

## John Woollacott of Atherington, Devonshire, England, Patriarch of the Fitchburg, Massachusetts, Woollacotts

Alfred Woollacott, III<sup>[1]</sup>

John<sup>2</sup> Woollacott (*Elon*<sup>1</sup>, *Robert*<sup>A</sup>), the middle child of Elon and Mary (Govier) Woollacott came to America in 1880 at the age of 17. While he was en route, his mother died.<sup>[2]</sup> He left two sisters and fifty first cousins, many of whom resided in North Devonian villages such as High Bickington, Atherington, and Yarnscombe and Exmoor locales such as Bratton Fleming, East Buckland, and Charles.<sup>[3]</sup> In 1871, Atherington had 578 inhabitants (285 males, 293 females), 110 houses on 3,326 acres of land. The Rev. A. C. Bassett was lord of the Umberleigh manor, which extended over the Atherington and High Bickington parishes.<sup>[4]</sup> All of John's father's eight siblings and his father were born in High Bickington.<sup>[5]</sup> High Bickington lies ten miles south east of Barnstaple, the largest town in North Devon.<sup>[6]</sup> High Bickington Woollacotts nearly always used the "a" to separate the syllables "wol" (and variations thereon) and "cot" (and variations thereon).<sup>[7]</sup> The Woollacotts like many North Devonians in the 1800s were farmers. Woollacotts have farmed at Yelland, one of many farms in North Devon, for over 400 years.<sup>[8]</sup> My brother and I visited North Devon in August 2007 and met our fourth cousin and his parents, who reside at Yelland Farm. I recently learned from my father's third cousin that Yelland has been listed for sale and thus the over 400-year association of Woollacotts and Yelland may soon end.

Why did John Woollacott leave Atherington? His father had left after the Chicago Fire Disaster of 1871 when brick masons were in demand, but he returned before John set out.<sup>[9]</sup> Did John follow his father's example? John's future bride, Nora Newcombe, left Atherington several

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<sup>1</sup> The author is the great grandson of John Woollacott.

<sup>2</sup> *The Fitchburg Sentinel*, 8 January 1966, "City's oldest Resident – John Woollacott succumbs at 103," "A native of Devonshire, England, he was born Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>, 1862, and came to this country when he was 17 years old. His mother died when he was en route to America"; 1880 U.S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 567, p. 544, John "Woolacott," 18, living with Henry and Fanny Guard and children.

<sup>3</sup> Charles H. B. Cole, *The Cole Family of Ashreigney and Their Descendants*, 4 vols. (Devonshire: Cheriton Fitzpaine, 1997), "The Children of Thomas & Ann (Harris) Cole," 1:74. Mary Cole married Robert Woollacott in High Bickington, Devon, England, on 27 June 1815 and begat nine children, Elon being the seventh, as listed in "The Children of Robert & Mary (Cole) Woollacott," 1:157–60. Those nine begat fifty-three children, including Elon's three, as listed at 1:336–48.

<sup>4</sup> The Atherington Post Office Directory Listing of 1878, on the High Bickington website at <http://www.high-bickington.org.uk/PO1878A.htm>. No Woollacotts or Newcombes are listed in the Post Office Directory.

<sup>5</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:157–60, "The children of Robert & Mary (Cole) Woollacott."

<sup>6</sup> Avril Stone, *The Book of High Bickington, a Devon Ridgeway Village* (Tiverton, Devon: Halsgrove Press, 2000), 13.

<sup>7</sup> "THE WOLCOTT FAMILY OF DEVONSHIRE, ENGLAND," online at [wolcottfamily.com/devon.html](http://wolcottfamily.com/devon.html), under (7) *Thomas Wolcot fil et haer, c. 1510–1546*, "According to the Visitation, Thomas Wollacott had three sons, John and Thomas, twins born in 1544, and John, the younger. The Wolcotts of High Bickington nearly always spelled their name "Wollacott," a spelling which helps distinguish this branch of the family from other Wolcott families who did not use the "a" between the syllables [*sic*]."

<sup>8</sup> "THE WOLCOTT FAMILY," (10) *John Wollacott, 1601*, "John and Thomas, sons of John Wollacott of Yoeland [*sic*], were baptized 1601, and were probably twins. John Wollacott, who lived at Atherington may have been the John who inherited [*sic*] one third of the Wollacott property in 1639." Stone, *Book of High Bickington*, 60, "Yelland Farm is today in the hands of Alan and Patricia Woollacott."

<sup>9</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:159, "The children of Robert & Mary (Cole) Woollacott."

years previously.<sup>[10]</sup> Did he know her before she left?<sup>[11]</sup> If he did, did he still yearn for her? John's father lived in the village neighboring High Bickington and did not reside on a farm.<sup>[12]</sup> Was farming life not available to John or did he not relish it? Or was he an entrepreneur or simply an adventurous sort?

John settled in West Fitchburg, Massachusetts, where many immigrants from England resided. In 1880 he lived with the Guard family.<sup>[13]</sup> He became a naturalized citizen on 24 April 1886.<sup>[14]</sup> He worked at the Beoli Mills as a loom fixer and when the weavers went on strike he moved to Crocker, Burbank & Co., returning to Beoli when the strike was over.<sup>[15]</sup> The Beoli Mill was built in 1847, expanded in the 1870s and assimilated into the American Woolen Company in April 1899; its equipment comprised ten sets of woolen cards, 3,504 woolen spindles and 240 looms; the plant employed over 600 employees and produced 100,000 yards of cloth monthly.<sup>[16]</sup> John worked there until his retirement in 1936. On the last day of work, he lost his pinky and ring finger to a loom,<sup>[17]</sup> which in my youth was an immediate focal point.

In 1880 Nora Newcombe, age 18, resided in Fitchburg with George and Charlotte Stratton,<sup>[18]</sup> possibly as their domestic, as her parents and siblings lived elsewhere in Fitchburg.<sup>[19]</sup> On the 4th of July 1885, John Woollacott and Nora Newcombe were married. Whether it was patriotism for his new country or just for his anniversary, John always celebrated the 4th of July in grand style. On his wedding day, he hired a hack to ride around Fitchburg. On subsequent July 4ths he hired a horse and buggy, a trolley car, and finally a motor car.<sup>[20]</sup> When John's son Alfred was mayor of Fitchburg,<sup>[21]</sup> he took his father for an airplane ride out of Fitchburg Airport to celebrate the

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<sup>10</sup> Cole, *Cole Family Book*, 1:342, "The children of Elon & Mary A. (Govier) Woollacott," "The daughter of Thomas Newcombe, who emigrated..., arriving at Washusett [*sic*] Station in 1875"; Boston Passenger and Crew List, 1820–1943, database online at *Ancestry.com*, Mary Newcombe, age 30, Norah [*sic*], 7 [She was 10], and siblings arrived 23 April 1873 on the *Olympus* from Liverpool. Nora's father was not on the list;

<sup>11</sup> 1861 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district 6 Bishops Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, R.G 9/1496, online at *Ancestry.com*. The head of house preceding Elon Woolacott was Joseph Shapland or Shepherd. Living with his family were Thomas Newcombe, possibly "Son Law," possibly "mar," age possibly 20 [the last digit unclear]; Francey (?) Newcombe, possibly "dau law," possibly "mar," age 17, Glover; Mary Newcombe, possibly "dau law," age 16, servant; Lazarus[?] Newcombe, age 9. This Thomas Newcombe might be Nora Newcombe's father.

