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RALPH HILL OF PLYMOUTH AND BILLERICA, MASSACHUSETTS DESCENDANTS TO THE FIFTH GENERATION

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Ralph¹ Hill, one of the founders of Billerica, Massachusetts, was the progenitor of a large family of landowners and farmers, most of whom stayed in Billerica through the fifth generation. They took an active part in town affairs, attended the church services at the Meeting House, and were responsible in matters of defense: against Indian attack in the 1665–1710 period, in the French and Indian Wars, and later in the Revolution.

In the absence of personal records, we can only speculate as to why people move from one place to another, except to say that they expect to better their lives economically and/or find an environment more sympathetic to their views. Ralph Hill's reasons for leaving Britain and Plymouth Colony, only a few years later, to join the settlement at Woburn, may have been religious. Less than ten years later, about 1652–3, he moved to Billerica, located between the Concord and Shawshin Rivers a few miles northwest of Woburn. This new area, the Shawshin wilderness, was granted to the town of Cambridge in 1644, although several large individual grants had been made earlier. Cambridge made several additional large grants to individuals, but did not occupy the wilderness immediately. Actual settlement was precipitated in 1651/2 by sale of the early grant to Governor Dudley, the Dudley Farm of 1500 acres. Dudley's heirs sold it to three Woburn men, none of whom finally settled in Billerica. They laid out Billerica's first subdivision of twelve lots and sold them to others from Woburn (William Chamberlain, George Farley, Ralph Hill, Henry Jefts, and John Stearns) and Cambridge (Richard Champney, William French, and Robert Parker). These men formed the nucleus of the "now inhabitants of Shawshin" who, in October 1654, petitioned for additional land

west of the Concord River; favorable action on this petition in May 1655 is taken to be the act of incorporation of Billerica.

Dr. Charles E. Stearns, Billerica historian and a Hill descendant, has generously given me advice and information, much taken from the family papers in his possession.

Accounts of some branches of the family have been published. The Rev. Henry A. Hazen's *History of Billerica, Mass.* (Boston, 1883), is fairly accurate but abbreviated. A short sketch of Ralph Hill's immediate family is included under "The Toothaker Line" in Mary Lovering Holman's Pillsbury genealogy. A lineage called "The Hill Family of Hounston, Somersetshire, and Heligan, Cornwall, in England, and of Wellingsley, Plymouth Colony, and Billerica, Middlesex County, in New England" appears in Mackenzie's *Colonial Families*, in which the authors claim a long English ancestry for Ralph and his alleged brother Thomas. Richard Spencer's *Memoirs of Charles E. Hill* (Baltimore, 1919) makes the same claims. I am reluctant to accept the English background given in these accounts; dates and places are vague and scattered and no documentation is offered. But even more pertinent to the present study is the claim in the latter two accounts that Ebenezer Hill, the "Little Minister" of Mason, N.H., descends from this line. I found no proof that this is a valid lineage and much evidence that it is not (see Samuel, no. 33, below for details).

Hazen and others have suggested that Ralph Hill came from Billericay, Essex County, England. This suggestion is based on the association of Billericay with the *Mayflower*¹ and the possibility that Hill, as one of the founders of Billerica, Mass., was responsible for naming the town after his home in England.² Hazen further cites records of a clergyman from Billericay by the same name.³ Research in the parish registers at the Society of Genealogists of London, as well as the International Genealogical Index (IGI) files of the LDS Church, shows a large Hill family, and even occurrences of the name Ralph Hill, in Billericay, Great Burstead, Chigwell, and other neighboring towns, and Billericay literature states Hill was from a town near Chelmsford, but nothing even remotely conclusive could be gleaned.

Also, because Ralph Hill calls William French "brother" in his will, this connection was explored, but the French family's origins have not been established.⁴ Much more work needs to be done in parish and probate records to validate any allegations about Hill's origin in England. The answer is not in the IGI files, which were examined county by county for all of England, and found nonproductive, with one possible exception.⁵

We know nothing of Hill's first wife, except that she has been called a relative of William French, nor do we have any passenger list for him and his two children, Jane and Ralph (and possibly his first wife). We know that he was in Plymouth Colony by 7 August 1638, when he was granted five acres of land at Woberry Plaine and a garden place at Wellingsly, abutting on the south lands owned by John Allen and Margrett Toothaker.⁶ The following 21 December 1638 he married the widow Margaret Toothaker,⁷ whose name is found among the passengers on the *Hopewell*, aged 28, along with her husband

Roger Toothaker, aged 23, and a son Roger, aged 1 year, enrolled 11 September 1636.³ Roger Toothaker died between that date and 5 February 1638,⁹ when "Margret Toothaker widdow" was granted a garden place at Wellingsley and six acres at Woeberry Plaine.⁹ On 4 September 1638, she, John Weeks, and John Allen were presented at the Court of Assistants for "stopping the heighway that goeth to Manomett."¹¹

Apparently they stayed in Plymouth until at least 17 September 1643, when Ralph Hill of Wellingsley sold to Steeven Wood, planter of Plymouth, his house, outhouses, garden places adjoining, and the 12 acres of upland at Wobery for £12.¹¹ In the same year he took the oath of fidelity there.¹²

He next appears in Woburn, Middlesex County, as a Selectman on 19 February 1644/5.¹³ On the 22nd of the 10th month [December] 1646, he was charged a tax of 6 shillings 5 pence,¹⁴ apparently on a house he sold to Richard Snow in 1659.¹⁵ He was made a freeman in Woburn in 1647 and by 1654 he was one of the first settlers of Billerica.

Ralph Hill's name appears on several documents concerned with the founding of Billerica. He signed a petition for Shawshin to be renamed Billerica, not dated, but received by the General Court 23 (8) 1654.² At a town meeting 16 (6) 1658, he voted to hire Samuel Whiting, Jr. as the first pastor; his name appears first on this document. He reaffirmed his loyalty to King Charles II at the time of the Restoration in 1660, one of the two or three able to sign his name. He was a Selectman in the first list of town officers for 1659-60, and his name is signed to papers relating to the laying out of the road to Woburn 9 September 1660 and surveying the Andover and Chelmsford boundaries. Also in that year he was involved in setting up the Meeting House on 27 (7) 1660, and in 1663 he paid a rate of 3s 12d for the minister's salary.¹⁷

The first division of land was of the 1500-acre Dudley Farm; Ralph bought one and one-half lots, including (1) 118 acres of upland bounded on the north by George Farley, east by William French, and west by Concord River, where he settled, and (2) 60 acres of upland "between the great pond near Cambridge bounds and Robert Parker,"¹⁸ and (3) four separate parcels of meadow. This is the 1½ "lots" referred to in later deeds; that he bought additional lots (of which there is no record) is implied by his description of the second parcel in his will as "two half-lots," and by the determination in 1685 that his heirs (Nathaniel and Jonathan) each held 12½-acre rights in the division of common lands (one lot on the Dudley Farm was the basis for the 10-acre right).¹⁹ On 6 (9) 1655, he requested the Town Committee to grant to his son Ralph, Jr. a parcel of land to build his house on at the south end of his own house lot; it was granted.²⁰ In April 1663, he gave one-half acre of land at the northeast corner of his homestead to the town for a cemetery (now part of the Old South Burying Ground). He was buried there later that month.³

Ralph Hill made his will 18 November 1662 and died the following April. It was probated 12 November 1663; executors were his sons Nathaniel and Jonathan; overseers were William Tay and John Parker and "my brother" William French, witnessed by George Farley and John Parker. He left to his wife Margaret her thirds of land, meadows, and buildings, and one cow. His

son Ralph was given £23 "due from the land I sold at Woburn, his full portion." Son Nathaniel was to have the land toward Concord and one-third of "my improvable land until he has broken and fenced up land of his own"; also 5 acres of meadow next to Ralph's. Son Jonathan received the rest of the land and houses and Hill's Meadow. Son-in-law [and stepson] Roger Toothaker was to have the 33½ acres of land lying in the common field and some at Shawshin River. Daughter Martha £20; to Benjamin Parker was devised Long Meadow; each grandchild 15sh except Elizabeth Hill, who was to have 20sh at age 12; daughter Rebecca Hill £30; and grandchild Mary Littlefield £15.²¹

In the following account, unless otherwise stated, all towns are in Massachusetts and all vital records cited are from the official series of published records; they will not be referenced separately.

Ralph¹ Hill was probably born in England and died testate in Billerica 29 April 1663. He married first in England [name unknown] and second in Plymouth Colony 21 December 1638 Margaret [————], widow of Roger Toothaker. She was born in England between 1597 and 1610 and died in Billerica 22 November 1683, aged 88 years. She came to America with her husband and son, Roger, aged 1 year, sailing from London on the *Hopewell* 11 September 1635, at which time she gave her age as 28.⁸ By Roger Toothaker she had two children, whom Ralph Hill raised: (1) Roger² Toothaker, born England *ca.* 1634; d. in prison at Salem shortly before 16 June 1692, where he was on trial for witchcraft;²² married at Billerica 9 June 1665 Mary Allen; and (2) Martha Toothaker, born Plymouth *ca.* 1635; d. Billerica 4 January 1703/4; and married there 15 November 1660 Ralph² Hill.¹⁶

Children of Ralph Hill and his first wife:

- #183
- 1 i. Jane² Hill, b. England; d. Woburn 20 Dec. 1646; m. *ca.* 1645–6 Francis Littlefield (prob. b. Tichfield, Hants., Eng., where he was bapt. 17 June 1619, son of Edmund and W. Annis [Austin] Littlefield, of Wells, Maine. He was called a farmer, miller, and innkeeper).²³ One daughter, Mary, who was given a bequest in her grandfather Ralph Hill's will.
 - + 2 ii. Ralph Hill, b. England prob. before 1633.

Children of Ralph and Margaret (————) Hill:

- + 3 iii. Nathaniel Hill, prob. b. Plymouth *ca.* 1642.
- + 4 iv. Jonathan Hill, b. Woburn 20 Apr. 1646.
- 5 v. Rebecca Hill, b. *ca.* 1648; d. Billerica 29 Mar. 1669; m. Billerica 5 July 1666 Caleb Farley (b. Woburn 1 Apr. 1645, son of George¹ and Christian [Births] Farley;²⁴ d. Billerica 29 Mar. 1669). Two children recorded Billerica.

2. Captain **Ralph² Hill** was born in England before 1633, the son of Ralph¹ Hill and his first wife, and died testate in Billerica 9 April 1695. He married there 15 November 1660 **Martha Toothaker**, born in Plymouth Colony *ca.* 1636, the daughter of Roger and Martha [————] Toothaker, and died in Billerica 4 January 1703/4, aged *ca.* 69. She was Ralph's stepsister.

Captain Ralph Hill was active in the town affairs of Billerica. With his father, he signed the request to the General Court to change the name of the town from Shawshin *ca.* 23 (8) 1654,² as mentioned, and town records show his

signature on documents relating to the appointment and housing of the first minister, Samuel Whiting, Jr.; on 25 (7) 1660, he took part in the building of the Meeting House and was on a committee to join with the neighboring town of Chelmsford to repair the bridge over the Concord River on 25 (7) 1660. In the same year he was chosen to serve on the jury of trials; in 1661 he was paid £1 by the town for killing wolves, and on 9 September 1664, he was paid 18 shillings for two days work viewing the meadows with John Sterne.

Active in the defense of the town against Indian attack, Ensign and later Captain Hill had a garrison at his house in 1675 and signed an appeal to the General Court for relief from attack on 9 (12) 1676.²⁵ He was on a list of freemen for 18 April 1690.²⁶

Ralph Jr. had a lot in the Township (now Billerica Center). On 6 (9) 1655, the Town Committee granted him additional land north of his house lot,²⁰ but he soon bought the lot next south of his father on the Dudley Farm and sold the Township lots to John Poulter. In 1661, he participated in the purchase of the Edward Oakes grant²⁷ and in 1677 was granted another 23 acres adjacent to his share. His allotment in the division of common lands in 1685 was a 23½-acre right. In 1670, he sold meadow land to Jonathan Danforth.²⁹ He paid taxes of 7s 6d in 1679 and of 12s 4d in 1688 for 3 persons and an estate.³⁰

Ralph wrote his will 2 April 1695 and died one week later; it was probated in Middlesex County 3 May 1696. Executors were his sons Samuel and Daniel; witnesses were Joseph Tompson, John French, and Samuel Hill. In his will he instructed his children to be attentive to his wife and see to her comfort, giving to her the use of the east end of the house and cellar. She was to be provided annually with a bushel of Indian corn, two of malt, 1 of wheat, and the sons were to maintain two milk cows continually; a barrel of cider, 12 bu. of apples, 6 lbs. of sheeps' milk, 12 lbs. of flax, and a yearly well-fatted swine. If she remarried, 'she was to dispose of the furniture only among her children.

To daughter Rebecca he left household stuff to be given at her marriage. To daughter Elizabeth Baldwin £34 plus the £10 she already has; to his grandson Timothy Baldwin when he is of age, 20s; to his grandson Ralph Baldwin, 40s, the survivor to get all if one died; to his daughter Deborah Sheldon, £34, and granddaughter Mary Sheldon and grandson Samuel Sheldon, 40s each.

To his sons Samuel and Daniel, he gave all the lands and buildings, and specifically: to Daniel, a lot on the Shawshin River adjoining Mrs. Page, he to continue on the homestead with Samuel "to strengthen the hands of each other so long while the several legacies to my daughters be discharged . . . and comfort their mother."

