



# Hotchkiss Family News

June 2016

Volume XII Issue I

Lin Meeker, Editor

## Descendants of John Hotchkiss, 1st Son of Samuel Book

The Hotchkiss Family Association is preparing to publish our third book. This is a major undertaking for a volunteer organization. Our first book, *The Hotchkiss Family, First Six Generations*, 428 pages was published in 1985. The second, *The Hotchkiss Family, The Line from Joshua, his 5th Child*, 1417 pages was published in 2003.

Currently we are planning for the publishing of the book about John (Samuel's first son) & his descendants.

Book publishing has changed immensely in the past decade. John's book will be about 3000 pages requiring it to be published in 2 volumes. The cost will be about \$125-\$150 for the set which includes shipping. We're asking that if you intend to purchase, we need to know approximately how many copies you'll want. In the past we've ordered 500+ copies and kept them 'on the shelf' for people to purchase. Given the options available we will order much closer to the number that people confirm they'll purchase so that we are not waiting years to recoup the cost. The book is expected to be ready for Christmas. The John book will be available only as a set.

**In order to know how many to print, please preorder (payment later) by contacting:**

**Joan Johnson**

**36 Beach Drive, Prospect, CT 06712**

**or by email at**

**Hotchkissfamilyassn@yahoo.com**

**If you preorder by email, please include your name as email addresses do not always include a name.**

**A REMINDER: If you change your email address or your mailing address, please let us know. Send an email or note to the Editor, address on page 4. Addresses are not shared and you receive notice of a newsletter by blind copy.**

## Finding a Spanish American War Soldier's Family

*Editor's Note—I received an email from Gary after the December newsletter was published. Here is a portion of Gary's email.*

"Following the death of my mother last year, I have inherited a couple of letters written by a WWI soldier, H.W. Hotchkiss, to my maternal grandmother. In short, my GM (then 18) was writing these letters as part of a morale-boosting program for soldiers confined with the Spanish flu in late 1917-18. The soldier in question was stationed in Fort Dix for many months, but at the top of one letter my GM writes, "Mother in Binghamton NY". I have tried contacting various Hotchkiss family members, but to no avail. My goal is simply to pass on copies of these letters to H.W.'s descendant(s)." This summarizes the facts from the letters:

1) The first letter to my GM was from 1/30/1917 (Camp/Fort Dix, N.J.), before H.W. deployed to Europe, in which he expressed a strong desire to "go to France and get the Kaiser." His return address includes his army placement info - "42nd Co. 11th Battalion 153rd Depot Brigade".

2) In a letter from 2/6/1918, he notes that "I have a Mother and father and one sister and my home is Binghamton, N.Y. ...My sister lives in Phila." He also says that "I am 27 years old, have black hair and eyes and am 5 ft. 7 inches tall and [of] a very cheery disposition..." 3) On 9/28/1918, he writes that "Our camp is quarantined with the Spanish influenza and it is a shame the way the poor fellows are dying of it....There were one hundred and seventy deaths the past few

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days..." 4) He had been returned to Fort Dix because of "shrapnel wounds in my left leg and a small shot of [chlorine/mustard] gas...." He was then sent to Camp Wheeler, in GA, to recuperate. 5) In his final letter from Dec. '18, he speaks of being classified with a disability, but still hoping to somehow continue being part of the war effort. It is unknown whether he and my grandparents ever finally met. See page 5 for a snippet of one of his letters. If you have any idea who this soldier's family might be please contact the editor (see page 4 for contact info) who will put you in touch with Gary directly.

See info on this year's reunion on page 3.

## Donations in Lieu of Dues

**Thank you** very much to those who answered the call for everyone to donate what they can to the HFA. As we mentioned last year's donations amounted to less than \$1000 from 28 individuals/families. Your family association cannot survive unless the 690+ members who receive the newsletters support us. Costs include printing and mailing for those members who do not have email or receive a printed copy. For those who receive the newsletter via an email link to our website, there are costs associated with a website, holding a domain name and the labor of loading pages and maintaining the site. While this cuts the cost compared to printing and mailing to our entire Hotchkiss Family Association list, the Hotchkiss Family Association operates on donations in lieu of dues. Your donation supports research and record keeping for the Hotchkiss family lines, newsletters published two/three times a year, the incidental costs of preparing our books for publication and maintaining a website. We preserve hundreds of records. A suggestion of an annual donation of \$10 per person/family will keep the Association solvent. To those not able to afford that a lesser amount is certainly welcome. Please give today to insure the preservation of our ancestors records. Make your check payable to the Hotchkiss Family Association and mail to:

Hotchkiss Family Assoc.  
c/o Joan Johnson  
36 Beach Drive  
Prospect, CT 06712-1603.

