

Selected Pages From:

THE
CONVERSE FAMILY
and ALLIED FAMILIES
Vol. I and II

Compiled and Edited by
Charles Allen Converse

The Heritage Library
Hikou Head Island

Eben Putnam, Publisher
Boston, Mass.

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1905

1. Deacon Edward Convers, Jan. 30, 1590 - Aug. 10, 1663
Sarah _____, _____ - Jan. 14, 1661
2. Sergeant Samuel Convers, _____1637 - Feb. 20, 1669
Judith Carter, _____ - _____1677
3. Samuel Convers, April 4, 1662 - _____1732
Dorcas _____
4. Thomas Convers, Oct. 28, 1699 - _____1760
Abigail Fay, Jan. 19, 1709 - _____
5. Joel Converse, Sept. 2, 1750 - June 29, 1822
Elizabeth Bixby, Sept. 2, 1762 - Nov. 12, 1850
6. Joel Converse, Jr., Nov. 5, 1785 - May 22, 1874
Abigail Coult, March 6, 1791 - Oct. 11, 1869
7. Marilla Theresa Converse, Sept. 7, 1826 - Jan. 5, 1892
Harrison Willard Babbitt, March 31, 1812 - Aug. 4, 1885
8. Clara Frances Babbitt, June 5, 1849 - Feb. 22, 1934
Amherst Lanman Holcombe, March 29, 1822 - Oct. 14, 1894

The Converse Family.

1. DEACON EDWARD CONVERS was one of the select company of Puritans who came from England to this country in the fleet with Winthrop, whose ship, the Arbella, preceding the other vessels of the fleet, arrived at Salem 12 June 1630, after a stormy passage of sixty-three days. With him came his wife, Sarah, and children, Josiah, James and Mary. They settled first in Charlestown, Mass. "Edward Convers and Sarah Convers, his wife," were among the first members of the church received on the Sunday following its organization in Charlestown 30 July 1630, and which included in its congregation members on both sides of the river, the majority of whom had removed to Boston within a few months. This was the First Church of Boston, and from it Edward and Sarah Convers and thirty-three other members were dismissed 14 October 1632, to be embodied as the First Church of Charlestown, entering into mutual covenant for this purpose 2 November 1632.

The name of Edward Convers appears among those who "desire to be made freemen" 19 October 1630, and took the oath as such 18 May 1631, these being the first to be admitted to the company in New England.

He established the first ferry between Charlestown and Boston under the vote of the General Court of 9 November 1630, and 14 June 1631 was authorized to charge, for ferrying, "two pence for every single person, and one penny apiece if there be two or more." This lease was renewed 9 November 1637, for three years, Mr. Convers agreeing to pay therefor forty pounds each year into the Colonial treasury. This ferry crossed the river where the Charlestown bridge now crosses it, and was called the "Great Ferry," to distinguish it from the ferry operated by Thomas Williams between Charlestown and Winnisimmet. Mr. Convers held the lease of the "Great Ferry" until 7 October 1640, when it was granted for the support of Harvard College. Rev. John Jay Putnam, the author of the valuable monograph entitled "Family History in the line of Joseph Convers of Bedford, Mass.," says that this surrender of the lease of the ferry for the benefit of Harvard College has been ascribed to an acquaintance with John Harvard, whose generous bequest to the college led to the adoption of his name as its title, and this is probable from the fact that they were fellow

townsmen, and, moreover, in 1638, Harvard owned 120 acres of land in Waterfield (Charlestown Village) not far from the location where Convers so shortly after established a home.

In the Colonial records the name of Edward Convers appears 28 September 1630 as one of a jury impanelled to inquire concerning the death of Austen Bratcher. We also learn therefrom that 7 October 1640, he was appointed, with two others, to "set the bounds betweene Charlestown & Mr. Cradock's farme on the other side of the Mystick Ryver;" and in December 1641 it was ordered "that Lieft Sprague and Edward Convers should repair the bridge at Meadford over Mystick Ryver & the same to bee paid for out of the treasury."

Edward Convers served Charlestown as selectman from 1635 until his removal in 1640 to the new town, in the projection of which he was active and prominent, and which afterwards was called Woburn. It was first called Charlestown Village, and consisted of a grant by the General Court of territory two miles square on the western border of Charlestown. This was afterwards enlarged to four square miles, and included what is now Woburn, Winchester, Wilmington, and Burlington. Edward Convers was one of a small company who went in May 1640, and in September and November of the same year, to explore the new territory. On one occasion they narrowly escaped death by the fall of a large tree under which they had rested during a great storm in the night and on another were overtaken and lost in a snow storm. He was one of the committee of thirteen chosen by the town of Charlestown, 4 November 1640, to "sett the bounds betwixt Charlestown and the Village, and to appoint the place for the village." It was, however, by the instrumentality of seven commissioners appointed by the church of Charlestown that the establishment of the town and church of Woburn was effected. Sewall's History of Woburn says that the name of Edward Convers stands at the head of these seven commissioners appointed by the Church for effecting the settlement of Woburn, and that he appears to have been ever zealous and persevering in his labors for this end, and that after the incorporation of the town in 1642 he became one of its most popular and useful citizens. After the Church in Charlestown had aided as she did in the plan of establishing the new settlement as a distinct town, she became alarmed lest the project would tend to depopulate Charlestown, and interposed some opposition to the plan. But, as Sewall, in his History of Woburn, says:—"She soon found that the spirit of emigration which she herself had helped to raise and foster she could not check or put down at will.

She therefore prudently yielded to circumstances; and within a fortnight from the time she began to frown upon their work, full power was given to Edward Converse and Company to go on with it anew." Many other disheartening difficulties and trials were encountered in effecting the new settlement. The History of Woburn shows the first settlers to have been a courageous, hardy, industrious, charitable, sober and pious race of men.

Rev. Leander Thompson in his sketch of Edward Converse referred to below, says that "to the persistent energy of Edward Converse more than to any other one man, the success of the seven commissioners seems to have been due." Also, "outstripping all others in his zeal" he built the first house in Woburn previous to 4 January 1641, which was at the mill once called by his name in the South Village, now Winchester. He also built this first mill there,—a corn mill. Of the first bridge built in Woburn (10 February 1640-1) and the first house built there, Sewall says, in History of Woburn:—

"This bridge, the first that was built in Woburn they called Cold Bridge. It was in after times better known as the 'Converse Bridge' from the name of the proprietor of the adjacent mill, and, as it is said in the records to have been laid 'over against EDWARD CONVERSE'S hows,' it is inferred that that house, which continued many years in the occupation of that distinguished family, and the site of which is still well remembered, was either already standing when the bridge was built, or that it was erected immediately after, and before the entry just quoted from the records was made, and that it was the first built dwelling house in Woburn."

In the back of this book will be found an Historical Sketch of Winchester, Mass., which contains a picture of this house, and many references to Deacon Edward Converse. The Winchester Record, of October 1885, contains a picture of the site of Deacon Edward's house.

Upon the organization of the town of Woburn, 13 April 1644, Edward Converse was chosen one of the seven selectmen, he being named second in the record; and he continued to serve the town as selectman until his death in 1663. On 3 March 1649, he was one of four selectmen appointed to negotiate with the town of Charlestown the matter of the disputed boundary between the two towns.

From 1649 to 1660 he was one of the three commissioners for the trial of small causes. Of these officers Sewall's History of Woburn says:—

"The appointment of these commissioners was sanctioned by law in all towns where there was no magistrate, and they constituted an inferior Court

of Justice, having the power of magistrates (except that of committing to prison) to hear and determine according to their own best judgment all causes in which one of the parties belonged to the town in which they presided, and in which the debt, trespass, or damage did not exceed forty shillings. In Woburn Records they appear to have been elected by the people with other town officers, but the law required them to be licensed by the County Court, or by the Board of Assistants. They continued to be appointed in this town, though not uniformly every year, till 1674; were frequently the same persons as three of the Selectmen; and were always men of great weight of character, and of principal influence in the town."

In 1660 Edward Convers was Deputy to the General Court.

He was one of the first two deacons chosen by the Church in Woburn, and continued in that office until his death.

He was also one of the tithing men, who, Sewall says, were wont to be men of the first respectability in the town.

In May 1663, Isaac Cole, Constable, and Edward Convers, one of Captain Johnson's associates in the board of selectmen at Woburn, were arraigned; the former for refusing to take and publish the King's letter, and the latter for having spoken of it as Popery. The Court, after a hearing, discharged Convers, on the ground that his language did not reflect on his Majesty's letter.

An evidence of Deacon Edward Convers' high sense of justice and honor has come down to us in the record of his satisfactory settlement of a difference with a neighbor, Robert Hale, because of the overflow of the latter's adjacent meadow in 1649, in consequence of Deacon Convers' erection and operation of his mill on the Abajona River.

Deacon Edward Convers was known as a man of influence, energy, strength of character and of substantial estate. The following is from a sketch of his life written by Rev. Leander Thompson of Woburn, and published in the Winchester Record in October 1885:—

"Among the first settlers of Woburn Edward Convers has always been regarded as a pioneer and leader . . . A man of more than usual enterprise, we find him from the very outset ever restlessly pushing forward some new work. . . . It is hardly too much to say that he was on every committee and had a part in every movement that had the new settlement in view. . . . Six of the seven commissioners were on the town committee of thirteen, and to these six men, with Edward Convers at the head, was due the success of the enterprise they had in view. . . . From the time of the organization

of the town of Woburn until his death he appeared, as ever before, to have been a foremost man in all public business. . . . As a member of the Church he was ever prominent. . . . From all that has been ascertained respecting his religious character we readily infer that he was a man of strongly marked idiosyncrasies. Prompt, clear headed, devout, conscientious, outspoken, and unflinching, yet prudent, self contained, and uniform are the adjectives that best describe his whole career."

This sketch of Deacon Edward Converse is taken principally, by permission of Mr. Wm. G. Hill of 84 Converse Avenue, Malden, Mass., from "Family Records of Deacons James W. Converse and Elisha S. Converse," edited by Mr. Hill, and privately printed in 1887. From that book, also by Mr. Hill's permission, comes much of the record herein of Deacon Edward Converse's descendants in the line of his grandson, Samuel, Jr.,³ down to the fourth generation inclusive.

Mr. Hill, in his book, gives an account of what he states he had proof was the English ancestry of Deacon Edward Converse, the place of his residence in England as Wakerly, County of Northampton, the date of his birth as 30 January 1590, and his first wife as Jane Clarke, who died probably before 1617 and was the daughter of William Clarke of Theckenham, Worcestershire, England. Mrs. Sarah Converse died 14 January 1661-62, and Deacon Edward again married, 9 September 1662, Joanna Sprague, the widow of Ralph Sprague of Charlestown, Mass., the last two dates being from Woburn Records.

Richard Frothingham, in his History of Charlestown, Mass., says:—"She (Joanna) may have been Edward Converse's third wife." She bore no children to him, and she died 24 February 1679-80.

Deacon Edward Converse died in Woburn 10 August 1663. His will was dated August 1659, and recorded 7 October 1663. His estate was valued at £827. In his will he mentions his wife, Sarah; his sons, Josiah, James, and Samuel; Edward, the son of James; his daughter Mary and her children by her first marriage; his "kinsman, Allen Converse;" "his kinsman," John Parker; and his "kinswoman" Sarah Smith. Mr. Eben Putnam suggests that Sarah Smith may be the Sarah Converse named in the will of Samuel Fuller of Plymouth, the good physician who relieved the sick at Salem and Charlestown, dated and probated in 1633. The reference is as follows: "whereas there is a childe comitted to my charge called Sarah Converse, my wife dying as afore I desire my Brother Wright may have the bringing up of her. And if he refuse then I comend her to my loving neighbor and brother in Christ

Thomas Prence* . . . to performe the duty of a step Father unto her and bring her up in the Fear of God as their owne which was a charge laid upon me by her sick Father when he freely bestowed her upon me."

Nothing has thus far been discovered to show the relationship between Allen Convers and Deacon Edward Convers other than that the latter mentions Allen Convers in his will as a "kinsman," and made him an overseer of his will. Allen Convers was first in Salem. Land was granted him there in 1639. He was in Woburn in 1642, taxed there in 1645, made freeman in 1644, appointed Commissioner of the Rate in Woburn in 1666, taught school there in 1676, and died 19 April 1679 (Sewall's Woburn). His widow, Elizabeth, died 9 August 1691.

Rev. Mr. Putnam, in "Family History in line of Joseph Convers of Bedford, Mass.," says that the children of Allen Convers and wife, Sarah, were Zechariah (born 11 October 1642), Elizabeth, Sarah, Joseph, Mary, Theophilus, Samuel, Mary again, and Hannah. Judge Parker L. Converse (born Woburn 14 February 1822, died there, 21 April 1899), author of "Legends of Woburn," was a descendant of Allen Convers. A genealogy of this family will be found in the New England Historical Genealogical Register, Vol. 50. A brief genealogy of the immediate descendants of Edward Convers, especially connected with Woburn will be found in "Woburn Marriages," pp. 325-331, published by the town and compiled by Alfred C. Vinton.

Children of Deacon Edward and Sarah Convers:

JOSIAH CONVERS,² DEACON, born in England probably in 1618; died in Woburn, 3 Feb. 1689-90; married Esther Champney. (2)

JAMES CONVERS,² LIEUTENANT, born in England probably in 1620; died in Woburn 10 May 1715; married Anna Long. (3)

MARY CONVERS,² born in England in 1622; married, 1st, Simon Thompson; married 2nd, John Sheldon. (4)

SAMUEL CONVERS,² SERGEANT, baptized in Charlestown, Mass., 12 March 1637; died 20 Feb. 1669; married Judith Carter. (5)

* Afterward governor of the colony.

4. MARY CONVERS² (*Deacon Edward*¹), born, in England, 1622; married, first, 19 December 1643, Simon Thompson² (*James*¹) who died May 1658; married, second, 1 February 1659, John Sheldon, of Billerica, Mass., who died 24 May 1698.

James Thompson's great grandson, Ebenezer Thompson, married Hannah Convers⁵ (*Capt. Josiah*⁴, *Major James*³, *Lieut. James*², *Deacon Edward*¹), and their son Benjamin was father of Benjamin, the distinguished Sir Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford.

Simon and Mary (Convers) Thompson had six children, viz:

JOHN THOMPSON,³ born 4 April 1645; died 12 April 1645.

SARAH THOMPSON,² born 20 Feb. 1647.

JAMES THOMPSON,² born 2 March 1649.

MARY THOMPSON,² born 25 Jan. 1651; died 1657.

ANN THOMPSON,² born 10 July 1655.

REBECCA THOMPSON,² born May 1658.

John and Mary (Convers) Sheldon had:

JOHN SHELDON,³ born 1660; died 27 Aug. 1724.

5. SERGEANT SAMUEL CONVERS² (*Deacon Edward*¹), of Woburn, Mass., youngest son of Deacon Edward Convers, was baptized 12 March 1637-8, in the First Church, Charlestown, Mass.; born probably but a few days or weeks earlier; died 20 February 1669. He married, 8 June 1660, Judith Carter, daughter of Rev. Thomas and Mary (Parkhurst) Carter. Rev. Thomas Carter was the first minister in Woburn, and continued in that position forty-two years. He died, in Woburn, 5 September 1684, in the seventy-fourth year of his age. He matriculated at St. Johns College, Univ. Cambridge, England, 1 April 1626, at which University he took degree of A.B., January 1629-30, and M.A., 1633. Sewall's History of Woburn says that he came to this country, while yet a student of divinity, in 1635, and may reasonably be supposed to be the Thomas Carter who embarked with forty others, at London, 2 April 1635, on board the "Planter," Capt. Nicholas Trarice, bound to New England. The passengers brought with them certificates from the minister at St. Albans in Hertfordshire, which has led to the supposition that Rev. Thomas Carter came from that place. He was first in Dedham where he took the freeman's oath 9 March 1636-7. Thence he removed to Watertown, where he was an Elder in the Church, and proprietor of a homestead of ten acres, and a farm of ninety two acres. It was probably in Watertown that he married Mary Parkhurst, who died 28 March 1687. She was the daughter of George Parkhurst, Senior, of

Watertown, but was long supposed to have been born a Dalton. The late William H. Whitmore, however, in *New England Historical Genealogical Register*, Vol. 37, p. 364, printed a deed of Ruth wife of Rev. Timothy Dalton, of Hampton, dated 22 March 1663-4, and also her will dated 8 December 1665. Mr. John L. Blake of Orange, N. J., in a most carefully prepared monograph entitled the *English Home of Timothy Dalton*, makes clear the exact relationship in which the Daltons and Carters stood. Mr. Whitmore assumed that Ruth Dalton was the sister (or possibly the sister-in-law) of George Parkhurst, Sr., of Watertown, Mass. In that case, Deborah Smith, Elizabeth Merry, Phebe Arnold, Joseph Parkhurst, George Parkhurst, and Mary Carter, who are known to have been his children, were respectively the nephews and nieces of Mrs. Dalton. These were all beneficiaries under the deed aforesaid. In Sewall's *History of Woburn*, page 161, the wife of Rev. Thomas Carter is described as "Mrs. Mary (Dalton) Carter." Her son in law, John Wyman, Jr., "reseved" a part of the "legeisie weh whas given to my mother-in-law Merri Carter by Mrs. Ruth Dalton of Hampton deiseised."

Little is known of George Parkhurst, whose name is sometimes spelled, Parkers, and Parkis. It is not known when he came to America, or whether he brought a wife with him, but he brought at least two children, viz:—George and Phebe who married Thomas Arnold. George Parkhurst, Senior, married about 1645, Susanna, widow of John Simpson of Watertown, and about that time removed to Boston. In 1642 he was proprietor of a homestead of 12 acres, and five other lots of land in Watertown. Mr. Eben Putnam, genealogist, suggests that Sir Robert Parkhurst, knt., of London, who died in 1636, was connected with many of the New England families, and may have been a relative of George, but adds that there is no suggestion of this in his will printed in *Waters' Gleanings*.

"When Rev. Thomas Carter was first invited to preach at Woburn 3 November 1641, it is mentioned as a reason for his not being applied to earlier that it had been doubted whether Watertown would be willing to part with him." He was appointed minister of the Church in Woburn in 1642, and was ordained 22 November 1642. There is an account of his ordination in "*The History of New England from 1630 to 1649* by John Winthrop, Esq., First Governor of Mass.," and also in Capt. Edward Johnson's "*Wonder-Working Providence*," which describes him as a "reverend, godly man, apt to teach the sound and wholesome truths of Christ," and one who had "much encreased with the encreasings of Christ Jesus." And in the following lines addressed by him in the same work to Mr. Carter, he is represented as a plain, but very faithful and successful

minister, a pastor of distinguished humility and meekness, and in gentleness toward his flock as rather exceeding than otherwise:—

“Carter, Christ hath his wayes thee taught, and thou
Hast not withheld his Word, but unto all
With's word of power dost cause stout souls to bow,
And meek as lambs before thy Christ to fall:
The antient truths, plain paths, they fit thee best,
Thy humble heart all haughty acts puts by;
The lowly heart, Christ learns his lovely hest,
Thy meekness shows thy Christ to thee is nigh.
Yet must thou shew, Christ makes his bold to be
As lions, that none may his truths tread down;
Pastoral power he hath invested thee
With, it maintain, leest he on thee do frown.
Thy youth thou hast in this New England spent,
Full sixteen years to water, plant, and prune
Trees taken up, and for that end here sent;
Thy end's with Christ; with's saints his praises tune.”