To Samuel was devised the homestead and a double portion of everything. When the legacies were discharged, the remainder of the estate, livestock, and land, husbandry, and army clothing were to be divided equally among the sons. "Daniel may enjoy the farm on Shawshin, which I value at three score pounds of silver." He requested his cousin John French and Cornet Job Stearns and Joseph Tompson to be overseers of his estate.³¹

Children of Ralph and Martha (Toothaker) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 6 i. Elizabeth³ Hill, b. 28 July 1661; d. Billerica 26 Jan. 1703/4; m. there (also rec. Woburn) Timothy Baldwin (b. Woburn 27 May 1661, son of Henry and Phebe [Richardson] Baldwin; d. Stoneham 11 Mar. 1733/4 testate). Five children rec. Woburn.
- 7 ii. Deborah Hill, b. 14 Dec. 1663; d. Billerica 11 Jan. 1729/30; m. there 20 Nov. 1690 John Sheldon (b. there 21 Apr. 1660, son of John and Mary [Converse] Sheldon; d. Billerica 27 Aug. 1724). Five children rec. Billerica.
- 8 iii. Rebecca Hill, b. 14 Aug. 1666; alive in 1695.
- + 9 iv. Samuel Hill, b. 18 Feb. 1671/2.
- + 10 v. Daniel Hill, b. 22 Feb. 1674/5.
- 11 vi. Hannah Hill, b. 18 Dec. 1681; d. Billerica 20 Sept. 1689.

3. **Nathaniel² Hill**, son of Ralph and Margaret (——) Hill, was probably born in Plymouth Colony *ca.* 1642 and died testate in Chelmsford 14 May 1706, aged 64. He married first at Billerica 21 June 1667 **Elizabeth Holmes**, born Cambridge (not recorded) 2 March 1644, daughter of Robert and Jane (——) Holmes,³² and died in Billerica 9 October 1685. Nathaniel married second **Lydia (Fletcher) Fiske**, born Chelmsford 29 January 1646/7, daughter of Andrew and Lydia (Howard) Fletcher, and widow of John Fiske. She died in Chelmsford 13 January 1730.

Cornet Nathaniel Hill served in King Philip's War under Capt. Wheeler and was paid £1.12.10 on 29 February 1675/6³³ and 12s on 24 August 1676.³⁴ In 1663 he paid £3.17.6 for the support of the minister, Samuel Whiting, Jr.,³⁵ and served as a Selectman in Billerica in 1686–7. He moved to Chelmsford about 1689, where he voted on 13 May of that year to assist in King William's War.³⁶ On 16 March 1692, he was put in charge of a garrison of seven men. In 1695 he was called a landlord or innkeeper, and on 26 January 1696 attended a court of assizes at Charlestown in a case against Edward Spaulding, Jr., who, on 25 November 1695, "near the house of Cornet Hill," assaulted Ezekiel Richardson with fatal results. In 1697 he was a selectman (as well as other years during that decade), and in 1701/2, the town of Chelmsford paid him 3s for nails and boards used to build the meeting house and 1s 2d for drink, and again on 10 May 1699, 5s 10d for transporting corn to Billerica. In 1700 he was appointed by the selectmen to join with Billerica to attend the General Court on 28 May 1701 to determine the boundary lines between the towns.³⁷ He paid taxes of 3s 6d in 1679 and 13s in 1688; the latter, on four persons and an estate, was the third largest on the list.

Nathaniel inherited the two half-lots on the Dudley Farm in 1663 and must have purchased additional lands adjacent, although the deeds were not found. He also sold a half-interest in his father's share of the Edwards Oakes farm to Peter (Patrick) Fassett in 1684. In 1665/6 and again in 1685, he held half (12½ acres) of his father's 25-acre right in the divisions of common land. He sold his share of the meadow divisions of 1665/6 to Jonathan Danforth in 1677.³ Early in 1705/6, he divided his lands in Billerica among four of his five sons by individual deeds: to Nathaniel, Jr., 50 acres of the Dudley Farm west of the Concord Road, 20 acres east of the Dudley Farm, and a 5-acre town right; to Ralph, 60 acres with buildings on the Dudley Farm, three small parcels of

meadow, and a 5-acre town right. There must have been a similar deed to Joseph, who is listed as an abutter to the north in Ralph's deed, but it was not found. Joseph sold to Ralph 8 acres by deed of the same date and held a 5-acre town right in 1707. To John, who had bought 95 acres west of the Concord River from the town in 1695, Nathaniel gave $6\frac{1}{4}$ acres of "good meadow" in Treble Cove Meadow nearby and a $2\frac{1}{2}$ -acre privilege. By 1707, the privilege appears to have been divided between Nathaniel Jr. and Ralph.³⁹ No deed to Jonathan was found; he had bought land, water power, and town rights in Chelmsford from the heirs of Abraham Parker in 1701 and was not included in the 1705/6 distribution. The disposition of Nathaniel Sr.'s land in Chelmsford has not been found either.

Nathaniel's second marriage is proved by his will made 25 March 1706.⁴⁰ He named his son John and his wife executors; witnesses were Samuel Manning, William Fletcher, and Oliver Whiting. He stated that the buildings, land, and all the estate that his wife Lydia had left unto her by her first husband, Mr. John Fiske, should be wholly at her disposal during her lifetime. To his wife Lydia he devised a parcel of meadow land and 8 acres in Chelmsford called Crane Meadow, "my horse and the youngest pair of oxen which we now work, and four cows, those that give milk, and one to fat for next summer, and two heifers of 2 years age," plus all household stuff: bedding, brass, pewter, iron, all furniture except three "feather beds and the brass and pewter that I brought from Billerica, which I give unto my three daughters." He further bequeathed to his daughters Elizabeth and Jane a cow each, and to Jane, "for her care of and kindness to me, a pair of oxen as a legacy to be taken out of my estate." Nothing was left to Abigail except as mentioned; to John and Jonathan Hill, his sons, he left his military effects. Lydia also was to keep some clothes, his fire arms, and ammunition "for the defense of the house."

Children of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Holmes) Hill, all recorded at Billerica:

- + 12 i. Nathaniel³ Hill, b. 31 Mar. 1668.
- 13 ii. Ralph Hill, b. 14 Oct. 1669; d.s.p. Billerica 23 Apr. 1742, aged 72y 6m 10d, unm. Ralph was deeded 60 acres on the Dudley Farm, with buildings, and a 5-acre right. In the divisions of 1707-8, he was allotted 38 acres south of Nuttings Pond, 58 acres in the east part of town (now Tewksbury), and 32 acres west of the Concord River. On 21 Aug. 1713, he and his brother Nathaniel exchanged half-interests in two parcels: Nathaniel gave Ralph half-interest in 42 acres south of the Thomas Oakes Farm in return for a half-interest in Ralph's 38 acres south of Nuttings Pond. Curiously enough, Ralph seems to have sold his half interest in the 42 acres to Capt. John Lane three years previously.⁴¹ He probably sold the 32 acres west of the Concord River to his brother John (although there is no record of this), but bought the two lots in the third range, which he sold to Joseph Hill, Jr. in 1734.⁴¹ In 1717, he sold his interest in his brother Jonathan's land in Chelmsford to J. Parker, and, in 1719 and 1723, he bought the homestead of John Parker on the Dudley Farm north of his own land.⁴¹ He made his will 27 May 1740, signing it.⁴² It was probated in 1742. Executor was Jonathan Hill and witnesses were William Bowers, Stephen Blood, and Benjamin Bowers. To his nephew Jonathan Hill, "son of my brother Joseph," all lands, household goods, debts, and movables, except the following: to Abigail Chamberlain, "my sister, the wife of Capt. Samuel Chamberlain of Chelmsford," £50, to be paid within 2 years and another £50 at the end of 5 years;

to Nathaniel Hill of Billerica, son of Nathaniel (deceased), £30 at the age of 21; to Abigail Hill, daughter of Nathaniel, £20 at the age of 18.

- 14 iii. John Hill, b. 27 May 1671; d.s.p. Billerica 15 Apr. 1742, aged 70y 11m 12d; he m. Chelmsford 22 June 1711 Elizabeth (Warren) Blodgett (b. Chelmsford 3 Mar. 1674, dau. of Jacob and Mary [Hildreth] Warren and widow of Nathaniel Blodgett, [b. Chelmsford 16 Mar. 1670; d. there 12 Oct. 1710, son of Daniel and Sarah (Underwood) Blodgett]). Elizabeth d. Chelmsford 21 Jan. 1754 at the home of her nephew Ephraim Warren; she was aged 80. John was a selectman in Billerica in 1716. No issue. He made his will 28 Nov. 1737, appointing his cousin John Hill (no. 51) executor.⁴³ Witnesses were Benjamin Adams, John Davis, and Abigail Davis. He left to his wife Elizabeth one-third of all improved lands and meadows, with the privilege of the fences and the east end of his house with half the cellar and convenient barn room plus one-half of all movables. He mentioned £25 due from Deacon Joseph Warner of Chelmsford for subsisting and nursing his mother in the time of her last sickness. He left to "his loving cousin John Hill and Abigail Hill, his now married wife, all my lands and meadows of any kind whatsoever and buildings lying on them in Billerica in the manner following:" $\frac{2}{3}$ at his death and $\frac{1}{3}$ at his wife's death. If John and Abigail died without heirs, their portion was to go to Jonathan Hill, John's brother. John and Abigail also were left the other half of the movable estate.
- + 15 iv. Joseph Hill, b. 18 Mar. 1672/3.
- 16 v. Jonathan Hill, b. 27 June 1674; d.s.p. Chelmsford 24 Mar. 1710/11, aged 36 yrs. He bought land in Chelmsford in 1701 from Abraham Parker and also in Westford the same year.⁴⁴ An inventory of his estate was taken by Moses Barron, John Kidder, and John Parker; the lands and homestead were valued at £188 and the land yet to be laid out at £12 on 12 Aug. 1713. Administrators were Joseph Hill of Billerica and William Reed of Lexington, appointed 12 May 1714; witnesses were Henry Flynt and Elizabeth Foxcroft.⁴⁵
- 17 vi. James Hill, b. 10 Dec. 1675; d. 21 Dec. 1675.
- 18 vii. Elizabeth Hill, b. 13 Mar. 1676/7; mentioned in father's will in 1706.
- 19 viii. Robert Hill, b. 23 Jan. 1678/9; apparently d. young.
- 20 ix. Jane Hill, b. 15 Dec. 1680; d. Chelmsford 15 Nov. 1711 unm. She is bur. next to her brother in the Burying Ground there.
- 21 x. Anna Hill, b. 9 June 1682; d. 10 June 1682.
- 22 xi. Abigail Hill, b. 26 Dec. 1683; d. Chelmsford 15 May 1760, age 76y 4m 10d. According to her brother Ralph's will, she m. (not recorded) ca. 1703 Samuel Chamberlain (b. 11 Nov. 1679, son of Thomas and Sarah [Proctor] Chamberlain; he d. 12 Apr. 1767, age 87 years).

4. **Jonathan² Hill** was born in Woburn 20 April 1646, the son of Ralph and Margaret (——) Hill and died after 1717 intestate. He married at Billerica 11 December 1666 **Mary Hartwell**, probably born at Concord ca. 1643, the daughter of William and Jazan (——) Hartwell. She died at Billerica 13 February 1694/5. Proof of the marriage is found in her father's will, in which he mentions his daughter "Mary Hill."

Jonathan lived in Billerica all his life. He took the oath of fidelity 23 April 1666⁴⁶ and was taxed 2s 6d in 1679,⁴⁷ and again in 1688 for three persons, when he paid 10s 2d.⁴⁸ He served as selectman in 1698 and 1700. His name appeared on the list of freemen 18 April 1690.⁴⁹

His military engagements included serving under Capt. Thomas Wheeler on 29 February 1675/6; was paid 2s 11d on 24 June 1676 for service in King Philip's War under Capt. Daniel Henchman, and again at Groton Garrison 29 February 1695/6 under Capt. Wheeler.⁵⁰ On 17 November 1698 he signed a

petition to the General Court to preserve for Billerica a tract of land at the west side of town, which Concord and Chelmsford also wanted.⁵¹ In the original distribution of lands in 1665, Jonathan drew a 12½-acre piece. In 1705 he was granted another 91 acres next to the Oakes Farm.⁵² He is called Corporal Hill in town records.

Jonathan inherited his father's homestead in 1663, and in the subsequent divisions of common land, held a 12½-acre right. He built a second house farther from the Concord River and east of his father's house.⁵³ In the divisions of 1705–8, he was granted 91 acres south of the Thomas Oakes farm (now Bedford), 162 acres in the east part of town (now Tewksbury), and 70 acres in two pieces west of the Concord River. Before his death he divided his property equally between his two sons by deed: Jonathan Jr. got the southwest half of the homestead,⁵⁴ Samuel the northeast half.⁵⁵

Children of Jonathan and Mary (Hartwell) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 23 i. Mary³ Hill, b. 9 Sept. 1667; d. Bedford 19 March 1749 (as Betsy); m. Billerica 31 Mar. 1697 John Fasset (prob. b. Malden [a brother Joseph was b. there in 1672], son of Patrick and Sarah (——) Fasset; he d. by 23 May 1736 when his will was probated: This assumption of parentage is based on the fact that Patrick was in Billerica by 1679). John Fasset was the first treasurer of Bedford, set off from Billerica in 1733. No issue.
- + 24 ii. Jonathan Hill, b. 21 Aug. 1669.
- + 25 iii. Samuel Hill, b. 22 Feb. 1671/2.
- 26 iv. Sarah Hill, b. 10 Oct. 1674; prob. d. young.
- 27 v. Joseph Hill, b. 29 May 1683; prob. d. young.

