

THOMAS GOULD ( -1674)  
 HANNAH (MILLER?) ( -1647)

Appendix XV pp. 340-1 of the writings of Benjamin A. Gould gives the only review of the life of Thomas Gould that was found available, so a copy of that pertinent information comes to us by this review which is entered here in almost its entirety.

"This noted man appears in our history first at Noddle's Island (now East Boston), in 1640. He was a wheel-wright, and was, with wife Hannah, admitted to the church June 7, 1640. He was of Charlestown in 1641, possessing four cow-commons, according to Wyman. Hannah died, 1647, May 15, at Ten Hills Farm, leaving three children. He married again Mary, widow of \_\_\_\_\_ Hayward (or Howard), who left two children, in addition to the three by his first wife, Hannah.

"He was selectman in 1652. (Evidently he was a member of the Puritan theological group which was the most popular of religious thought in Boston at the time.) Later he became a zealous Baptist, and May 28, 1665 was established as minister of the first Baptist church of Boston. Accounts of his controversies and difficulties with the authorities are abundant. He was excommunicated July 30, 1665 from his former church two months following his acceptance as a Baptist minister, summoned before General Court on Oct. 11, disfranchised, fined, and, refusing to pay or to desist from holding Baptist meetings, was imprisoned. Subsequently he was liberated, although left without remission of sentence. In 1668 he was summoned to a public hearing held April 14<sup>th</sup>, and, failing to recant, was expelled from the colony and ordered to be imprisoned anew, if not gone by July 20. A letter, dated in prison, from Thomas Gould, John Farnham and William Turner, states that they were then in the twelfth week of their imprisonment. In the summer of 1669, he was liberated, and his society of Baptists resumed meetings at Noddle's Island.

"The Hayward children, born to Mary in her earlier marriage, who were the step-children of Thomas Gould, were:

1. Mary Hayward (or Howard) who md. (1) Jan. 30, 1662/3 Jonathan Bunker who d. June 2, 1678
2. Nathaniel Hayward who became connected with the Baptists in 1669, having md. (1) July 2, 1666 Sarah, dau. of Capt. Simon Willard
3. Abiel Hayward who md. June 8, 1665 Joseph Shapley.

"In Thomas Gould's Will he mentioned his widow Mary (executrix), his daughter Hannah (not then married), his son Samuel (under age), daughters Mary Skinner and Mehitable Gooding, son Nathaniel Hayward and his two children, daughter Abiel Shapley and her two children, daughter Mary Bunker and her two children. Also his grandchildren Mary Skinner and Thomas Gooding, children of his dau. Mary and son of his dau. Mehitable. No mention is made of his daughter Elizabeth, who was probably not then living. A deposition by her, made in 1671, states that she was then 17 years old . . .

"We thus have the family of Thomas Gould as they were born to him by his first wife Hannah and his second wife Mary. Children by 1st wife:

1. Hannah, bap. April 11, 1641; md. June 10, 1675 Thomas Eliot, carpenter, of Boston. Had daughter Mary b. 1686
2. Mary, md. Dec. 22, 1669 Thomas Skinner (7-49), baker, of Boston, who md. a 2nd wife Elizabeth before 1677
3. Mehitable, md. James Gooding of Boston and Lynn. Had son Thomas

Children by 2nd wife:

4. Elizabeth, b. 1654
5. Samuel, under age in 1674; butcher in Boston 1676

"No descendants of #5, Samuel, are to be found, nor any record of his marriage, so it seems probable that he died unmarried. The latest notice of him is a sale of land in 1676 to his brother-in-law James Gooding.

"Hence Rev. Thomas Gould appears to have had no descendants of the name 'Gould' in the third generation . . ." 1

A codicil to his Will was dated April 25, 1674 and proved five days later, April 30. From this we know he died between the 25th and 30th of April 1674.

The Indian arousals that resulted in the King Philip's War (1676) were being felt with apprehension and in some areas with great fear during the later years of Thomas Gould's life, but he did not live to suffer the anxieties nor see the tragedies that occurred during the time of the most vicious war ever experienced in New England's early history.

1. #91 pp. 340-1