From the time of his ordination he ministered thirty six years constantly without aid till Rev. Jabez Fox was invited to assist him, and from that time he ministered, in connection with Mr. Fox, about six years more, till his death.

Sewall's History of Woburn says:—“Mr. Carter appears to have lived secluded in great measure from the world; and hence he is seldom if ever named in history among the eminent clergymen of his day. Still there is abundant evidence that he was a very pious, exemplary man, an able and sound preacher of the gospel, and one whom God honored and prospered in his work. Under his ministrations the church was greatly enlarged and built up, and the town flourished, and was for the most part in peace. Mr. Chickering in his dedication sermon thus speaks of him:—‘During his ministry, which was prolonged more than forty two years, there appears to have been the greatest harmony between him and the Society.’ In 1602-3, John Maningham, a student at law of the Middle Temple, London, kept a diary that has been preserved in the British Museum, which contains this grim definition of a Puritan:—‘A Puritan is one who loves God with all his soul, and hates his neighbor with all his heart.’ This appears to be disputed by the life of Rev. Mr. Carter, who followed rather the command of his Divine Master to love his neighbor as himself, never joining in persecution of Indians, Quakers, Baptists, Churchmen, or poor old women charged with witchcraft.”

This account of Rev. Mr. Carter is from Sewall's Woburn, and a pamphlet entitled "The Carter Family Reunion at Woburn, Mass., 11 June 1884, with Historical Address by Samuel R. Carter," Boston, Coburn Bros. & Snow, Printers, 1884. The latter book says that Mr. Pavor, an English genealogist was employed to trace the pedigree of Rev. Thomas Carter but could find no further record of him in the University of Cambridge than his matriculation and graduation as above specified; nor could record of him be found in the town of St. Albans, consisting of three parishes, of which the records of the Abbey parish for the desired period had been burned, those of St. Michael did not extend as far back as Rev. Mr. Carter's time, and those of St. Peters had no record of him. Nor was any record of him found in Walford, which included the Manor of Garston. Nevertheless Mr. Pavor was of opinion that Rev. Mr. Carter was descended from Richard Carter, lord of the Manor of Garston, whose arms were argent, a chevron sable, between three Catherine wheels, vert. "A coat of arms in the possession of the venerable Charles Carter of Marlborough, Conn., was found to be identical with that of the Garston Carters, and can be traced back to the fourth and perhaps the third generation of Rev. Thomas, and in my mind fully confirms the conjecture of Mr. Pavor." So says Mr. Samuel R. Carter in the historical address above mentioned, and he also states that the Virginia Carters claim the same English ancestry as claimed for Rev. Thomas, their first ancestor in this country (John Carter) having brought the coat of arms of the Garston family. Mr. Samuel R. Carter questions whether Rev. Thomas may not have been the Thomas Carter aged 25, who, with John Carter, aged 22, embarked on the "Safety" 10 August 1635 for Virginia; yet he states that he has not examined this carefully enough to warrant a decided opinion. Mr. William G. Hill and the historian Sewall mention only the embarkation on the "Planter," as above.

Judith, wife of Samuel Convers, survived him, and married Giles Fifield, of Charlestown, 2 May 1672, and died 1677. Giles Fifield's will was proved 25 October 1676, in which he gives to his wife Judith "all she brought him." It also states, "I further give and bequeath unto Samuel Convers, and Abigail, his sister, as a Legaci of my love, to each of them ten shillings in silver, to be payed unto them by my executor." Judith Fifield's estate was appraised 3 October 1678.

Samuel Convers² was admitted freeman, 1666, and was Sergeant in the Woburn Train Band. He came to an untimely death by an accident in the corn mill which he inherited jointly with his brothers from his father, Deacon Ed-

ward Convers. The records of his death, on file at East Cambridge, are as follows:—

"We, Isaac Brooks and James Thompson, being about the 21 of Feb. 69, in the Corne mill belonging to the Converses, at Wooburne, on of a suddain we heard a voice about the mill wheel saying stop the wheel, upon wh the said Thompson did run to the mill gate & looking towards the mill wheel he saw as he thought a man laid down and cried out my unkle is killed. Isaak in the mean time did run to the water wheel and found Samuel Converse with his head fastened between the water wheel and water wall.

The said Thompson in the mean time did shut the gate and came running to the sd Brooks. Now the water wheel being turned backwards did raise upwards and wee seeing his head cleared went unto him and did take him up alive who bled excessively. We did carry him into his house and soon after we brought him in his bleeding stopt & and in about half an houres time as we conceive he was quite departed.

THE VERDICT OF THE JURY OF QUEST ON THE DEATH OF SAMUEL CONVERSE.

We subscribed being by the Constable of Wooburn Summoned a jury of quest upon the suddain and untimely death of Seargt. Samuel Convars late of Wooburne, upon examination of the Witnesses that did take him up, going to the place from whence he was taken up & viewing of the Corps, doe conceive that the said Convars was cutting some ice from off the water wheele of the corne mill & so over-reaching with his axewas caught by his coate with some parte of the wheele whereby his coate was rent to the Choller thereof & that not giving way his head was drawne untill it was sucked in between the water wall & the water wheele. now as is said he did call to shutt down the wheel but in all probabilitie he received his mortall wound soone after he spake to stop the wheele. We saw much blood in the place whereabouts he was judged to stand, also there was blood upon the snow from the place to his house, as is said he was carried to his house alive and being set in a chair his blood quickly settled within him wholly preventing him from speaking & in about half an hour was dead. We found the back side of his head greatly brusied his nose grizzle as wee think was broken so that the said Convars his head lying as before expressed we judge his death to be by the water wheele of the Corn Mill.

22: 12: 69.

RICHARD GARDNER
MATTHEW JOHNSON
JOHN WRIGHT
JOHN RUSSELL
EDWARD IVONS
WILLIAM JOHNSON

JOHN CARTER
JOHN NORRIS
INCREASE WINN
JOHN MOUSALL
JOHN BROOKS
WILL SYMES.

The Converse Family

Samuel Converse died intestate. Among the papers relating to his estate, recorded Vol. III page 209, Middlesex Probate Records, is

"An Inventory of the estate presented to us, subscribed, of Sergt. Samuel Converse of Woburne, lately deced.

	£.	s.	d.
Imp. In land at a place called Indian Hill about 30 acc's	030	00	00
It. In arable land vpon blind Bridge playne about 40: acc's	050	00	00
It. In pasture land neere to his barne about 30 acc's	003	00	00
It. In vpland at a place called Breakenecke Hill 6 acc's	005	00	00
It. Twelve acres & 1/2 in Woburne comon vpland	002	10	00
It. Interest in the said comon as to herbage and woodland	020	00	00
It. In vpland at the eastermost side of Aberjona river about 24 acres	020	00	00
It. In vpland & orchard about the dwelling house about 4 acres	016	00	00
It. In meddow at a place called bucke meddow about nine acres	030	00	00
It. In meddow vpon Aberjona river about seven acres	035	00	00
It. In make meddow at a place called great meddow about 2 acres	001	00	00
It. In an 8 th of a saw mill vpon Aberjona river & pond thereof	020	00	00
It. In vpland at a place called pine meadow Playne 6 acres	003	00	00
It. In a third of a corne mill vpon Aberjona river	020	00	00
with a third of the utensils belonging thereunto	020	00	00
It. In a third of a kell house & haire cloth	000	10	00
It. in a barne and hen house	030	00	00
It. in a dwelling house	080	00	00
IN THE KITCHEN.			
Imprimis. In peauter	001	05	00
It. In a warming pan, pestle & mortar, skillets, dishes & earthen ware	000	15	00
It. In trammell handjrons, spit, slice and tongs	000	16	00
It. In a fowling piece, woollen wheell, a cradle 5 chaires & table	001	07	00
IN THE LEANTO.			
It. In a brass Kettle 2 Iron Kettles & an iron pott	002	00	00
It. In tubs, troyes & cheeze press	000	10	00
It. In a chearne, frying pan, scieues and other lumber	000	08	06
It. In salt	000	01	06
It. In the cellar, meat tubs, barrels w th other lumber	002	00	00
IN THE HALL.			
Imprimis: In a high bedstead, feather bed curtaines, vallents, rug blanket a paire of sheetes & pillow as it now stands	007	00	00
It. In money	004	17	03
It. A trundle bed, its coverlet, 2 blankets, flock & strawe bed	002	10	00
It. A cupboard & quushion handjrons table & foarme	002	00	00
IN THE HALL CHAMBER.			
Imprimis: In broade cloth about 4 yds & 1/2	003	16	00
It. 4 paire of sheetes, 2 pillow beeres, 21 napkins and a table cloth	003	12	00
It. In cotten, wooll cotten & linnen yarne	001	10	00

The Converse Family

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It. In apparell woolen and linnen	007	02	00
It. Three chestes, a bed sted & table	001	15	00

IN THE KITCHEN CHAMBER.

Imprimis: A chaf bed, bed sted, a pillow 2 blankets a sheet & coverlet	001	10	00
It. A saddle pillion & cloth, bridle girts, crupper & pannell	001	10	00
It. A muskett, handeleers, 2 belts, sword, rest & pike	001	10	00
It. 16 bushels of rye, 11 bush: of wheat, 20 bush: Indian 3 bush: barley	009	00	00
It. 2 bush of oates, two hogs heads & a few hops	000	16	00

IN THE GARRET.

It. In nailes hemp & old iron & feathers	001	07	00
It. In tooles	000	14	00
It. In rye vpon the ground	002	00	00
It. In chaines yoakes irons, a plow w ^t share & boults,	001	00	00
It. In about one hundred & half of boardē	000	07	06
It. In a long carte & dung carte w th the wheeles	002	06	00
It. In a third of grind stone, harrow teeth & timber chaine	000	3	4
It. In a third of a frame neere mistick bridge laid	005	00	00
	438	10	03

IN STOCK IN THE YARD.

Imprimis: Three working cattell	012	00	00
It. In a horse	003	00	00
It. In two coves	006	00	00
It. In two heifers	005	00	00
It. In a young bull	001	00	00
It. In three yearlings	002	05	00
It. In nine sheep & 2 lambs	003	10	00
It. In eight swine	004	00	00
	37	05	00

It. In a man servant about a year	09	05	00
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The totall sum of this Inventory is	475	00	03
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The debts and credits of this estate being compared, the cleere estate at present is	446	12	03
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Errors excepted.

WILL: SYMMES.
JOHN CARTER.
WILL: JOHNSON.

ESTATE OF SAMUEL CONVERS, DEBTOR.

Imprimis. To Josia Conuers	016	03	08
It. To M ^r . Norton	000	17	4
It. To Hennery Balcum	000	15	7
It. To John Wilson sen ^r	000	15	6
It. To M ^r . Cuttler	002	16	8
It. To John Berbeen	000	7	10
It. To Allien Conuers for rates	000	9	4

The Converse Family

It. To John Mousall of Wooburne	000	2	6
It. To William Butter	000	2	3
It. To Jonathan Thompson	000	4	00
It. To goodman Peirson	000	3	00
It. To Captaine Johnson	000	4	00
It. To Mr Carter	001	7	00
It. To Mr Thomas Line	000	3	00
It. To John Whittimore	000	12	6
It. To Daniel Champney	001	5	00
It. To good wife Conuars	002	4	6
It. To an annual paiment to be made to his mother Conuers during her naterrall life	001	13	4
It. To goodman Jakewith	000	2	6
It. To goodman Clarke	000	1	6
It. To the estate of Tho: Whittimore	000	8	00
It. To John Smith	00	18	00
It. To John Lowden	000	5	6
It. To John Snith	000	16	8
It. To John Ted	00	4	6
It. To Moses Cleaueland sen ^r	000	4	06
It. To Clothes for Nath ^r . Hellin*	005	00	00
	38	09	00
ESTATE CREDITOR.			
By John Russell	000	3	00
By James flowle	000	8	00
By Gersham flag	000	14	00
By John Craggin	000	08	00
By Jonathan Cary	000	9	00
By Theophilus Richardson	000	2	00
By Edward Win	000	5	00
By Samuel Barnard	000	18	10
By Proctor	000	5	00
By Isaack Brooks	003	1	04
By Mr. Ballard	000	16	00
By Samuel Carter	001	9	00
By Nath Hellin	000	5	00
	09	04	08
By James Convers Jun ^r	00	16	11
	10	11	07

Children of Sergeant Samuel² and Judith (Carter) Convers:

SAMUEL CONVERS,² born, in Woburn, 4 April 1662; died in Thompson Parish, Killingly, Conn., about 1732; married Dorcas ———. (9)

ABIGAIL CONVERS,² born, in Woburn; died 14 July 1689.

* One of the several spellings of Holland.

During the latter part of his life Major Convers added the final "e" to his name. His autograph taken from a page of his records while town clerk of Woburn is appended.

James Convers Town Clerk

James Convers Town Clerk

Maj. James Convers married, 1 January 1668, Hannah Carter, who was born 19 January 1650, and is named in his will.

Children:

JAMES CONVERS,⁴ born 5 Sept. 1670; died in the lifetime of his father.

JOHN CONVERS,⁴ born 22 Aug. 1673; died 6 Jan. 1707-8; married Abigail Sawyer. (11)

ELIZABETH CONVERS,² born 23 April 1675; died 27 July 1694.

ROBERT CONVERS,⁴ CAPTAIN, born 29 Dec. 1677; died 20 July 1736; married, 19 Dec. 1698, Mary Sawyer and by her had 12 children. Sewall's History of Woburn says that he and his brother Capt. Josiah were men of distinction and influence in their day.

HANNAH CONVERS,⁴ born 12 June 1680; died 7 Sept. 1748; married, 9 Nov. 1697, Jacob Richardson, who died 9 Aug. 1763.

JOSIAH CONVERS,⁴ born 24 May 1683; died 18 Oct., 1683.

JOSIAH CONVERS,⁴ CAPTAIN, born 12 Sept. 1684; died in 1771; married Hannah Sawyer. (12)

PATIENCE CONVERS,⁴ born 6 Nov. 1686; died 23 July 1707.

EBENEZER CONVERS,⁴ born 16 Dec. 1688; died 9 Nov. 1693.

8. EDWARD CONVERS³ (*Lieut. James² (3), Deacon Edward¹*), born 27 February 1655; died 26 (28, Woburn records) July 1692. He was admitted freeman 1685. He married, 5 November 1684, Sarah Stone, daughter of Samuel Stone.

Children:

SAMUEL CONVERS,⁴ born in Woburn, 9 Oct. 1685.

ANN CONVERS,⁴ born 3 Oct. 1687; married John Merry, Jr., of Reading.

SARAH CONVERS,⁴ born 14 Oct. 1689; died 1713.

EDWARD CONVERS,⁴ born 26 Oct. 1691; died in two days.

9. SAMUEL CONVERS³ (*Sergeant Samuel² (5), Deacon Edward¹*), born in Woburn, Mass., 4 April 1662; died in Thompson Parish, Killingly, Conn., about 1732; married Dorcas ———, prior to 1694. A search for the identity of Dorcas was made by Miss Emily W. Leavitt, of Boston, genealogist, who wrote as follows 5 June 1900:—

"It seems my inference is correct that Dorcas was Dorcas Pain, on the author-

ity of Judge Johnson of Woburn, who consulted a local historian. You know Mrs. Judith Convers married, second, Giles Fifield and went to Charlestown to live, of course taking her children with her. She died in Charlestown, and Giles Fifield, in his will, mentioned Samuel Convers and his sister Abigail. The Pains were early in Charlestown, and Samuel may have married Dorcas there. Wyman's Charlestown gives early members, Stephen, Edward, etc. I have not found a Dorcas there in the history, but a search in Middlesex Co. records may reveal her. In the Pain early families of Ipswich there was a Dorcas, and it seems to come in other lines."

By other genealogists, however, who have carefully followed this clue, it is suggested that as a thorough examination of Massachusetts records fails to show this connection, the son was probably named Pain, on account of friendship with the Pain family, the families being closely associated.

In a sketch of Deacon Edward Convers in the issue of the "New York Genealogical and Biographical Record for January 1895," it is stated that Samuel Convers³ founded the town of Thompson, Conn.

The following is from Mr. Wm. G. Hill's "Family History of Deacons James W. and Elisha S. Converse":—

"July 2, 1705, Samuel and Dorcas Convers gave deed of five acres land on Abijona River, Woburn, to John Convers for £14. In February, 1709, they gave deed of seven acres land in Woburn, to Thomas Belknap, for £21. On April 8, 1710, they conveyed to James Richardson, for £205, eighty acres land in Woburn (see Middlesex Deeds). In 1710, Samuel³ Convers and his family removed to and occupied a farm and dwelling house in Thompson Parish, Killingly, Conn., which farm he had previously bought of Richard Evans, the first settler in Killingly. Mr. Convers was the first settler of Thompson. The farm was located in that part of the town which, in later years, was set off as Putnam. The region was at that time very rude, rough and wild, and uninhabited except by Indians, otherwise then properly called savages. The place where Mr. Convers settled was about sixty miles nearly due west of Boston; the family finding their way, most of the distance, chiefly by means of blazed trees through the forest. In 1716 he sold the Evans farm and purchased part of the "Quinatisset Farm," laid out to John Gore of Roxbury, Mass., surveyor, in 1686. (Quinatisset was the Indian name for that region.) This farm is about a mile southwest of Thompson Hill, and in 1882 was occupied by Stephen Ballard and Benj. Bugbee. Here Mr. Convers removed his residence, conveying portions of his farm to his sons as they settled in life. They attended worship in Killingly, and were connected with its church till the erection of Thompson Parish in 1728. Mr. Convers and his sons were active in building

Thompson meeting-house, and providing for religious worship, and his name heads the list of church members at its organization, January 28, 1730, a distinction denoting seniority in age or acknowledged leadership in position.

But little is known of the early life of Samuel Convers. He was left fatherless at the age of seven, and an orphan at the age of sixteen, by the death of his mother, Mrs. Fifield, of Charlestown; and living, as he did, remote from other settlements, in a wild country, but little has been gleaned concerning him in Thompson. We are unable to discover the precise date of his death, or any record of the distribution of his property thereafter."

In her History of Windham County, Connecticut, Miss Ellen D. Larned, mentions Samuel Convers and his sons as follows:—

Vol. I, p. 168. Purchase of the Northern farm of Richard Evans in the North part of Killingly by Samuel Convers of Woburn in 1710.

