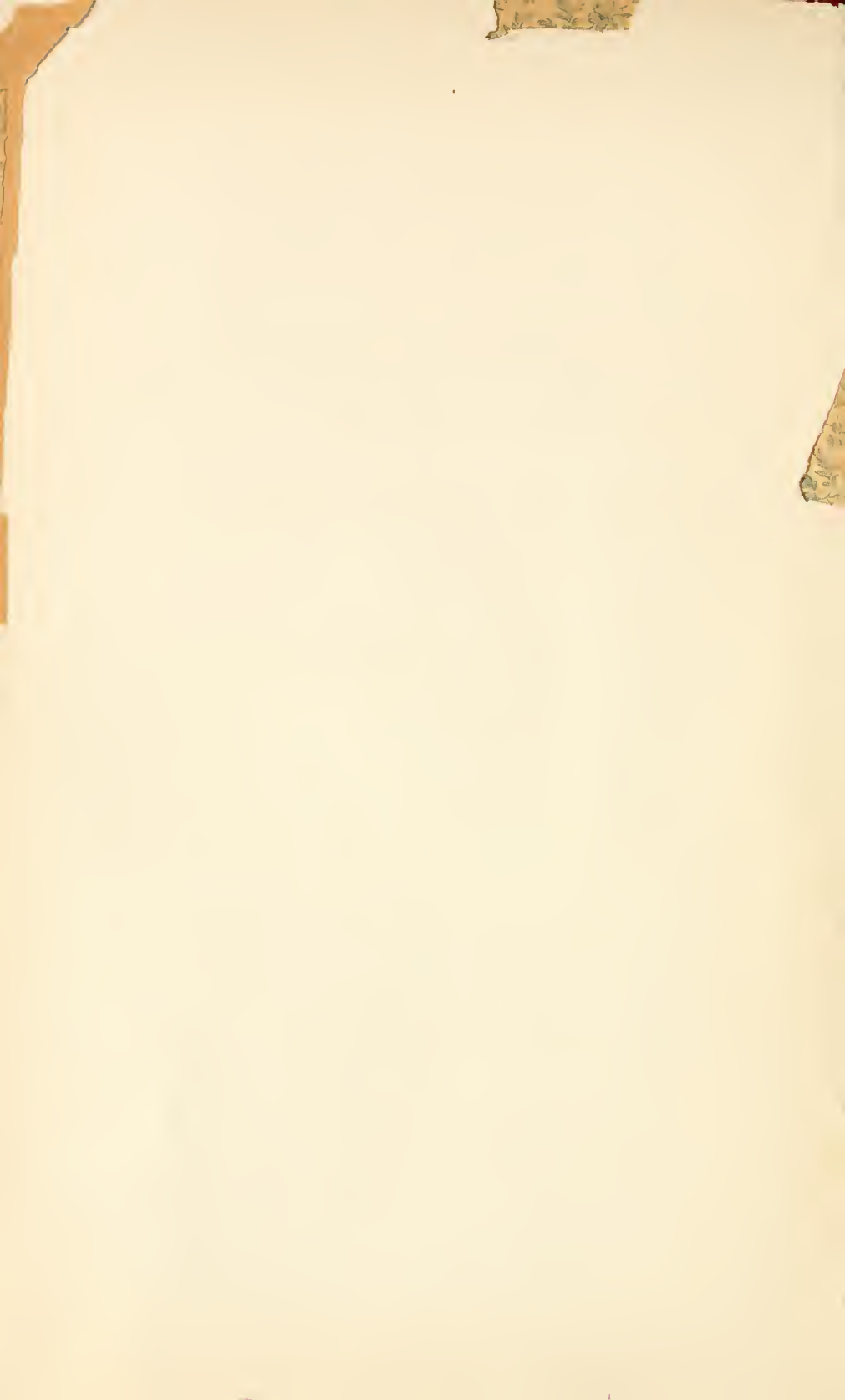


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THE
Family and Vicissitudes
OF
John Phillips, Senior,
OF
DUXBURY and MARSHFIELD.
1602--1692.

By AZEL AMES, M. D.





31 1905.

THE
FAMILY AND VICISSITUDES
OF
JOHN PHILLIPS, SENIOR
OF
DUXBURY AND MARSHFIELD.

*A Vexatious Snarl in the
Genealogy of an Old Colony Progenitor
Disentangled.*

BY
AZEL AMES, M. D.,
MEMBER PILGRIM SOCIETY, ETC.

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AZEL AMES.



JOHN PHILLIPS OF MARSHFIELD.

It is probably safe to say that none among the many confused and perplexing genealogies of the early "Old Colony" families, has more bewildered and misled able and well-known antiquarians than that of *John Phillips of Marshfield*.

Owing to the tragic event—in that day especially dread and impressive—which twice befell it, this family received mention at the hands of nearly all the early chroniclers of New England, and nearly all have singularly confused both its individuals and the events affecting them.

Mather, Morton, Josselyn, Hull, Hubbard, Prince, Alden, Savage, Farmer, Deane, Winsor, Mitchell, Davis, Marcia Thomas, Goodwin and lastly, Shurtleff, have all recorded, with more or less of circumstance, the calamities which overtook Mr. Phillips—as was then believed by the priestly scribes, as "a special visitation of God"—and nearly every one has made one or more radical errors as to these vicissitudes and those affected by them.

The author of this little sketch has himself—as have others of his family—more than once, made efforts to disentangle the snarled thread of this ancestral genealogy and its related events, only to "give it up" in despair, as something which the Fates and each chronicler had conspired to make more knotted and involved.

It is pleasant to state, however, that a recent persistent effort, with all available data in hand, has effected the long desired result and this is given in the following pages.

AZEL AMES.

Wakefield, Oct. 1, 1903.



THE JOHN PHILLIPS LOCALITY.

JOHN PHILLIPS, SENIOR.

It appears well-nigh certain that the JOHN PHILLIPS who was of Duxbury and Marshfield in the colony of New Plimouth, between 1640 and 1690, came to Duxbury in 1639,¹ presumably from the Massachusetts Bay colony, having "bought of Robert Mendall of Duxburrow a house and land for £6 in hand and XVIIiteene pounds" to be paid in installments, "at the house of Mr. Winthrop in Boston."² He was quite certainly the John Phillips whom Deane says,³ "settled early in Duxbury" and "had several children, born probably in England."

He is not to be confounded, it would appear, with the John Phillips whom Governor Bradford states,⁴ "came to Plymouth as a servant, seeking service and a change of masters," in 1630, and about whom some sharp correspondence between the Bay Puritans and the Plymouth Pilgrims occurred. From the statement of his will,⁵ Mr. Phillips doubtless was born about 1602 and would have been in 1630, about twenty-eight years old and beyond the usual age of servants still having time to serve.

1. *Plym. Col. Deeds*. *Prince Chronology*, Vol. II, p. 4. *Winsor's Hist. of Duxbury*, p. 282. *Goodwin's Pilgrim Republic*, p. 355. note.

2. *Idem*.

3. *Deane's Hist. of Scituate*, p. 322. Phillips never lived at Scituate, though given mention by Deane as if he did.

4. *Governor Bradford's Letter Book*. *Goodwin's Pilgrim Republic*, p. 354. *Drake's Hist. of Boston*, p. 132.

5. *Plym. Col. Wills*, closed series, Vol. I, p. 140. *Genealog. Advertiser*, Vol. 3, p. 28.

No mention of his first marriage, or of the births of children by his first wife, appears on Plymouth Colony Records, hence the inference that he was married¹ and had children before coming to the colony, which inference is further warranted by the fact that his son, John, (killed by lightning in 1658)² must then have been, by what is known of him, about twenty-five years of age. The facts, too, of Mr. Phillips' purchase of a house and land at Duxbury in 1639, and of the immediate grants to him by the colony, of considerable land adjacent to his purchase, would seem to indicate a man of some means and already "of family."

He was granted by the Colony Court,³ April 6, 1640, "a garden place upon Stony Brooke in Duxburrow by Phillip Delanoyes, to be laid forth by Mr. Collyer, Jonathan Brewster and William Basset." June 1st of the same year,⁴ he was granted "four acres of upland abutting upon the Stony Brooke in Duxburrow by the milne (mill) to rang (range) south and north in length and east and west in breadth," and November 2d of the same year, he was granted "twenty acrees, his houslott to be pt thereof, of those lands that lie northward from Duxburrow mill, towards Greens Harbor."⁵

In 1643 he was "an inhabitant" of Duxbury, as his

1. Winsor's Hist. of Duxbury, p. 291, says: "Married in England."

2. Plym. Col. Records, Court Orders, Vol. III, p. 141. Prince's Chron. and Lightning at Marshfield in 1658 and 1666, Dr. N. B. Shurtleff, (1850) p. 1.

3. Plym. Col. Rec., Vol. I, p. 145.

4. Idem. p. 153.

5. Plym. Col. Rec., Vol. I, p. 165.

name appears that year, on the list of those of that town, "able to bear arms."¹

Miss Marcia A. Thomas says:² "He came early to Marshfield." The exact date of his removal to this town is not known, but he was engaged in a lawsuit with a Marshfield citizen in 1653;³ was Surveyor of Highways⁴ there in 1655; was constable⁵ in 1657, and was propounded⁶ as a "freeman" in 1659, though he does not appear to have ever taken up his rights as such.

