

Braddock Watson (~1762-1818)

This article is part of a larger family history, **The WATSON Family of West Greenwich, Rhode Island**, which can be found via [this link](#).

A branch of the Watson family of Rhode Island settled in West Greenwich and lived there for nearly one hundred years. The patriarch of this branch was Samuel, designated #7 in *The American Family of John Watson of the Narragansett Country, Rhode Island*. Samuel was the grandson of John Watson, and the son of Samuel² and 1st wife Mercy (Helme) Watson. His line of descent as a 3rd-generation Watson is rendered Samuel³ (Samuel², John¹).

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Braddock Watson of West Greenwich, Rhode Island

Braddock Watson was born in Rhode Island circa 1762, per a record of his death. Likely he was born in Exeter or West Greenwich, where Nicholas⁴ Watson is known to have lived.

Enumerated in the 1790 census in West Greenwich, Braddock Watson's household consisted of six people – two males under age 16; one male over age 16; and three females. This family stayed in West Greenwich long enough for Braddock Watson Jr. to be born there circa 1794.

Possible Son of Nicholas⁴ Watson

In our [essay about Nicholas⁴ Watson](#), we mention Braddock Watson as a possibly unidentified son. If we are correct about this, Nicholas Watson's wife Martha MOON probably was Braddock's mother.

Testifying in Massachusetts

By January 4, 1796, Braddock Watson was living in Westfield, Massachusetts, then part of Hampshire county.

On that date he appeared before Samuel Mather, Justice of the Peace, who placed him under recognizance as a witness for the Commonwealth. Braddock was called upon to give evidence – “what he knows ... relating to Daniel Button's committing a rape on the Body of Betty the wife of Elijah Grainger of Westfield.” Failure to show up on the trial date would cost him \$30.

THE CONDITION of the above-written RECOGNIZANCE is such, That if
Braddock Watson of Westfield aforesaid Labourer
shall personally appear before the Justices of the Commonwealth afore-
said, at the *Supreme Judicial Court* next to be
holden at *Northampton* for and within the said County of *Hampshire*
on the *last Tuesday of April next* then and there to give Evidence
what he knows in Behalf of the Commonwealth
relating to Daniel Button's committing a Rape
on the Body of Betty the wife of Elijah Grainger
of Westfield.
and not depart without Licence; then the above-written Recognizance to be void and of none
Effect; otherwise to abide in full Force, Power and Virtue.
459782 *Acknowledged before Sam. Mather Just Peace*

(In case you're wondering ... Daniel Button was found guilty.)

Taxed in Canajoharie, NY

We find Braddock Watson's name – spelled as *Bradick Wadson* – on a tax list for the town of Canajoharie in Montgomery co., New York. This list was drawn up on June 21, 1800, but likely reflected assessments for 1799. It appears that Braddock did not own any real estate. The value of his personal estate was listed as \$60, resulting in a ten cent tax.

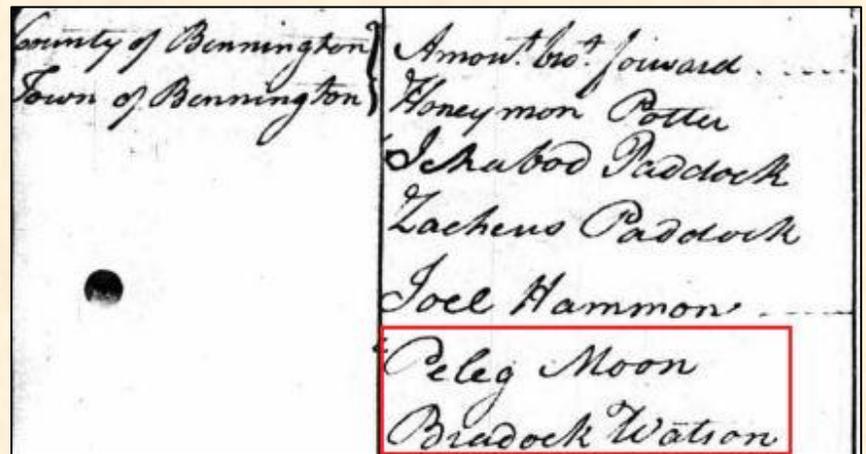
Moving to Vermont

Bennington

The 1800 federal census enumerated Braddock Watson and his family in Bennington, Vermont.

The census page on which they're listed reveals an interesting detail: The name written above that of *Bradock Watson* is Peleg Moon – the husband of Mary Watson. If we're right about Braddock's parentage, Mary was his aunt – the daughter of Samuel³ Watson; Nicholas⁴ Watson's sister.

Braddock Watson's household had expanded to ten people – four males under age 10; 1 male aged 10-15; one male aged 26-44; one female under 10; two females 10-15; and one female 26-44. This constellation reflects a set of parents with eight children under their roof.



Braddock Watson's Children

Nothing is known about Braddock Watson's wife (or wives). As for his children, we've assigned the following people as Braddock's likely offspring, based on some data regarding birthplace; their proximity to/presence in the places we've found Braddock; and naming patterns (*Jeffrey* and *Robert* are names closely associated with the West Greenwich, RI, branch of the Watson family).

Elizabeth – “Betsey” – was born probably in Rhode Island circa 1785-86, based on her likely age at marriage.

On December 5, 1804, in Rutland, VT, Betsey Watson married widower John Bissell Jr. They had two daughters, Polly and Annis. John died while serving in the 11th Regiment, US Infantry. during the War of 1812. In 1818, when Betsey was granted guardianship of her daughters, she was living in Hoosick, Rensselaer co., NY.

Jeffrey was born in Rhode Island circa 1787; he died at age 62 in October 1849 in Lapeer county, Michigan. (This info was gleaned from the 1850 Federal Census Mortality Schedule.) His firstborn child, daughter Arila, was born in May 1810 in Hyde Park, Lamoille co., VT, suggesting that Jeffrey married in 1809. His first wife was Abigail Garvin.

Sally was born probably in Rhode Island circa 1789, based on her likely age at marriage.

In January 1810, in the (now extinct) town of Sterling, VT, Sally Watson married Stacey Lanphere. This man with the distinctive given name shows up in later records with a different wife, Nancy Barnard. Given that Stacey enlisted in the US Army in December 1812 for a term of *five years*, we think it possible that Sally was deceased by that time.

Braddock Jr. was born in West Greenwich, RI, circa 1794. He is first of record on July 23, 1812, in Burlington, VT, when he enlisted in the 11th Regiment, US Infantry, for an enlistment term of five years. (This is the same regiment in which John Bissell Jr., mentioned above, served.) Braddock Jr. was listed as being 18 years old, a “farmer,” born in Rhode Island.

Robert, mentioned in a notation in the record of Braddock Jr.’s enlistment: “See *Robert Watson* same regt.” Braddock Jr. and Robert signed up on the same day. No additional information was given for Robert, so we have no idea of his age. We’d guess he was born circa 1791-92, given the age gap between Sally and Braddock Jr. Nothing more about this man is known.

Here’s how the above people fit into census records for Braddock Watson’s household:

1790 census: Six people – two males under age 16; one male over age 16; and three females. This suggests two sons, one of whom likely was Jeffrey, age 3; and two daughters, one of whom likely was Elizabeth, age 4 or 5. The male over age 16 would be Braddock Watson; one of the three females likely was Braddock’s wife.

1800 census: Eight people – one male aged 26-44; this would be Braddock Sr. One female aged 26-44 – Braddock’s wife. 1 male aged 10-15 – Jeffrey, about 13 years old. Where is the other young male counted in the 1790 census, who should have been at least 10 years old by 1800? Perhaps he died young.

Four males under age 10 – Robert and Braddock Jr. account for two of them. *Who are the other two boys?*

One female under 10 means that another daughter joined the family after 1790. Two females 10-15 account for the two daughters from 1790 census – Elizabeth, by then aged 14 or 15; and Sally, likely 11 or 12 years old.