Vol. I, p. 174. "The first settler in the vicinity of Quinnatisset Hill was Samuel Converse of Woburn who secured a deed of land from Richard Evans in 1710, and with his wife and five sons settled about a mile South of the hill top. The Killingly settlers were near him on the South, but northward to the old towns of Oxford and Mendon the country was a savage wilderness, its rude paths only designated by marks on tree trunks. Mr. Converse's dwelling house stood near the Boston road, and furnished rest and entertainment to many a passing traveler."

Vol. I, p. 177. Samuel Converse, for fifty pounds conveyed "a part of High Plain, near Quinnatisset," to Urian Horsmor of Woodstock, in 1716.

Vol. I, p. 306. July 9, 1728, the first public meeting of the inhabitants north of Killingly was held, and Samuel Converse "the first settler near Quinnatisset Hill, still active in public affairs, with four grown sons," joined in organizing a religious society, which was the second society in Killingly, then called the North Society of Killingly, and two years afterward renamed Thompson Parish.

Vol. I, p. 308. Samuel Converse and his four sons from the Quinnatisset farm and meadows, working with others, in building the meeting house.

Vol. I, p. 309. November 15, 1728, Samuel's son Edward, chosen with five others to provide for the raising of the meeting house.

Vol. I, p. 310. January 20, 1729, Samuel's son, Edward, one of committee of five on finishing outside work of meeting house.

Vol. I, p. 311. January 28, 1730, Samuel, and his sons Edward and Thomas, with twenty-five others, original signers of the covenant in the formation of the new church.

Vol. I, p. 315. Purchase of farms in Thompson Parish from Josiah Wolcott by Samuel's sons, Edward, Samuel and Josiah.

Vol. I, p. 315. Sale of two hundred acres of land with dwelling house and orchard by Samuel Converse to Ephraim Guile.

Vol. I, p. 317. March, 1733, Samuel's son, Thomas, one of committee of three to provide for building seats in the gallery of the meeting house.

Vol. I, p. 533. 1737, Edward Converse appointed to rebuild Killingly portion of bridge over the Quinnebaug at the Falls.

The first division of land to Samuel Converse, Jr., is thus described in the first volume of Proprietors' Records of Killingly:—

Laid out to Samual Converse, Jun^r on the 21 Day of November, 1720 nine acres and fourty rods of land in our undivided Lands in Killingly for his first Division of Land, and is bounded as followeth. Beginning at a heap of stones in the farm line formerly belonging to Mr. Goor thence running Easterly upon line 30 rods to a heap of stones from thence running Sotherly 60 rods to a white oak tree from thence Running northerly to the bound first mentioned. Laid out and allowed (?) by us to be 9 acres and 40 rods.

Recorded July 13th, 1721
by me David Church, town Clerk

PETER ASPENWELL
JAMES LEAVENS
JOSEPH CADY
Com^{tee}

Samuel and Dorcas Converse had six children:

SAMUEL CONVERSE,⁴ born, in Woburn, 26 May 1694; married, 1st, Hannah Bartlett; married, 2nd, Sarah Atwell. (13)

EDWARD CONVERSE,⁴ ENSIGN. born, in Woburn, 25 Sept. 1696; married Elizabeth Cooper. (14)

THOMAS CONVERSE,⁴ born, in Woburn, 28 Oct. 1699; married, 1st, Martha Clough; married, 2nd, Abigail Fay. (15)

DORCAS CONVERSE,⁴ born, in Woburn, 1 Feb. 1702-3; married, 28 April 1723, Daniel Whitmore.

PAIN CONVERSE,⁴ born, in Woburn, 25 Nov. 1706; died 10 Sept. 1781; married Mary Halford. (16)

JOSIAH CONVERSE,⁴ baptized, in Killingly, 20 Nov. 1714; married Mary Sabin. (17)

	£	s	d
1 Shirt—1 drawers 8" & one warming pan frying 4/6		12	6
Shovel & Tongs & other old Iron 3/6 Iron Kettle & And Irons 6/		9	6
Long table & Bench 9/ saddle 4/ Band 1/ Under bed 5		19	0
Great Round table 14/ Square table 1/ Desk 27/	2	02	0
Bread trough 1/6 two trays Hh @ @ 6d—3 tubs 2/6		06	
2 Bedsteads 4/—1 Box 1/ two Iron wedges & Bar 11/2		16	0
4 chairs 7/—cupboard 6/ crane 5/—2 chairs 11/1	1	09	0
1 wooden wheel clock & cap. 54/	2	14	0
Old Pewter 10/ teapot 3/ Bowl 1/6—2 canisters 1/6		16	0
Candlestick 6d steelyards 1/ 1 Looking Glass 1/		02	6
A note against Jacob Convers & y ^e Int	16	17	4
A note against Josiah Convers & y ^e Int	1	06	0
A note against Asa Convers & y ^e Int	10	07	0
A note against Jonathan Bibby & y ^e Int	1	06	0
	£46	17	0

Signed STEPHEN KEITH } Appraisers.
SIMON DAVIS }

Killingly, Dec. 27th 1784.

At a Court of Probate holden at Pomfret in the District of Pomfret on the 4th day of July 1785 the foregoing Inventory was presented by Jacob Convers Adm^r under oath & the same is accepted by this Court & ordered to be kept on file.

Test. LEMUEL GROSVENOR
Clerk of Probate.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT } SS PROBATE OFFICE
DISTRICT OF POMFRET }

I hereby certify that the above are true copies of Records as appears in this Office.

(Signed) Attest: E. P. HAYWARD, Judge.

Pomfret, June 27, 1881.

Children of Ensign Edward and Elizabeth (Cooper) Convers:

- JAMES CONVERS, CAPTAIN, baptized 27 Sept. 1719; died 13 Dec. 1753; married Mary Levens. (21)
- EDWARD CONVERS, CAPTAIN, baptized, at Killingly, 8 Nov. 1726; died in Windsor, Mass., 9 Dec. 1800; married Mary Davis. (22)
- JONATHAN CONVERS, baptized 28 April 1723; died 1761; married Keziah Hughes. (23)
- JACOB CONVERS, LIEUTENANT, born, at Killingly, 26 Feb. 1727; married Anna White. (24)
- ASA CONVERS, born 30 Sept. 1730; married Ruth Lee. (25)
- JESSE CONVERS, born 30 Nov. 1732; married, 23 Nov. 1758, widow Demaris Chandler.
- ELIZABETH CONVERS, born 4 April 1736; died 18 March 1737.
- ZACHARIAS CONVERS, born 4 April 1736; probably died young.
- ELIZABETH CONVERS, born 29 March 1738; married, 20 May 1757, Timothy Attwood.
- SUSANNA CONVERS, born 28 Oct. 1741; died Aug. 1833; married, 1st, Diah Johnson, married, 2nd, Dr. Samuel Ruggles. (26)

15. THOMAS CONVERS¹ (*Samuel*²(9), *Sergeant Samuel*², *Deacon Edward*²), born in Woburn, Mass., 28 October 1699. No record of his death has

been found except a brief memorandum left by his son Joel, stating that he died in Thompson, Conn., about 1760. He was a constituent member of the church in Thompson, and active in public affairs. In 1742 he was elected to serve as deacon but declined the office. He occupied for a time the farm left by his brother Samuel, and then purchased part of the Sampson home farm, and built a house on the site now occupied by Jerome Nichols, near the Norwich and Worcester Railroad station.

The following is from the Killingly town records:—"At a town meeting held 2 December 1729 then voted and chose Pain Convers and Thomas Convers fence viewers" (and sworn), also, "chose Thomas Convers tything man."

Meeting 20 Jan'y 1736/7, "lay out of highway by Thomas Convers."

Thomas Convers was married, first, by Rev. John Fisk, 11 April 1723, to Martha Clough (sister, probably, of Jonathan Clough, who settled in Thompson in 1722, and daughter of Thomas Clough, Senior, of Salisbury). She died 18 June 1735, and he married, second, 3 November 1737, Abigail Fay.

Abigail Fay³ was the daughter of Samuel² and Tabitha (Ward) Fay and granddaughter of John Fay.¹

JOHN FAY¹ born in England about 1648; embarked at Gravesend, 30 May 1656, in ship "Speedwell" of London, Robert Locke, master, and arrived in Boston June 27. As he was then but eight years old, he must have had parents or relatives in this country. He located first in Sudbury; was in Marlboro, Mass., 1669, where the births of his children are recorded; removed to Watertown, and returned to Marlboro, where he died 5 December 1690. On the breaking out of King Philip's War in 1675, he was in Marlboro and was designated among others to defend the garrison house of William Kerley in case of attack.

MASS. ARCHIVES.

Vol. 67: 277.

Marlborough the 1 of Octobr, 1675.

At A meeting of the inhabetants in order to take care for the safty of our town these folloing proposals were Agreed upon And volentaryly chosen unto that in case of assalt these places heare After mentioned should be defended by the persons that are expressed by name that is in:

william Kerlys hous.

of the town
soulders: 2:
or soulders allowd
to the town

JOHN FAY.

All these men to be maintaine In their respective perrels by the families In the severall fortifications wheare they are plared.

This Above written was the Act of the town Agreeing with the Act of the Comettee of melecti as Attest.

WILLIAM KERLY, Clarke.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
BOSTON, APRIL 10th, 1900.

I certify the foregoing citation to be a true abstract from the military series of the Massachusetts Archives deposited in this office.

(SEAL)

WITNESS the Seal of the Commonwealth.
WM. M. OLIN, Secretary.

John Fay married, first, Mary, daughter of Thomas Brigham of Cambridge, by whom he had four children, including Samuel.² (For particulars of Mary Brigham and her father see below.) John Fay married, second, 5 July 1678, Mrs. Susanna (Shattuck) Morse, widow of Joseph Morse, and eldest daughter of William Shattuck. By her he had four children. His grandson, Capt. Stephen Fay of Vermont (son of John, Jr.), was Captain of Militia and landlord of the historical Catamount Tavern at Bennington, Vt., and active in the Revolutionary War, rendering efficient service in a civil capacity. It is said that five of Capt. Stephen's sons were engaged in the Battle of Bennington. The Fays were of French origin. During the persecution of the Huguenots, they fled to Wales, and from Wales the ancestor of the American family came to the colonies.

Samuel Fay,² born 11 October 1673; died previous to 1749; married, 16 May 1699, Tabitha Ward.³

Tabitha Ward³ was born 16 May 1675, and was daughter of Increase² and Record Ward, and granddaughter of William Ward¹.

WILLIAM WARD¹ was in Sudbury as early as 1639, and was proprietor of lands there. He was living at that time with his second wife, who was named Elizabeth. He represented Sudbury in 1644 in the General Court. He was for several years Chairman of Selectmen there. He moved to Marlboro in 1660, and died there, 10 August 1687. He was one of the founders of the town of Marlborough, Deacon in the Church first organized there, Deputy to the General Court from Marlboro in 1666, and in the garrison at Sudbury in King Philip's War. A book of genealogy entitled "The Ward Family and Descendants of William Ward who settled in Sudbury, Mass., in 1639" by Andrew Henshaw Ward, A.M., says "that his house and fifty acre house lot were situated on the South side of the road in Marlborough and nearly opposite the site of the first meeting house, which was not far from where the Gates Academy now (1851) stands;" that "his lands by subsequent acquisitions extended Westward to what in some of his conveyances he called Belcher's Pond, near which was erected the public house, long known as the Williams Tavern, and kept by Abraham Williams, who married his eldest daughter;" that "he endured great hardships and sustained great losses by Indian hostilities, more especially in the time of King Philip's War, when his buildings were fired, his cattle destroyed, and one of his sons slain by the enemy;" and "that his second wife, when past her 74th year, made several journeys to Boston, as appears by the records there before she effected a settlement of his estate with

the exorbitant and tyrannical Andros, Governor, Judge of Probate, etc. Considering the distance she resided from Boston, exceeding thirty miles, much of the way a wilderness frequented by lurking savages, a bridle way her road and on which one of her sons had been a few years before shot down by the enemy at noon-day, she must have been a person of fortitude and possessed of physical powers to an unlimited degree." She died in Marlborough, and the inscription on her gravestone was as follows:

"Here lyes the body of Elizabeth Ward, the servant of the Lord, deceased in 87 year of her age Dec. ye 9, in the year of our Lord 1700."

Gen. Artemas Ward, first Major-General of Continental Forces and member of Congress in the Revolutionary War, was the great grandson of William Ward. His line was William,¹ William, Jr.,² Col. Nahum,³ Gen. Artemas.⁴

RECORDS OF THE MASS. BAY COLONY. Vol. 2, 86.

The 29th of the 3th Mo, a 1644. At a Genrall Cort of Election at Boston.
psent, The Govrnor,
Deputies psent.

Willi: Ward.
Vol. 3: 1.

Att a Generall Courte of Elections held att Boston the 4th and 5th Monnths, 1644.
The Acts & Determinatons of the House of Deputyes
The sevall names of those townes, wth theire Deputyes yt were return'd with ye warrants to serve att this Courte, vitz:

Sudbury: WILLIAM WARD.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
BOSTON, APRIL 9, 1900.

I certify the foregoing citations to be true abstracts from the printed records of the Massachusetts Bay Colony on file in this office.

WITNESS the Seal of the Commonwealth.

(SEAL)

WM. M. OLIN, Secretary.

Increase Ward² of Marlboro. His farm was on the river, and he had a saw mill. He died 4 August 1690 aged 46. His wife died 26 July 1726. The Ward Genealogy above mentioned says that he was born 22 February 1644, and resided in that part of Marlborough which is now Northboro.

Abigail Fay,³ born 19 January 1709; married Thomas Converse.

See Charles Hudson's History of Marlborough, Mass., L. R. Paige's History of Hardwick, Mass., F. C. Pierce's History of Grafton, Mass., Wm. Spooner's History of Plymouth, Mass., Joel Whittemore's History of Fitzwilliam, N. H., Savage's Genealogical Dictionary.

MARY BRIGHAM, who married John Fay, was the daughter of Thomas and Mercy (Hurd) Brigham of Cambridge, Mass. Thomas Brigham came to New England in the "Susan & Ellen" in 1635, then aged 32. He was first in Watertown, Mass. In Cambridge, about 1638, he resided at the Easterly corner of Brattle and Ash Streets. He was Constable in 1639 and 1642, Selectman 1640-

1647, and died 8 December 1653. He was proprietor of several hundred acres of land, a mill, cattle and many swine.

In his later years he seems not to have increased in wealth, but the reverse. The reasons for this are unknown, unless it was the erection of a grist mill on the Charles River ruined his wind mill. Nevertheless, he left a handsome estate, including a house spacious for that period, and articles that were a luxury in that time, such as silver spoons and other utensils of silver, join chairs, join stools, cushions, damask cloth, livery table, feather beds, and the wardrobe of a New England gentleman. The inventory of his estate was £449-9-4,—a handsome estate for his time. Governor Danforth was overseer and trustee under his will, and the distinguished Wm. Brattle of Boston assisted his executrix. Thomas Brigham married, about 1637, Mercy Hurd. She married, second, Edmund Rice, Senior, of Sudbury, March 1655-6, who removed to Marlboro; and, in May 1663, she married, third, Wm. Hunt of Concord, whom she survived, and died in Marlboro 22 or 28 December 1693. "On her second marriage she took with her to Sudbury and to Marlborough all her children, from whom descended a numerous posterity residing in and near Marlborough, some of whom attained high distinction."

The above is from Paige's History of Cambridge, Mass., Savage's Genealogical Dictionary, Hudson's Marlboro, Bond's Watertown, and Rev. Abner Morse's "Genealogical Register of Several Ancient Puritan Families." In the latter book will be found a fuller account of Thomas Brigham, including a more extended description of his possessions.

Of Mrs. Mercy (Hurd) Brigham, Rev. Abner Morse says: "Thomas Brigham married about 1637, Mercy Hurd, a lady ten or fifteen years his junior, of whom tradition has brought down a high character, alleging that she and her sister, who married Wm. (?) Cutler, were so tantalized in England for non-conformity that they resolved to seek their liberty and fortunes in New England, and arrived unattended by husbands or lovers." Mr. Morse says the tradition is direct and probably reliable. "Success rewarded the enterprise. They were in as quick demand as unmarried teachers at the West, and if the number of worthy husbands whom a lady marries is the measure of her worth, then Madam Brigham was a most worthy and attractive woman, for she married no less than three . . . During her third widowhood she saw two bloody Indian wars. During the first Marlborough was burnt, and she with one of her sons is believed to have retreated to their former home on the rocks in Cambridge, while her two sons went in pursuit of the enemy."

Thomas Convers had nine children, three by his first wife and six by the last, as follows:

MARTHA CONVERS,⁵ baptized 1727; married, 15 Feb. 1756, Diah Johnson. She died early leaving:

MARTHA JOHNSON,⁶ married, 1st, Archelaus Town; 2nd, Israel Tourtelotte.

SYRIL JOHNSON,⁶ married Jesse Bixby.

SOLOMON JOHNSON,⁶ died in the war.

EBENEZER CONVERS,⁵ born 27 July 1730; died 8 May 1741.

TABITHA CONVERS,⁵ born 4 June 1732; died March 1745.

THOMAS CONVERS,⁵ COLONEL, baptized at Killingly, 5 Nov. 1738; died in Rutland, N. Y., in 1809; married, 1st, Mary Morse; married, 2nd, Abigail Colton; married, 3rd, Sabrina Smedley, married, 4th, Mary Colton, widow. (27)

The Converse Family

SAMUEL CONVERSE,¹ born 7 Aug. 1740; married, 27 Oct. 1767, Mereba Burrill of Thompson.
 ABIGAIL CONVERSE,² born 18 Nov. 1744; married, 14 Feb. 1764, Joseph Green, of West-
 borough, Mass.

DAVID CONVERSE,³ born 2 July 1748; married Rachel Elliott; removed to Bridgewater, N. Y.,
 where he died. (28)

TABITHA CONVERSE,⁴ born 5 March 1749.

JOEL CONVERSE,⁵ born 2 Sept. 1750; died in Lyme, N. H., 29 June 1822; married, 1st,
 Demaris Wilson; 2nd, Elizabeth Bixby. (29)

16. PAIN CONVERSE⁶ (*Samuel*⁷(9), *Sergeant Samuel*,⁸ *Deacon Edward*⁹),
 born in Woburn, 25 November 1706; died 10 September 1781; married Mary
 Halford who died 5 April 1790. Both united with the church in Thompson, he
 5 July 1730, she in 1735. In 1728, his father deeded him the homestead farm which
 he occupied through life. His son Pain sold the farm in 1793, to Thomas Day of
 Killingly, Conn., and in 1902 it was in possession of Stephen Ballard. He was
 more employed in society and town affairs than was either of his brothers.
 In 1760 he was chairman of the selectmen, and served upon many important
 committees. He assisted in laying out new school districts in 1762, and exam-
 ined the accounts after the renovation of the meeting house. For many years
 he was usually chosen to be moderator at society meetings.

