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**Genealogy of Ensign  
Thomas Fuller, of  
Dedham,  
Massachusetts, and his  
descendants,  
1642-1895**

**Fuller Francis Henry**

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**Author: Fuller Francis Henry**

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A GENEALOGY

OF

ENSIGN THOMAS FULLER,

OF DEDHAM, MASSACHUSETTS,

AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

1642—1895.

BY FRANCIS H. <sup>o</sup>FULLER.



DESCENDANTS OF ENSIGN THOMAS FULLER,  
OF DEDHAM.

BY FRANCIS H. FULLER, OF LINCOLN, MAINE.

1. THOMAS FULLER is first mentioned in the town records of Dedham on November 25, 1642, when he was admitted to the purchase of Martin Phillips's lot. He married Hannah Flower on Nov. 22, 1643. In those days no one could settle there without being admitted, formally, by the Town. He signed the Town Covenant and acquired title to considerable land. On Feb. 11, 1648-9, he with others "was deputed to view & help in laying out the genrall dividint" He was chosen one of the Surveyors of the Town on Jan. 1, 1650-1, and continued in this office many years. On Sept. 20, 1651, "Br. Kingsberry is desired to treat w<sup>th</sup> Tho: Fuller concerning the worke of a gager to know whether he haue any considerabl reason to refuse that worke." In 1652 "Lieft: Fisher and Thomas Fuller are deputed to survey the length of the water course Through the Broade meadow."

In 1661, he surveyed the line between Watertown and Dedham, and in 1664 he was one of a committee to search out the "most expedient way betwixt Cambridge and Dedham." In 1663 he was chosen Selectman, and held that office for fourteen years. In 1664, he was one of the committee sent to Pocumtuck (Deerfield) to make choice and lay out the land.

At a general meeting of the town, 1: 11: 72, "Thomas Fuller is deputed to wright the acts of this meeting." It was voted not to choose a Town Recorder that year, and the records

of the town, in his writing, may be seen at the Town Clerk's office in Dedham.

The people of Dedham contributed in 1672 the sum of £61. 12s. as a voluntary contribution "towards the new edifices" at Harvard College. At this Ensign Thomas Fuller gave £5." He was Representative to the General Court in 1673, 1679, and 1686.

In 1680 William Nehoiden, an Indian, demanded of the Selectmen of Dedham £10 and 50 acres of land for a parcel of land lying upon the Greate Island, five miles one way and fower miles the other. They agreed with him for £10 in money, 40s. in corn, and forty acres of land near the Upper Falls. Ensign Fuller and Sarg. Ellis were deputed to receive the deed, pay the money and corn and set out the land. This treaty extinguished the Indian title to what is now the greater part of Needham, and it is commemorated in the seal of that town, which is here reproduced by permission of Charles Curtis Greenwood, Town Clerk.



The forty acres of land were bought by Capt. Robert Cook, Jr., and are now included in Echo Bridge Park at Newton Upper Falls. Later in the same year, another Indian named Magus claimed title to a tract of land near the herd yard, and Ensign Thomas Fuller was one of the committee deputed to treat with him. Magus's deed to Capt. Daniel Fisher, Ensign Thomas Fuller and others, committee and agents of the town of Dedham, may be

seen at the Town Clerk's office at Dedham. This extinguished the Indian title to the greater part of Wellesley. His name as one of the agents of Dedham also appears in Josias's deed confirming the title to Medfield.

In 1681 "Ensign" Thomas Fuller gave "a bond of £20 to screen the town against a negro boy that he have." In 1682, he "desires satisfaction for keeping and maintaining the Town's stock of ammunition from the 4th of the 7th Month 74 until 4-7-82 and for that service he requires 10s per year which amounts to £4 whereupon the selectmen desired him to abate ten shillings which he did freely and also 10s more for which the selectmen in behalf of the town returned him thanks and desired that he would yet continue in that service. To which he answered that he will for the present but not under ten shillings the year." This settlement seems to have been satisfactory to the Town, for at the next general meeting it was voted to continue "Ensi Fuller" as keeper of the Town's ammunition. Ensign Thomas Fuller was one of the Committee chosen Jan. 22, 1683-4 "to take care of and dispose of the money" given by Dr. William Avery for the "use of a latten Schooll". He was deputed on Feb. 6, 1686-7, to lay out a cart passage or way on the northerly side of Charles River from the way to the Great Plains to the School Grounds.