He seems to have had by a former wife (whose name and date of death are unknown), sons John, Samuel and Jeremiah and a daughter Mary.⁷

John Phillips, Jr., was quite certainly his father's eldest son and by certain evidence would seem to have been a householder at (South) Marshfield in July, 1658. He surely was living at that time in the house formerly occupied by Rev. Edward Bulkley⁸ when minister there, and as

1. Winsor's Hist. of Duxbury, p. 93.

2. Marcia A. Thomas' Memorials of Marshfield, p. 83.

3. Plym. Col. Rec., Vol. III, p. 39.

4. Idem., Vol. III, p. 79.

5. Idem., p. 116.

6. Idem., p. 163.

7. Dr. Shurtleff's Tract, "Lightning at Marshfield," etc., (p. 40), as tested by all known data and compared with all other sources of information appears, upon this point, correct beyond doubt. Miss M. A. Thomas (*op. cit.*, p. 83), is clearly in error in naming a *William* as a son of John Phillips and doubly so, in calling him the "eldest."

8. Plym. Col. Records, Court Orders, Vol. III, p. 141. The "verdict" or "finding" of the inquest upon the death of John Phillips, Jr. The house is called therein, "Mr. Buckley's house," but this is simply a mis-spelling of the name of Rev. Mr. Bulkley, whose house stood not far from the site of the present Railroad station at (South) Marshfield.

hereinafter noted, it was called in the language of the official inquest,¹ "his (Phillips') dwelling." From this it might perhaps be inferred that he was a man of family, though no record or other evidence whatever, is found of his marriage, or that he had children.

It is, indeed, very doubtful if young Phillips was ever married, or, if he was himself the house-holder in the "dwelling" named. It is true that the language of the "verdict"² of the official inquest upon his death, as well as the presence of the child mentioned (by Capt. Thomas³) would lend color to such supposition.

On the other hand there is, as noted, no record, or other evidence of his marriage, or of the birth of any child to him. Again "Goodwife Williamson" testified (as the verdict of the official inquest recites), that young Phillips was in good health when he came from his work on the day he was killed. Why should "Goodwife Williamson" testify and not his own wife, if he had one? It is singular, too, if he had a wife, that nothing is said of her presence or existence then, or of her or her affairs afterward, and the same would be true of any child of his.

It seems probable, therefore, that "Goodwife Williamson" and her family lived in the "Bulkley house," and that Phillips was but a sojourner, working perhaps, at "haying," etc., for Goodman Williamson, or some other, and that the child mentioned was not his but the Williamsons'.

A lease of land, made by Miss Grace (Halloway) Reade, the elder daughter of Mrs. Grace Halloway-Phillips

1. Plym. Col. Court Recs., Vol. III, p. 141.

2. *Idem.*

3. See Captain Thomas' account, pp. 8 *et seq.*

W^h 10. 1666.

Be it known to all men by these presents that now
Josiah Read & Grace Read formerly Grace Holloway
do by these presents make over our Right & Interest
in the one halfe share or pt of a pcell of upland and
meadow which lyeth next to Timothy Williamson in
the towne of Warrfield in the County of Lincoln Colory: which
was the land of William Holloway deceased and now
doth appertaine the one whole halfe pt to the said Grace
the which upland & meadow w^{ch} halfe & overhand and all the
priviledges & Immunities belonging to the said land w^{ch} by
these presents do make over to William Read Senior
and his heirs & assigns for the full & whole termes of
five yeares to begin the first of April next ensuing
the date of these presents by me be expired: the said
William or his assigns is to improve the said land w^{ch} wood
& grass as his Otheome may require: and in consideration of
the Rent for the five yeares the said William is to pay to the
said Josiah and Grace five pound and four shillings: 5 s
to pay 200 pound & sixtens shilling in the exchange of a
man which is in hand payd and twenty shillings to be
payd at Bolton in may next in pvision (vids) in flower
to m Josiah, and nine shillings to be payd in the towne
by order from Josiah: and at the terme of the said yeare
the said William is to resigne up the said land and his
Interest therein to the said Josiah and Grace or their heirs
executors or assigns as for the true performances of
the premises w^{ch} shal be both of us Intertwengable by let
to our hands the day & yeare above writen

witnes

John Bourne Willarose
michael Good Glocster

Josiah Read
Grace Read
Year: 1666

Fac-simile of lease of half the "Halloway Farm" which Mrs. John Phillips, Senior, owned, and her step-son, John Phillips, Jr., worked, when killed in 1658. (Original in possession of the Author.)

(wife of John, Sen'r), a short time after her marriage to Mr. Josiah Reade, hereafter noted, in the Fall of 1666, (soon after her mother's death) is very suggestive as to the probabilities in this matter.

By the phraseology of this lease it appears that a certain lot of "upland and meadow" with "an orchard," (but no house mentioned), were a part of the estate of William Halloway, father of said Grace and former husband of Mrs. Grace Halloway-Phillips, her mother. This land evidently became the property of the widow Grace Halloway at her husband's death.¹ (Her settlement at £10 apiece, with her two daughters, for their shares of their father's estate is stated hereafter.) This property was evidently owned by Mrs. Grace Halloway-Phillips, from the time of her former husband's death in 1652, to the time of her sudden death in 1666. By the lease cited, it appears to have descended to her two daughters in "equal halfe-parts," and it is declared "was the lands of William Halloway deceased." It is described as "lying next to Timothy Williamson's."

There is little doubt that Timothy Williamson was occupying the house and lands known as "Rev. Mr. Bulkley's" at the time of the lightning event in 1658 and it was to his house that John Phillips, Junior, with Captain Nathaniel Thomas and another man, fled for shelter on the last day of July in that year when the tempest almost immediately fatal to young Phillips, threatened them.

It is evident that at that time the "upland and meadow," as described in this lease of Grace (Halloway) Reade and her husband Josiah, to William Ford, was the property of Mrs. Grace Halloway-Phillips, the wife of John Phillips,

1. Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. III, p. 22.

Senior. Captain Thomas says in his account of the death of young Phillips, that just before the fatal tempest burst upon them, he met Phillips and another man "coming out of a meadow from making hay to the next house."

It seems well-nigh certain that the younger John Phillips was engaged at that time, in "getting the hay," upon the meadow land owned by his stepmother, Mrs. Grace Phillips, and that while so doing he made the home of Timothy Williamson "his dwelling," as it is called in the language of the official inquest. With this view every known fact and statement perfectly harmonizes, while it makes intelligible some things not otherwise readily understood.

Samuel Phillips, probably the second son of John Phillips, Senior, appears to have married and had a family,¹ as we shall see, and to have survived not only his brothers, John, (killed by lightning in 1658), Jeremiah, (killed, like his elder brother, by lightning, in 1666), and his half-brother Joseph, (killed in the Indian fight at Rehoboth, 1676-7), but also his father, who lived to the great age of ninety, as well as his father's four wives.

The daughter, Mary, who was "feeble-minded," also survived her father and all his wives.²

Mr. John Phillips, Senior, married as his (supposedly) second wife, July 6, 1654, at the age of fifty-two, Mrs. Grace (——) Halloway³ (sometimes called in Plymouth Colony Records, *Hallowell*),⁴ widow of William Halloway of

1. Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. VIII, p. 70.

2. She is named and provided for in her father's will, made shortly before his death.

3. Marshfield, (Mass.,) Town Recs., Vol. I, p. 1. *Mayflower Descendant*, Vol. II, p. 4.

4. Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. I, p. 132; Vol. III, pp. 22 and 45.

Duxbury and Marshfield (?), Mr. Halloway having died prior to March 1, 1652-3,¹ leaving two daughters, Grace and Hannah (or Jane) Halloway.² Grace Phillips was probably more than fifteen years younger than her husband. Her maiden name is not known.

By this marriage Mr. Phillips had two sons: Joseph, born at Marshfield,³ "the last of March," 1655; and Benjamin, born at Marshfield,⁴ . . . 1658. There is no trustworthy evidence that Mr. Phillips had any other children by her, though Dr. Shurtleff⁵ and others, have mentioned such, but all have, it appears, confused the children of Mrs. Grace Phillips by her first husband (Halloway) with those she had by Mr. Phillips.⁶

1. Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. III, p. 22. Administration in the estate of William Hollowell (Halloway) was granted his widow at this date.

2. Idem. Vol. III, p. 45. Grace, widow of Wm. Halloway, "doth allow unto her two daughters ten pounds apiece." Dr. N. B. Shurtleff in his "Lightning at Marshfield," etc., names these daughters as "Grace and Hannah," while the marriage record of Grace appears hereinafter. Miss M. A. Thomas (*op. cit.* p. 84), also names "Grace and Hannah as the children of Mrs. Grace Holloway by her first husband, Wm. Holloway." Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. II, p. 187, mention a "Jane Holloway," whom the context makes it quite certain was intended for "Hannah."

3. Marshfield Town Recs., Vol. I, p. 2, *Mayflower Descendant*, Vol. II, p. 6.

4. The birth of Benjamin Phillips is not found on record, but is closely approximated as to the year, (1658,) by calculations from the other data in hand.

5. Dr. Shurtleff, (*op. cit.* p. 40) evidently in error and in contradiction of himself, (p. 50), calls Grace and Hannah, "daughters of Mr. Phillips by wife Grace." (Italics the author's.) W. T. Davis, (*Ancient Landmarks of Plymouth*, p. 205), makes the same mistake. *No Grace or Hannah Phillips of that relation existed.*

6. Apparently, there is nowhere any intimation of other children of Mr. Phillips by his wife Grace, except such as has arisen from confounding *her* daughters, by her former husband, with *his* (Mr. Phillips') children.

