

He is described as being in his 37 year, above the medium height, "he is fleshy, well-favored and comely looking man." He severed his pastoral relations and was dismissed in the early part of 1692, the cause of severance being a difference of views touching on matters of church government. He disliked the strictly congregational plan, preferred a moderate form of presbyterian government. An increase of membership of immigrants from Scotland and New England all of his class thinking, is giving as the mainspring of an actual dispute between him and the church. It is said "he had neither the meekness, patience, nor prudence of his father." He returned to Connecticut, settled at Killingworth in 1694 and became pastor at a church there. In 1701 whey Yale College was founded, Mr. Pierson was chosen to be its first rector or president by the ministerial incorporators. He was temporarily established at Killingworth because of the affections of the people of the college until his death on March 5, 1707, in his 66 or 67 year. "Trumbell, Connecticut historian, says "he had the character of a hard student, a good scholar and a great divine. In his whole conduct he was wise, steady and amicable. He was greatly respected as a pastor, and he instructed and governed the college with great approbation. He is described as an excellent preacher, a purely pious man, very kind and charitable to the poor and indigent."

Mr. Murphy 1874, of Mr. Charles Morgans of New York, erected a bronze statue of Rector Pierson designed by the artist Launt Thompson, and presented to the college, stands in front of Art Gollier Building of Yale. It is not probably a likeness, but an ideal assisted by reference to portraits of the Pierson family. The straight figure and acqualine features of the final puritan scholar was something physical and even pathetic carrying the mind back to the times. ...also preserved at Yale, his antique chair, doubtless, the "one great wainscog chair" conveyed to him by John Callum and John Ward. A picture of his chair is on page 42 of this book.

In an account of an ordination given in 1719 indicates that John Pierson, son of Abrahm, Jr., and grandson of the senior were present.

Joseph Johnson described as the town's first "drummer boy," 15 years old when the town was settled, lived here fore fourscore years and three, was buried beside his parents, away from his wife. His wife, Rebecca, who was the daughter of the first Pastor Pierson and sister of Abraham, died a short time before her husband and was buried along side of her parents. The inscription on her tombstone now disappeared is as follows: "Here lies a faithful loving wife, she loved her husband thus her life. Sharp in deth, snached forsoon away. For we are all but dust and clay. So nessery would it be to live in love as well as shee. Rebecca, wife of Joseph Johnson, age 78 years. Deceased November ye 1872."

The following information is from the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown, New Jersey, 1742-1882. This is part one. This is the combined register. Some of the information beginning on page 181 is of that. Almost all of the names recorded here are descendents of Abraham Pierson, Henry Pierson, or Thomas Pierson, who are closely associated and may have been brothers. In order to show the lines of descent some families inserted here are from Pierson geneological record collected and compiled by Lizzie B. Pierson in 1878. The numbers refer to that record. The first is Abraham Pierson, Reverand, born in 1613, Yorkshire, England, came to America in 1639; pastor of South Hampton, Long Island 1640-47, at Bramford, Connecticut 1647-66; at Newark, 1666 til he died August 9, 1678. He married Abigail Wheelwright, daughter of Reverand John. His children were Abraham who is number 2, born 1641 at Lynn, Mass., married Abigail Clark, was of Yale University. The third descendent is Thomas, born 1642 at South Hampton, Long Island, died Newark, married Mary Brown. Fourth is John who was born in 1643 and died before 1671. Fifth is Abigail, born in 1644, married John Davenport, Jr., sixth is Grace, born in 1650, married Samuel Kitchell of Bramford, Conn., who came to Newark. Seventh, Susannah born 1652, married Johnathon

Ball of Stamford. Eighth is Rebecca born 1654, married Joseph Johnson of Newark. Ninth, Theophilis born 1659, died 1713 in Newark. Tenth, Issac and eleven Mary.

The combined register says that Henry Pierson who was found at South Hampton, Long Island, in 1640; probably came from Lynn, Mass., with Reverend (1) Abraham Pierson, who seems to have been his brother. He married Mary Cooper who came from Lynn. From 1669 to 1680 he was clerk of Suffock County, New York, died in 1680 or 81. His widow married Reverend Seth Fletcher and moved to Elizabethtown.

