

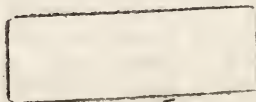
THE ODLIN FAMILY.

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Of Exeter, N. H.

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THE ODLIN FAMILY.

DESCENDANTS OF JOHN ODLIN, OF BOSTON, IN THE LINE OF HIS
GRANDSON, THE REV. JOHN ODLIN, OF EXETER, N. H.

THE REV. JOHN ODLIN, minister of Exeter, N. H., 1706-54, is believed by his descendants to be the ancestor of all the Odlins now living in the United States. The name is restricted to comparatively few families on this side of the Atlantic. It still appears as Odling in the London Directory, and William Odling is Professor of Chemistry in the University of Oxford. There are Odlings, or Odlins, in Toronto, Canada—recent immigrants, or the descendants of such. In the Boston town and church records the name Odlin is spelled Odlin, Odlen, Audlin, Audlyn, Audling, Audley and Awdley.

1. JOHN¹ ODLIN, 139th in the list of church members of Boston, was the founder of the family in America. He was disfranchised as an Antinomian in 1637; but afterward restored to citizenship and the church. He became a member of the Artillery in 1638, and by occupation was a cutler or armorer. He lived to be the oldest, or one of the oldest, citizens of his adopted town. On the 10th of June, 1684, with three other ancient inhabitants of Boston, "from the first planting and settling thereof," he testified respecting the purchase of Blackstone's rights in 1634. He mentioned his age as 82; his fellow witnesses being a few years younger. He made his will March 6, 1685, and on the 18th of the following December he died. His death is noticed by Judge Sewall in his Diary. His wife Margaret, whose surname we do not know, seems to have died before him.

Three sons and daughters were living at his decease—Elisha,² born July 1, 1640; John,² born Feb. 3, 1641-2; and Peter,² born July or August 2, 1646—the town and church records disagreeing as to the month. A granddaughter, Hannah³ Bumstead, whose parentage is not mentioned, but who was probably the daughter of John's deceased daughter Hannah,² born 1643, was mentioned in the will, of which Elisha was executor. Of the future or the families of Elisha's brothers John* and Peter, nothing is known

* Since this article was in type, my attention has been called by Mr. Walter Gibson to Mr. John O. Austin's lately published Genealogical Dictionary of Rhode Island, by which it appears that John,² son of John¹ Odlin, settled in Rhode Island, where he bore the name of John Audley. He died Dec. 13, 1711. His descendants are given on pages 5-7 of that book. By page 438 we find that he and his wife Martha died, July 17, 1687, to his brother Elisha, of Boston, tailor, certain land in the south part of Boston, devised by his father, John Odlin, armorer, deceased.

13 Dec. 1867

by the descendants of Elisha. It is the prevalent opinion, however, that they died childless, or that their lines became extinct at a very early period. Our task lies with Elisha and his son John and their descendants. It combines that of editor and original collector of data, with a decided preponderance of the former office. The late William⁷ Odlin of Exeter (1793-1863), a man of quiet habits, but of more than ordinary worth and intelligence, devoted much time in his later years to gathering statistics and facts regarding the descendants of Elisha Odlin and his son the Rev. John. His collections, which are quite full and satisfactory in many points, need supplementing and extending in others. The editor has been able to fill some of the gaps by his own inquiries and previous investigations, while a few dates remain unsupplied. The main work has been the recasting of Mr. Odlin's informal notes; thus preserving data which, unless put into type, may perish by accident, and at best remain inaccessible and unknown to the public. It should be added that only two of the descendants of the Rev. John Odlin, who bear his family name, are residents now of Exeter, though half a century ago they numbered more than a score.

2. ELISHA² (*John*¹) married August, 1659, Abigail, daughter of Dea. Henry Bright, of Watertown, died 1705. Four daughters and two sons were the result of this union, of whom three daughters, Hannah, born Sept. 3, 1666; Abigail, born April 5, 1670, and Margaret, born Aug. 5, 1672, and one son John, born Nov. 18, 1681, survived their children. Elisha, like his father, lived to a good old age, and was a respected citizen, as the following extract from Sewall indicates:

Sept. 14, 1724. Last night died my good old Christian neighbour and friend Mr. Elisha Odlin, sensible and calm to the very last. He was born July 1, 1640, upon the same lot in Newbury Street, where he all along liv'd and now dyed in the 83rd year of his age.

Elisha was a deacon of the Old South Church, and his fellow deacon Sewall was one of his bearers.