The son Joseph Phillips, was killed as noted, with Capt. Michael Pierce of Scituate, in the stubborn, but terribly disastrous fight with the Indians at Rehoboth,¹ Sunday, March 26, 1676-7.²

Benjamin Phillips, as hereafter appears, married,³ had a family and survived his father.⁴

In 1658 (July 31), Mr. John Phillips, Junior, who had, as noted, seemingly become a householder or sojourner at South Marshfield—a different part of the town from that where his father lived—was killed, by lightning, in “his dwelling, as has been indicated.” This event, tragic and notable enough in itself, *is said to have been the earliest known death by lightning in the New England colonies*, and was very widely noticed⁵ and recorded,⁶ as has been shown, but only the account of Capt. Nathaniel Thomas, a leading citizen of Marshfield⁷ and long a distinguished official of the

1. Letter of Rev. Mr. Newman of Rehoboth, to Rev. John Cotton of Plymouth, the day after the massacre, given in full in Deane's Hist. of Scituate (p. 122). Savage's Gen. Dict., Vol. III, p. 412.

2. Idem.

3. Marshfield Town Recs., Vol. I, p. 11. *Mayflower Descendant*, Vol. III, p. 43.

4. Will of John Phillips, Plym. Col. Wills, Vol. I, p. 140. General Advertiser, Vol. III, p. 28.

5. There are over twenty published accounts of the death by lightning of John Phillips, Junior, many people, (perhaps most, at that time), regarding this manner of death as by direct act of God. As such, and as of greater rarity than now, such a tragedy was then far more impressive than in these days.

6. Plym. Col. Recs., Court Orders, Vol. III, p. 141. The account of the inquest, as then duly recorded, is given in full later. The event was also contemporaneously noted in the diary of John Hull, the famous mint-master of Boston, and elsewhere.

7. Capt. Nathaniel Thomas, son of William Thomas, Esq., one of the Pilgrim Merchant Adventurers, who “fitted out” the *Mayflower*, and who was for many years an Assistant Governor of Ply-

Colony,¹ who chanced to be an eye witness, is quoted here, being alike direct and comprehensive.

The date ("August") assigned the occurrence by Captain Thomas, is alone erroneous and is authoritively corrected by other evidence.² His statement, taken together with the official verdict at the inquest ordered by the Colony Court, fully gives the essential facts as follows:—

"In the month of August (error, as noted) in the year 1658, there was in the Towne of Marshfield, a terrible storm of Thunder Lightning & raine, & and as I was going home-ward being about a mile from home I met with one John Phillips & another man coming out of a meadow from making hay to the next house for shelter from the storm, who advised me to goe in with them to the house least I should be overtaken in the storm ere I should get home the storm then coming up exceedingly black and Terrible. I accordingly went in with them, & the sd Phillips sat downe on a stoole with his face toward the Iner door & his back to the hearth & his side closs to the Jam of the chimney I sat down with my face directly toward him about six foot from

mouth Colony, and probably the richest man in the community. Captain Thomas was the commander of the Marshfield "traine band," an officer in the Pequot War, and at this time, the most prominent citizen of the town. Dr. Shurtleff (*op. cit.* p. 32) was certainly in error in thinking him "the grandson of William."

1. Captain Thomas was later a colonel, judge and councillor and held many important positions of trust and responsibility in colonial affairs.

2. The date assigned by Captain Thomas, "The month of August," it should be remembered was given several years afterward, from memory. The Rev. Mr. Arnold wrote in the margin of his letter, now among the "Mather Papers," (Shurtleff, *op. cit.* p. 6). "The time, as I am certainly informed, was the last day of July, 1658." The inquest also certainly fixes the date.

him, the Thunder came quickly up over the house The Clouds flying exceeding Low and thick soe that the heavens were much darkened Then in a moment came downe (as it were) a great ball of fire with a Terrible crack of Thunder & fell Just before where the sd Phillips sat, my eye then hapening to be on him saw him once start on the stole he sat on & fell from thence dead on the hearth backward without any motion of life, many bricks of the chimney were beaten downe the principle Rafters split the battens and lining next the chimney in the chamber broken, one of the maine posts of the house into which the sumer [girder] was framed torn into shivers & great part of it carried severall rod from the house, the dore where the ball of fire came downe Just before the sd Phillips was broken downe, out of the girt or sumer aforesaid being a dry oake was peices wonderfully taken. I doe not remember there was any outward appearance of hurt upon the body of the sd Phillips, a young child being at that moment about three foot from sd Phillips had noe harm.”¹

The record of the Inquest upon the body of young Phillips is as follows :—

“Att the Court of Assistants held at Plymouth the fourth of August 1658 befor William Collyare, Capt. Josias Winslow Leiftenant Thomas Southworth and Ensign William Bradford, Assistants, &c—

Mr. Josias Winslow, Senr.	Timothy Williamson
Mr. John Bradford,	Abraham Jackson
Mr. Samuell Arnold	Samuell Baker

1. Dr. Shurtleff, *op. cit.* pp. 17 and 18. Mather Papers, in possession of Mass. Hist. Society.

Thomas Doghead [Doggett]	Anthony Snow
John Russell	Joseph Rose
John Adams	John Carver [Carver]

Being Impanelled and sworne to site upon the Corpes of John Phillips Junr, whoe very suddenly expired on Saterdag the last day of July 1658.

Wee find that this psent day John Phillips Junr. came into his dwelling lately knowne or called Mr. Buckleyes house in good health as Goodwife Williamson affirmeth and satt upon a stoole by the chimney and by an Immediate hand of God manifested in Thunder and lightning the said John Phillips came by his death."¹

The keen and widespred interest in the event recited,

1. Plym. Col. Recs., Court Orders, Vol. III, p. 141. Shurtleff, *op. cit.* pp. 21 and 22.

It will be seen that this was quite a distinguished "Court" and "Coroners Jury." Of "the Court" William Collyare [Collier] was one of the Merchant Adventurers who fitted out "*The May-Flower*." Capt. Josias Winslow was the son of Gov. Edward and afterward himself, "the first native-born Governor of Plymouth Colony." Lieut. Thos. Southworth was the step-son of Gov. William Bradford of that Colony, and Ensign Wm. Bradford was the eldest son of Governor Bradford by his second wife, the mother of Lieutenant Southworth.

Of the Jury—Mr. Josias Winslow, Senr., was the brother of Gov. Edward Winslow. Mr. John Bradford was the eldest son of Governor Bradford by his first wife, Dorothy May, who was drowned from "*The May-Flower*." Mr. Samuel Arnold was then minister of Marshfield. Thos. Doggett, John Russell and John Adams were all prominent citizens of Marshfield. Timothy Williamson was very probably a relative of Mr. Williamson, the supercargo of "*The May-Flower*," was also a resident of Marshfield, and apparently the tenant of "Rev. Mr. Bulkley's house." Samuel Baker was a nephew by marriage, of Gov. Edward Winslow. Anthony Snow was a son-in-law of Richard Warren of "*The May-Flower*." Joseph Rose was a citizen of Marshfield and John Carver, another citizen, was a relative and namesake of the old *first* Governor of the Colony.

and thereby, in the family of John Phillips, Senior, was of course, greatly heightened by the still more remarkable and impressive disaster which again befell this family on June 23, 1666,¹ just eight years later, when the dwelling of Mr. Phillips, situate in the eastern part of the town of Marshfield,² was struck by lightning and fourteen persons therein were prostrated and overcome, three of whom were instantly killed.

The latter were Mr. Phillips' second wife, Mrs. Grace Phillips; his third son by his first wife, Jeremiah Phillips, a young man of twenty years; and Mr. William Shurtleff, a near neighbor, who with his family, (his own house having been recently burned), were just then guests of Mr. Phillips. The house dog was also killed, while the six children and young people who were all about him, escaped unharmed.

At the time of the first of these disasters by lightning, Mr. John Phillips, Senior, had been married to his second wife, Grace Halloway, four years, and her first son by him, Joseph Phillips, was about three years old, while the second son, Benjamin, was born that year. The mistake has been made by several writers, of naming Grace Halloway as the wife of John Phillips, *Jr.*, and Joseph and Benjamin as *his* sons by her, whereas they were his father's sons and his half-brothers. Such a view is wholly untenable and without warrant.

1. Letter of Samuel Arnold, minister of Marshfield, to Rev. Increase Mather of Boston, dated July 28, 1683, in "Mather Papers," Morton's New England Memorial, Davis Edition; Shurtleff's "Lightning at Marshfield," etc., etc.

2. Miss M. A. Thomas' *op cit.*, p. 83, and Dr. Shurtleff's *op. cit.* pp. 47 and 49, taken together. As William Shurtleff's residence was well known and he and Phillips were neighbors, it is clear that the latter lived in the eastern part of the town and upon this all authorities agree.

That the elder John Phillips married Grace Halloway; that her two daughters went to live with him and he took charge of their little property, and that Joseph and Benjamin were *his* sons by Grace Halloway, his second wife, (the latter of them being named as such in his will), there is ample and positive, official, *record-proof*. Their mother, Grace, incontestably lived with him as his wife, from 1654 to his death in 1666.

In the latter year, when the second visitation of death came to the Phillips family,¹ killing instantly, as noted, two of its members, (Mrs. Phillips and her step-son Jeremiah), Mrs. Phillips' two daughters by her former husband, (Halloway) were evidently living with her,² well-grown girls, Grace the elder, her mother's namesake, marrying Josiah Reade, the November following her mother's death.³ Hannah (or Jane), the other, but little younger, seems to have continued, for a time, at least, in her step-father's family. It does not appear when or where she died, or that she ever married.

