who md. 27 Oct. his daughter Margaret and provides for his wife Joyce and son Caleb. Perhaps had a younger daughter Jemima who may be the Jemima Lombard who made a runaway match with Joseph Benjamin at Boston 10 June 1661 and lived at New London, Conn."²

"Known children:

1. Bernard Lombard, b. 1607/8, Tenterton, Kent, England
2. Margaret Lombard
3. Joseph Lombard, b. 1638
4. Jedediah Lombard, b. 19 Sept. 1641, Scituate, Mass.
5. Benjamin Lombard, b. 27 Aug. 1643, Scituate, Mass.
6. Jemima Lombard - ?
7. Caleb Lombard"³

(This listing may not be in order and there may have been other children not listed.)

It was in 1639-40 that Scituate suffered the loss of many of her inhabitants, "owing to great numbers following Rev. Mr. Lothrop to Barnstable. It is said that nearly half of the inhabitants departed." (It was at this time that the Lombards removed to Barnstable.) "By the wiscuse of his fortune, a Timothy Hatherley, carried the town through this critical period. He purchased the properties of all who wished to depart." The years that followed, brought new settlers again to Scituate.⁴

Further details not mentioned above were given in Vol.4 of the George T. Little compilation;

" . . . Thomas Lombard was allowed to keep victualling, or an ordinary, for the entertainment of strangers and to draw wines in Barnstable, in 1639, being the first inn-keeper in the town. Thomas Lombard is named in the list of persons who appear as residents recorded March 3, 1640. December 22, 1651, an order was made by the town authorities providing that all the lanes and inlets shall have gates - the gate required of Thomas Lombard was the gate against 'Rendezvous Creek.'⁵

This item reveals the location of Thomas and Joyce's home grounds in the town. The wide span of time between the date of Thomas' son, Bernard and his second son Joseph seems to indicate that there had been an earlier marriage and

a first wife was the mother of Bernard and that Joyce was a second wife who was the mother of the children born in Massachusetts.

"The opening of new areas was strictly controlled by the Plymouth Colony Court . . . The Reverend Joseph Hull and his associates seemed to have settled and built houses in Barnstable before the first grant was declared void by the Court in June, 1639. One record states that there were thirteen families in Barnstable in June, 1639, and another records that there were at least fifteen dwelling houses at the same date.

"Such was the situation in this newly formed town when Reverend John Lothrop, arrived on October 11, 1639, from Scituate, with the rest of his church, about twenty-five families." 6

The Lombards were associated with the first group already settled in Barnstable when Rev. Lothrop arrived.

"The Reverend Joseph Hull and his Barnstable associates gave Lothrop and his congregation a cordial welcome. Lothrop in his diary called it 'praises to God in public' and 'a feast' at the homes of Mr. Hull, Mr. Mayo and Brother Lombard, Sr.

"Nathaniel Morton in his famous 'New-England's Memorial' says that Lothrop was 'a man of an humble and broken heart and spirit, lively in dispensation of the word of God.' Amos Otis describes Lothrop as 'firm, yet gentle, discreet, cautious, and though always open to conviction and a constant seeker of new light, he formed no opinions hastily.' . . . Another author classifies him as 'a man distinguished for his piety and talents' . . . After separating himself from the Church of England in London he suffered imprisonment, and escaping he started on the sometime rough but always dedicated pathway that would end at the Town of Barnstable on the sandy shore of Cape Cod, Mass. . .

"During the fourteen years that he was pastor of the Barnstable church, such was his influence over the people that the power of the civil magistrate was not needed to restrain crime. No pastor was ever more beloved by his people, none ever had had a greater influence for good .

"The settlers found 'an abundance of nutritious foods and were soon comfortably clothed and lodged. The nutritious foods included pork, poultry and venison, fish, of course, a variety of cereals . . . rye, barley, wheat and Indian corn, part of which the early comers had planted, part of which the late comers had brought with them from Scituate. They had also a variety of winter-keeping vegetables. Some of the comfortable clothing was of deerskin, which the Indians no doubt taught them to prepare. Most of the men, though perforce farmers, also had a trade, and there were tanners and shoemakers among them. As for the houses, there must have been a good deal of haste to get them built before winter. Some were framed of good timber and covered with boards, handsawn; others, probably most, were of the "pallizadoe" type, not so comfortable, the walls being made of two rows of poles stuck in the ground and filled between with a mixture of mud and dry grass. The inevitable drafty living was healthy; there were no deaths in the community in the first year, until in June, 1640, when one, Timothy Dimmock, was buried "in the lower side of the Calves Pasture."

"The most important structure, the meetinghouse, was not to be built for seven years after the settlement, but there was no lack of worship, both indoors and out. According to tradition, the first meeting, both for worship and to transact civic business, was held at a very large rock situated on high ground a quarter mile west of Coggin's Pond." 7 (see 7-35, James Hamlin home lot at Coggin's Pond)

This large rock was subsequently broken up and used in the foundation of the old jail, and other parts were incorporated into stone walls in the neighborhood. This area "was originally known as 'Mystic' or (Misteake), the Indian word meaning "streams or still waters." It became known as 'The Indian Pond.' It borders the area still known as 'The plains' or 'Hamlin's Plain', after the numerous Hamlin families then in that neighborhood

In 1916 the town celebrated the 300th anniversary of the first 'Congregational' Church in London, England. John Lothrop had served it as minister until he was arrested as a 'Dissenter,' imprisoned, and released only on condition of his leaving England . . . Since a number of his London congregation crossed the ocean with him, the church in Barnstable is considered a continuation of that same first group in London." 8

The main road through Barnstable today is known to travelers as Route 6 A; sometimes called the King's Highway. It follows the shoreline of Cape Cod, though at a little distance from the water of Cape Cod Bay to the north and the Nantucket Bay across land to the south. It follows the contours of the land, up hill and down and curving back and forth. The hills, the cemeteries, the churches, the side lanes all have names in remembrance of the most notable of the early English settlers.

It was along this main road through Barnstable that the seventeenth and eighteenth-century houses were built. The fringe roads, running north - Scudder Lane, Rendezvous Lane, and Millway - were used to reach the wharves on the harbor; the many other side roads, north and south, have been more recently laid out.

As one follows the highway, there is a feeling of history, of houses built solidly, lived in for generations, still proudly maintained. Those early houses, some of which still remain, were built to face the road serenely; the tradition of using the side door rather than the front continues. The town of Barnstable remains, today, dignified, almost austere.

Our personal retrospect leads to the remembrance of those ancestors who lived in Barnstable those many years ago; the Lombards, the Hamlins, and the Lewises. The Dunhams of Plymouth descent have descendants in Barnstable through Mary Dunham who married James Hamlin (7-35).

There is no record of the death of Joyce who lived for some time after the death of her husband, Thomas. He died in Barnstable in 1662. Many of the descendants of this family remained in Barnstable through future years. We can be reasonably sure that Joyce was not the mother of the children who came from England with the father, Thomas. She is the mother of the children born in Massachusetts. Our progenitor, Bernard was born in Tenterden, Kent, England in 1607/08 which indicates his age at about 22 when he arrived with his father on the "Mary and John." We realize therefore that Bernard's mother, Thomas' first wife, of whom we have no record, evidently died in England before either father or son left to come to America. Thomas may have married Joyce either before leaving England or after his arrival in Massachusetts.

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. #71, p. 70 | 5. #55, p. 2076 |
| 2. #55 (b), p. 46 | 6. #138, p. 6 |
| 3. #55, p. 2076 | 7. ibid, pp. 28, 29 |
| 4. #44, p. 52 | 8. ibid p. 29 |