

one bearing the name had died a few years before he came to the parish in 1888. There are also many Fish records in other neighboring parishes, where members of the family had overflowed.

The earliest of these records on the Great Bowden registers are of five burials as given below. They doubtless relate to the disappearing second or third generation, between Edward and John, of whom we have no positive knowledge. We may surmise, however, that Augustine Fyshe, buried 26 Jany. 1579-80, may have been the father of John, and the other four may have been his youthful brothers or cousins.

BURIALS, GREAT BOWDEN.

1560	Augustine Fyshe,	7 May.
1560	Edward Fyshe,	30 May.
1563	Toby Fyshe,	8 October.
1570-1	Thomas Fyshe,	4 Jan.
1579-80	Augustine Fyshe,	26 Jan.

The ancestral line as now certainly known begins with John Fyshe of Great Bowden, who was probably born not far from 1555, and may have been the son, as suggested above, of Augustine Fyshe who was buried 26 Jan. 1579-80. He was of the yeoman class, and he married Margaret whose maiden name, there is some reason to think, may have been Cradock. The record of their marriage is not found in the parish, but all of their children were baptized there. Most of the children reached maturity and married, and they and their families are well accounted for in the wills of John and Margaret.

BAPTISMS, GREAT BOWDEN, LEICESTERSHIRE.

1578	Augustyne Fyshe, son of John,	11 June.
1580-81	William Fyshe, son of John,	9 March.
1582	Katheryne Fyshe, daughter of John,	15 April.
1584	Thomas Fyshe, son of John,	8 May.
1586	Sara Fyshe, daughter of John,	11 April.
1588	Ambrose Fyshe, son of John,	6 July.
1589	Mary Fyshe, daughter of John,	20 Dec.
1591	Elizabeth Fyshe, daughter of John,	15 Nov.
1593	Francis Fyshe, son of John,	29 Octo.
1596	Anne Fyshe, daughter of John,	2 June.
1597	Alice Fyshe, daughter of John,	6 Nov.
1599	Mary Fyshe, daughter of John,	8 Dec.
1601-2	John Fyshe, son of John,	26 Jan.

MARRIAGES, GREAT BOWDEN.

1604	John Johnson and Sara Fische,	6 Aug.
1616-7	Edward Marston and Elizabeth Fische,	6 Feby.

BURIALS, GREAT BOWDEN.

1590-91	Mary Fyshe,	27 Feb.
1622-3	John Fish,	19 Feb.
1630	Margaret Fish,	28 April.

LEICESTER WILLS.

WILL OF JOHN FYSH OF BOWDON MAGNA.

2 January 1623 (sic) I, John Fysh of Bowdon Magna, co. Leic., yeoman, being sick of body, do ordain and make, etc:— To William Fish, my second son and his heirs one old cottage with two cow pastures and ten shepes commons adjoining unto his dwelling house, which I purchased of Sir Thomas Gryfin. To Francis Fish my fifth son one cottage house with a close and orchard now in the occupation of Richard Wimant laborer. To Robert Fish of Harborow,

my son-in-law, one piece of meadow in little Bowdon field, called Stony Holme. To Thomas Fysh, eldest son of Robert Fysh, five arable lands in Lubnam brook, now in his occupation. To Elizabeth Ashton my niece one cottage with two cow pastures and ten sheep commons, she paying yearly for the same, unto John Fysh, my youngest son, 6s. 8d. during her natural life, provided that John shall have power to cut and lop and carry away wood. To John Fysh my youngest son and his heirs three closes which I purchased of my kinsman William Cradock of Farndon, one lying in west end of town betwixt the land of John Fish and Richard Kirbie, another in the middle of the town, next the land of Jeffrey Parsons and John Marson, and one in yeast and next the lands of Francis Fish and Thomas Wells the younger; also the old cottage after the death of Elizabeth Ashton my niece; and all my timber except one taylltre and a squared piece for my myll, which I give unto my eldest son Austin Fysh. I further except the myllne post, and give it unto Austin Fysh my eldest son, he paying his mother 40 s. Residue to Margaret my wife, whom executrix. Signed: John Fysh. Seal, I. F. divided by a spray of roses.