Samuel Phillips, the second son by Mr. Phillips' first

1. John Phillips, Jr. had then been dead eight years.

2. Mr. Phillips evidently took over, upon his marriage to Mrs. Grace Halloway, the responsibility previously assumed by Rev. Mr. Bulkley, for the property interests of the Halloway girls (Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. III, p. 45), and took them with their mother, to his home, where Grace clearly remained till just before her marriage, while Hannah (or Jane), was apparently a member of Mr. Phillips' household in 1668, two years after her mother's death, as indicated by the Colony Court Records, (Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. IV, p. 187).

3. Josiah Reade and Grace Halloway were married November, 1666. (Marshfield Town Recs., Vol. I, p. 3. *Mayflower Descendant*, Vol. II, p. 111.

wife;¹ Jeremiah, his third son,² and his daughter Mary,³ were all undoubtedly still members of the Phillips family at the time of the disaster, while four of the Shurtleff family,—Mr. and Mrs. Shurtleff and their two boys,⁴—with Mr. Timothy Rogers,⁵ were guests of the Phillipses.

The fourteen persons present and prostrated at the time of the lightning stroke, June 23, 1666, were hence apparently:— Mr. John Phillips, Mrs. Grace Phillips, Samuel, Jeremiah and Mary Phillips, — children of Mr. Phillips by his first wife; Joseph and Benjamin Phillips, — his sons by —

1. Aside from the fact that it was then strongly the custom to give the first son the father's name, by which John, Jr., was presumably, the eldest son of Mr. Phillips, Dr. Shurtleff (*op. cit.* p. 40) calls him such, as do Davis (*op. cit.* p. 205) and Winsor (*op. cit.* p. 291). John was the first to leave home and Samuel apparently remained some years longer with his father.

2. Miss Thomas (*op. cit.* p. 83) says: "His [Mr. Phillips] third son Jeremiah." Dr. Shurtleff (*op. cit.* p. 40) names him as "the third son," and (p. 50) calls him "Jeremiah Phillips, a young man about twenty years of age, son of Mr. Phillips," while Goodwin (*op. cit.* pp. 355, 380) calls him "a lad."

3. The daughter, Mary, by several proofs, never left home. Her father calls her "feeble-minded" in his will, and provides for her as such. She evidently never married. She was very certainly at home in 1668, by the evidence of the Colony Records.

4. There are conflicting accounts as to how many children of Mr. Shurtleff were with their parents in Mr. Phillips' house when it was struck by lightning in 1666, some indicating three (3), but the weight of evidence gives but two (2). Dr. Shurtleff,—presumably the best informed as well as the most interested, of any of the writers,—says: (*op. cit.* p. 50) "their sons William and Thomas." Rev. Mr. Arnold's letter to Rev. Increase Mather (a contemporaneous authority upon the spot), coincides, as does also Miss Thomas, the local historian. Davis (*op. cit.* p. 242) gives their names and births. There seem to have been only these two children recorded as born to Mr. Shurtleff before his death and the son Abiel born immediately after.

1. Timothy Rogers was a neighbor and as an eye-witness, became the most important narrator of the occurrence.

the second wife ; Hannah and Grace Halloway,—Mrs. Grace Phillips' daughters by her former husband ; Mr. William Shurtleff and his wife ; their two sons,—William and Thomas Shurtleff,—and Mr. Timothy Rogers. In this list¹ the obvious errors of that given by Dr. Shurtleff, are corrected and the demonstrable probabilities are more exactly stated.

Among the many published accounts of this, then, very exceptional and fatal occurrence, perhaps none is more graphic than that given in an extract from the letter, already referred to, written several years after, by Rev. Samuel Arnold, minister of Marshfield, to Rev. Increase Mather, of the Second Church, Boston, at the latter's request, as follows :—(omitting, as already covered herein, his reference to the death by lightning, of John Phillips, Jr., in July, 1658).—

[*The letter of Rev. Samuel Arnold to Rev. Increase Mather.*]

“ Reverend Sir :—

I salute you in the Lord & have according to your desire indeavoured to give you the best information I could obtain respecting the 2 terrible stroakes by thunder & lightning that were in our towne by inquiry of such as were eye witnesses of those awfull dispensatjons being as brands pluckt out of the burning.”

* * * * *

“ As for the second, being on June 23, 1666, we being

1. Dr. Shurtleff's list of those present at the time of the lightning stroke (*op. cit.* p. 50) is defective in that it leaves out Samuel and Mary, the grown children of Mr. Phillips by his first wife, whom there is every reason to suppose were there,—and after naming Jeremiah the third such child, (being killed at the time he was very certainly there,) it supplies “*four* other young children of Mr. Phillips,” *who did not exist*. Joseph and Benjamin the sons of the second wife Grace, (who was killed), were all the young children in the Phillips family.

sorely distressed with drought had on the fourth day of the week made an address to the most high God by humble fasting & prayer, the drought continued till the last day of said weeke on which day it pleased God to answer us by terrible things in righteousness who was yet the God of our salvation, for about the middle of the sayd day there arose in the north the most dismall black cloud I thinke that ever I saw our eyes were fixed upon it so pinching was the drought we feared least it should go beside us & so terrible was the aspect of it that we trembled least it should come over us, but God that steers the course of the clouds so disposed that it came directly over our town & it was extremely darke & thundered and lightened dreadfully, & ther being in the hous of John Phillips (father to the forsaid John Phillips slaine by the former stroke) the number of 14 psons the woman of the hous (Mrs. Grace Phillips) calling earnestly to shut the dore which was done,¹ instantly a terrible clap of thunder fell upon the hous & rent the chimney & split the doors in many places & struck most of the psons if not all.

1. The records of the Rev. S. Danforth (N. E. Hist. Geneal. Register, Vol. XXXIV, p. 165) says: "The rest of ye churches in like manner besought ye Lord [for rain] and it pleased God to send rain more plentifully on ye 23d day [of June] following, [1666].

"At which time happened a sad accident at Marshfield for in that town a certain woman sitting in her house (some neighbors being present) & hearing dreadful thunder crackes spoke to her son & said, "Boy, shut ye door, for I remember this time 4 [?] years we had like to have been killed by thunder and lightning [a reference intended doubtless to the disaster of 1858, 8 years previous]. The Boy answered: "It's all one with God whether ye door be shutt or open." The woman said again "Boy shut ye door!" At her command the Boy shut ye door: but immediately ye came a Ball of fire from Heaven. down ye chimney & slew ye old woman (whose name was Goodwife Phillips) & ye Boy and an old man a neighbor that was

“Timothy Rogers my informant told me that when he came to himself he saw the hous full of smoake & there was a terrible smell of brimstone & that fire lay scattered all about the floore whether the fire that was upon the hearth by the vjolence of the stroake hurled about the hous or fire from heaven he knew not, he thought at first that all the people had been dead but himself till it pleased God to revive the most of them, but 3 of them were mortally struck with Gods arrows that they never breathed more (viz) the wife of John Phillips & a son of his about 20 years of age or upwards and one Willj. Shertley who having been a little before burnt out of his own hous & was with his family a present sojourner there, who had (as is sayd) a little child in his arms which was wonderfully preserved, there was also a dog slaine under a table behinde 2 little children sitting as is sayd upon the table ledge the wife of said Shertley being big with childe neer her full time was graciously revived & notwithstanding both shock and fright seasonably and mercifully delivered.”¹ Yours in what I may serve you

Marshfield, July 28, 1683.

Sam: Arnold Senj:

To the Rev. Mr. Increase Mather, etc:”

present & a dog yt was in ye House but a little child yt was in ye arms of ye old man and a woman with child being present was soor amazed” [dazed]. This was evidently “worked up” for effect by the good parson, who drew a little on his imagination for some of his facts. Mrs. Grace Phillips was not likely to use the words ascribed to her in regard to the lightning’s work in 1658, for she was not present then, but miles away.

1. The widow of William Shurtleff who was, as appears, so marvellously spared, married (as his second wife) Jacob Cooke, son of Francis Cooke of the *May-Flower*, whose first wife was Damaris Hopkins of the Pilgrim ship, and after his (Cooke’s) death married Hugh Cole, as her third husband.

As Mr. Phillips and Mr. Shurtleff were near neighbors,¹ as stated, the location of Mr. Phillips' home, the spot where this remarkable fatality occurred, is readily approximated by the suggestion of Dr. Shurtleff² as to that of his ancestor William, so suddenly cut off, as being—"In the neighborhood of what is now known as "White's Ferry" near the mouth of North River," in the easterly part of the town of Marshfield.³

All the victims of the disaster were doubtless buried from this shattered homestead the day following, viz.: June 24, 1666, as shown by the early records of the town.⁴ Their graves have not been certainly located.

Changes naturally followed rapidly and sequentially, in the Phillips' household after the lightning's invasion in June, '66. The records⁵ of the Colony Court at Plymouth, held Oct. 31, 1666, show that:—

"At this Court John Phillips of Marshfield, tendered⁶ to make payment of the sum of ten pounds unto Grace

1. The letter of Rev. Mr. Arnold so states and Miss Thomas' location of Mr. Phillips' home (*op. cit.* p. 83) and Dr. Shurtleff's location of it (*op. cit.* p. 47) as also the latter's direct statement (p. 49), all clearly indicate that the Phillipses and Shurtleffs were near neighbors.

2. Dr. Shurtleff, *op. cit.* p. 47.

3. *Idem* and Miss Thomas, (*op. cit.* p. 83). "White's Ferry" is a very well known and ancient locality on the northern-eastern border of Marshfield, taking its name from a very early Ferry across the North river to Scituate beach, operated by members of the family of Peregrine White the *May-Flower*-born Pilgrim.