The Mystery of the Q Eggleston-Watson Boys

We wrote in our essay “[\(We Have Questions\) About Silas⁴ Watson](#)” about Richard, Elisha, and John Watson, likely brothers, who genetically were actually Egglestons. Two of them had descendants with the given name Braddock. *Their movements through time mirrored and/or intersected with Braddock Watson Sr. 's family.*

Y-DNA analysis reveals, through comparison with other participants in the [Eggleston Y-DNA Surname Project](#), that the man who fathered Richard, Elisha, and John likely used the Eggleston surname. This means that the shift to the Watson surname occurred with the three brothers, probably after the birth of the youngest, John, in 1800.

Why the Q? Extensive genetic testing defined a highly specific haplogroup for the descendants of Richard, Elisha, and John: **Q-BY146071**. This cluster came to be known as the “Q Group.” This is why we refer to them as the Q Eggleston-Watsons.

We suspect that these Eggleston brothers somehow were absorbed into Braddock Watson’s household when they were young.

Perhaps Braddock, having lost his first wife, married again – to the Widow Eggleston, mother of the three brothers. She could have been pregnant with the youngest, John, when she might have wed Braddock; or John could have been an infant or toddler at the time.

Mark, an administrator of the Eggleston Y-DNA Surname Project, thinks perhaps “a great grandson Eggleston (b ~1764) of Joseph Eggleston of Stonington, Connecticut, wed a granddaughter of Capt. Samuel³ Watson (by way of son Silas⁴ or another son like Nicholas⁴). They had Richard and Elisha in Vermont and then removed to Schoharie Co., NY, where John, the youngest, was born just before the 1800 enumeration. I suspect this young family was missed on the 1800 census. With their father dead, mom and the kids went back to her family in VT for support, which prompted the change of the boys’ surname from Eggleston to Watson.”

While Braddock Watson’s 1800 census numbers aren’t a perfect match for this scenario, it’s possible that the two additional boys were Richard, born circa 1793, and Elisha, born circa 1794. This does not account for John, born in 1800 in Schoharie co., NY – unless he was erroneously listed as the female under 10 years of age in 1800.

Migrating North in Vermont

In November 1802, the Bennington, VT, Supreme Court found Peleg Moon Jr. guilty of horse stealing. We don’t know what kind of sentence he received; but this may have prompted his family and that of Braddock Watson to pull up stakes and move out of Bennington county.

Rutland

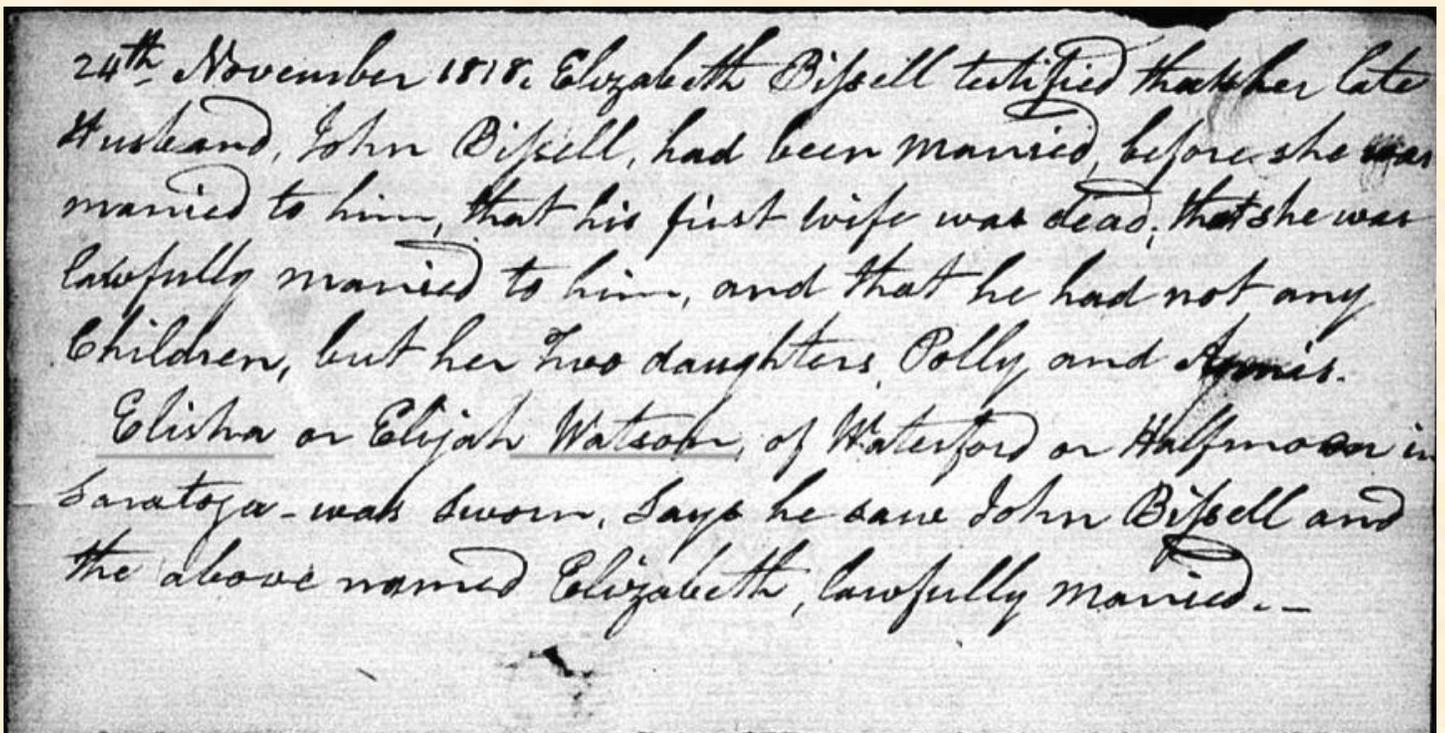
Land records from 1805 show that these Moon and Watson families relocated about 55 miles north from Bennington to Rutland. An index points to Book 7, page 27, naming Silas Moon and Caleb Eldred as grantors to a couple of different parties, one of whom was *Bradick Watson*. The very next page apparently reverses that action, naming *Bradick Watson* as grantor to Silas Moon and Caleb Eldred. These transactions involved warranty deeds (copies of which we would love to see).

Braddock Watson's presence in Rutland in this time frame lends credence to our assumption that Elizabeth "Betsey" Watson was his daughter. Betsey wed John Bissell Jr. on December 5, 1804; both bride and groom were "of Rutland." This timing suggests that Braddock brought his family to Rutland at least a year earlier: It takes time for a courtship to culminate in marriage.

Our theory about Braddock Watson's involvement with the Q Eggleston-Watsons is supported by a record made fourteen years later, when Betsey went through the legal process to be granted guardianship of her two daughters. This record makes a direct reference to Elisha, one of the Q Eggleston-Watson boys:

24th November 1818. Elizabeth Bissell testified that her late Husband, John Bissell, had been married before she was married to him, that his first wife was dead, that she was lawfully married to him, and that he had not any children, but her two daughters Polly and Annis.

Elisha or Elijah Watson of Waterford or Halfmoon in Saratoga was sworn, says he saw John Bissell and the above named Elizabeth, lawfully married.



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Elisha or Elijah Watson, of Waterford or Halfmoon in Saratoga - was sworn. Says he saw John Bissell and the above named Elizabeth, lawfully married.

Elisha Watson was living in Halfmoon, Saratoga co., NY, in 1816, the year his son Samuel was born. In 1820 the census taker found Elisha Watson and his family living in Waterford, also in Saratoga county, three-and-a-half miles southeast of Halfmoon.

Elisha would have been about ten years old when Betsey Watson wed John Bissell Jr. We can't know if Elisha was actually present at this wedding. But his personal knowledge of Betsey's lawful marriage to John says that Elisha was a witness to the affairs of this Watson family.

In 1805, the same year Silas Moon and Caleb Eldred were buying and/or selling land in Rutland, the Moon family's situation appears to have deteriorated. On November 13, 1805, the town of Rutland formally *warned out* – ordered to depart – a list of people considered likely to become “chargeable” to the town. Included were Peleg Moon and Polly his wife; Silas Moon and Anna his wife and Lydia, Horton, Anna, Roxey, Roma [and] Silas their children; Peleg Moon [Jr.] and Betsey his wife, “now residing in Rutland.” Apparently Peleg Moon Sr. and Jr. headed to Plainfield, Otsego co., NY, where they were enumerated in 1810. Silas Moon seems to have migrated further north, to Swanton, VT.

