

This would seem to argue persuasive reasonableness with sincerity on the part of the preacher and teachable intelligence in the people. The Putnam homestead in North Reading is still held in the family name, the well preserved house, its thick walls lined with brick, being owned and occupied by one of his descendants. Among others of this lineage through male or female ancestors, may be named Professor John P. Gulliver of Andover, George F. Root of musical fame, and the well known publishing firm, G. P. Putnam's Sons, of New York. A tasteful granite monument with inscriptions has recently been placed over the Putnam family tomb, the burial place of several generations, at Riverside Rest in the east part of the town.

Of the Stone family in New England it was long ago said that they were "good to make ministers and deacons of." Rev. Eliot Stone of North Reading, "Parson Stone" of revered memory, like his predecessor in the pulpit a Harvard graduate, was of the sixth generation in direct line from Deacon Gregory Stone, who came to America in 1635 and settled in Cambridge on the west side of the common near the college. The house in North Reading which belonged to Parson Stone, and in which he lived and died, is now the parsonage of the trinitarian congregational church.

The late Gardner Brewer of Boston was a grandson of Parson Stone through the marriage of his daughter Abigail and Thomas Brewer, famous Boston merchant of eighty years ago or more.

It may be mentioned in closing that the Rev. Timothy Flint, who has an honorable place among the pioneers of American literature, and whose works of travel and of fiction were said to have given him "not only an American but a European reputation," was a native of this same obscure parish, where he was born in 1780, and whither he returned from his missionary labors in the lower Mississippi valley to die in 1840. Flint Memorial Hall and Library derive their name and existence from a nephew of the clerical author, the late Charles F. Flint, a lifelong resident of North Reading.