4. Marshfield Town Records, Vol. I, p. 6. *Mayflower Descendant*, Vol. II, p. 182.

5. Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. IV. p. 136.

6. The Colony Records show that, on the death of Mr. William Halloway, 1652-3, his widow, Grace, was appointed administratrix of his estate by the Court, Mar., 1652-3. (Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. I, p.

Halloway, the daughter of William Halloway deceased, (and Phillips' second wife, Grace Halloway) the said Grace Halloway being now of age,¹ to receive the same as her portion, and she having requested Major Winslow² to advise her in reference unto the future way of her livelyhood;³ the Court, also, approving thereof, have also ordered, that the said sum of ten pounds be delivered unto him for to be improved by him for her use."

22). A year later, having inventoried the property, the widow reported to the Court an offer of "£10 apiece" to each of their two daughters as their share of their father's property. The Court evidently approved and Rev. Edward Bulkley, (then minister at Marshfield,) bound himself with the widow, to these payments, "on the day of marriage" of each of the daughters, (the usual proviso of becoming of age being omitted). If either died before then, the survivor to enjoy the other's portion. At the Court of May 8, 1654, Mr. Bulkley was released and Mr. John Phillips (who the next month married Mrs. Halloway) took his place and responsibility. Hence the tender now made by Mr. Phillips, of settlement with the daughter Grace Halloway, who was seemingly (See Court "Order") nearly "of age," though not yet "married." The other daughter, Hannah (or Jane), evidently remained unmarried and in Mr. Phillips' care.

1. Grace was evidently the elder daughter and (her father having died in 1653,) was presumably about eighteen years of age. She does not seem to have dealt quite frankly either with the Court, or Major Winslow, whose advice as to her future she sought, as she intimated to neither, apparently, her purpose of immediate marriage to Josiah Reade, whom she espoused within a month—unless indeed, it was "a very sudden affair."

2. The Major Winslow here named, was Major Josiah, son of the illustrious Governor Edward Winslow, third governor of the Pilgrim Colony and himself, later, the commander of the Colony's forces and the first native-born Governor of the Colony. He was the "Lieutenant Winslow" of the Court which recorded the inquest upon John Phillips, Jr., in 1658.

3. Her "livelyhood," about which she was, seemingly, so much concerned (?) was probably already then provided for, as she very (probably) well knew, by her engagement to Mr. Reade, unless, as suggested, the "match" was *very* suddenly made.

Hannah Halloway (or "Jane"—as she is once called in Plymouth Colony records)¹ was evidently the younger of the sisters and apparently remained in Mr. Phillips' family for at least two years after the death of her mother and the marriage of her sister to Josiah Reade, as, by Court records, she seems to have been there as late as June, 1668, when she and Mary Phillips—her step-father's "feeble-minded" daughter—were called to account for certain violent behavior toward each other for which they were fined.²

As the females of Mr. Phillips' household, remaining after the departure of Grace Halloway with her husband,³ in November, 1666, were only these two contentious young women, Mary and Hannah (Jane), while the male members of the family were at least four in number, including two young lads, to be cared for, Mr. Phillips was evidently constrained to find another companion to take charge of his home.

Evidently he sought for experience, as we find him in February, 1667, already successful in his suit of Mrs. Faith (Clarke) Dotey,⁴ of Plymouth, the second wife and widow of Edward Dotey, the *May-Flower* Pilgrim, (who died at Plymouth, Aug. 23, 1655,)⁵ and daughter of Tristram and

1. Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. IV, p. 187.

2. *Idem.* What ultimately became of Hannah (or Jane) Halloway does not appear on record, so far as known.

3. Reade and his wife were among the first settlers of Norwich, Conn. Miss Thomas, *op. cit.*, p. 84.

4. Mr. Phillips had evidently successfully prosecuted his suit from the fact that Mrs. Dotey had, by the date named, assented to the marriage, on the conditions later expressed in the ante-nuptial agreement.

5. Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. VIII, p. 17.

Faith Clarke¹ of Duxbury. She was the mother of nine children by her first husband, Mr. Dotey, and evidently a matron of both years and experience.

On Feb. 23, 1666-7, Mr. Phillips and Mrs. Faith Dotey concluded an ante-nuptial agreement, as appears by the records of the Colony Court,² upon which it was duly entered, as follows:—

“ Upon a motion of marriage betwixt John Phillips of Marshfield and Faith Dotey of Plymouth, in the jurisdiction of Plymouth in New England in America, the p'ticulars were jointly concluded of by the abovesaid p'ties, as followeth:—

Imprimis:—That the children of both the p'ties shall remain att the free and proper and only dispose of their owne naturall parents as they shall see good to dispose of them:—

Secondly:—That the said Faith Dotey is to enjoy all her house and land goods and cattles, that shee is now possessed of, to her owne proper use, to dispose of them att her owne free will from time to time, and att any time as she shall cause;

Thirdly:—That in case by death God shall remove the said John Phillips before her, that she come to be left a widdow, that then shee shall have and enjoy one third p'te, or one pte in three, of all his estate that he dieth possessed of, for her livelyhood during her life,—that is to say, one

1. Savage's Geneal. Dict., Vol. 1. Drake's Founders of N. E., p. 53. Davis' Ancient Landmarks of Plymouth, p. 62. Winsor's Hist. of Duxbury, p. 246, etc., etc.

2. Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. IV, p. 193. A very just and sensible agreement.

third part of all his estate, either houses, lands, or any other his reall estate—and at the end of her life, then it shall returne to the heires of the saide John Phillips, excepting her wearing apparell and her bed and bedding and such furniture as belongs thereunto, which she shall and may give att her death to whom she pleaseth, all the rest of the thirds to return to the heires of the said John Phillips.

In witness whereof the said John Phillips and Faith Dotey have mutually sett hereunto their hands, the twenty third of February anne 1666-7.

The marke of X John Phillips.

The marke ℒ Faith Dotey.

In the p sence of

Thomas Southworth

Desire Dotey ”

March 14, 1666-7, some nine months after the sudden and tragic death of his second wife, Mr. Phillips, at the age of sixty-five, married Mrs. Faith Dotey¹ as his third wife, she being seventeen years younger than he.

Presumably some of Mrs. Dotey's younger children accompanied their mother to her new home at Marshfield, three of them, at least—a son and two daughters—being “under age”² at the time of her marriage to her second husband.

Mr. Phillips now apparently, had beneath his roof, beside himself and wife, four separate contingents, or family

1. Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. VIII, p. 31.

2. She really had four children then under age, but her son Isaac, born 1648, was man-grown; Joseph, born 1651, was probably not over fourteen and Mary was still younger, so that there then were three, at least, needing still a mother's care.

representations, viz:—his son Samuel and daughter Mary, children by his first wife; his two sons, Joseph and Benjamin, children by his second wife; Hannah (or Jane) Halloway, the daughter of his second wife by her former husband, and the children of his third, or present wife Faith, by her former husband (Dotey).

With so many and so various parties, with but few and feeble bonds of common interest to bind them together or restrain them, entire peace and harmony were hardly to be expected and it is not surprising that some of them—as in the case of Mary Phillips and Hannah (or Jane) Halloway, before mentioned¹—should have come into collision. It would, indeed, have been remarkable if they had not.

Mr. Phillips lived with his third wife, Faith, some eight years, but had, it is understood, no children by her—indeed she was forty-eight years old at the time of her marriage to him, having been fifteen years of age, when she came to New England in the ship “Francis” of Ipswich, England, in 1634.²

The exact date of Mrs. Faith Phillips’ death is not known, but Marshfield records show that she was “buried”³ there Dec. 21, 1675, at the age of fifty-six years. Her will, or what was intended by her as such,⁴ was apparently so incomplete in form, as (having been read by Lieutenant

1. See p. 21, *ante*.

2. Savage’s Geneal. Dict., Vol. I. Drake’s Founders of N. E., p. 53.

3. Marshfield Town Records, Vol. I, p. 5. *Mayflower Descendant*, Vol. II, p. 181.

4. Plym. Col. Wills, Vol. III, Part 2, p. 12. *Mayflower Descendant*, Vol. III, p. 89, *et seq.*

Peregrine White)¹ to be practically nuncupative only. Her memorandum, doubtless prepared for her, without taking competent counsel, was dated Dec. 12, 1675, a few days only before her death, and did not sufficiently dispose of all of her property or interests.² The bequests made by it were small ones only, to her three daughters by her former husband (Dotey), and even they were incomplete. The Colony Court sitting in June, 1676, saw fit therefore, to treat her testament as a nuncupative will and to grant administration³ under it, so far as it went, to the three daughters named therein, Desire (Sherman), Elizabeth (Rouse) and Mary Dotey. A considerable part of the estate Mrs. Phillips inherited from her former husband (Dotey) she appears to have disposed of by "bill of sale," to her son John Dotey,⁴ under certain obligations on his part, as to her other children. The Court

1. Lieut. Peregrine White to whom, by the Court Records, Mrs. Faith Phillips seems to have shown, shortly before her death, the memorandum she intended for her will, lived not much over a mile from the Phillipses on the "South River road," and being a man of importance in the community and Colony, was no doubt, sent for by Mrs. Phillips, to take the acknowledgement of this expression of her wishes as to her property, as was then customary. For some reason, perhaps her feebleness, a legal and complete will was not made.

2. She had relinquished in Court, in March, 1635, to her children, all her interests (dower only,) in lands at Coaksett and adjoining places and had transferred most of her property by "bill of sale" to her son John, under conditions for the others, but she still left undevisee her personal property, apparel, etc., and the very little money in Mr. Phillips' hands. She does not seem to have let a penny go to any of the Phillipses, not even to her husband, who promptly turned in to her heirs, even the thirty shillings he held for her. She evidently "hewed to the line" of their ante-nuptial agreement and probably Mr. Phillips wished her to.