Sterling, near Hyde Park

On April 13, 1809, Braddock Watson signed a note promising to pay John McDaniel of Hyde Park, VT, ten dollars' worth of grain by the first day of January 1810, “with interest.” We may suppose that Braddock had moved by this time to Sterling, a town adjacent to Hyde Park.

We found an index record for the marriage of Sally Watson and Stacey Lanphere in Sterling in January 1810, though it doesn't specify the day they wed. (Her given name appears as “Saley” in the index.) Considering that Sally was of marriageable age in 1810, we think she's one of the females enumerated in 1790 in Braddock Watson's household.

Jeffrey Watson, likely Braddock's oldest son, was living in Hyde Park, VT, when his first child was born in May 1810. Hyde Park was one of the towns adjacent to Sterling. Jeffrey probably married in the previous year, though we don't know where the wedding took place.

Braddock Watson failed to pay his promissory note when it came due on January 1, 1810.

John McDaniel, Braddock's creditor and one of the area's most prominent men, wasted little time in taking legal action against him. The proceedings, commenced on January 6th, were received for record on January 10, 1810.

We worked from an image of the original record to produce the following transcription of the legal action taken against Braddock. Some of the wording is strange; and the spelling was left mostly as-is, including the inconsistent spelling of Watson.

Writ John McDaniel vs (69) Bradock Wadson

Received for record Jan^y 10th 1810

State of Vermont / Franklin County

To the Sherriff of Franklin County his Deputy or Either Constable of the town of Sterling in said County _____ Greeting

By the authority of the State of Vermont you are hereby commanded to attach the goods chattels or Estate of Bradock Wadson of Sterling Franklin County afforesaid to the value of twenty dollars & him notify thereof as the Law directs & for want thereof take his Body if to be found within your precinct & him safely keep so you have him to appear before me at my dwelling house in the town of Hyde Park on the 27th day of Febr^y next at one o'clock in the afternoon then and their to answer unto John McDaniel of Hyde Park Orleans County in an action on note bearing date April 13th AD 1809 then I there value Received promises to pay John McDaniel ten Dollars worth of grain by the first day of Jan^y with interest meaning instant Jan^y though often requested still refuses to pay sd note agreeable to the true Effect of the same to the Damage of the Plaintiff the [sum] of twenty dollars to recover which with just cost this suit is Brought thereof fail not but legal service and due return make according to Law given under my hand at Hydes Park this 6th day of Jany AD 1810

Nath'l P. Sawyer Justice [of the] Peace

Gamaliel Taylor recognized in ten Dollars to the Defendant to ensure [illegible] of prosecution in due form of Law before me

State of Vermont / Franklin County

Nath'l P. Sawyer Justice [of the] Peace

Sterling Jan'y 10th 1810 I then served this writ by attaching the betterments and improvements of the within named Bradock Wadson in Sterling on the undivided Land in Sterling aforesaid meaning to contain the very same betterments & improvements on which the said Wadson now lives and notified him the said Watson by Leaving a true and attested ccopy with him with my doings thereon as hereon endorsed and also another Ccopy in the town Clerks office with my doings thereon as herein Endorsed

Fees for travel 7 miles 21

Two coppies 18

Clerk's fees for record 20.59

Attest J P Hadley, authorized

I authorize Jacob P Hadley to serve and return the within writ before me.

Nathaniel P Sawyer, Justice Peace

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and attested Copy of the original writ with my return thereof endorsed thereon. Attest J. P. Hadley, authorized at the risk and request of the plaintiff.

The above is a true record of the original writ. Attest Moses Vilas, Register

Gamaliel Taylor, whose “doings” involved fees for seven miles travel and two “coppies,” was John McDaniel’s son-in-law.

We don’t know the details of how this played out. Presumably, the sheriff found Braddock and locked him up. Presumably Braddock was brought before Nathaniel P. Sawyer in late February to answer for his non-payment of this debt. Presumably John McDaniel got what was due him, to the likely ruination of this Watson family in the dead of a Vermont winter.

We don’t find Braddock Watson or his family anywhere in the 1810 census. All this trouble probably explains why. Despite the requirements of the law ...

“That every person whose usual place of abode shall be in any family on [August 6, 1810], shall be returned, as of such family; and the name of every person who shall be an inhabitant of any district or territory without a settled place of residence, shall be inserted in the column of the schedule, which is allotted for the heads of families, in that division where he or she shall be on [August 6, 1810]; and every person occasionally absent at the time of the enumeration, as belonging to that place in which he usually resides in the United States.”

https://www.census.gov/programs-surveys/decennial-census/technical-documentation/questionnaires.1810_Census.html

... prisoners were unlikely to be enumerated in the 1810 census. If Braddock Watson was languishing in prison, we’d expect his family to show up with his wife’s name given as head of household – assuming she was still alive at that time.

Braddock Watson and his family probably were on the move, and possibly missed by the census takers. A scattering of clues points to where they *might have* gone.

Clues Pertaining to Whereabouts

If Braddock Watson Sr. was forced by circumstances to move away from northern Vermont, where might he and his family have gone?

Braddock’s Older Children

It looks like John Bissell Jr., Elizabeth Watson’s husband, was still living in Rutland in 1810. Their census listing seems like that of an ordinary family – no “extra” people.

We don’t find Sally Watson’s husband Stacey Lanphere listed in the 1810 census.

Jeffrey Watson likely stayed put in Hyde Park despite his father’s legal and financial trouble.

We don’t find Jeffrey in the 1810 census in Hyde Park or any of the nearby towns. Yet we know that his wife, Abigail, gave birth to their first child in Hyde Park in May 1810. We can’t make a case for them living with Abigail’s parents, Ephraim and Mary Garvin, in Hyde Park that year. It’s *possible*: Ephraim’s household numbers for 1810 include one

female under age 10, who could be infant Arila Watson. But the rest of the numbers don't work unless at least two of the many Garvin siblings weren't living at home.

Jeffrey does show up in Hyde Park in the 1820 census. Perhaps because he married into Ephraim Garvin's family, Jeffrey was somewhat insulated from the scandal of his father's arrest. Ephraim, as one of the original settlers of that town and a Revolutionary War veteran, would have been a respected man.

Braddock Watson Jr. surfaces in Burlington, VT, two-and-a-half years after his father ran afoul of John McDaniel. On July 23, 1812, in Burlington, 18-year-old Braddock Jr. enlisted in the 11th Infantry Regiment of the US Army.

Had Braddock Jr. stayed in northern Vermont all along? Burlington is about 25 miles west and a little south, as the crow flies, of where Sterling was located. He was well into his teens when the sheriff came looking for his father. It's reasonable to think that Braddock Jr. was able to fend for himself while Braddock Sr. dealt with other things.

Robert Watson, who enlisted into the same regiment on the same day, in the same place as Braddock Jr., may well have been the older of these presumed brothers. Perhaps they found work and lodging away from Sterling and Hyde Park; and were in the right area to join the US Army when the War of 1812 broke out. If nothing else, the army would provide them with a uniform, meals, and a place to sleep. Given that nothing more can be found about Robert, we wonder if he didn't survive his stint in the military.

This leaves us trying to account for Braddock Watson Sr.; his wife, if she was still alive; Richard, Elisha, and John (the Q Eggleston-Watson boys); and the female born after 1790 who was enumerated in Braddock Sr.'s household in 1800.

Theories

We think Braddock Sr. may have headed south, back to Bennington county where his uncle Silas Watson still lived ... and then west into New York.

We discussed the idea that Silas Watson and Stukely Martin Watson might have provided a place for the younger members of Braddock Watson's household in our essay "[\(We Have Questions\) About Silas⁴ Watson](#)."

In the 1810 census, Silas Watson's household was composed of three people: One male under the age of 10; one male aged 45 and over (*Silas*); and one female aged 16 through 25.

Silas's wife Sarah (Bowditch) Watson had died earlier that year, on February 11th. The taking of the 1810 census began on August 6th, so Sarah's absence is expected.

Who were the young people in Silas's household that year? The young male could have been John Watson, born sometime in 1800, the youngest of the Eggleston-Watson brothers. The female aged 16 through 25 could be the female *born after 1790* who was enumerated in Braddock Watson Sr.'s household in 1800.