9. **Samuel³ Hill** was born in Billerica 18 February 1671/2 and died there intestate 4 August 1755, the son of Ralph and Martha (Toothaker) Hill. He married before 1705 **Deborah** [——], who died in Billerica 27 June 1748.

Samuel inherited his father's homestead entire and lived out his life there. In the divisions of common land in 1705–8, he was allotted 76 acres, bounded by the Concord line and the Winthrop Farm (the main street of Bedford was later laid out on the north line of this lot), 144 acres in the east part of town (now Tewksbury), and 62 acres west of the Concord River. He sold most of these additional lands during his lifetime.

Samuel was a deacon in the church and in 1733 paid 1s 3d for the minister's rate. He was also active in military affairs, and, as Captain of the Militia, maintained a watch for Indians at his house during the Indian attack of 1692–3; from 4–6 July 1706 he served under Capt. John Lane assisting the town of Dunstable during Indian attack. In 1677, as Sergeant, he was in charge of a squadron to cut brush from the highway. He was also called Sergeant in a 1679 tax list, paying 6s 6d. In 1711, called Lieutenant, he was appointed to investigate and recommend a highway route on Bare Hill, and in 1714 the town paid him 2s 6d for running the Lexington line. He served as Selectman in 1708–11, 1713–4, 1716–8, 1723–6, 1728–9, and 1743–4.⁵⁶

Samuel died intestate. His son Ralph Hill, styled Gentleman, Joseph Hill and Jonathan Hill, both yeomen, all of Billerica, were appointed administrators of his estate on 22 September 1755; witnesses were Andrew and Sarah

Bordman. The inventory was taken by Deacon William Stickney, Capt. Daniel Stickney, and Mr. Joseph Hill, all of Billerica; it was countersigned by Ralph Hill, Isaac Marshall, Abraham Jaquith, Joshua Davis, and Thomas Moses. His personal estate was valued at £73.15.4 including the livestock, and his real estate as follows: the 58+ acres with buildings abutting Peter Hill, Ralph Hill, and the Concord River were valued at £256; the 60-acre parcel including the homestead at £281.01.8; 16+ acres of meadow west of the river at £35.16.8, and 18+ acres of upland and swamp in Tewksbury at £4.0.0: total value was £572.18.4. "As to the above lands we are of the opinion that they be all settled upon Capt. Ralph Hill, the eldest son of the deceased, there being no other son known of in New England." Certain sums had been given to the children during Samuel's lifetime: on 8 May 1729, Deborah, wife of Samuel Whiting, was given £62; on 3 January 1732/3 Ralph received £260; on 6 June 1737 Sarah, wife of David Baldwin, received £100; and on 27 February 1746, the date of Rebeckah's marriage to Isaac Marshall, she, Usle, wife of Jacob Walker, and Elizabeth, wife of Abraham Jaquith, each received £100. In January 1747, Samuel received £281. Ralph was ordered to pay the charges of the settlement and to pay his brother and sisters, or, if deceased, their children, additional sums. The heirs also agreed on an additional sum for Abraham Jaquith, who took care of Samuel in his last illness.⁵⁷

Children of Samuel and Deborah (——) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 28 i. Deborah⁴ Hill, b. 4 Nov. 1705; d. Billerica 5 Sept. 1745; m. there 8 May 1729 Samuel Whiting (b. Billerica 6 Sept. 1702, son of Oliver and Anna [Danforth] Whiting; d. Billerica 4 Nov. 1772. He was a deacon. 8 children.
- + 29 ii. Ralph Hill, b. 16 Sept. 1707.
- 30 iii. Martha Hill, b. 15 Sept. 1709; d. 8 Apr. 1747, unm.
- 31 iv. Rebecca Hill, b. 12 Oct. 1711; d. Billerica 13 Dec. 1789, aged 78; m. there 27 Feb. 1746, as his second wife, Isaac Marshall (b. Billerica 18 Dec. 1712, son of John and Eunice [Rogers] Marshall; he d. Billerica 3 Mar. 1797, aged 84).
- 32 v. Sarah Hill, b. 11 Dec. 1713; d. Billerica 21 Apr. 1750; m. there 6 June 1737 David Baldwin (b. Billerica 9 June 1711, son of Thomas and Sarah [——] Baldwin. 6 children.
- + 33 vi. Samuel Hill, b. 20 Feb. 1715/6.
- 34 vii. Hannah Hill, b. in Feb. 1717/8; d. 15 May 1736.
- 35 viii. Ursle Hill, b. 23 Apr. 1721; d. before 1755; m. Jacob Walker (b. Boston 17 Jan. 1719/20, son of Jacob and Hannah [——] Walker; d. by 14 Dec. 1752,⁶² when his estate was inventoried and money left to her heirs).
- 36 ix. Elizabeth Hill, b. 16 Sept. 1723; m. Billerica 13 Mar. 1755 Abraham Jaquith (b. ca. 1726, son of Abraham and Hannah [Farley] Jaquith). They moved to Fitchburg in 1779. 7 children.

10. **Daniel³ Hill** was born in Billerica 22 February 1674/5, the son of Ralph and Margaret (Toothaker) Hill, and died ca. 1750, probably in Mendon. He married first there 4 November 1709 **Sarah Emerson**, probably daughter of James and Sarah (Ingersoll) Emerson of Mendon. Daniel married second **Ruth** [——].

Daniel served under Capt. John Lane from 4–6 July and 11–13 August 1706 for the relief of Dunstable and Groton.⁶⁴ He and his brother Samuel inherited their father's land and homestead. Daniel also to have a lot on the Shawshin

River adjoining Mrs. Page. He and Samuel were executors of their father's will, in which Ralph² advised Daniel to stay on the farm with Samuel until the legacies to his sisters were discharged. On 5 March 1699 Daniel sold 24 acres of the Oakes Farm to John Hartwell, 3rd.⁶⁵ In the division of common land in 1705 he was granted 51 acres within the present area of Bedford, which he sold to John Stearns 5 April 1709,⁶⁶ by which time he had moved to Mendon. He sold 80+ acres, his allotment in Tewksbury, to the Abbot brothers 29 October 1709,⁶⁷ and the same year bought a 20-acre right in Mendon. He continued to share in subsequent divisions of common land in Billerica, all of which he sold. Between 1741 and 1744 he deeded his lands in Mendon to his four sons, his wife Ruth releasing her interest.

A Daniel Hill was born in Mendon 1 June 1723, son of Elizabeth Briggs. He married there 7 June 1744 Rebecca Rockwood (born 30 June 1728, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth [Turner] Rockwood). They had 12 children recorded in Mendon and Douglas. Daniel³ makes no mention of this man in the distribution of land.

Children of Daniel and Sarah (Emerson) Hill, all recorded Mendon:

- + 37 i. Ralph⁴ Hill, b. 4 Apr. 1710.
- + 38 ii. Solomon Hill, b. 4 Dec. 1711.
- + 39 iii. Mathew Hill, b. 23 Aug. 1719.

Child of Daniel and Ruth (——) Hill, recorded Mendon:

- + 40 iv. Daniel Hill, b. 4 Dec. 1724.

12. **Nathaniel³ Hill** was born in Billerica 31 March 1668, the son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Holmes) Hill. He died there 30 August 1713 aged 45 years, testate. He married in Billerica 26 November 1706 **Hannah Walker**, born there 1 January 1679/80, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Wyman) Walker. She married (date not recorded) second Samuel Dutton (born in Billerica 22 March 1693/4, son of John and Sarah [Shed] Dutton) and had two Dutton children.

Nathaniel served under Capt. John Lane from 4–6 July and 11–13 August 1706 assisting nearby Dunstable and Groton against Indian attack.⁶⁴ Nathaniel owned 50 acres east of the Concord River "on the farm" and 20 acres off the farm, plus 42 acres south of the Oakes Farm, 58 acres in the east part of town, and 19 acres in the third range west of the Concord River. In 1713 he exchanged land with his brother Ralph, as already described (see no. 13). He also held an indeterminate interest in the estate of his brother Jonathan in Chelmsford.⁶⁸ His estate was finally disposed of by the widow of his son Nathaniel.

He made his will 25 August 1713, five days before his death. He appointed his brother Joseph and his wife Hannah joint executors; witnesses were John Lane, John Stearns, and Joanna Stearns. He left to his wife Hannah the improvement of his whole estate until his only son Nathaniel reached the age of 21: "in case my estate is small, she shall have £20 coming to me from my brother Jonathan and sister Jane's estate, both of Chelmsford." To his son

Nathaniel he left £30 and a bond; the remainder of the estate, after his wife's third, to be equally divided between his son and daughter [meaning Hannah, as Abigail was born posthumously]. He stated that if his wife should prove with child, it shall have an equal share with the others. The remainder of the estate at Chelmsford was to be improved to the best advantage of the children. If Hannah remarried, the children would have the power to choose guardians [no such papers were found, although Hannah did remarry]; in such case, Hannah was to have her thirds plus the £20, "notwithstanding anything in my will."

Children of Nathaniel and Hannah (Walker) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 41 i. Nathaniel⁴ Hill, b. 3 Oct. 1707; d. Billerica 1 Nov. 1737 (duplicate record states 31 Oct.), aged 29; m. 18 June 1735 Abigail Shed (b. Billerica 12 April 1709, daughter of Nathan and Mary [French] Shed; she d. Westford in June 1780, aged 70. She m. [2] at Westford 22 Feb. 1743/4, as his second wife. Joseph Hildreth [b. Chelmsford 30 Nov. 1695; d. 4 Jan. 1780, son of Joseph and Abigail (Wilson) Hildreth]). At the time of his marriage, his sisters Hannah and Abigail sold to him their interest in their father's estate.⁶⁸ He died soon and his lands were eventually sold by his widow. Two children rec. Billerica: 1. Abigail Hill, b. 18 Mar. 1735/6; d. at Westford in Jan. 1747, aged 11. 2. Nathaniel Hill, b. 15 May 1737; d. "at Quebec in the service of his king and country" 31 Mar. 1760, aged 23 (rec. Westford).
- 42 ii. Hannah Hill, b. 3 Oct. 1709; d. Bedford 9 June 1752; m. Billerica (also rec. Bedford) 17 Feb. 1735/6 Oliver Pollard (b. Billerica 23 July 1703, son of Thomas and Sarah [Farmer] Pollard; d. Bedford 11 July 1788). 4 children.
- + 43 iii. Abigail Hill, b. posthumously 9 Apr. 1714; m. her cousin John Hill (see no. 51); marriage was not recorded.

15. **Joseph³ Hill** was born in Billerica 18 March 1672/3 and died there testate 19 April 1752, aged 79, the son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Holmes) Hill. He married there (marriage recorded without a date) **Susanna Baldwin**,² born in Billerica 14 April 1677, daughter of John and Mary (Richardson) Baldwin; she died there 15 January 1758, aged 80 years 8 months 20 days.

Joseph bought 30 acres of the Thomas Oakes farm in 1698 and several acres in Flaggy Meadow adjacent in 1717. He must have shared in his father's division of land on the Dudley Farm, but no deed has been found. In 1705/6, he is listed as abutter north of his brother Ralph, to whom he deeded additional land on the same day.⁶⁹ The mansion house attributed to Ralph² Hill, of which Hazen reproduces a sketch, was certainly Joseph's. The house and 170 acres were first inventoried in 1789 in his son Joseph's estate (see no. 46). Several deeds are recorded from 1717 to 1732 for the 46 acres, originally Henry Jefts', immediately south of Ralph.² In the divisions of 1705-8, Joseph received land in Bedford and Tewksbury and 36 acres in the second range west of the Concord River, sold by James Frost in 1749.⁷⁰ Joseph and his brother Ralph began buying land in the third range, west of but bordering the Concord River, which they sold to Joseph, Jr. in 1735 (see below). Joseph³ presumably built the lane to the river (now Randlett Lane) and a bridge, which in 1736 was the focus of a petition for laying out of a new road from Westford to Lexington. This land, the lane, and bridge were probably related to the establishment of a sawmill on his brother Ralph's land.

Commissioned a Lieutenant in 1721/2,⁶³ he was appointed to a committee in

Billerica to view the land that later became the town of Tewksbury. In 1733 he paid £1.11.1 for the minister's rate.

Joseph made his will and signed it; it was probated after 19 April 1752 (date is not on the papers).⁷¹ Witnesses were Ralph Hill, Peter Hill, and Samuel Kidder. Executors were his son Joseph and his son-in-law Daniel Proctor. He left to his wife Susanna all his moveable estate forever, both within and without doors, and one-half of his improved land as long as she remained a widow. To his son Joseph and his heirs, the other improved half of his land, and after the marriage or death of his wife, all real estate, except those parcels which he gave to Jonathan. He also left to Joseph his pew in the Meeting House. To his son Ebenezer he gave £26.13.4, half to be paid within one year of Joseph's death and the other half within a year of Susanna's death. To his son John he gave £10 with the same conditions. To his son Jonathan, after the marriage or death of Susanna, he gave a full half of the tract in Bedford called the Oakes Farm, as well as the Long Meadow in Billerica. His daughter Susanna Proctor received £26.13.4 with the same conditions as Ebenezer; to his daughter Elizabeth Shed he gave £33.6.8, with the same stipulations, and to daughters Mary Pattin and Jane Pattin £26.13.4, also as above.

