

Great Migration Newsletter

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TWO WILLIAM WHITES

We have from time to time published articles describing the process of discriminating among two or more immigrants of the same name. Two examples are John Carman/Kirman and John Jackson [GMN 2:9-10, 16, 12:17-18, 24]. During the preparation of the current Great Migration volume a fascinating and perhaps more complex example has arisen, the William Whites of Essex County.

The single record that determined that a sketch for a William White would be in the current volume, and that therefore triggered the research described here, was the passenger list of the *Mary & John*, preparing on 24 March 1633/4 to set sail from Southampton for New England. In that list is the name "William White," without any additional identifying information [Drake's Founders 70].

As is our usual practice, we turn first to Savage as a point of reference. His entry for this passenger begins as follows [Savage 4:515]:

WILLIAM, Newbury, freeman 22 June 1642, had come from London in the *Mary* and *John* 1634, and first sat down at Ipswich, thence removed probably in 1635 or 6, with many of his fellow-passengers to Newbury, had John and James, the latter born says Coffin, about 1649; removed to Haverhill, there died 1690, aged 80.

Savage included two other entries with which we will also have to contend, given here in their entirety [Savage 4:515-16]:

WILLIAM, Ipswich, had wife Catharine, who died 2 June 1671, and perhaps daughter Ruth, aged 30 in 1663, and he died 25 August 1684, aged 74.

WILLIAM, Ipswich, the freeman 1671, may have been that youth, in 1635, aged 14, who came from London in the *Increase*, under protection of Philemon Dalton, and perhaps his servant. His wife Mary, by whom he had children unknown to me by name, died 22 February 1682, and he married 21 September following Sarah Foster, widow perhaps of Renold.

According to Savage, then, there were three men named William White who resided at Ipswich, apparently unrelated

to one another. One of these men moved on to Newbury and then Haverhill and had sons John and James.

We turn next to Pope, who included in his compilation only one entry for a William White who resided at Ipswich [Pope 493]:

William, husbandman, came in the *Mary* and *John* in March, 1633-4. Settled at Ipswich; proprietor 1634; freeman June 22, 1642. Removed to Haverhill about 1642. Proprietor, town officer. Wife Mary died February 22, 1681; he married September 21, 1682, Sarah Foster. She returned to Ipswich after his death and died there. His son John's will was probated 13 (2) 1669. He died September 28, 1690, aetatis about 80 years.

Pope's compilation combines elements of the first and third of Savage's entries, but nothing from the second. Pope also does not mention the move to Newbury or the son James. How do we resolve these discrepancies? How many William Whites were there, and which one, if any, was the passenger on the *Mary & John*?

Our next step is to collect all occurrences of the name William White in Essex County sources, including the Quarter Court records, Ipswich Deeds, and Ipswich and Newbury town records. To this mass of data we apply the Fundamental Law of genealogical research: *We must have a sound, explicit reason for claiming that any two records pertain to the same individual.*

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EDITOR’S EFFUSIONS

We are faced with a variety of problems in attempting to incorporate into Great Migration sketches the information contained in town records, which, for our purposes, fall into three categories. First, for some towns most of the early records survive and have been carefully edited and published. Examples in this category would be Watertown, Cambridge and Dedham [GMN 1:3-6, 4:3-6, 7:11-13].

At the other extreme are those towns whose earliest records have been lost. The most striking example of this sort is the town of Lynn (established in 1631), whose surviving town records begin in 1691. We are forced, therefore, to build our understanding of the early history of Lynn from surviving scraps of evidence, mostly found in the county and colony records [GMN 1:19-22]. Other towns that fall into this category are Concord, Saybrook and Newport. As annoying as the problem may be for these towns, there is nothing much to be done, as presumably the records are gone forever.

The third category is the most frustrating. For many towns, a substantial portion of the earliest records survive, but have not yet been published. In many of these cases the records are poorly organized and are usually not indexed. Thus, in preparing sketches for residents of these towns, obtaining the pertinent information from the town records becomes very difficult, and the results are not always complete and satisfactory.