The following appears in the records of the Supreme Court of Suffolk County,
 Mass., under date of 1731:

"Pain Converse of Tompson, in the County of Windham, in the colony of
 Connecticut, husbandman, Complainant, vs. Thomas Stimson of Woodstock in
 the County of Worcester, practitioner in Physick, Deft. The Complainant shew-
 ing that at an Inferiour Court of Common Pleas held at Worcester on the Second
 Tuesday of May last he recovered Judgment for the Sum of £6:9:00 and costs.
 From which judgment the sd. Stimson appealed to this Court. In default, etc.,
 ruled in favor of sd. Converse £6:11:4d and costs £7:6:9d."

The following is from the Killingly town records:

"At a town meeting held 2 December 1729 'then voted and chose Pain Con-
 vers and Thomas Converse fence viewers. They took the oath of office the same
 day. Also chose Thomas Converse tything man.'"

First Tuesday of December 1754. Deacon Boaz Stearns, Jacob Dresser, Esq.,
 Mr. Thomas Bateman, Mr. Pain Converse and Mr. John Falshaw chosen Select-
 men. Also chose Pain Converse tything man.

In the years 1758, 1759, 1760, Pain Converse is the first named on the Board of
 Selectmen. At town meeting 1765 Pain Converse is mentioned as highway sur-
 veyor.

The Converse Family

cover the retreat at the Battle of Bunker Hill, after the ammunition was exhausted; and that fatigue and exposure brought on fever, from which he died at his home, 12 August 1775, in his 47th year.

Mrs. Rachel (Elliott) Converse was born 15 February 1751, and died instantly of heart disease 26 October 1815. Her death, in the night, was so sudden that her husband, sleeping beside her, was not awakened. She was a good Christian mother, and of excellent business ability. Both David and Rachel (Elliott) Converse were members of the Presbyterian church.

Children of David and Rachel (Elliott) Converse:

WILLARD CONVERSE,⁶ born 27 May 1771; baptized 13 March 1774; he did not enjoy good health and died, unmarried, 9 January 1811.

DAVID CONVERSE,⁶ JR., born in Belchertown, 27 Nov. 1772; baptized 13 March 1774. A nephew who saw him once in 1851, when he came to visit the State Fair at Rochester, N. Y., says that he was tall, well built, not given to much conversation, and had few equals in mowing and other hard labor. Efforts to trace him or his descendants have thus far been unsuccessful. The Reed MS. says that he had a son who married a member of the Society of Friends, and that the latter had three sons, members of the Society of Friends, who, in 1888, resided in Lyons, N. Y. Another account is that he had no children. Still another account says he lived in Woodville, N. Y., and died there, that his daughter married Harrison Wood and lived in Woodville, N. Y., and that his wife's given name was Chloe.

LUCY CONVERSE,⁶ born 15 Nov. 1774; married Moses Ward. (62)

RACHEL CONVERSE,⁶ born 1 Dec. 1777; married, 1st, — Church, and had son, DARIUS D. CHURCH⁷; married, 2nd, — Hitchcock, and had son, HENRY HITCHCOCK.⁷

JERUSHA CONVERSE,⁶ born 26 March 1780.*

THOMAS CONVERSE,⁶ born in Belchertown, Mass., 7 May 1782; died Sept. 1858; married Lydia Stratton. (63)

ABIGAIL CONVERSE,⁶ born 7 Aug. 1785.*

JOSEPH ELLIOTT CONVERSE,⁶ born 30 Oct. 1786; died 11 Feb. 1867; married, 1st, Sarah Mott; married, 2nd, Harriet Frost; married, 3rd, Sarah Sheldon; married, 4th, Mrs. Eliza Sheldon, a widow. (64)

SARAH CONVERSE,⁶ born 23 July 1788.*

DANIEL CONVERSE,⁶ born 17 Sept. 1791; died 2 March 1873; married, 1st, Martha B. Wolcott; married, 2nd, Parthena Bogat. (65)

29. JOEL CONVERSE⁵ (Thomas⁴ (15), Samuel,³ Sergeant Samuel,² Deacon Edward¹). The Killingly, Conn., town records give the date of his birth as 12 September 1750. Mr. William G. Hill gives the date as 2 September 1750, a difference explainable by the change in reckoning from old to new style, but an old family Bible in the possession of Herbert Bradley Converse of Claremont, N. H.,

* Ansel Frost Converse thinks that Jerusha, Abigail and Sarah died young, as he never saw them.

gives 22 September 1750 as the date of Joel's birth. Miss Larned's History of Windham County, Conn. (Vol. II, p. 82), says that in the church in Thompson Parish, Killingly, Conn., Jacob and Benjamin Converse and Ebenezer Gay were appointed choristers, in 1771, and Joel Converse and Thaddeus Larned requested to assist them in "tuning the psalm." The same history gives a list of the names of the signers of the freeman's oath at the first town meeting in Thompson, 21 June 1785, among which are the names of Joel Converse, Pain Converse, Lieut. Jacob Converse, Elijah Converse, Alpheus Converse, and Samuel Fay. Joel Converse married, first, 10 September 1778, Demaris Wilson, the date of whose birth is given as 2 May 1746 in the Killingly town records, and as 5 August 1752 in the old family Bible above referred to. She was the daughter of Thomas and Abigail Wilson. Thomas Wilson was born 5 March 1709-10, and was the son of James and Margaret Wilson. To Joel and Demaris, three children were born: Lyman, Otis and Demaris. She died 6 April 1784, and Joel Converse married, second, 20 January 1785, Elizabeth Bixby, whose first name is given as Eliza in the Killingly town record of births. She was born 2 September 1762, and was the daughter of Jonathan and Eliza Bixby of Killingly. Her line of descent is shown on a subsequent page of this book. Joel Converse was one of the first settlers of Lyme, Grafton Co., N. H., where, in 1788, he selected a piece of wild land on a high hill now indicated on maps of the town as "Davidson's Hill," made a clearing, and erected a frame house. At that time but fifteen families had settled there, "under great hardships and discouragements." His wife's brother, Samuel Bixby, and William Davidson had made a settlement there in 1786. In March 1789, he moved his wife and five children to the farm at Lyme, where the remainder of his life was spent, and where he died, 29 June 1822. The location of his farm on Davidson's Hill was three miles east of the main road which leads from Lyme to Orford, and on the hill-road which leaves the main road near Lyme Pond. Its outlook toward the southwest and towards the west was a grand one from twelve to forty miles in extent. The intervening hills were lower than that on which the farm was situated, and shut out the view of the Connecticut Valley only, leaving the distant outlook unobstructed. The farm was good wheat land, and it is recalled by one of the descendants of Joel Converse that



Mrs. Elizabeth (Bixby) Converse.

The Converse Family

in those days wheat in that locality "was food, and money too." Joel Converse was said by his son, Amasa, to have served in the American army during the Revolutionary War for a few months only, as he had to provide for a widowed mother.

Miss Ellen D. Larned, historian of Windsor Co., Conn., says:—"The Revolutionary war service of Joel is not reported in Connecticut's official record, but I have no doubt but that he went out, probably with the militia. All the men of sound body went out some time; but in many cases no report was made."

A son of Joseph Elliott Converse⁶ recalls hearing his father (son of Joel's brother David) tell about Joel having been spoken of as "an educated man" by David, while deploring his own lack of educational opportunities.

Joel Converse was of medium height, of strong athletic build, with light complexion and blue eyes. He was a stern disciplinarian in his family. His second wife, Elizabeth Bixby, was of very large stature, and all of her sons and daughters were of commanding size. Her brothers, Samuel Bixby, Jacob Bixby and Jonathan Bixby, were soldiers in the American army during the Revolutionary War, Samuel from New Hampshire, and Jacob and Jonathan from Connecticut.

The Bixby family were also among the first settlers of Lyme. Samuel, brother of Elizabeth (Bixby) Converse, first came to Lyme about 1776. He was a young man, unmarried. He entered the War for Independence, and afterwards married and brought his bride to Lyme. With his brother Jonathan he settled there in 1786, his farm adjoining that of Joel Converse⁶.



Mrs. Elizabeth (Bixby) Converse
(aged 88).

Mrs. Elizabeth Bixby Converse died in Lyme, 12 November 1850.

The following recollections of her are contributed by her granddaughter, Mrs. Miriam Elizabeth (Converse) Smith of Ypsilanti, Mich.:

Grandmother's home in Lyme, N. H., was the old hill farm, joining the farm of her brother Samuel Bixby. This also was my early home. I was fifteen years old when she died, and, as she died at the age of 90 years, I only remember her as an old lady, sitting in her easy chair knitting or sewing, for she was very industrious. She also helped about the lighter housework, as far as her strength allowed.

She was very intelligent,—a great reader,—tho' in those days books and newspapers were not very plentiful in the country homes of New England. Perhaps

the Bible was studied all the more for this reason. I know that grandmother read and studied hers regularly and had her daily seasons of secret prayer. She was a deeply religious woman. Christian duties always had the first place in her heart and life, and it seemed to me that there was no end to the hymns she could repeat, and which she seemed to enjoy repeating so much, especially on the Sabbath, really making it a day of worship at home when unable to attend church, which was many times the case on account of the distance and the weakness of age.

No one ever came to our home even for a short stay, when she did not inquire of them tenderly and earnestly in regard to their relations to God. With a child's curiosity I used to watch and listen for these confidences. I remember of a 'tramp' coming once, a man well known in the town as a tramp, and addicted to the habit of drinking liquor whenever he could get it. I saw and heard her put the usual question to him. To my surprise he took from his pocket a part of a Testament, and assured her of his interest and the comfort he had in reading it.

I think that in her younger days she must have been energetic, courageous and high spirited. I often heard her tell of her first coming to Lyme. She came on horseback from Connecticut to visit her brothers, riding a spirited horse that had been used in the army during the Revolutionary War. She never failed to say that when riding through a town or village she would spur up her horse that she might make a fine appearance.

She was always happy and cheerful when well. Sometimes when ill she would be somewhat depressed and anxious, but in her last illness, which lasted only a few days, she had no anxiety, no wish to recover. She was satisfied with life, ready to go, and so was the promise verified: 'At evening time it shall be light.'

"From the children of Joel Converse large families have sprung; and, whether residents of Lyme or other places, they have been reckoned among the substantial and respected citizens. Many of them have become teachers of much ability and extensive learning."

The original farm, since its first settlement, continued in the family in direct descent, from Joel⁶ to Theron,⁶ to Benjamin Porter,⁷ to Sidney Alpheus.⁸ In 1889 the homestead was sold to George W. Kibbe. The original house forms a part of the present dwelling (1900).

Children of Joel and Demaris (Wilson) Converse:

LYMAN CONVERSE,⁶ born in Thompson Parish, Killingly, Conn., 3 July 1779; died in Lyme, N. H., 16 Sept. 1864; married, 1st, Mary Kent; married, 2nd, Mrs. Electa (White) Converse, a widow. (66)

OTIS CONVERSE,⁶ born 24 Sept. 1781; died in Parishville, N. Y., in 1826; married Clarissa Porter. (67)

DEMARIS CONVERSE,⁶ born, in Thompson Parish, 6 Aug. 1783; married Asa Taintor. (68)

The Converse Family

Children of Joel and Elizabeth (Bixby) Converse:

- JOEL CONVERSE,⁶ JR., born in Thompson, 5 Nov. 1785; died in Lyme, N. H., 22 May 1874; married, 1st, Hope Tinkham; married, 2nd, Abigail Coult. (69)
- THERON CONVERSE,⁶ born in Thompson, 19 May 1787; died in Lyme, N. H., 7 April 1861; married, 1st, Mary Porter; married, 2nd, Miriam Carpenter. (70)
- MARQUIS CONVERSE,⁶ born in Lyme, N. H., 12 July 1789; died there 21 Nov. 1840; married Electa White. (71)
- ELIZABETH CONVERSE,⁶ born in Lyme, N. H., 20 May 1791; died in Orfordville, N. H., 16 April 1863; married, 1st, Asa Taintor; married, 2nd, Ira Morsy. (72)
- SARAH CONVERSE,⁶ born in Lyme, 2 July 1793; died there 11 Feb. 1864; married Joshua Thornton. (73)
- AMASA CONVERSE,⁶ D.D., born in Lyme, 21 Aug. 1795; died in Louisville, Ky., 9 Dec. 1872; married Flavia Booth. (74)
- JOHN KENDRICK CONVERSE,⁶ REVEREND, born in Lyme, 15 June 1801; died in Burlington, Vt., 3 Oct. 1880; married Sarah Allen. (75)

30. CAPTAIN PAIN CONVERS⁶ (Pain⁴ (16), Samuel,³ Sergeant Samuel,² Deacon Edward¹), born 28 October 1739; married, 11 December 1760, Mary Lee. He was an active business man, much employed in public affairs; appointed captain 7th Company, 11th Regiment, in 1761; one of the first selectmen chosen after Thompson became a town, and served on a committee to settle with Killingly. He removed with his large family about the year 1790 to Bridport, Vermont, Addison County, near Lake Champlain.

The above record of Captain Pain is from Mr. Wm. G. Hill's "Family Record of Deacons James W. and Elisha S. Converse."

The following additional particulars have been collected:

Captain Pain served in the American Army in the Revolutionary War, as stated in the Reed MS., and as set forth in the following certificate:

STATE OF CONNECTICUT,

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

HARTFORD, Jan. 31st, 1899.

This is to certify that

PAIN CONVERSE

served in the war of the Revolution, and the following is said service according to the records of this office.

On page 14 "Connecticut Men in the Revolution" appears the following:

Pain Converse, Ensign, from the town of Killingly. Number of days in the service seven (7). In the list of men who marched from the Connecticut towns for the relief of Boston in the Lexington alarm, April, 1775.

The Converse Family

EMILY CULVER BISHOP,⁹ b. 24 April 1838; d. 7 June 1886; m., in Earlville, 13 Feb. 1854, by Rev. Chauncy White, Francis Elisha Miles, of Otselic, son of Lorenzo Miles. Children:

CHARLES HENRY MILES,⁹ b., in Otselic, 14 Sept. 1856; resides in Canastota, N. Y.; m., in Otselic, 25 Dec. 1883, by Rev. Jos. B. Wilson, Mary Ella Buckingham, b., in Otselic, 11 Oct. 1867, daughter of Edwin Buckingham.

IDA MAY MILES,⁹ d. in infancy.

MOTT CLARENCE MILES,⁹ b., in Otselic, 25 Dec. 186-; m. in Georgetown, N. Y., 3 June 1883, by Rev. Preston King Sheldon, Cora Ernestine Ward, b., in Otselic, 29 Oct. 1866; residence, Norwich, N. Y. Children:

FRANCES LEWIS MILES,¹⁰ b., in Otselic, 12 June 1884.

CLAUD PEARL MILES,¹⁰ b., in Otselic, 16 April 1887.

EARL KINNEY MILES,¹⁰ b., in Otselic, 30 Oct. 1892.

HENRY ADELBERT MILES,⁹ b. 30 Jan. 1865; m. Harriet Perkins of Otselic.

FLOYD R. MILES,⁹ b., in Otselic, 20 Nov. 1867; resides in Georgetown, N. Y.; m., 17 Aug. 1892, by Rev. Mr. Rowley, Bertha Tyler, b. 6 June 1873. Children:

RUBY OLIVE MILES,¹⁰ b. 14 Sept. 1894.

WALKER FLOYD MILES,¹⁰ b. 7 June 1897.

ROY TYLER MILES,¹⁰ b. 16 Nov. 1899.

DEMARIS TAINTOR,⁷ born 13 July 1808; married in Plymouth, N. Y., 12 Nov. 1829, by Rev. Mr. Clark of Plymouth, N. Y., to Thomas Champlain Bates. One child was born to them, 13 July 1830, HARRIET ELIZA BATES,⁸ who died in Hamilton, N. Y., 9 Feb. 1844. Mr. and Mrs. Bates resided in Columbus, Smyrna, Earlville, Hamilton and Otselic, N. Y. She died, in Otselic, 9 May 1851, and he married her half sister, Harriet.

ASA LOOMIS TAINTOR⁷.



Mrs. Abigail (Coult) Converse.

69. JOEL CONVERSE,⁹ JR. (Joel²(29), Thomas,⁴ Samuel,³ Sergeant Samuel,² Deacon Edward¹), born in Thomipson, Conn., 5 November 1785; lived in Lyme and died there 22 May 1874. He married, first, Hope Tinkham who was born in Lyme in 1788, and died in Lyme 27 October 1813; there were no children by this marriage. He married, second, 4 April 1814, Abigail Coult, who was born, in Lyme, 6 March 1791, and died, in Lyme, 11 October 1869.

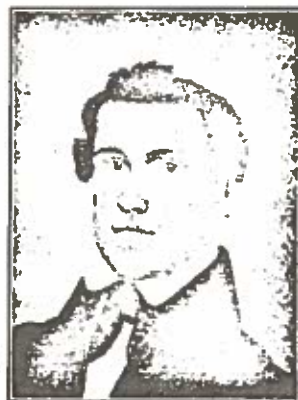
- Abigail Coult's father was Amherst Coult, M.D., born in Lyme, Conn., 27 July 1759. He lived most of his life in Lyme, N. H., where he practised his profession, and died in Chester (now Auburn), N. H. Her mother, Miriam

*Abigail Coult a sister to Miriam Coult
 who m. Mr. Perkins d.
 m. James Holcomb
 probably buried in Auburn, N. H. m. Jones
 d. 1870*

d. Oct 1805 in Lyme
Thee book of the church

Giddings, daughter of Deacon Thomas and Mary Giddings of East Hartland, Conn., was married 12 September 1784, and died in Lyme, N. H., 28 October 1835. Abigail was the fourth of ten children.

Joel Converse Jr.'s farm, where he lived and died, was purchased from his father, and consisted of a hundred acres one mile west of his father's farm. One large pine tree, four feet in diameter, was, however, reserved by his father to give to the eldest son, Lyman, for shingles, and it is said that some of those shingles are doing service now (1900). One of his early memories was that of his father starting Lyman and himself with oxen and steers to church, in winter, four long miles, for an all-day service. The Bixbys and the Dimicks added two or more yokes, and the sled was filled with boys and girls from the numerous families.



Dr. Julius Miner Converse.

Children of Joel, Jr., and Abigail (Coult) Converse:

FRANCIS WILSON CONVERSE,⁷ born 17 January 1815; died, in Lyme, 26 Sept. 1880; married, 9 Nov. 1852, Clara H. Chandler. (190)

JULIUS MINER CONVERSE,⁷ DOCTOR, born 3 January, 1816; studied medicine with Dr. Woodward of the State Lunatic Asylum, Worcester, Mass., and afterwards in Philadelphia, where he died, 16 May 1841, while engaged in hospital practice.

ABIGAIL MATSON CONVERSE,⁷ born 6 May 1817. About 1842 or 1843 she went to Hanover Co., Va., to teach in several families, principally, however, in those of Col. Shelton, and Wm. T. H. Pollard. At the home of the latter she had both boarding and day scholars. "Some of the noblest women in Hanover Co. at this time are indebted, for their development, both of heart and intellect, to her teaching in which she exerted a very elevating and beautiful and lasting influence. As a woman she was one of the purest and sweetest in disposition. As a poetess she was highly gifted." She was stricken down with her last illness while teaching in Hanover Co., and died in Richmond, Va., 4 Dec. 1851.