Joseph had already given to Ebenezer lands in Petersham, and John was heir to his uncle John's (no. 14) land, while Jonathan was heir to his uncle Ralph (no. 13). Joseph and Ralph had already sold to Joseph, Jr. substantial lands west of the river.

Susanna's will was made 24 June 1752, she being called "the widow of Joseph Hill, Gentleman, deceased." The four sons received 4 shillings each and the four daughters the remainder of the estate. Sons-in-law Capt. Benjamin Shed and Mr. Daniel Proctor were appointed executors; witnesses were Ralph Hill, Peter Hill, and Samuel Kidder.⁷²

Children of Joseph and Susanna (Baldwin) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 44 i. Susanna⁴ Hill, b. 18 Feb. 1704/5; d. Chelmsford 26 Nov. 1785, aged 81 yrs.; m. Chelmsford (int.) 17 Sept. 1727 Daniel Proctor (b. there 1 Nov. 1706, son of Samuel and Sarah [—] Proctor; d. before 1757, as Susanna was called widow at her death; he was called Captain). 12 children.
- 45 ii. Elizabeth Hill, b. 10 Dec. 1706; m. Billerica 11 Apr. 1738, as his second wife, Benjamin Shed (b. there 5 Aug. 1696, son of John and Sarah [Chamberlain] Shed; d. there 9 Oct. 1779).
- + 46 iii. Joseph Hill, b. 13 Mar. 1709.
- 47 iv. Mary Hill, b. 6 Dec. 1710; d. Stafford, Conn. 30 Nov. 1789, aged 88; m. (1) in Newbury 22 June 1734 Nathaniel Patten, who d. Stafford 25 Nov. 1756 testate. Hazen and the *Patten Genealogy*⁷³ are both confused about the identity of the several Nathaniel Pattens born in the 1700–1710 decade and their wives. Further work still needs to be done in this area. This Nathaniel Patten, who was "of Windsor, Conn." at his marriage, is the one who married Mary Hill (not Mary Kidder), because, at the time of the settlement of her father's estate, Mary signed her name as Patten and later as Mary Woodward. She m. (2) Nathaniel Woodward and her daughter Sarah Patten named him as guardian on 5 Sept. 1757, she aged 13.⁷⁴
- 48 v. Jane Hill, b. 7 Nov. 1712; d. 21 June 1786, aged 73; m. 4 Feb. 1736 John Patten, (b. Billerica 31 Oct. 1711, son of Nathaniel and Hannah [Ross] Patten; he d. 14 June 1785). One known child.

- + 49 vi. Ebenezer Hill, b. 11 July 1714.
- + 50 vii. John Hill, b. 18 Apr. 1716.
- + 51 viii. Jonathan Hill, b. 28 Apr. 1718.
- 52 ix. Esther Hill, b. 21 Feb. 1721; d. 27 Apr. 1736, unm.

24. **Jonathan³ Hill** was born in Billerica 21 August 1669, the son of Jonathan and Mary (Hartwell) Hill, and died there testate 15 December 1743. He married there 16 May 1704 **Mary Bracket**, born in Billerica 10 February 1680/1, the daughter of Peter and Elizabeth (Bosworth) Bracket. She married second 3 December 1744 at Billerica John Hartwell (born 12 April 1691, the son of John and Sarah [Wheeler] Hartwell of Bedford).

In 1698, 1700, and 1708 he served as a selectman of Billerica. In 1733 he paid 13s 5d for the minister's rate, and he is listed in 1736 among those who held seats in the Meeting House.⁷⁵

Jonathan was deeded lands west of the Concord River, the southwest half of the homestead, and land in Bedford by his father in 1717; he sold part to John Blood the same year. He bought meadow land from his brother Samuel in 1722, and, in 1737, land in Chelmsford from E. Blood, which he resold to S. Stoddard, Jr.⁷⁶ In 1741, he divided his lands between his two sons. Peter was given most of the homestead (he received the remainder by will), and Jonathan land in Bedford and Sutton, N.H.

Jonathan made his will 19 March 1741, appointing his son Peter Hill executor.⁷⁷ Witnesses were Benjamin Tompson, Samuel Hill, and Thomas Kidder. He left to his wife Mary half of all lands and buildings, all goods and personal estate, and requested his executor to keep a horse for her use, both in winter and summer. To his eldest son Jonathan, "I have given land by deed to the value of about £600, his full portion." To his son Peter, he left the homestead, lands, and buildings thereon in Billerica, bounded as follows: north by Samuel Hill, Jr., and east by the road and partly by land of Peter Hill, for a total of 25 acres. To his daughter Mary, "the wife of Daniel Stickney" or her heirs, a sum of £20.6.8, to be paid at the rate of £5 per year; "this is her full portion with what she already has." To his daughter Elizabeth, "wife of Francis Kidder," the same. To his daughter Bethia, £20 only, £5 per year, and "she shall have full liberty of one room of my house so long as she remains single."

Children of Jonathan and Mary (Bracket) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 53 i. Mary⁴ Hill, b. 15 Jan. 1705/6; d. 28 June 1798; m. 15 Dec. 1730 Daniel Stickney (b. Bradford 6 Feb. 1706/7, son of William and Anne [Haseltine] Stickney; d. Billerica 25 Apr. 1788). 7 ch. rec. Billerica. Daniel bought land south of Nuttings Pond, including 20 acres, from the widow of Nathaniel, Jr.
- + 54 ii. Jonathan Hill, b. 23 July 1708.
- + 55 iii. Peter Hill, b. 10 Oct. 1709.
- 56 iv. Elizabeth Hill, b. 14 May 1711; d. Sutton (also rec. Oxford) 31 Jan. 1805, aged 94; m. Billerica 24 Feb. 1730/1 Francis Kidder (b. 1 Oct. 1703, son of Enoch and Mary [Haywood] Kidder; d. Oxford 20 Oct. 1763). 10 children.
- 57 v. Esther Hill, b. 6 Mar. 1712/3; prob. d. before 1743, as not mentioned in her father's will.
- 58 vi. Joseph Hill, b. 6 May 1717; prob. d. before 1743, as not mentioned in his father's will.

- 59 vii. Bethia Hill, b. 16 July 1718 (rec. Bethyah); d. Billerica 30 Jan. 1754, aged 36y 6m 3d; m. there 6 Sept. 1743 Braviter Gray (b. Andover 19 July 1717, son of Braviter and Dorothy [Abbot] Gray). 5 children.

25. **Samuel³ Hill** was born in Billerica 22 February 1671/2, the son of Jonathan and Mary (Hartwell) Hill, and died there testate 17 February 1762. He married there (recorded without date, but Hazen and Savage claim 7 January 1698/9)⁷⁸ **Sarah Page**, probably born England and died 30 April 1758, the daughter of Nathaniel and Joanna (——) Page of Roxbury and Bedford.

This is probably the Samuel who served as selectman in 1743–4 in Billerica. He paid the minister's rate in 1733 of 10s 3d and was taxed 7s 9d in 1755.⁷⁹

His father deeded to him half of the Hill homestead property, consisting of land along the Concord River, his brother Jonathan getting the other half, including the house. The deeds show transfer of the Great Swamp property in Tewksbury in 1720.⁸⁰

Samuel made his will 13 June 1750, naming his son-in-law William French executor. Witnesses were Benjamin Shed, Peter Hill, and William Needham. He left his wife Sarah the use of his whole estate. To his daughters, who are well identified with their husbands, he left all his real estate after the death of his wife, to be equally divided, to wit.: Sarah Baldwin, wife of John; Joanna French, wife of William; Elizabeth French, wife of Ebenezer; Susanna Pattin, wife of Joseph; Mary Dutton, wife of Thomas. Also mentioned was his granddaughter, Abiel Kidder, wife of Samuel and only child of his deceased son Samuel. He left all his personal estate to his daughters. The will was probated in 1762.⁸¹

Children of Samuel and Sarah (Page) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- #136
- 60 i. Samuel⁴ Hill, b. 1 Mar. 1698/9; d. 26 Jan. 1748/9, aged 49y 10m 24d; m. Billerica (again a record with no date, but Hazen claims 20 Nov. 1727) Abigail Richardson (b. Billerica 8 Nov. 1700, dau. of Thomas and Abigail [——] Richardson; d. 24 Mar. 1768, the widow of Nathaniel Dunton of Charlestown). One child: Abigail Hill, b. 20 Nov. 1727 (rec. shows Abihail, dup. Abial); d. 8 Oct. 1724, m. Billerica 13 April 1749 Samuel Kidder (b. there 19 Oct. 1724, son of Enoch James and Sarah [Hunt] Kidder; d. 18 Feb. 1794). An administration was ordered on his estate 27 March 1749, naming the widow Abigail administrator, with James Brown, Gent., and Francis Crosby, shop joiner, sureties. Wit. were And. Boardman, John Jaquith.⁸² Papers not examined.
- 61 ii. Sarah Hill, b. 28 Mar. 1702/3; d. Billerica 9 Feb. 1791; m. there 4 May 1726 John Baldwin (b. 10 Nov. 1699, son of Thomas). 6 children.
- 62 iii. Joanna Hill, b. 6 Apr. 1707; d. Billerica 17 Jan. 1769, aged 61 yrs.; m. there 22 Mar. 1726/7 Lt. William French (b. there 25 Jan. 1700/1, son of William and Sarah [Danforth] French; d. 9 Apr. 1776). 11 children.
- 63 iv. Elizabeth Hill, b. 7 Aug. 1710; d. Billerica 26 Mar. 1786, aged 75 yrs.; m. there 27 Aug. 1729 Ebenezer French (b. 5 Aug. 1707, son of William and Sarah [Danforth] French; d. 31 Dec. 1791 [also rec. 1 Dec. 1791], aged 84 yrs.). 9 children.
- 64 v. Susanna Hill, b. 26 May 1715; m. Billerica 8 Jan. 1734/5 Joseph Patten (b. Billerica 26 Sept. 1710, son of Thomas and Hannah [Foster] Patten). His name disappears from the tax list in 1743. 3 known children.
- 65 vi. Mary Hill, b. 10 Dec. 1717; m. Billerica 10 May 1737 Thomas Dutton (b. Billerica 28 Aug. 1713, son of Thomas and Hannah [Burge] Dutton). 1 child rec. Billerica; 2 in Westford.

29. **Ralph⁴ Hill** was born in Billerica 16 September 1707, the son of Samuel and Deborah (——) Hill and died there testate 13 February 1789. He married first there 1 February 1733 **Mehitable Patten**, born 18 August 1710, the daughter of William and Mary (Rogers) Patten, and died 24 February 1780. He married second in Billerica 11 November 1784 **Abigail (Snow) Sanders**, born in Woburn 14 October 1722, the daughter of Richard and Bethia (Parker) Snow and widow of David Sanders. Ralph was called Deacon.

In 1775 he was taxed 6s 7d.⁷⁹ He made his will 12 November 1784, the day after his second marriage, naming as executors his sons William and Solomon Hill. Witnesses were Isaac Stearns, Samuel Kidder, and Peter Hill, Gentleman. To his wife Abigail he left the improvement of the easterly end of his dwelling house "to the middle of the chimney, right up and down, with the seller under it, with liberty to draw water at the well and liberty of the dooryard, but not meaning to exclude my daughters Naomi and Sarah from the privilege of living with her in the same end until they marry." He left to Abigail also her choice of the cows for summer and winter use, but not to be her own property, a sufficiency of firewood for one fire, to be brought to the door and cut for the fire, seven bushels of Indian meal, five bushels of "rie" meal, fifty "wait" of good beef, 100 wt. of good pork, one-half bushel of malt, one-half bushel of salt, three barrels of cider, all to be provided for her yearly. To his son Timothy he had already given his full portion of £173. William inherited the southerly part of the homestead, containing about 60 acres, including the land Ralph inherited from his father by deed dated 3 January 1732/3, and all buildings, excepting the reserve to Abigail and his daughters. He left to William also his clock, bed, bedding, bedstead, and various tools and carts. To Solomon he left all the rest of his lands in Billerica, including the small island in the river with buildings; also various other tools, his horse and saddle, and one bed. To Hannah Miller, his daughter, £19; to Bathsheba French, £22; to Naomi Hill, his best bed, looking glass, best brass kettle, 3 silver spoons, brass-headed andirons, and £35; to Sarah Hill he left his second-best of the above items, plus £35. To William and Solomon he left all his livestock, wearing apparel, and the rest of the husbandry and carpenter tools; to Hannah the residue of his indoor movables, to be divided equally with his other daughters; Naomi and Sarah, the unmarried daughters, to have the liberty of a room in either of his dwelling houses until they marry. William was to have also the liberty to pass and repass across the land given to Solomon to his own land and to pay £10 toward the support of Ralph's wife, pay his other debts and the legacies to his sisters.⁸³ He does not mention his daughter Patte Page, although she was still alive.