3. Rev. JOHN³ ODLIN (*Elisha*², *John*¹) was, as we have seen, Elisha's only surviving son. He was graduated from Harvard College in 1702. His name stands eight in a class of thirteen, according to the old system of thus indicating a student's social position. He was ordained pastor of the church at Exeter, N. H., Nov. 12, 1706. As he had married on the preceding 21st of October, Mrs. Elizabeth Clark, widow of his predecessor, the Rev. John Clark (H. C. 1690), and daughter of the Rev. Benjamin Woodbridge, he had probably filled the Exeter pulpit for some months before his ordination. His parish was then very large, for Exeter still included several of the now neighboring towns. Mrs. Odlin, who was the mother of his five children, died Dec. 6, 1729. He married second, Sept. 22, 1730, Mrs. Elizabeth Briscoe, daughter of Samuel Leavitt, of Exeter, and widow, first of Lieut. James Dudley, son of the Rev. Samuel Dudley, of Exeter, and second of Capt. Robert Briscoe.

Mr. Odlin's pastorate was quiet and prosperous until after 1740. It had been the wish of the town that his youngest son Woodbridge⁴ should become his colleague. He was graduated from Harvard College 1738, and studied theology with this object in view. The Rev. George Whitefield did not include Exeter in his first tour in 1740, but some of Mr. Odlin's principal supporters heard him at Portsmouth and became his converts. They declared that they now experienced true religious faith for the first

time. Mr. Odlin did not appreciate this work of the eloquent evangelist, and his son was even more opposed to the revival. The Whitefield party thereupon began to hold separate services. In 1743, when the parish assembled to complete Woodbridge Odlin's settlement, nearly one third of the votes were cast against him, solely on religious grounds. Separate worship was kept up by the disaffected minority, and after a heated controversy covering several years, the Whitefieldians were set off into the Second, or "New Parish," and relieved of the necessity of contributing to the support of their former pastor. In 1744 Whitefield came to Exeter, and disregarded the authority of Mr. Odlin, Sen., who met him at the outskirts of the town and solemnly warned him not to enter his parish. Mr. Odlin died Nov. 20, 1754. His will shows that he was a large owner of real estate, both in Exeter and the outlying townships of central New Hampshire. His children were:

1681236

4. i. JOHN,⁴ b. Nov. 4, 1707.
- ii. ELISHA, b. Nov. 16, 1709.
- iii. DUDLEY, a physician, b. Sept. 22, 1711; d. apparently unmarried, Feb. 13, 1747-8. He built the house, an elegant one for the time, now occupied by the Hon. C. H. Bell. His high social status is indicated by the mention of his death on the Hon. Theodore Atkinson's famous silver waiter.
- iv. SAMUEL, b. Aug. 14, d. Aug. 31, 1714.
6. v. WOODBRIDGE, b. April 28, 1718.

4. JOHN⁴ (*John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹). A deacon and militia captain; married Feb. 27, 1734, Alice, daughter of Capt. James Leavitt, and had:

- i. ELIZABETH,⁵ b. April 30, 1739; m. Dr. John Lamson. They had, besides several children dying in infancy, one daughter Elizabeth, who married 1797, Col. John Bennet, formerly of Portsmouth, whose daughter *Charlotte*⁶ married Dr. Miran Bates, of Vassalboro', Me.
- ii. ALICE, b. Oct. 5, 1743; m. at an advanced age Col. Benjamin Boardman, of Exeter, became a widow, went to Hallowell, Me., dying there childless, 1844.
- iii. ABIGAIL, b. May 28, 1748; m. Dr. Benjamin Page; removed to Hallowell and died 1815.
- iv. SAMUEL, b. Dec. 18, 1750; m. Mary Graves, of Beverly, Mass., removing thither. Their only children who lived to maturity were *Alice*⁶ and *Thankful*,⁶ who died spinsters.

5. ELISHA⁴ (*John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹) (H. C. 1731); married Nov. 1, 1731, widow Judith Pike, whose only child by her first husband married Dea. Samuel Brooks; ordained at Amesbury 1744; died January 21, 1752. He left:

7. i. JOHN,⁵ b. Sept. 4, 1732.
8. ii. WINTHROP, b. Oct. 23, 1734.
9. iii. WILLIAM, b. Feb. 17, 1738.
- iv. ANNA, b. Jan. 10, 1744; d. unmarried.
10. v. ELISHA, b. 1746.