Witnesses:— Augustine Fish, William Halick.

Proved 9 March 1622-3 (sic) by the relict and executrix.

(File 1622, No. 102).

WILL OF MARGARET FISH, WIDOW.

1 March, 1629-30. I, Margaret Fish, widow, late wife of John Fish late of Bowdon Magna, yeoman, deceased, being sick in body, do make and ordain this my last will, etc.:—To be buried in the church of Great Bowdon, near unto my husband. To Augustine Fish my eldest son and his children £12, which he oweth me for sheep. To William Fish my second son, one silver beaker now in the use of Mr. John Warde of Little Bowdon, being lent unto him by my husband. To Thomas Fish my third son one acre of peas and one acre of barley. To my son Francis Fish 12 d., and to his eldest daughter a trunk. To my daughter Katherine Garvoise 40 s. to buy her a gown. To my daughter Sarah Johnson 40 s. To my daughter Alice Fish 40 s. To my daughter Mary Dix 40 s. To my son Ambrose, his wife, one brown cow, being the best of my kine, and to her son John, being with me at this time, a ewe and a lamb. To my son John Fish's son John the bed I lie in. To my son John's youngest son Joseph my greatest brass pot. To Robert Fish's children an aker of barley and an aker of peas. To my son Ambrose, his children, 40 s. which Thomas Fletcher late of Bilsdon oweth me. To my son John Fish my whole team with carts and gears, ploughs, etc. To Lawrence Willmore an old short legged cow. Poor of Bowden 40 s. Rest to my son John Fish, whom executor, and my son John Johnson and my son Maurice Dixe to see my will performed. Mark of Margaret Fish.

Seal:—A goat. Witnesses: Robert Smith, scriptor, William Willmore.

Proved 23 July 1630, by the executor.

(Register 1630-31. f. 106).

Augustine Fish, the eldest son of John and Margaret, continued to live at Great Bowden, as indeed did the eldest of the male line of his descendants for several generations. His wife was Christian. There is no record of their marriage found at Great Bowden, but all their children were baptized there.

BAPTISMS, GREAT BOWDEN.

1602-3	Anne Fyshe, daughter of Augustine,	27 Jan.
1604-5	John Fyshe, son of Augustine,	6 Feb.
1607	Thomas Fish, son of Augustine,	15 Aug.
1609	Margaret Fish, daughter of Austin,	10 Sept.
1611	Jarvis Fish, son of Augustine,	13 Octo.

been the "John Fish the Elder", who was buried 10 Sept. 1670, the same day with his wife, but as the name John was so common among the Fishes, it is impossible to identify them in every record.

Francis Fish, the fifth son of John and Margaret, seems to have left no male heirs. Three daughters were baptized at Great Bowden, and he was afterwards of the parish of Gumley in Leicestershire, where search has not been made.

BAPTISMS, GREAT BOWDEN.

1619-20	Jane, daughter of Francis Fish,	5 Feb.
1622	Katherine, daughter of Francis Fish,	14 April
1625	Sarah, daughter of Francis Fish,	18 Dec.

BURIALS, GREAT BOWDEN.

1619-20	Jane Fish,	6 Feb.
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John Fish, the youngest son of John and Margaret, born 1601-2, seems to have been a favorite child with both of his parents. He was the executor of his mother's will. He had four children baptized at Great Bowden. He probably went to Warwickshire and located at Wroxhall, being a near neighbor, in that county, of his brother Thomas of Wedgnock Park. "John Fish of Wroxall", in 1640 had money transactions with Thomas Dexter, an early settler in Lynn and Sandwich, Mass., which were not settled until 1649. He had loaned money to Rev. Ephraim Huit of the Wroxhall Church. Through persecution by the Bishop of Worcester, for non-conformity, Mr. Huit was driven from his church and from England, and came to Hartford, Conn., where he died in 1644. The money for the payment of the debt to John Fish of Wroxhall seems to have been turned over by Mr. Huit's estate and held by the Colonial Treasurer as late as 1686. As this money had not then reached its proper destination, the Huit heirs claimed that it should be returned to them. In this connection the General Court of Connecticut formally refused to pay the £60 to the children of Mrs. Huit, "because this Court are informed that ther is a nephew of Mr. Fish that doth demand it." There is a question of some interest as to the identity of this nephew. He might have been William Fish of Windsor if he were then living, or possibly John Fish of Stonington.