The last mention of him in the Town records is as follows:—"26. 6. 90. The inhabitance being assembled Left. Tho. Fuller is chosen Commissionir for y<sup>e</sup> year insueing" and "y<sup>e</sup> 6. 8. 90 Left. Tho. Fuller being taken away by Death Com<sup>r</sup> Thorp is Desired and betruusted to appear on y<sup>e</sup> Town's behalf att y<sup>e</sup> then meeting att Boston according to law."

In the Records of the General Court, I find:—

Oct. 13, 1675. "Upon information given to this court of three Indians of Natick that are separated from the rest of the Indians there, and are now residing with Henry Lealand of Sherborn, withdrawing themselves as suspecting those Indians to have some design against the English the Court doeth order and appoint Mr. William Avery, Ensigne Thomas Fuller and

Sargent Ellis forthwith to convent the said three Indians before them and strictly examine them as to what they know in the matter and make speedy return to this Court or Council of what they find therein."—[Vol. 5, p. 56.]

In May, 1676, he was on the Committee "to remove and settle the Indians now confined on Long island."—Vol. 5, p. 86. June 1, 1677, he was appointed on the Committee to order the prudential affairs of Wrentham until they chose selectmen, in 1685.—Vol. 5, p. 148, 510. In June, 1689, the General Court confirmed him as Lieutenant of the Dedham Military Company.

Four days before his death, on Sept. 28, 1690, he made a will in which he gave a life interest in his estate to his widow, with the provision "that if the annual profits of said estate be not sufficient to supply my Dear wife as well to which is honourable according to her Rank and Qualitie as meerly for nessesity and privit comfort that she have power to sell and make dispose of such part or parcel of my estate as may fully answer my will in this case." See Suffolk Wills, Lib. VIII, fol. 3.

In the division of his estate more than thirty pieces of Real Estate are described. Thomas (6) received the homestead on the Great Island. Its exact location cannot be determined, as there is no recorded conveyance of it by Amos (14), who inherited it under the will of his father.

In the N. E. Hist. & Gen. Reg., Vol. 22, Page 296, August, 1868, may be found the following letter from the Society's MSS. files. My attention was called to it by Hon. David F. Day of Buffalo, N. Y., a descendant of Sarah Fuller (5) Day.

XTIAN FFREIND, I rec<sup>d</sup> yours for w<sup>ch</sup> I give you thankes, I am glad to heare from you. And I Desire to simpathize w<sup>th</sup> you in your p<sup>t</sup>icler sufferings in your publick troubles w<sup>th</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> God hath been pleased to exercise you; out of w<sup>ch</sup> he hath been pleased to Deliver you by making you conquerors, w<sup>h</sup> we have to passe throre the Lord only knows, Warrs and rumors of Warrs are at this day. I humbly conceive this yeare may be a discovering yeare.

\* \* \* \* \*

I conceive also you<sup>r</sup> safty greater than ours. The Lord help us and



you to watch and pray and wisely observe all the foot steps of God's p'vidence w<sup>ch</sup> will certainly issue in the Downfall of Anti C<sup>s</sup> and the Advance of the kingdom of Jesus C<sup>s</sup>, Amen. As to you<sup>r</sup> p'ticular concern how I wonder sometime you have not sent for your 5 £ especially considering Bro. Rob Allen came over. You may remember I have spoken fully to it heretofore.

As to my own concerns my wife have had a quattran ague till this winter and severall of my children have been sickly. But I hope they may all recover. Thus w<sup>th</sup> hearty salutations from my wife and my selfe to you and you<sup>r</sup> wife and children and Robert Allin I remaine

Yo<sup>r</sup> Assured friend

BEN: CORBYN.

Alburgh 1 m 14, 1677.

I pray not call your settlement any more an exile.  
Addressed,

These ffor his Lo. fire Tho : fuller of Dedham in New England.

From which we may infer that Thomas Fuller came from Alburgh, England. Alburgh is in Norfolk, about 100 miles northeast of London, and had a population of 601 in 1832.

Rob. Allin admitted to the church at Dedham, 1673, and is named in Rev. John Allin's will, but their relationship does not appear.

