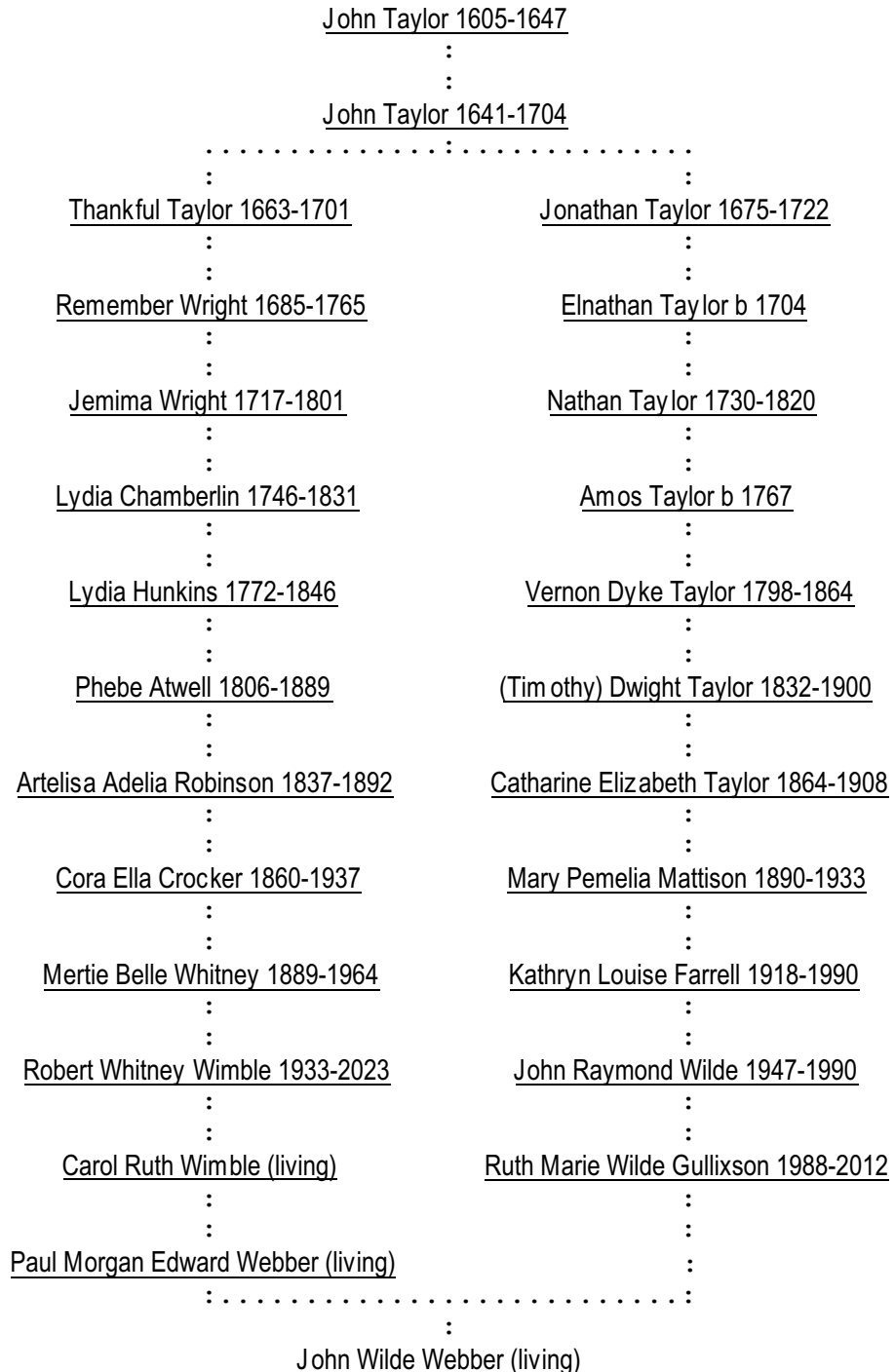


**DESCENT FROM JOHN TAYLOR (1605-1647),
WHO SETTLED IN WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT, IN 1639,
AND WHO WAS LOST AT SEA IN 1647; AND FROM HIS
SON (CAPTAIN) JOHN TAYLOR (1641-1704), WHO WAS
KILLED BY INDIANS IN THE PURSUIT FOLLOWING
THE PASCOMMUCK MASSACRE**





“In the year 1647, a new ship of about 150 tons, containing a valuable cargo, and several distinguished persons as passengers, put to sea from New Haven in the month of January, bound to England. The vessels that came over the ensuing spring brought no tidings of her arrival in the mother country. The pious colonists were earnest and instant in their prayers, that intelligence might be received of the missing vessel. In the course of the following June, a great thunder-storm arose out of the northwest; after which (the hemisphere being serene), about an hour before sunset, a ship of like dimensions with the aforesaid, with her canvass and colors abroad (although the wind was northerly), appeared in the air, coming up from the harbor’s mouth, which lies southward from the town, seemingly with her sails filled under a fresh gale, holding her course north, and continuing under observation, sailing against the wind, for the space of half an hour. The phantom ship was borne along until, to the excited imaginations of the spectators, she seemed to have approached so near that they could throw a stone into her. Her main topmast then disappeared, then her mizen topmast, then her masts were entirely carried away, and finally her hull fell off and vanished from sight, leaving a dull and smoke-colored cloud, which soon dissolved, and the whole atmosphere became clear. All affirmed that the airy vision was a precise copy and image of the missing vessel, and that it was sent to announce and describe her fate. They considered it the spectre of the lost ship, and the Rev. Mr. Davenport declared in public, that God had condescended, for the quieting of their afflicted spirits, this extraordinary account of his sovereign disposal of those for whom so many fervent prayers were made continually.” – *Rev. James Pierpont*