Stukely Martin Watson's 1810 census profile does not resemble a nuclear family. The four people enumerated in Stukely's household – three males and one female – all were between the ages of 16 and 25.

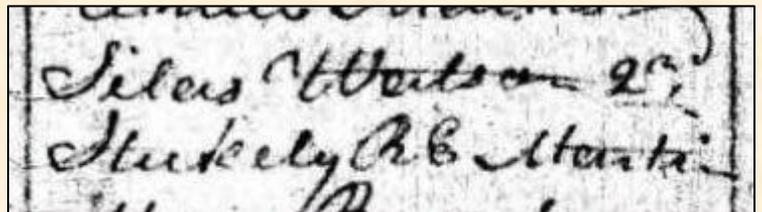
Stukely, born circa 1789-90, fits that age range. We know that his first child, son Duane, was born on September 11, 1810 (and would miss being enumerated in that census by mere weeks). The young female was Stukely's wife, Sarah "Sally" Spencer, close in age.

Who were the young adult males in Stukely's household that year? They could have been Richard and Elisha, the older two Eggleston-Watson boys. They would have been roughly 17 and 16 years of age, respectively, in 1810.

We note the odd rendering of Stukely M. Watson's name in this census: He was listed as *Stukely R E Martin*. We know from an 1809 Pownal land record that Stukely Watson's middle name was Martin. This is the only time we find Stukely recorded without his Watson surname.

Then there's the matter of the letters "R E" appearing in the middle of his name. Might they have stood for Richard and Elisha?

It's not such a wild idea that the Eggleston-Watson brothers might have been boarding with the Watson families in Pownal while Braddock Sr. looked for a new place to live and work.



The household of "Silas Watson 2nd," listed above Stukely's, has numbers resembling a young married couple with two children: One male under 10; one male 16-25; one female under 10; and one female 16-25. This guy appears in 1810, only to disappear again. He might have been a son or grandson of Silas⁴ Watson. We have no reason to think this was Braddock Watson Sr. using an alias.

Two more items point to the possibility that Braddock Watson Sr. brought members of his household south to Bennington county —

A man named Richard Watson enlisted in the military in Bennington, VT, in April 1814. He was 21 years old, the right age to have been the oldest of the Eggleston-Watson brothers.

Then, on June 28, 1814, the *Vermont Gazette* ran a notice regarding the jailbreak of a man named Richard Watson, “about 20 years of age.” This *could be* the same man who signed up for military service mere weeks earlier.

Ten Dollars Reward.

Escaped from the Jail in Manchester, in the county of Bennington, and state of Vermont,

Richard Watson,

on the evening of the 25th instant, May, said WATSON is about 20 years of age, about five feet nine or ten inches high, light complexion, sandy hair, had on when we went away a Coat and Vest of home-made plaid, Cotton or Cotton and Linen, Cotton and Woolen pantaloons, said WATSON was committed for theft. — Whoever will take up said run-away and deliver him to the subscriber in Manchester shall receive the above reward and all necessary charges.

NATHAN BROWNSON,
Deputy Jailer

Manchester, Vt. May 26, 1814

Ten Dollars Reward.
ESCAPED from the Jail in Manchester, in the county of Bennington, and state of Vermont,
Richard Watson,
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NATHAN BROWNSON,
Deputy Jailer.
Manchester, Vt. May 26, 1814.

Based on what little we know about Richard Watson’s life, they didn’t catch him – at least not right away.

Elisha Watson may have gone north again (or perhaps he never left and we’re wrong about his coming to Pownal in 1810). There’s an index record for the marriage of an Elisha Watson to Esther Austin on February 7, 1812, in Highgate, VT. Is this our guy? Quite possibly; he would have been 18 years old by that time.

Highgate is right up against the US border with Canada. It’s also the last place of residence for Elizabeth (Watson) Bissell’s husband John Bissell Jr., per her testimony in the legal process for guardianship of her daughters.

Since Elisha wed Amelia Worden circa 1815 in Saratoga county, NY, either his first bride died fairly young or this marriage didn’t endure.

A Thought

A number of the Watson men married at age eighteen, which even back then was fairly young. It seems to us a symptom of one or both parents being absent in their lives.

New York

Later clues point to New York State as the place Braddock Watson Sr. might have gone after his troubles in northern Vermont:

Braddock died in a New York state prison in 1818. This, of course, doesn't necessarily mean that he was a NY resident; just that he was imprisoned for a crime committed in that state.

Elisha and John Watson, the younger two Eggleston-Watson brothers, ended up in **Saratoga county, NY**, where they both appear in the 1820 census. Elisha lived in Waterford, John in Halfmoon – towns about 3½ miles apart. Halfmoon is about 25 miles west of Pownal, VT.

Elisha Watson was in that area by November 1818, when he testified on behalf of Elizabeth (Watson) Bissell that he had witnessed her marriage to John Bissell Jr.

In 1815, Silas⁴ Watson and his wife (then “of Pownal”) bought land in **Hoosick, NY**, in **Rensselaer county**. We know that Stukely M. Watson followed Silas⁴ to Hoosick, where he and his family formed one household with Silas and his second wife, Urana “Rana” (Bailey) Watson.

It may not be a coincidence that, in 1818, Braddock's widowed daughter Elizabeth Bissell was living in **Hoosick** when she applied for legal guardianship of her daughters.

Braddock Watson's name shows up in a record made in **Petersburgh, Rensselaer county, NY**. Dated 1852, this record mentions land surveyed for Braddock Watson *and* for Peleg Moon. However, no indication is given for when the surveys were made.

It's possible these surveys were done in or around 1800, before Peleg Moon Sr. and Braddock Watson Sr. moved their families north to Rutland. It's also possible it happened later:

In 1810, Peleg Moon Sr. was enumerated in Plainfield, Otsego co., NY, 100 miles due west of Petersburgh. By 1818, he was back in Rhode Island, applying for a Revolutionary War pension. A pension document named him as “lately of Otsego, now resident in the town of West Greenwich.” It's plausible that Peleg Moon Sr. came east to Petersburgh before going back to Rhode Island.

In any case, Petersburgh was thick with RI Moon families. Braddock Watson may have gone there in or after 1810, knowing he'd find cousins in that town.

Dake Moon, very likely a relative of Braddock's mother Martha Moon, moved from West Greenwich, RI, to Petersburgh, NY, in 1787. He farmed there until his death on May 17, 1819.

Eight separate Moon households were enumerated in Petersburgh in the 1810 census. Four more show up in other Rensselaer county towns that year.

The Death of Braddock Watson

Braddock Watson died on August 17, 1818, in Manhattan, New York co., NY, in state prison (probably Newgate). The record of Braddock's death gave his age as 56; his marital status as "unknown"; and his birthplace as Rhode Island. Cause of death: Dropsy.

He was buried in Potter's Field in New York City, where present-day Washington Square is located in Greenwich Village.

We don't know what Braddock Watson did to get himself locked up, nor how long he spent in prison before he died there. Based on the absence of Braddock's name from Ancestry.com's database "New York, Prisoners Received at Newgate State Prison, 1797-1810," we're guessing that he was incarcerated after 1810 – which fits with our timeline discussed above.

Proximity and Contact

Elisha Watson seems to have been a locus for members of the Watson family staying in touch. We've already mentioned Elisha's testimony on behalf of Elizabeth (Watson) Bissell in 1818. More examples —

Jeffrey Watson's son Robert turns up in the same general vicinity as Elisha and John Watson and their families in Saratoga county, NY.

Robert Watson's Civil War pension file contains an affidavit by Elisha's eldest son Samuel Watson. Samuel said he first met Robert Watson at about the time of Robert's first marriage in September 1834.

When Elisha Watson left Saratoga county to live in Wayne and Cayuga counties, both Robert Watson and his father Jeffrey relocated to the same area.

On December 24, 1837, Elisha Watson co-signed a promissory note for \$27, payable to Marble & Hamblin ("dry goods" merchants) in Port Byron, Cayuga co., NY. The other signer was Robert Watson.

