

WILLIAM GOLDING

(Gelder, Golden, Goulding)

OF CAPE MAY COUNTY

BY H. CLIFFORD CAMPION, JR.

Little seems to be known about this early settler of Cape May County. Even in making Will abstracts in the New Jersey Archives, his Will has been omitted.

His father, William Golding, Sr., came to New Amsterdam about 1640; accounts of his arrival seem to be confused. He ultimately settled in Gravesend.

He married first a wife whose name has not been ascertained but by whom he had a daughter

1. Ann who was married before 1660 to Jan Smith, as is proved by Deeds for Gravesend property where he is called "son-in-law."

He married second (New York Dutch Church Records) Ann Catharyn, June 4, 1644, by whom he had the following six children:

2. William Golding; married (1) April 7, 1676 at Gravesend, Long Island, Margaret Lake, daughter of John and Ann (Spicer) Lake; (2) June 19, 1689, Deborah Quimby, daughter of John of Westchester County, New York.
3. Margriette Golding; baptised as his child April 2, 1646.
4. Joseph Golding; married Eleanor; died 1684 leaving a Will recorded in the Book of Miscellaneous Deeds and Wills, in the Manuscript Department at Albany, N. Y., names his brother William, as his executor.
5. Jacob (Yacum) Golding; listed in Gravesend in 1679.
6. Josiah Golding; aged 28 in 1682; married Neeltje Klass, left issue.
7. Hester Golding; married November 2, 1676 at Gravesend, Jon Johnson.

William Golding, the father, may have come from the Barbadoes. William Mason and William Golding are listed there as tax payers in 1638, and since there was a William Mason on Long Island 40 years afterward, he may have been the same, and it is possible that William Golding of Barbadoes and Gravesend were one and the same man.

William Golding, Sr., was one of the Patentees of the Monmouth County Purchase, and of the lots in Middletown on

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December 30, 1667, as we learn from the Town Book of Middletown, Monmouth County, owned lots No. 25 and No. 27.

His earmark for cattle is recorded in the same records under date of January 4, 1668.

That he was interested before the Patent was issued by the Governor is learned from this quaint entry in the Albany records Vol. 21, Page 401, giving an account of the Monmouth Shore near to Navasink Highlands in the year 1663, being account of voyage made to Navasinks in the Dutch Company's sloop.

"December 6, 1663, we sailed from Manhattan (namely, New Amsterdam)."

"December 7, 1663, we discovered a sail toward evening which we approached and spoke to them; it was Peter Lawrenson and Jacob Cowenhoven who informed us that the English in an open sloop, being 19 strong, sailed the day before, up the Raretan River where the Indians of Navasink and Raretan were collected together about three miles up the river."

"December 9th, 1663, we saw in the morning, about 9'o'clock, an English vessel coming down and we asked from where they came," on which the Captain, Christopher Ellsworth, answered, "from the river," immediately we asked, "what he had done," he answered, "he brought the English." We told him, "this was wrong, it was against our Government to act in this manner and he should answer for it," to which *William Golding* cried, "it is well, it is well."

On the vessel were Charles Morgan, John Bound, James Holbert, John Tatman, Samuel Spicer, Thomas Whitlock and St. Gibbons (i. e. Richard Gibbons)."

The attitude of the government changed immediately after the conquest of the Dutch Colony by the English for on April 8, 1665, the Duke of York's Governor, Richard Nichols, issued the Monmouth Patent and among those named to whom it was issued is *William Golding* who subscribed 4 pounds to the Indian Purchase.

From Book A, of Deeds in the Clerk's Office at Freehold, under Shareholders, we find that at a General Assembly of inhabitants of Shrewsbury and Narumson's neck on the 14th day of December 1667, "it is ordered that the time and exact account of the sums of money and goods hath been employed by those persons who were formerly made choice to act for themselves and others in the Purchase of this whole tract of land from the Indians shall be drawn up and presented to the next Court or Assembly of Deputies; and the moneys received from each township to remain in the "7 men's hands". Signed "*William Golding*."

He was present at the Court again in 1670, but his name does not appear thereafter. He must have returned to Gravesend. Having made an agreement with Richard Hartshorn to purchase Lot No. 25 which Hartshorn sold to Edward Crome under date of December 26, 1670, however, the deed confirming this sale by William Golding of Gravesend to which Hartshorn of Weikie in the Province of New Jersey, dated November 25, 1672, is on record in this same first deed book above referred to.