Over two decades, the principal purpose of the *Focus* section of the *Great Migration Newsletter* has been to examine the records of early New England towns in order to assist our research. In 2005 we undertook a survey of all those towns founded by 1643, coming up with a list of fifty-nine settlements. We have now published *Focus* sections on thirty-three of these towns [GMN 14:19-22, 27-30]. These accounts are, of course, no substitute for full publication of the early records, but they are a small step in that direction.

In the twentieth volume of the *Newsletter*, we will examine at least two more of the remaining twenty-six towns. In this issue we will look at Newbury, both the land records and the town meeting records. Later in the year we will explore the church, land and town meeting records of Milford.

Robert Charles Anderson, FASG Editor
Jean Powers, Production Assistant
The Great Migration Newsletter is published quarterly by the Great Migration Study Project, a project of the New England Historic Genealogical Society, 99-101 Newbury Street, Boston MA 02116
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GreatMigration@nehgs.org
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Our starting point will be the Ipswich town records, where we find that on 26 January 1634/5, the town of Ipswich “granted unto William White twenty acres of land on the south side of this river at the west end of Mr. Spencer his land” [ITR]. Then, on 20 April 1635, the town granted to him “an housetlot . . . , a place to set a house . . . , twenty acres of land part meadow, part upland lying on the east side of the town, . . . also . . . two hundred acres of land lying at the further Chebacco, bounded on the southeast by a creek that lies between it and Mr. Coggswell’s land” [ITR].

We note first that both of these grants were made less than a year after the arrival of the *Mary & John*, and before the arrival of vessels carrying passengers in 1635. We note also that most of the passengers on the *Mary & John*, including those who were among the earliest settlers of Newbury, settled first at Ipswich, even if only for one winter. Thus, these grants of land could well have been made to the 1634 passenger on the *Mary & John*.

On 27 June 1638, “whereas William White of Ipswich, husbandman, had granted to him . . . twenty acres of land, lying at the east end of the town, . . . being part meadow and part upland now the said William White hath sold unto Thomas Treadwell of Ipswich all the said twenty acres of meadow and upland” [ITR]. According to Savage, the 1634 passenger, after a brief sojourn in Ipswich, had already removed to Newbury by 1635 or 1636, and yet here we see the 1634 Ipswich grantee still in that town in 1638.

Furthermore, on 2 October 1647, “William White of Ipswich” mortgaged to “Ralfe Dix of the same town, fisherman, . . . my farm lying and being in Ipswich aforesaid at Chebaco, containing by estimation 200 acres” [ILR 1:37]. That this farm was the same as that granted to William White on 20 April 1635 is demonstrated by a deed of 6 April 1691, in which “James White of Ipswich . . . , yeoman, and Martha my wife, in consideration that my father William White having sold unto Deacon Thomas Knowlton, John Knowlton & John Baker, in the year [1685] . . . four-score and two acres . . . bounded in form following, viz: on the southeast by a creek, next Mr. Coggswell’s farm” [ILR 5:405].

Based on these few records we have explicit evidence of a single William White in Ipswich from 1634 to 1647 and implicit evidence, in the deed of 1691, of his presence in that town for a much longer period. Broadening our field of vision to the full range of records collected in this study, we find none of the clues that would lead us to believe that the grantee of 1634 had moved away from Ipswich and that some other man of the same name had moved into town. There are no instances of the usual markers such as Senior and Junior that would indicate the presence of two men of the same name, whether related or not. There are no deeds in which a William White sells Ipswich land while calling himself a resident of another town.

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Focus on Newbury

SETTLEMENT OF NEWBURY

The town of Newbury came into existence, without recorded preliminaries, at the General Court of Elections on 6 May 1635 [MBCR 1:146]:

Wessacu[n]con is allowed by the court to be a plantation, & it is referred to Mr. Humfry, Mr. Endicott, Capt. Turner, & Capt. Traske, or any three of them, to set the bounds of Ipswich and Wessacu[n]con, or so much thereof as they can, & the name of the said plantation is changed, & hereafter to be called Neveberry.

