

been handed down that there were prominent and wealthy relatives in Boston whom the doctor was accustomed to visit, and that these relations made annual visits during the hunting season to Brookfield. It was on the occasion of one of these visits of relatives that the site for the doctor's new home, erected in 1783, was suggested. (See sketch of Dr. William Thomas.) These traditions are common among all the descendants of Dr. William.

Finally, in Aug., 1890, the writer met Mrs. Pauline Gale, of Montvale, Mass., a granddaughter of Dr. William, aged 79, who related to him that she could distinctly remember, when a child, listening to the recital by Isaiah Thomas of the relationship of his family with hers. This occurred in the family of Samuel Beals Thomas, then keeper of the Exchange Hotel in Worcester, where Isaiah Thomas then resided. It has been impossible, however, to confirm these traditions by any authentic records.\*

Benjamin Franklin Thomas, in his memoir of his grandfather, Isaiah, tells us that it is a tradition of the family that Evan Thomas, who first came to Boston in 1635 as master of the ship "William and Francis," and in 1639 or 1640 brought his family over and settled in this place, was the progenitor of their family in America. Evan Thomas was a successful wine-merchant, and evidently did a profitable business in his line. He brought with him to Boston a wife and four children, and at least two more were born in this country. Evan d. Aug. 25,

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\* Mrs. Gale, in her recollections of Isaiah Thomas, says: "Isaiah Thomas was of a very decided disposition, and, like many others, fond of his own way. His opinions were always given promptly and to the point, an instance of which I recall. At the time we commenced the study of French at the finishing school of the Misses Earle, at Leicester, his granddaughter, who was also a member of the school, desired to join us in that study, and wrote to ask his consent. He replied, 'No; one tongue is enough for a woman.'"