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Subject: Reuben Mills
Date: April 19, 2021 at 7:58 PM
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Hi Dave and Kevin:

I wanted to go into a bit more detail about Reuben Mills.

1. Michael Mills lists Reuben as the son of George, with a dob or 1730.
2. According to the genealogy I have from Michael (a very early one), George also had a step brother John Mills, who also had a son named Reuben. I believe this is the Reuben generally thought to be born ca. 1750.

Both George and John were sons of Zechariah II.

Assuming this information is correct, my cousin Sandra tried to get Michael to change his opinion and identify John's son Reuben as the UEL who was granted land in Cumberland county. This is based on Reuben's children, and his age.

Establishing the children.

Your profile for Reuben indicates only 2 children: Peter and Samuel.

Reuben and Deborah had 7 children: David, Mary, Felix, John, Lewis, Peter, Samuel.

This is established by the New Brunswick [land petition 1811](#) which lists the children of Reuben. (Pharez Constantine was Mary Mills' husband).

My aunt Eva Hammond (nee Mills) has visited the New Brunswick archives in the university in Fredericton and told me about the land grant given because "they are the sons (one daughter) of Reuben Mills, an American Loyalist who came into this country upon the evacuation of New York. David was married with 2 children and Peter is in his 18th year." [I plan to visit the archive in the future to confirm this detail]

There is a slight discrepancy between Samuel's dob on this land grant paper and all the subsequent census documents. In 1851 Census shows his age as 47, making his birth 1804 or 1803. In all the subsequent censuses, his age is consistent: 57 in 1861 and 67 in 1871.

Conclusion. Son of John:

If George's son Reuben was born in 1730, he would have been 57 when his first son David was born, and over 70 years old when Samuel was born. For this reason, our family has favoured John as the father of Reuben.

Subsequent Discussion:

This all makes good sense if Michael's material is solid.

When I found that my DNA was not a match for the family line from George Mills, (the grandfather of Zechariah II), it upset the apple cart to say the least!

My first theory was that there were two men named Zechariah Mills in Bedford, and a researcher conflated them together. One was the son of George, and the other was the son of John.

Since that time, I have been told that the DNA trail leads to Samuel Mills of Dedham, Mass. but there are some gaps in the family line.

It could be that we discover Michael's data is correct, and that my DNA collaborators are the ones who have it wrong.

Or, it could be that Reuben was aboard the ship Thetis that landed in Nova Scotia with the Westchester Refugees, but he was from another place (Stamford, Boston, ...?).

The search continues ...

Deborah's death date:

One final note. You have Deborah Mills' (nee Lewis) death date listed as 1822. Her name appears in the article below on the founding of First Baptist Church, Moncton in 1827. So, it should be after that date.

Dave, have you heard from Wendy Whelen in recent years? If she is still living, I'd like to reach out to her.

Jonathan

p.s.

Here are a few resources on Reuben if you are interested.

the First Hundred (book)

There is a book available (to borrow) from the Internet Archive: [The First Hundred](#). Edward Larracey (1970). This is a compilation of records about the first 100 settlers in Moncton from records in the NB archives. Reuben was in Moncton within one or two years of landing in Nova Scotia.

First Baptist Church, Moncton.

The children of Reuben are well represented in the first Baptist church in Moncton. This was in the local newspaper in the 1800s, transcribed by Daniel F. Johnson.

The first Baptist Church in Moncton (West. Co.) appears to have been organized as a result of a religious awakening about the year 1827 in which the following, embracing a large portion of the then population of the Bend were baptized: Israel POWELL, John POWELL, Wm McKENZIE, David MILLS, Gilbert STULTZ, Abraham STULTZ, James LEWIS, Patrick RITCHIE, Wm RITCHIE, Mathias SOMERS, Aaron PORTER, John HORSMAN, Richard SHEA, Samuel MILLS, Elizabeth POWELL, Elizabeth STULTZ, Amy SOMERS, Eunice RITCHIE, Mary LEWIS, Susanna LEWIS, Mary CONSTANTINE, Harriet PRINCE, Rebecca MILLS, Hannah STEADMAN, Elizabeth STULTZ, Mary COLPITTS, Mary DOWNING, Esther PORTER. It is noted in the minutes that the ages of these converts ranged from Elizabeth Powell, aged 82 years to Harriet Prince, age 10. The above mentioned converts with Wm COLPITTS, Peter MILLS, Thos. PRINCE, Andrew STEEVES, John MILLS, Wm STEADMAN, sr., Jas. F. GOULDRUP, Elizabeth COLPITTS, Catherine TRITES, Sarah PRINCE, Elizabeth STEEVES, Jane LEAMAN, Alice LEAMAN, Deborah MILLS and Charlotte McKENZIE, dismissed from the Salisbury Church, appear to comprise the full original membership of what is now known as the Moncton First Baptist Church. The organization was elected June 8th, 1828 by the late Rev. Joseph CRANDALL and late Rev. James WALLACE, the former, grandfather of postmaster, Joseph CRANDALL of Moncton. The deacons were William Colpitts, Thos. Prince and Peter Mills. The clerk was Rev. James F. Gouldruo whose death was recorded a few months ago. The church was received into the N.B. Baptist Assoc. in July 1829. There is a record April 29th, 1847 to the effect that Sister Ann BECK died at the Bend on Thursday afternoon.^[6]

The remaining history of the church can be found in this volume (presumably the Times, rather than Daniel F. Johnson's volume).

Listing of People by Family:

This is a summary of the founding members of First Baptist church in Moncton based on the above article. Links to existing Wikitree profiles are added, but where there is uncertainty that this linked profile is the same person in this list, (pending) is added until someone can say for certain it is the same person.

- Beck
 - Ann Beck
- Colpitts
 - [Mary Colpitts](#) (profile pending)
 - [William Colpitts](#) (Deacon) (profile pending)
 - [Elizabeth Colpitts](#) (profile pending)
- Constantine
 - [Mary Constantine](#)
- Crandall
 - Rev. Joseph Crandall
- Downing
 - Mary Downing
- Gouldrup
 - James F. Gouldrup
 - Rev. James F. Gouldruo (Clerk) (last name presumed to be a typo)
- Horsman
 - [John Horsman](#) (profile pending)
- Leaman
 - Alice Leaman
 - Jane Leaman
- Lewis
 - [James Lewis](#) (profile pending)
 - Mary Lewis
 - Susanna Lewis
- McKenzie
 - William McKenzie
 - Charlotte McKenzie
- Mills

- [David Mills](#)
- [Samuel Mills](#)
- [Rebecca Mills](#)
- **Peter Mills** (Deacon)
- [John Mills](#)
- [Deborah Mills](#)
- Porter
 - Aaron Porter
 - Esther Porter
- Powell
 - Israel Powell
 - John Powell
 - Elizabeth Powell
- Prince
 - Harriet Prince
 - Sarah Prince
- Thos. (Thomas) Prince (Deacon)
- Ritchie
 - Patrick Ritchie
 - William Ritchie
 - Eunice Ritchie
- Shea
 - Richard Shea
- Somers
 - Mathias Somers
 - Amy Somers
- Steadman
 - Hannah Steadman
 - William Steadman, Sr.
- Steeves
 - [Andrew Steeves](#)
 - [Elizabeth Steeves](#)
- Stultz
 - [Gilbert Stultz](#)
 - [Elizabeth Stultz](#)
 - Abraham Stultz (No profile created yet, but Abraham was the younger brother of Gilbert – see Gilbert's profile)
- Trites
 - Catherine Trites
- Wallace
 - Rev. James Wallace