

B. Thomas attended, and of which Dr. Aaron Bancroft, father of the historian, was pastor.

The Exchange Coffee-House was conducted on temperance principles, and the favorite argument of Samuel B. Thomas in support of this doctrine was of a peculiarly practical nature, viz., an offer to every confirmed inebriate who came in his way to provide food for his family for one year on condition that such inebriate would renounce the vice that was ruining him and become a sober, self-supporting man.

He served several terms as representative in the State Legislature, was one of the Selectmen of Worcester, and had the first piece of brick sidewalk in that place laid in front of his hotel. He belonged to the Masonic order, being a member of Mount Zion Lodge, of Hardwick, of which he was elected Right Worshipful Master 9th Sept., 1807.

He was one of the largest real-estate owners in Worcester, but the financial panic of 1837 greatly depreciated its value and seriously affected his already failing health.

He died of consumption, in 1840, and was buried in Rural Cemetery, Worcester. His wife survived him about eleven years, dying also of consumption on the night of the terrible storm that carried away the lighthouse on Minot's Ledge.

Samuel Beals Thomas had one child:—

151. ARGALUS THOMAS, born and died in 1801.

65. SYLVANUS THOMAS⁴ (youngest son of William,³ M.D., Amos,² William¹) was b. in Western (now Warren) Massachusetts, Oct. 26, 1781; d. July 31, 1863, aged 82. He m. 1st (in 1806) Rachel Robinson, dau. of Isaac Robinson and Hannah Collins, of Pownal, Vt., who was b. 1778; she d. Oct. 4, 1832. Her father was a descendant of John Robinson, the famous