Further, it is ordered, that it shall be in the power of the court to take order that the said plantation shall receive a sufficient company of people to make a competent town.

In his journal, summarizing the work of this court, John Winthrop reported on this event [WJ 1:191]:

At this general court, some of the chief of Ipswich desired leave to remove to Quasacauquen, to begin a town there, which was granted them, and it was named Newberry.

There are a number of unusual features in the founding of Newbury which invite discussion. First, while it was the usual practice to assign an Algonkian name to a new town, and then order that name to be replaced by an English one at a later date, when the settlement was more stable, in this instance the lifetime of the Algonkian name was counted in seconds, encompassed in a single paragraph of the colony records. For most other towns, these two naming events were separated by one or more courts, and therefore by several months.

Second, there is a tension between the second paragraph of the court order and the brief report made by Winthrop. The court order speaks of the need to find "a sufficient company of people to make a competent town," whereas Winthrop notes it was "some of the chief of Ipswich" who petitioned for the creation of the new town.

Third, new towns usually had to wait for some time before the court would permit them to send deputies to represent the town at the General Court. In this case, Newbury seems to have been represented by deputies at the court which created the town. The last two names in the list of deputies for the 6 May 1635 court are "Mr. John Spencer" and "Tho [mas] Smyth" [MBCR 1:145]. (These two names come at the end of the list of deputies for this court, immediately after those from Ipswich. Perhaps they were added to the list during the sitting of the court, at the time Newbury was officially founded. John Spencer had been deputy from Ipswich just two months before, on 4 March 1634/5 [MBCR 1:135; GM 2:6:428-36]. In our account of Thomas Smith, we failed to take notice of his service as deputy [GM 2:6:402-5].)

The observation that explains these unusual circumstances is that the first group of settlers of Newbury, who must have been the petitioners referred to by Winthrop, were among the most affluent and influential men who had arrived in 1634 and just before. In 1634 and 1635 two vessels, the *Mary & John* and the *James*, had brought about one hundred families from Hampshire and Wiltshire. Those on the *Mary & John*, who upon landing had no place to live, spent the winter of 1634-35 residing in Ipswich, doubling up with residents of that town who had themselves only settled that town a year or so before. The crowded conditions undoubtedly encouraged these men and women, many of them of above-average socioeconomic status, to devote many long winter evenings to planning their new town, visiting the site of the future Newbury when they could, and preparing the petition and taking the other political steps necessary for the success of their plan. With the easy access they must have had to the governor and other high colony officials, the path had been cleared before the May Court of Elections, and their petition sailed through the legislature.

Not all of the Newbury settlers of 1635 had arrived just the year before. Richard Dummer, perhaps the wealthiest and most prominent of these men, had arrived in 1632, as a passenger on the *Whale*, and settled first at Roxbury. Dummer had resided in various parishes in Hampshire, and this along with his presence on the *Whale*, marks him as an associate of Rev. Stephen Bachiler, whom we will meet later. These two men were leaders in the so-called Company of Husbandmen or Plough Company [GMN 1:20, 2:16, 4:22].

On 6 May 1635, at the court which brought Newbury into existence,

It is referred to Mr. Humfry, Mr. Endicott, Capt. Turner, & Capt. Traske to set out a farm for Mr. Dumer, about the falls of Neveberry, not exceeding the quantity of 500 acres, provided also it be not prejudicial to Neveberry.

Then, on 8 July 1635,

There is liberty granted to Mr. Dumer & Mr. Spencer to build a mill & a weir at the falls of Neveberry, to enjoy the said mill & weir, with such privileges of ground & timber as is expressed in an agreement betwixt them & the town, to enjoy to them & their heirs forever.

Perhaps another distinction enjoyed by the founders of Newbury, in this instance not so welcome, was that they were immediately subject to colony taxation, being assessed on 8 July 1635 for £8 in a colony rate of £200 [MBCR 1:149]. Most other newly founded towns were allowed a grace period of a year or two before being assessed for colony taxes, with the understanding that the community would be experiencing extraordinary expenses in carving a new settlement from the wilderness.