Also present in the same timeframe in Wayne and Cayuga counties: Elisha Eggleston 1805* and his family. Y-DNA analysis tells us that Elisha Watson and Elisha Eggleston 1805 were likely first cousins.

*We call this man "Elisha Eggleston b.~1805" or "Elisha Eggleston 1805" to distinguish him via his approximate year of birth from other men named Elisha Eggleston, of whom there are *many*.

It's become clear that these folks – Watsons; Eggleston-Watson; and Egglestons – were family. Whether it was history or genetics they shared, they really did stick together.

To learn more about the significance of Elisha Eggleston 1805, read the section entitled “Birds of a Feather” in [Elisha Watson’s own story](#). See also [John Watson's own story](#); and our early essay entitled [Who Was Robert Watson?](#) (when we were still figuring stuff out).

Braddock Watson Jr.

We’ve written about Braddock Watson Jr. elsewhere but in a patchwork manner. Here we present in full what we know about his life, with some new info. (This is not a happy story.)

Braddock Watson Jr. was born circa 1794 in West Greenwich, Kent county, Rhode Island. He is first of record shortly after the War of 1812 broke out.

On July 23, 1812, in Burlington, VT, Braddock Watson Jr. enlisted in the 11th Regiment, US Infantry, for a term of five years. He was listed as 18 years old, a “farmer,” born in Rhode Island.

Our next glimpse of Braddock Jr. also occurs in 1812 and involves the record of his first marriage. Oddly, it names both him and his bride as *residents* of Stanbridge, Quebec, Canada.

During of the War of 1812, Canada was enemy territory. What happened to Braddock Jr.’s military service obligations? To quote Brad Watson, one of the researchers for this story, “It was a nery thing to do, and I wonder if the Army knew nothing about it.”

[Ancestry.com](#)’s database *Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621-1968* includes a marriage record for “Braddok Watson” and Elizabeth Deline, who tied the knot on December 25, 1812, in Philipsburg, Quebec, Canada, just across the boundary with Vermont. At right, an image of this record and a transcription:

On this twenty fifth day of December one th^d eight hun^d & twelve Braddok Watson – Bachelor – Farmer – and Elizth Deline Spinster – Both of Minor age & of Stanbridge were married by banns in the presence of her Mother & the other subscribing Witness —

C. Stewart Min^r [minister]

Braddok Watson [his mark]

Elizth Deline [her mark]

Hannah Deline [her mark]

George Mitchell

On this twenty fifth day of December one th^d eight hun^d & twelve Braddok Watson - Bachelor - Farmer - and Elizth Deline Spinster - Both of Minor age & of Stanbridge were married by banns in the presence of her Mother & the other subscribing Witness —

C. Stewart Min^r
Braddok + Watson
Elizth + Deline
Hannah + Deline
George Mitchell.

This record states that Elizabeth and Braddock were “of Stanbridge,” in the Province of Quebec, Canada, about eight miles northeast of Philipsburg. By this time, Braddock Watson Jr. probably was 19 years old.

Apparently, Elizabeth (Deline) Watson gave birth to a daughter, Louisa, in 1812. Perhaps Braddock was aiming to “do the right thing” when he married Elizabeth late in that same year.

Elizabeth’s and Braddock Jr.’s marriage did not endure. Researchers with access to Canadian records note that Elizabeth went on to marry a man named Jonas Bice/Boyce. Their first child was born in 1815.

In 1832, in Stanbridge, Quebec, Canada, Louisa Watson, Braddock Watson Jr.’s daughter, allegedly married John Deline (1809-1864), the son of her mother’s uncle George Uriah Deline and his wife Mary “Polly” Schoolcraft. John and Louisa (Watson) Deline had four children – Albert; Calvin U.; Sarah Jane; and Mary “Maria” – before Louisa’s death in 1843.

Presumably while Braddock was serving in the US Infantry, he may also have been participating in northern Vermont’s “rich tradition of smuggling” as described by Amanda Thibault in her article “This Place in History: Smugglers’ Notch”:

“It got its name going back to the time of Thomas Jefferson, our President back in 1807. He said that we were not going to import goods from England because they’re causing problems. This all led up to the War of 1812. Well, Vermont traded with Canada more than they traded with anyone else. So there is really a rich tradition of smuggling through Vermont from about 1807 up until 1812 when the War first started.”

“They were smuggling everything from rum, which came up from the Caribbean and then were trading up to Canada, to lace, to cloth, to paper...you know the kind of goods you needed for everyday living. Most of this came from Europe and the settlers in Vermont needed it,” explained Perkins.”

<https://www.mychamplainvalley.com/news/this-place-in-history-smugglers-notch/>

Where is Smuggler’s Notch located? — In the now-extinct town of Sterling, Franklin county, Vermont, where Braddock Sr. brought his family to live. Braddock Jr.’s connection to Canada may have involved more than his short-lived first marriage.

Trouble

Braddock Watson Jr.’s name appears on the *doquet* (docket) for the June 1815 term of the Supreme Court of Judicature in the county of Franklin, Vermont.

“State vs. Braddock Watson. Indictment for horse stealing; verdict guilty; sentenced to state’s prison for nine years, to pay a fine of one hundred dollars, and costs, taxed at \$26,95.”

On June 24, 1815, in a court in St. Albans, Franklin co., VT, Braddock Watson Jr. was found guilty and sentenced to nine years in prison. On June 27th, he was admitted to the state prison in Windsor, VT.

The data collected about Braddock Watson Jr. at the time of his incarceration includes a personal

description nearly identical to the one obtained at the time of his enlistment in 1812. His birthplace was listed as West Greenwich, Rhode Island.

After serving six years of his nine-year sentence, Braddock Jr. was pardoned and discharged from prison on October 29, 1821.

Second Marriage

Braddock Watson, *cordwainer*, was “of Egremont,” Berkshire co., MA, when he bought property in that town from Joseph Benjamin late in 1831, selling that property back to the same man in March 1832. The 1831 deed gives the full name of Braddock’s wife, Wealthy Maria Watson; the 1832 deed describes Braddock as “of Montgomery,” Hampden co., MA.

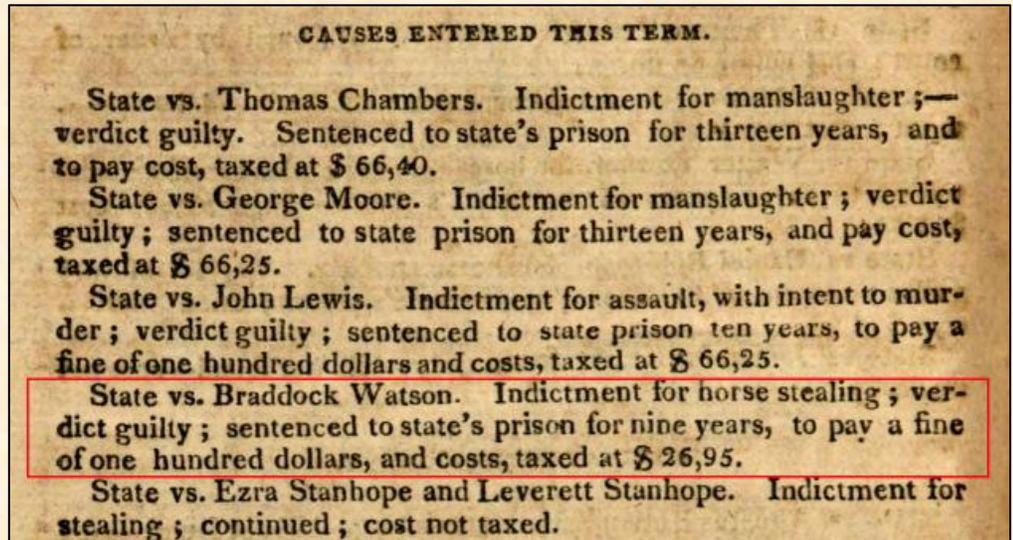
A *cordwainer* is a shoemaker who crafts footwear from new leather (different from a cobbler who repairs shoes, frequently using old leather).

Shoemaking was taught in the state prison in Windsor, VT, when Braddock was an inmate there.

Braddock and Wealthy Watson probably got married around 1830. All we know about Wealthy is that she was born in Massachusetts around 1810. Their first child, daughter Olive, was born early in 1831. We don’t find this family in the 1830 census.