Page 191, a Thomas Pierson (first found in Branford, Conn., where he married November 27, 1662, Maria Harrison. There "he was closely associated with Reverend (1) Abraham Pierson and in all probability they were brothers"; others count him a nephew. They removed together to Newark, where Thomas was "made townsman 1677, constable 1679, and grand charaman 1680." His will, dated 1698 was proved in 1701. (Number 2, Samuel; born 1663, married Mary Harrison, daughter of his uncle, Richard Harrison. He settled at Orange; he was a carpenter, and a deacon of First Church Orange; he died March 19, 1730. They also had three, Hannah; four, Elisa; five, Abigail; six, Mary who married Samuel Lyon; and seven, Thomas born in Newark 1678 or 1660, died at Orange March 5, 1758. He went from Newark to Whatnong Plains, now Morris Plains where he settled about 1685 having a saw mill there. This land remained in the family until recently." Number 7, Thomas Pierson had 16 Timothy (probably born at Morris Plains) born in 1710 died July 11, 1777 at the age of 67. His wife Mary, died August 26, 1788 at the age of 76. I don't know if any of the information about Thomas is relevant at this point.

Page 192. Pierson ancestry not identified, lists Darias Pierson; married Eunice Kitchell, daughter of Abraham qv. Also John K. Pierson of Binghamton; married Katherine Ford, daughter William qv.

Page 129 says that Abrahm Kitchell of Hanover; (brother of Sandra Kitchell, he died 1807); married January 15, 1759 Charity Ford (daughter of Samuel); they had: One, Charity, who married James Ford, son William qv.; 2, James; 3, Ford; 4, Eunice, married Darias Pierson and died at the age of 93. It says that Samuel Kitchell of Hanover married March 8, 1759, Sarah Laum.

On page 77 William Ford, (son of Samuel) and his wife Jemina Halsey had Anthony born about 1783 died April 23, 1791 at the age of 8; (Hannah who married Jess King, Nancy married in 1812 David King died December 25, 1831, Elizabeth married John Young of Morristown; Katherine married October 24, 1829, John K. Pierson of Binghamton; Julia married Major William Minton; Maury married January 1829 to Thomas , William married June 30, 1814 Phoebe Bayley, John married December 10, 1820 Polly Cooper, James; born January 24, 1790 married July 3, 1817, Charity Ford Kitchell, daughter Abraham, he died 1888, and George.)

From the history of Broome County, Pierson, I.F., P.O Binghamton, farmer and creamery, owns 1000 acres, born in Alleghany County in 1832, settled in Vestal with his father in 1836, came to the farm where he now resides in 1868, son of John K. Pierson, a native of Morristown, New Jersey., who was a son of Darias Pierson; wife Ruth, Ruth Gage, of Schoharie County, New York, daughter of Wesson Gage, children four: Katie E., Mattie, Charles H. and Delbert. of the Lizzie B. Pierson geneological records. She spells Andover, Mass., the printed was printed Albany, New York by Joel Munsell, printer in 1878. She says she has not been able to learn if Abraham, Thomas and Henry were "the three brothers, who together left their native land, and sought a home on the rocky shores of New England." She notes that the connection may be found in the Dutch records at Leydon, or may be still buried in the British Record Office. The list of immigrants to America are Pearson, John Trulyn and Reading Massachusetts in 1637. Another same spelling John to Rowley, Mass., in 1643. The correct spelling, Rev. Abraham to Boston, Mass., in 1639, Henry to South Hampton, L Long Island in 1640, Bartholomew to Watertown, Mass., in 1639, Hugh,

to Watertown, Mass., in 1640, John to Middletown, 1640, Peter to Boston, Mass., 1660. George, to Boston, Mass., in 1660.

From Broome County biographical sketches published in Boston by the Biographical Review Publishing Company in 1894, Charles G. Pierson, an enterprising farmer of the Town of Vestal, Broome County, was born in Nunda, Livingston County, New York, July 14, 1836. His paternal grandfather, Darius, was a native of New Jersey, and there carried on farming. John K. Pierson, son of Darius and father of Charles, after having been reared and married in that state, came to Broome County, New York, and bought a tract of land with its primitive growth of forest trees yet standing. By dint of hard labor in process of time his farm was brought to a high state of cultivation. In addition to the care of his land Mr. Pierson followed the trade of blacksmith, and was for many years Commissioner of Highways. His death occurred when he was 70 years of age. He married Ms. Catherine Ford, who was born in New Jersey; and they became the parents of six children--namely, Joseph, Rhoda, Issac, William, Charles, and Sarah. The mother during her life was an exemplary member of the Presbyterian Church. She died at the home farm.

