

“quarter, and that said persons or any two of them shall in case
“of fire order the blowing up or pulling down of houses and
“appoint fit persons to be employed thereat.”

“9th Sept. 1679. Mr. Anthony Stoddard and John Richards
“Deputys of the General Court made a return, and recommend-
“ed, against permitting strangers comeinge into and residing in
“ye towne without the approbation of ye Selectmen.”

These quaint quotations from the old records of Boston are interesting in themselves as exhibiting a picture of the earliest years of the New England Colony, apart from the personal mention of the ancestor of the American Stoddards.

Anthony was a thorough believer in the doctrine that it is not good for man to live alone—he married four times and was the father of 17 children. He died March 16, 1687. The local notices of his death call him “the ancientest shopkeeper in town.”

His first wife was Mary, daughter of Emanuel Downing by his first wife Anne Ware. Emanuel’s second wife to whom he was married in 1622 was Lucy Winthrop daughter of Adam Winthrop the 3rd of Groton, and sister of John who was sent over to be Governor of the Colony of Massachusetts.

Mary Downing had preceded Anthony Stoddard in the Colony some five years—having emigrated in 1633—she was admitted to the church 9th May same year, as “Mary Downing Kinswo-
“man to our brother John Winthrop Governor.”

This connection was valuable to all the family. Lucy and her husband Downing came over by invitation of her brother the Governor, and when Anthony Stoddard married Mary Downing he was at once introduced to a circle of prominence and influence.

Mary Stoddard’s half brother became the celebrated Sir George Downing baronet, and her sister Anne married for her second husband Governor Simon Bradstreet of Massachusetts.

Anthony and Mary had three sons :

Benjamin bap. 23rd August, 1640.

Solomon “ 26th September, 1643.

Samson “ 3rd December, 1645.

The eldest son died young, but Solomon became noted and left many descendants. Mary Downing Stoddard died June 16th

Add to the
 account of the
 life of
 Anthony Stoddard
 by E. W. Stoddard, 1880