NEWBURY TOWN RECORDS

The first volume of town meeting records for Newbury is now available as what appears to be a nineteenth-century copy [Family History Library Film #886194, item 4]:

First Book of Newbury Records

Copied from the Old Book written by Woodbridge, Rawson & Somerby. What is left commences 10 5 Month 1637

Apparently, then, a few leaves were missing from the beginning of this volume when it was transcribed, for by 10 July 1637 the town had already been in existence for a little over two years.

On the same reel of microfilm is the original of some, if not all, of the record volume on which this transcript was based [item 5]. Unfortunately, these original pages are not always legible. Enough can be read, however, to determine that the pages in this original volume were not in their original order when the microfilming was done. Also, the transcriber did not copy the pages in the order in which they are now bound. A spot check indicates that the transcript is generally reliable, with a few minor errors. A massive effort at collation and retranscription would be necessary in order to learn just where the transcriber went astray. Accordingly, the present article is based on the transcript, with the caveat that more detailed paleographic work might produce slightly different results.

Also, the transcriber was not fully familiar with the pre-1752 calendar. Despite the date given in the heading reproduced above, the first entry in the transcript is dated 10 June 1637, although a later entry will show that this date should have been 10 July 1637, as promised. In order to get a flavor of the volume, we reproduce the full transcribed record of this earliest surviving meeting:

The town taking into consideration the diverse inconveniences likely to ensue that those who have their accommodations on the south side of the river should have their house lots on the north side of the same & further considering how beneficial the land may be to those on that side of the river & are ready to improve the same it is therefore on due consideration agreed that the neck on the south side of the great river not yet broken up & formerly reserved for the waining of the calves shall be divided into house lots & the residue into planting lots as shall be judged & thought fit upon due consideration.

It is agreed that Edward Woodman shall have an house lot and a planting lot both which shall amount to the ___

There is likewise granted a farm of 200 acres to Edward Woodman beginning at the little river beyond the great hill to enjoy to him & his heirs forever.

We observe the usual mixing of broad subjects, in this case the repurposing of a major section of land in the town, with very particular subjects, such as grants of land to an individual. Since two years' worth of records are missing, we must assume that many grants of land had already been made.

And, since Edward Woodman was one of the first settlers of Newbury, and one of its wealthiest and most prominent inhabitants, we must also assume that he had received earlier grants of land. In such a case, we would normally expect that he would be asked to relinquish any earlier grants in return for a new house lot.

The next recorded meeting was held on 4 October 1637, at which small grants of land were made to four men. In addition, at this meeting "John Blumfield hath rightly & lawfully purchased a house lot of Mr. Thomas Parker." As brief as this entry is, it constitutes a deed for this transfer of land, which is probably recorded nowhere else. We are reminded with these few words that the early New England settlers were still in the process of inventing an entirely new system of land conveyancing and recording, for which no equivalent existed in old England. And throughout New England in these earliest years, recording of land transfers was done at the town level, as counties in Massachusetts Bay did not come into existence until 1643, and even after that date many sales of land continued to be recorded in the towns rather than the counties.

Not long after, the town confronted a problem which every early New England town faced, although not every town recorded their actions in dealing with the problem:

It was ordained in a lawful meeting November 5 [1637] that whosoever is admitted unto the town of Newbury shall have the consent and approbation of the body of freemen of said town.

The town of Newbury itself had been founded as the rate of immigration to New England reached its highest levels, of about three thousand persons per year from 1634 to 1640. The colony and the towns were struggling with the problem of finding the right size for a coherent agricultural town, and trying to keep out those who could not contribute to building such a town.

In addition to requiring the approval of the town for the admission of a new inhabitant in a given town, the prospective settler needed to have a certificate from the governor. Direct notice of these certificates is rarely found in town records, but on 16 November 1637 the Newbury town clerk entered seven such records, of which we present a sample:

Thomas Moulton being licensed by the Governor to live in this jurisdiction was admitted into the town of Newberry as an inhabitant thereof, hath expressed under his hand that he will be subject to all lawful orders that shall be made by the town.

