

Info on Reverend Joseph Hull

Notebook: Genealogy Sources

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1990.]

John C. Fremont Hull.

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I. Rev. Joseph² Hull,* indicated in the former article as of the first generation of the family in America, was a son of Thomas¹ and Joane (Peson) Hull of Crewkerne, Somersetshire, England. There Rev. Joseph² Hull was born in 1594. In addition to the biographical items already given concerning him, some further facts should find place here. He was of a very large family and was not alone of them a pioneer in the New World. His brother, William² Hull, was a graduate of St. Mary's Hall, Oxford, England, and then was created Vicar of Colyton, in Devonshire, in 1611, becoming very prominent in English affairs. Three other brothers, John², George², and Robert², likewise emigrated to New England and were admitted freemen by the general Court of Massachusetts in 1632, 1633 and 1637 respectively.† It has been claimed for years that Richard Hull, freeman in 1634, was also a brother, he being the ancestor of Gen. William Hull, but recently found records raise serious doubt of the relationship. The relationship of the others is in part established by the will of Rev. William² Hull, who died childless in 1627. This instrument is dated May 20th, 1627, proved June 19, 1627, and disposes of a small estate, consisting of lands and annuities, naming in its provisions his brothers, George², John², and Joseph². The relationship of Robert² is otherwise established. George² settled in Dorchester, Mass., and later removed to Windsor, Conn., while John² and Robert² both settled in Boston. Only the descendants of Rev. Joseph² Hull will receive present attention. The records of Northleigh, Devonshire, under date of April 14, 1621, are said to contain the presentation of Rev. Joseph² Hull to the Rectorship by "Thomas Hull, of Crewkerne," who is unquestionably identical with his father.

The records of Massachusetts Bay Colony and of the Towns of Weymouth, Hingham, Barnstable, Mass., and others, (those of Plymouth Colony—Judicial Acts, 1636–1692), contain many references to Rev. Joseph² Hull (1594–1665), who was minister, land-owner, cattle trader, soldier, first prominent, then ostracised for religious differences, but withal a sturdy and devout Christian and an honest and upright citizen. An epitome of his career is best presented as follows:

He was, in strict sense, the founder of the Mariner–Quaker branch of the Hull family in America. He had been graduated at Oxford College in 1614. He was a regularly ordained clergyman of the Church of England. Teacher, curate and minister at Colyton in Devonshire. Rector of Northleigh, diocese of

* The genealogical numbering is changed on account of the discovery of the parentage of Rev. Joseph Hull, he now being placed in the second generation, instead of the first.

† Any one desiring to make his own researches and deductions should note the following authorities. They contain interesting and amplified information upon these and the following statements: N. E. Hist. Gen. Reg., Vol. XLVII, pg. 13 et seq.; Rev. Joseph Hull and Some of His Descendants, by Amy Eleanor E. Hull (1904); Otis' Barnstable Families; Printed Pamphlets of the Hull Family Association of No. 4, Broad St., New York City; Booklet compiled by the late Col. Robert Hull; "Book of the Hulls," by Oliver Hull (1863); Weymouth's Hist. Soc. Coll. Vol. 2, pg. 158; Maine Hist. Soc. Coll., Ser. II, Vol. III, pg. 195; Bangor, Me., Hist. Mag. Vol. 6, page 125; Folsom's Hist. of Saco, Me.; Pope's Pioneers of Mass. and Savage's Gen. Dict., all of which conflict somewhat and present inconsistent data, but are essentially correct. Also, Volumes of New Jersey Archives, containing Marriages and Wills.

Exeter; also of Crewkerne, Somersetshire, and, after he had been in New England some years, he returned to Old England and was rector of St. Beryon, in Cornwall, near Lands End.

March 26, 1635, he gathered together a company of 106 souls, who set sail with him from the harbor of Weymouth, bound for New England. For over two hundred years the ship passenger list of this company of emigrants, always known in New England History as "Hulls Colony," was undiscovered, when in 1870, it was discovered in London, and soon afterwards published in the N. E. Hist. Gen. Reg. It contains the names of the passengers, and among them "Joseph Hull, of Somerset, a minister, aged 40 years; Agnes Hull, his wife, aged 25 years; Joane Hull, his daughter, aged 15 years; Joseph Hull, his sonne, aged 13 years; Tristram Hull, his son, aged 11 years; Temperance Hull, his daughter, aged 9 years; Elizabeth Hull, his daughter, aged 7 years; Grissell Hull, his daughter, aged 5 years; Dorothy Hull, his daughter, aged 3 years, and his three servants, Judith French, John Wood and Robert Dobeyn." He settled at Weymouth, of which place he was made a freeman in September of the same year. In 1637, he was a Deputy from Hingham, and in 1639 from Barnstable, to the General Court of Massachusetts. In 1638, he was a magistrate of Hingham. He officiated as a clergyman at Barnstable, Hingham, York, Me., Oyster River and Isle of Shoals. In 1645, he participated in the first Narragansett Campaign. Historian Otis writes of him that "Every recorded act of his life exhibited him as a man of peace, of a quiet disposition, as a good man and a sincere Christian." An inventory of his estate, returned by his widow Agnes, has been preserved of record and is of such unique interest that it is reproduced here:

"An inventory of the goods of Mr. Joseph Hull, who departed this life 19th Nov., 1665, at Isle of Shoals:

Eight small pewter dishes 2s, 2 plates, 2 saucers 2s.	1:02:00
One pewter candlestick, pint pot, a salter	:05:00
One silver dram cup 2-8, One brass mortar and pestle	:03:00
One small teapot & skillet 7s, one small brass kettle 5s	:12:00
One half case knives 2-8, Two earthen porrinders 8d	:03:00
Two stone bottles & cup 12d One beare glass and one wine glass 6d	:01:06
One fattine pan & 6 trenchers 8d Two chests 10s	:14:08
Two ould saltan caps and two cloth caps	:03:00
Five ould chaires 1os an ould carpet & 2 ould cushions 8s	:18:00
One hat brush 6d one iron spit 2s	:02:06
One peyre tonges one gyre shovel one peyre pot hangers	:05:00
One gread iron 15d One come and case	1:00:00
Six napkins one table cloth one pr. sheets & 3 towels	1:00:00
So much stuff with buttons for a sute	1:00:00
To an ould flocks bed 5s an axe & small hatchett 2od	:06:08
Two wooden bowls & a small runlet 2-8 his woolen cloaths	4: 2:06
His lining cloaths 35s 2os 2 pr. shoes 8s	3:03:00
Two washing tubs & one water bucket	:03:00
His books 10 pounds in cash 6s	10:06:00
A bed with furniture & bedstead a small parcel of pillows	6:00:00
Old case 10s several things 6-8	:16:08
One pound black thread 2s one gimlet & hammar 6d	:02:06
The Ylands* indebted to my husband for his ministry	20:00:00
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	52:05:05

* Isle of Shoals.

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