

**Kingston Public Library: Local History Room**  
**Manuscript Collection Finding Aid**  
**January 23, 2000**

**Thomas Bradford Drew Collection**  
**(1834-1898)**  
**Manuscript Collection, MC-7**

2 Boxes (10 linear inches)

**Biographical sketch:** Thomas Bradford Drew was born in Kingston, Massachusetts on October 6, 1834, and died in Plymouth on May 5, 1898. He attended Kingston schools until the winter term of 1852, and then learned the practice of dentistry under the direction of Henry M. Miller of Plymouth. He continued the practice of dentistry up until shortly before his death in 1898. During his adult life he was a resident of Plymouth.

Thomas Bradford Drew is best remembered for his interest in local history and genealogy. He is said to have made numerous contributions to the antiquarian publications of his era. In 1887 he was elected librarian at Pilgrim Hall and served in that office for approximately 11 years, only resigning because of poor health a few months prior to his death.

Thomas Bradford Drew was a proponent of abolition, and numbered among his friends the famous abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison. William Lloyd Garrison, II wrote: "*The Liberator* [perhaps the foremost abolitionist periodical] was to him a weekly evangel. From it he drank in noble draughts of Liberty and manhood." Drew was also affiliated with the local temperance movement.

**Scope and Content Note:** This Collection contains notebooks and manuscripts about Kingston history and genealogy. Topics covered in the notebooks include Kingston vital records and gravestone inscriptions. Manuscript titles include: "Historical sketch of Kingston, Massachusetts," "History of Kingston – ancient ferries, highways, & bridges," "History of Kingston – Annals from 1726 to 1821," "History of Kingston – Houses of some of the early settlers," "History of the town of Kingston, Plymouth County."

**Box and Folder List:**

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Item</b>
1	1	Notebook: Kingston genealogy, alphabetical
	2	Notebook: Census 1865
	3	Notebook: Inhabitants – alphabetical listing of Kingston residents, also including manuscript on houses located in Bridgewater Road (Main Street) Kingston
	4	Notebook: Names of people
	5	Notebook: Kingston biographical sketches; vital records – death; vital records early nineteenth-century
	6	Notebook: Vital records, deaths from gravestones in the Old Burying Ground
	7	Notebook: Vital records, 1726 – 1870s (approx.)
	8	Notebook: Vital records, 1726 – 1870s (approx.)

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**(Box and folder list continued...)**

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|---|----|---|
| 2 | 9  | Notebook: Vital records, deaths 1780 – 1844; marriages, 1721 – 1856   |
|   | 10 | Notebook: Vital records, deaths from gravestones in the Old Burying Ground  |
|   | 11 | Notebook: Vital records, deaths from gravestones in the Old Burying Ground  |
|   | 12 | Notebook: Kingston vital records index, 1700 – 1800s  |
|   | 13 | Manuscript: <i>History of Kingston, Annals from 1726 - 1821</i>   |
|   | 14 | Manuscript: <i>Historical Sketch of Kingston, Massachusetts</i>   |
|   | 15 | Manuscript: <i>History of Kingston: Ancient ferries, highways and bridges</i>   |
|   | 16 | Manuscript: <i>History of the Town of Kingston, Plymouth County</i>   |
|   | 17 | Manuscript: <i>History of Kingston: Houses of some of the early settlers</i>  |
|   | 18 | Manuscript: <i>Historical Sketch of Kingston, Massachusetts, February 26, 1897</i>  |
|   | 19 | Lecture delivered at Old Home Day (possibly in Plympton)  |
|   | 20 | Poem written in celebration of birthday centennial for the mother of the Burgess family, 1891   |
|   | 21 | <i>Ancient estate of Governor William Bradford</i> , by Thomas Bradford Drew, 1897  |
|   | 22 | Biographical information and sketches of Thomas Bradford Drew   |
|   | 23 | Copy of the records of the First Church of Kingston, "All of the existing records of the First Church of Kingston, Mass. from 1720 – 1830, except the baptisms and one or two of the treasurer's accounts..." April 1, 1876 |

**Acquisition:** Retrospective.

**Access:** Unrestricted.

**Copyright:** Public domain.

**Processor:** Archivist Andrew Pollock III originally processed this Collection. The finding aid was update in March 2004 by archivist Carrie Elliott.