

The ancestral line as now certainly known begins with John Fyshe of Great Bowden, who was born, probably, not far from 1555. (There is a surmise that John's father, Augustine, buried Jan. 26 1579/80.)

He was of the yeoman class and he married Margaret, whose maiden name, may have been Cradock. The record of their marriage is not found in the parish, but their children were baptized there, most of the children married, and their families are accounted for in the wills of John and Margaret. Thomas, the third son of John, was the father of Jonathan, John and Nathaniel, of Cape Cod.

Baptisms of John and Margaret Fyshe.

1578, Augustyne, 11 June.	1589, Mary, 20 Dec.
1580/1, William, 9 March.	1591, Elizabeth, 15 Nov.
1583, Katheryn, 15 April.	1593, Francis, 29 Oct.
1584, Thomas, 8 May.	1596, Anne, 3 June.
1597, Alice, 6 Nov.	1599, Mary, 8 Dec.
1601/2, John, 26 Jan.	

In the more populous section of the parish of Great Bowden, and contemporary with the first named John Fyshe, was Thomas Fish of Market Harborough. He was also probably a descendant of Edward Fysh of Harborow &c. He may have been a brother of John of Great Bowden, or perhaps a cousin. These relationships are suggested by the fact that the name Austin was given to one of Thomas's sons, a name so often used in the family in its other form, Augustine.

Another son of Thomas, Robert, sometimes styled "mercer", married Alice Fish, a daughter of John and Margaret of Great Bowden.

The registers of Market Harborough give the records of two generations of this branch of the family. The children of Robert and Alice were also the grand-children of John and Margaret and these records may therefore be appropriately introduced at this point.

[page 3]

Baptisms Market Harborough.

1585/6, Thomas, son of Thomas Fyshe,	10 March.
1590, Austin, (all sons of Thomas)	22 April.
1593, Robert,	12 August.
1595, William,	16 Nov.
1597, William	27 March.
1599, Jeffrey,	28 Oct.

Baptisms of children of Robert and Alice Fish. (G.B means Great Bowden, M.H. means Market Harborough.)

1618/19, Jan. 1, at G.B., Thomas.	1639/30, 7 March, M.H., Nathan.
1630/31, 31 Jan., M.H., John.	1630, 8 May, M.H., Tabitha.
1633, 1 Sept., M.H., Ruth.	1633, 34 Nov., M.H., Hannah.
1633/4, Jan., G.B., Mary.	1635, 34 April, M.H., Mary.
1636, 17 Sept., M.H., Joseph.	1637, 10 Dec., G.B., Christian.
1539, 11 Aug, G.B., Benjamin.	

The tradition handed down in the Rhode Island family (Thomas), put in writing one hundred years ago, confirms the close relationship between the Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut families, even making the claim that the three progenitors thereof were brothers. In this connection it is to be noted that Thomas gave to two of his children born at

Portsmouth the names of Robert and Alice, in remembrance of his father and mother. Moreover the will of John of Mystic mentions his daughter Alice. The name Alice was an uncommon one in New England in those days, but the remembrance of and love for, a mother, explain its use by these two men in their new, far-away homes.