Abigail Matson Converse.

WILLIAM CONVERSE,⁷ born 10 Nov. 1818; died, in Lyme, 27 March 1819.

LAURA ADELIA CONVERSE,⁷ born 13 Feb. 1820; died, in Lyme, 15 Oct. 1848.

Richmond
Lyme

LYDIA CONVERSE,⁷ born 7 July 1821; married William Washburn Morey; died in Franklin, Mass., 23 June 1885. (197)

SAMUEL BIXBY CONVERSE,⁷ born 7 May 1823; died in Orford, N. H., 12 Jan. 1844.

HARRIET NEWELL CONVERSE,⁷ born 11 Dec. 1824; died, in Lyme, 10 March 1854.

MARILLA THERESA CONVERSE,⁷ born 7 Sept. 1826; died in Oakdale, Mass., 5 Jan. 1892; married, 1st, Harrison W. Babbitt; 2nd, Harrison Wyman. (198)

CAROLINE WILSON CONVERSE,⁷ born 8 July 1828; married, 1st, T. Jerome Stark; 2nd, Apollos Everett Howard. (199)

WILLIAM AMHERST COULT CONVERSE,⁷ REVEREND, born 30 April 1830; married, 1st, 11 July 1858, Mary Tibbetts; married, 2nd, Mrs. Sarah Dimick Waite Smith. (200)

MARY CONVERSE,⁷ born 4 March 1835; died 4 March 1835.



Harriet Newell Converse.

70. THERON CONVERSE⁸ (Joel³(29), Thomas,⁴ Samuel,⁵ Sergeant Samuel,² Deacon Edward¹), born in Thompson, Conn., 19 May 1787. He married, first, in Lyme, N. H., 25 October 1810, Mary Porter who was born, in Lyme, 1 September 1791, and was the daughter of Deacon William and Phœbe (Kingsbury) Porter.* By her he had five children. She died, in Lyme, 23 February 1821. He married, second, in Lyme, 20 November 1821, Miriam Carpenter, daughter of Jesse and Polly (Fairfield) Carpenter, born, 8 May 1793, on the farm in the eastern part of Lyme where her parents resided for many years. She died at the old Converse homestead, in Lyme, 13 August 1860, where her husband also died 7 April 1861. They were both members of the Congregational Church of Lyme. He was very genial and hospitable, fond of company, full of humour, and a good raconteur. He was also fond of music, played the fife in his younger days, taught singing school, and sang a great deal even to old age. About 1822 he lost more than half of his right hand by the accidental discharge of a gun,



Theron and Miriam
(Carpenter) Converse.

*Mary Porter's older sister, Clarissa, married Otis Converse, Theron's older brother.

~~Army of the Republic, in which he has several times held office. Mr. and Mrs. King have one daughter:~~

~~RUTH ELIZABETH KING,² born in Franklin, Mass., 10 Jan. 1835.~~

~~WILLIAM WASHBURN MOREY,³ Jr., born in Bradford, Vt., 30 June 1858; died there 21 March 1864.~~

198. MARILLA THERESA CONVERSE⁷ (Joel⁶ (69), Joel,⁵ Thomas,⁴ Samuel,³ Sergeant Samuel,² Deacon Edward¹), born in Lyme, N. H., 7 September 1826; married, first, in Auburn, N. H., 18 May 1848, by Rev. Mr. Holmes, to Harrison Willard Babbitt, who was born in Barre, Mass., 31 March 1812, the son of Isaac and Sarah (Phinney) Babbitt of Barre. Isaac Babbitt moved from Norton, Mass., to Barre about 1810, and Sarah Phinney was from Middleboro, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Willard Babbitt commenced house-keeping in Concord, N. H., whence they removed to Worcester, Mass., about January 1849. They resided in the latter city until September 1882, when they



Mrs. Marilla Theresa (Converse) Babbitt.



Harrison Willard Babbitt.

moved to Barre, Mass., having bought the old homestead there. Harrison Willard Babbitt died, in Barre, 4 August 1885, and his remains lie in the family lot in that town. He was a man of strong convictions, and never lacked courage to make them known. He was thrifty, persevering and industrious.

Marilla T. (Converse) Babbitt was married, second, in Hartford, Conn., 4 January 1888, by Rev. Charles E. Stowe, to Harrison Wyman, whose father was Levi Wyman of Chesterfield, N. H., and whose mother was Mrs. Polly (Witt) Brown, a widow when she married Levi Wyman. Harrison Wyman was a farmer, and resided in Hubbardston, Mass., where he was a deacon in the Congregational Church. On his farm there, called "Bleakside," Mr. and Mrs. Wyman lived until his death 30 August 1891. Mrs. Wyman thereafter

resided with her children until her death, 5 January 1892, at the home of her daughter Mary, in Oakdale, Mass.; she was laid to rest in the family lot in Barre.

The short poems written by her at various times were collected by her children after her death, and published in a booklet entitled "Mother's Poems," from the press of Lucius P. Goddard, Worcester, 1892. They consist largely of devotional verses and poems of home life.

It seems desirable to preserve the following obituary notices by republication here:

Mr. Harrison W. Babbitt departed this life at his home in Barre, Mass., on the afternoon of August 4th, 1885, aged seventy-three years. A serious accident, followed by five days and nights of suffering, was, in the Divine Providence the cause of his sudden removal from "the weakness of earth to the eternal strength and blessedness of heaven."

In early life Mr. Babbitt made a public profession of his faith in Christ, and during more than fifty years witnessed a good confession, both in the busy life of the city, and later, in the quietude of the country. Morning and evening for more than thirty years the family gathered around the altar where the Bible was read, and where the husband and father commended his household to the care of the Heavenly Father. He believed it a good custom to begin the day with God. He lived to see nearly all his children walking in the path to Heaven; and, when on the bed of death, he commended his loved ones in prayer to God, asking that they may all be united in love to each other and in love to the Lord. His desire seemed to be to recover, yet he asked to have his own will merged in the Lord's will, saying, "If it be thy will to remove me now, then prepare me by thy grace to come home to Thee."

As the years advanced, Mr. Babbitt seemed to love more and more the service of the sanctuary, and, when able to attend church, was found in his place in the Sabbath School. It was his custom and delight, when his best friends were visiting him, to recall the sermons which he heard in early years; sermons preached on some special occasion. He would repeat the text, also give many leading thoughts of the sermon. About a year before his death he listened to a sermon which made a lasting impression upon his mind. The text was: "For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away." On his sick bed, he asked to have the beatitudes in Matthew 5 read to him. The first, "Blessed are the poor in spirit," seemed to cheer him the most. He said to those of his family about him, "My work is done, but it is all right." The end came sooner than his physicians and his family expected. On the afternoon of the fifth day of suffering, the "messenger" came and unbound the bands of clay very gently

and at the last he "fell asleep" to wake no more on earth. His physician whispered, "He is gone," and the beloved physician, a few old and tried friends, and his family, who were gathered about his bed, turned away, feeling that they were on holy ground.

Three days later the funeral obsequies were attended at the pleasant, ample homestead, and the husband and father was borne slowly to the place of burial, and, by the hands of old schoolmates, laid to rest beside the son with whom he had parted in tears and sadness just fifteen summers ago. Thus, the family who recently, once and again and again, have been called to mourn over loved kindred departed, are lonely and sad, feeling that home—the home where he was born, the home where he wished to live and die—is not the same to them; yet it is not gloomy, for the precious promises of God are fulfilled to them, "My grace shall be sufficient for thee." May the dear children heed the wise counsels and emulate the virtues of the father, who loved them, and loves them still. May they imitate his habits of temperance, industry and frugality, and then, with the blessings of Heaven, may they hope for a long and useful life, a safe and peaceful death.—(Christian Observer.)

The announcement of the death of Mrs. Wyman, formerly Mrs. Harrison Babbitt, was a surprise to her many friends in this town, where she had been visiting only a short time before her death. It seems that she was taken with the illness that proved fatal shortly after leaving here, and while visiting at her daughter's (Mrs. Bradley) at Oakdale. The funeral services were held in the Congregational Chapel, in this place, on Thursday of last week, with the attendance of a considerable number of her friends and former neighbors. Rev. Wm. A. C. Converse, a brother of the deceased, of Piermont, N. H., was present at the services, with his wife. He, with a sister, who was not able to attend, is now the only surviving member of a family of twelve. Mrs. Wyman was a woman greatly devoted to her family, and her life illustrated the home virtues. She was a person of much thought and could express herself readily, both in conversation and with her pen. Not a few of her poems have been published.—(Barre Gazette.)

By the death of Mrs. Wyman, Jan. 5, the churches in Hubbardston and in Barre have lost one known and prized as a helper. Her Christian life commenced in childhood in her home in Lyme, N. H., where she united with the church in 1845. As a mother she has ministered to her own household of seven children and found time to give to the needs of the neighborhood and of the church. Her pastor always expected her at the prayer-meetings, and was helped by her faithfulness. Her membership was for twenty-three years with the Barre church, where she was buried.

Many will recall poems from her pen printed in the Christian Observer, but frequently copied in other papers. One of these, "Songs of Heaven," bearing

her initials, "M. T. B." and printed in "Mother, Home and Heaven" will be doubly dear to the children and friends who mourn her loss.—(Congregationalist.)

Marilla Theresa Converse, widely known as a contributor to our columns, over the initials of "M. T. B." and wife of the late Harrison W. Babbitt, of Barre, Mass., died Jan. 5th, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Mary A. Bradley, in Oakdale, Mass.

She was born in Lyme, N. H., Sept. 7, 1826, and in her early childhood became a Christian, and learned to love the Christian Observer, published by her cousins in a far-away State, for which she frequently contributed both prose and poetry in later years.

Abby M. Converse (C. M. A.) her eldest sister, wrote for the Observer many years ago. After her death, through a remarkable experience, the sister's mantle fell upon Marilla, and she immediately began writing.

She was married to Harrison W. Babbitt, May 18, 1848, and for nearly forty years led a most devoted home life at Worcester and Barre, Mass.

Into that home were born four sons and three daughters. In early manhood one son was called from the family circle. The other children survive her. With all the home devotion, she still found time to lay a sympathizing hand on the brow of the sick, to close sightless eyes, to pray with and comfort bereaved ones and labor earnestly for church, charitable and missionary work.

The poem, "Waiting," which we print on the first page this week, was found in her writing-desk after her death. It was among the last, if not the latest, of her poems.—(Christian Observer.)

Children of Harrison Willard and Marilla Theresa (Converse) Babbitt:

CLARA FRANCES BABBITT,^a born in Worcester, Mass., 5 June 1849; united with the Congregational Church in Barre in Sept. 1871; resided for some years in Franklin and Fitchburg, Mass., and taught school one year in Hartland, Conn., where she met Amherst Lanman Holcombe, and was married to him at the family home, in Barre, 30 Nov. 1882, by Rev. Joseph F. Gaylord. Mr. Holcombe was born in Granby, Conn., 29 March 1822, and was the son of James and Miriam (Cott) Holcombe. Amherst Lanman Holcombe was a successful farmer, and, on his hill-side farm in Granby, Conn., they lived until Sept., 1887, when they moved to Hartford, Conn., where, in exchange for the Granby farm, he had taken a smaller farm on "Brindly Hill" just within the city limits of Hartford. Mr. Holcombe died there 14 Oct. 1894. He was an industrious and thrifty farmer, a good financier, interested in local and national affairs, and a member of the Congregational Church. Mrs. Holcombe continued to live



Mrs. Clara Frances (Babbitt) Johnson.

*a 2/21/34
in Forgetnik, 71.6.
insert in So P.m.*

in the Hartford home until her second marriage, in Hartford, 8 Dec. 1897, by Rev. Joseph H. Twitchell of Hartford, to Lusias Sanborn Johnson, who was born in Newport, Me., 15 June 1845, the son of John and Mary (Rowley) Johnson, lived in Manchester, N. H., after he was three years old. He removed to Southern



Amherst Lanman Holcombe.



Lusias Sanborn Johnson.

*died July 31. 1936
Southern Pines, N.C.*

Pines, N. C., in February 1893, where Mr. and Mrs. Johnson reside on his farm, and where she is a member of the Congregational Church.
Children:

FRANK LANMAN HOLCOMBE, b. in Granby, Conn., 29 Sept. 1885; bapt. June, 1889, by Rev. Joseph H. Twitchell of the Asylum Hill Church of Hartford, Conn.



Frank Lanman Holcombe.
Kate Miriam Holcombe.

*26/3/52
Frank married
Sept 6th 1914 in
Dow City, Iowa to
Frances Hallowell
children*

*Married in Southern
Pines, N.C. Oct 21st
to Galois Johnson 1909
children*

KATE MIRIAM HOLCOMBE, b. in Hartford, Conn., 22 Nov. 1888; bapt., June 1889, by Rev. Joseph H. Twitchell.

EDWIN CONVERSE BARRITT, born in Worcester, Mass., 26 Nov. 1850. Leaving home in 1870, he entered the works of the Rollstone Machine Co. in Fitchburg, Mass., where he learned to be a machinist, and remained in their service most of the time for nineteen years,—the last five years as foreman. From that time until January,

*Amherst Lanman
July 2nd 1915*

1918 in Robert Newport 2/25/42

died Dec 6th 1915

James Galbraith, April 16, 1920 D. April 11, 1924

*James Hallowell
Sept 29th 1916*

Leona May McNeil, July 12, 1923

*Ronald Norton
Dec. 14 1918*

in Olive Camp 61

*Jane Garland
Aug 8 1921*

The Converse Family

1900, he was Superintendent of the Willard Screen Plate Co., metal manufacturers of Fitchburg. Since January, 1900, he has been sales agent, Screen Plate Department, Union Machine Co., Fitchburg. He is also a member of the firm of Babbitt Bros., at Fitchburg, manufacturers of Samson screws and patent stove dampers, etc.



Edwin Converse Babbitt.



Mrs. Edith Adeline (Foster) Babbitt.

died Jan 1872

He joined the Rollstone Congregational Church in 1871. He is a member of Charles W. More Lodge, F. & A.M.; is a charter member of Fitchburg Commandery United



Ida Marrian Babbitt.

*Married S. P. Arnold
Aug 13. 1893.
Children*

*Edward Babbitt Jan 8. 1895
Foster Converse. Aug 26. 1895*

Order Golden Cross, and has for years been a temperance worker in the Temple of Honor. In Winthrop, Me., on 22 Sept. 1874, at the silver wedding of her parents, he married Edith Adeline Foster, the eldest daughter of Charles and Angelia (Parlin) Foster of Winthrop. One child was born to them, 2 July 1875, IDA MARRIAN BABBITT, who is a stenographer, unmarried.

FRANK ALLEN BABBITT,¹ born in Worcester, Mass., 15 July 1853; lived at home until within a short time previous to his death in Barre, 25 Aug. 1870. On the white marble stone which marks the head of his grave in Barre are these words, eloquent to his memory:

"Our Frank, — Amiable, Obedient, Truthful. These were his leading virtues."



Frank Allen Babbitt.

MARY ALICE BABBITT,¹ born in Worcester, Mass., 19 Nov. 1855; united with the Congregational Church in Barre in July 1866. She was married, in Barre, 30 Nov. 1882, by Rev. Joseph F. Gay-



Mrs. Mary Alice (Babbitt) Bradley.

lord (same date and service as the marriage of her sister Clara) to William Charles Bradley, who is the son of William and Mary (Cochran) Bradley of Lowell, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. William Charles Bradley resided in Nashua, N. H., where he was in the service of the Boston & Maine R. R. Co., until April, 1891, when they bought the old home in Barre where they resided until November of the same year. They then removed to Oakdale, Mass. where Mr. Bradley re-entered the service of the B. & M. R. R. as station agent at Oakdale. In February, 1895, they removed from Oakdale to Fitchburg, Mass., where Mr. Bradley continues railroad service in the employ of the Fitchburg R. R. He is a prominent member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Children:

*died Jan 31 1920
Fitchburg, Mass*

*died June 2 1888
Hospital in
Boston Mass.*



—Mr. and Mrs. Henry Benedict, High Rock road, who observed the 10th anniversary of their wedding last Thursday, were tendered an informal reception by about 30 members of the Altrurian class and other members of the First Methodist church at their home Sunday afternoon. The party met at the church and made the trip to the Benedict home by automobile. Rev. Charles H. Davis, in behalf of the friends, presented the couple with a \$20 gold piece. Mrs. Benedict also received potted plants, bouquets of flowers, fruits and other gifts. Mrs. Benedict has been an invalid for the past eight years and previous to her illness was most active in the work of the young people of the church.



William Elmer Bradley.
Lillian Bradley.

b. in Nashua, N. H., 28 April 1884.
b., in Nashua, 28 Oct. 1885; d. 17 May 1886.
Nashua, 7 Dec. 1888.

*Elmer married
Lillian April 8
1908 at Grand E
Brewer.
children
Eleanor, Jan 23.1
Adelaide Oct 25.11
Sherley.*

Henry Benedict

The Converse Family

KATE MARIA BABBITT,* born in Worcester, Mass., 7 Oct. 1860; united with the Congregational Church, in Barre, in January 1886, and with Union Congregational Church, in Worcester, in November 1891. She was married, at her sister Clara's home in Hartford, 5 May 1891, by Rev. William H. Gilbert, to Hiram Newton Cudworth,



Hiram Newton Cudworth.



Marilla Converse Cudworth.



Mrs. Kate M. (Babbitt) Cudworth.

who is the son of Shadrach Nye and Mariah Antoinette (Keith) Cudworth of Sandwich, Mass. Hiram Newton Cudworth is a machinist. He served an apprentice-



Mrs. Margaret E. (Condra) Babbitt.

ship in the famous works of Brown & Sharp in Providence, R.I. About 1883 he removed to Worcester, Mass., where he entered the employ of Prentice Bros., builders of lathes and upright drills. In 1890 he was promoted to the position of superintendent, and has



Alfred Lincoln Babbitt.

since so continued. To Mr. and Mrs. Cudworth one child, MARILLA CONVERSE CUDWORTH,* born 21 May 1893, baptized 27 Sept. 1893 by Rev. Dr. Davis, pastor Union Church.

d. Sept 21, 1944

ALFRED LINCOLN BABBITT,* born in Barre, Mass., 11 Nov. 1862; married in Worcester, Mass., June 1889, Margaret Elizabeth Condra: Children:

ALICE MARILLA BABBITT,* b. in Barre, 26 Oct. 1890. *Wed Dec 23*

CATHERINE FRANCES BABBITT,* b. in Barre, 28 March 1894.

HARDING EUGENE BABBITT,* b. in Barre, Mass., 28 March 1896.



Alice Marilla Babbitt.
Catherine Frances Babbitt.