3. Plym. Col. Wills, Vol. III, Part 2, pp. 12, *et seq.*, June 3, 1676.

4. See the will itself for further details, or *Mayflower Descendant*, Vol. 3, p. 89 for liberal digest thereof.



THE PEREGRINE WHITE HOMESTEAD.
Built by him. Now demolished. (Original.)

sitting Nov. 4, 1676,¹ granted later letters of administration, on behalf of the three daughters—and doubtless at their request—to John Rouse of Marshfield (husband of Elizabeth), upon the estate of Faith Phillips, and under orders² issued July 10/20, 1676, with the consent of her sons, the Court permitted the 30/s of her estate which remained in the hands of her late husband, John Phillips, to be divided equally among her daughters, with a recommendation to the other two that they release their parts to their sister Desire Sherman, because of her impoverished condition, her husband having become “distracted” in the Indian wars.³

Jan. 16, 1676, Mr. Phillips’ only remaining son of his children by his first wife—Samuel Phillips, seems to have married⁴ a “widow Mary Cobb,” and apparently, removed not long after, to Taunton,⁵ where he had a family, though records concerning him are but meagre.

In March of the following year, Mr. Phillips lost, as noted, his elder son (by his second wife, Grace) Joseph Phillips,⁶ in the heroic fight of Capt. Michael Pierce’s com-

1. Plym. Col. Recs., Court Orders, Nov. 4, 1676. Letter of administration to John Rouse.

2. Plym. Col. Recs., Court Orders, Vol. V, p. 163.

3. William Sherman, Jr., married Desire Dotey. He was a soldier in “Philips’ War,” became “distracted” and died, when his widow married Israel Holmes and after his death by drowning, Alexander Standish, eldest son of the famous Pilgrim Captain, Myles Standish.

4. Winsor’s Hist. of Duxbury, p. 292, note. Davis’ Ancient Landmarks of Plymouth, p. 206.

5. *Idem.* and Plym. Col. Recs., Vol. VI.

6. The list of the men of Marshfield slain in Rehoboth fight under Captain Pierce, given in the letter of Rev. Mr. Newman (See Deane’s Hist. of Scit., p. 123), gives Joseph Phillips’ name, and there are several other records of his death in the fight. Mr. Newman

mand at Rehoboth, against an overwhelming body of Indians in which Pierce's command was obliterated. By this blow Mr. Phillips lost a third son—beside his wife—by a violent death.

In 1677, Mr. Phillips seems again to have sought a companion for his loneliness and his declining years—he being then seventy-five years of age—and appears by the records,¹ to have married April 3 of that year, Mrs. Ann Torrey, the widow probably, of Lieut. James Torrey of Scituate (who died in 1665), and daughter of Elder William Hatch of that town.² She was born about 1623, and so at the time of her marriage to Mr. Phillips, was about fifty-four years of age, some twenty years younger than he. She had borne her first husband ten children and had had her share of the vicissitudes and trials of life.

Although no record of her death has been discovered, and she was twenty years younger than Mr. Phillips, she must have died before him (unless an undiscovered ante-nuptial agreement cut her off from any share in his estate) as she is not mentioned in his will³ and was presumably dead when it was made.

July 12, 1681, Mr. Phillips' surviving son by his second wife, (Grace) Benjamin Phillips, married Sarah Thomas,⁴

helped bury the dead upon the battlefield and the testimony of his letter, written immediately thereafter, may be taken as conclusive.

1. Marshfield Town Recs., Vol. I, p. 4. Hist. of Duxbury, p. 292. Note. Mrs. Torrey's house had just before been burned by Indians.

2. Deane, *op. cit.* p. 279. Scituate, (Mass.), Town Records, (Vol. IV, Part 2, p. 1, gives the marriage of James Torrey and Ann Hatch, under date Nov. 2, 1643.

3. Plym. Col. Wills, Vol. I. p. 140. *Genealogy Advertiser*, Vol. 3, p. 28.

4. Marshfield Town Recs., Vol. I, p. 11.

daughter of John and Sarah (Pitney)¹ Thomas of Marshfield, and by deed of gift ("from natural affection"), dated Nov. 15, 1681, Mr. Phillips gave² to Benjamin, one "moiety of all his housing and lands" and "half his cattle and sheep." The young couple evidently "settled down" upon the homestead farm of Mr. Phillips the elder, to care for him and it and rear a family of their own. Here they "raised" a family of ten children, six sons and four daughters,³ Mr. John Phillips, Senior, living to welcome five of them (the eldest being his namesake) beside one or more children of his son Samuel,⁴ as Mr. Phillips' will and certain records attest.

The exact date of the death of Mr. John Phillips is not known, but as his will was dated⁵ Oct. 20, 1691, and was probated⁶ May 10, 1692, he must have died between these dates, probably early in May,⁷ 1692. His will recites his age at its

1. John Thomas and Sarah Pitney were married at Marshfield "21 of December 1648." (Marshfield Town Records, Vol. I, p. 3). "Sarah, dau. of John Thomas was born Sept. —1661," (Idem).

2. Plym. Col. Deeds, Vol. II. Deed of gift witnessed by John Thomas and Nathaniel Thomas.

3. The children of Benj. and Sarah (Thomas) Phillips were: John, b. 1682; Joseph, b. 1685; Benjamin, b. 1687; Sarah, b. 1689; Thomas, b. 1691; Hannah, b. 1693, Jeremiah, b. 1697; Abigail, b. 1699; Isaac, b. 1703; Bethia, b. 1705. (Davis' Ancient Landmarks of Plymouth).—See Tabular chart at end of volume.

4. Samuel Phillips married widow Mary Cobb, May 15, 1676 and had:—Mehitable, b. Jan. 9, 1676-7; Samuel, b. 1678; and perhaps Thomas. Samuel seems to have lived at Taunton. As Mr. John Phillips mentioned the children of his sons Samuel and Benjamin in his will as his grandchildren, it is fair to believe there were no others.

5. Plym. Col. Wills, Vol. I, p. 140.

6. Idem.

7. It was the usual custom to offer a will for probate if practicable, within ten days or a fortnight, after the death of the testator, much depending, however, on the accessibility of the Court.

date, as "about eighty-nine years," and declares the testator as then "being at present in some measure of health."

It devises :—"To eldest son Samuel, £5 and wearing apparel;" to grandson John Phillips, son of my son Benjamin, my gun or fowling piece;" "To the rest of my grandchildren, viz: the children of my sons Samuel and Benjamin, each 5/s." "To son Benjamin all houses and lands at Marshfield or elsewhere, also rest of goods," he to maintain and provide for "my Daughter Mary Phillips who by Reason of ye weakness of her Reason & understanding is incapable to maintain and provide for her self." Benjamin is named by the will as sole executor.

The inventory¹ of his estate gave a total only of £45-15-6 which though modest, even for that day, (being the equivalent then, in purchase value of \$1,000), still proved him solvent, at the end of a very long life, noted for and full of, rare vicissitudes, trials and burdens. Although, as Miss Thomas declares,—“A man of many sorrows,” his integrity, his abounding hospitality, his courage, his high standards, and his unwearied thoughtfulness for others, seem never to have been a whit abated by his many misfortunes. He was a good type of the sturdy New England yeomanry of that day. A courtly, kindly, honorable “Old Colony” progenitor.

1. Plym. Col. Probate Recs., Vol. I, p. 141.

Duxbury and Marshfield.

JOHN PHILLIPS { b. abt. 1602 in England—(probably).
 { d. at Marshfield between Oct. 30, 1691 and May 19, 1692.

= 1. Mary ——— { b. ?
 { d. ?

= 2. Mrs. Grace (—) Halloway. { b. prob. in England.
 (Widow of Wm. Halloway. d. 1682-3. { d. June 23, 1666. Killed by lightning at M.

= 3. Mrs. Faith (Clark) Dotey. { b. prob. in Eng. 1619.
 (Widow of Edward Dotey. d. Dec., 1675, at M.

= 4. Mrs. Ann (Hatch) Torrey. { b. prob. in Eng. abt. 1623.
 (Widow of James Torrey. d. 1685.) { d. bef. 1691 at M.

John Phillips { b. 1658 at M.
 { Killed by lightning
 { July 31, 1658 at M.

Samuel Phillips { b. 1676
 { (probably) Mrs. Mary Cobb
 { { Mchitable, b. 1676
 { { Samuel, b. 1678
 { { Thomas

Jeremiah Phillips { b. 1658 at M.
 { d. unm.
 { Killed by lightning
 { June 23, 1666 at M.

Mary Phillips { b. 1655 at M.
 { d. unm.
 { ("tebble-minded")
 { "the Capt. Pierce
 { "Fight" at Rehoboth,
 { Mar. 26, 1677

Joseph Phillips { b. 1658 at M.
 { d. unm.
 { Killed in
 { "the Capt. Pierce
 { "Fight" at Rehoboth,
 { Mar. 26, 1677

Benjamin Phillips { b. 1658 at M.
 { = Jan. 12, 1682 Sarah Thomas
 { of M. d. of John & Sarah (Pit-
 { ney) T. of M. { b. ?
 { d. ?

John Phillips { b. 1682, d. Feb. 23, 1737-8
 { = 1710 of Patience Stevens
 { d. Nov. 1786, act. 80.