Nicholas Busbe being licensed by the Governor to live in this jurisdiction was admitted into the town of Newberry as an inhabitant thereof & hath here promised under his hand to be subject to any lawful orders that shall be made by the town.

Abraham Toppan being licensed by Jo[h]n Endicott Esq. to live in this jurisdiction was received into the town of Newberry as an inhabitant thereof & has here promised under his hand to be subject to any lawful order that shall be made by the town.



The town had already instituted the office of selectman, for on 2 October 1637 we learn that

This day were five more deputed by the town to manage the town's business & to settle the accounts in the town, who did generally by the erection of hands consent to what was done & approve of the same. It was likewise desired by the general consent that the same persons, to wit, Edward Woodman, Jno. Woodbridge, Henry Short, Christopher Hussey, Richard Kent, Richard Browne & Richard Knight, who were chosen by papers, should perform the same service for one quarter longer

The significance of the "five more deputed" is obscured by the loss of the first two years of the town's records. The number of seven selectmen was common at this period, but the brief term of office of only three months was not. For a number of years Boston selectmen served for six months [GMN 8:17], but in many other towns they served for a full year.

From October 1637 until October 1638, a general town meeting was held almost every month, and the selectmen met more often than that. Much of the business at these meetings related to the granting of land, but there was also discussion of taxation and the work of the constable, the maintenance of the highways, the management of woodlots, and similar town business.

On 19 November 1638, a general town meeting included the following notice:

It was ordered that Edward Rawson shall supply the place of Mr. Woodbridge & be the public notary and register for the town of Newbury.

At the end of this meeting, the transcriber entered the following observation:

Here commences the transcript of Mr. E[dward] Rawson's handwriting who succeeded J[ohn] Woodb[ridge].

At this point the nature of the recordkeeping changes dramatically. With few exceptions, we are no longer given the dates of individual meetings, whether of the whole town or of the selectmen. Rawson simply made one entry after another, almost all regarding the granting and transfer of lands. And with increasing frequency we find embedded within the records deeds from one owner to another, giving more detail than was found in the example cited above from 4 October 1637.

By the early 1640s Rawson had returned to the earlier practice of organizing the records by town meeting, and dating each meeting. Then, after a meeting of 17 May 1647, the transcriber informs us that

The preceding extract from the Old Book closes all that can be found in the handwriting of Edward Rawson. In this year, 1647, he was chosen Secretary of State, & in 1651 was chosen Recorder for the County of Suffolk after Mr. Aspinwall. His successor as Town Clerk of Newbury was

Anthony Somerby, who filled the office 38 years & died July 31, 1686.

NEWBURY LAND RECORDS

Although, as we have seen above, the bulk of the business transacted at town and selectmen's meetings involved the granting of land, the town of Newbury, like most other early New England towns, maintained a separate volume devoted solely to the recording of land records, called in this case, as in most others, the proprietors' records.

This volume, for the most part in the handwriting of Anthony Somerby, begins with the following rubric:

The several grants of lands granted by the town of Newbury in New England (out of that portion of lands which the General Court kept then at New Towne in the year of our Lord one-thousand six-hundred thirty & five granted unto them) to particular persons to enjoy to them and their heirs forever as followeth.

Immediately below this heading, the remainder of the first page is devoted to a list of the parcels of land granted to "Mr. John Spencer," one of the wealthiest and most prominent of the early settlers of Newbury. The list begins with a houselot of four acres, a farm of four hundred acres, thirty acres of salt marsh and three acres of upland. These items were not dated, but the fifth item, for "a mill lot of fifty acres of upland," does bear the date 20 October 1637. Reverting to the town minutes, we find no meeting with that date, and no record of the grant of a mill lot to John Spencer. This tells us that not all town business was recorded in the original book, or perhaps that the transcriber omitted some items.

Furthermore, if we assume that the first four lots were granted to Spencer prior to the granting of the mill lot, then those grants were probably made in 1635 and 1636, a period for which the town meeting minutes do not survive. Those four grants do constitute the usual basic compliment of lands granted to proprietors in all New England towns: a houselot (which carried with it the proprietary rights); some marsh or meadow land; some upland or planting ground; and, in the case of the more affluent settlers, a farm, meaning at that time a large, remote parcel of land which the grantee could lease out to someone lower on the socioeconomic scale.