<sup>12</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:157–59, 336–48 lists over twenty farms associated with John's eight aunts, uncles, and first cousins.

<sup>13</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 567, ED 875, p. 544, John Woolacott, age 18, living with Henry and Fanny Guard and children.

<sup>14</sup> "United States, New England Naturalization Index, 1791-1906," database online at *FamilySearch.org*, <https://familysearch.org/pal:/MM9.1.1/VXR-D-S4F>. Although this gives his address as Temple St. in Fitchburg, his birthdate appears as 7 August 1862.

<sup>15</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:341, "The children of Elon & Mary A. (Govier) Woollacott"; *New York Times*, 26 March 1902, "Weaver's Strike Spread ... The strike which began several weeks ago at Olneyville [R. I.] mills ... was extended to two additional mills of the company. The weavers at the Beoli mills and the Fitchburg worsted mills ... left their looms ... today. When the weavers ... struck ... they were joined by the loom fixers, <http://query.nytimes.com/mem/archive-free/pdf?res=FA0612F83B5F12738DDDA00A94DB405B828CF1D3>.

<sup>16</sup> *A Sketch of the Mills of the American Woolen Company* (Boston: American Woolen Co., 1901), 35, online at *books.google.com*.

<sup>17</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:342, "The children of Elon & Mary A. (Govier) Woollacott."

<sup>18</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 567, ED 875, p. 539.

<sup>19</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 567, ED 875, p. 538.

<sup>20</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:341–42, "The children of Elon & Mary A. (Govier) Woollacott."

<sup>21</sup> *The Sentinel-Enterprise*, 1981 "The Honor Given to Woollacott ... The area at Main Street and Pritchard Street took new significance recently when people representing government and business joined friends and

4th. The celebrations were held at John's home at 94 Philips Street in Fitchburg and sometimes at Camp Chanrudoma in nearby Winchendon, Massachusetts.<sup>[22]</sup> The Russell family owned the camp, which derived its name from the first two letters of their five children – Charles, Andral, Ruth, Margaret and Dorothy.<sup>[23]</sup> Andral and Ruth Russell were John's son-in-law and daughter-in-law.

Prior to my 2007 visit, I read W. G. Hoskin's book, *Devon*, and was captivated by the cover. It has a man walking with a cane along a hedgerow, whose stature is similar to that of my great grandfather. The image rekindled my past July 4th memories. In the 1950s, John was in his 90s and quite deaf. He sat quietly among his brood, legs spread apart to make room for his ample belly, watching the hubbub of what he had wrought and occasionally uttering in his Devonian mumble, as his daughters scurried about. The cane was stationed between his spread legs. Two stubs rested on the cane's knob, his index and middle finger curled over it and his thumb curled around it. I never asked my great grandfather why he left England? I was too young to realize the significance of his answer. So now I am left to ponder several plausible answers.

John and Nora had eleven children and resided at 94 Philips Street in West Fitchburg.<sup>[24]</sup> Recently, the residence was still owned by one of John and Nora's descendants. Only Emma, who died in her third year, and Ida, who died the summer of her high school graduation, never reached their majority. John was always interested in politics, having voted in every election from 1885 to his death. Perhaps voting stemmed from his patriotism for his new country. Several of his sons were influenced by John's political and public service interests. His eldest son, John Jr., was treasurer of Fitchburg for sixteen years.<sup>[25]</sup> His second son, Alfred was Fitchburg's mayor for ten years and claimed to have held at one time "every public job in town,"<sup>[26]</sup> and his third son, Ralph was the Fitchburg Fire Captain.<sup>[27]</sup>

John was the oldest member of the West Fitchburg Methodist Church, serving on the Official Board as Trustee, as Sunday school teacher, as treasurer of an evening all-men's choir, and as honorary steward. He was a member of the Aurora Lodge of Masons and the oldest retired fireman of Fitchburg, a volunteer call man and engineer of Steamer 2 at West Fitchburg station for forty-seven years.<sup>[28]</sup> Many of John's descendants were members of John's church and active in the Masons.

Nora was bed ridden for several years before dying on 28 April 1955. I remember her lying in a room off the kitchen at 94 Philips Street. Occasionally she would bolt up and shout, usually a biblical passage. A daughter, probably Anne, would scurry in and console her and then ease her back down onto her bed. John lived to be 103 and died on 8 January 1966 in Fitchburg. At that time he had eighteen grandchildren, fifty great-grandchildren and seven great-great-

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relatives to celebrate the dedication of 'Woollacott Square' in honor of Alfred Woollacott who served as Mayor of the city of Fitchburg from 1938 to 1947."

<sup>22</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:341–42, "The children of Elon & Mary A. (Govier) Woollacott."

<sup>23</sup> *Boston Globe*, 28 Sept. 2005, "Confidential Chat," asked about the name Chanrudoma.

<sup>24</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:341, "The children of Elon & Mary A. (Govier) Woollacott."

<sup>25</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 14 January 1972, "John G. Woollacott, ex-treasurer dies ... [age] 85, of 937 Westminster Hill Road, former treasurer of the City ... for 16 years...."

<sup>26</sup> *Sentinel-Enterprise*, 19 August 1986, "Former Mayor Woollacott, 94, dies; Fitchburg Mourns Loss of City Leader" " ... In his active years, Woollacott claimed to have 'held every job in town,' from mayor, city councilor, acting fire chief, acting police chief, and acting school superintendent, to president of the Chamber of Commerce, Historical Society and Burbank Hospital, and a director of two banks."

<sup>27</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 18 May 1974, "Ralph Woollacott, 73, dies, was Fitchburg Fire Captain ... Ralph S. Woollacott, 73, of 52 Temple St., a retired Fitchburg fire captain...."

<sup>28</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 8 January 1966, "City's oldest Resident – John Woollacott succumbs at 103."

grandchildren,<sup>[29]</sup> many of whom lived in the area. His father and sisters followed him to Fitchburg, and all seventeen of his nieces and nephews were born in Fitchburg, as were his grandnieces and grandnephews. A few cousins followed him to Fitchburg too. This patriarch of the Fitchburg Woollacotts, who for whatever reason left North Devon in his teens, left an indelible impression on northern Worcester County. He is now buried next to Nora, his wife of more than sixty-nine years.

My grandfather, Alfred Sr. was a florist, and I spent my youth in May planting Forest Hill gravesites, including the Woollacott plots. When my grandfather died, my two uncles planted the Woollacott plots, which have now become my responsibility. Alfred Sr. left explicit instructions; a red geranium, white petunias and blue ageratums—patriotic? Or to celebrate John and Nora’s wedding anniversary?

At the beginning of the cemetery’s Oak Avenue, near Mt. Elam Road and close to the mausoleum, my great-great grandfather, Elon, is buried. There are smaller stones set for his daughters, Nora and her husband John Newcombe, and Mary and her husband Charles Woods, and some of their children: Grace and Ernest Woods, John Woods, Mary Underwood, Ernest A. Newcombe and his wives, Velma D. (Hardy) and Nellie (Wiswell) (Lowe) Newcombe.