## Hotchkiss Passings

### Jack W. Hotchkiss

Jack W. Hotchkiss, 93, of Fergus Falls, died April 20, 2016, at the Minnesota Veteran's Home in Fergus Falls. Jack was born June 12, 1922, son of Robert and Elaine (Maloney) Hotchkiss, on a farm in Buse Township south of Fergus Falls, MN. He attended country school at District 31, now Buse Township Hall, through the fifth grade. In 1934 the family moved into Fergus Falls. While finishing grade school, he started a Fergus Journal paper route, then worked in the mailing department on Saturdays during Junior HS. He later worked Saturdays and summer months in the press room until graduation in 1941. He continued working at the Journal until joining the U.S. Navy in October of 1942.

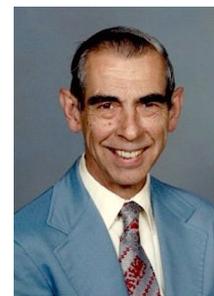
While in the Navy, he trained at Great Lakes, IL, Aviation Machinist School and Glenview Naval Air Base. He worked on fighter planes, torpedo bombers and dive bombers at Wild Wood, NJ, Quonset Point, RI and Virginia Beach, VA Naval Air Station.

After completing his Navy service, he returned to the Fergus Journal for 40 more years, retiring as a compositor and operating the camera for photo composition. In 1989, Jack began his venture into Hotchkiss Genealogy, dating back to Great Britain of the 1500's. Many Hotchkiss immigrants settled in the State of New York and as the families grew they spread throughout the country. Jack married Laura Neutzling at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Alexandria, MN, on April 3, 1948. Laura passed away on July 17, 2012. Jack was a member of Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church in Fergus Falls, a lifetime member of the American Legion Post 30, a member of the Elks Club and Eagles Club and the Pebble Lake Golf Club for 49 years. Preceding him in death were his wife, Laura; his parents; his sisters and brothers-in-law, Dorothy and Del Porter and Betty and Warren Sagerhorn; his brother and sister-in-law, Robert and Doris Hotchkiss; in-laws, Leo and Frances (Lieser) Neutzling; brothers and sisters-in-law, William and Eulalia Stein and Aloys and Alverna Neis; and brothers-in-law Alvin Neutzling, Howard Blaske and Roy Brede.

Survivors include his daughter, Pam (Howard) Dean of Eagan, MN; his son, Harley Hotchkiss of Phoenix, AZ; a grandson, Joe (Kelie) Hotchkiss and a great-grandson, Mason, of New River, AZ; sisters-in-law, Leonora Brede and Clarice Neutzling; and many nieces, nephews and their families, and many friends.

### Stuart E. Hotchkiss

Entered into rest on January 10, 2016 at the age of 86. Predeceased by his daughter: Laura Hotchkiss Hefley. Stu was born in Brooklyn and lived on Long Island for many years. In 1944, the family moved to Millburn, NJ where he met Anne at high school. He graduated from Lafayette College as a Mechanical Engineer. He worked for the United States Navy before enlisting and serving our country from 1955 - 1958 as a Lieutenant. He worked on catapults and arresting gears for planes on aircraft carriers. He married Anne in 1954 and then began working at the Philadelphia Naval Base, Magnavox in Illinois, and RCA Labs in Princeton, NJ. Stu and Anne then moved to Rochester to work at Xerox. He was active in the Pultneyville Players, and President of the Pultneyville Historical Society. After a few moves to Dallas, TX and Los Angeles, CA, he returned back to New York and eventually retired from Xerox. He loved to repair antique clocks and bind antiquarian books. Stu was very proud of his 1948 Lincoln Continental which he has owned since 1964. Stu is survived by his beloved wife of 61 years, Anne Hotchkiss; son: David



(Delila) Hotchkiss, Atlanta, GA; daughters: Diane (Patrick) Burns, Sodus Point, NY, Judy Leistman, Sodus, NY; sister in law: Jane Nalwalk, Reading, MA; grandsons: Joshua La Bouve, Micah, Philip, and Andrew Hotchkiss; cousins: David Noble, Phyllis Schwartz, Alice Hidy, Irma Davis, and Diane Noble.