Wed June 12, 1959

*Died Nov 9th 1918
Barre Mass.*

*Died in Fitchburg
Aug. 14 1911*

MILTON PECK BABBITT,¹ born, in Barre, 2 Jan. 1867. After attending Eastman's Business College, in Poughkeepsie, N. Y., he engaged as book-keeper in the hardware store of A. B. Lawrence in Fitchburg, Mass., but his employer soon discovered his ability as a salesman, and in the latter capacity he remained for three years. Subsequently he resided in Birmingham, Ala., for one year, when he accepted an offer from his former employer, A. B. Lawrence, in Fitchburg, for a three years' contract. After the expiration of this engagement he was in the employ of Cummings & Shedd, hardware dealers, in Fitchburg. In Sept. 1897, he accepted a position with the Danforth Chemical Co. of Leominster, Mass., became a partner in the firm, and was elected Secretary, which position he still holds. He is also a member of the firm of Babbitt Bros. of Fitchburg, composed of his brother, Edwin Converse



Milton Peck Babbitt.



Mrs. Harriet Mariah (Dalton) Babbitt.

Babbitt, and himself, manufacturers of screws, patent stove dampers, etc. He is a prominent Mason, Odd Fellow, and club man.—genial, generous and popular with all. He was married, in Fitchburg, 26 June 1894, by Rev. James F. Albion, pastor of the Universalist Church of Fitchburg, to Harriet Mariah Dalton, who was born in Stockbridge, Vt., 8 Aug. 1866, the daughter of Isaac and Laura Ann (Abbott) Dalton of Stockbridge.

~~189 CAROLINE WILSON CONVERSE¹ (Joel² (69), Joel,³ Thomas,⁴ Samuel,⁵ Sergeant Samuel,² Deacon Edward¹), born in Lyme, N. H., 8 July 1828;~~



Mrs. Caroline Wilson (Converse) Stark.



Zephaniah Jerome

Appendix 2.

The line of descent of Elizabeth Bixby who married Joel Converse⁵ (29) was as follows:

- I. JOSEPH BIXBY.
- II. BENJAMIN BIXBY.
- III. SAMUEL BIXBY.
- IV. JONATHAN BIXBY.
- V. ELIZABETH BIXBY.

Birby Family.

JOSEPH BIRBY¹ came from England about 1637; lived in Ipswich, Mass., until 1660; whence he moved to a settlement in the town of Rowley, Mass., known as Rowley Village, but afterwards incorporated as the town of Boxford, Mass. In 1685, Joseph Birby's name appears upon the petition for the incorporation of the town, signed by the five principal settlers. This account of him comes largely from Perley's History of Boxford, which frequently mentions him, and says that he was one of the leading men of the village. Reference is made therein to the purchase by him and five others of 3000 acres of land; and another purchase by him with three others of 800 acres. He was a stockholder in the iron works established at Lynn in 1611 by a London syndicate represented by John Winthrop, Jr. He was one of the Selectmen of Boxford. About 1682 he was one of a committee to go to Cambridge to "pilot to Topsfield" the Rev. Joseph Capen the newly appointed minister. In 1685 and 1689 he was one of the boundaries committee. In 1691 he was one of the tithing men. In 1698-1699 he was one of the committee for the completion of the meeting house. He was styled "Sergeant" and was a member of the Rowley Train Band. In King Philip's War (1675-1676) he served in Capt. Samuel Brocklebank's company. Because he had been posted, with a few others, to guard the garrison house at Marlborough he escaped the terrible fate of Capt. Brocklebank and many of his comrades in the fight at Sudbury.

MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES.
Vol. 68: 68.

To the Honored Governour and Councell.

This may Certifie that we have Impressed Twelwe men according to our warrant and have given them charge to fit themselves well with warme cloathing and we hope they will and doe indever to fixe themselves as well as they can only some of them are men that are but lately come to towne and want armes the which to provide for them we must prese other mens armes which is very greavious (except

(805)

they can be provided for upon the Country account: which would be very acceptable if it could be

The Names of the men are

JOSEPH BIXBIE

Dated Rowley 29th of November 1675, by me Samuell Broocklebanke Capt.

Vol. 68: 96.

Lists of Soldiers under Major Appleton (1675):

JOSEPH BIGSBY

Vol. 68: 99.

A list of the names of ye Souldiers Returned as Impressed for ye Service of the Country out of Essex—(1675):

from Rowley,

JOSEPH BIXBIE.

Vol. 107: 18.

At a Towne meting hild in boxford the 20th of may '89 the towne have Chosen 5 or 6 asistane to Joyen with the oueld government acording to Chartor rites Chosen in may 1686 and then Sworen to bee the government of this Colony also mr waight wintrup to be the Maiger genarall of this year in seuing also the Towne have Chosen John Pebody to bee a representative for the Towne and to Carey our votes to boston our miends being in boston all rely for reasuning of government.

JOSEPH BIXBIE in the
behalf of the Towne.

Vol. 107: 142.

This may informe the Honored Governer and asistene and representatives or the Sevuerall Towns of this Colony that we who are the souldiers of Boxford haveing reseved orders for the nominasyon of officers whare there is wanting, and our former offiser SARGENT BIGSBIE by name being altogether disinated by reson of age and infirmytyes of Body that we are wholly destytute, whaerfore acording to orders we reseved from your honers, we have by a unanimous voyce nomonnated Ens. John Peabody to be our Lieutenent and John Perley to be our Ensigne: Humbly in treating the Honored Courte to Establish them by Commissions in thare places as above mentioned thay being knowen men and of good acount.

SARGANT JOSEPH BYXBIE.

dat the 24th of June, 1689.

SAMUEL SYMONDS: CLARK
JOHN CHADWICK

In the name of the foot souldiers of Boxford.

Boston, 27th June, '89.

The Governor and Council do allow and confirm the above nomination of Officers in the respective places unto which they are appointed.

ISA. ADDINGTON, Sec'ry.

Consented to allowed & Confirmed by the Representatives, the above written Nomination officers in Boxford in there Respective places unto which they are appointed.

Dated as above sd.

ATTEST, EBENEZER POUT, CLERK.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
BOSTON, APRIL 10TH, 1900.

I certify the foregoing citations to be true abstracts from the Massachusetts Archives deposited in this office.

(SEAL) WITNESS the Seal of the Commonwealth.

WM. M. OLIN,
Secretary.

Gage's History of Rowley also includes a record of Joseph Bixby's military service in 1675-1676 (pp. 181 to 190); his petition with four others to the General Court for the incorporation of the town (pp. 365, 366); and his purchase in conjunction with Francis Peabody, Abraham Reddington, and William Foster of 80 acres bounded north by land of Dorman, Cummings and Stiles, west by the Andover line, south by Wade's brook, etc., and east by various lots of land (p. 359). In that history his name appears first upon a committee in behalf of the Village of Rowley in a boundary agreement, 7 July 1685, between the Village of Rowley and the town of Rowley (pp. 367, 368).

Joseph Bixby made a marriage agreement on the 15th of the 10th month 1647 with the young widow of Luke Heard of Salisbury, who died in 1645 leaving two sons, John and Edmund under thirteen. Mr. and Mrs. Heard had also lived in Ipswich. Mr. Heard was young when his death occurred. His widow's maiden name was Sarah Wyatt. At the time of her marriage with Mr. Bixby her parents were both living, and her mother was owning land in Assington, Suffolk Co., England. Joseph Bixby died 19 April 1700, being aged. His will was made 11 November 1699, and proved 6 March 1703-4. His widow died 3 June 1704, aged 84.

"Joseph and Sarah Bixby were noted people for those days, and the Bixbys have always been remarkable for great energy, force and moral purity." The name "Bixby" is of Danish origin, but the family came from England.

Children of Joseph and Sarah (Wyatt Heard) Bixby:

JOSEPH BIXBY,² born in Ipswich, Mass., 1619; married, 29 March 1682, Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah (Baker) Gould of Topsfield, and granddaughter of Zacheus Gould of Topsfield, formerly of Hemel Hempstead and Missenden, England.

Joseph Bixby² was Selectman of Boxford, a member of the Boxford Church, and one of the Church Committee appointed to settle differences with the Topsfield Church in regard to the ordination of the minister of the Church in Boxford. His descendants settled in Hopkinton, Mass. He was also a soldier in King Philip's War under Maj. Appleton, for which service his son John received a grant of land.

DANIEL BIXBY,² born in Ipswich, 1651; married Hannah Chandler of Andover 2 Dec. 1674; will, proved 1 July 1717, named wife Hannah, and children Joseph, Thomas, David, Mephibosheth, Mary, Hannah, and daughter-in-law, Rachel; wife and son Joseph, executors; lived in Andover, Mass. He was the ancestor of Dr. Bixby of Ludlow, Vt., and Dr. Bixby of Poultaey, Vt., brothers, who were surgeons in the Civil War; and also ancestor of Maj. A. H. Bixby of Frankestown, N. H., a gallant officer of the Civil War. Daniel Bixby²'s grandson, Samuel Bixby⁴ (born, Andover, 31 Aug. 1716, son of Mephibosheth³), rendered military service in 1759 in the French and Indian War. Mephibosheth³ also had son Daniel¹ who had son Jonathan² of whom the only record is that he was born 15 Dec. 1714, married 1 June 1768, Esther Gale of Weston, and settled in Winchendon.

BENJAMIN BIXBY,² born in Ipswich, in 1653; married Mary —; lived in Topsfield; progenitor of Elizabeth Bixby, 2nd wife of Joel Converse.

SARAH BIXBY,² born in Ipswich, in 1655; died 18 Jan. 1657.

NATHANIEL BIXBY,² born in Ipswich, in 1657; died 11 July 1658.

MARY BIXBY,² born in Ipswich, 18 Feb. 1659; married — Stone.

GEORGE BIXBY,² born in Rowley; his descendants have lived in Boxford, Mass., to the present day.

JONATHAN BIXBY,² born in Rowley; married Sarah Smith of Topsfield 2 Feb. 1692-3; lived in Boxford and his descendants resided there for many years; will, proved 20 May 1717, names wife, children Jonathan, Lydia Page, and minor children Nathaniel, Ruth, Mary, Susannah, Rebecca, and Elias. He was one of the selectmen of Boxford. Perley's History of Boxford mentions his request for dismissal from the Topsfield Church in order to join with others in forming the first church in Boxford. Among his descendants were Gov. Farham of Vermont and Col. P. P. Bixby who was a gallant officer of the Civil War and died in Concord, N. H. Jonathan and Sarah (Smith) Bixby had son Jonathan, Jr., born 1696, married, 1735, Ruth Fuller of Middleton, and died, in Middleton, 1780-1. Jonathan and Ruth (Fuller) Bixby had 14 children including Jonathan and Nathaniel. The latter was a soldier in 1756, when he was aged 20, and it is said was wounded, and that his uncle Elias of Sheffield journeyed to Albany to look after him.

ABIGAIL BIXBY,² born in Rowley.

BENJAMIN BIXBY² (*Joseph*¹) born in Ipswich in 1653; married Mary —; lived in Topsfield, Mass.; his children were Benjamin, Jr., Joshua, Caleb, Samuel, George, Nathan, Elizabeth, Jacob, Jemima and Richard as follows:

BENJAMIN BIXBY,³ Jr., born 26 Nov. 1678; settled in Killingly, Conn.; died 1 Dec. 1744. Miss Larned's History of Windham County, Conn., says he was the first resident

of that part of Thompson Parish in Killingly known as "Braudy Hill," and contains an account of his wife being shot and severely wounded by a drunken Indian. He was one of the five leading men of the North Parish of Killingly at the time of its organization as Thompson Parish in 1728, and was appointed to represent the Parish in the negotiations with Killingly for the formation of the new township. He was one of the original twenty-eight signers of the covenant in the formation of the new church of Thompson Parish, was prominent in the formation of the new church, assisted in building the meeting house, and in 1730 was chosen Deacon. At the first town meeting in Thompson Parish, 25 Nov. 1728, he was chosen one of the four townsmen. Miss Larned also says that when he removed to Killingly in 1718 he brought with him an apple tree which furnished that region with early apples for one and a half centuries. It was always known as "the Bixby apple" — a very pleasant juicy apple. His farm is now (1901) occupied by Mr. Mark Davis, brother of Gen. George Davis, first U. S. Acting Governor of Porto Rico.

JOSHUA BIXBY,³ married, 2 April 1714, Mary Davis.

CALEB BIXBY,² probably a son of Benjamin² and Mary.

SAMUEL BIXBY,² baptized 2 June 1689; married Martha Underwood; ancestor of Elizabeth (or Eliza) Bixby who married Joel Converse⁵ settled in Sutton, Mass.

GEORGE BIXBY,² born 31 Jan. 1692; ancestor of Rev. M. H. Bixby, D.D., of Providence, R. I., and of Mrs. Johnson of Providence, wife of Rev. T. Johnson, M.D.

NATHAN BIXBY,² born 4 Nov. 1691; settled in Killingly, Conn.; ancestor of George Bixby, editor of *Plattsburg (N. Y.) Republican*; also ancestor of Rev. Newell W. Bixby, a noted Free Will Baptist clergyman of Iowa, who was 90 years old 18 Jan. 1899. Nathan's son, Solomon,³ was born, in Boxford, 26 Oct. 1732, died in Stafford, Conn., His tombstone bears this inscription, "In memory of Mr. Solomon Bixby who died January 27th 1813. He was a firm supporter of the Christian religion, and a friend of his country, and of mankind." It has been said that he was a soldier in the American Army in the Revolutionary War, and that a "friend of his country" refers to that service. Was he the Solomon Bixby who served 1 May 1781 to 31 Dec. 1781 in Capt. Zebulon Butler's Co., in 4th regiment Conn. Line? Nathan's grandsons, Aaron⁴ and Jesse⁴ (sons of Nathan³) both served in the American Army in the Revolutionary War. The former enlisted 8 Jan. 1778 in Capt. Williams' Co., Col. Johnson's regiment of Connecticut; and Jesse in Capt. Green's Co., 11th regiment militia of Connecticut and was at New York in 1776. Nathan Bixby, Jr., was a soldier in the French and Indian War, 1756 (Larned's *History of Windham Co., Conn.*, Vol. 1, p. 567).

ELIZABETH BIXBY,² born 10 Nov. 1697.

JACOB BIXBY,² born 29 April 1700; settled in Killingly, Conn.; married Elizabeth Jewett. His son Samuel³ was born in Thompson, Conn., 5 May 1767, married, 28 Feb. 1788 Esther Ellithorpe; removed to Bridport, Vt., in 1791. Among their children were Sally Bixby³ who married Jaen Converse² of Bridport, and Jacob Bixby,³ father of C. C. Bixby⁶ of Brockton, Mass.

JEMIMA BIXBY,² born 26 Jan. 1702.

RICHARD BIXBY,² mentioned in Larned's *History of Windham County, Conn.*, as building with others a pew for themselves in Thompson Parish Church about 1739.

SAMUEL BIXBY³ (*Benjamin² Joseph¹*), baptized 2 June 1689; settled in Sutton, Mass., North Parish (now Millbury, Mass.) about 1716. Benedict's

History of Sutton has record of him and his children (p. 590), where the name is spelled "Bixbee," and says that his was one of the original thirty families and that his name is entered as a settler on lot number four of the eight lots.

The Killingly Church records give the marriage of Samuel Bixby and Martha Underwood, 14 May 1718.

The New England Hist. and Gen. Register, Vol. 38, p. 402, gives date of birth of Martha Underwood⁴ as 30 June 1689. Her line of descent was Thomas,² Joseph,¹ as follows:

JOSEPH UNDERWOOD,¹ born, in Hingham, 1637; freeman, Watertown, 1645; married, first, 13 Feb. 1658, Mary Ward; married, second, in Dorchester, Mass., 29 April 1665 (Barry says 1662), Mary How of Dorchester; probably from London. Bond's Watertown says Joseph was a proprietor at Hingham 1637, and afterwards of Watertown; that his brother, Thomas, represented Hingham 1636 and 1648, moved to Watertown where he was selectman 1656, and in his will left his nephew, Thomas (son of Joseph), then living with him, all his real estate except ten acres. Morse's Sherborn says Joseph died in Watertown 16 (12) 1676, aged 62 and that in 1666 Mary How was dismissed from the church in Dorchester to the church in Watertown.

THOMAS UNDERWOOD,² of Cambridge; born 11-8-1658; heir to his uncle; sells land 1694, 1697; married, 19 Nov. 1679, Mary Palmer. Searches by Mr. Eben Putnam, genealogist, correct a previous misapprehension as to the identity of a Thomas Underwood who was the second husband of Mrs. Magdalen Underwood, widow of still another Thomas Underwood. The results of Mr. Putnam's investigations are therefore included here and are as follows:

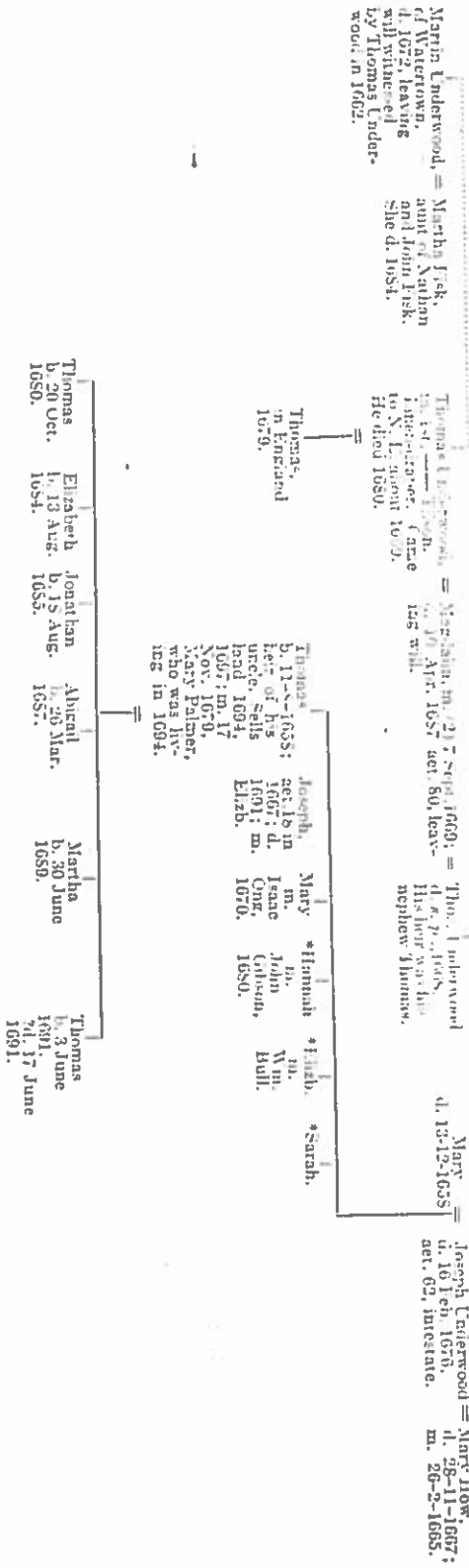
Mary Howe who married Joseph Underwood at Dorchester, 26 April 1665, was his second wife. She died, in Watertown, 28 Jan. 1667-8, and may be that Mary who testified in a Concord case in 1666, when she was aged 47 years.

Joseph Underwood was a brother of Thomas Underwood, Sr., of Watertown, who settled there in 1651, whither he was followed by Joseph in 1654. Joseph's first wife Mary, died 13 March 1658-9, four months after the birth of her son, Thomas, who became his uncle Thomas' heir.