Away from Mt. Elam Road and a few avenues north on Cypress Avenue is where my great-grandparents John and Nora are buried. There are smaller stones for Lena and her husband, Emma, Ida, Fannie and her husband and for Ralph’s first wife.

Further away from Mt. Elam Road and further north, on a bluff overlooking the Cemetery’s lower section on Locust Avenue, is where my grandparents, Alfred, Sr., and Grace are buried. There are stones set into the ground for Alfred and his wife, their son Alfred Jr. and his wife Elizabeth, and their infant son Francis. Stones are in place for Alfred Sr.’s still living second son, Paul and his wife, and their son Paul Jr. Some of Alfred Sr.’s siblings and their wives are buried at this site: Anne and her husband, Ralph and his second wife, and Elon and his wife. Only Martha and her husband and Edith and her two husbands are not buried in Forest Hill. My great grandfather’s first cousin Laura Woollacott and her daughter Florence Woollacott are also buried at this site.

Further north in the lower section, close to Mt. Elam Road, on Redwood Avenue, is a fourth Woollacott plot for Alfred Sr.’s second cousin Samuel Woollacott.

The freshly planted Oak, Cypress, and Locust Avenue plot stones are shown below.



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<sup>29</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 8 January 1966 “City’s oldest Resident – John Woollacott succumbs at 103.”

## GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

**ELON<sup>1</sup> WOOLLACOTT** (*Robert<sup>A</sup>*) was born at High Bickington, Devon, England,<sup>[30]</sup> on 1 May 1829, and he was baptized in High Bickington on 14 May 1829.<sup>[31]</sup> He died of La Grippe and consumption at 20 Temple Street in West Fitchburg, Massachusetts, on 14 May 1904 and was buried in Forest Hill Cemetery in Fitchburg on 16 May 1904.<sup>[32]</sup> He was the seventh child of Robert Woollacott, who was born in High Bickington and baptized there on 2 March 1789.<sup>[33]</sup> He died in High Bickington on 10 May 1855.<sup>[34]</sup> He married at Burrington, Devon, on 27 June 1815 Mary Cole, daughter of Thomas and Ann (Harris).<sup>[35]</sup> She was baptized in Burrington on 2 March 1794 and died in High Bickington on 8 February 1873.<sup>[36]</sup>

Elon married **MARY ANN GOVIER** who was born in Atherington about 1833.<sup>[37]</sup> She died, probably in Atherington, in 1880.<sup>[38]</sup> By 1861, Elon moved from High Bickington to Atherington, where he worked as a laborer, and by 1871 he was living at “Paws Moore.”<sup>[39]</sup> He emigrated to Chicago after the great fire of 1871 to work as a brick mason.<sup>[40]</sup> While he returned to England, he was not living in Devon in 1881.<sup>[41]</sup> Elon was not found on the 1880 U.S. census but was naturalized on 6 October 1888.<sup>[42]</sup> In 1871, Mary Ann was working as a glover.<sup>[43]</sup>

Children of Elon and Mary Ann (Govier) Woollacott:<sup>[44]</sup>

- i. **NORA<sup>2</sup> WOOLLACOTT**, born Atherington 2 Nov.<sup>[45]</sup> 1860;<sup>[46]</sup> died Fitchburg 12 Oct. 1942;<sup>[47]</sup> buried Forest Hill; married by W. Wignall in Fitchburg 24 Dec. 1884 to **JOHN NEWCOMBE**,

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<sup>30</sup> 1841 England and Wales Census, Burrington, Sub-district Chumleigh, South Molton District, Devonshire, HO 107/250/14, online at *Ancestry.com*, “Elon Woolacott, age 12.” 1861 England and Wales Census, Atherington, Barnstaple, Devonshire, database online at *Ancestry.com*, Elon Woolacott [*sic*], married, 31, “ag lab,” born in High Bickington.

<sup>31</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:159 “The children of Robert & Mary (Cole) Woollacott.”

<sup>32</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, Deaths, 1904, 43:280.

<sup>33</sup> High Bickington Parish Registers 1597–1837 [FHL 0,917,143].

<sup>34</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:74-75, “The children of Thomas & Ann (Harris) Cole.”

<sup>35</sup> Wedding Bands [*sic*, banns] Recorded, “Robert Woollacott Mary Cole 4th, 11th and 18th June 1815,” online at <http://www.high-bickington.org.uk/bands.htm>. Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:74, “The children of Thomas & Ann (Harris) Cole.” for marriage date and place.

<sup>36</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:74–75, “The children of Thomas & Ann (Harris) Cole.”

<sup>37</sup> 1861 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district 6 Bishops Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, R.G 9/1496, online at *Ancestry.com*. Mary Ann Woolacott, housekeeper, married, age 28, born in Atherington.

<sup>38</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:159, “The children of Robert & Mary (Cole) Woollacott.”

<sup>39</sup> 1871 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district Bishop Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, RG 10/2193, online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>40</sup> “Baltimore, Passenger Lists, 1820–1948 and 1954–1957,” database online at *Ancestry.com*. Elon Woolacott, age 40 [*sic*], arrived on 20 March 1872 on the *North American*, a laborer, travelling in steerage; Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:159 “The children of Robert & Mary (Cole) Woollacott.”

<sup>41</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:159 “The children of Robert & Mary (Cole) Woollacott.”

<sup>42</sup> “U.S. Naturalization Record Indexes, 1791–1992,” database online at *Ancestry.com*, “Elon Woollacutt, age 61, Temple Street, Fitchburg, Massachusetts, naturalized 6 October 1888.”

<sup>43</sup> 1871 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district Bishop Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, RG 10/2193, online at *Ancestry.com*..

<sup>44</sup> Burials reflect the author’s long familiarity with Forest Hill Cemetery.

<sup>45</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 3 November 1941, “Mrs. John Newcombe ... was given a surprise birthday yesterday ... in honor of her 81<sup>st</sup> birthday.”

<sup>46</sup> 1861 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district 6 Bishops Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, R.G 9/1496, online at *Ancestry.com*. In the household of Elon Woolacott, a daughter 5 months old, born

son of John and Hannah (\_\_\_\_) Newcombe of England,<sup>[48]</sup> born Atherington 4 July 1863,<sup>[49]</sup> died Fitchburg 27 May 1941,<sup>[50]</sup> buried Forest Hill. He was most likely a cousin of the Nora Newcombe who married Nora's brother John.<sup>[51]</sup> John Newcombe worked as a weaver<sup>[52]</sup> in West Fitchburg and lived in his father-in-law's house at 20 Temple Street in West Fitchburg until his death.