*Editor's note: All of us on the board of the HFA will miss Stuart very much as he served tirelessly for many years, and volunteered in many ways to help preserve Hotchkiss Family records. This editor first met Stuart & Anne at a Hotchkiss Family Reunion in Lyons NY in August 2002. He and Anne were instrumental in my becoming an active volunteer in the HFA.*

### Elizabeth Jean (BJ) Wear

Elizabeth Jean Wear, Air Force wife, community volunteer and resident of Colorado for 53 years, died on December 17, 2015 in Colorado Springs at the age of 91. She was born August 7, 1924 in Phoenix, AZ. She was a graduate of Tucson Senior High School and attended the Univ. of Arizona. She married John F. Wear April 30, 1944.



Her husband, a retired Air Force Colonel, predeceased her in 1998. A homemaker and for most of her life volunteered and officiated in numerous non-profit and charitable organizations. As president of the Far East Women's Club in Tokyo, Japan, she founded a thrift store to finance the club's projects. She taught Japanese flower arranging in Denver and Colorado Springs. While living in Denver, she was the president of the Denver Chapter of Ikebana International and a founding member of the Colorado Springs Chapter and served as their president. She was on the Vestry of Christ Church in Denver. In Colorado Springs she served on the Vestry at the Chapel of our Savior and at Grace and St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. She was the president of the board of the Thrift House of Episcopal Churchwomen, served on the USO Council and the Namaste Foundation Board. She was a member of the Fine Arts Center, Friends of the Pioneer Museum, Horticultural Arts Society, SPA-BA, McAllister House, the Blue and Silver Club, The Military Officers Assn., the World Affairs Council, the

Broadmoor Social Club, the Military Order of World Wars, the Cheyenne Mt. Republican Forum and Pillar. Survivors include her two daughters, Charlotte W. Tye and husband Virgil, Susan W. Callahan, and two sons, John F. Wear II and wife Jeanne, and James F. Wear and wife Pam. She is also survived by eight grandchildren, Justin, Lesley, John III, Brooke, Meghan, Caitlin, Gage, Wyatt and nine great-grandchildren.

### The Hotchkiss Family, the Line from Joshua, His Fifth Child

book is down to the last 3 copies. There is no plan to reprint them. The hardbound book of 1417 pages which also reviews the most current information on Samuel Hotchkiss is \$50 plus \$5 shipping. Send a check made out to Hotchkiss Family Association to Lin or Joan to insure you have a copy. See page 4 for the address.

### HFA Reunion

Due to scheduling problems of officers, this year's reunion will be held late in August.

We will have a mini-reunion late in August for a board meeting.

Date and location will be announced on the web page as soon as it is firmed up.

### Notes from Joan

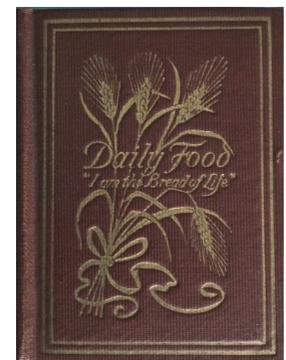
I am still working on John. I thought to have it complete last month, but I lost all my cloud storage so am now just using a thumb drive backed up daily. Unfortunately, as I check the family group sheets with the John family stored on the computer, I quite often find data that just doesn't seem right so I have to recheck Shirley Nixon's and/or other's information with whatever is available online. I'm sorry to say that much of Shirley's and other's information sent is not correct and is causing such a long delay. I truly am sorry. I know how anxious you are.

*Editor's note: It is painful to wait, but once something is published, if there is an error, it is very difficult to correct misinformation and impossible to be sure that everyone in that line receives the correction.*

Joan also included this note that corrects information in the Joshua book.