Children of Ralph and Mehitable (Patten) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 65 i. Ralph⁵ Hill, b. 22 Feb. 1733/4; d. 17 Sept. 1758. He was in the army that marched to the reduction of Canada in 1757.
- 66 ii. Mehitable Hill, b. 17 Jan. 1735/6; d. 19 Jan. 1753.
- 67 iii. Hannah Hill, b. 2 Sept. 1737; m. Billerica 16 Apr. 1761 John Miller (bp. Charlestown 6 May 1739, son of James and Sarah [Love] Miller. He was a soldier in Bridgen's Co. in 1757). 5 children.

- 68 iv. Patte Hill, b. 1 Sept. 1740; d. Bedford 14 Apr. 1809, aged 69 yrs; m. Billerica 8 Nov. 1763 William Page (b. Bedford 19 Feb. 1737/8, son of Nathaniel and Hannah [—] Page; d. there 10 Feb. 1812, aged 74).
- 69 v. Bathsheba Hill, b. 19 Aug. 1742; m. Billerica 6 Nov. 1766 (int. rec. Dracut 11 Oct. 1766) Benjamin French (poss. b. Billerica 18 Feb. 1744/5, the son of William and Tabitha [—] French). 10 children rec. Dracut.
- 70 vi. Naomi Hill, b. 23 May 1744; alive in 1785, unm.
- 71 vii. Timothy Hill, b. 9 June 1746; d. intestate Mont Vernon, N.H. by 1803,⁴⁴ m. (int.) Dunstable 1 June 1776 Judith Thompson (b. there 17 Mar. 1756, dau. of Ezra and Elizabeth [—] Thompson; d. intestate by 4 Feb. 1845⁴⁵). 8 surviving children. Timothy was a lieut. in the Revolution.
- 72 viii. William Hill, b. 13 July 1748; d. after 1818; m. (1) Billerica 23 May 1775 Betty Abbot of Tewksbury (poss. b. Andover 9 Nov. 1758, dau. of John); he m. (2) Concord 25 May 1784 Mrs. Sarah (Potter) Lewis (prob. b. there 18 June 1754, dau. of Ephraim and Sarah [Taylor] Potter and widow of Samuel Lewis of Townsend). William paid taxes of £2.4.8 in 1776. He served in the Revolution, marching on the alarm of 19 April 1775 with the Minute Men.⁴⁶ He served again in 1777 under Capt. Edward Farmer, who marched to fight with the Northern Army against Burgoyne at Bennington and Saratoga.⁴⁷ He served under Capt. Solomon Pollard. No pension. He was enumerated in 1790 in Billerica with 1 male and 4 females and again in 1800. In 1785 he bought 100 acres in Goffstown, N.H. from a Samuel Hill of Goffstown. He and Sarah sold the homestead in Billerica to Seth Crosby. 6 children.
- 73 ix. Sarah Hill, b. 4 Nov. 1752; d. 14 Apr. 1812; m. Bedford, Mass. 27 Feb. 1794 Joseph Merriam of Bedford, N.H.
- 74 x. Solomon Hill, b. 8 Apr. 1755; m. Billerica 9 Dec. 1779 Hannah Blanchard (b. there 22 Nov. 1756, dau. of John and Elizabeth [Richardson] Blanchard.) 9 children. Solomon served as a private in Capt. John Minot's Co., Col. Josiah Whitney's Regt., and was discharged 9 July 1777 at Warwick Neck, R.I., after serving 2 months. He was enumerated in 1790 and 1800 in Billerica. He paid a tax in 1776 of 10 sh. Solomon inherited the north half of the homestead, which he promptly sold to his sisters Naomi and Sarah. On 1 Oct. 1785, he sold land in Lunenburg to Jeremiah Hill (no. 132) of Boston. In 1793 Oliver Crosby was appointed guardian of Solomon, called "idler." He died before 14 April 1812, when Michael Crosby was appointed guardian of his last child.⁴⁸

33. **Samuel⁴ Hill** was born in Billerica 20 February 1715/6, the son of Samuel and Deborah (—) Hill. We have very little definite information about this man. He was assigned a seat in the Meeting House in 1736 among other single men, at which time he was called Samuel^{quarts}.⁴⁹ He may be the Samuel Hill whose name appears on a muster roll for the French and Indian Wars, serving under Capt. Josiah Willard from 22 June 1747 to 11 Feb 1749 at Ashuelot (now Hinsdale, N.H.) and again from 18 April to 27 November 1749 as a private there.⁵⁸ Many men from Billerica served under Captain Willard and this Samuel is the only one from this family of the right age. He may also be the Samuel aged 60 who served in the Revolution, called a mason and stroller [drifter], whose name appeared on a list of men raised in Suffolk County in Capt. Badcock's Company, Col. Gill's Regiment, described as 6' tall, dark, wearing a wig, blue eyes, and engaged for the town of Milton,⁵⁹ but this conjecture is based solely on his advanced age for a soldier. He is probably the father of the Samuel baptized at Billerica 17 August 1762, called "child of Samuel." At the time of the distribution of his father's estate (1755-6), Samuel was not known to be in New England (see no. 9 *supra*). He had

received the sum of £281.10.0 in 1749, and on 22 December 1755 his brother Ralph was ordered to pay him an additional £50.7.3. The final document in this file, dated 16 February 1756, orders Ralph to give to him part of his father's clothing, valued at £5.8.0, but whether he received it is not stated.

Earlier chroniclers of the Hill family have claimed that he married at Cambridge 24 February 1764 Sarah Cutler, daughter of Capt. Ebenezer Cutler of Lexington, and died at Mason, N.H. 21 June 1798; also that he and Sarah had two sons: Samuel, whose birth is unrecorded but estimated at *ca.* 1764, and Ebenezer, born 1766, who later went to Mason where he was known as "The Little Minister." I was unable to find any proof that the Samuel under discussion is the same man; and, conversely, I found much to indicate that he is not. A Samuel, the husband of Sarah, did die in Mason in 1798, but the official death certificate does not give his age.⁶⁰ However, the death was recorded by Ebenezer in the parish register, showing his father's age as 66,⁶¹ 16 years too young to be the Samuel of Billerica. It is also significant that John Hill, a grandson, who wrote the history of Mason,⁶¹ claims that his grandfather Samuel Hill was born in Boston of unknown ancestry and worked in Cambridge as a carpenter.

Therefore, the error was made many years later by genealogists attempting to find a Hill line. It is easy to see how Samuel Hill of Billerica was a likely choice, especially as much information is lacking about his life, but it seems clear they are not the same man and that Ebenezer Hill of Mason, N.H. is not a descendant of Ralph Hill of Billerica.

Probable child of Samuel and an unknown wife:

- 75 i. Samuel, bp. Billerica 17 Aug. 1762.

37. **Ralph⁴ Hill** was born at Mendon 4 April 1710, the son of Daniel and Sarah (Emerson) Hill; he was alive in 1785 when he deeded land in Northbridge to his grandson Edmond.⁸⁹ On 6 Feb. 1732/3 he was fined for fornication. He married first at Mendon 23 November 1731 **Hannah Warfield**, possibly born there 27 March 1708, the daughter of Samuel and Hannah (White) Warfield, and died between 1734 and 1736, when Ralph married second **Sarah** [———], who remains unidentified. A study of the deeds in Worcester County might be productive.

Children of Ralph and Hannah (Warfield) Hill, both recorded Uxbridge:

- 76 i. Joseph⁵ Hill, b. 2 Apr. 1732; m. Dudley 15 Apr. 1756 Abigail Hatch, he called of Charlton. He was warned in Uxbridge in 1773, of Northbridge in 1784, of Wilmington, Vt. in 1802.
- 77 ii. Sarah Hill, b. 22 Apr. 1734; d. 3 Dec. 1807, unm.

Children of Ralph and Sarah (———) Hill, all recorded Upton:

- 78 iii. Jacob Hill, b. 24 Jan. 1737; m. Dudley 8 May 1760 (int. rec. Upton 26 Jan. 1760) Elizabeth Hatch, who d. in Jan. 1826, aged 91. 4 ch. rec. Upton.
- 79 iv. Hannah Hill, b. 12 July 1742; m. (int.) Upton 24 June 1766 Abraham Boyd of Hopkinton. 5 children rec. there; of Wilmington, Vt. in 1779.
- 80 v. Stephen Hill, b. 4 Sept. 1748.

- 81 vi. Experience Hill, b. 18 June 1750; m. Upton 1 Sept. 1774 Wilson Rawson. 4 children rec. Upton.

38. **Solomon⁴ Hill** was born in Mendon 11 December 1711, the son of Daniel and Sarah (Emerson) Hill, and died in Brookline intestate 19 July 1792, aged 81 years. He married at Boston 1 June 1732 (also recorded at Brookline) **Hannah Sheldon**, both called of Brookline. She died there 18 December 1774, aged 70 years, of consumption.

This may be the Solomon Hill reportedly adopted by Edward Devotion, who directed his executors to enforce collection of a mortgage which he held against Hill.⁹⁰ He was fined 6 February 1732/3 for fornication.⁹¹

Children of Solomon and Hannah (Sheldon) Hill, both recorded Brookline:

- 82 i. Hannah⁵ Hill, b. 6 June 1733; d. Brookline 16 Oct. 1809, unm.
83 ii. Mary Hill, b. 9 Dec. 1734; d. Brookline 21 Nov. 1798, aged 64, unm.

39. **Mathew⁴ Hill** was born in Mendon 23 August 1719, the son of Daniel and Sarah (Emerson) Hill and died testate in Dudley before 25 February 1787, when an inventory of his estate was taken. He was still in Mendon in 1784 and probably died at the home of his daughter Olive Yeoman. He married in Uxbridge 28 January 1746/7 **Elizabeth Rice** of Uxbridge, who probably predeceased him.

Mathew owned 42 acres of land, a house, and barns in Dudley, bounded easterly by the Powder Horn Brook, northerly by Jedediah Corbin, Sr., westerly by Dr. Eaton, southeasterly by a town road, and northeasterly by Jonathan Bacon. This land was put up at public vendue on 6 April 1791 and was purchased by Lemuel Corbin. Daniel Yeoman, Mathew's son-in-law, was appointed administrator; he was an heir to the estate in the right of his wife Olive and her sister Phebe, whose right he purchased before 5 February 1793 for £52.13⁴. The rights of the other three daughters were sold to Corbin.⁹³

The names and identities of his daughters are confusing, as those in the probate documents are at variance with the published vital records. Named in the settlement papers are: Nancy, Betsy, and Hannah. Assuming Betsy is Elizabeth, it is not clear which is Mary, and no surnames are given, although the girls were married by the time their father died. An inventory was ordered by the court 25 February 1787, to be taken by Daniel Yeoman, husbandman; Joseph Keith, Gentleman; and Thomas Larned, yeoman, who appraised the estate at £223.1.1. The land was also appraised by order of 26 February 1787 by Edward Davis, Timothy Foster, Jr., and William Larned, Jr. An inventory was ordered 4 April 1792 to be taken by Thomas Hale of Brookfield, Edward Davis, Esq. of Dudley, and Jonathan Day, Esq. of Dudley.

Children of Mathew and Elizabeth (Rice) Hill, all recorded at Mendon except Anna:

- 84 i. Mary⁵ Hill, b. 26 Oct. 1747; m. in Milford 22 Dec. 1768 Ebenezer Parkhurst, (b. Milford 27 Aug. 1743, son of Isaac and Lidia [Bigelow] Parkhurst; d. 9 Sept. 1795). 8 children rec. Milford.
85 ii. Phebe Hill, b. 26 Feb. 1749; m. Joseph Long, acc. to the town history. Phebe received a widow's pension #W15033 and Bounty Land Warrant #4583-100, issued 26 Aug. 1790 for her husband's service in the Revolution.

- 86 iii. Anna or Nancy Hill; b. not rec.; m. (int.) Mendon 28 Dec. 1784 Joseph Butler of Killingly, Conn.
- 87 iv. Olive Hill, b. 12 Apr. 1756; m. Milford 27 Jan. 1783 Daniel Yeoman of Charlestown.
- 88 v. Mathew Hill, b. 13 Mar. 1759; prob. d. young.
- 89 vi. Elizabeth Hill, called Betsy, b. 27 Oct. 1762; m. (int.) Mendon 29 July 1785 Solomon Smith. He may be the one in Uxbridge in 1790 with a wife and two daughters.

40. **Daniel⁴ Hill** was born in Mendon 4 December 1724, the son of Daniel and Sarah (Emerson) Hill, and died there by August 1768. He married in Mendon 26 March 1751 **Elizabeth Pulcepher**, baptized Ipswich 20 June 1731, the daughter of William and Mary (Lovell) Pulcepher, and died in Mendon 4 September 1816, aged 85 years.