Braddock and Wealthy M. (—) Watson had at least nine children together:

- i. Olive Maria Watson (1831-1852)
- ii. Elisha Edmund Watson (~1832-1844)



- iii. Amos Watson (~1835-?)
- iv. William B. Watson (~1838-?)
- v. Mary E. Watson (~1839-?)
- vi. *Daughter* (~1844-1846)
- vii. Wealthy Amena Watson (1847-?)
- viii. Delania L. Watson (~1849-?)
- ix. Helen R. Watson (~1853-?)

The ages and genders of the eldest five children match this family's 1840 census data.

We know of the first two children, Olive and Elisha, from records relating to their deaths. The other children show up in one or more census records. The unnamed daughter appears in a list of interments in New Haven, CT. She died at age 2 of *cholera infantum*, and was buried in the City Burying Ground on September 11, 1846.

More Trouble

The five-year age gap between the fifth and sixth children in this family can be explained, in whole or in part, by Braddock's absence from the home: He went to prison again.

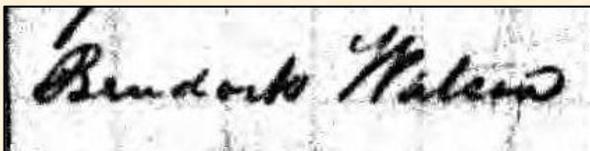
On February 20, 1841, in Springfield, MA, Braddock was convicted of Malicious Mischief. His crime: At Westfield, MA, on October 12, 1840, he maimed a horse belonging to Harmon French. Since Braddock was described as "of Springfield" at the time of his trial, he'd probably been held in a Springfield jail pending his day in court.

This gruesome crime involved "cutting off and severing the cords of the left fore leg of said Mare, whereby the said Mare was greatly injured and rendered of no value."

Braddock Watson Jr. was sentenced to one day in solitary confinement, followed by one year of hard labor. He was received at the state prison in Charlestown, MA, on March 3, 1841.

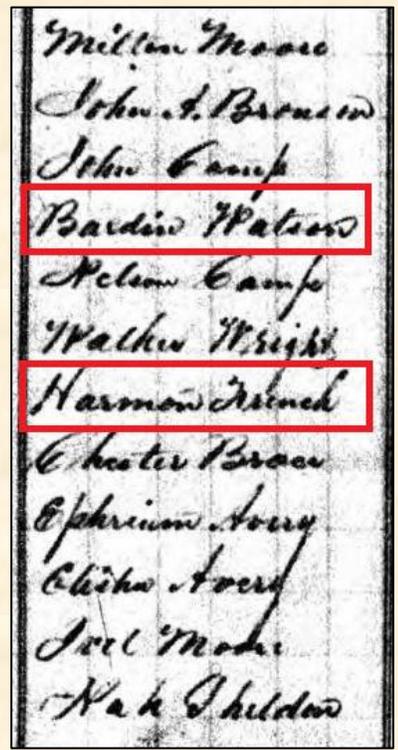
Braddock's Massachusetts prison record listed him as being 50 years old (he was a bit younger), with hazel eyes and sandy hair. "Some bald. Has lost the end of his fore finger on right hand. Scar on left side of abdomen."

We looked up Harmon French to see what we could learn about him. This is how we discovered that Braddock Watson Jr.'s household appears twice in the 1840 census, in both Westfield and Montgomery, Hampden county, MA.



At left, Braddock Watson's name excerpted from the 1840 census for Westfield, MA,. It looks like *Bendock*, but we don't doubt it's him. His was the final name listed on the last 1840 census page for

Westfield. At right, an excerpt from the final 1840 census page for Montgomery, MA, with the names of Harmon French and *Bardin* Watson marked. Given that Braddock maimed Harmon's horse in Westfield in October 1840, we can probably assume they were near neighbors in Montgomery until Braddock moved to the adjoining town of Westfield – where a census taker found him a second time.



We discovered a possible reason for Braddock's animosity toward Harmon French when we found the latter's occupation listed in the 1850 census. Like Braddock, Harmon French was a *cordwainer*. Braddock may have felt threatened by his competition.

Afterwards

Braddock was discharged from the state prison on March 4, 1842. The next record for him and his family occurs two years later.

On May 8, 1844, Elisha Edmund Watson, aged 12 – Braddock's oldest son – died in Montgomery, MA, as the result of an accident. His death was "caused by jumping or falling from a scaffold on to the edge of a barrel."

In 1845 and '46 Braddock Watson's name appears in the city directory for New Haven, CT. In 1845, he was listed as a tailor; in 1846 he was back to being a shoemaker.

After the death of their two-year-old daughter in New Haven in late summer of 1846, Braddock apparently moved his family back to Montgomery, MA:

On February 28, 1847, in Montgomery, MA, Wealthy M. Watson gave birth to her seventh child, daughter Wealthy Amena.

NAME, (if any.)	SEX.	DATE OF BIRTH.	NAME AND SURNAME OF PARENTS.	OCCUPATION OF FATHER.
Susan Elizabeth Washburn	Female	Jan 1 st 1844	Charles M and Calinda Washburn	Farming
Wharton Mapillon Crow	Male	Oct 5 1846	Mapillon & Betsey Crow	Farming
Samuel Saunders	Male	March 20 th 1847	Gilbert & Minerva Saunders	Farming
David Bishop Camp	Male	August 31 st 1846	John & Mary Camp	Farming
Orphelia Ann Moore	Female	July 22 nd 1846	Hasting & Dorcas P. Moore	Farming
Wealthy Amena Watson	Female	Feb 28 th 1847	Braddock & Wealthy M. Watson	Shoemaker
David Green Parks	Male	Dec 28 th 1846	Elisha P & Sophia Parks	Farming
Prince Albert Thorp	Male	August 15 th 1846	Samuel & Lucetia Thorp	Farming
Lyman Allen Reed	Male	August 19 th 1846	Josiah & Mary Reed	Farming

In the next year or two, this family would relocate to New York State.

Onondaga county, NY

Braddock & Wealthy Watson's eighth child, daughter Delania, was born circa 1849 in Onondaga county, NY, per the 1855 NY state census.

Braddock Watson was named as being "of Syracuse, N. Y." (in Onondaga county) when the notice of his eldest child's death was published in 1852.

Olive Maria's death was announced in the January 28, 1852, edition of the *Westfield News Letter* (Westfield, MA). It read:

"At Sandusky City, Ohio, Jan. 10, Olive Maria, aged 21 years, wife of John L. Hill, daughter of Braddock Watson, of Syracuse, N.Y., formerly of Montgomery, Mass."

For what it's worth, Olive was a couple of weeks shy of her 21st birthday. Her age at death, per her gravestone inscription, was 20 years, 11 months, and 17 days.

Died.

In this town, on the 26th inst., of lung fever, F. H. THAYER, of Whitingsville, Mass., aged 19 years,—a member of Westfield Academy

At Sandusky City, Ohio, Jan. 10, Olive Maria, aged 21 years, wife of John L. Hill, daughter of Braddock Watson, of Syracuse, N. Y., formerly of Montgomery, Mass.

At East Granville, on the 24th inst., Sarah, relict of the late Isaac Hardin, aged 85 years.

At Albany, Jan. 20th, Clarilla Louise, infant daughter of Benj. R. and Isabella D. Spelman, aged 2 months.

At East Granville, 27th, Thomas Gillette, 79.

We found Olive and her family in the 1850 federal census, twice.

They were enumerated first on August 21, 1850, in Syracuse Ward 2, Onondaga co., NY. Their listing reads like someone other than Olive or her husband provided the info.

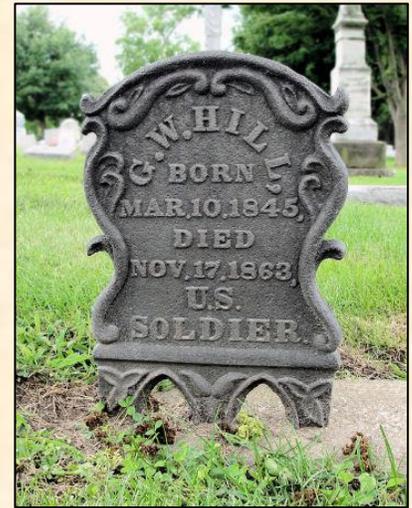
John and "Mary" Hill were recorded as 45 years old – wrong on both counts. But the children were the same as those enumerated some weeks later in Ohio. Chances are, John and Olive M. (Watson) Hill were already en route to their new home.

