

knowledge to others. This led him in early life to adopt the profession of teaching, which he continued successfully till nearly 80 years of age in his own and adjoining towns, on Cape Cod, and in the then far Western States of Michigan and Minnesota. His original methods of instruction were far in advance of those employed by the educators of the time, and his manner of imparting ideas so pleasing and impressive that his pupils, in after years, would refer to the time spent with him as the happiest days of their lives. He was a proficient mathematician and surveyor, an easy extemporaneous speaker, and a pleasing social companion, being a ready story-teller. He served his town in the various offices of Justice of the Peace, Assessor, and School Committee for many years, his State in the Legislature of 1855, and his country in the Civil War.

Though over 50 years of age when the call for more men came, in 1862, he thought himself not too old to follow the example of his grandfather and take up arms in defense of his country and principles. He enlisted in Company F., Fifty-first Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, in which he was familiarly known as "Father Thomas." At the end of his term of service he was honorably discharged, and reached home only in time to receive his father's last words and parting blessing.

Orpha Bartlett, his wife, was a woman of rare and noble qualities of heart and mind. She combined with patience and kindness such industry, perseverance, and executive ability as furnished the necessary complement to the qualities of the teacher and scholar. His life was incomplete without hers, and he survived her death less than a year. His last years were spent on a small farm adjoining that of his grandfather, Dr. William.

155. ARMINDA ROBINSON THOMAS, b. Sept. 2, 1814; d. Oct. 20, 1865; unm.

156. EMILY THOMAS, b. Feb. 23, 1816; m. Mandy Pierce, of Hardwick, Mass., and had issue.

66. ISAAC THOMAS⁴ (oldest son of Amos,³ Amos,² William¹) was b. in Hardwick, Mass., July 13, 1771. When but 5 years old he moved with his brother to New Salem. He m. for his 1st wife Patience Pierce, who was b. in New Salem Nov. 22, 1776. The marriage took place in 1799. She d. June 6, 1806, at birth of youngest child. They had four children. He m. 2d Martha Whipple about 1807, by whom he had six children. He was a member of the Baptist Church, and was appointed deacon Aug. 23, 1821. He was a man of devoted piety, loved and respected by all. He d. April 10, 1842, aged 71. Farmer.