The page for John Spencer continues with a 1650 record of a sale of land by Spencer to Henry Sewall, a grant of sixty-nine acres of dividend land, and a 1654 acknowledgement that Spencer had sold the dividend land.

Other pages might contain the records for more than one man, for not every Newbury resident was so well blessed with land grants as was John Spencer. Folio 17, for example, contains the records for John Cheney, Henry Travers, Robert Pike and George King, just two or three items for each man.



In our discussion of the town meeting minutes above, we noted that Edward Woodman was granted a houselot on 10 July 1637, at a time when we expect that he would already have been granted a houselot, presumably upon his arrival in 1635, but that he was not required to relinquish to the town the houselot granted earlier.

When we turn to the page for Edward Woodman (Folio 22), we find that he did indeed have two houselots, "an houselot of four acres" and "another houselot of an acre." Unfortunately, the grant of a houselot on 10 July 1637 does not give the size of the parcel, but the second houselot in the proprietors' records likely represents the 10 July 1637 grant. Perhaps Edward Woodman had performed some special service for the town which resulted in the grant of the second houselot. The list of his lands fills the front side of the folio and spills onto the reverse, with multiple grants of marsh and meadow, of upland and planting ground.

There should be much overlap between the town minutes and the proprietors' records, and it should be possible to correlate hundreds of grants of land made by the town or the selectmen with the corresponding entries in the proprietors' records. On the other hand, it should also be possible, by a process of comparison and elimination, to compile from the two sets of records a reasonably good list of the grants of land made during the first two years of the town's existence, in the period for which the town minutes are lost.

NEWBURY CHURCH

The story of the founding of Newbury church begins to take shape in early 1634. On 14 May of that year, John Winthrop reported that

Mr. Parker, a minister, and a company with him, being about one hundred, went to sit down at Agawam, and diverse others of the new comers [WJ 1:158].

"Mr. Parker" was Thomas Parker, a highly-educated minister from Newbury, Berkshire, who sailed to New England on the *Mary & John* in 1634 [GM 2:5:367-70]. Most of the passengers on that ship were from the adjacent counties of Hampshire and Wiltshire, and most of the "company with him, being about one hundred," probably sailed on the same vessel.

They went together to the new settlement of Agawam [Ipswich] and a number of them joined the young church there. On 3 September 1634, "Mr. Tho[mas] Parker, Mr. Nicholas Easton, Mr. James Noise" were admitted freemen of Massachusetts Bay Colony, the three names appearing together on the list of freemen for that date [MBCR 1:370]. James Noyes was also a minister, from Cholderton, Wiltshire, who had also sailed on the *Mary & John* and was first cousin of Thomas Parker [GM 2:5:282-86].

In his account of James Noyes, Cotton Mather gives us a brief synopsis of the activities of Noyes and Parker in 1634 and 1635 [Magnalia 484-85]:

Mr. Parker and Mr. Noyes, and others that came over with them, fasted and prayed together many times before they undertook this voyage; and on the sea Mr. Parker and Mr. Noyes preached or expounded, one in the forenoon, the other in the afternoon, every day during the voyage, unless some extraordinary thing intervened, and were abundant in prayer.

When they arrived, Mr. Parker was at first called to preach at Ipswich, and Mr. Noyes at Medford, at which places they continued nigh a year. He had a motion made unto him to be minister at Watertown, but Mr. Parker and others of his brethren and acquaintance, settling at Newberry, and gathering the tenth of the churches in the colony, and calling Mr. Noyes to be the teacher of it, he preferred that place; being loath to be separated from Mr. Parker, and brethren that had so often fasted and prayed together, both in England and on the Atlantic sea.

