

A genealogical profile of Moses Fletcher

Birth: Moses Fletcher was born about 1564, based on his marriage date.

Death: He died in Plymouth Colony in the winter of 1621.

Ship: *Mayflower*, 1620

Life in England: Moses Fletcher lived in Sandwich, Kent by 1599 and possibly received his training as a blacksmith there. He was the sexton of St. Peter, Sandwich from 1604 to 1609 but was excommunicated by the church three times. Two of these punishments were caused by his participation in illegal burials, one that of his daughter Judith.

Life in Holland: Moses Fletcher and his family arrived in Leiden by December 1613. He apparently continued his trade there, as he identified his occupation as “smith” in his betrothal to his second wife. Fletcher traveled to Plymouth Colony by himself, leaving his family in Leiden. The children remained in Holland and married. Since 1972 a few modern descendants have been identified.

Life in New England: Moses Fletcher died in Plymouth Colony during the winter of 1620/1.

Family: Moses Fletcher married (1) Mary Evans in St. Peter, Sandwich on October 30, 1589, and had ten children. After her death he married Sarah (____) Denby, widow of William Denby, in Leiden on December 21, 1613. There are no recorded children.

Children of Moses and Mary Fletcher [all baptized at St. Peter, Sandwich:

- Mary was baptized on January 4, 1589/90. There is no further record.
- John was born about 1592. He married Josina Sachariasdaughter in Leiden on December 5, 1618, and had at least four children. He was still living on February 13, 1656, in Leiden.
- Catherine was baptized on September 1, 1594. There is no further record.
- Richard was baptized on January 2, 1596/7. There is no further record.
- Priscilla was baptized on March 24, 1599/1600. In Leiden, she married (1) Thomas Coit on April 4, 1626, as his second wife and had four children. She married (2) Help or Solomon Terry on June 1, 1637, and had one daughter. She married (3) Jan Janzoon Vermout on July 29, 1652.

- Moses was baptized on October 10, 1602, and buried on April 21, 1603.
- Elizabeth was baptized on April 4, 1604. In Leiden, she married (1) Casper Barnaart and (2) Michiel Voorchoren on May 21, 1636, and had four children. She was still living on September 28, 1677.
- Jane was baptized on February 8, 1606/7. There is no further record.
- Moses was baptized on April 2, 1609. There is no further record.
- Judith was buried on November 6, 1609.

For Further Information:

Robert C. Anderson. **The Great Migration Begins.** Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 1995.

Robert C. Anderson. *The Pilgrim Migration.* Boston: New England Historic Genealogical Society, 2004.

Robert S. Wakefield. “The Search for the Descendants of Moses Fletcher.” *New England Historic Genealogical Register* 128 (1974):161–69.



A collaboration between PLIMOTH PLANTATION and the
NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY®
Supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services

www.PlymouthAncestors.org

PLYMOUTH ANCESTORS

Where do I go from here?

Researching your family's history can be a fun, rewarding, and occasionally frustrating project. Start with what you know by collecting information on your immediate family. Then, trace back through parents, grandparents, and beyond. This is a great opportunity to speak to relatives, gather family stories, arrange and identify old family photographs, and document family possessions that have been passed down from earlier generations.

Once you have learned all you can from family members, you will begin to discover other sources. A wide variety of records can help you learn more about the lives of your ancestors. These include birth, marriage, and death records; immigration and naturalization records; land records; census records; probate records and wills; church and cemetery records; newspapers; passenger lists; military records; and much more.

When you use information from any source — an original record, a printed book, or a website — always be careful to document it. If you use a book, you should cite the author or compiler, the full title, publication information and pages used. Also be sure to record the author's sources for the information. If the author's sources aren't provided, you will have to try to find the original source. Many genealogical works contain faulty information, and the Internet also contains many inaccuracies. In order for your work to be accepted — by lineage societies and other genealogists — it must be properly documented.

IMPORTANT GENEALOGICAL RESOURCES

New England Historic Genealogical Society

Founded in 1845, NEHGS is the country's oldest and largest genealogical society. The library contains over 200,000 books, plus significant manuscript and microfilm collections, and a circulating library by mail. NEHGS members receive two periodicals, the *Register* and *New England Ancestors*, and can access valuable genealogical data online.

NEHGS, 101 Newbury St., Boston, MA 02116;
888-296-3447; www.NewEnglandAncestors.org.

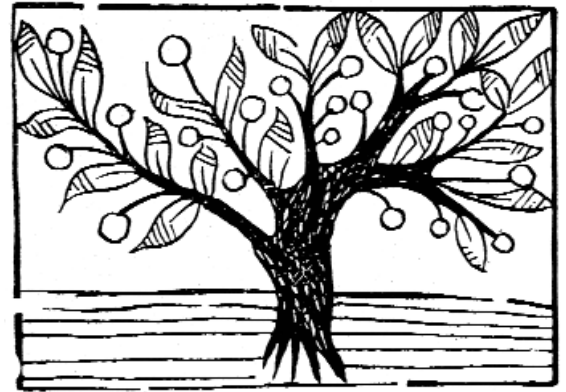
Plimoth Plantation: *Bringing Your History To Life*

As a non-profit, educational organization our mission is: to offer the public powerful experiences of history, built upon thorough research of the Wampanoag and Pilgrim communities. We offer multiple learning opportunities to provide a deeper understanding of the relationship of historical events to modern America. Members have access to our Research Library.

Plimoth Plantation, 137 Warren Avenue, Plymouth, MA 02632;
508-746-1622; www.plimoth.org

RECOMMENDED WEBSITES

- www.PlymouthAncestors.org
- www.CyndisList.com
- www.FamilySearch.org
- www.USGenWeb.org



PLYMOUTH ANCESTORS[®]

GENEALOGICAL LIBRARIES IN PLYMOUTH

General Society of Mayflower Descendants Library

A collection focused principally on the genealogies of the descendants of the *Mayflower* passengers.

4 Winslow St., Plymouth; 508-746-3188; www.mayflower.org

Plymouth Collection, Plymouth Public Library

Over 1200 items relating to the descendants of the Pilgrims, as well as the many other immigrants who settled in the area.

132 South St., Plymouth; 508-830-4250;
www.plymouthpubliclibrary.org

RECOMMENDED BOOKS

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Genealogy by Christine Rose and Kay Germain Ingalls, Alpha Books, 1997.

Genealogist's Handbook for New England Research by Marcia Melnyk, NEHGS, 1999.

Shaking Your Family Tree: A Basic Guide to Tracing Your Family History by Ralph J. Crandall, NEHGS, 2001.

Unpuzzling Your Past by Emily Croom, Betterway Books, 2003.

A collaboration between PLIMOTH PLANTATION and the
NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY[®]

www.PlymouthAncestors.org