On 18 August 1768, Lovell Pulsipher was appointed guardian of Samuel Hill, aged 15, son of Daniel, "late of Mendon."⁹⁴

Children of Daniel and Elizabeth (Pulcepher) Hill, all recorded Mendon:

- 90 i. John⁵ Hill, b. 27 Nov. 1751 (also rec. Upton); prob. d. 2 June 1814; m. Mendon 26 Mar. 1780 Elizabeth Keith. John was one of the organizers of the First Congregational Church in Mendon. He served in the Revolution as private in Capt. John Albee's Co. of Minute Men and marched to the alarm of 19 Apr. 1775 to Roxbury. He served also in Dorchester Hts., Rhode Island, and Boston.⁹⁵
- 91 ii. Samuel Hill, b. 13 Mar. 1753 (also rec. Douglas); d. Uxbridge 20 Sept. 1836; m. there 1 Sept. 1777 Anne Hayward (prob. b. Mendon 16 Dec. 1756, dau. of John and Anne [Alexander] Hayward; alive in 1836). Samuel has a probate file in Worcester Co.,⁹⁶ but the only papers there are affidavits concerning his military service; one by Dorrington Seagrave of Uxbridge, who stated that Samuel moved to that town in April 1836 and d. there leaving a widow Anna. Another by Edson Staples of Uxbridge states "Samuel d. at the home where I live . . . his funeral was at my house . . . on Thursday Sept. 22, 1836." Both statements were made 15 Oct. 1836 before Warren Rawson, J. P. Samuel was a pensioner, having served under Capt. Andrew Peters in Col. Joseph Reed's 20th Rgt. in 1775.⁹⁷
- 92 iii. Daniel Hill, b. 27 Sept. 1755; d. Mendon 28 May 1814 testate, aged 58; m. (int.) Mendon 17 Oct. 1776 Mercy Hayward (prob. b. there 16 May 1756, dau. of Joseph and Ruth [—] Hayward; and d. there 21 Oct. 1822, aged 66. She m. (2) Mendon 20 Jan. 1815 Timothy Alexander). 8 children rec. Mendon. Daniel's will⁹⁸ was written 6 Feb. 1814 and probated 2 Aug. 1814. He left to his wife Mercy one-third of the improvements of all lands, 2 cows, and indoor moveables, except his desk, clock, and one bed. To the eldest son George was given half of the Alexander farm and half of "the meadow I bought from John Benson, Jr.;" he was to pay half his debts and \$100 to Abida Hill, a daughter, and \$13.33 to another daughter Mercy Holbrook, reserving the right of wife's dower. Son Daniel Jr. was to get the other half of the meadow, all farming tools, clock, half of the church pew, and to pay half of the expenses mentioned above. Also \$100 to daughter Loviry Hill, a single woman; \$10 to daughter Sibyl Bates; \$3.33 to daughter Mercy Holbrook; and the youngest son Dan to get the land "I bought from Ebenezer Taft and Samuel Warfield and son, lying in the south parish in Mendon; also 4 acres of woodland I bought from Jonathan Boyce, late of Mendon, dcd., reserving the right for his mother to have 4 cords . . . each year"; also his desk. His youngest daughter, Urana Hill, was to get \$100 at age 21; daughter Waites Schiller to have \$10; Lovice, one bed; the sons to have the clothing. Another document gives a description of the land and how it is to be divided, made by Frederic Taft, Nathan Verry, and Rufus Aldrich on 6 Dec. 1815, countersigned by George Hill and John Pond, agent for the

minor heirs; it was signed by: Peter Bates, Sibyl Bates, Moses Kelly, Waitie Kelly, Lovice Hill, William Comstock, and Abida Comstock. The inventory included a homestead 33' wide and farm, worth \$900, and 17 acres of meadow and pasture land worth \$450.

- 93 iv. Anne Hill, b. 31 Mar. 1761; m. Mendon in June 1786 Nathaniel Dodge, poss. of Ipswich.
- 94 v. Jacob Hill, b. 25 Mar. 1764; d. 28 Mar. 1844, prob. unm. He may be the Jacob who served as private in the Revolution for one month in 1777 with the Northern Army, enlisting from Douglas.⁹⁹
- 95 vi. Israel Hill, b. 10 June 1766; m. Margery Rawson (prob. b. Mendon 26 Dec. 1764, dau. of Pearn and Mary [Aldrich] Rawson). Israel is listed in the 1790 census in Mendon with 1 male child under 16, but none is recorded there.

46. **Joseph⁴ Hill** was born in Billerica 13 March 1708/9, the son of Joseph and Susanna (Baldwin) Hill, and died there intestate 2 March 1781, aged 72 years. He married there (not recorded) *circa* 1745 **Elizabeth Trask**,⁶³ born Lexington 21 April 1725, the daughter of Nathaniel and Anna (Raymond) Trask; she died in Billerica 18 November 1805, aged 80 years. Hazen is wrong in stating that Joseph married first Anna Trask,¹⁰⁰ Elizabeth's sister.¹⁰¹ Joseph was a selectman in 1763-5 and paid taxes of 13s 2d in 1755 and 8s 13d in 1776.¹⁰² He may also have been constable or tax collector.⁶³

Joseph was executor of his father's estate and inherited half of his real estate. He was also executor of his father-in-law Nathaniel Trask's estate in 1754,¹⁰³ but did not himself leave a will. Administration of his estate was by Joseph Hill as principal, with Jonathan Hill, both yeomen of Billerica, and John Fitch of Bedford, yeoman, sureties.¹⁰⁴ The petition of the widow Elizabeth dated 10 April 1781 requested that after she had taken her thirds, her son Joseph receive the rest of the estate, which was done. An indenture was made between Joseph and his mother to this effect. Joseph had purchased land, mainly on the west side of the Concord River, between 1734 and 1778, in addition to what he inherited. His estate was appraised at £1216, which included: a mansion, barn, mill, wood house, homestead and 170 acres on the Concord River, abutting Jonathan Hill, his brother, plus another 127 acres which included the homestead, as well as land in Bedford, Gardner, and a pew in the Meeting House.

Child of Joseph and Elizabeth (Trask) Hill:

- 96 i. Joseph⁵ Hill, b. Billerica 28 Aug. 1749; d. there 6 June (probate file says 29 Sept) 1789, aged 40. He m. (unrecorded) Lucy Fitch⁶³ (b. Bedford 6 July 1753, daughter of Zachariah and Elizabeth [Grimes] Fitch; she m. (2) Peter Hill (no. 127), her neighbor and Joseph's cousin). Children: 1. Lucy Hill, b. 2 Mar. 1783; d. 30 Oct. 1869 (not rec.); m. Billerica 6 Feb. 1810 Dr. Joseph Foster. 2. Joseph Hill, b. 2 Jan. 1787. He paid a tax of 1s 10d in 1776. Administration on his estate was concluded 14 Oct. 1789 in Concord. The file contains many papers dealing with the division of property between his mother and wife, both having dowers, Elizabeth by a lease from Joseph Jr. and Lucy by right as his widow. On 8 Dec. 1791 Samuel Lane was appointed guardian of Joseph.¹⁰⁶ Jeremiah Hill (no. 132) is mentioned as threatening to sue the estate; he was paid by Isaac Stearns, the administrator, in Nov. 1790 in Boston. On 10 July 1792, Elizabeth received her thirds, £163.9.2, and quitclaimed to Stearns.

49. **Ebenezer⁴ Hill** was born in Billerica 11 July 1714, the son of Joseph and Susanna (Baldwin) Hill, and died at West Whateley after 1771. He married at Chelmsford (int.) in December 1738 **Sarah Wheeler**, called of Concord, who died 6 October 1773 of dysentery, as recorded in the First Town Book, which states that she was born in 1716. Her identity is not established. A Sarah Wheeler was born at Chelmsford 2 June 1714, daughter of Richard and Sarah (——) Wheeler, but this date does not agree with her death record; no birth was found in Concord for that period. The Wheeler genealogy mentions a Sarah born to Jonathan Wheeler, with no other data. This is interesting only because she had a brother Sampson and sister Tabitha, both unusual names used for Sarah Hill's children.

Ebenezer settled in Petersham (then called Nichewaug) on land purchased by his father. He was described as a husbandman and inn holder in 1752 at the settlement of his father's estate.⁷¹ He sold the Petersham land in 1770, when he was "of Hatfield." Williamsburg was set off from Hatfield in 1771 and probably he did not move, but became a resident of Williamsburg by a jurisdictional change. The dates in the *History of Williamsburg*⁷¹ do not coincide with those in the Corbin Collection;¹¹⁵ the latter record states he lived on the Conway Road about 2½ miles from the village and that, after Sarah died, he moved.

Children of Ebenezer and Sarah (Wheeler) Hill, recorded in Petersham [note that the book is torn and dates incomplete]:

- 97 i. Samson⁵ Hill, b. 15 Apr. 17[——]; m. Pelham 17 Aug. 1764 Prudence Rugg. He settled on the homestead.
- 98 ii. Joseph Hill, b. 13 Feb. 17[——]; d. 30 Oct. 1817, aged 74; m. Whateley 1 Dec. 1776 Esther Smith (b. 8 Dec. 1751, poss. daughter of Elisha Smith; d. 6 Oct. 1828, aged 77).
- 99 iii. Ephraim Hill, b. 31 May 17[——]; d. there 9 June 175[—].
- 100 iv. Sarah Hill, b. 14 May 175[—].
- 101 v. Tabitha Hill, b. 24 July 175[—]; d. Petersham 2 Jan. 1755, aged 5m 9d.

50. **John⁴ Hill** was born in Billerica 18 April 1716, son of Joseph and Susanna (Baldwin) Hill, and died there testate 28 December 1762. He married *circa* 1737 his cousin **Abigail Hill** (no. 22), born 9 April 1714 and died 28 December 1782, daughter of Nathaniel and Hannah (Walker) Hill. Hazen states incorrectly that he married Abigail (Shed) Hill, the widow of his cousin Nathaniel (no. 41), but probate records make her identity as the daughter rather than the mother clear.

John inherited no land from his father, but he and Abigail jointly inherited all the lands and buildings in Billerica from his uncle John Hill (no. 14), chiefly west of the Concord River.¹⁰⁷ He was taxed 7s 10d in 1755.

He made his will 10 March 1758, naming his wife Abigail executrix; it was probated in 1763.¹⁰⁸ Witnesses were Henry Jefts, Robert Walker, and John Chandler. Abigail was to receive all moveables. His son John, a minor, was to have Abigail's thirds if she remarried before he reached the age of 21. To his 3 sons John, Paul, and Nathaniel, he left his land, John to have one-eighth part more than the other two. Daughter Esther was to be paid by her brothers half

as much as the youngest son received at age 21 or on her marriage, each son to pay an equal part. In fact, John was over 21 when his father died, although it is curious that the son Alpheus was not mentioned.

Abigail was ordered to sell two pieces of land: one joining upon John Lemon and Robert Nickles, the other lying between Treble Cove and Abraham Durrant's land, to pay debts and funeral charges. If these proved insufficient, she was to sell a lot between Samuel Hopkin's land and his own. By the time John died, the first lot was probably sold (although there is no record) and he and Abigail had together sold the second to Abraham Durrant. John alone had sold 100 acres to his brother Jonathan. Probate papers make clear that the court was not accustomed to dealing with real estate owned jointly by husband and wife. Only 46 acres 45 rods were inventoried as his estate. On 13 April 1765 the widow Abigail deeded to her son Paul 36 acres, and on 25 June 1765 John deeded to his brother Paul all his interest in his father's estate. On 30 December 1768 Paul deeded the 36 acres and all his interest in his father's estate to Daniel Stickney, and on 7 February 1782 Stickney deeded the 36 acres and all his interest to Nathaniel and Alpheus. Alpheus was sole heir to Nathaniel and in April 1811 his homestead was described as about 200 acres. Thus, the son not mentioned in his father's will was eventually sole heir to the residue of his father's lands.¹⁰⁹

Children of John and Abigail (Hill) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 102 i. John^s Hill, b. 6 Jan. 1738/9; d. 11 July 1740.
- 103 ii. John Hill, b. 23 Oct. 1740; m. Lexington 22 Jan. 1765 (duplicate record states 25 Jan.) Abigail Fessenden (b. Lexington 30 July 1747, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth [Allen] Fessenden).
- 104 iii. Paul Hill, b. 9 July 1742; d. Billerica 11 Aug. 1784; m. there 15 Dec. 1768 Dorcas Wilson (poss. daughter of Jacob and Hanna [—] Wilson. She m. (2) Billerica 30 Apr. 1793 Ephraim Kidder, as his second wife). 6 children of Paul's rec. Billerica. He was taxed in 1776 16s 3d for land west of the Concord River. He was a soldier in Capt. Solomon Pollard's Co. of Minute Men, Col. Green's Regt., who marched on the alarm of 19 April 1775. He had service at various times and places, including Cambridge, Rhode Island, and appeared on a muster roll at Dracut.¹¹⁰
- 105 iv. Esther Hill, b. 1 Dec. 1743; m. Charlestown 15 Nov. 1770 John Nickles (b. Billerica 6 April 1745, son of James and Margaret [Glin] Nickles). 7 children rec. Billerica and Carlisle.
- 106 v. Nathaniel Hill, b. 14 Jan. 1745/6; d. 1803, unm., testate.
- 107 vi. Abigail Hill, b. 19 Nov. 1750; prob. d. young.
- 108 vii. Sarah Hill, b. 21 Mar. 1754; prob. d. young. Either she or Abigail d. Chelmsford 16 May 1771.
- 109 viii. Alpheus Hill, b. 14 Oct. 1756; d. 16 April 1811¹¹²; m. Billerica 15 Dec. 1785 Martha Manning (b. Billerica 14 Jan. 1767, daughter of Jacob and Sarah [Butterfield] Manning). 6 children rec. Billerica. Alpheus was a private under Capt. Edward Farmer, Col. Jonathan Reed's Regt., enlisted 29 Sept. 1777 and discharged 11 Aug. 1778 (mileage home 180 miles). He served later under Lt. John Flint, Thomas Poor's Regt., from 16 June 1778 to 11 Feb. 1779 (mileage home 240 miles). Other engagements were under Capt. Asa Lawrence, Poor's Regt., when he appears on muster rolls for June–Aug. 1778 at Fort Clinton, and with Lawrence again in Nov.–Dec. 1778.¹¹² His widow Martha applied for a pension 3 Oct. 1839. On 7 July 1838, she gave affidavits from her daughter Sarah testifying to his death and from Joseph Dow, aged 78, a soldier who served with Alpheus under Capt. Fleet [*sic*] at the capture of Burgoyne. She says their marriage at Billerica was

unrecorded [not so] and was performed by the Rev. Henry Cummings. An interesting deposition by Job Hill (no. 114), states, "It is a fact well-known here that our magistrates in former times as well as at the present, have been and are shamefully negligent in returning to the Town Clerk the marriages by them solemnized." He adds that Ralph Hill (*alias* Alpheus) also served at Crown Point in 1755-6.¹¹¹ This is the only occurrence of the name Ralph for this man.