### Horace Hotchkiss 131-822.

For some years our subject was thought to be the Horace Hotchkiss who married an (Aurelia) Amelia Hotchkiss #5(11)2-2 (on the Joshua line) and eventually went to Ohio then on to Illinois. Thomas & Judy Roth have been untiring in their search for the Horace Hotchkiss from whom they are descended and through recently released marriage records have proven initial data was not correct. THEREFORE, REMOVE all references of his marriage to Amelia Hotchkiss in "The Hotchkiss Family, The Line From Joshua" pg 288,289 if you or someone you know has that genealogy.



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**Coat-of-Arms**

This rendition of the Hotchkiss coat-of-arms is printed in six colors on 11" X 14" parchment, a handsome gift. The cost is \$6.00 each plus \$4.00 handling and postage fee for mailing to one address. It will be mailed to you with good protective backing. Enclose a gift card with your order if you wish it to be shipped to someone else. Send your order to: Mrs. Brenda Hotchkiss, PO Box 63, Mexico, NY 13114

*Make checks payable to: Hotchkiss Family Association, Inc.. Your order should include your name, address, check, number of copies requested & note your family relationship.*



*Your comments, questions, & submissions are welcome for publication in this newsletter. They may be edited for space. Send them to Lin Meeker at dlmokdoki@aol.com or the address on the left side of this page.*

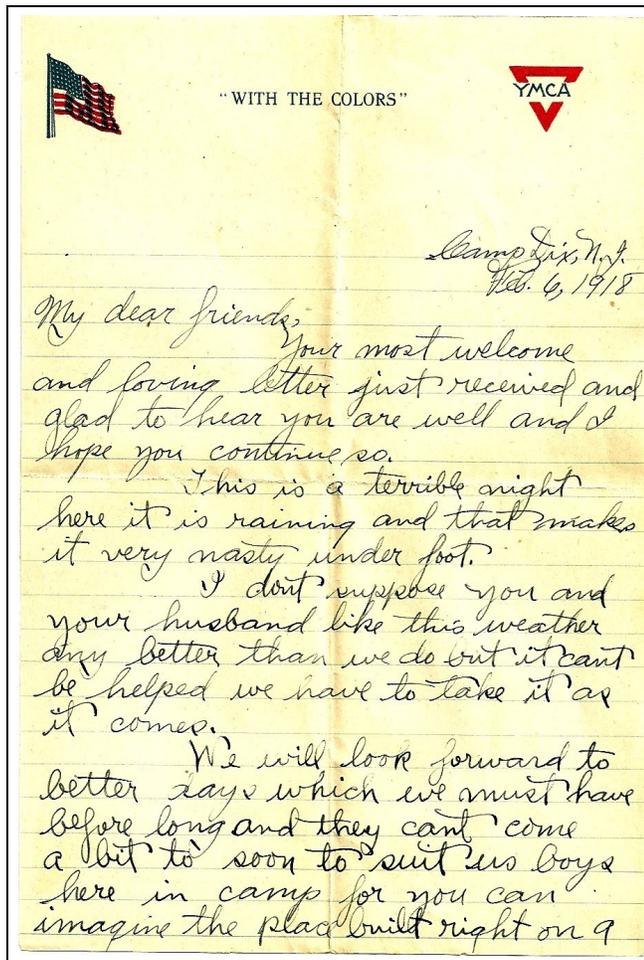
**Bibliography  
 Descendants of Ebenezer, son of  
 Samuel, son of Samuel,  
 the Immigrant**

Samuel Orcutt, *History of the Towns of New Milford and Bridgewater, Connecticut.: 1703-1882* (Salem, MA: Higginson, 1992).

Others sources as noted.



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### Hotchkiss Quest for Information

Carol writes, "I've been searching for over 30 years for proof of the parents of Urania Hotchkiss."

She was b 1795/6 in CT. (census records) m. 1) Amasa Nott on 23 Dec 1817 in Cheshire, NY (the record has her name spelled Lovinia. (10,000 marriages in Western NY)..She had 5 children with Amasa..who died of cholera Aug 1830 and she married James Turner . They had a daughter Maria Turner, who married Sibley Nott.

I've been told that Urania was born to Salmon and Rebecca Hall Hotchkiss, who lived in Cheshire, CT before coming to Ontario County, NY.