John Hill, age 33, his wife Olive M., age 19, and their three young sons were enumerated a second time, on September 21, 1850, in Portland Township, Erie co., OH – precisely where the city of Sandusky was located. The baby, John L. Jr., was noted as being three months old (in contrast to the Syracuse enumeration when he was listed as a one-month-old).

John L Hill	33	4m	carpenter
Olive M "	19	5	
George W "	8	3m	
Edmond L "	3	2m	
John L "	3	1/2 m	

Since we don't find a record of Olive M. Watson's marriage to John L. Hill, nor birth records for the three boys in this family, we can't declare with certainty which of them were hers. But if we assume they are Olive's children with John, we can draw a conclusion or two from the birthdate of the oldest, George, whose birthplace per the 1850 census was Massachusetts.

George W. Hill is buried in Oakland Cemetery in Sandusky, the same place where Olive is buried. His headstone tells us he was born March 10, 1845, and died November 17, 1863.



If George was Olive's child, that means she became pregnant around June of 1844, at 13 years of age, giving birth to George little more than six weeks past her 14th birthday.

This suggests that Olive M. Watson's marriage to John L. Hill was more of a shotgun wedding than a love match, especially as John was quite a bit older than Olive.

We note the timing of Olive's pregnancy, commencing so soon after the death of her brother Elisha Edmund. We notice, too, that Olive named her second son Edmund, possibly in tribute to her lost brother. The choice of this name suggests that Olive's brother may have gone by his middle name.

It's possible that Olive also went by her middle name, Maria. In the Syracuse, NY, census, she was named as *Mary*. John L. Hill Jr.'s 1938 death record named his mother as *Mariah* Watson.

Schenectady county, NY

On November 1, 1850, Braddock Watson and his family were enumerated in that year's census in Niskayuna, Schenectady co., NY. Braddock was still a shoemaker.

Braddock Watson	54	m		Shoemaker
Melby	39	F		
Simon	15	m		Stone
Jim	12	m		
Mary	11	F		
Melby	3	F		
Delana	1	F		

A journey from Syracuse to Niskayuna mirrors the route of the Erie Canal. Perhaps Braddock and family traveled via the Erie Canal when they moved from Massachusetts to live in Onondaga and Schenectady counties.

The 1855 NY state census and the 1860 federal census tell us that Braddock's and Wealthy's last child, Helen R. Watson, was born circa 1853 in Schenectady.

Death of Braddock Watson Jr.

Braddock Watson Jr. died before mid-June 1855, when his widow and five of his children were enumerated in the NY state census. They were living in Schenectady's 4th ward.

Wealthy M. Watson	45	F			Mari
Mary E. Watson	15	F	Ohio		Map
Wealthy Z. Watson	7	F	Ohio		Map
Selany L. Watson	5	F	Ohio		Onondaga Co
Helen R. Watson	2	F	Ohio		Scheney
William B. Watson	17	M	Ohio		New York

Son Amos Watson is not listed in this census with his mother and siblings. By 1855, he would have been 20 years of age, old enough to be on his own. But we don't find him in any census or other records beyond 1850.

We are amused to see daughter Wealthy Amena Watson listed with the middle initial Z. This transition to the other end of the alphabet shows up again in the 1860 census.

Son William B. Watson makes his final appearance in this 1855 census. We have found other men named William B. Watson in later census years; but we cannot identify any one of them as the son of Braddock and Wealthy Watson.

There are two odd things about William B.'s entry in the 1855 census. Not only is he listed last in his mother's household – typically, the sequence was by birth order – but his place of birth is given as New York. Almost certainly William was born in Massachusetts, just like his younger sisters Mary and Wealthy. William's 1855 census listing reads like a careless afterthought.

We get our final glimpses of the rest of Braddock Watson Jr.'s family in the 1860 census.

By 1860, Wealthy M. Watson and her daughters Mary E., Wealthy Z., and Helen R. were living in the county poor house in Schenectady's fifth ward.

The final column on each census page – “Whether deaf and dumb, blind, insane, idiotic, pauper, or convict” – gave the condition of each: Mary E. Watson, age 21, was listed as “pauper, sick.” Wealthy Z. Watson, 13, was “pauper, destitute.” On the next page, widow Wealthy M. Watson, 47 years old (she was closer to 50), was listed as “pauper, destitute.” And the youngest Watson child, 6-year-old Helen R., was “pauper, idiot.”

Daughter Delania Watson was the only one not to show up at the poor house. In the 1860 census we find her, at age 10, living in the household of Lewis C. F. and Abbie (Burt) Randolph in Woodbridge Township, Middlesex co., NJ.

Lewis C. F. Randolph	32	Mo		Farmer	7000	1000	"	"
Abbie B.	30	F	✓				"	York
Franklin B. F.	3	Mo					"	Sussex
Delania M. Watson	10	F	✓				"	York

As best we can tell, there was no specific familial connection between the Randolph family and the family of Braddock Watson Jr.

Abbie (Burt) Randolph’s father, Daniel Burt, was a native of Longmeadow, MA – a geographic commonality between the Burt and Watson families. Abbie was born in Schenectady; she was living there with her family of origin when the Watsons also lived in Schenectady.

Below: An excerpt from *The Descendants of Edward Fitz Randolph and Elizabeth Blossom 1630-1950*, page 164, naming Lewis C. F. Randolph and his wife Abbie Burt.

860. LEWIS CRAIG⁸ FITZ RANDOLPH (591), born Plainfield, N. J., Sept. 3, 1833; died there Apr. 6, 1918; married Schenectady, N. Y., Dec. 31, 1856, ABBIE BURT, b. there Oct. 31, 1827, d. Plainfield, May 6, 1885; dau. of Deacon Daniel and Betsey (Van Patten) Burt.

Children:

- 990. i. FRANKLIN B.,⁹ b. Mar. 2, 1858.
- ii. ALFRED S., b. Feb. 23, 1862; d. Oct. 13, 1862.
- 991. iii. HERBERT L., b. Apr. 19, 1868.

Sources and Resources

Peleg Moon Jr. convicted of horse stealing:

Extracts From the Rutland Herald And Its Predecessors 1800-1805 by Rutland Historical Society < <https://archive.org/details/18001805r/page/n17/mode/2up?q=Peleg+Moon> >

Data regarding **Stukely Martin** (“**S. M.**”) **Watson**, his wife **Sally Spencer**, and their son **Duane Watson** were obtained from numerous sources. We tracked Stukely and family from Pownal, VT, to Hoosick, Rensselaer co., NY, and finally to Franklin county, Ohio. Census and land evidence records, among others, revealed the family relationship.

Duane Watson and his parents are buried in Blendon Central Cemetery in Westerville, Franklin co., OH <https://www.findagrave.com/cemetery/40246/blendon-central-cemetery>. Stukely’s gravestone inscription, some of which is still legible, says he was “born at Troy, NY.” https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/14771663/s_m-watson

State of VT vs. Braddock Watson Jr.:

Digital page 206 / text page 200: *Journals of the General Assembly of the State of Vermont, At their Session Begun and Held in the County of Washington, on Thursday the Twelfth of October, A.D. 1815; Windsor, VT; pg. 200.* Digitized by Google; original from NY Public Library. Accessed 1 Sept 2021, online at HathiTrust Digital Library: <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=nyp.33433011265018&view=1up&seq=209&skin=2021>

Braddock Watson Jr.’s imprisonment and pardon:

“Record of Convicts Admitted to the State Prison in Windsor, Vermont,” by Robert H. Rodgers; *Vermont Genealogy*. Braintree, VT: Genealogical Society of Vermont, Vol. 8 (2003), page 70. (Online database. AmericanAncestors.org. New England Historic Genealogical Society.) <https://www.americanancestors.org/databases/vermont-genealogy/RecordDisplay?volumeId=58600&pageName=70&rId=1427632674> (a subscription/membership is required to see this record)

Olive Maria (Watson) Hill’s date of birth; and her burial site:

A photo of Olive’s gravestone is posted at her online memorial: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/114816027/olive-maria-hill>. Her gravestone inscription gives Olive’s age at death, on January 10, 1852, as 20 years, 11 months, and 17 days. Using an online [Tombstone Birthday Calculator](#), we determined her date of birth to be January 24, 1831. Olive’s son **George W. Hill**’s online memorial at Find A Grave: <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/114743761/george-w-hill>

Definition of the term **cordwainer** found at various websites, including Wikipedia.org
<<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cordwainer>>

[Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com), where you need a paid subscription to view most things – and where we obtain our census records and federal census mortality schedules.