51. **Jonathan⁴ Hill** was born in Billerica 28 April 1718, the son of Joseph and Susanna (Baldwin) Hill, and died there testate 7 April 1796, aged 78 years. He married first in Billerica (also recorded Bedford) **Mary Lane** of Bedford, born in Billerica 24 February 1724/5 and died there 24 October 1772, aged 47 years, daughter of Job and Martha (Ruggles) Lane. He married second in Billerica 24 May 1774 **Sarah (Stevens) Whiting**, widow of Samuel; she died 16 August 1778, aged 42 years.

Jonathan inherited all of his uncle Ralph's (no. 13) lands in Billerica, including the millpond, and, from his father, part of the Oakes Farm in Bedford and Long Meadow in Billerica. In 1771 he paid a tax of £22 on two houses, 6 oxen, 10 cattle, 15 goats/sheep, 2 swine, 25 acres of pasture, 20 acres of tillage, 6 acres of English upland meadow, and 24 acres of fresh meadow.¹¹⁷ He paid taxes again in 1775 of 2s 3d to the town.

He made his will 12 January 1795, signing his name. Witnesses were Henry Cummings, Jacob Richardson, and Samuel Whiting, yeomen. To his two sons Ralph and Benjamin, to whom he had already given "an handsome share" secured by deed, he gave 25 more shares "as a token of my continued fatherly regard." To son Benjamin he left a lot in Ashby, Benjamin to pay £53.6.8 to the executor within one year after Jonathan's death. To son Job, he left his Kinny Farm, containing about 8 acres with buildings. To sons Job and Josiah, "all my land in Bedford except Crooked Meadow, and except the Kinny Farm" and also the southern part of his farm in Billerica; also to Job a piece of river meadow, commonly called the Peter Lot, and to Josiah a plot of meadow known as the Parker Lot, adjoining Isaac Stearns, Esq. Jonathan made provision for his sons to use his gristmill jointly, sharing expenses.

To son Jonathan he left all his lands and real estate in Billerica and Carlisle not already disposed of, and Crooked Meadow in Bedford, together with all stock and cattle, horses, swine, and husbandry tools and outdoor moveables. Also, one bed and furniture, plus "my clock and great brass kettle, and all the debts due to me on bond, note, book, or otherwise." To daughter Mary, £13.6.8; daughter Isabella, £16; to the five unmarried daughters: Susanna, Lucy, Elizabeth, Zuba, and Anna, £20 each and all household furniture to be divided equally, and use of the east chamber and bedroom below in the house, plus the privilege of the kitchen and back workroom, the well, and well yard for whitening cloth and keeping a pig. They were also to have as much wood as needed to improve a half-acre garden lot in front of the house, plus one cow, two meat tubs, and a room in the cellar for cyder, sauce, and meat. A codicil dated 15 September 1795 clarifies the provision for the cow: "my meaning is, that a cow shall be provided and kept for them yearly or from year to year," as long as they remain single. Son Job was appointed executor; the will was probated in 1796.¹¹⁶

Children of Jonathan and Mary (Lane) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 110 i. Ralph⁵ Hill, b. 20 Sept. 1747; d. 10 Apr. 1831; m. Concord 15 Apr. 1777 Mary Jones, both of Ashby. 9 children recorded there. In 1771 Ralph's annual worth was £17;¹¹⁷ in 1776 he paid a tax of £2.10.6.
- 111 ii. Mary Hill, b. 21 Oct. 1748; d. Bedford 20 Feb. 1840, aged 91 yrs. 4 mos.; m. Billerica (also rec. Bedford) 19 June 1777 Oliver Pollard of Bedford (b. there 27 Jan. 1736/7; d. there 28 May 1831, aged 94, son of Oliver and Hannah [Hill, no. 42] Pollard). 4 children rec. Bedford.
- 112 iii. Martha Hill, b. 4 Mar. 1749/50; d. 13 Apr. 1750.
- 113 iv. Susanna Hill, b. 22 Jan. 1750/1; d. 18 Nov. 1817, aged 67 yrs., unm.
- 114 v. Benjamin Hill, b. 30 June 1752; d. 10 Apr. 1796; m. Betty Cummings. Paid tax of 3s 11d in 1776; moved to Ashby.
- 115 vi. Job Hill, b. 29 May 1754; d. 5 Feb. 1842; m. 19 Jan. 1790 Susanna Blanchard (b. 2 Apr. 1763, daughter of Simon and Rebecca [Sheldon] Blanchard). 8 children. They were enumerated in the 1790 and 1800 censuses in Billerica.¹¹⁸
- 116 vii. Lucy Hill, b. 14 Jan. 1756; m. (int. 4 Sept.) in Oct. 1814 Isaac Taylor of Dunstable.
- 117 viii. Josiah Hill, b. 10 Dec. 1757; d. 15 Mar. 1840; m. 8 June 1789 his cousin Susanna Davis of Harvard (b. there 6 Nov. 1767; d. 15 Feb. 1818, daughter of Daniel and Susanna [Lane] Davis). 8 children rec. Bedford, where they appear in the 1790 census with one child.
- 118 ix. Elizabeth Hill, b. 13 Oct. 1759; d. 20 May 1830; m. 13 Feb. 1798 (as Betsy) Andrew Kimball of Rindge, N.H.
- 119 x. Isabel Hill, b. 3 Dec. 1761; m., as his second wife, 26 May 1785 her cousin Benjamin Lane of Ashburnham and Bedford (poss. b. Bedford 17 Mar. 1754, son of John and Ruth [Bowman] Lane).
- 120 xi. Jonathan Hill, b. 28 Sept. 1763; d. 29 Jan. 1815; m. Bedford 13 Dec. 1798 Mary Proctor (who d. 1 Feb. 1848). 5 children rec. Billerica.
- 121 xii. Jane Hill, b. 17 Dec. 1764; d. 14 Sept. 1775.
- 122 xiii. Azubah Hill, b. 1 Mar. 1768; m. Billerica 14 May 1797 Josiah Snow (Hazen suggests this is the one b. Billerica 25 April 1781 and d. Grafton, Vt., son of Richard and Lydia [—] Snow, who m. (1) Betsy Parker. If so, Azuba would have been 14 years his senior). Her 4 children were all bp. 30 Sept. 1811.

Child of Jonathan and Sarah (Stevens) (Whiting) Hill, recorded Billerica:

- 123 xiv. Anna Hill, b. 11 June 1776; d. 22 Oct. 1807; m. 1 May 1796 Abner Stearns of Bedford (b. 9 July 1766; d. 11 Dec. 1838, son of Edward and Lucy [Wyman] Stearns).

54. **Jonathan⁴ Hill** was born in Billerica 23 July 1708, the son of Jonathan and Mary (Bracket) Hill, and died before 1755 intestate. He married first **Abigail** [—], who died 6 January 1738/9; he married second at Andover 6 November 1740 Lydia Osgood, probably baptized 9 March 1712, the daughter of Stephen and Hannah [Blanchard] Osgood. This identification is assumed because her brother, Stephen Osgood, acted as surety on the administration of Jonathan's estate.

Jonathan Hill owned land in Sutton and Bedford, N.H., besides the land he inherited from his father. His estate was probated in Mass.¹²⁰ and New Hampshire, administration being granted to the widow Lydia, Nathaniel Davidson, trader, both of Billerica, and Stephen Osgood, Gentleman, of Tewksbury 7 July 1753, the latter instructed to take the inventory. Witnesses were Thomas Kidder and Andrew Bordman. The inventory (also taken by

Deacon Joseph Kitteridge and Timothy Brown, both of Tewksbury) was completed 1 October 1755; the land in New Hampshire was valued at £13.06.08, for a total value of all property of £47.14.0.

Lydia apparently moved to Boston after Jonathan's death, where she was warned out 15 December 1760¹²² and died before the administration was completed, because on 7 May 1765 Stephen Osgood was appointed administrator and a new inventory was taken. The whole affair took several years to complete: the file contains many papers not mentioned here, concerning trips to various places to sell land. Another inventory was taken 1 January 1772 by Moses Abbott of Bedford, yeoman, Jonathan's son-in-law, Nathaniel Clark Jr., cordwainer, and Stephen Osgood, husbandman, both of Tewksbury. This was because in that year the son Jonathan reached the age of 21; guardians were appointed for him in 1756, but the papers not examined.¹²³ No papers were filed for Abigail, who probably died young. A note from Judge Danforth states that the articles given by Jonathan to his daughter Mary not be included in the inventory (pewter plates, an article [word is illegible] worth £1.1.4, a kettle worth 10s and another worth 6s). Mary also swore under oath that the week before her father died he told her he would give her what was her mother's. The probate record in Hillsboro County, N.H., states merely that on 10 September 1772 administration on the estate of Jonathan Hill of Billerica was granted to Moses Abbot and Joshua Wharton.¹²¹

Children of Jonathan and Abigail (——) Hill:

- 124 i. Mary⁵ Hill, b. Bedford 27 July 1734; m. Charlestown 15 Apr. 1755 Moses Abbott (b. Bedford 13 Jan. 1727, son of Obediah and Elizabeth [——] Abbott).
125 ii. Abigail Hill, b. Billerica 8 Aug. 1736; prob. d. young.

Child of Jonathan and Lydia (Osgood) Hill:

- 126 iii. Jonathan Hill, b. Billerica 12 Jan. 1741/2; adm. to church in Framingham 8 May 1768; m. Lois Reed of Sudbury (prob. dau. of Jacob; d. Framingham ca. 1813). Town history says he was a Lieutenant at White Plains. 11 ch. rec. Framingham.¹²⁴

56. **Peter⁴ Hill** was born in Billerica 10 October 1709, the son of Jonathan and Mary (Bracket) Hill, and died there testate 12 August 1774. He married first in Billerica 20 January 1735/6 **Rachel Crosby**, born there 30 March 1710, the daughter of Nathan and Sarah (Shed) Crosby, and died there 11 February 1736/7 shortly after the birth of their first child. He married second 20 January 1746 **Abigail (Walker) Danforth**, born 23 April 1724, the daughter of Benjamin and Susanna (Baldwin) Walker and widow of William Danforth. She died by 1773, as she is not mentioned in Peter's will.

Peter inherited the original Hill homestead from his father¹²⁵ which had passed from Ralph¹ to Jonathan² to Jonathan³ to Peter, who left it to his son Peter.¹²⁶ He was executor of his father's will, as stated above. In 1771 he was taxed £11 for one house, 2 oxen, 3 cattle, 4 goats/sheep, 2 swine, 16 acres of pasture, 3 of English upland meadow, 12 of fresh meadow, 6 tilled acres, and 7 cows.¹¹⁷

He made his will 13 July 1773 and signed it. Executor was his son Peter and

witnesses were William Stickney, Samuel Kidder, and Samuel Kidder, Jr. To Peter he left all land in Billerica: homestead, all buildings, meadow, and wood lot on the west side of the Concord River, all livestock, and husbandry tools. To his son Samuel he left £140, to be paid in one year [although Samuel was killed at Bunker Hill before the year was up]; to son Jeremiah £40, £20 to be paid in one year and the balance in 2 years; to son David £50; to daughter Rachel Crosby £0.13.4 to be paid in 2 years, with the note "I have given her some before"; to daughter Mary £13.6.8 when she comes of age or marries and also to Mary his personal estate and household stuff. The will was probated in 1774.

Child of Peter and Rachel (Crosby) Hill:

- 127 i. Rachel⁵ Hill, b. Billerica 4 Feb. 1736/7; d. 19 Feb. 1814, aged 77; m. Billerica 29 Apr. 1757 Seth Crosby (b. there 8 Aug. 1734, son of William and Hannah [Ross] Crosby; d. Billerica 18 Apr. 1814, aged 80).