Curiously, Winthrop did not take notice of the founding of Newbury church in 1635, as he did with so many other congregations. This may have been because Newbury was one of only two early Massachusetts Bay churches organized on Presbyterian principles, the other being Hingham. The most important distinction between the church government of these two churches and the developing Congregational Way of all other Massachusetts Bay churches was that in the latter the church was organized by a small group of laymen, who then chose and ordained their minister [Robert Wall, *Massachusetts Bay: The Crucial Decade, 1640-1650* (New Haven 1972), 160].

Winthrop and other civil and church leaders would not have approved of the Newbury way of choosing a minister, which would not have included broad participation by the laymen, and so he may have chosen to take no notice of the founding of Newbury church. As with the manner of the founding of the town itself, the prominence of some of the earlier settlers may also have protected the church from higher interference in this matter of church government.

Another wrinkle in the early history of Newbury church was the brief presence in town of Rev. Stephen Bachiler, who had an unflinching talent for disturbing anything he became involved in. Bachiler had arrived in New England in 1632 as the leader of the Plough Company and, as noted above, would have been associated with Richard Dummer in that episode.

Bachiler and his associates attempted to found a church at Lynn, but were rebuffed by the General Court. Bachiler tried again, and apparently did create his own congregation, at Lynn but not of it, as another, more "official," church had been organized in the interim. Bachiler's church took up an itinerant existence, moving to Ipswich and Yarmouth, then making a brief appearance at Newbury in 1638 before moving on to Hampton. While in Newbury, Bachiler appears to have baptized at least four children of members of his "congregation" [HampVR 1:3]. As we wrote in an earlier *Newsletter*, "we feel that a strong case can be made that for much of his time [in the 1630s] Stephen Bachiler carried his church around with him, and was not tied to one town as were all other churches" [GMN 3:20-21].



RECENT LITERATURE

Joseph C. Anderson II and Priscilla Eaton, "The English Origin of Nathan¹ Lord of Kittery: With an Account of the Conley Family of Cranbrook, Kent, England, and the Ancestry of Abraham¹ Conley of Kittery," *The American Genealogist* 84 (2010):81-94. The authors first explored the Lord family, discovering a baptism at Rye, Sussex, in 1633 for a Nathan Lord. They then found that this Nathan Lord's father was buried just a few months after Nathan's baptism, and the widow then married at Wittersham, Kent, Abraham Conley. Within a few years, and no later than 1638, Abraham Conley, his wife, and his stepson Nathan Lord had moved to Kittery.

John E. D'Anieri, "When Was John Lyford Born?," *The American Genealogist* 84 (2010):176. By analyzing Oxford University records for Rev. John Lyford of Plymouth and elsewhere [GMB 2:1214-17; TAG 83:174-78], D'Anieri produces a more accurate estimate for his year of birth, suggesting that this event occurred in about 1578 (and perhaps even a few years earlier).

Patricia Law Hatcher, "The Peirce Family of Norwich, England, and Watertown, Massachusetts," *The American Genealogist* 84 (2010):177-84. The original passenger list for the family of John Peirce of Watertown tells us that he came from Norwich in Norfolk, but gives us no more detail than that. Hatcher has collected evidence which shows that this immigrant married Elizabeth Trull in 1610 at St. Edmund's parish in Norwich, and that nine of their children were baptized there, and a tenth buried (but not baptized) in that parish. The author also addresses the difficult question of the dates of arrival of family members in Watertown, not all of them having come in the same year. Finally, she provides information on the Trull family.

Myrtle Stevens Hyde, "Empson Ancestors, in England, of Child and Goddard Families in New England," *The American Genealogist* 84 (2010):185-89. Following up on work published more than two decades ago [TAG 63:17-28], Hyde delineates the family of Thomas Empson of London, whose daughter Ellen married in 1690 Wolstan Child. This latter couple were the parents of EPHRAIM CHILD {1630, Watertown} [GMB 1:349-53]. She also supplies some additions and corrections to the earlier article on these families.