6. WOODBRIDGE⁴ (*John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹) (H. C. 1738); ordained colleague to his father Sept. 28, 1743; married Oct. 23, 1755, Mrs. Abigail Strong, born 1732, widow of the Rev. Job Strong, who died very suddenly while pastor of the South Church in Portsmouth, Sept. 30, 1751, and daughter of Brig. Gen. Peter Gilman, of Exeter. Mr. Odlin died March 10, 1776. His wife survived until August 15, 1787. They had eight children:

- i. DUDLEY,⁵ b. Aug. 13, 1757 (H. C. 1777); m. Feb. 14, 1782. Elizabeth, daughter of Hon. Nicholas Gilman, and previous to 1791 had *Abigail*,⁶ *Betsy*, *Woodbridge*, *Peter* and *Caroline*, all of whom died unmarried, and most of them in early youth. Dudley d. Feb. 3, 1800. Mrs. Odlin, who m. second, J. S. Gilman, d. April 1, 1810.
 - ii. WOODBRIDGE, b. Sept. 26, 1759; m. Mary, daughter of Dea. Samuel Brooks, of Exeter; removed to Philadelphia, and later to Bahia, Brazil, where he died childless about 1840.
 - iii. PETER, b. March 25, 1762; d. St. Domingo, 1802.
 - iv. ELIZABETH, b. April 8, 1761.
 - v. ABIGAIL, b. Oct. 21, 1768; m. Dec. 29, 1785, Hon. Nathaniel Gilman, of Exeter, brother of Dudley's wife; d. Aug. 10, 1796, leaving *Frances*,⁶ first wife of Col. John Rogers; *Abigail*, wife of Dr. William Perry; *Nathaniel*, Jr., and *Ann*, second wife of Col. Rogers.
 - vi. JOHN, b. Dec. 2, 1770; d. at sea unmarried subsequent to 1795.
 - vii. MARY ANNE, b. Sept. 24, 1772; m. Thomas Stickney, Jr., of Concord, N. H. He d. Jan. 1, 1811. She survived until February, 1866. Had *Joseph P.*,⁶ who had *Joseph*,⁷ and *Ann*⁷ wife of Benjamin Bordman, attorney, of Lawrence.
 - viii. CHARLOTTE, b. Oct. 12, 1775; m. 1795, Jeremiah Stickney, brother of Thomas, and d. at Concord in early middle life. Left *Sarah*,⁶ unmarried, and *Mary Frances*,⁶ wife of Charles Gibson, who had *Mary*⁷ and *Walter*, the genealogist of the Stickney Family.
7. JOHN⁵ (*Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹), a physician and inheritor of his uncle Dudley's house. In 1782 he sold it to Nicholas Gilman, removing to Concord the same year, where the remainder of his life was spent. He married Mary, daughter of Joshua and Priscilla Wilson, of Exeter. They had:
- i. MARY,⁶ b. at Exeter, 1756; d. at Concord, April, 1852.
 - ii. JOHN, b. Feb. 4, 1759; d. at Concord, Oct. 6, 1840.
 - iii. AUGUSTUS, b. 1761; d. at Concord, 1842. In early life he was of a somewhat roving disposition. He resided for a time in Maine, where he married. Of his family little is known save that he had a son *Thomas*,⁷ who in turn had two sons, *Willis*⁸ and *Charles* and a daughter *Ella*. *Willis* served in the 15th Mass. Reg't during the late war, and was killed in battle. *Charles* resides at Worcester and has a son *Henry Woodbridge*.⁹ We have thus far received no full details respecting this line.
8. WINTHROP⁵ (*Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹) lived at Exeter, where he died Feb. 27, 1803. He married Emma, or Amy, daughter of John Folsom, of Exeter, born 1744, died Jan. 29, 1825. They had:
- i. PATTY,⁶ m. John Tilton.
 - ii. NANCY, m. — Fuller.
 - iii. BETSEY, m. Nov. 26, 1801, Joseph Hoit, of Stratham.
 - iv. JOHN F., b. 1783; m. 1828, Judith French, and d. at Exeter Dec. 27, 1858. John F. was the father of three daughters—1. *Emeline*,⁷ m. Daniel Tyler; 2. *Mary Esther*, m. — French; and 3. *Caroline*, still living at Exeter, unmarried.
9. WILLIAM⁵ of Exeter (*Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹), married March 1, 1765, Judith Wilson, sister of his brother John's wife. She died July 2, 1795, aged 52, and he Sept. 6, 1787. They had:
- i. JUDITH,⁶ b. Aug. 17, 1765; d. March 12, 1767.
 - ii. WILLIAM, b. Feb. 16, 1767; d. Exeter, March 1, 1825.
 - iii. ANNA, m. first, 1798, John Folsom, of Newmarket, who d. 1802; second, James Ham, of Deerfield, N. H. She died at Henniker, Feb. 25, 1853.
 - iv. BETSEY, m. John Chapman, and d. March, 1826, aged 52.
10. ELISHA⁵ (*Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹), married December, 1774. Sarah Sibley, of Salem, Mass., in which town they appear to have lived. They had:

- i. EBENEZER,⁶ b. July 29, 1777; lived and died without issue at Canaan, Maine.
- ii. SUSANNAH.
- iii. SARAH.
- iv. ELISHA, b. Oct. 27, 1782; lived and died in Salem or Beverly, Mass. He married, but had no children. He was, we believe, the subject of the first decision in the Massachusetts Reports, establishing the point that one liquor license does not legalize sales at two distinct places of business.
- v. WILLIAM WOODBRIDGE, lived at Rochester, N. H.; m. and had *William Howard*,⁷ who died in hospital in Arkansas, 1878-9. He had led a migratory life. His early days were spent at Wakefield, N. H. Later he was in Wisconsin, and his life closed, as above stated, in the southwest. He left no children.
- vi. SAMUEL, m. Mehitable Lambert and d. in Lubec, Me. They had :
 1. *Polly*,⁷ m. William Johnson, of Orono and Pittsfield, Me.
 2. *Hiram*,⁷ b. May 15, 1814, went to Wisconsin and afterward to California, m. Jane McClure and had six children, Hiram B.,⁸ Waldo, Henry L., Etta, Mary and Anna.
 3. *Sophia*,⁷ m. Hiram George, of Orono.
 4. *Ebenezer*,⁷ b. April 15, 1816, m. Elizabeth March, of Palmyra, Me., accompanied his brother Hiram to the far west; has 1. William Woodbridge,⁸ b. 1815, who has Victor,⁹ b. Dec. 10, 1871; 2. Abigail,⁷ b. Sept. 17, 1817, m. — Marshall; 3. Frederick,⁸ b. June 2, 1850; 4. Lilly,⁸ b. Feb. 7, 1852, m. — Oaks.
 5. *Sarah*,⁷ m. J. F. Moore, of Augusta, Me.
 6. *Elisha*,⁷ m. Mary O'Neil; they had 1. William F.,⁸ who m. Margaret Downs, of Salem, Mass., and had a daughter and two sons, Samuel,⁹ b. 1846, and Elisba,⁹ b. 1849; 2. Samuel,³ who m. Anna Odlin.
11. JOHN⁶ (*John*,⁵ *Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹) was a prominent citizen of Concord, N. H., and served in many important town offices. He married first, Sally Herbert, of Concord, Nov. 20, 1791. Their infant child, Charlotte, died Feb. 10, 1793. He married second, Mary, widow of John Souther and daughter of Col. Thomas Stickney, one of the pioneers of Concord. She was born Oct. 30, 1766, and lived to be the oldest native-born resident of the city, dying in April, 1858. The only child of John Odlin's second marriage was :
 - i. WOODBRIDGE,⁷ of Concord (merchant); b. March 19, 1810; m. Dec. 6, 1838, Abby P. Comstock, and has : i. *John W.*,⁸ b. April 29, 1841; ii. *Elizabeth Souther*, b. May 6, 1843; iii. *Mary Frances*, b. July 1, 1850; iv. *Arthur Fuller*, b. April 25, 1860. All of whom are married.
12. WILLIAM⁶ (*William*,⁵ *Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹), of Exeter, born Feb. 16, 1767; died March 1, 1825; married 1791, Elizabeth, daughter of Capt. James Leavitt, born Dec. 21, 1769, died August 18, 1860. Had :
 13. i. JAMES,⁷ b. Jan. 9, 1792; d. July 30, 1856.
 - ii. WILLIAM, b. Jan. 10, 1793; d. unmarried July 3, 1863.
 - iii. THOMAS, b. Nov. 16, 1794; m. Hannah Potter, of Amesbury, Mass., 1816, and d. without offspring, March 5, 1826.
 14. iv. JOSEPH, d. 1873; } twins, b. Jan. 16, 1797.
 15. v. BENJAMIN, d. 1876; }
 - vi. ELIZABETH, b. Nov. 23, 1799; m. Joseph Perkins, Nov. 30, 1825; d. Sept. 3, 1863; had *Elizabeth*,⁸ b. Oct. 16, 1828, and *Woodbridge Odlin*, b. June 12, 1831, d. 1881.
 - vii. WOODBRIDGE, b. Dec. 18, 1801; d. Dec. 1, 1892.
 - viii. WOODBRIDGE, 2d, b. May 9, 1805; d. April 1, 1879; m. first, Feb. 4, 1828, Joanna, daughter of John Odiorne, who died Jan. 26, 1812. Had *Anne Odiorne*,⁸ b. May 20, 1832, d. unmarried Feb. 8, 1856. He m. second, Oct. 9, 1844, Delia Augusta Little, of Castine, Me., by whom he left no issue. Woodbridge bequeathed \$20,000 to Phillips Exeter Academy to found the Odlin Professorship of English Literature.