Children of Jonathan and Abigail (Walker) Hill, all recorded Billerica:

- 128 ii. Peter Hill, b. 9 Mar. 1747/8; d. Billerica 21 Feb. 1823; m. there (1) (marriage not recorded) Elizabeth Bacon (b. Billerica 26 Feb. 1750, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth [Ditson] Bacon; d. there 19 Oct. 1792, aged 42). He m. (2) Billerica 7 Nov. 1793 Lucy (Fitch) Hill (b. Bedford 6 July 1753, daughter of Zachary and Elizabeth [Grimes] Fitch and widow of Joseph Hill, no. 95). Peter paid taxes of £6.4.0 in 1755 and £3.6.7 in 1776. He was a private in Capt. Jonathan Stickney's Co., Col. Bridge's Regt., of Minute Men who marched on the alarm of 19 April 1775. He served 21 days¹²⁸ and was with the army at Cambridge.¹²⁹ He had one daughter, Elizabeth, b. 15 July 1795, who m. at Billerica 1 Jan. 1827 Benjamin L. Judkins; they lived on the original Ralph Hill place. Peter was counted in 1790 with 3 males and 3 females.
- 129 iii. Samuel Hill, b. 20 Feb. 1749/50; d. 17 June 1775, killed at Bunker Hill, aged 25y 3m 14d. He m. Billerica 21 Feb. 1773/4 Sarah Parker (b. there 9 Dec. 1753, daughter of John and Abigail [Kidder] Parker; she m. [2] by 1780 Samuel Bowers [b. 3 June 1754; d. 2 Mar. 1828, aged 74, son of William and Martha (Winship) Bowers]). Sarah d. 20 Mar. 1838.¹³⁰ Samuel served 6 days with Capt. Jonathan Stickney's Co., Col. Bridge's Regt., and marched to Concord 19 April 1775, and was reported deceased when the company returned 25 Sept. 1775.¹³¹ Sarah, the widow, signed for a coat or its equivalent in cash "due her late husband for 8 months' service in 1775." She also received money from the public treasury, due heirs of men killed at Lexington and Bunker Hill. Samuel's estate was not probated until after the war; it was admitted to probate 19 Nov. 1783¹³² when he was described as a cordwainer, deceased, and insolvent. Samuel Bowers (second husband of the widow Sarah) was principal administrator, with Isaac Stearns and William Thompson sureties. The file includes a list of creditors and a description of the property: one piece of 5+ acres near the Concord River, adjoining Edward Farmer and William Pattin, valued at £160; the other 9+ acres also near the river, valued at £55. Samuel and Sarah Bowers paid the debts; the estate was filed 12 Nov. 1783. Samuel and Sarah had 2 daughters, both rec. Billerica.
- 130 iv. Jonathan Hill, b. 2 July 1751; d. ca. 1772.
- 131 v. Betty Hill, bapt. Billerica 14 July 1754; d. young.
- 132 vi. Jeremiah Hill, b. 18 Apr. 1756, d. Boston by 21 Mar. 1803 testate; m. Boston 20 Jan. 1787 Anne Smith (d. Boston 11 July 1816). That this is the Jeremiah who went to Boston is proved by the estate of Joseph Hill (no. 95)¹⁰⁶ who was a creditor and threatened to sue. In 1776 he paid a tax of 10s in Billerica. Jeremiah served in the Revolution as a private in Capt. Jonathan Stickney's Co. of Minute men who

- marched to Concord 19 April 1775. He later had several short terms of service and 29 Dec. 1775 signed an order for a bounty coat or its equivalent at Pawtucket, R.I. He reached the rank of Second Lieutenant and on 23 June 1777 was reported an aide-de-camp to Brig. Gen. DePortail.
- 133 vii. Rhoda Hill, b. 15 Dec. 1757; d. young.
- 134 viii. David Hill (twin), b. 15 Mar. 1761; prob. m. Boston 31 Mar. 1793 Lydia Barrow (or Barron in int.). He was in the Continental Army and lived in Boston. He enlisted for the town of Marlborough 11 July 1777 for 3 yrs. A long list of his service appears in *Mass. Soldiers and Sailors*, mainly at Providence and Pawtucket, R.I. Hazen claims he joined the Continental Army at Claverack, N.Y. in 1779.
- 135 ix. Mary Hill (twin), b. 15 Mar. 1761; m. Billerica 23 Dec. 1779 Samuel Blanchard (bp. Andover 7 Nov. 1753; son of Samuel and Ruth [Tenney] Blanchard).

NOTES AND REFERENCES

- *Gray Haven at Airview, 709 E. Main St., Middletown, MD 21769.
1. R. J. Carpenter, *Christopher Martin, Great Burstead, and the Mayflower* (Chelmsford, Eng., 1982) is the most recent and includes all the information in earlier publications seen by the compiler, all published in England: i.e., Grant and Wynford, *Billerica and the Mayflower* (1962).
 2. Henry-A. Hazen, *History of Billerica, Mass. with a Genealogical Register* (Boston, 1883), pp. 16-19.
 3. *Ibid.*, *Gen. Register*, p. 68, which abstracts information about a Ralph Hill, clergyman, during the 1640s, taken from David's *Annals of Nonconformity in Essex*, p. 440.
 4. Elizabeth French, "Genealogical Research in England: French," *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [hereafter NEHGR] 65:284-6.
 5. A family found in Binfield, Berkshire, coincides in many ways with the family that came to Plymouth: Ralphe Hill m. there 2 Aug. 1616 Johan Trebbick. 4 children rec.: (1) Jane, bp. 8 Nov. 1616; (2) Johan, bp. 17 Sept. 1620; (3) Margaret, bp. 22 Jan. 1625; (4) Ralph, bp. 8 Apr. 1627. (Binfield Parish Register)
 6. Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, *Records of the Colony of New Plymouth in New England* (Boston, 1855), 1:93.
 7. *Ibid.*, 1:107.
 8. John Camden Hotten, *Original Lists of Persons of Quality 1600-1700* (1874), p. 130. Tho. Babb was master of the *Hopewell*.
 9. Shurtleff, *Plymouth*, p. 76.
 10. *Ibid.*, p. 98.
 11. David Pulsifer, *Records of the Colony of New Plymouth: Deeds* (Boston, 1861), 1:96.
 12. *Plymouth Colony Records 1633-1689: Misc. Records* (Boston, 1857), 8:181.
 13. Proprietors' records, Woburn Town Hall, p. 8.
 14. *Ibid.*, p. 10.
 15. George N. Mackenzie, *Colonial Families of the USA* (New York-Boston, 1907), 1:237-9.
 16. Mary Lovering Holman, *Ancestry of Charles Stinson Pillsbury and John Sargent Pillsbury* (1938), 2:1005-9.
 17. Hazen, *Billerica*, pp. 23, 185, 153, 156, 59, 88, 75.
 18. Middlesex County Deeds, Northern Registry [hereafter MD], 2:16.
 19. *Ibid.*, 1:17, 20.
 20. Middlesex County Deeds, Southern Registry, 1:59.
 21. Middlesex Probate Records [hereafter MPR], no. 11502.
 22. Paul Boyer and Stephen Nissenbaum, *The Salem Witchcraft Papers* (New York, 1977), 3:771-2.
 23. David W. Hoyt, *Old Families of Salisbury and Amesbury* (Providence, 1902), 2:575.
 24. For a detailed account of the Farley family, see Donna Valley Stuart, "Some Descendants of George Farley of Billerica, Mass.," NEHGR 136:43-62, 133-147.
 25. Hazen, *Billerica*, pp. 18, 59, 65, 71, 97, 121, 153, 156, 157. These data have been abstracted from the town records available for inspection at the Town Hall, Billerica.
 26. Lucius R. Paige, *List of Freemen of Mass.* (Baltimore, 1978, reprint), p. 37.
 27. MD, 1:19, 23, 24, 27, 28.
 28. MD, 1:64, 71.
 29. MD, 1:391.
 30. NEHGR 5:173.

31. MPR no. 11503.
32. L. W. Densmore, *The Hartwell Family* (Hartford, 1895), p. 28.
33. Wilson Waters, *History of Chelmsford* (Lowell, 1917), p. 94.
34. Hazen, *Billerica*, p. 183.
35. *Ibid.*, p. 165.
36. Waters, *Chelmsford*, p. 128; see also *Mass. Archives* 107:24a.
37. *Ibid.*, pp. 134, 401, 413, 137, 675–6.
38. MD, 1:233, 151.
39. MD, 5:515; 2:224; 1:352.
40. MPR no. 11492.
41. MD, 2:484; 4:210; 1:481; 2:309, 334, 411.
42. MPR no. 11504.
43. MPR no. 11454.
44. MD, 1:182, 69.
45. MPR no. 11464.
46. Hazen, *Billerica*, p. 191.
47. NEHGR 5:173.
48. Hazen, *Billerica*, p. 194.
49. Paige, *Freemen*, p. 37.
50. George M. Bodge, *Soldiers in King Philips War* (Boston, 1906), pp. 114, 58, 360.
51. *Mass. Archives*, 113:198.
52. Hazen, *Billerica*, p. 208.
53. Charles E. Stearns, historian of Billerica.
54. MD, 2:128; 3:71.
55. MD, 2:54, 110.
56. Hazen, *Billerica*, pp. 212, 203, 128, 138–9, 96–7, 170, 193, 201, 305.
57. MPR no. 11510.
58. Robert E. MacKay, *Mass. Soldiers in the French and Indian Wars 1744–1755* (Boston, 1978), p. 221.
59. *Mass. Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War* [hereafter MS&S], 7:902.
60. New Hampshire Bureau of Vital Records and Health Statistics.
61. John B. Hill, *History of the Town of Mason, N.H. 1749–1858* (Boston, 1858), pp. 7, 179.
62. Hazen, *Billerica*, p. 153.
63. Family papers in the possession of Charles E. Stearns, Billerica.
64. Hazen, *Billerica*, pp. 138–9.
65. MD, 1:372.
66. MD, 1:494.
67. MD, 1:522, 524.
68. MD, 5:515; 4:9–10.
69. MD, 2:402; 414, 224, 226.
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71. MPR no. 11479.
72. MPR no. 11526.
73. Thomas W. Baldwin, *Patten Genealogy* (1908).
74. Hartford, Conn., Probate File no. 4124.
75. Hazen, *Billerica*, pp. 203, 305, 175.
76. MD, 2:128; 3:160, 271, 308.
77. MPR no. 11467.
78. James Savage, *A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England* (Boston, 1860–2), 3:332.
79. Hazen, *Billerica*, pp. 203, 205.
80. MD, 4:151, 3:254.
81. MPR no. 11514.
82. MPR no. 11508.
83. MPR no. 11505.
84. Nashua, Hillsboro Co. Probate File No. 0-4557.
85. *Ibid.*, no. 0-5019.
86. MS&S, 7:907.
87. *Massachusetts Archives* 19: no. 37 (Muster Rolls); 26:40; see also Hazen, *Billerica*, pp. 243–6.
88. MS&S 7:903; Worcester Co. Deeds 98:93; MPR nos. 11524 and 11525.
89. Worcester County Deeds, 102:213.

90. John Gould Curtis, *History of the Town of Brookline, Mass.* (Boston, 1933), p. 99.
91. Middlesex Co. Court Records.
92. Worcester County Deeds, 104:237.
93. Worcester Co. Probate File no. 29482.
94. *Ibid.*, no. 29518.
95. MS&S, 7:889.
96. Worcester Co. Probate File no. 29520.
97. MS&S, 7:901.
98. Worcester Co. Probate File no. 29375.
99. MS&S, 7:877.
100. Hazen, *Billerica, Gen. Register*, p. 173.
101. Anna Trask m. at Lexington 23 May 1751 Joseph Robinson.
102. Hazen, *Billerica*, pp. 305, 206, 249.
103. See also MD, 3:342.
104. MPR no. 11480.
105. MPR no. 11481.
106. MPR no. 11482.
107. MD, 1:352, 2:265, 4:411.
108. MPR no. 11455.
109. MD 9:36, 39; 5:512; 6:114, 66, 487; 7:431; and MPR no. 11497.
110. MS&S, 7:895-6.
111. Rev. War Pension No. W13454, National Archives.
112. MS&S, 7:864.
113. American College of Genealogists, comp., *History of the Wheeler Family* (Boston, 1914), pp. 500-1.
114. Phyllis B. Deming, *History of Williamsburg in Massachusetts* (1946), pp. 31, 78. Also J. H. Temple, *History of the Town of Whateley, Mass.* (Orange, Mass., 1899), pp. 243, 501.
115. Corbin Collection, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, 5:153.
116. MPR no. 11473.
117. Bettye H. Pruitt, *Massachusetts Tax Valuation List of 1771* (Boston, 1978), p. 174.
118. It was their son Daniel who went to Santa Barbara, Cal., where he married Rafaela Ortega; he is buried in the Mission cemetery. See NEHGR 100:325.
119. Hazen, *Billerica*, p. 242.
120. MPR no. 11468.
121. Nashua, Hillsboro Co., N.H., Probate no. 04443.
122. *Report of the Record Commissioners . . . Boston* (1887), 19:132.
123. MPR no. 11479.
124. William Barry, *History of Framingham, Mass.* (Boston, 1847), p. 290. Also Jacob Whittemore Reed, *History of the Reed Family* (1861), p. 280.
125. MD, 5:508.
126. Charles E. Stearns, historian, currently lives on 28 acres of Ralph's original 87 acres, the tenth generation to hold title by inheritance.
127. MPR no. 11498.
128. MS&S, 7:896.
129. *Mass. Archives*, 12:16, 73; 16:21.
130. Hazen, *Billerica, Genealogical Register*, p. 80.
131. MS&S, 7:899.
132. MPR no. 11518.
133. MS&S, 7:872-3.
134. Hazen, *Billerica*, pp. 243-6.
135. MS&S, 7:881. See also note 129, and *Mass. Archives*, 22:520.