Children of John and Nora (Woollacott) Newcombe, born at Fitchburg:

1. *Eva Ellen*<sup>3</sup> *Newcombe*, born 9 April 1888;<sup>[53]</sup> died Nashua, N.H., 10 July 1970; buried Forest Hill;<sup>[54]</sup> married Fitchburg 9 Dec. 1914, *Clifton Hebert Safford*,<sup>[55]</sup> born Clinton, Mass., 29 Sept. 1893, son of Henry and Carrie (Davoll) Safford,<sup>[56]</sup> died before July 1970.<sup>[57]</sup>
2. *Mary Rhoda Newcombe* born 19 Oct. 1889;<sup>[58]</sup> died Burbank Hospital, Fitchburg, 16 Sept. 1967, buried Forest Hill;<sup>[59]</sup> married Fitchburg 19 April 1911, *Reginald James Robbins*, son of George and Elizabeth Ann (Murch) Robbins,<sup>[60]</sup> born Devonshire<sup>[61]</sup> 5 November 1887, died 1 Oct. 1973, his last residence Fitchburg.<sup>[62]</sup> Mary lived at 20 Temple Street all her life.<sup>[63]</sup>
3. *Henrietta H. Newcombe* born 15 Jan. 1892;<sup>[64]</sup> died Fairlawn Nursing Home, Leominster, Mass., 27 Feb. 1963; buried Evergreen Cemetery, Leominster, Mass.,<sup>[65]</sup> married before 1920, *George William Hiltz*,<sup>[66]</sup> born Leominster 2 Aug. 1896, son of Andrew C. and Rosie E. (Wheeler) Hiltz,<sup>[67]</sup> died 3 Nov. 1976, buried Evergreen Cemetery.<sup>[68]</sup> He served

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in Atherington; 1871 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district Bishop Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, RG 10/2193, database online at *Ancestry.com*, Nora Woollacott, daughter, age 10, schooler, born in Atherington.

<sup>47</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 21 October 1942, "Mrs. Nora Newcombe, who died October 12, leaves all her real estate to son and daughter Ernest A. Newcombe and Mrs. Reginald Robbins ... the son and Mrs. Robbins will occupy the family home at 20 Temple Street ... each will pay \$100 to each of four sisters."

<sup>48</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 354:285.

<sup>49</sup> 1871 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district Bishop Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, RG -----, database online at *Ancestry.com*, father John, mother Ann (not Hannah); "U.S. Naturalization Record Indexes, 1791–1992," database online at *Ancestry.com*, NARA M1299, roll 97, naturalized 26 March 1887.

<sup>50</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:341; *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 29 May 1941, "Funeral notice."

<sup>51</sup> 1880 U.S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 567, p. 538, John Newcomb, 17, born England, living with Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott's parents and siblings.

<sup>52</sup> Fitchburg birth records list John's occupation as weaver for all his children's births.

<sup>53</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 387:336.

<sup>54</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 11 July 1970, "Mrs. Eva E. (Newcombe) Safford ... 82, of 93 Concord Street, Nashua, N.H. died Friday."

<sup>55</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 627:463.

<sup>56</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 432:399.

<sup>57</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 11 July 1970, "She [Mrs. Safford] was the widow of Clifton H. Safford."

<sup>58</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 396:352.

<sup>59</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 16 September 1967 "Mrs. Rhoda M. (Newcombe) Robbins, 73 of 20 Temple St... died after a long illness...."

<sup>60</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 604:317.

<sup>61</sup> U.S., World War II Draft Registration Cards, 1942, database online at *Ancestry.com*, the source of his full middle name.

<sup>62</sup> Social Security Death Index.

<sup>63</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 16 September 1967, "She was born .. in the Temple St. home ... and lived in the same house all her life.)

<sup>64</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 423:428.

<sup>65</sup> Unsourced annotation online at *FindaGrave.com*.

<sup>66</sup> 1920 U.S. Census, Ward 5, Leominster, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 547, ED 108, p. 9B, Henrietta Hiltz age 26, living with George, age 23, and his parents Andrew and Rosie.

<sup>67</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 459:510.

in World War I, was a 50-year Mason and worked at Great American Plastics.<sup>[69]</sup> She was a member of Pilgrim Congregational Church and Order of the Eastern Star.<sup>[70]</sup>

4. *Emma L. Newcombe* born 6 June 1893;<sup>[71]</sup> died after 10 Feb. 1977;<sup>[72]</sup> married (1) 1919<sup>[73]</sup> *David R. Mager*, born Nova Scotia ca. 1893,<sup>[74]</sup> died after 25 Feb. 1946;<sup>[75]</sup> married (2) *Adelard Bourgeois*,<sup>[76]</sup> born Greenville, N.H., ca. 1889, died Fitchburg General Hospital 9 Aug. 1957, buried St Joseph's Cemetery, Fitchburg.<sup>[77]</sup>
5. *Ernest A. Newcombe* born 4 Jan. 1898,<sup>[78]</sup> died Fitchburg 6 Jan. 1980;<sup>[79]</sup> buried Forest Hill; married (1) 31 Oct. 1923, *Velma Doris Hardy*,<sup>[80]</sup> born Maine 25 Aug. 1906, daughter of William and Ida May (Gordon) Hardy, died Burbank Hospital 11 Oct. 1925 of rheumatic fever, buried Forest Hill,<sup>[81]</sup> married (2) Greenville, N. H., by Justice H. P. Grimes 4 Nov. 1937 to *Nellie May (Wiswell) Lowe* of Ashby, Mass., born Fitchburg 26 Jan. 1897, daughter of Frank and Agnes (Carter) Wiswell.<sup>[82]</sup>
6. *Annie Emily Newcombe* born 27 May 1899;<sup>[83]</sup> died Burbank Hospital, Fitchburg, 23 Jan. 1970,<sup>[84]</sup> cremated Worcester, Mass.;<sup>[85]</sup> married by James H. Stubbs in Lunenburg, Mass., 19 Oct. 1917 to *Royden Sidney Beer*,<sup>[86]</sup> born Fitchburg 2 Jan. 1898, son of Michael and Susie (Norman) Beer,<sup>[87]</sup> died 13 Sept. 1971, his last residence Fitchburg.<sup>[88]</sup>

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<sup>68</sup> Unsourced annotation online at *FindaGrave.com*.

<sup>69</sup> *Sentinel Enterprise*, 4 November 1976, "George W. Hiltz, 80 ... died ... in Leominster Hospital. ... the son of Andrew C. Rosie (Wheeler) Hiltz."

<sup>70</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 28 February 1963, "Mrs. Henrietta H (Newcombe) Hiltz, 71 died ... after a long illness. Burial will be in Evergreen Cemetery."

<sup>71</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 432:419.

<sup>72</sup> *Sentinel Enterprise*, 10 February 1977, "Mrs. Eleanor I. (Mager) Kozlowski ... died... Born in Fitchburg, Oct. 7, 1925, the daughter of Emma (Newcombe) Mager Bourgeois and the late David Mager ..."

<sup>73</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 25 February 1946, discussing Emma's daughter Eleanor's wedding, "It was the same little high-terraced church ... that Mr. and Mrs. John Newcombe (Eleanor's grandparents) were married. In 1919, Mr. and Mrs. David Mager took their wedding vows there..."

<sup>74</sup> 1930 U. S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 963, ED 171, p. 19, David R., age 37, immigrated 1905, Emma L., 36, David R. Jr., 6 and Ellyner L. [sic], 4, living at 114 Philips Street.

<sup>75</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 25 February 1946, "David Mager Sr. ... is now a patient at the Chelsea Naval Hospital."

<sup>76</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 11 July 1970, "She [Mrs. Safford] is ... survived by sister, Mrs. Adelard Bourgeois."