Our subjects first impressions of men and things in his childhood were a sparsely settled country and a few neighbors separated from each other by tracts of unbroken forests. Game and wild animals were still abundant; and, to reach the district school, he was obliged to go a long distance, where his only highway was a trail through the woods--not a well-beaten road, a path simply marked by the woodman's ax on the trees. After the death of his father he assumed control of the farm, and also ran a saw and grist mill. In these days of many runs and bolts and improved machinery, one can scarcely imagine their humble predecessors, which were always found on a rushing brook or a small river, and did the work for the settlers, who came on horseback for miles around for their Indian corn and wheat to have it ground at the mill. Many of the older generation remember the miller white with dust, who stood in the doorway, kind and clever, and was scarcely less conversant

with matters of politics and religion and current gossip than with the different kinds and qualities of grain that passed through his mill.

At forty-two years of age Mr. Pierson married Ms. Minnie W., daughter of Oliver and Mary A. (Flint) Willcox of Vestal, New York. There were eight children in the family of Mr. and Mrs. Willcox, namely: Sarah; Ann; Minnie, Mrs. Pierson; Mayland; Eva; Malvern; Susy; and Ward. Mrs. Willcox, who was born in Osborne, New York is still living in Vestal Center, New York. Mr. and Mrs. Charles G. Pierson have three children--Minnette, Nina, and Charles Harrison. Mrs. Pierson is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Upon a gentle eminence overlooking a beautiful valley Mr. Pierson had built his commodious residence, which stands in open view of the richly cultivated country around, and, together with the fine farm buildings, shows enterprise of this thorough farmer. The presiding genius of this beautiful home is a loving and capable wife and mother, who with her husband has assisted the stranger as well as the friend a warm-hearted hospitality. From youth up Mr. Pierson has been industrious and thrifty, and today is able to look about with pride and satisfaction on the results of his untiring labor. In politics he lends his aid to the support of the principles of the republican party. This is on page 162 and 163.

The following is from the History of Newark, New Jersey by Joseph Atkinson, published by William B. Gyld, Newark, New Jersey, 1878 from page 8, the chapter titled English History Recalled, or The Initial Step: At the period under immediate consideration, mainly 1666, when the ship landed in Newark, Connecticut, was divided into two colonies, Connecticut and New Haven. Within the limits of the latter, the less prosperous of the two, were New Haven proper, Milford, Bramford, Gillford, and Stamford.

Regarding the reasons, mainly the colonists dissatisfaction with King Charles II, in the spring of 1656, the men of Milford moved, to the number of some thirty persons. The negotiators for the settlers were, in the first stages of the negotiations, Captain Treat and Samuel Edsal, and in the final settlement, Obadiah Bruen, Michah Tompkins, John Brown and Robert Denison; those were the Indians being Wapamuck, Harish, Catamin, Sessom, Mamustome, Peter, Wamesane,

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Weckaporkikan, Cacknakque and Darawae. The bill of sale which bears the date of July 11, 1667, indicates that the County Essex cost the settlers about one and thirty pounds or about \$750.00 in United States money. The Agreement bears the name of Abraham Pierson and Thomas Pierson. There was a sort of declaration of independence, entitled The Fundamental Agreement signed on the 24th of June, 1667, by Robert Kitchel, Samuel Kitchel, Obadiah Bruen, Daniel Tichenor, Martin Tichenor, among a number of others. The name of Newark was a substitute for Milford which it was called until the Bramford people arrived. Newark was named in honor of Mr. Abraham Pierson, the first pastoral shepard of the place, who came from New Work-on-Trent to the western world. It was originally New-Work "here it may be appropriately be added that the New-Work to which we owe our name, and which was the home of laboring and distinguished and godly Pierson, dates its establishment somewhere about the year of 1105." There a royal castle was built. It was known as the "new-work." In it died in 1216, King John of Runnymede Millery. New Work-on-Trent is in its 773rd year, a town of some 12,000 inhabitants. What a contrast the Newark on Passaic offers now to the New Work-on-Trent." "Cotton Mather, speaking of Pastor Pierson and his object in founding a settlement of South Hampton. long prior to the establishment of Newark, said he (Pierson) tried to "make it begun what paradise was called, an island of the innocent!" The same aim and object that carried the Rev. Pierson to South Hampton, brought him and his flock to Newark."