Joseph Phillips { b. Mar. 29, 1685
 { = 1711 Mercy Fames
 { { Naomi
 { { Elizabeth
 { { Elisha, b. 1713
 { { Agatha, b. 1716
 { { Jerusha, b. 1721
 { { Mercy, b. 1725
 { = 1740 Benj. Hatch

Capt. Nathaniel { b. 1713
 { { Phillips
 { d. May 15, 1795

Joanna White { b. 1735
 { d. Feb. 3, 1798

Benj. Phillips { b. May 20, 1687
 { = 1. Eleanor Baker 1716
 { d. May 1726

Sarah Phillips { b. June 29, 1689
 { = 2. Mrs. Hannah
 { Allen (?)

Thomas Phillips { b. Jan. 17, 1691
 { = 1. 1725 Mary
 { (Fames) Sherman
 { = 2. Mrs. Hannah
 { Allen (?)

Jeremiah Phillips Abigail Phillips { b. 1699.
 { m. and had issue. prob. m. 1742,
 { James Hanks

Isaac Phillips Bethia Phillips { b. 1703.
 { d. Sept. 8, 1787 d. ?
 { = 1777 Sarah
 { White, d. Feb. Washburn
 { 15, 1788-9

Abalah, b. 1729
 { Thomas, b. 1731
 { Mary, b. 1733
 { Lydia, b. 1734-5
 { Mark, b. 1736
 { Deborah, b. 1739

Jeremiah, b. 1717, d. 1789
 { Benjamin, b. 1719
 { John, b. 1721, Capt. (?)
 { Desire, b. 1729
 { Eleanor, b. 1731
 { Penelope, b. 1735
 { Alice, b. 1744



APPENDIX.

After the foregoing pages were sent to press, more than a year ago, the author learned of the existence of certain papers likely to throw light upon, and perhaps permit definite conclusions in regard to, some unsettled points concerning the *Phillips Family*, which it was desirable to determine, if possible, before publication, and after much vexatious but unavoidable delay he has been able to secure photographic copies of three original deeds, found among the "Clark Leonard papers," now in possession of the N. E. Hist. Genealogical Society of Boston, by whose courtesy and coöperation they are presented herewith.

By them, and the earlier lease of Grace (Halloway) Reade and her husband in 1866 (See p. 9, *ante*), several points of importance in connection with the Phillips narrative are settled beyond reasonable doubt. These are: (*a*) That William Halloway and his wife Grace (afterward Mrs. Phillips) certainly left but two children, the daughters Grace and Hannah, as named, as proven by the facts that each of them had an "equal halfe-part" of their mother's real estate, which both declare was "formerly their father's"; (*b*) that hence there could have been no "*Jane Halloway*" (unless this was another name of Hannah's), as given in 1668 in Plymouth Colony Records (Vol. IV., p. 187) associated with that of Mary Phillips; (*c*) that Hannah undoubtedly married, sometime between 1668 and 1673, "John Reade of the towne of Norwich, in the Colloney of Conneectecutt," who was, as elsewhere appears (Miss Caulkin's Hist. of Norwich, Conn., p. 197) a brother of the Josiah Reade, who, as we have seen (pp. 9, 23, *ante*), married her sister Grace in November, 1666.

This definitely accounts for and "disposes of" Hannah, in correction of previous statements herein (pp. 17, 24, *ante*); (*d*) that all the former realty of William Halloway thus came into the hands of one man, Deacon William Ford, Senior, the first miller of Marshfield (none of it going to Mr. Phillips); and (*e*) that the "meadow land" conveyed (being that where young John Phillips, Jr., was "making hay" just before he was killed by lightning, in 1658) lay "betwixt the lot of Timothy Williamson, formerly Rev. Mr. Bulkley's * * * and John Bourne," and so can be approximately located today.

In confirmation of the suggestions made (pp. 7-10, *ante*) as to the occupancy of the former dwelling of Rev. Mr. Bulkley by Timothy Williamson, is the following, recently taken from the early records of the town of Marshfield:

"Jan. 7, 1657-8. At the town meeting the inhabitants voted that they are willing to purchase of Mr. Edward Bulkley all his right and claims in the houses and meadow lands and uplands which he stands possessed of in Marshfield, and *rented out now by the said Mr. Edward Bulkley to Timothy Williamson of this town.*" It appears by later entries that the town did so purchase.

In the record of a town meeting of the Town of Marshfield, held May 21, 1650, it is minuted that "Mr. John Phillips hath put his son, William Phillips, being about the age of seven years the first of Dec. last past, unto Mr. John Bradford of the town of Duxborough, and his now wife, or either of them, or the survivor of them, after the manner of an apprentice, for and during the term of fourteen years, from the first of Dec. aforesaid" [1649], etc. The "said Bradford to feed, clothe, teach him to read and write, and give him that education as becometh a master to a servant." This indenture would, in the ordinary course, expire in 1663, and the said William (?) was then to be paid "2 suits of apparell and also the sum of five pounds sterling, either in corn or cattle."

Miss Marcia A. Thomas, in her "Memorials of Marshfield," mentions a *William* Phillips as the son of John Phillips, Sen. (see p. 7, note, *ante*), and thereby clearly indicates that she had seen the above mentioned entry in the town records, for no other mention of a son *William* to John Phillips has anywhere been found, and Miss Thomas was unquestionably closely familiar with the early Marshfield records. She fails, however, to mention either a son *Samuel*, or a daughter *Mary*, as children of Mr. Phillips, although he names them both in his will, and both were certainly his children by his first wife, John Phillips, Jr. having apparently been his first-born, though he named *Samuel*, at the time he made his will, as (*then*) his "eldest son."

Either the name in the (1650) entry on the town records of Marshfield *should* read *Samuel* instead of *William*, or there *was* a *William* (of whom absolutely nothing further is known), who was born about 1642,— according to his age as given in connection with the indenture. If there was such son *William* he must have died early or have totally disappeared otherwise. If the name *William* was accidentally substituted, as appears probable, for *Samuel* (as the name "Jane" undoubtedly was for that of "Hannah" Halloway in the Colony records, as before mentioned), then it is evident that *there was no son William* and the town record cited relates to *Samuel*, and this supposition is in accord with all other known and related facts.

The indenture referred to expired in 1663, and the indentured son would have then been free and very likely to be again at home with his father, as *Samuel* certainly was, at the time his step-mother and brother Jeremiah were killed by lightning in 1666, at which time he would have been twenty-four years of age.

If it was, as appears, *Samuel*, and *not* *William*, who was indentured by his father in 1649, the children of Mr. John Phillips, Sen., were :—

By his first wife Mary (?) :

John : probably born (from his estimated age at death) about 1633-5 ;

Samuel : born (as shown) about 1642 ;

Jeremiah : probably born (from his stated age at death) about 1644-6, and

Mary : concerning the date of whose death there seems to be no guiding data, though certain facts suggest that she was very likely born between John and Samuel.

It appears probable that Mr. Phillips' first wife (Mary), ? the mother of the above-named children, died between 1646 — the presumable date of Jeremiah's birth — and 1649, the year when Samuel (or William?) was indentured to Mr. Bradford, and that her death may have occasioned the indenture.

Mr. Phillips having married, in 1654, his second wife, Mrs. Grace Halloway, — a widow with two young daughters, as we have seen — had by her two sons :

Joseph : born Mar. 31, 1655, and

Benjamin : born (prob.) 1658. (Baptized Aug. 15, 1658.)

So that all the children Mr. Phillips is *known* to have had are accounted for and enumerated *and do not include any son William, and none is named in his will.*

The ancient records of the Second Church of Scituate, (Mass.) — now the First Unitarian Church of Norwell, Mass. — show (*N. E. Hist. Genal. Register*, Vol. 59), under date of Oct. 4, 1657, the baptisms of "Grace and Hannah, daughters of John Phillips." There is no room for doubt that these were Grace and Hannah Halloway, *step or foster-daughters* of John Phillips, being the daughters of his second wife, Grace (—) Halloway, by her former husband. That they were never formally or legally adopted by Mr. Phillips as *his* "daughters," is rendered certain by their being known legally, up to the respective dates of their marriages, by their father's name of Halloway. The same records also give the

baptism of *Benjamin*, the second son of John Phillips, by Grace, his second wife, under date of Aug. 15, 1658, viz. :—

“Benjamin some of John Phillips.”

Why these baptisms should have occurred at the “Second Church” of Scituate, rather than at the nearer old “First Church” of Marshfield, does not appear.

It is of interest to note in connection with the mention made (p. 29, text and note) of the division of a small sum of money in Mr. Phillips’ hands, belonging to his third wife, Faith, among her daughters, by order of Court, and the recommendation of the Court that the others release their parts to their sister Desire Sherman, because of her impoverished condition, her husband having become “distracted in the Indian wars,” that Desire Dotey married her husband, William Sherman, Jr., Dec. 25, 1667, the Christmas following Mr. Phillips’ marriage (in March) to her mother, not improbably from Mr. Phillips’ home, and that Benjamin Phillips, grandson of John, married in 1728, a Desire Sherman, doubtless of the second generation after Desire (Dotey) Sherman and of her lineage.

The following from “Notes on the Indian Wars” (*N. E. Hist. Genral. Register*, Vol. 15, p. 266) throws light upon the peculiar “distracted” of the husband of Desire (Dotey), Mr. Phillips’ step-daughter, who certainly had, like her foster-father, her share of the vicissitudes of life.

“Among the first of the Massachusetts soldiers who arrived at Swansey was one William Sherman, Jr., of Watertown [? probably error]. This man on seeing the success of the Indians and hearing many profane oaths among some of our soldiers, namely those privateers, and considering the unseasonableness of the weather was such that nothing would be done against the enemy, was possessed with a strong conceit that God was against the English wherefore he immediately ran distracted and so even returned home a lamentable spectacle.”