I would "like" to believe that bit of family tradition, but lineage societies will not accept tradition as fact I've found one Urania in CT but not to the people who came to Ontario County. It's been a few years since I've attempted to face this brick wall and am wondering IF some "new" source or find might have surfaced? Please contact the Editor who will put you in touch with the researcher.

### Hotchkiss Quest for Information

**Wanted:** Does anyone know where Olivia Fleming Davidson, 1st wife of Seth Hotchkiss (1808-1886) is buried? She died in 1865. Seth married 2) Rebecca Blount, he died in Fort Mill SC. Please contact the Editor who will put you in touch with her descendant.

This installment of Samuel, son of Samuel the Immigrant will include only Ebenezer (Samuel, Samuel) and only two generations of his due to space. Other children will be included in later issues.

#### Descendants of Ebenezer Hotchkiss (Samuel, Samuel)

**Ebenezer Hotchkiss** was christened 16 Dec 1688 in New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT. moved to New Milford, CT in 1743.

According to the NEHGS Register Vol 66, page 330

"baptized 16 Dec 1688, removed to New Milford. In 1743, Ebenezer Hotchkiss of New Milford deeded to Samuel Hotchkiss and the rest of the heirs of Samuel Hotchkiss Jr, deceased, all his right to the estate of Lieut. Samuel, deceased and of Samuel Jr. deceased (New Haven Deeds, vol. 12, p24) He was probably father of the Dea. Ebenezer of New Milford who died in 1796 and whose descendants are given in Orcutt's History of New Milford." Ebenezer Hotchkiss and Hannah Peck were married. **Hannah Peck** was born (date unknown). They moved to New Milford 1743.

Ebenezer Hotchkiss and Hannah Peck had the following child: 2. i. **Deacon Ebenezer Hotchkiss**, born 1710 or 1712; married Hannah Terrill, 10 Jan 1741/2 New Haven, CT; married Ann Bostwick, 30 Apr 1783-86 , New Haven, CT; married Lydia Brownson Buck, 30 Nov 1789, New Haven, CT; d. 12 Jan 1796, New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT.

#### Second Generation

2. Deacon Ebenezer Hotchkiss (Ebenezer-1) was born in 1710 or 1712. He d. 12 Jan 1796 at the age of 86 in New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT. 1771 Vermont census by Jay Mack Holbrook 1982

1766, New England, PN11-Petition, BAT895: 599 -Batchellor, A S 1895. The New Hampshire Grants. NHSP Vol 26.

1790 CT, Litchfield Co., New Milford Ebenezer Hotchkiss 1male 16 and over, 1 male 1-15, 2 females

History of the towns of New Milford and Bridgewater - 1803-1882, page 128

Ebenezer Hotchkiss married in New Milford, Hannah Terrill in 1742. He bought land near the mouth of Town hill Brook in 1745. He was deacon in the Separatist's church many years and died in 1796. His descendants all seem to have disappeared from the town about the year 1800. His residence was at the east end of the town bridge at the Great Falls. page 178

"Some time after, Eleazer Beecher absented himself from us and Dea Canfield and Lieut Hine enquired into things, and

made report to the Church, and a Church meeting was warned February following. ...Ebenezer Hotchkiss were all cited to appear and give in their reasons for their separations. Accordingly they appeared and mentioned some things why, and among the rest they fully denied the Say-Brook Platform. But they urged that they had not had sufficient time for consideration and desired further opportunity. Accordingly it was granted the; the meeting adjourned till the 26th of March... Accordingly the Church met upon the 26th of March 1751, but those people had brought nothing in writing... [the church did not accept their reasons in subsequent meetings]. page 193 -In 1754, this church, or its members petitioned the First Society as follows: "Upon the memorial of Thomas Weller, Lemuel Bostwick, Eleazer, Ebenezer Hotchkiss, Nathan Gaylord...inhabitants of this society, showing that the said memorialists soberly dissent from the way of worship and method of supporting the ministry established by the laws of this Colony, and that they do maintain and attend the public worship of God among themselves, in an agreeable to their consciences; praying this society to show their minds, whether they are willing that the memorialists should be exempted from paying taxes for the support of the ministry and building meeting houses for the established constitution, etc.: Voted, that this society are willing that the persons named in the memorial shall be exempted from paying taxes for the future as they request, so long as they shall continue soberly to dissent from the established constitution as aforesaid, provided the Hon. General Assembly shall approve the same.