Of Hannah Flower but little is known. That she was the niece of Margaret Kingsbury, wife of John, who was admitted freeman at Watertown in 1635, and to the Church at Dedham Oct. 20, 1639, is proved by her will in the Suffolk Registry Lib. I, fol. 383a, and the division of lands of Thomas Fuller and Margaret Kingsbury in Lib. XVI, fol. 118, in which Thomas's children called her "our great aunt." The following entry in the Records of the First Church of Dedham probably refers to her:—"Hannah [ ] y<sup>e</sup> kinswoman of our br: Kingsbury was also received, y<sup>e</sup> same day", March 11, 1641. Joseph Kingsbury's wife was admitted before the choosing of Elders in 1639, but Joseph was not received until April 9, 1641, so that when Hannah was admitted John Kingsbury was the only person who was entitled to be called "brother Kingsbury." She died between Aug. 25, 1701, when she was taxed, in Dedham, and Nov. 17, of the same year, when the same property was taxed to the heirs of Thomas Fuller and Margaret Kingsbury.

between 1690 and Feb. 15, 1703, when the children divided the estate. Children:—

1. JOHN, b. Nov. 1, 1644; d. Feb. 21, 1644-5.
2. JOHN, b. Dec. 28, 1645; m. Judith Gay.
3. ELIZABETH, b. Feb. 1, 1648; m. John Kingsbury.  
HANNAH, b. Nov. 9, 1650; d. April 11, 1672.  
THOMAS, b. Feb. 6, 1652; d. June 26, 1662.
4. MARY, b. March 25, 1655; m. Daniel Fisher.  
SAMUEL, bap. April 10, 1657; d. March 17, 1678-9.
5. SARAH, b. May 7, 1659; m. Ralph Day.
6. THOMAS, b. June 23, 1662; m. Esther Fisher.

2. JOHN<sup>2</sup>, son of Thomas (1) and Hannah (Flower) Fuller, b. Dec. 28, 1645; m. Judith, dau. of John and Joanna Gay, Feb. 8, 1672; d. Jan. 15, 1719. She was b. April 23, 1649; d. Nov. 19, 1718, and both were buried in Dedham, where her tombstone is still standing. He served as Town Clerk and Selectman of Dedham; was a member of the General Court for many years; was a soldier in Philip's War, and was one of the garrison at Woodcock's, September, 1675; was a Corporal in Capt. Moseley's Company, and was wounded in the Narragansett Fight, Dec. 19, 1675. He resided in the house now owned and occupied by his descendant, Capt. Henry W. Onion, which he bequeathed to his son Hezekiah (10).—Suffolk Wills, libre 58, folio, 167. Children:—

- JUDITH, b. Nov. 21, 1673; m. John Richards.
- HANNAH, b. Sept. 5, 1675; m. Joshua Fisher.
7. JOHN, b. Nov. 19, 1677; m. Bethiah Colburn.
8. THOMAS, b. Nov. 19, 1681; m. Mary Fisher.
9. ROBERT, b. Aug. 11, 1685; m. Mary Parker.
10. HEZEKIAH, b. Aug. 5, 1687; m. Elizabeth Fisher.

3. ELIZABETH<sup>2</sup> dau. of Thomas (1) and Hannah (Flower) Fuller, b. Feb. 1, 1648; m. JOHN KINGSBURY, Nov. 29, 1666; m. 2dly, Michael METCALF, Sept. 17, 1672; d. Oct. 24, 1732. Mr. Kingsbury was b. at Dedham, Aug. 15, 1648; d. May 30, 1669 (Suffolk Wills, Lib. V, fol. 153). Mr. Metcalf was b.:

Jan. 21, 1644; d. Sept. 1, 1693 [N. E. Hist. & Gen. Register, XVI, p. 338]. Children:—

ELIZABETH KINGSBURY, b. Nov. 23, 1668; m. Joseph Damon.

MICHAEL METCALF, b. May 9, 1674; prob. d. unm.

MARY METCALF, b. Oct. 13, 1676; m. Jeremiah Woodcock, Jan. 5, 1698.

THOMAS METCALF, b. Jan. 3, 1678; m. Lydia, dau. of Nathaniel and Lydia (Fisher) Chickering who was b. Dec. 1, 1678.

SARAH METCALF, b. April 26, 1682; m. John Gay.