<sup>77</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 9 August 1957, "Adelard Bourgeois, 68 ... died early today... He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Emma (Newcombe) Mager Bourgeois."

<sup>78</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 477:451.

<sup>79</sup> "Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003," database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>80</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 25 October 1923, "Twin sisters to wed swains as result of a double romance at Ashburnham Grange" As Delma Otis Hardy and Velma Doris Hardy came into the home of Mr. and Mrs. William Hardy, ... 17 years ago so they leave that home to establish homes of their own Oct 31 when they will marry Frederick J. Wiswell and Ernest A. Newcombe ...."

<sup>81</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 13 October 1925. "Mrs. Ernest A. Newcombe Dead." "Mrs. Velma D. Hardy wife of Mrs. Ernest A. Newcombe ... Death was due to rheumatic fever."

<sup>82</sup> New Hampshire Marriage Records, 1637–1947, database online at *FamilySearch.org* (marriage); *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 28 December 1937; Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 468:464 (birth).

<sup>83</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 486:273.

<sup>84</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*;

<sup>85</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 24 January 1970, "Mrs. Annie E. (Newcombe) Beer, 70 ... died Friday in Burbank Hospital."

<sup>86</sup> Massachusetts, Town and Vital Records, 1620–1988, Lunenburg Vital Records, p. 32, image online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>87</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 477:451.

<sup>88</sup> Social Security Death Index; Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

She was member of the West Fitchburg Methodist Church, Fitchburg Women's Club, and Burbank Hospital Guild.<sup>[89]</sup>

- ii. **JOHN<sup>2</sup> WOOLLACOTT**, born Atherington 13 Sept. 1862<sup>[90]</sup> or 7 Aug. 1862;<sup>[91]</sup> died Burke Nursing Home, Fitchburg 8 Jan. 1966,<sup>[92]</sup> buried Forest Hill; married by Elias Hodge in Fitchburg 4 July 1885 to **NORA NEWCOMBE**, daughter of Thomas and Mary (Stediford), Newcombe,<sup>[93]</sup> born Atherington<sup>[94]</sup> 25 July 1862, died Fitchburg 28 April 1955, buried Forest Hill.<sup>[95]</sup>

Children of John and Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott, all born Fitchburg:

1. *John Govier<sup>3</sup> Woollacott* born 17 May 1886,<sup>[96]</sup> died 370 West Street, Leominster, Mass. 14 Jan. 1972; buried Forest Hill,<sup>[97]</sup> working as a clerk in Somerville, Mass., when married by Otis William Foye at Somerville 1 Oct. 1912 to *Mabel Elizabeth Edwards*,<sup>[98]</sup> born Somerville 19 Sept. 1889, daughter of Edward N. and Mary (MacLean) Edwards,<sup>[99]</sup> died Fitchburg 1980, buried Forest Hill.<sup>[100]</sup> John attended Bryant and Stratton Business College, worked as a buyer for a plumbing supplier and was city treasurer for 16 years, being appointed by the mayor, his brother Alfred. He was a member of West Fitchburg United Methodist Church, the Board of Trustees of Burbank Hospital, the Salvation Army Advisory Board, past noble grand of the Odd Fellows and a member of Wyoming Lodge of Melrose.<sup>[101]</sup> They had three children.<sup>[102]</sup>
2. *Lena Mary Woollacott*, born 28 June 1888,<sup>[103]</sup> died 16 March 1989, her last residence Jaffrey, Cheshire Co., N.H.,<sup>[104]</sup> buried Forest Hill; married by Reverend Jerome Wood in Fitchburg 26 April 1911 to *Roy Everett Thayer*, son of Edward Everett and Gertrude Melissa (Blanchard) Thayer, born Braintree, Vt.,<sup>[105]</sup> 24 July 1887,<sup>[106]</sup> died Gardner, Mass., 6 June 1943, buried Forest Hill.<sup>[107]</sup> The minister who married them, Jerome Wood, was married to Grace (Bray) of Navesink, N.J., and aunt of Grace Bray Williams,

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<sup>89</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 24 January 1970 "Besides her husband she is survived by ..."

<sup>90</sup> 1871 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district Bishop Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, RG 10/2193, database online at *Ancestry.com*. John Woolacott, son, 8, schooler, born in Atherington; Cole, *Cole Family Book*, 1:341; *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 8 January 1966, "City's oldest Resident – John Woollacott succumbs at 103," for his birth date as 13 September.

<sup>91</sup> "United States, New England Naturalization Index, 1791–1906" (see note 14).

<sup>92</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 8 January 1966, "City's oldest Resident – John Woollacott succumbs at 103."

<sup>93</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 363:289, which erroneously gives her mother's name as Hannah; Mary's maiden name from her death record, Fitchburg 26 January 1903 (Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 541:448).

<sup>94</sup> 1871 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district Bishop Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, - RG 10/2193 database online at *Ancestry.com*. Thomas Newcombe, 28, wife Mary, 31, daughters Nora, 8, Helena, 4, Mary J, 2, son Thomas, 6, all born Atherington.

<sup>95</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:341, "The children of Elon & Mary A. (Govier) Woollacott"

<sup>96</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 369:319, indexed as "John Govyer Woolaoot," but actually spelled "John Govyer Woolacott," with a note saying "corrected 10/14/53."

<sup>97</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 14 January 1972, "John G. Woollacott, ex-treasurer dies."

<sup>98</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 611:726, his name spelled "John Govyer Woollacott."

<sup>99</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 395:287.

<sup>100</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:604, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott."

<sup>101</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 14 January 1972, "John G. Woollacott, ex-treasurer dies."

<sup>102</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:892, "The children of John G & Mabel E. (Edwards) Woollacott."

<sup>103</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 387:339, her surname erroneously indexed as "Woolaoot."

<sup>104</sup> Social Security Death Index.

<sup>105</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 604:317.

<sup>106</sup> "Vermont, Vital Records, 1760–1954," database online at *FamilySearch.org*.

<sup>107</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:605, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott."



the future Mrs. Alfred Woollacott.<sup>[108]</sup> Roy and Lena had three children, one dying at birth.<sup>[109]</sup>