page 194 -In the record of the First Church in 1750, citing persons before that body as having separated themselves, the following are named: Joseph Ruggles, Eleazer Beecher and his wife, Jonathan Buck and his wife, Ann, the wife of Joseph Buck, David Beardsley and his wife, Jonathan Botsford and his wife, Lemuel Bostwick and his wife, Ebenezer Hotchkiss, Ellen Mackeney. The following persons are named by Mr Griswold as Deacons of this church: ... Ebenezer Hotchkiss....

page 217 -The committee of Inspection and Correspondence appointed in December, 1776, were: [among others] Dea Ebenezer Hotchkiss

page 220 -"Capt Sherman Boardman, .. and Dea Ebenezer Hotchkiss shall be a committee to procure clothing for the soldiers in the Continental service.

page 221- March 13, 1780. A committee of inspection on provisions, agreeable to a late act of Assembly, was chosen as follows: among numerous others, Mr. Ebenezer Hotchkiss.

page 299 -"Voted, that there shall be a district for a school, beginning at Lazarus Ruggles, including him; then cross the river, taking in Ebenezer Hotchkiss and his sons....

page 718 - Hotchkiss, Dea Ebenezer, is said to have come from L.I. to New Milford and married here Hannah Terrill, Jan 10, 1741-2. She died Dec 29, 1782. He m 2nd Ann Robards, April 30, 1783. She died Aug 29, 1789, and he m 3rd Lydia Buck Nov 30, 1789. He died Jan 12, 1796. He lived near the Great Falls, and was a deacon in the separate Congregational Church.

Vol XIII The Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, page 625

"Upon the memorial of Ebenezer Hotchkiss, Lazarus Ruggles and Robert Hawkins, of New Milford in the county of Litchfield, shewing to this Assembly that they and their associates have undertaken to build a bridge over Ousatonuck River at the great falls, which will be serviceable to publick and private convenience, and that their former bridge was carried away the present year [1772] by an uncommon flood, and that said town of New Milford have granted said memorialists and others liberty at their own cost to erect a bridge at said place; praying that a toll or fare may be granted for defraing the expences of said bridge, and also to empower the proprietors to warn and hold meetings, to chuse a moderator and clerk and committees, and to grant rates or taxes for the purpose of aforesaid &c., as per memorial on file: Resolved by this Assembly, that there be a toll or fare established and stated for all and every passenger except the memorialists and their associates, and the same is hereby stated as follows: for each man, horse and load, two pence; for each foot person, one penny; for each team and load, three pence; for each horse led or drove, one penny; for all neat kine, one penny; for sheep or swine, one half-penny; and the proprietors or undertakers of said bridge are hereby empowered to warn and hold meetings for the purpos of aforesaid"

Deacon Ebenezer Hotchkiss and Hannah Terrill were married on 10 Jan 1741/2 in New Haven, CT. **Hannah Terrill**, daughter of Ezra Terrill and Margaret Ham, b. 25 Sep 1722 in Woodbury, Litchfield Co., CT. She d. 29 Dec 1782 in New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT. Ebenezer Hotchkiss and Hannah Terrill had the following children:

3 i. **Solomon Hotchkiss**, born 18 Sep 1742, New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT; married Lois Wooster, 22 Jul 1762, New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT; married Mary Edwards-poss, 1803; died abt 1805.

4 ii. **Asahel Hotchkiss**, born 26 Aug 1744, New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT; married Philena Washborn, 16 Nov 1766, New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT; died abt 1796, Monkton, Addison Co., VT.

5 iii. **Hannah Hotchkiss**, born 9 Apr 1746, New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT; married Daniel Collins, 11 Mar 1767, New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT.

Deacon Ebenezer Hotchkiss and Ann Bostwick were married 30 Apr 1783-6 in New Haven, CT. **Ann Bostwick** b. 7 Jul 1733. She d. 29 Aug in New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT. Widow of Benjamin Roberts., Deacon Ebenezer Hotchkiss and Lydia Brownson Buck were married 30 Nov 1789 in New Haven, CT. **Lydia Brownson Buck**, daughter of Ezekiel Buck and Lydia Brownson, was born perhaps 27 Apr 1733 in New Milford, Litchfield Co., CT. She died in 1800 at the age of 67.