- ix. MARY ANNE, b. July 29, 1810; m. Elihu T. Stevens, of Kingston and Exeter, and latterly of Manchester, N. H. Widow. Children—*Caroline Odlin*,³ *William Odlin*, *Mary* and *Julianna*.
13. JAMES⁷ (*William*,⁶ *William*,⁵ *Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹), of Exeter; married Oct. 27, 1816, Martha H., daughter of Joseph Osborne, born Aug. 25, 1792, died Oct. 29, 1868. They had:
16. i. JAMES WILLIAM,⁸ b. Nov. 3, 1817.
 17. ii. GEORGE OSBORNE, b. Aug. 26, 1823.
 18. iii. JOSEPH EDWIN, b. June 20, 1825, d. April 7, 1874.
 - iv. MARTHA JEWETT, b. July 21, 1828; m. Feb. 3, 1859, Charles Colburn Barrell, of York, Me. They have seven living children: 1. *William Odlin*⁹; 2. *Martha Osborne*; 3. *Mary Elizabeth*; 4. *Theodore Lyman*; 5. *Charles Sewall*; 6. *Anna Odiorne*; 7. *George Emerson*.
14. JOSEPH⁷ (*William*,⁶ *William*,⁵ *Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹), of Exeter; died Nov. 1873; married March 5, 1846, Harriet A. Downs, born Dec. 19, 1817, died 1878. One child:
- i. CHARLES CUSHING,⁸ b. Oct. 31, 1847; m. 1875, Sarah Elizabeth, daughter of William P. Moulton, of Exeter, and is now a physician at Melrose, Mass. One child, *Russell Nason*,⁹ b. July 12, 1876.
15. BENJAMIN⁷ (*William*,⁶ *William*,⁵ *Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹), of Exeter; married May 3, 1846, Elizabeth T., daughter of James Folsom, of Exeter. Died Nov. 1876. One child:
- i. ELLA F.,⁸ b. June 19, 1849; m. E. A. Alger, of Boston.
16. JAMES WILLIAM⁸ (*James*,⁷ *William*,⁶ *William*,⁵ *Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹), of Exeter, the only male representative of the name in the town. Has been high sheriff and held other responsible public offices; married Oct. 2, 1844, Harriet N. Warren. Their children were:
- i. LOUISE BARLOW,⁹ b. Sept. 2, 1846; m. 1883, Samuel Sinclair, Jr., of N. Y. Children—1. *Edward Duffield*¹⁰; 2. *Kate*.
 - ii. GEORGE, b. June 6, 1848; d. Nov. 28, 1848.
 - iii. GEORGIANA, b. Oct. 15, 1849; d. Sept. 15, 1853.
 - iv. MARY THAYER, b. Nov. 12, 1850; d. Sept. 17, 1851.
 - v. EDWARD WILLIAM, b. Sept. 17, 1859; m. Edith M. Warren, Dec. 29, 1886. Is now attached to the editorial staff *Boston Daily Advertiser*.
17. GEORGE OSBORNE⁸ (*James*,⁷ *William*,⁶ *William*,⁵ *Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹), formerly publisher New Hampshire Statesman, Concord; now of Union Grove, Ill.; married first, Sept. 9, 1846, Emma P. Dustin, of Francestown, N. H. (died March 25, 1869); second, Mrs. Harriet Snow. Children, all by first marriage:
- i. WILLIAM,⁹ b. Aug. 3, 1847.
 - ii. JOHN DUSTIN, b. Jan. 17, 1855.
 - iii. JAMES, b. June 14, 1859.
 - iv. EMMA CLARA, b. Aug. 30, 1862.
18. JOSEPH EDWIN⁸ (*James*,⁷ *William*,⁶ *William*,⁵ *Elisha*,⁴ *John*,³ *Elisha*,² *John*¹). Removed from Exeter to Laconia, N. H., in early manhood, and died there 1874; married first, Dec. 5, 1851, Abby Porter, who died March 6, 1852; second, Nov. 1, 1854, Christiana Farrar. Children, by second marriage:
- i. JAMES EDWIN,⁹ Congregational minister at Goffstown, N. H.; b. April 10, 1857.
 - ii. WILLIAM, b. April 5, 1865.