BAPTISMS, GREAT BOWDEN.

1626	John, son of John Fish,	16 Dec.
1628-9	Joseph, son of John Fish,	1 Jan.
1630-1	Dorcas, daughter of John Fish,	24 March.
1633-4	Benjamin, son of John Fish,	26 Jan.

In the more populous section of the parish of Great Bowden, and contemporary with the first named John Fyshe, there lived a Thomas Fische of Market Harborough. He also was probably a descendant of Edward Fysh of Harborow, of whose will an abstract has been given. 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' sons, a name so often used in the family in its other form, Augustine. Another son of Thomas, Robert sometimes styled "mercier", 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 grandchildren of John and Margaret, and these records may therefore be appropriately introduced at this point.

BAPTISMS, MARKET HARBOROUGH.

1585-6	Thomas, son of Thomas Fishe,	10 March.
1590	Austin, son of Thomas Fishe,	22 April.
1593	Robert, son of Thomas Fishe,	12 Aug.
1595	William, son of Thomas Fishe,	16 Nov.
1597	William, son of Thomas Fishe,	27 March.
1599	Jeffrey, son of Thomas Fishe,	28 Octo.

BURIALS, MARKET HARBOROUGH.

1590	Austin, son of Thomas Fishe,	22 May.
1594	John, son of Thomas Fishe,	14 July.
1595	William, son of Thomas Fishe,	16 Nov.

The above named Robert, son of Thomas Fishe, baptized 1593, was married at Market Harborough, 24 February 1617-8 to Alice Fish, daughter of John and Margaret of Great Bowden. Their children were baptized some at Great Bowden, and some at Market Harborough.

1618-9	Thomas, son of Robert Fish,	1 Jan. at G. B.
1620-1	John, son of Robert Fish,	21 Jan. at M. H.
1622	Ruth, daughter of Robert Fish,	1 Sept. at M. H.
1623-4	Mary, daughter of Robert Fish,	24 Jan. at G. B.
1625	Mary, daughter of Robert Fish,	24 April at M. H.
1626	Joseph, son of Robert Fish,	17 Sept. at M. H.
1629-30	Nathan, son of Robert Fish,	7 March at M. H.
1630	Tabitha, daughter of Robert Fish,	8 May at M. H.
1633	Hannah, daughter of Robert Fish,	24 Nov. at M. H.
1637	Christian, daughter of Robert and Alice Fish, mercer,	10 Dec. at G. B.
1639	Benjamin, son of Robert and Alice Fish, mercer,	11 Aug. at G. B.

The burials in Robert's family were:—

1624	Mary Fish buried	14 May at M. H.
1631	Nathaniel, son of Robert Fish	4 Octo. at M. H.
1639	Robert Fish	20 Decem. at G. B.
1657-8	Tabitha Fish	23 March at G. B.

Robert's family seems to have disappeared from the records of that neighborhood, and no indication has there been found as to what became of them. Robert's burial at Great Bowden, at the early age of 46 years, probably indicates that through his death or business reverses, the young family were thrown upon their own resources, and broken up. The older sons, Thomas and John, are accounted for in the Thomas of Portsmouth, R. I., and in John of Connecticut who died at Mystic in 1689. The tradition handed down in the Rhode Island family, 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 Fish of Mystic mentions his daughter Alice. Alice was an uncommon name 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.

Returning to the senior line of the Great Bowden family, we have a list of the children of John Fish, yeoman, eldest son of Augustine, son of John and Margaret.