In a note to the foregoing, credit is given for it to Dr. Increase Mather’s *Brief History*, and it is added, that; “Dr.

Mather does not give the name of the distracted (insane) man, but that from a document among the Mass. Archives it appears, that as late as the following October, Sherman remained bereft of his reason, for the General Court ordained that his wife, Desire Sherman, be allowed £20 toward the relief of them and their family."

Sherman died, insane, in 1680, and his widow married Israel Holmes of Marshfield, in 1681. He was drowned in Plymouth harbor in 1684, and she married, as her third husband, Alexander Standish of Duxbury, eldest son of Capt. Miles Standish, as his second wife, and was the mother of his three youngest children, having had five by her first husband, and two by her second, making in all ten children. She died in 1731, aged 86 years. Her beauty in early life is reputed to have been as remarkable as were her experiences and those of her step-father, Mr. Phillips.

Marshfield ye 12 of September, 1670.

These presents doth testify that I, Josiah Read, of ye town of Norridge, in ye Collony of Connecticute, have sold and made over (to William Ford, Senior, of the town of Marshfield, in ye Collony of new Plimouth), all the Right, title and interest in the one halfe of all the lands and meadows that was formerly my father in law, William Holoways, deceased, and doth apertain and belong to my wife, Grace Read, by Inheritance, these said lauds I do fully sell & make over in behalfe of my aforesaid wife, & myself to William Ford above-sayd, and his heirs forever, for and in consideration of the payment of the full and just summe of eighteen pounds sterling, to be payd to mee the sayd Josiah, or my assignes at or before the twenty ninth of September, in the year 1671 (vide) six pounds in currant monee and twelve pounds to be payd in merchantable English goods at Boston at prices currant. Sd goods is to be in duffetie and trading cloth for the Indians and such other goods sutable thereunto at prices currant, and for the true performance of ye premises I have set to my hand this day and year above written.

Witness: John Bourne,

Robert x Cutter,
his mark.

Josiah Read.

Grace Read, the wife of Josiah Read above mentioned, dld acknowledge her full and free consent to the above sd sale and doth pass over all her right in the premises from herself and her heirs unto the sd Ford and his heirs, July 17, —71.

Before

JOSIAH WINSLOW
Assist.

August 12 of September 1670

I here doth testify that Joseph Read of
toions of Newrye in the County of Comickoche have for
and made over unto William for Simon of the town of New
sett in the County of New Plymouth at the right title and
interest in the one half of all the lands and meadows that
was formerly my father in law William Hokersay Dec. of
and both agrains and belong to my wife Guals Read by
Inheritance their sayd sads of do fully the make over
in behalfe of my saviors wife & my sirs to William for
above sayd do not here for sure for and in consideration
of the payment of the full and last sum of eight
pounds sterling in or pay to me the sayd Joseph or my
assignes at or before the twenty ninth of September
in the year 1671 (which six pounds in current money at
that time should be paye in my sirs the English Goods
at Boston that were then due to me the sayd Joseph
at trading for the Indians a full value Goods suitable
thereunto) which curat do for the true performance of
the sum of five hundred to my hand the day & year above written

witness my hand

Joseph Read

Witness my hand
his mark

Thomas Read the wife of Joseph Read above mentioned did
knowingly her self and free consent unto the above sd Sale
and doth pass over all her right in the premises from her
self and her heirs unto the sd Goods and her heirs, July 17
1670
Before Joseph Read

MARSHFIELD, the 6 of September, 1673.

Know all men by these presents: that whereas Hannah Read (sometymys Hannah Holloway) wife to John Read of the town of Norwich, in the Colloney of Conneckticote, having the whole halfe part of two pells of land, which was sometymes her father's, William Holloway, the one pell being the halfe of twenty-five ackers of upland purchased by the aforesaid William of Arthur Howland, Senior, as also the one halfe part of the meadow belonging to the said upland, lying in Marshfield betwixt the lot of Timothy Williamson of the one side and John Bourne of the other side: as also the one-halfe part of thirty ackers of upland granted by the towne of Marshfield to the aforesaid William and his heires forever; these are therefore to testify to any whom it may concerne: that I, Hannah Read, wife to John Read of ye towne aforesaid, have (and with the consent of my husband, the aforesaid John) sold, aiiened, enfeofed and made over all my whole right and Interest of all, and singular these pts and pells of land and meadow lying and being in Marshfield, from mee, my heirs, executors, administrators and assignes for ever to William Ford, Senior, of the town of Marshfield, milner: to him, his heires, executours, administrators and assignis forever; for and in consideration of the full and just summe of fiteene pounds in currant mony; eight pounds thereof to be in hand paid at the signing hereof; and seven pounds to be paid at or before the last of September next ensuing the date hereof (vide) in the year 1674. and for the true pformance of the pmisses, I, the aforesaid Hannah, do set to my hand and seale the day and year above written.

Signed, sealed
and delivered in
p sence of

Nath Thomas
the mark of
Deborah D T Thomas.

The mark of
Hannah x Read.

[Seal.]

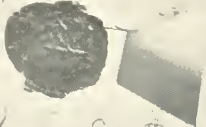
This instrument was acknowledged by the aforesaid Hannah Read at the time of the ensealing hereof and the sayd Hannah did freely resign and give up her interest in the above mentioned lands.

Before JOSIAH WINSLOW, Governor.

Warrant for the 6th of September 1673

Know all men by these presents that whereas Hannah
Read (some times Hannah Hollaway) wife to John Read of
the Towne of Norwich in the Colony of Connecticut, having
the whole halfe part of two parcels of Land which were formerly
and lately William Holmwood, one parcel being the late
of twenty four acres of whom purchased by the above said
William of Arthur Holmwood Senior, or also the acreage of
the meadow belonging to the said Arthur Holmwood Senior
between the lot of Thomas Holmwood of the one side and John
Drauer of the other side: as also the one halfe of thirty
acres of vacant ground by the town of Norwalk to the
above said William and his heirs for ever: they are therefore
to testify to any person it may concern that I Hannah
Read wife to John Read of the above said town (and with the
consent of my husband the above said John) do hereby
sell and give over all my right and interest of all or
any part of the parcels of land and meadows aforesaid
unto my neighbor Thomas Holmwood Senior
and assigne the first to William Lord Senior of the Towne
of Norwalk in full satisfaction of the debt
of the said Thomas Holmwood Senior in current money
to be paid at or before the signing hereof: and seven
pounds to be paid at or before the last of September next
following the date hereof (viz) in the year 1674 and for the
value hereof the said I Hannah Read do hereby
to my husband the said John Read

John Read
Hannah Read
Thomas Holmwood Senior
William Lord Senior



This instrument was acknowledged
before me at the County of
Norwich, and the said Hannah Read
and the said John Read
and the said Thomas Holmwood Senior
and the said William Lord Senior
all being personally present in the
County of Norwich

To all people to whom these presents shall come John Read of the towne of Norwich, in the Colloney of Connecktecutt, in New England, and Hannah, his wife, send Greeting, etc.

Know yee that we, the sd John and Hannah Read for and consideration of the full and just sum of fifteen pounds in currant New England money to us in hand paid before the ensealing hereof by William fford, Sen., of the towne of Marshfield, in the Coloney of New Plimoth, in New England, aforesaid, the resept whereof we, the sd John and Hanah Read, doe acknowledg by these psents, and thereof doe exonerate, acquit and discharge the aforesaid William fford, his heires, executors and administrators forever, have granted, aliened, bargained, sould, enfeofed and confirmed, and by these psents doe freely, fully and absolutely grant, alien, bargain, sell, infeofe and confirm for us and our heires forever unto him, the sd William fford, his heirs and assigns for ever, all our lands being and lying in the township of Marshfield, aforesaid, viz., the one moiety, or halfe part of all the lands which William Holloway, late of Marshfield, aforesaid, deceased father of the sd Hanah, died seised of, namely, all the one-half part of all the land, both upland and meadow, purchased by the sd William Holloway of Arthur Howland, and all the one-half part of thirty acres of upland, be it more or less granted to the sd William Holloway by the town of Marshfield, and bounded as doth and may appear upon record in the towne book of Marshfield, aforso, which sd lands doth been of late in the occupation of the sd William fford. To Have and to Hold all the above sd lands, with all and singular their rights, members and appurtenances, profits, privileges and benefits, to him, the sd William fford, his heirs and assigns for ever, and We, the sd John and Hanah Read, for themselves, their heirs, executors and administrators, to and with the said William fford his heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and every of them doth promis covenant and grant in manor and form following (that is to say), that the said bargained premises are free and clear, and clearly acquitted of and from all incumbrance whatsoever by us, the said John or Hanah Read, or by any other person or persons whatsoever, by either of our privity or procurement made, had committed, suffered, omitted or done, and that the sd John and Hanah Read are, until the sealing and delivery of these presents, seised of all the abovesaid lands in fee simple (that is to say) of a just estat of inheritance, and wee, the said John and Hanah Read, for our selves and our heirs, to the sd William fford, his heirs and assigns, shall and will Warrant and for ever defend the same by these presents, in Witness Whereof we, the abovesaid John and Hanah Read, have hereunto set our hands and seals this first day of September in the year of our Lord God one thousand six hundred seventy four.

Signed and sealed in the
psents of the

John Thomas
the mark of
John B. Branch, Sen.

JOHN READ. [Seal.]

This deed was acknowledged by the above mentioned John Read to bee his free and voluntary act at the time of his insealing there of before

JOSIAH WINSLOW,
Gov.



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