Thomas Underwood, son of Joseph, was the third of that name in Watertown. In the will of his uncle, dated 15-12-1667 and proved 7 April 1668, he is called "son of my brother Joseph, now living with me." He is to have and enjoy as his proper inheritance the home-stall, house, barn, and all lands except the lot bought of Charles Stearns. "But if he proves stubborn or rebellious against his aunt, my wife," then she has power to disinherit him.

The aunt, Magdalen, married again, 7 Sept. 1669, a second Thomas Underwood who died in 1680, leaving a will in which he names his son Thomas in England. This Thomas of Watertown is probably he whom Robert Atkins in his letter to John Leverett

UNDERWOOD OF WATERBURY



The above pedigree is entirely from contemporaneous records and each item is proven by the record, except where queried.
 * Possibly these by second wife.

(dated 1672) from Boston, old England, mentions as having been a linen draper and some ten or twelve years since gone to New England where he married again. His first wife was a Tibson. He was probably a relative of Martin Underwood of Watertown whose wife was Martha Fiske.

Magdalen Underwood died 10 April 1687, aet. 80, and in her will names her kinsman, Thomas Underwood.

Thomas Underwood, third, son of Joseph and his first wife, Mary, born 11-8-1658 married, in Watertown, Mary Palmer who was living in 1691, when she appears in a deed of her husband to Nathan Fisk. Perhaps she was dead in 1697, as that year Thomas Underwood sells land without his wife appearing. Their son, Thomas Underwood, was probably that Thomas who died 17 June 1691.

Bond and Savage, in recording the early members of this family, failed to discover the existence of the second Thomas Underwood, and in consequence attempted in vain to harmonize the various records. Pope ignores the will of the elder Thomas and confounds the two husbands of Magdalen, making them one and the same.

Barry's History of Framingham, Mass., says that Samuel Bixby died in Sutton about 1743. Benedict's History of Sutton, which gives his children as below, says that "Samuel Bixbee was one of the original thirty families, and his name is entered as a settler on lot No. 4 of the 8 lots." In 1717, 4960 acres of land in Sutton were granted him and 29 others, and in 1728 his name appears as one of the original members of the first Congregational Church of Sutton.

NOTES BY EBEN PUTNAM ON SAMUEL BIXBY OF SUTTON.

Samuel Bixbee sold to Jonathan Stockwell of Sutton, yeoman, one and a quarter acres of land in Rams Horn meadow, Sutton, 25 Feb. 1728-9. Wife Martha. Both acknowledge, 13 April 1732. Worcester Deeds, III, 230. (Stockwell also buys, same date, one and a quarter acre in the same meadow from Caleb Bixby and wife Sarah.)

Samuel Bixby of Sutton, died intestate. Administration granted 13 May 1741, to Benjamin Bixby of Killingly, who presented an inventory dated 30 April 1741, "as it was shown to us (i. e. the appraisers) by Beniaman Bixby of Killingly, brother to Samuel Bixby, deceased." Total £635.

"Order of Court 27 April, 1741, at request of Mr. Benjamin Bixby of Killingly, Conn., elder brother of Samuel Bixby, late of Sutton, deceased, his widow being dead and no children of age, etc."

Power of attorney of Benjamin Bixby, administrator, to his son John Bixby of Killingly to settle accounts with the probate court, 7 Jan. 1742-3. At this time there were four children. Samuel Bixby receipts for self, and John Stockwell as guardian for Jonathan Bixby.

11 May 1743, Samuel Bixby mortgages to John Stockwell and Nathaniel Waters 40 acres in Sutton, late my honored father's, the grantees having become sureties in £300 for said Samuel for the payment of £19 each to the brothers of said Sam-

uel, viz. Jonathan, Solomon, and Sampson. Released 29 April 1745. Worcester Deeds, 17, 316.

There is on Suffolk Deeds, 31: 189, a record of deed, dated 20 Feb. 1718-19, from Samuel Bixby of Sutton, husbandman, to John Stockwell of Sutton, husbandman, of $\frac{1}{16}$ part of the 4000 acres called the "Settlers' Lands" except 30 forty acre lots already laid out. Acknowledged at Oxford, 14 March 1719-20.

The following is from Worcester Probate:

Sampson Bixby, act. about 9, son of Samuel, guardianship to Benjamin Bixby of Killingly, 13 May 1741.

Sampson Bixby of Barre, receipt to Rufus Bixby by David and Sarah Smith, Samuel Bixby, Polly Bixby and Samuel Bullard, guardian for three heirs for their shares in estate of said Sampson Bixby, 3 October 1793. Administration on his estate was granted 7 March 1789 to widow Mary. Inventory 21 April 1789. Jonathan Bixby, minor son of Sampson Bixby of Barre, deceased, over 14, chooses as guardian Samuel Bullard of Barre, 1 April 1793. Patty, sister of above, act. 11, in 1793.

The eight children of Samuel Bixby were Martha, Elizabeth, Samuel, Jr., Jacob, Benjamin, Jonathan, Solomon and Sampson as follows:

MARTHA BIXBY,⁴ born 24 March 1719, in Sutton.

ELIZABETH BIXBY,⁴ born 30 June 1720.

SAMUEL BIXBY,⁴ born in Sutton, Mass., 9 Sept. 1721; first male white child born in Sutton; married, 1st, 13 March 1751, Lydia, daughter of Josiah and Elizabeth (Fuller) Bond of Weston, Mass., who was a descendant of Jonas and Rose Bond of Bury St. Edmunds, Co. Suffolk, England. She died 12 March 1776, and he married, 2nd, 15 Feb. 1781, Mrs. Rebecca Bartlett. He married, 3rd, 28 June 1789, Mrs. Huldah Towne, who died 4 Feb. 1813, aged 101 years. He enlisted, 1 May 1775, in Capt. Isaac Bolster's Co. He died 3 March 1809. His children were Betsey,⁵ Lydia,⁵ Samuel,⁵ Sarah,⁵ Sampson,⁵ Solomon,⁵ Esther,⁵ Anna,⁵ Molly,⁵ John,⁵ Simon,⁵ and David.⁵ His will, 30 Sept. 1796, proved 2 May 1809, names wife; daughter Lydia Park, daughter Sarah, unmarried; son Sampson; son Solomon, 300 acres in township on the Androscoggin, Me.; daughter Esther, unmarried; daughter Anna Jacobs; daughter Molly, unmarried; son John; son David, under 21, to live with Samuel; son Samuel all real estate.

JACOB BIXBY,⁴ born 22 Jan. 1723; died young.

BENJAMIN BIXBY,⁴ born 17 April 1726.

JONATHAN BIXBY,⁴ born 29 Sept. 1728.

SOLOMON BIXBY⁴ (twin), born in Sutton, 3 March 1731; married, in Barre, Mass., 3 April 1755, Esther Clark. Had Esther,⁵ Sarah,⁵ Solomon,⁵ Asa,⁵ Betty,⁵ Lydia,⁵ Joel,⁵ Kate,⁵ Molly,⁵ Hadassah.⁵

SAMPSON BIXBY⁴ (twin), born in Sutton, 3 March 1731; married, 1 Dec. 1761, by Rev. Thomas Frink, Mary, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah Bullard of Barre, Mass. He removed to Barre in 1750. He enlisted, 21 Aug. 1777, probably as a musician,

in Capt. Benjamin Nye's Co., Col. Nathan Sparhawk's regiment. He died 2 April 1793. Had Sarah,⁵ Samuel,⁵ Mary,⁵ Rufus,⁵ Salmon,⁵ Jonathan,⁵ Patty.⁵

JONATHAN BIXBY¹ (*Samuel,³ Benjamin,² Joseph¹*), born in Sutton, Mass., 29 September 1728; married Eliza ——. He removed to Killingly, Conn., where he lived in what is now the town of Thompson, Conn., which was then known as "the Thompson Parish," and was set off from Killingly in 1785, and then incorporated as a town.

The baptisms of several of his children were recorded by Rev. Noadiah Russell. Miss Ellen D. Larned, the historian of Windham County, Connecticut, searched Thompson, Killingly and Pomfret records, for information concerning Jonathan Bixby, and she reports that the only information revealed thereby is a land purchase by him in 1759, which appears from an incidental reference in school assignment record in Killingly land deeds; that he had "tan vats," but not much land; that his land purchase was in connection with Canterbury, Conn., men who removed to Columbia County, N. Y.; and that the names of some of those Canterbury men, with whom he was connected in the purchase of land, appear in the company of soldiers in the Revolutionary War for which return of service was made from Nobel Town, as appears in the following certificate:

STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

HARTFORD, DEC. 12, 1899.

This is to certify that

JONATHAN BIXBY

Served in the war of the Revolution, and the following is said service according to the records of this office. On page 619 "Conn. Men in the Revolution," appears the following: Captain Jonathan Bixby, Time of service 31 days.

"Nobel Town, 18 Day, 1776, Return of Capt. Bixby Company in the Continental Searvis" "from miscellaneous rolls"

In testimony whereof, we have affixed hereto, the seal of this office.

WM. E. F. LANDERS,

Col. and Asst. Adjt. General.

Mr. Ebon Putnam has supplied the following notes on Nobletown, now Hillsdale, Columbia County, N. Y., and on Jonathan Bixby of Killingly and Charlton.

Massachusetts claimed to possess jurisdiction to within twelve miles of the Hudson River, and to have rights to lands even more extensive. In 1754 commissioners were appointed to sell lands west of Sheffield and Stockbridge.

In 1755, lands constituting the township of Nobletown were sold to the settlers there, and about the same time Stockbridge was bought of the Indians. In 1767 the trouble over the boundary developed bloodshed. In 1773 commissioners were appointed by both colonies to adjust the boundary. This matter was taken up again in 1786.

Nobletown was attached to Hampshire county, and in the Revolution her soldiers were counted as part of the Berkshire county regiments. See Mass. Archives, Vol. 56, fo. 51 *et seq.* While there were many Dutch settlers in those parts, the dominating element was from New England.

It is clear that the inhabitants looked to both governments. Sir William Johnson, Indian Agent, writing to the Earl of Shelburne, 15 Jan. 1767, alludes to the many complaints of the Stockbridge Indians; among the most recent that Nobletown "which falling within this Province (*i. e.* New York), and claimed by the great patent of Ranslear, have been deprived of." N. Y. Col. Doc. VII, 892.

In Vol. 28, fo. 157, N. Y. Land Papers, is a petition of the principal inhabitants of Nobletown and Spencertown, Albany Co., praying that no alteration be made in militia appointments, as applied for by John Van Ranselaer, etc., 1771.

Vol. 33, fo. 109, do. Petition from Nobletown and Spencertown, Albany County, that in obedience to an order of the Governor in Council, 21 April, 1773, they present a map of the township and ask that the encroachments of John Van Ranselaer be prevented.

In spite of this apparent jurisdiction over the territory by New York there are no rolls of soldiers or mention of the town in the list of Albany County militia in the Revolution, while there are abundant records of service by Nobletown men in Massachusetts regiments.

There is no mention of Jonathan Bixby in New York or Massachusetts archives in connection with Nobletown.

The location of Nobletown is on the border of New York and Massachusetts, close by the old Connecticut line.

The term of service of the Nobletown company nearly coincided with that of the 8th Conn. regiment of militia, which was from the vicinity of New London, and was called out to join the Continental army at New York.

In the History of Boxford it is said that some of the Bixbys settled in the western part of the state, one, Elias, at Sheffield which bordered on Nobletown. A search of the Sheffield records reveals only a Moses Bixby, as follows: "Moses son of Moses and Doley Bixby born in Sheffield in the year 1784 (signed) Moses Bixby."

The only record of the name of Bixby in the records of the Great Barrington Episcopal Church (which parish included Nobletown) is the following: "Married at Nobletown Abel Whaler, Lydia Bixby, 18 Aug. 1771."

Jonathan Bixby was a minor at his father's death. Guardianship was granted to John Stockwell of Sutton, 16 Nov. 1711. There is no accounting on record. (The connection with the Stockwells was through the wife of Sam^l Bixby, Sr.)

6 Jan. 1767, warned from Charlton, Jonathan Bixby and wife Elizabeth, and their children Samuel, Jacob, Martha, Jonathan, Eliza, Amasa. All described as coming from Killingly. Rice: Worcester County, Mass., Warnings.

30 Oct. 1765, Jonathan Bixby, tanner, of Killingly, Conn., buys of Nathaniel Duey of Charlton District, yeoman, in consideration of £50, a lot of land on which said Duey lives, bounded by land of Kitchen, Jona. Clemmons, Jona. Dennis, Aaron Gleason. Worcester Deeds, 55: 329.

5 Dec. 1768, Jonathan Bixby of Charlton, husbandman, sells 100 acres in Charlton to Jona. Clemmons, bounding on Dennis, McIntire, Alexander, and said Clemmons. No wife appears. Worcester Deeds, 61: 330.

22 Nov. 1780, Jonathan Bixby of Dudley, tanner, buys of Benjamin Edmunds and wife Eunice one acre in the middle of the town (Dudley), dwelling house and bark house. Worcester Deeds, 89: 141.

30 June 1783, Bixby as of Dudley, tanner, sells this same property to Jacob Davis, who deeds it back 23 June 1786, when Bixby is described as of Oxford, and Davis was in Montpelier, Vermont. On the 14 Feb. 1794, he, Bixby, now of Oxford South Gore, deeds this same property to Jeremiah Kingsbury of Oxford, and takes in exchange apparently, a deed, of the day previous, to land in Oxford. In 1800 he sells some of this Oxford land, and that year styles himself "cordwainer;" he sells additional land there in 1801, this time describing himself as "yeoman." In none of these deeds does a wife appear, yet he was then married.

Jonathan Bixby of Dudley, and widow Kezia Allen of South Gore married, at Oxford, 3 June 1784. She was widow of John Allen, to whom she was married 16 June 1771 and daughter of Ephraim Ammidown of Oxford whose will dated 13 April 1786 was not allowed. Under it Kezia was to have half as much as each of the other children.

2 Nov. 1793, Jonathan Bixby of Oxford; yeoman, and wife Kezia unite with the other heirs of Ephraim Ammidown in a quitclaim to Elisha Davis the administrator. Worcester Deeds, 125: 246.

14 April 1802, Jonathan Bixby and wife Kezia unite in a deed to Abijah Davis for \$133, of a farm of twelve acres and building partly in Oxford and partly in the South Gore. Worcester Deeds, 148: 511.

The published Dudley town records are silent concerning Jonathan Bixby, and the history of Oxford does not help, though his residence there is noticed. The town clerk of Charlton reports a thorough search, but the only record he finds is the record of marriage of David Bixby to Laura Foster, 9 April, 1811.

The sons of Jonathan Birby do not appear on the index to Worcester County Deeds.

Whether Capt. Jonathan Birby lived at Nobleton, or merely swore his return there when passing through, has not yet transpired. His previous Connecticut residence and connection with Connecticut troops render the latter possible. Yet, a temporary sojourn in Nobletown or near there is indicated by his association with Connecticut men who removed to Columbia County, N. Y. No other record of his whereabouts during that period has been found, he had lost his wife, he had no large property interests in Killingly or Charlton, his children were fairly well grown up, and his frequent removals indicate a seeking for a more favorable location, such as it was expected would be afforded by the new settlements which were being established in the debatable land. His return afterwards to Charlton may be ascribed to a subsequent conviction that Massachusetts could not maintain her title to that land, and a realization of the opposition on the part of the New York authorities encountered by the settlers.

FROM MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES, 118: 205.

PROV. OF MASSACHUSETTS BAY.—

IN COUNCIL, 9 JULY 1766.

W^m Kellog of Nobletown being sworn deposed and sayth that He was present at the Affray which happened the 26 of June between John Van Ranslaer Esq. and a number of the Inhabitants of a place called Nobletown and parts adjacent; that this Affray happened as near as he can judge at about 16 miles distance from Hudson's River,— Being asked to what Government he apprehended the place belonged He replied That the Inhabitants had formerly done duty under the Government of the Massachusetts and made their purchases of the Indians with the formall consent of the said Government 12 years ago or upwards; But that in the year 1757 or thereabouts the Said Government received some Advices from their Agent in England concerning some transactions there relative to the said Line, and that they have never since that time required any Duty of those Inhabitants that he knows of— He further saith

That the said Mr Ranslaer claims the said Land, by virtue of a Patent from the Government of New York, and has prosecuted the same heretofore with several Acts of Violence as pulling down Houses and imprisoning divers of the Possessors.

That some time in the month of June last several Stockbridge Indians embarked for England as he has heard and believes, to lay their Complaints before his Majesty concerning their being disturbed in the possession of their Lands of

which they had given Warrantee Deeds, and of other Lands claimed by them; that on the 25th of said June they heard that Mr Ranslaer was much dissatisfied with these Indians going home and that for this and other causes he intended to come down with force upon the Inhabitants and pull down their Houses.

That on the 26th they had intelligence that Mr Ranslaer was coming down upon them with Five hundred men; that in the afternoon he made his appearance with between two and three hundred men as he judged, all armed with Guns, Pistols and Swords: that thereupon they went out about forty or fifty of them unarmed except with Sticks, and went up to a Fence between them and the assailants in order to confer and compromise matters between them.

That the assailants came up to the Fence and Hermannus Schuyler the Sheriff of the County of Albany fired his pistol down aslant upon them, and three others fired their Guns over them. The Inhabitants thereupon desired to talk with them they would not hearken, but the Sheriff (as it is said by some who knew him) ordered the men to fire, who thereupon fired and killed one of their own men who had got over the Fence—upon this mischief the said Inhabitants unarmed as aforesaid retreated most of them into the woods, but twelve betook themselves to the House, and there defended themselves with arms and ammunition that was therein; the two parties here fired upon each other, the assailants killed one man in the House and the Inhabitants wounded several of them, whom the rest carried off and retreated, to the number of seven as he is informed, none of whom by the last accounts were dead.

He further saith That the Sheriff in all this time shewed no paper, nor attempted to execute any warrant—and that the Inhabitants never offered any provocation while at the Fence except their continuing there, nor had any one of them a Gun, pistol or Sword till they retreated to the House.

He further saith that at the action at the Fence, one of the Inhabitants had his leg broke, whereupon the assailants attempted to seize him and carry him off; he thereupon begged they would consider the misery he was in, declaring he had rather dye than be carried off, whereupon one of the assailants said, you shall dye then and discharging his Pistol upon him as he lay upon the Ground shot him thro' the Body as the wounded man told the Informant. That the said wounded man was alive when he left him, but not like to live long.

WILLIAM KELLOGG

Thomas Pier of Great Barrington petitioned for payment of what he had expended in supplying the necessities of life to the inhabitants of Nobletown who daily came to his house in a suffering condition during the late troubles. He supplied 131 meals and other supplies: nor did he make any account of

victualling children or of horse keeping. This petition is dated 21 January 1767. According to the certificate of Mark Hopkins, J. P., 24 January 1767 who took Pier's oath to the above; Piers also supplied the "regular troops." It also appears that the selectmen of Egremont had been desired by the Governor to supply the distressed inhabitants. Archives, 118:214.