"March 4, 1672, it was agreed to call in an assistant pastor... Mr. Abraham Pierson, Jr., the pious and talented son of the first pastor." "The older Pierson...on August 9, 1678, leaving behind him "the character of a pious and prudentman--a true child of Abraham." "The exact place of his birth, like the exact place of his death is unknown..." The late Samuel Conger informed the author that the venerable Pierson was buried in a portion of the old burying ground, just in the rear of what is now a fire engine house, the sacred spot being occupied by the city as a stable for its fire department's horses."

From Chapter 3, a picture appears of Pierson's statue at

Yale College at which Rev. Abraham Pierson, Jr., who was born at Lynn, Mass., in 1641 was educated at Harvard College, once he graduated in 1668, called to Newark as assistant pastor July 28, 1669, was in the service of the Church about 23 years. "Obadiah Bruen, writing to his children in Connecticut, soon after the death of the elder Pierson wrote..."yet hath he not left us destitute of spiratural enjoyments but hath given us a faithful

Continue with the immigrants, Thomas, Sen., ~~I don't know if that is senator~~, found in Bramford, Connecticut, in 1662; Stephen, also sen., found in Derby, Connecticut, in 1666; of the spelling Pearson, Thomas, to Uptown, Pennsylvania, in 1682; Benjamin to Pennsylvania near the same time; Capt. James to Glouster, Mass., near 1700; Thomas to Virginia near 1774. Piersesons, Richard to Hope, Maine, in 18th century and Peirson, Samuel to Philadelphia, Penn., in 1699. Abraham Pierson was born in Yorkshire, England, graduated Trinity College, Cambridge 1632, was in Boston and Lynn before going to South Hampton where he remained until 1647 then to Bramford, Conn. His wife Abigail, daughter of Rev. Jonathan Wheelwright of Lincolnshire, England, removed to New Hampshire. He was episcopally ordained in England and preached there for awhile. Was ordained in Boston as a Congregational minister.

About forty families left Lynn to make a settlement on the west end of Long Island but the Dutch had made sure of that and so they repaired to the east end and laid the foundations of South Hampton. This was the first town settled by the English in the State of New York. The Church later became presbyterian. He was most rigid in his desire to have the "civil as well as ecclesiastical power all vested in the Church, and to allow but none but Church members to act in the choice of officers of government, or to be eligible for such period." This led to a division of the colony and in 1647 he with a small part of his congregation formed the town of Bramford. He was there 12 years. He made himself familiar with the indian language. During 1666 and 1667 some 65 men came from Bramford and neighboring towns into Newark. Each

man was entitled to a homestead law of six acres. This is from Tremble's History of Connecticut. They became the First Church of Newark which later became a presbyterian church.

It says of Benjamin Pierson that he removed from Newark to a tract of land called Piersonville three miles east of Morristown on the road from Whippany to East Hanover which is now Madison. A portion of which land is now occupied by the Roman Catholic Convent and school. He owned a large and beautiful tract of land there, which he afterwards divided among his children, the most of whom settled thereon. "He was of size under the average, grave, and much respected for his religious care . " He married Patience.

The following from genological data from Colonial New York newspapers compiled by Kath Scott, published in 1977. This is from the New York Gazette Mercury, 1770. Rev. John Pierson for many years minister at Woodbridge, New Jersey, died August 23, at Hanover, New Jersey, from September 17th's paper. The following are from the Pearson spelling, again the same newspaper, in 1771.

[September 2, Mary Brown, wife of Thomas Brown, her husband will not pay debts, transacted by her in the future.] Nathaniel Little, apprentice, weaver by trade, age 18, ran away from James Black and Daniel Pearson of Springfield near Elizabethtown, New Jersey. Same date. On August 10, 1772, Freyer, George Paul, Dutch servant who had been in America almost two years, age c. 21, ran away April 26, from Jesse Bonsall and John Pearson of Darby County, Pennsylvania.