3. *Emma Woollacott*, born 26 April 1890;<sup>[110]</sup> died Fitchburg 19 Feb. 1893 aged 2 years 9 months 24 days of meningitis;<sup>[111]</sup> buried Forest Hill.
4. *Alfred Woollacott*, born 18 May 1892;<sup>[112]</sup> died Burbank Hospital, Fitchburg, 18 Aug. 1986;<sup>[113]</sup> buried Forest Hill; married by Reverend Jerome Wood, Grace's uncle, in Navesink, N.J., 5 Aug. 1919 to *Grace Bray Williams*,<sup>[114]</sup> born Navesink 9 July 1891, daughter of John E. and Carrie (Bray) Williams, died Burbank Hospital 15 Jan. 1980,<sup>[115]</sup> buried Forest Hill.<sup>[116]</sup> Alfred served in the Medical Corps during World War I. His working career was at Ritter for Flowers, a business he eventually owned and then sold in 1967. He was Fitchburg's mayor (1938–1947), ran for Congress in 1942 and lost by 350 votes. He served as Chairman of the Board, Family Federal Savings & Loan; Trustee, Fitchburg Savings Bank; Corporator, Worcester North Institution for Savings; President of the Board of Trustees, Burbank Hospital; director of Fitchburg Mutual Fire Insurance Co.; member of Christ Episcopal Church; senior past master, Aurora Lodge of Masons; past high priest, Thomas Royal Arch Chapter 27; past patron, Lady Emma Chapter 27 Order of Eastern Star and member, Fitchburg Lodge of Elks. Fitchburg's mayor ordered the flags flown at half mast "out of respect for the gentleman who did so much for the city." The mayor called Woollacott a "keen, sharp individual" who "knew everything that was going on (in the city) right up until the end."<sup>[117]</sup> Grace was chairman of the Red Cross program for prisoners during World War II; Girl Scout Council member; director, Hastings Hall; member, Fitchburg Women's Club; Worthy Matron and Deputy Grand Matron, Order of Eastern Star; and President of the Burbank Hospital Guild, assisting for many years with the Fitchburg Training School for Nurses.<sup>[118]</sup> They had three children.<sup>[119]</sup>
5. *Anne Woollacott*, born 8 Aug. 1894,<sup>[120]</sup> died Fitchburg 25 Dec. 1986 aged 92;<sup>[121]</sup> buried Forest Hill; married 25 Nov. 1924, *Howard Dennison Smith*, born N.J.<sup>[122]</sup> 7 Nov. 1893, died Fitchburg, 13 May 1978 aged 84,<sup>[123]</sup> buried Forest Hill. Howard had a daughter

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<sup>108</sup> David H. Johnson, *The Harman Johnston and Lambert John Families of Navesink (Riceville) Middletown Township, Monmouth County, New Jersey, and Their Descendants* (Swarthmore, Pa.: the author, 2006), 11, from the *Red Bank Register*, 10 August 1904, "Susie Williams, daughter of John E. Williams, has returned from ... where she has been staying ... with her aunt, Mrs. Jerome Woods."

<sup>109</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:893, "The children of Roy E & Lena M (Woollacott) Thayer.

<sup>110</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 405:355, erroneously indexed as "Woolaoot."

<sup>111</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 438:604.

<sup>112</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 423:435.

<sup>113</sup> Johnson, *Harman Johnston*, 14, from his death certificate.

<sup>114</sup> Johnson, *Harman Johnston*, 13, from *Atlantic Highlands Journal*, Thursday, 7 August 1919.

<sup>115</sup> Johnson, *Harman Johnston*, 14, from her death certificate, "residence: 19 Winter Street."

<sup>116</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:605–09, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott." Grace's middle name is given erroneously as Berry, not Bray, her mother's maiden name.

<sup>117</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:605–08, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott"; *Sentinel-Enterprise*, 19 August 1986, "Former Mayor Woollacott, 94, dies; Fitchburg Mourns Loss of City Leader."

<sup>118</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:609, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott"; *Sentinel-Enterprise*, 16 January 1980, "Mrs. Woollacott; mayor's wife dead at 88."

<sup>119</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:893–94, "The children of Alfred & Grace B. (Williams) Woollacott."

<sup>120</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 441:434.

<sup>121</sup> Social Security Death Index; Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>122</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>123</sup> Social Security Death Index; Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

- from a previous marriage. They resided at 94 Philips Street and took care of Anne's parents until their deaths.<sup>[124]</sup> They had two children.<sup>[125]</sup>
6. *Martha Ellen Woollacott*, born 9 Nov. 1896;<sup>[126]</sup> died Barnstable Mass., 18 Dec. 1985;<sup>[127]</sup> married 26 May 1920, *Robert William Clark*,<sup>[128]</sup> born 7 June 1897, died West Yarmouth 13 Feb. 1986.<sup>[129]</sup> They had two children.<sup>[130]</sup>
  7. *Ida Louise Woollacott*, born 20 Aug. 1898;<sup>[131]</sup> died Fitchburg 15 Aug. 1916, buried Forest Hill.<sup>[132]</sup>
  8. *Ralph Sidney Woollacott*, born 26 Nov. 1900;<sup>[133]</sup> died Fitchburg, 17 May 1974;<sup>[134]</sup> buried Forest Hill; married (1) 4 June 1921, *Ruth Lillian Edwards*,<sup>[135]</sup> born Fitchburg 15 Aug. 1901, daughter of Clarence A. and Elizabeth (Morgan) Edwards,<sup>[136]</sup> died Fitchburg 10 April 1937,<sup>[137]</sup> buried Forest Hill; married (2) 2 March 1939, *Julia Hanney McIntire*,<sup>[138]</sup> born R. I. 30 July 1894, died Fitchburg 21 Dec. 1978,<sup>[139]</sup> buried Forest Hill. He joined the city's fire department as a private in 1934 and retired as its captain in 1965. After retiring, he was a security officer at Burbank Hospital.<sup>[140]</sup> Ralph and Ruth had three children.<sup>[141]</sup> Ralph and Julia had no children.<sup>[142]</sup>
  9. *Fannie Gertrude Woollacott*, born 7 Dec. 1902;<sup>[143]</sup> died 20 July 1945; buried Forest Hill; married 31 March 1924, *Dean Irving Johnson*, born Pa., died Gardner, Mass., 8 April 1973, buried Forest Hill. Dean remarried in 1949. Fannie and Dean had no children.<sup>[144]</sup>
  10. *Elon Thomas Woollacott*, born 3 May 1904;<sup>[145]</sup> died Fitchburg 15 Aug. 1983;<sup>[146]</sup> buried Forest Hill; married 26 Oct. 1929, *Ruth Russell*,<sup>[147]</sup> born Ware, Mass., 7 Sept. 1901, daughter of Frank E. and Lizzie (Drummond) Russell,<sup>[148]</sup> died Fitchburg 2 March 1986,

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<sup>124</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:609, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott," for places and dates except Anne's and Howard's deaths.

<sup>125</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:895, "The children of Howard D. & Anne (Woollacott) Smith."

<sup>126</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 459:469.

<sup>127</sup> Social Security Death Index, last residence West Yarmouth, Mass.; Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*, death at Barnstable.

<sup>128</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:609, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott."

<sup>129</sup> Social Security Death Index; Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>130</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:895, "The children of Robert W. & Martha E. (Woollacott) Clark."

<sup>131</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 477:464.

<sup>132</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:609, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott."

<sup>133</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 498:298.

<sup>134</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>135</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:610, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott."

<sup>136</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 510:259, Clarence A. Edwards born Westminster; Mass., papermaker, and Elizabeth Morgan born Wales.

<sup>137</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:610, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott."

<sup>138</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:610, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott."

<sup>139</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>140</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 18 May 1974 "Ralph Woollacott, 73 dies, was Fitchburg Fire Captain."

<sup>141</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:895–96, "The children of Ralph S. & Ruth L. (Edwards) Woollacott."

<sup>142</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:610, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott."

<sup>143</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 522:279.

<sup>144</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:610, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott," which shows Fannie's birth month erroneously as May, not December; Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com* (death of Dean).

<sup>145</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 544:301.

<sup>146</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>147</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:610, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott."

