

Appendix II

THREE NEDABIAH/NEDEBIAH LINCOLNS

A search of common genealogy websites reveals a confusion regarding Nedabiah/Nedebiah Lincoln Sr., his son and grandson¹. A thorough search of all the available U.S. Census shows the presence of at least one Nedabiah/Nedebiah Lincoln in all available censuses from 1790 to and including 1900 with the exception of 1870 and 1890.² A further search finds that these three Nedabiah/Nedebiahs are the only Lincolns with that given name listed in any U.S. census.³

Nedabiah Sr.'s Revolutionary War Records list his birth as Oct 25, 1758. A copy is in the author's files. It is reported⁴ that he was the eighth child of James and Desire Lincoln and the 1790 census seems to support this as he is living in Taunton Mass, next door to Desire Lincoln. (Her name is listed because her husband had died prior to 1790). He was married to Sarah Hodges March 29 1781⁵ and by 1790 they were listed in the census as one male over 15 (Nedabiah), two males under 16 (Nedebiah Jr. and Henry), and three females (wife Sarah and daughters Sarah and Betsy).

The 1800 census had them still living in Taunton. Sarah and Nedabiah Sr. are listed as age 26-44, with three males under 10 (George, Charles

¹ Files in the Saratoga County Clerks Office, and elsewhere, along with his gravestone make it clear that Nedabiah and his family used the preceding spelling of his given name. Other records referencing him, his son and grandson use the spelling of Nedabiah or Nedebiah. The biblical spelling is Nedabiah. Therefore, I have designated the father as Nedabiah Sr., the son as Nedabiah Jr. and the grandson as Nedabiah III

² Material in Nedabiah III's Civil War files indicate that he was a boarder in various homes in Taunton, Canton and Hyde Park from 1869-1890 (he entered the soldiers home in Chelsea, Maine in 1890). Also he was known to have boarded with a Davis family and Charlotte Leonard (his sister). An extensive search of the 1870 census finds no trace of Nedabiah III or his four daughters, Caroline, Emma, Mary and Ida. Because of a fire, there are no records for Massachusetts from the 1890 census. According to Ancestry.com, of all the existing fragments, only one Lincoln is referenced – Susan in Washington, D.C.

³ There were other families using the given name Nedabiah/Nedebiah but no other Nedabiah/Nedebiah Lincolns in the U S Census from 1790 thru 1930. There are two Ned Lincolns listed in the Hawaiian Census. They are direct descendants of Nedabiah Jr.. Whether or not they actually had the given name of Nedabiah/Nedebiah is not know at this time.

⁴ Lincoln/Blood Genealogy by Lawrence Blood of Massachusetts.

⁵ Nedabiah Lincoln Sr.'s Revolutionary War Records.

and Williams ⁶), two females 10-15 (Sarah and Betsy) and one female under 10 (Fanny). About 1795, the fourth child Henry was sent to Greenfield, Saratoga County, New York, to help Uncle Timothy Hodges. It is presumed that oldest son, Nedabiah Jr., had been farmed out locally as he was 18 and the family was very poor.

By 1810, Nedabiah Sr. had moved to Norton. There is one male under 10 (Warren), two males 10-15 (Charles and Williams): one male 16-25 (George) and wife Sarah. Daughters Sarah and Betsy are married as is Nedabiah Jr. (see following). Henry is in Greenfield and one daughter, Fanny is missing. At age 19 undoubtedly she has been “farmed out” as she was not married at that time. Son Nedabiah Jr. is listed in Taunton for the 1810 census as Nede Lincoln jr.⁷ The family consists of Nedabiah Jr., his wife (Deborah Wilbor) and a male under 10 (Lorenzo B born ca 1808).⁸

In 1820, Nedabiah Sr. (Ancestry.com lists him as Vedebiah) is in Greenfield, New York. The family consists of Nedabiah and Sarah (45 and over), one male 16 to 18 (Warren) and three males 16-25 (Charles, Williams and an unknown male). George is married and listed in Schenectady County, New York Nedabiah Jr. is still in Taunton listed as Nedekiah Lincoln. There are two males under 10(unknown); two males 10-15 (one unknown and Lorenzo), one male 16-25 (unknown), two males over 45, and one female 16-25. Nedabiah Jr. and Deborah must be listed with the wrong age, as they would have been about 38 and 30 respectively. Nedabiah Jr. was a veteran of the War of 1812 and a copy of his records are in the author’s files.

For the 1830 census, Nedabiah Sr. remained in Greenfield with Williams (not married until ca. 1862), Warren and wife Sarah. Nedabiah Lincoln Sr. died May 6 1834 in Greenfield. ⁹ Nedabiah Jr. was in

6. Several records list son Williams with the given name of Williams, not William. Lincoln records state that Bethiah Williams was a grandmother, apparently the source of this odd spelling for the given name.

7. (This footnote was written prior to the DNA test previously discussed.) There is no unassailable evidence that Nedabiah Jr. is the son of Nedabiah Sr.. However much circumstantial evidence exists. This includes his birth date (records report as age 61 when died in 1843 therefore, he was born about 1782) in relation to his parent’s marriage date and siblings known birth dates. Also, we have the rarity of the given name in the Lincoln history, the fact that he spent his life in Taunton and most of all the listing of him as a “jr” in the 1810 census.

8. Lorenzo migrated to Hawaii ca. 1836 and started a sizable family line there, but that is for another story.

9. Nedabiah Sr.’s gravestone gives a death date of May 6, 1834 at age 75 years, 6 months, 10 days. His wife Sarah’s stone lists her death as May 5, 1856. Her estate records are in the files of the Saratoga County, New York Surrogate

Taunton and married to his second wife Fanny Smith Cleveland. Ancestry.com lists him as Ridjah Lincoln, but it reads as Nodijah. The family consisted of one male 40-49 (Nedabiah Jr.), two females under 5 (Sarah and Mary), one female 10-14 (Charlotte) and three females 20-29 (one of whom must be Fanny).

The 1840 census lists Nedabiah Jr. as still living in Taunton. The family consisted of two males age 5-9 (Nedabiah III¹⁰ and brother James), one male 50-59 (Nedabiah Jr.), one female under 5 (Caroline), two females 10-14 (Sarah and Mary), one female 15-19 (Charlotte) and one female 40-49 (Fanny). Nedabiah Jr. died Dec 27 1843.¹¹

The 1850 census lists Nedabiah III single, age 18, in Dedham, Massachusetts, living with his mother, Fanny 46, a brother James M. 16 and sister Caroline M. 13.

For the 1860 Census Nedabiah III (spelled as Nebediah) is listed in Canton Mass. He is age is 28 and the family also contains his mother age 57, his wife Rebecca 24 and their daughter Caroline age 2. Nedabiah III served in the Civil War and a copy of his records is part of this writers files.

There does not appear to be any census record for Nedabiah III in 1870. He does appear in Walpole, Norfolk County in 1880, listed as Nedita Lincoln, boarding with the Ira Gill family. The 1890 census situation has been discussed.

The 1900 census lists Nedabiah III as a resident of the Eastern Branch Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in Chelsea, Maine. He died there Oct 25, 1909¹²

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10. Birth date reported in Taunton Vital Records as November 13, 1831.

11. Reported in the Taunton Vital Records as Dec 27, 1843, age 61, occupation, gravedigger.

12. Maine Old Cemetery Association, buried Togus National Cemetery, Togus Me, Section B, Site 2614 (They list death date as Oct 26, 1909 - perhaps this was the burial date.)