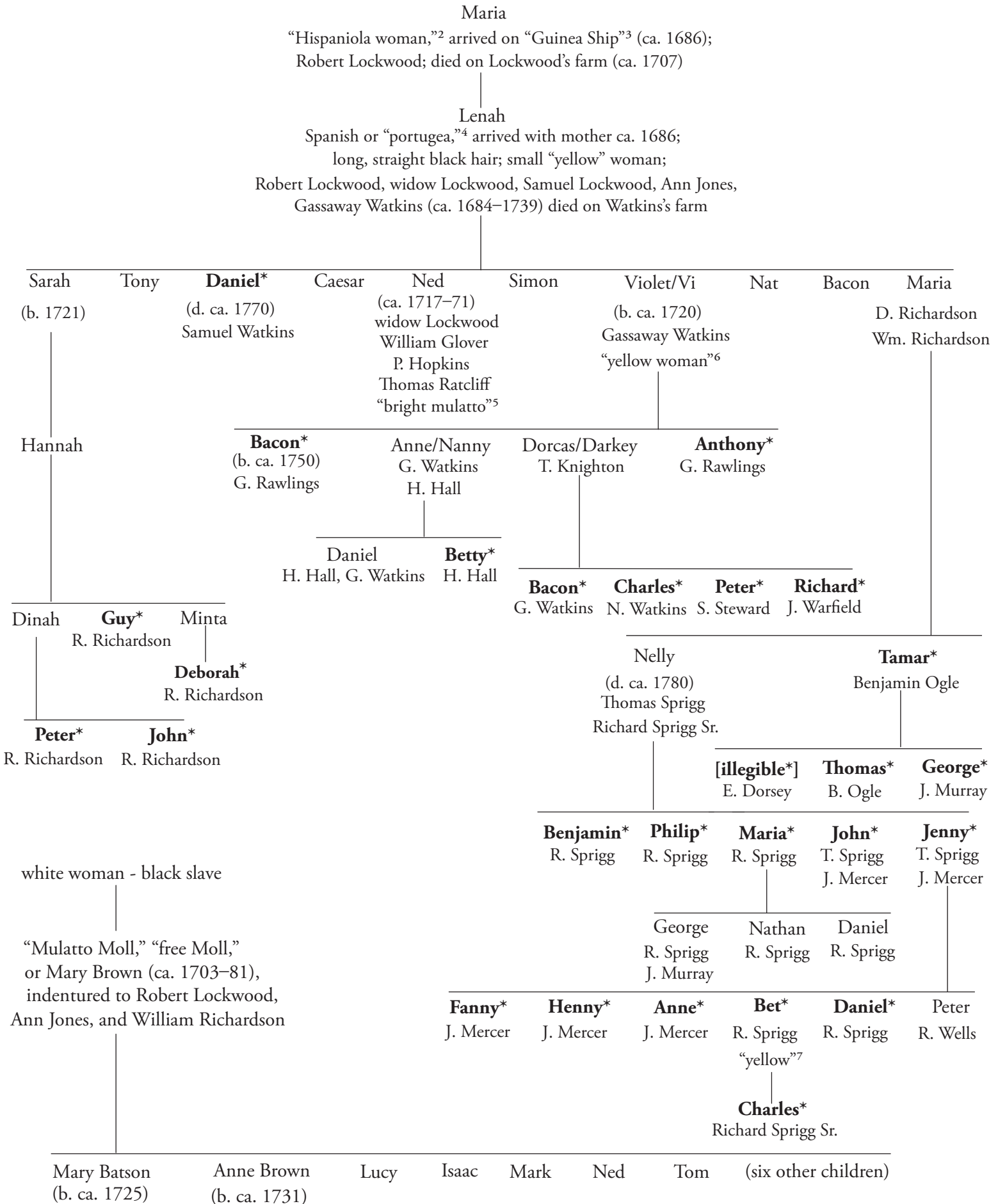


**Genealogy of the Boston Slave Family, ca. 1686–1798<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> Names in bold and marked with an asterisk are those who obtained their freedom. Names of owners are listed underneath names of slaves. The name of Tamar's son who won his freedom from Edward Dorsey was illegible. Twenty-three Boston slaves won their freedom through the courts (although Guy Boston died during the final appeals process) and four were freed by their owners, including Lenah's son Daniel, who was set free by Samuel Watkins, and Jenny's children Bet and Daniel and her grandchild Charles, who were freed in 1798 by Richard Sprigg Sr.'s will. Not including Guy Boston, the total was thus twenty-six. Abstracts of some of the cases cited in this essay can be found in the Digital Library on American Slavery, created by the Race and Slavery Petitions Project and the Electronic Resources and Information Technology Department of University Libraries at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro, 2009, <http://library.uncg.edu/slavery/>. The names of the deponents for each case can be accessed from that website by entering the plaintiff's name and state in the search boxes. The original documents for the cases can be accessed through ProQuest's "Slavery and the Law Digital Archive."

<sup>2</sup> Deposition of Anne Brown, ca. 1792, found in *John Boston v. John Francis Mercer*, transcript of Records of the Court of the Western Shore, Md., 1791–95, Court of Appeals (Judgments), November 1797, microfilm reel (M) 11015, case #15, Schweningen Collection (SC), Maryland State Archives (MSA).

<sup>3</sup> Deposition of Anne Harwood, July 20, 1789, M 11015, SC, MSA.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> Deposition of Richard Hopkins, May 21, 1793, M 11015, SC, MSA.

<sup>6</sup> Deposition of John Tydings, Oct. 25, 1791, M 11015, SC, MSA

<sup>7</sup> Copy of the last will and testament of Richard Sprigg Sr., 1797, MSS1M5345a108-109, Mercer Family Papers, Virginia Historical Society, Richmond.

Full names of slave owners; number of suits against those who became defendants in parentheses:

|                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| Edward Dorsey (1 illegible) | Richard Richardson (4) |
| Henry Hall (1)              | William Richardson     |
| P. Hopkins                  | Richard Sprigg Sr. (3) |
| Thomas Knighton             | Thomas Sprigg          |
| Samuel Lockwood             | Stephen Steward (1)    |
| John Francis Mercer (5)     | Joshua Warfield (1)    |
| James Murray (1)            | Gassaway Watkins (1)   |
| Benjamin Ogle (2)           | Nicholas Watkins       |
| Thomas Ratcliff             | Samuel Watkins         |
| Gassaway Rawlings (2)       | Richard Wells (1)      |
| Daniel Richardson           |                        |