

## **William Bell of Lyme, New Hampshire**

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The Vital records of Palmer, Massachusetts, to the year 1850 gives the birth of the children of William and Elizabeth Bell. It also give the marriage intentions for William Bell to Elizabeth Shaw and Mary Bell to Andrew Brown. Both William Bell and Mary Bell were called "of Ware" in their respective listings. Ware, MA records have the marriage of David English to Isobell Bell. In his will, William Bell of Lyme only mentions his daughters by their given names.

The History of the town of Palmer, Massachusetts claims William Bell was the son of John Bell of Londonderry, NH. Neither The history of Londonderry, comprising the towns of Derry and Londonderry, N. H. by Edward Lutwyche Parker nor The Bell Family in America by William M. Clemens pub 1913, which both give accounts of John Bell of Londonderry's family make any such connection.

History of the town of Palmer, Massachusetts By Josiah Howard Temple p 422

William, son of John Bell, who first settled in Londonderry, N.H., married Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_. His home lot was on Ware River land now owned by John Fuller; also a lot in the north division sold to William Blair.

History of western Massachusetts: The counties of Hampden, Hampshire ... By Josiah Gilbert Holland

In Ware, as in many other towns in the Commonwealth, in was the custom, instead of hailing all new comers as a welcome accession to the strength of the community, to warn them to depart, lest they should become a charge to the town. In March, 1765, the town allowed William Bell 12 shillings for warning out several and carrying out some.

History of Newbury, Vermont: from the discovery of the Coös country to ... By Frederic Palmer Wells

James Bell of Lyme, NH was accidentally killed in 1775, leaving a son James, then two years old. His widow m2d, Col. Robert Johnston. The boy, James, lived with them till of age; rem to Hardwick, 1800, and m Lucy Dean, 1801. He became in a law suit, but, being too poor to employ a lawyer, he defended his case, won it, and became eminent at the bar. Rem. To Walden, 1804, where his son, Hon. James D. Bell, lived, and d. April 17, 1852.

The third wife of Col. Robert Johnston was Jane or Jean Bell. It is not known if she was the daughter of William and Elizabeth.

Col. Robert Johnston (3 Sep 1738 Haverhill, MA - 29 Feb 1824) m1 Abigail Hadlock (Hadley)

(d 25 May 1771) m2 Abigail Way (d 25 Jul 1772) m3 Jane (Jean) Bell (d. 1780) m4 Hephzibah (Tyler) (b 5 Dec 1754 Pembroke, NH - 8 Jul 1846) widow of James Bell 16 children 6 by 1st, 1 by 2nd, 2 by 3rd, and 7 by 4th.

Col Robert Johnston and his four wives bur Oxbow Cemetery, Newbury, Orange Co., VT same stone

Hephzibah B. wife of Col. Robt. Johnston died Jul 8 1846 aged 92

Hephzibah dau of James and Hephzibah Bell died Mar 1. 1798 aged 2?

William Bell

m Elizabeth

Elizabeth Bell (b 21 Jan 1736 Palmer, MA)

Jean Bell (b 2 Mar 1739 Palmer, MA)

William Bell b 25 Jul 1741Palmer, MA) of Ware

m (int. 27 Apr 1765 Palmer, MA) Elizabeth Shaw

Isabel Bell (b 2 Mar 1744 Palmer, MA)

m 6 Sep 1764 Ware, MA

David English (26 Apr 1743 Palmer, MA- 6 Oct 1821 Tunbridge, VT)

son of James and Mary English

Elenor Bell (b 2 Mar 1744 Palmer, MA)

Mary Bell (b 5 Dec 1747 Palmer, MA) of Ware

m (int. 18 Apr 1767 Palmer, MA) Andrew Brown

John Bell (b 1 Jan 1748 Palmer, MA)

Andrew Bell (b 2 May 1751 Palmer, MA)

James Bell (b 26 Nov 1754 Palmer, MA - 1775)

m Hephzibah Tyler (b 5 Dec 1754 Pembroke, NH - 8 Jul 1846)

Hephzibah Tyler m2 Col

Samuel Bell (b 1 Jan 1757 Palmer, MA)

Will: William Bell, 1783 : Lyme, Grafton Co, New Hampshire

In the name of God Amen I William Bell of Lime in the State of New Hampshire, Husbandman, being very sick & weak in body but of sound mind and memory thanks be given to God for it, calling to mind the mortality of my Body & knowing that it is appointed for all men once to Die do make & ordain this my last Will & Testament, that is to say principally & first of all I give & recommend my soul into the hands of almighty God who gave it & my body I recommend to the Earth to be buried in decent Christian burial at the discretion of my Executor nothing doubting but at the general Resurrection I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as

touching such worldly estate wherewith it has pleased God to bless me in this life, I give, devise and dispose of the same in the following manner & form.