From another undated petition and an account of Kellogg, and the report of a House committee, we learn that William Kellogg was the agent of the Proprietors of Nobletown and that he was in Boston before the Governor on business of the Plantation and Province, in July, November and in December 1766, and also in February 1767, and that the Province settled with him for £14-12-11. He recites in an undated petition that after purchasing the lands from the Province in 1756 they had procured proper deeds from the Indians and that they had been in possession of the lands until this day. That the deed was then in the hands of a committee appointed by the House in the fall of 1766 to enquire into the disorders on the western frontier. The House ordered this Committee to deliver the deed, who reported it was in the hands of Joseph Hawley who thereupon was ordered to return it into the Secretary's office. The unfortunate condition of the dispossessed inhabitants of Nobletown aroused much sympathy, but Massachusetts does not seem to have felt that there was any obligation to make good to the Proprietors or those who held under them the losses sustained. A most peculiar proclamation, which he styles a brief, was issued by Governor Bernard upon resolve of the General Court, and in which he states that the inhabitants of Nobletown lying west of the line supposed to be the boundary, have scarcely any of the necessities of life, and have been unable to meet the arrears of pay to their minister now amounting to £100, and "they have prayed that a brief may issue to such parts of the Province as shall be thought proper, recommending their case to the compassionate considerations of the good people living within the same." The Governor in this unique document, for in many respects it is most peculiar, and we know of no other instance where certain districts were called upon by proclamation to make good by contributions what should have fallen upon the whole province, puts the loss to the inhabitants as £1989-19 and addresses his proclamation to the people of the counties of Worcester, Hampshire and Berkshire, designating John Ashley of Sheffield and Timothy Woodbridge of Stockbridge to receive the contributions for relief of the sufferers. He calls upon the ministers to read this proclamation at time of divine service on the occasion of the General Fast, 9th of April next. The proclamation is dated 18 March 1767. Massachusetts Archives, 118:225, 236.

The Birby Family

Jonathan and Eliza Birby's children were Samuel, Jacob, Martha, Jonathan, Jr., Elizabeth, Salmon, Chloe and Amasa as follows:

SAMUEL BIRBY,⁵ born in Killingly, 30 May 1754; soldier in the Revolutionary War from Charlton 1777, in Capt. Abijah Lamb's Co.; married, 1st, Elizabeth Strong; married, 2nd, Sarah Nelson, who, according to tradition, was own cousin to Lord Nelson; married, 3rd, Martha Ketchum. Samuel Birby⁵ first came to Lyme, N. H., in 1775, but left there to enlist in the American army during the Revolutionary War. Among Birby descendants there is a tradition that eleven sons of Jonathan⁴ went into the Revolutionary War, and that nine came out, married, and settled in different parts of the United States. After the war Samuel⁵ and his brothers, Jonathan⁵ and Jacob⁵, settled in Lyme, about 1786. He had a large family, — twenty-one children, it is said — including, by 1st wife, ALFRED BIRBY,⁶ a graduate of Union College in 1817, and afterwards a lawyer and teacher in New York City; by second wife, Lewis Birby,⁶ graduated at Union College in 1828, and afterwards an Episcopalian clergyman;* by second wife, also, SAMUEL BIRBY,⁶ a physician in Illinois; and by third wife, WILLARD BIRBY,⁶ whose descendants still live in Lyme, N. H. Of Samuel,⁵ Eleazer Carpenter Converse of Newport, N. H., says: "I remember Samuel Birby. When I was a boy he used to come to our house. He wore a long vest and knee buckles, and told war stories." He died on a 4th of July, probably about 1842 or 1843, from a cancer in the face said to have been caused by a fire brand thrown by his insane daughter, Mary Ann, who was the terror of all the children in the neighborhood.

The following letters addressed to the editor of this book show Revolutionary War Service of Bixbys whose first name was Samuel:

THE STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE.

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE,
CONCORD, DEC. 6, 1899.

Dear Sir:—

I regret to say in reply to your favor of Dec. 5, that the name of Samuel Birby does not appear on the Revolutionary Rolls of New Hampshire.

(Signed)

Very respectfully,
EDWARD N. PEARSON,
Secretary of State.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
BOSTON, MASS., DEC. 16, 1899. *

Dear Sir:—

In reply to your favor of the 13th inst., I beg to state that an examination of the record index to the revolutionary rolls reveals a reference to a Samuel Birby, of Sutton, as serving as Private in the eight months' army in 1775; to a Samuel Birby, Private, in Captain Abijah Burbank's (Sutton) company in 1780; to a Samuel Bixbee, Sergeant, in Captain Andrew Elliott's (Sutton) company in 1777; and to a Samuel Birby, Private, in Captain Abijah Lamb's (Charlton) company in 1777.

I would add that the records preserved here cover the civil and military service rendered to the credit of this state only.

(Signed)

Yours respectfully,
WM. M. OLIN,
Secretary.

*Lewis Birby⁶ had a daughter named Eliza Converse Birby, presumably after Mrs. Elizabeth (Birby) Converse.

Samuel Bixby³ (Samuel,¹ Samuel,² Benjamin,² Joseph⁴), was born in Sutton, 21 Sept. 1755; married, 13 June 1781, Mary Greenwood; died in 1818. She died in 1851.

O. W. & N. Division
J. H. W. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.
18601-Wid. BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
Rev. War WASHINGTON, D. C.
MARCH 1, 1900.

Sir:—

In reply to your request for a statement of the military history of Samuel Bixby a soldier of the Revolutionary War, you will find below the desired information as contained in his application for pension on file in this Bureau.

DATES OF ENLISTMENT OR APPOINTMENT	LENGTH OF SERVICE	RANK	OFFICERS UNDER WHOM SERVICE WAS RENDERED		STATE
			CAPTAIN	COLONEL	
Apr. 19, 1775	8 months	Private	Isaac Bolster	Larned	Mass.
Dec., 1776	3 "	"	Jno. Putman	Whitney	"
Sept., 1777	40 days	"	— Elliott	Halman	"
—, 1778	2 months	"	Abijah Burbank	Not stated	"

Battles engaged in, none stated.
Residence of soldier at enlistment, Sutton, Mass.
Date of application for pension, Aug. 14, 1832.
Residence at date of application, Worcester County, Mass.
Age at date of application, 76 years.

Remarks: His pension was allowed and Mary, his widow, was also a pensioner. He was born in Sutton, Mass.

(Signed) Very respectfully,
H. CLAY EVANS,
Commissioner.

JACOB Bixby³ born in Killingly, Conn., 11 July 1756; soldier in the Revolutionary War from Connecticut; died unmarried in Lyme.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT.
ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
HARTFORD, DEC. 12, 1899.

This is to certify that

JACOB BIXBY

served in the war of the Revolution and the following is said service, according to the records of this office. On page 462 "Conn. Men in the revolution" appears the following: Jacob Bixby, a private in Captain John Green's Company in the 11th regiment of Militia (at New York in 1776). Colonel Ebenezer Williams, of Pomfret, commanding. On page 583, same book, appears the following: Jacob Bixby of Killingly, in Colonel Canfield's Militia Regiment. At West Point Sept. 1781.

No further record. In Testimony Whereof, we have affixed hereto the seal of this office.

WM. E. F. LANDERS,
Col. and Asst. Adjt. General.

MARTHA BIXBY,⁵ born, in Killingly, 5 Jan. 1758.
 JONATHAN BIXBY,⁵ JR., born, in Killingly, 24 April 1760. The following is the record in the Pension Bureau at Washington of his Revolutionary War Service:

Jonathan Bixby, a soldier in the Revolutionary War.

Date of enlistment, May 1777.

Length of service, 3 years and 7 months

Rank, Corporal.

Officers under whom service was rendered

Captain, } Isaac Pope.

Colonel, } Shepard.

State, Massachusetts.

Battles engaged in, Monmouth.

Residence of soldier at enlistment, not stated.

Date of application for pension, 29 May 1823.

Residence at date of application, Lyme, N. H.

Age at date of application, 63 years.

Remarks. His claim was allowed. He married Esther Newton, 24 Nov. 1785, and died 12 Feb. 1831 and she was pensioned as his widow. This is the only Jonathan Bixby of whom this Bureau has a record as a Revolutionary soldier.

(Signed)

H. CLAY EVANS.

7 May 1901.

Commissioner.

Jonathan Bixby, Jr., settled in Lyme about 1786. His granddaughter, Mrs. Gilbert of Lyme, gives the following account of his and his brother Samuel's settlement in Lyme: They went back "from the river five miles and located, and had to go there to get their cooking done. They would go there Saturday night, and Monday would take their rations and go into the woods where they were making their home. He had some good shoes when they started, but they became worn out. When asked if it did not hurt his feet to go barefoot, he replied, 'No. They became as hard as horns' ". He had two sons and three daughters, viz:

WALTER BIXBY,⁶ moved from Lyme to Warren, N. H.

LUCINDA BIXBY,⁶ (Lucinda and Cynthia were twins).

CYNTHIA BIXBY,⁶ of Lyme, N. H.

SEREL BIXBY,⁶ married Mehitable Burgoyne, daughter of Dr. Burgoyne of Lyme, who was a near relative of Gen. John Burgoyne. (A grandson is the artist William Johnson Bixby of Boston.)

BETSY BIXBY,⁶

ELIZABETH BIXBY,⁵ born in Killingly, Conn., 2 Sept. 1762; married Joel Converse.⁴

SALMON BIXBY,⁵ not mentioned in Killingly town records, as were the other five children above mentioned, but he was doubtless a son of Jonathan⁴ and Eliza. He lived in Underhill, Vt., removed in 1811 to Madrid, N. Y., and, a little later, to Norfolk, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y. He named one of his sons "Parry." Another of his sons was Salmon Bixby who settled in Jericho, Vermont, and had son A. L. Bixby of Nebraska.

CHLOE BIXBY,⁵ not mentioned in Killingly town records, but she is remembered by descendants of Mrs. Elizabeth (Bixby) Converse as her sister. By Mrs. Gilbert of Lyme, who is a granddaughter of Jonathan Bixby,⁵ she is also remembered as being his sister; and by Elsie N. Bixby of Lowell, Mass., who is a granddaughter of Solomon Bixby,⁵ of Underhill, Vt., as being the latter's sister. Chloe Bixby was a very handsome woman. She married — Sheldon of Underhill, Vt. (afterwards removed to Parishville, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.), and had two sons, one of whom

Parry Clele (or Parryclele) Sheldon is said to have been president of a College in Canada. She died in Syracuse, N. Y., at the Old Ladies Home there, when nearly 100 years old.

AMASA BIXBY,⁵ baptized 10 March 1765; married, 7 April 1793, Mary Blanchard of Sturbridge, Mass.

For further particulars of the Bixby line, see Genealogy of Bixby Families, in course of preparation, begun by the late Rev. M. H. Bixby, D.D., of Providence, R. I., and his son-in-law, the late Rev. T. Johnson, M. D., and continued by Mrs. Mary F. B. Burbank of North Adams, Mass.

Some Records of Convers, Converse, etc., thus far found in England and France.

At the inception of this book, which was designed to give the American history of certain branches of the Converse family and of some allied families, the author did not contemplate including foreign ancestry, as the family history in this country proved to be so voluminous as to require his entire attention, and so absorbing as to obscure in interest the uncertain conditions attending much foreign research in genealogy. Yet, for the convenience of readers who have not ready access to genealogical libraries and as possible bases for future searches, it is thought best briefly to include such foreign records as have appeared in print together with some results of researches which have not hitherto been published. Two accounts of the origin of the family have been printed, one in the History of Rindge, N. H., and one in Family History of Deacons James W. and Elisha S. Converse by Mr. William G. Hill. The following is from the History of Rindge.*

The original seat of the Converse family was in Navarre, France, from whence was Roger de Coigniers who emigrated to England near the end of the reign of William the Conqueror, and to whom the Bishop of Durham gave the constabulary of Durham. Among his descendants, Conyers of Horden, Durham, was created a baronet July 14, 1628. Sir Humphry, the eighth generation, wrote the name Coigniers, and Sir Christopher, the twentieth generation, adopted the orthography of Conyers. In Navarre, in the sixteenth century, the residence of a family of this name was known as the Chateau de Coigniers.



Those bearing the name were Huguenots or French Protestants. In the massacre on St. Bartholomew's day, in 1572, many of this family fell victims to the rage of the Papists, and Pierre Coigniers, who was attached to the Court of Henry IV of France, having witnessed the assassination of his kinsman, Admiral Coligny, and fearful of his own safety, escaped with his wife and two infants to England, and settled in the County of Essex, where his son married a lady of considerable possessions in that and an adjoining county. It was Ralph, a son of this marriage, who

*History of the Town of Rindge, New Hampshire, from the date of the Rowley Canada or Massachusetts Charter to the present time, 1736-1874, with a Genealogical Register of the Rindge Families by Ezra S. Stearns. Boston, George H. Ellis, 1875. pp. 483 *et seq.*

was created a baronet by King Charles II. From the same locality there possibly were other emigrations of members of this family to England, where the name was naturally changed to Conyers, corresponding with the English pronunciation, and members of the family still spell the name in this manner, while others in the change of a single letter have taken the name of Convers. From some of these emigrations to England is descended the Converse family of this country. The name was spelled Convers for several generations after the emigration to New England.

The Coat of Arms of Coigniers, Conyers, and Convers, is essentially the same, which sustains the tradition that all are of a common origin. The engraving which stands at the head of this paragraph was taken from an illustration received through the kindness of Rev. J. K. Converse of Burlington, Vt. It presents the emblems of heraldry which for many generations have been associated with the family name, and is read as follows: Arms. Argent, upon a Bend Sable between two Maunches Azure, Trefoils. On Crest an Arm in Armor out of a Mural Crown Gold. The term argent represents that the shield is white, and sable that the bend or belt is black: the bend is a scarf of honor given for courage in battle, the trefoils are emblems of the Trinity, and were bestowed for service in the maintenance of the Church: the maunches or empty sleeves were added to the Arms of those who had been celebrated in the councils of the sovereign: the mural crown represents a battlement, and was bestowed on those who first mounted the walls and there lodged a standard: and the motto, *In Deo solo confido*, "In God alone I trust." *Vide, Baronets of England, London 1729; and Dictionnaire de la Noblesse France et Navarre.*

The following is a brief abstract from Family Record of Deacons James W. Converse and Elisha S. Converse compiled by William G. Hill, Malden, Mass., privately printed, 1887. Mr. Hill stated that he had received certified copies of the church registers of both Wakerly and Blaston, England, and other information, which confirmed him in the opinion and belief that Edward Convers of Wakerly, County of Northampton, England, born 30 January 1590, husband of Jane Clarke, and son of Christopher and Mary (Halford) Conyers was no other than Deacon Edward Convers of Woburn, and on this basis gives the following line of descent:

ROGER¹ DE COIGNERIES, of Coigneries, France and Durham, England; born about 1010; was one of the chieftains of William the Conqueror, and as such accompanied him in his invasion of England, and was with him in the Battle of Hastings.

ROGER² DE COIGNERIES of Durham, England, to whom Bishop Ralph Flambard of Ranulph gave the manor of Rungstan in Yorkshire between 1099 and 1126.

ROGER³ DE CONIERS, 1134-1174; of Durham, England; Baron of the bishopric of Durham and Lord of Bishopton.

GALFRID⁴ CONYERS, Lord of Sockburn and Bishopton, 1213-1238.

JOHN⁵ CONYERS, Sockburn, England.

SIR HUMPHREY⁶ CONYERS, Sockburn, England.

SIR JOHN⁷ CONYERS, Sockburn, England.

ROGER⁸ CONYERS, Sockburn, England.

SIR JOHN⁹ CONYERS, Sockburn, England; died 1395.

ROBERT¹⁰ CONYERS, Sockburn, England; born 1371; died 1433.

JOHN¹¹ CONYERS, Hornby, England.

SIR CHRISTOPHER¹² CONYERS, Hornby, England.

SIR JOHN¹³ CONYERS, of Hornby Castle; sheriff of the shire; governor of the castle at York; in 1460 joined Richard, Duke of York, against the King.

SIR JOHN¹⁴ CONYERS, of Hornby, England; Knight of the Order of the Garter; died 1490.

REGINALD¹⁵ CONYERS, Wakerly, England; died 1514.

RICHARD¹⁶ CONYERS, Wakerly, England.

CHRISTOPHER¹⁷ CONYERS, Wakerly, England, baptized 1552.

EDWARD¹⁸ CONYERS, born 1590; died 1663.

In his book Mr. Hill pictures the de Coigneries arms thus:— azure, a maunch surrounded by seven cross-crosslets, both argent; crest, a dexter hand grasping a broken spear, proper;— around which the legend — SIGILLUM: ROGERI: DE CONNERIS—.

The arms of Conyers of Sockburn he pictures thus: azure, a maunch or: crest, an eagle's wing gules: supporters, two lions: motto, *Ung diew, ung roy* (One God, one King).

The arms of the family of Conyers of Sockburn which he states should be accepted as of the most ancient date are azure, a maunch or: crest, on a wreath a demi-vol, gules.

The following is reprinted from *Genealogical Gleanings** in England by Henry F. Waters, A.M., Boston, 1901, published in two volumes by The New England Historic Genealogical Society.†

A final concord was made between Richard Grene, *quer.*, and WILLIAM CONYERS, *deforc.*, about three acres of arable land with the appurtenances in Navestock, the consideration being forty pounds sterling.
Feet of Fines, Co. of Essex, Easter Term, 36th Elizabeth.

Will of THOMAS CONYERS, of Westmersey, Co. Essex, yeoman, 9 May 1599, proved 11 January 1599. To my sons Thomas and Edward Conyers all my lands and tenements, whatsoever they be in this realm of England, towards the education and bringing up of my children &c. To my son John Conyers ten score pounds out of the lands &c. in two years after he shall accomplish the full age of twenty one years, provided if my said son shall happen to enjoy by inheritance one cottage and orchard (copyhold) in Chessen (Cheshunt?) in Co. Herts, then he to have but nine score pounds. To my daughters Lettes, Katren and Frances Conyers fifty pounds each in one year after marriage or at the age of twenty four years.

My son Thomas Conyers to be executor and son Edward to be supervisor.

Commissary Court, Essex and Herts.

WILLIAM CONYERS of Layndon, Essex, husbandman, 15 June 1607, proved 17 July 1607. To my son William ten pounds at the age of twenty one years. To my daughters Agnes and Joane Conyers thirty pounds each at the age of eighteen years. To my mother Joane Conyers three pounds if she will depart from my wife and not be at her keeping. To the poor of Layndon ten shillings, and to the poor of Ramsden Bellhouse three shillings and four pence. To my wife Agnes Conyers all my goods and chattels &c. and she to be executrix. My brother John Conyers to be overseer and I give to him ten shillings.
Com. Court, Essex and Herts.

*Pp. 237, 1030.

†Reprinted from the New England Historical Genealogical Register.