

Somersetshire was the scene of the cruel Jeffries bloody assizes, and after the battle of Sedgmore "Kirks Lambs" desolated this whole section. It was from a people that had passed through such experiences as these and amid such scenes as these that the great migration to the New World commenced in 1630 and continued for twenty years, and from this soil which reared stern souls our forefathers sprang.

REV. GROSVENOR BARTLETT'S VISIT TO BROADWAY,
MAY 21, 1896. (This gentleman searched the parish
registers of this vicinity.)

"I left Corfe Castle last Thursday 21st of May, and with combined train and bicycle locomotion reached Broadway at noon, having searched Donyatt Registers, parish books and tombstones on my road. The Rector of Broadway gave me lunch and then lent me the keys of the Registers and allowed me to find what I could, but alas, the former Rector had lost all the Registers previous to 1678. I copied all the ancient toms in church and churchyard. There are three large square Standerwick toms in the churchyard. I enclose all the writing on them. I found one Nurton entry on the Register, viz James Nurton of this parish was interred 1681 "according to the Act" (that is buried in woolen clothes according to the act of Parliament).

"Broadway church is possessed of a handsome tower and the country there is very lovely. On the outskirts of the Ancient Forest of Castle Neroche there is a nice old house where the Standerwicks formerly resided."

"After lunch and work at Broadway church I went on to Buckland, St. Mary near Whitestaunton, thinking I might find some Alford entries on account of its nearness to both Broadway and Whitestaunton. There the Rector was most kind. He had made a complete copy as well as an index of his registers dating back to 1538, and in a few minutes he was able to tell me that the name of Alford did not occur at all.

"I went on the next day to the neighborhood of Swell, for I felt that it might happen that Benedict and Alexander hailed from thence. The Registers at Swell are perfect and in splendid order, well wrapped up by a carefull Rector. They commence in 1559 and though I found several Alford entries, and the name spelled as you spell it too, viz Alvord, yet I failed to find the names of Alexander and Benedict. Then I searched Fivehead Registers, but found they were all lost previous to 1650."

FAMILY RECORDS OF BENEDICT AND JOANNA ALFORD

BENEDICT ALFORD, born probably at Whitestaunton, Eng., about 1615-18, married Windsor, Ct., Nov. 26, 1640, Jane Newton of the Nurton family of Broadway Parish, Eng. Benedict died at Windsor, Ct., Apr. 23, 1683. Children:

- a. Jonathan, b. Windsor, Conn., June 1, 1645.
- b. Benjamin, b. Windsor, Conn., July 11, 1647.
- c. Josiah, b. Windsor, Conn., July 6, 1649.
- d. Elizabeth, b. Windsor, Conn., Sept. 21, 1651.
- e. Jeremiah, b. Windsor, Conn., Dec. 24, 1655.