First, I give & bequeath to Elizabeth my dearly beloved wife, the use & improvement of my farm where I now live together with all my stock, outdoor moveables & household furniture during her life and after her to be equally divid among all my children except my son William whose share shall be one third more than any one of the rest of my children----

I give and bequeath to my son Andrew one fifty acre lot of land in Lime, it being the lot whereon he now liveth---

I give and bequeath to my son Samuel, thirty acres of land in Lime lying on the south side of the lot lumber thirty four of the second Division said thirty acres being three ten acre pitches, and also one undivided right in Lime belonging to the original right of William Bell; he the said Samuel  
paying fifty pound, lawful money----

I give and bequeath to my sons John Andrew & Samuel one undivided right of land in Lime belonging to the original right of James Brown to be equally shared between them-----

I give and bequeath to my Daughters Elizabeth Jane Isabel Elener & Mary, two lots of land in Lime of a hundred acres each being number Eleven & Number sixty-four of the third division and twenty five pound lawful money to be equally shared & divided among them--&

I give to my beloved wife what money remains after my estate is settled & just debts paid---

And I do make & constitute my son William to be the sole Executor of this my last will & testament. And I do hereby disallow revoke & disanul all & every other former will & testament ratifying and confirming this & no other to be my last will & testament in witness whereof I have here into set my hand & Seal this thirty first day of January in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & eighty three----

Signed Sealed published & declared by the said William Bell as his last will  
& Testament in the presence of us

Thomas Porter Jun'r

Elijah Porter

James English

William Bell

his mark

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State of New Hampshire Grafton  
Haverhill 18 Nov'r 1788

Then Thomas Porter & James English personally appeared & made solemn oath that they saw William Bell sign & seal & declare the foregoing testament to be his last will and Testament and that they signed their names as witnesses in his presence and in the presence of each other and in the presence of Elijah Porter and that to the best of their judgement he was of a sound disposing Mind and Memory.

Before me Charles Johnston Judge Prob.

Grafton Haverhill November 18th 1788---

I allow & approve of the within written instrument as & for the last will & testament of the said Testator

Charles Johnston Judge Prob.

1790

Bell, John	1	2	5	0	0	35	Lyme
Bell, Reuben	1	1	1	0	0	35	Lyme
Bell, Samuel	1	3	3	0	0	35	Lyme
Bell, William	1	1	3	0	0	35	Lyme

No records completely verify this, but David English who married Anna Clement was the likely the son of David English and Isabell Bell. David sr. was the son of James and Mary English of Palmer, MA. Along with his brother James, David sr. was an early settler of Lyme, NH. David married his wife Isabell in Ware, MA, and his father-in-law's family also moved to Lyme. When Carl S. English and his father Jude C. English visited the "Button Yard" or Button Cemetery in 5 Oct 1876, they had to piece together a broken soap stone slab to decipher the inscription.

David English

Died Oct. 6th 1821

Aged 77 years 5 mos 3 days

I don't know how the year change from different calendar's effect the age estimate, but I believe he was the David English born 26 Apr 1743 in Palmer, MA to James and Mary English. When David enlisted in the army at the age of 17 on 11 Apr 1760, he was living with David Shaw.

James English

m Mary (d 16 Apr 1747 Palmer, MA)

David English (26 Apr 1743 Palmer, MA- 6 Oct 1821 Tunbridge, VT)

m 6 Sep 1764 Ware, MA

Isabell Bell (b 2 Mar 1744 Palmer, MA)

Andrew English b 6 May 1745 Palmer, MA

James English b 6 Apr 1747 Palmer, MA

m Jerusha Fairfield

Betsy English b 8 Mar 1774 Lyme

m Isaac Gifford b 7 Sep 1773 Sandwich, MA

Andrew English b Apr 1775 Lyme

m Apr 1805 Lyme, NH Mary Godell

Joseph Warren English

James English (6 May 1777-19 May 1871)

John English (19 Jun 1779-9 Jun 1852)

William English (b 23 Sep 1781)

Mary English (17 Feb 1789-13 Jul 1837)

Sarah English (3 Jul 1786-23 Dec 1820)

Rebecca English (3 May 1790-28 May 1815)

Samuel English (1 Mar 1792-6 Oct 1880)

m 7 Dec 1815 Lyme, NH

Mary Steele (b 11 Oct 1797 Tolland, CT)

Prudence English (15 Apr 1795-1 Mar 1826)

The BLM site lists his original land grant in 1839 In Michigan as Wooster English. Also on the BLM site are Edson's 1848 land purchase and his son Jude C.s 1857 land purchase.

<http://www.glorerecords.blm.gov/PatentSearch/Default.asp?>

1800 Tunbridge

David English

David English jr

1810 Tunbridge

David English 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 2 1

David English jr 1 0 1 1 0 1 2 0 1

Asa English 0 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1

1820 Tunbridge (-10) (11-16) (17-18) (19- 26) (27- 45) (45-60) (61+) (-16) (17-26) 27-45)  
(45+) farmer

David English	0	1	1	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	3
Asa English	0	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	3	0	3
Worcester English	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1

David English (abt 1767-2 Feb 1840 VT)

m Anna Clement (29 May 1772-11 Aug 1864 MI)

Worcester English (9 Mar 1793 Tunbridge, VT - 18 Apr 1851 MI)

m Polly White (abt 1793 - 11 Jul 1873 Boston age 80)

Lucinda English 31 Dec 1795 Tunbridge

m Mr Brown

Betsey English b 18 Feb 1797 Tunbridge

Salley English 27 Apr 1799 Tunbridge

m Heman Farnham (9 Jan 1797 VT - 30 Mar 1878)

Edson English (12 Sep 1801 Tunbridge-20 May 1883 South Boston, MI)

m 12 Apr 1823

Abigail Willard (14 Apr 1799 Sharon, VT-31 Dec 1890 South Boston, MI)

Mary English ( b abt 1809 - 7 Mar 1869 Saranac, Ionia)

m 6 Jul 1831 Tunbridge, VT

James Madison Fuller (4 Oct 1806 Danville, VT - 12 Apr 1891 Saranac, MI)

I have much more on the descendants of David English and Anna Clement, but that is about all I know of the Bell's of Lyme.