

He preached for a time to a small colony that went from Massachusetts to Cape Fear. His calling as a clergyman was varied by his acting as a mate of a merchantman, trading from the Eastern shore to the Barbados. He, however, returned to the ministry and was ordained pastor of the church at Duxbury, Plymouth Colony. Here he married the second time, and had born to him two sons and several daughters. After the Restoration he was employed by the Plymouth Colony as one of the agents, to obtain from the Imperial Government a new charter for that colony. In this undertaking, the agents were not successful. Wiswall, therefore, petitioned the British Government to annex the colony to Rhode Island; but Cotton Mather, having the greater influence, defeated him; and it was annexed to Massachusetts. Returning from England in 1693, he resumed his pastoral labors at Duxbury, where he lived until 1695, when he departed this life.

His grandson, the Rev. John Wiswall, says of him:—"He was of a plethoric constitution and afflicted with the gout in his later years, which was the means of his death. His religious principles were puritanick, and his political principles were republican and independent. He was master of the learned languages, acquainted with the mathematics, and a great studier of astrology, which in that day was esteemed a fashionable science in America. Instrumental music and poetry were his chief amusement, and some of his poetical performances, that I have seen, for the life and place, are not contemptible. His memory was very tenacious. He was of a warm constitution and buried himself too much and too zealously in politics."

Peleg, his son, the father of the Rev. John Wiswall, was born at Duxbury February 9th, 1683. He, like his father, was a student of Harvard College, and graduated from that institution in 1702. Soon after graduating he became captain of a Letter of Marque, and spent three years in the Mediterranean. After following the sea for a number of years, he became master of a grammar school in Boston, and remained in that position until his death in 1767.

Soon after his settlement in Boston, he married Elizabeth, daughter of Daniel Rogers, of Ipswich, England. Daniel was a younger brother of John Rogers, minister of that town.