

# WILLIAM<sup>1</sup> GIFFORD OF SANDWICH, MASS.

(D. 1687)

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*Edited by Anne Borden Harding*

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**97.** JUSTICE<sup>5</sup> GIFFORD (*Samuel<sup>4</sup>, John<sup>3-2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>*) was given this number in error. We have not found his record.

**98.** PRINCE<sup>5</sup> GIFFORD (*Benjamin<sup>4</sup>, William<sup>3</sup>, John<sup>2</sup>, William<sup>1</sup>*) was born July 1746 and died, testate, 14 December 1803, "ae. 57 yrs. 5 mo." (g.s. Old Friends Burying Ground, West Falmouth).

He married 27 November 1766 ELIZABETH GIFFORD, daughter of Melatiah<sup>3</sup> and Sarah (Bowerman) Gifford of Falmouth, who was born 1 August 1744, died 27 September 1816, "ae. 72 yrs., wife of Prince" (g.s. Friends Cemetery, West Falmouth). She and her husband were first cousins once removed. The will of Melatiah Gifford, dated 18 May 1772, gave to his daughter Elizabeth £13 6s. 8d., but his last will, dated 12 July 1779, reduced the bequest to £5.

The will of Benjamin<sup>4</sup> Gifford, dated 8 March 1769 but not proved until 1780, gave to this only son, Prince Gifford, all the real and personal estate, directing that he care for his sister Martha and pay the bequest to his sister Abigail Nye. Prince was made sole executor (*Register*, 130 [1976]: 131).

Copies of the following deeds, taken from the Arnold B. Gifford Collection at Falmouth, were furnished to us by Capt. Charles A. Davis. We give them in some detail, since the recorded copies were destroyed in the Barnstable Courthouse fire in 1827.

On 5 July 1776 Joseph Hatch, Jr., and Barnabas Hatch, both of Falmouth, yeomen, conveyed for £200 paid by Prince Gifford of Falmouth, yeoman, "a part of a neck of land in sd Falmouth known by the name of Weiquomequesset Neck, bound by the harbour . . . by Daniel Butler's land." The deed was signed by Joseph Hatch, Barnabas Hatch, and Mercy (her mark) Hatch, and witnessed by Joseph Bradford, Susanna Bradford, and Joseph Pease; acknowledged 12 February 1781 and recorded 5 April 1785 by Ebenezer Bacon, Registrar (Barnstable County Deeds, hereafter BACD, 89:136). A separate instrument of the same date, which reads, "for the love and good will I have to Prince Gifford of Falmouth, yeoman, do hereby quit all claim to a certain piece of land in Falmouth that the