William Golding may have conveyed by some unrecorded instruments, the balance of his land to some of his descendants because a grandson appears there after the year 1700 and seems to have owned land and there to have remained and become the progenitor of the family of the name in North New Jersey.

It is not clear when William Golding, Sr., died. In the records of Gravesend, William Golding, not specified as "Sr." or "Jr.", sold all his real estate on January 21, 1693 to Garrett Strycker. If William Golding, Sr., died prior to this date the grantor of these titles may have been the son. He being the eldest under the then law, inherited all real estate.

In conjunction with Rem Garrison, under date of March 25, 1693, he bought of George Taylor, Attorney for the West Jersey Society, 1016 acres of land—616 acres were Golding's and 400 acres were Garrison's, on the South side of the Great Egg Harbor River.

Under date of March 25, 1694, William Golding, whaler, conveyed by deed, 200 acres of land to William Lake (his brother-in-law), Cape May Deeds, thus showing he was a whaleman, and in this capacity he may have been going into Cape May on whaling voyages for some years before he made the above purchases in conjunction with Rem Garrison.

Under date of April 28, 1697, Rem Garrison quit-claimed to William Golding, 616 acres, part of the 1016 they had acquired jointly from George Taylor.

According to the Gravesend records, the date of his marriage is given as April 7, 1676 to Margaret Lake, daughter of John and Ann (Spicer) Lake, by whom he had the following children:

1. Sarah Golding; born 2/14/1676; married Timothy Brandreth in Cape May, as his second wife.
2. Mary Golding; born 7/25/1678; married in Cape May County, Samuel Matthews, Jr.
3. William Golding, Jr.; born 10/25/1679; died intestate at Tuckahoe, Cape May; administration granted to Nathan Golder on July 26, 1735, who may have been a son; married, wife's name unknown; and left issue.
4. John Golding; born 11/21/1681.

5. Esther; born 3/20/1683.

6. Samuel Golding, born 9/2/1686; married Sarah _____, died 1714/15 leaving Will and issue.

By his second wife: Deborah Quimby, daughter of John Quimby of Westchester County, New York, whom he married according to Gravesend records June 19, 1689, he had

7. Joseph Golding; born _____; died by 1759 leaving a Will; married _____

William Golding was a Justice of the Court in Cape May County as early as 20th of September 1696, and for several years afterwards.

He was a County Commissioner July 18, 1710 with John Townsend to lay out a highway at New Englandtown.

He left the following Will which was omitted from the New Jersey Archives, and seems on that account to be worthy of giving in full, insofar as the writer has been able to read the photostatic copy of this ancient document:

"In the name of God! Amen. The 15th day of January 1712, I William Golding of Cape May in the County of Cape May, in the Province of New Jersey, Gentlemen, being aged and weak of body but perfect mind and memory, etc.

ITEM A, after debts and funeral charges shall be paid, I give to Joseph Golding, my youngest son, my great Bible, my bed and furniture, a trunk and all that is in it, a great brass kettle, a linen wheel and a bed called "goose bed" with the furniture belonging to it; one-half my sheep and cattle; plows and tackle and all belonging to it; a horse and wagon; a horse and mare and also one-half my household stuff.

"To William Golding my first son, I give all my wearing clothes and my riding horse which I had the other side of Egg Harbor, with my saddle and bridle.

I give to Samuel Golding, my third son, a little bed called a "trundel bed", and a great cupboard and heckel; to William Sherwood, I give the _____; and the smoothing iron and heaters, to Samuel Matthews.

I give one-half of my sheap to Timothy Brandreth.

I give 25 shillings and what I have not particularly disposed of I leave to be divided among them all equally.

To John Golding my second son, I give my duck and buck gun and my silver headed cane.

I give and bequeath to my loving son Joseph Golding whom I likewise constitute, make and appoint sole executor of this my last Will with legacies and

bequests confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament.

In Witness hereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal the year above written.

his
WILLIAM X GOLDING
mark

Witnesses:

David Wells

Daniel Wells

Her

Elizabeth X Wells."

Mark

"The foregoing Will is proved by Daniel Wells 20 day of June 1712 at Salem; it was further proved and attested at Cape May the 18th of May 1712 before John Townsend, Justice, when Elizabeth acknowledged her mark."