ELEAZER METCALF, b. Feb. 12, 1684; m. Hannah Ware.

HANNAH METCALF, b. April 17, 1687; m. Thomas Stedman, Nov. 18, 1729; m. 2dly Timothy Kingsbury, of Needham.

DANIEL METCALF, b. June 5, 1691; d. Jan. 29, 1719, prob. unm.

4. MARY<sup>2</sup> dau. of Thomas (1) and Hannah (Flower) Fuller, b. March 26, 1655; m. Daniel, son of Capt. Daniel and Abigail (Marriott) FISHER, Jan. 19, 1674; d. March 19, 1726. He was b. Feb. 26, 1649, and d. Nov. 17, 1713, and both were buried at Dedham. His tombstone is still standing in the old "burying place." Children:—

MARY FISHER, b. Jan. 27, 1676; m. John Hunting, Feb. 23, 1698; d. April 30, 1752. He was born March 3, 1672. [Hunting Gen., p. 8.]

Capt. JEREMIAH FISHER, b. June 10, 1679; m. Deborah Richards, Dec. 15, 1702. She was b. June 1, 1679. Their dau. Deborah m. Dr. Nathaniel Ames, and was the mother of Nathaniel and Fisher Ames.

DANIEL, b. Feb. 7, 1682; m. Esther Fisher

HANNAH, b. Oct. 10, 1684; m. Jeremiah Richards. (Richards Gen., p. 124.)

NATHANIEL, b. April 5, 1687; m. before 1726, Elizabeth [ ]; grad. at Harvard College, 1706; Minister at Dighton, 1710-12; d. 1777. She d. Sept. 23, 1765.

MARGARET, b. Feb. 28, 1690; m. Nathaniel Gay, March

16, 1709; d. Feb. 13, 1773. See N. E. H. & G. Reg. (XXXIII, 47,) for Jan. 1879.

ABIGAIL, b. Sept. 27, 1694; m. Samuel Morse.

5. SARAH<sup>2</sup> b. May 7, 1659; was dau. of Thomas (1) and Hannah (Flower) Fuller; m. 1st, Ralph DAY, Dec. 6, 1682. He was son of Ralph and Susau (Fairbanks) Day; bap. Feb. 11, 1657, and d. Oct. 21, 1694. M. 2dly, May 17, 1704, John CARPENTER; m. 3dly, July 27, 1721, Samuel Ware, of Wrentham. She d. March 31, 1736.—N. E. H. & G. Reg. (XLI, 28), for Jan., 1887. Children:—

RALPH, b. Oct. 29, 1683.

THOMAS, b. June 19, 1686.

SARAH, b. April 1, 1689; m. David Wight of Dedham.

MARY, b. Oct. 2, 1691; d. Nov. 17, 1692.

JEREMIAH, b. Sept. 18, 1692.

ABIELL, b. March 29, 1695; m. Michael Bacon of Dedham.

6. THOMAS<sup>2</sup>, b. June 23, 1662; was son of Thomas (1) and Hannah (Flower) Fuller; m. Esther, dau. of Captain Daniel and Abigail (Marriott) Fisher, April 25, 1688; d. April 23, 1733. She was b. Aug. 5, 1667; d. April 3, 1747. He was chosen Selectman of Dedham in 1702, and held the office for five years; Representative to the General Court, 1723-24. His will is recorded in the Suffolk Probate, Vol. XXXI, fol. 379, in which he gives to his son David, land in Needham, and two lots in Dedham, near Strawberry Hill, also near the house of Nathaniel Wilson. On the Strawberry Hill lot his grandson, David Fuller, built the house which is now (1893) standing, and is probably the oldest house in Dover.

His wife was probably the Esther Fisher who witnessed the signature of Magnus to the deed to her father and Ensign Thomas Fuller, as it is known that she could write. Children:—

11. THOMAS, b. Feb. 28, 1689; m. Mchitable Herring.

ESTHER, b. Dec. 30, 1694; d. June 23, 1696-7.

12. JEREMIAH, b. Nov. 2, 1696; m. Hannah Newell,

13. DANIEL, b. April 20, 1699; m. Lucy Goodwin.

14. AMOS, b. May 11, 1701; m. Esther Kingsbury.

15. DAVID, b. March 26, 1704; m. Elizabeth Everett.