Bradick Wadson, taxed in Canajoharie, Montgomery co., NY, in 1800: “New York, U.S., Tax Assessment Rolls of Real and Personal Estates, 1799-1804.”

Braddock Watson Jr.’s 1812 enlistment: “U.S. Army, Register of Enlistments, 1798-1914” [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2007. Original data: Register of Enlistments in the U.S. Army, 1798-1914; (National Archives Microfilm Publication M233, 81 rolls); Records of the Adjutant General’s Office, 1780’s-1917, Record Group 94; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

Marriage of **Elisha Watson** and **Esther Austin**, 7 Feb 1812, Highgate, VT: Miscellaneous Austin Records, Vol. 2, v. 2, 1974; typescript, page 142. Collected and compiled by Edith Austin Moore. Digitized version at Ancestry.com:
<https://www.ancestry.com/search/collections/62282/records/4550703110?tid=29094631&pid=252748341869&queryId=b3b8e98a-c57a-482e-85c7-a86461cf4990&phsrc=ccr1&phstart=successSource>

Marriage of Braddock Watson Jr. and Elizabeth Deline in Canada: Discovered by Brad Watson in Ancestry.com’s database “Quebec, Canada, Vital and Church Records (Drouin Collection), 1621-1968.”

Braddock Watson married Elizth Deline in 1812 in Philipsburg, Quebec, Canada.
<https://www.ancestry.com/sharing/30184742?h=406895>

Wealthy Amena Watson’s 1847 birth record obtained from: “Massachusetts, U.S., Birth Records, 1840-1915” [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2013. Original data: Massachusetts Vital Records, 1840–1911. New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts. Massachusetts Vital Records, 1911–1915. New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts.

Re: The family of **Lewis C. F. and Abbie (Burt) Randolph** of Middlesex co., NJ: Christian Louise Aymar and Howard Stelle Fitz Randolph. 1955. *The Descendants of Edward Fitz Randolph and Elizabeth Blossom 1630-1950. Supplement*. Printed by Edwards Bros. Ann Arbor. Page images accessed at [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) on 15 January 2023.

FamilySearch requires an account to view its records. It's FREE and it's worthwhile.

Braddock Watson Sr. in Westfield, MA: “Suffolk, Massachusetts, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSRH-ZFHH?view=fullText>: October 27, 2025), image 406 of 613; Massachusetts. County Court (Suffolk County). Image Group Number: 008297228

Braddock Watson Sr. and Silas Moon in Rutland, VT, grantor/grantee index: “Rutland, Rutland, Vermont, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-CSS3-1S6Z-N?view=fullText>: Nov 4, 2025), image 130 of 407; Rutland (Vermont). Town Clerk. Image Group Number: 007815936

Record of the **marriage of Betsey Watson and John Bissell Jr.:** “Rutland, Rutland, Vermont, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-8999-2HZR?view=fullText>: Feb 12, 2026), image 147 of 295; Rutland (Vermont). Town Clerk. Image Group Number: 005464222

Town of Rutland, VT, warning out of **Peleg Moon** and his extended family: “Rutland, Rutland, Vermont, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G999-2HJH?view=fullText>: Oct 27, 2025), image 124 of 295; Rutland (Vermont). Town Clerk. Image Group Number: 005464222

An easier-to-read typescript version of the above:

“Vermont, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C34J-1STM-R?view=fullText>: Nov 4, 2025), image 98 of 1350; Daughters of the American Revolution (Vermont). Image Group Number: 008620229

Record of the **marriage of Sally Watson and Stacey Lanphere:** “Vermont, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939V-3KP1-5?view=fullText>: Feb 18, 2026), image 2559 of 4114; Vermont. Secretary of State. Image Group Number: 004667013

John McDaniel vs. Braddock Watson: “Morristown, Lamoille, Vermont, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G999-245F?view=explore> : Feb 20, 2026), image 43 of 565; Sterling (Vermont). Town Clerk. Image Group Number: 005464228

A deed recorded in April 1836, long after **Braddock Watson Sr.**'s death, makes reference to where he lived in the town of Sterling, Franklin county, VT:

"Morristown, Lamoille, Vermont, United States records," images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G999-24GW?view=explore> : Feb 20, 2026), image 339 of 565; Sterling (Vermont). Town Clerk. Image Group Number: 005464228

...unto the said Moses Vilas his heirs and assigns forever a certain piece or parcel of land situate lying or being in Sterling afsd [aforesaid], and described as follows — viz., the (second) division lot drawn to the original right of Jotham White supposed to contain one hundred acres the same more or less meaning to convey the same land on which Braddock Watson formerly lived.

We haven't found evidence that Braddock owned land in Sterling. He may have leased or rented the property; hence, where he "formerly lived."

Braddock Watson's name mentioned in 1852 land records for Petersburg, Rensselaer col, NY: "Rensselaer, New York, United States records," images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-G9W8-4827?view=fullText> : October 27, 2025), image 215 of 568; New York. County Court (Rensselaer County). Image Group Number: 007142229.

Record of **Braddock Watson Sr.**'s death in "New York, New York City Municipal Deaths, 1795-1949." Database. FamilySearch. <http://FamilySearch.org> : 14 June 2016. New York Municipal Archives, New York. Reference ID: Bk 3; GS Film Number 447544. Accessed 18 January 2020 (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FD1F-NTR>)

Marriage of Elisha Watson and Esther Austin, 7 Feb 1812, Highgate, VT: Index record found in database "Vermont, Vital Records, 1760-1954," FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:ZS5V-KZ3Z>: Entry for Elisha Watson and Easter Austin, 7 Feb 1812.

Document from the 1818 case file for the guardianship of **Elizabeth (Watson) Bissell**'s daughters, mentioning the sworn statement provided by **Elisha Watson** of Saratoga co., NY: "Rensselaer, New York, United States records," images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QSQ-99C3-HYS?view=fullText>: Feb 13, 2026), image 2875 of 3055; New York. County Court (Rensselaer County). Image Group Number: 007353143

1831 mortgage deed between Joseph Benjamin of Egremont, MA, and **Braddock Watson Jr.** & his wife **Wealthy Maria Watson** of Egremont, MA: "Berkshire,

Massachusetts, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-89Z8-7QH3?view=fullText>: Oct 27, 2025), image 86 of 468; Great Barrington (Massachusetts). Town Clerk. Image Group Number: 007464316

Wealthy Maria Watson’s full name appears on the second page of this deed.

1832 quitclaim deed between **Braddock Watson Jr.** & his wife **Wealthy M.** of Montgomery, MA, and Joseph Benjamin of Egremont, MA: “Berkshire, Massachusetts, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-99Z8-29LG?view=fullText>: Oct 27, 2025), image 70 of 558; Great Barrington (Massachusetts). Town Clerk. Image Group Number: 007464315

Elisha Edmund Watson’s 1844 death record – “Massachusetts State Vital Records, 1841-1920,” database with images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:N7BC-745>: 10 November 2022).

Interment of **Braddock Watson Jr.’s unnamed daughter** in 1846 in New Haven, CT: *Vital records of New Haven, 1649-1850, Part II*, page 833. Published by The Connecticut society of the Order of the founders and patriots of America; Hartford, CT, 1917. Digital image online: “New Haven, New Haven, Connecticut, United States records,” images, FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3Q9M-C9BT-BSBT-Z?view=fullText>: March 20, 2026), image 287 of 417; New Haven (Connecticut). Registrar of Vital Statistics. Image Group Number: 007731214

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