

The late Millard Fillmore, President of the United States, traced his descent from John Fillmore, mariner, of Ipswich, Mass., who purchased an estate in Beverley, 24 Nov., 1704, and "was probably the common ancestor of all of that name in America." He m., 19 June, 1701, Abigail, dau. of Abraham and Deliverance Tilton, of Ipswich, by whom he had two sons and a dau., John, Ebenezer, and Abigail. He died before 1711, having been taken prisoner by the French. His elder son, Capt. John Fillmore, was b. 18 March, 1702, and like his father followed a sea-faring life. His adventures in early life with pirates are detailed by the late Dr. Ashbel Woodward, in the *New England Register* for 1857. He died in 1777, and from him descended the late president, as below—

John Fillmore, — Abigail Tilton. *hall*
 Mariner,
 |
 Capt. John Fillmore,
 b. 1702; d. 1777.
 |
 Nathaniel Fillmore,
 b. 1739; d. 1814.
 |
 Nathaniel Fillmore,
 b. 1771.
 |
 Millard Fillmore,)
 President U.S.A.

Dr. Woodward, who also compiled a pedigree of the American Fillmores, thought it "quite probable, if the evidence is not entirely conclusive, that John Fillmore, or more likely his ancestors (originally from England), emigrated first to Nova Scotia, and that, subsequently, John settled in the colony of Massachusetts."

Unfortunately, Dr. Woodward gives no reasons for this supposition. The *Illustrated London News*, when Millard Fillmore became President, described him as descended from "an old respectable English family from Devonshire." At present no evidence in proof of this statement is available, though it seems very probable that such is the case, for the first two generations of the Massachusetts Fillmores were "mariners," as also were the Devonshire Fillmores all through the eighteenth century, and who, indeed, continued to lead a sea-faring life until recent years. (That the Fillmores of Devonshire had intercourse with New England is shown by the following record printed by the *New England Register*, in 1877:—

(Arrivals in Boston, 6th June, 1712.—John Fillmore, y^e ship Mary, from Topsham.*)

* No trace of the name occurs in the Topsham Registers from 1660 to 1690.