<sup>148</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 509:276.

buried Forest Hill.<sup>[149]</sup> Elon began his insurance career in Manchester, N.H., transferred to John Hancock Life Insurance, and retired in 1969. He was a member of Aurora Lodge of Masons and a 32nd Degree Mason.<sup>[150]</sup> Ruth's brother is Andral Russell, who married Elon's sister, Edith. Ruth is the "ru" in Chanrudoma. They had one child.<sup>[151]</sup>

11. *Edith Nora Woollacott*, born 13 Nov. 1905;<sup>[152]</sup> died Wachusett Manor Nursing Home, Gardner, Mass., 21 Nov. 2008; buried Riverside Cemetery Winchendon, Mass.,<sup>[153]</sup> married (1) 29 Aug. 1931, *Andral LaMartine Russell* of Winchendon, Mass.,<sup>[154]</sup> born Fitchburg 14 Nov. 1899, son of Frank E. and Lizzie (Drummond) Russell,<sup>[155]</sup> died Boston, Mass., 3 Feb. 1973.<sup>[156]</sup> Edith married (2) 24 Nov. 1979, Dr. *Celian Harlow Abbott*, born 21 May 1906, died Gardner, Mass., 11 June 1990.<sup>[157]</sup> She taught at Winchendon's Tucker School until her retirement in 1969. When married to Andral, she ran Camp Chanrudoma's operations, a summer camp that over 60 children attended. She was a member of the United Parish of Winchendon and its Women's Fellowship, a member of the Order of The Eastern Star, Jessamine Chapter and the local Garden Club.<sup>[158]</sup> Like her father, she was 103 at her death. Andral was the brother of Ruth, wife of Edith's brother, Elon. Andral is the "an" in Chanrudoma. Edith and Andral had one child.<sup>[159]</sup>

iii. **MARY ANN<sup>2</sup> WOOLLACOTT**, born Atherington 14 Feb. 1869;<sup>[160]</sup> died Magnolia Nursing Home, Fitchburg, 2 April 1962; buried Forest Hill,<sup>[161]</sup> married by William W. Baldwin at Fitchburg 25 April 1889 to **CHARLES EDWARD WOODS**,<sup>[162]</sup> born Fitchburg 8 Aug. 1868, son of Charles and Elizabeth (Manning) (Heald) Woods,<sup>[163]</sup> died 1950, buried Forest Hill.<sup>[164]</sup> In 1920 at Fitchburg, Charles E., age 51, was a machinist, with Mary A. 51, and six children.<sup>[165]</sup>

Children of Charles Edward and Mary Ann (Woollacott) Woods, born at Fitchburg:

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<sup>149</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:610, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott"; Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*, which gives her birth date as 5 September.

<sup>150</sup> *Sentinel-Enterprise*, August 1983, "Elon Woollacott."

<sup>151</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:896, "The child of Elon T. and Ruth (Russell) Woollacott."

<sup>152</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 552:320.

<sup>153</sup> Obituary, 23 November 2008, Fletcher–Hebert Funeral Home, Winchendon, online at <http://obit.fletcherfuneral.com/obitdisplay.html?id=605984&clientid=fletcherfuneral&listing=Found>.

<sup>154</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:611, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott," for Andral's birth date and place where he resided.

<sup>155</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 486:284, his middle name spelled "Lamertine," his parents born in Fayette, Maine, and Newcastle, New Brunswick.

<sup>156</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>157</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:611, "The children of John & Nora (Newcombe) Woollacott," dates and places before 1987; Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>158</sup> Edith's obituary.

<sup>159</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 2:896, "The child of Andral L. and Edith N. (Woollacott) Russell."

<sup>160</sup> 1871 England and Wales Census, Atherington, sub-district Bishop Tawton, Barnstaple District, Devonshire, RG 10/2193, *Ancestry.com*. Maryann Woolacott [sic], 2, born in Atherington.

<sup>161</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, April 2, 1962, "Mrs. Mary (Woollacott) Woods, 91, widow of Charles E. Woods ... Mrs. Woods was born in Devonshire... resided in city 79 years ... Surviving are four daughters ... four sons."

<sup>162</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 399:353.

<sup>163</sup> This would be Edward Woods b. 95 River St., Fitchburg, 8 Aug. 1868, son of Charles and Elizabeth C. (Manning) (Heald) Woods (Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 207:206 [birth], 182:253 [parents' marriage]). See also, 1900 U.S. Census, Ward 1, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 691, ED 1606, p. 4A; 1920 U.S. Census, Ward 1, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 745, ED 34, p. 5B.

<sup>164</sup> Cole, *Cole Family*, 1:341, "The children of Elon & Mary A. (Govier) Woollacott."

<sup>165</sup> 1920 census (see above).

1. *Clara Bell*<sup>3</sup> *Woods*, born 2 Jan. 1890;<sup>[166]</sup> died, probably in Nebraska, after 1940; married by 1918, *Rollo Rosco Woods*, born Iowa 6 Sept. 1881,<sup>[167]</sup> probably son of Elvurns[?] and Murttice E.[?]. (\_\_\_\_) *Woods*.<sup>[168]</sup> In 1940 they were both living in Lincoln, Neb.<sup>[169]</sup>
2. *Charles E. Woods*, born 16 April 1892;<sup>[170]</sup> died on arrival Burbank Hospital 17 Jan. 1972;<sup>[171]</sup> married about 1918, *Marion Harriet Wyeth*, born Fitchburg, 2 November 1897, daughter of William J. and Clara E. (Marshall) Wyeth,<sup>[172]</sup> died Fitchburg 27 Nov. 1972.<sup>[173]</sup> He attended Boston University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, worked at Simonds Saw and Steel, and was a life member of the Masons.<sup>[174]</sup>
3. *Ernest Arthur Woods*, born 23 Oct. 1893;<sup>[175]</sup> died after a long illness in Burbank Hospital, Fitchburg, 2 Nov. 1926; buried Forest Hill. He served in the Mexican border trouble, the Ardennes Woods in World War I, and was a fireman of seven years.<sup>[176]</sup>
4. *May Elizabeth Woods*, born 28 Dec. 1895;<sup>[177]</sup> died Fitchburg 6 Dec. 1974,<sup>[178]</sup> buried at Forest Hill; married (1) ca. 1915, *Alfred Chambers*, born N.H. about 1897;<sup>[179]</sup> divorced Jan. 1923;<sup>[180]</sup> married (2) after Jan. 1923 \_\_\_\_\_ *Underwood*.<sup>[181]</sup>
5. *Howard Nelson Woods*, born 10 Aug. 1897;<sup>[182]</sup> died Burbank Hospital, Fitchburg, 11 Dec. 1973;<sup>[183]</sup> married about 1922,<sup>[184]</sup> *Edith Asquith*, born Fitchburg 17 July 1897, daughter

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<sup>166</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 405:351.

<sup>167</sup> U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917–1918, database online at *Ancestry.com*, his residence Mullen, Hooker County, Nebraska.

<sup>168</sup> 1900 U.S. Census, Hunter, Dawes County, Nebraska, roll 921, ED 83, p. 2A. The father's birthplace given as Vermont (in September 1850), which disagrees with later censuses for Rollo, but the son's name is clearly Rosco, age 18. born Iowa, his parents born in Vermont and Ohio, (the mother in September 1853). The other child, Mary E., was born in Nebraska in July 1892. Unfortunately this family has not been located in the 1910 census.