[From the New York Gazette, New York's first newspaper, from 1726 to 1744, Middletown, Erin, clockmaker, age c. 26, ran away from Issac Pearson, of Burlington, New Jersey, 12/26/32.] From the New York magazine, marriages and deaths, 1790 to 1797, edited by the same, published in 1975, we find on the list of subscribers with the spelling Pierson, Caleb in 1793, and a John in 1790. The following deaths, Mr. I., Jr., died Newark, New Jersey, April 1797; also Josiah G., died New York City, in his 34th year, December 17, 1797; and Mr. W. died New York City, March, 1795.

George Washington and John Adams headed the list of 368 subscribers at that time, because they were living in New York when they were President and Vice-President of the United States.

The following marriages appeared. Robert L. Bowne of New York and Almy Robinson, New Port, Rhode Island, December 1793. Also, Samuel Boyd, Esq., and Betsy Pierson, February, 1793.

The following abstracted by the same person, genealogical data the administration papers from the New York State Court of Appeals in Albany.

In this I see the name of Issac Abrahams deposition, third April, 1793, of Issac Piersey, of New York City, baker. That in 1792 Abrahams fell overboard from Brig Minerva, Capt. Williams, on voyage to Faulkland Island in South America and was drowned. Also, Jacob Bice of Phillips Manor, W. County, Carpenter, renunciation, 12th of February, 1784, of Baletie Bice, widow of deceased in favor of William Davis (or Davids) of W. County, farmer and also renunciation of John and Thomas Bice, witness, Harry Spengler, George Pierson, administrator, Trinity, April 1784, William Davids, creditor and Nicholas Storms, half-brother of deceased--bondsman; William Davids, Issac Van Wart, and Nicholas Storms, all of Phillips Manor, yeoman and Reuben Wright of North Castle, Millwright--witness: Richard Hatfield.

The following are the same author and James Oware published in 1970, Geneological Data from Inventories of New York Estates, 1666-1825. This is Cooper, Justice James, from South Hampton, Suffolk County inventory, 18 July, 1722, taken by Capt. Nathaniel Howe, Ichabod Cooper and Richard Wood and exhibited by executors, David Peirson, James Cooper and Nathan Cooper. One item is "whaling indian's boats and craft." (two hundred seventeen pounds)

Another item Cooper, John of South Hampton, Suffolk County inventory, (8 March 1678) taken by the overseers and appraised by Edward Howell, John Jessop, Thomas Cooper, Thomas Topping, and Obadiah Rogers. Among items listed are a bed given to a daughter of the deceased, a bed given to Mary by her father and 12 acres of land laid out north of Jagers Close. The widow owes a sum to Ellis Cooke and Henry Pierson. Mentioned are three guns, three old swords, a great bible, four old pistols, and two negroes and tow negro children (90 pounds). The following is Douglass, Assa, of Richmond, Brookshire County, Mass., Esq.,--inventory, no date, shown by Sarah Douglass, executrix and Nathan Peirson, Jr., executor to Nathan Bishop and James Peirson. Inventory (New Cannan, 13 May 1812) shown by

Sarah Douglass, executrix, and Daniel Warner, and Nathan Peirson, executors to Erin Olmsted, Joseph Pendleton and James Peirson-- inventory, 25 February 1813 taken by Sarah Douglass and Nathan Peirson, Jr., and appraised by W. Lenington and James Wynkoop. Among items listed were shares in the Eastern Turnpike Road Company and in the Stephinton Turnpike, etc.

The following are Peirsons, Henry, inventory (8 November, 1680) taken and appraised by Capt. John Howell, John Jessop, Edward Howell, and Thomas Cooper. The amount of his estate was one thousand two hundred fifty-six and one-half pounds. Among items listed were two chests, three guns, a sword, and a looking glass (fourteen pounds). There is a petition of Mary Peirson, the widow of the deceased, dated 3 March, 1680-81, she had several small children and asked letters of administration and the court decides her one-third is deducted, how much shall be given to her sons and daughters and can she have the party and share of the younger children.

Peirson, Susannah of South Hampton, Suffolk County, inventory (4 April 1716) taken by Issac Halsey, Bertram Nathan Howell, and Christopher Foster, and exhibited on 13 June 1716 by Theopolis Peirson and Josiah Peirson, executors. The amount of the estate was four hundred pounds /19/8. Among items listed were two negroes and an indian boy (75 pounds), books and other things 16 pounds-6- -- and cash--common place things (30 pounds -3-6) This is the only Peirson I have found who had slaves.

Raymond, Capt. Joseph of Richmond, Brookshire County, Mass., gentleman-inventory