<sup>169</sup> 1920 U.S. Census, Cherry County, Nebraska, roll 981, ED 56, p. 6A, "Ralbo" E. Woods, 38, farmer, born Iowa, his parents born Massachusetts and Ohio, wife Clara B., 29, born Massachusetts, son Charles E. 5, born Nebraska, daughter Marjorie E. 9 months, born Nebraska, and father El\_\_\_\_s, 69, born Massachusetts [*sic*]; 1930 U.S. Census, Kansas City, Wyandotte County, Kansas, roll 727, ED 15, p. 11A, W. L. [*sic*] Woods, 48, wife Clara, 40, son Charles, 15, daughters Mary, 9, and Esther, 6, all three born Nebraska, (no Marjorie listed); 1940 U.S. Census, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, roll 2255, ED 55–63, p. 61A, online at *Ancestry.com*, Rollo R. 58, Clara 50, Mary 19, Esther 16.

<sup>170</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 423:433.

<sup>171</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*; *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 18 January 1972, Charles W. Woods ... was pronounced dead on arrival Monday at Burbank Hospital."

<sup>172</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 468:482 (birth); 1930 U.S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 963, ED 181, p. 12B, Charles E. 37, wife Marion H. 32, William, 10, Bessie, 6, mother-in-law Claire Wyeth 76.

<sup>173</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>174</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 18 January 1972, "C. E. Woods, 79, former parks board member."

<sup>175</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 432:427.

<sup>176</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 2 November 1926, "Ernest A. Woods, Popular Fireman dies."

<sup>177</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 450:454. Her name is clearly "May" in census records.

<sup>178</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>179</sup> 1920 U.S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 745, ED 65, p. 2A, H. Alfred Chambers, age 27, born N.H., papermaker in a paper mill, May 24, Alfred H. [*sic*] 4; Elizabeth A. age 2 years 9 months, and Ernest W., 1½.

<sup>180</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 10 January 1923, "Mrs. Chambers granted a divorce. Wife of Man who was jailed in Baltimore after elopement charges cruelty ... Mrs. May Chambers was granted a divorce by Judge Forbes."

<sup>181</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 12 December 1973, "Harold N. Woods ...died... Mr. Woods is survived by ... three sisters ...Mrs. May Underwood."

<sup>182</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 468:476.

<sup>183</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>184</sup> 1930 U.S. Census, Springfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts, roll 911, ED 88, p. 64A, with sons Donald 7, Robert 3½, daughter Cynthia 10 months old.

- of Hammond and Henrietta (Beaumont) Asquith,<sup>[185]</sup> died Burbank Hospital 30 Oct. 1975, buried Forest Hill.<sup>[186]</sup> He served in World War II and was a Mason and an Elk.<sup>[187]</sup>
6. *Grace Henrietta Woods*, born 17 Jan. 1899;<sup>[188]</sup> died Fitchburg 8 Nov. 1990;<sup>[189]</sup> buried Forest Hill; never married.
  7. *John Herbert Woods*, born 20 May 1900;<sup>[190]</sup> died Fitchburg 16 April 1979;<sup>[191]</sup> buried Forest Hill; may not have married.<sup>[192]</sup>
  8. *Frances Louise* or *Lillian Woods*, born 29 Oct. 1901;<sup>[193]</sup> died Fitchburg 31 July 1982;<sup>[194]</sup> married soon after 13 April 1923,<sup>[195]</sup> *Ernest Elwin Vansaw*, born Prospect Harbor, Maine, 31 Oct. 1900, son of Henry C. and Mary (Marlin) Vansaw, died 16 Pritchard Street, Fitchburg, 5 Nov. 1969, buried Forest Hill. He worked thirty years for Simmons Saw and Steel.<sup>[196]</sup> In 1940 at Quincy, Mass., Ernest E. was 39, born in Maine, salesman for a wholesale steel company, with wife Frances 28, daughter Louise 15, and son Roger 7, all born in Mass.<sup>[197]</sup>
  9. Infant *Woods*, male, born and died, a premature birth, Fitchburg 26 Feb. 1903.<sup>[198]</sup>
  10. *Milton Bradley Woods*, born 30 Jan. 1904;<sup>[199]</sup> died 13 Payson Street, Fitchburg, 12 Aug. 1904 aged 6 months 13 days, of cholera infantum, buried Forest Hill 14 Aug 1904.<sup>[200]</sup>
  11. *Harold Woollacott Woods*, born 25 Jan. 1907;<sup>[201]</sup> died Fitchburg 30 May 1983;<sup>[202]</sup> married after 1940 \_\_\_\_\_<sup>[203]</sup> but before 13 Dec. 1976.<sup>[204]</sup>

*Alfred Woollacott III spent over thirty years in the business world. Now retired, his genealogical dabbling has become an obsession. He has published two articles on the Law family of Acton and is currently working on a novel based on some of these ancestors. He is active on numerous board activities, enjoys playing golf, tennis and hockey and solving crossword puzzles. He has been married for thirty-nine years, has four children and eight grandchildren. He resides full time on Martha's Vineyard and may be contacted at MV4AL@aol.com.*

<sup>185</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 468:475, both parents born in England.

<sup>186</sup> Social Security Death Index; *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 30 October 1975 "Mrs. Edith (Asquith) Woods ... died...."

<sup>187</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 12 December 1973 "Obituary Howard N. Woods"

<sup>188</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 486:265, recorded as Grace Hattie.

<sup>189</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>190</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 498:285.

<sup>191</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>192</sup> 1940 U.S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 1648, ED 14-94, p. 6A. John H. was single.

<sup>193</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 510:276, as Francis Louise.

<sup>194</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*, her name spelled "Vanshaw."

<sup>195</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 13 April 1923, "Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Woods ... have announced the engagement of their daughter, Frances Lillian to Ernest Edwin Vansaw...."

<sup>196</sup> *Fitchburg Sentinel*, 5 November 1969, "Ernest E. Vansaw, 69 ... died in his home. He was born in Prospect Harbor, Maine ... son of the late Henry C. and Mary (Marlin) Vansaw. Mr. Vansaw is survived by wife, Mrs. Frances L. (Woods) Vansaw...."

<sup>197</sup> 1940 U.S. Census, Quincy, Norfolk County, Massachusetts, roll 1632, ED 11-246, p. 8B.

<sup>198</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 541:451.

<sup>199</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 534:282, as 30 Jan. 1903, son of Charles E. and Mary A. Wilcox [sic], and at 544:301, as 30 Jan. 1904 with the correct mother's name.

<sup>200</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, Deaths, 1904, 43:388.

<sup>201</sup> Massachusetts Vital Records from 1841, 568:310.

<sup>202</sup> Massachusetts Death Index, 1970–2003, database online at *Ancestry.com*.

<sup>203</sup> 1940 U.S. Census, Fitchburg, Worcester County, Massachusetts, roll 1648, ED 14-94, p. 6A, Harold single, living with his parents, sister Grace, and brother John.

<sup>204</sup> *Sentinel Enterprise*, 13 December 1976, "A daughter was born to ... [Judith Woods] of South Dakota. Maternal grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. Harold Woods...."