John C. Brandon and Leslie Mahler, "The Parentage of Rev. Edward¹ Norris of Salem, Massachusetts: With a Descent from Edward I, King of England," *The American Genealogist* 84 (2010):200-11. The authors present the evidence for the English origin and parentage of Edward Norris, who arrived in New England in 1639, including his baptism at Alderley, Gloucestershire, in 1583. The authors then document a descent of this immigrant from Edward I through the De Clare, Despenser, Arundel, Browne and Poyntz families.

Brent M. Owen, "Elizabeth² (Dickerson) (Owen) Mountjoy of Salem, Massachusetts, and Southold, Long Island, and

Her Children, John³ Owen and Mary³ Mountjoy," *The American Genealogist* 84 (2010):213-20. Previously published studies of the family of PHILEMON DICKERSON {1637, Salem} have not determined the fate of all his children. Owen makes a convincing argument that, although the Dickerson family had moved to Southold, Long Island, in 1650, daughter Elizabeth remained in or returned to Salem, where in 1670 she married Morgan Owen, who died within a few years. Still in Salem, the widow soon married Walter Mounjoy, who himself died in 1683. The author then argues that the twice-widowed Elizabeth, with two young children, one by each husband, then moved to Southold, presumably to be close to other family members there.

William W. Hough, "The Cheshire Home and Family of William Hough, 1640 Immigrant to New England," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* 164 (2010):245-49. Building on a clue entered in Saybrook, Connecticut, records in early 1703 by a son of the immigrant, the author presents a strong case for the origin and parentage of William Hough who came to New England in 1640, identifying the father of the immigrant as Edward Hough of St.-Mary-on-the-Hill, Chester, Cheshire.

John C. Brandon, "Reinterpreting the Vital Dates of William^B Hawes and His Wife Ursula From Their Memorial Brass," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* 164 (2010):250-53. Brandon examines a memorial brass and thereby recalculates the years of birth for the paternal grandparents of EDMUND HAWES {1635, Duxbury} [GM 2:3:247-50].

Gale Ion Harris, "The Brothers William² and Daniel² Harris of Middletown, Connecticut," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* 164 (2010):281-91. In this second installment of a multipart article, Harris compiles accounts of the families of Daniel Harris, son of THOMAS HARRIS {1630, Winnissimmett} [GMB 2:864-66], and of the two eldest of Daniel's four sons.

Eugene Cole Zubrinsky, "Carpenter-Verin," *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register* 164 (2010):296-97. Zubrinsky provides evidence that JOHN GREENE {1635, Boston} [GM 2:3:141-48] and WILLIAM CARPENTER {1635, Salem} resided briefly in Salem before they removed to Providence.

Zachary McLeod Hutchins, "Building Bensalem at Massachusetts Bay: Francis Bacon and the Wisdom of Eden in Early Modern New England," *The New England Quarterly* 83 (2010):577-606. Hutchins argues that, contrary to claims made by Perry Miller, a number of New England Puritan intellectuals of the first generation of settlement were influenced by "Francis Bacon's grand schemes for recovering prelapsarian perfections," that is, for recovering the edenic knowledge lost at the time of Adam's fall. Most prominent of these was Rev. John Cotton.



(continued from page 2)

Turning to the Newbury records, we find the first direct evidence of a William White in that town in 1642. The Newbury proprietors' records have inventories of the land-holding of the earliest settlers of that town, that is, those who arrived in the late 1630s, and there is no entry for a William White.

William White does appear on a page of the proprietors' records dated 7 December 1642 and listing ninety individuals, mostly men, but with a few widows. These persons were all said to be "acknowledged to be freeholders by the town and to have proportionable right in all waste lands," and the list was compiled "for the managing of all things that concern the ordering of the new town" [Newbury Proprietors' Records 1:44v]. On 22 June 1642, six men were admitted to Massachusetts Bay freemanship, including a William White [MBCR 2:292]. Five of them, other than White, are known or thought to have been Newbury residents, and so this freemanship would appear to be for the Newbury man.

On 6 July 1650, Thomas Jones of Charlestown stated that "William White, lately of Newbery," sold land in Newbury to Jones, which Jones "long since in the year 1641 or 1642" sold to William Ilsley [ILR 1:146]. A deposition of 1679 shows that this land was first laid out to William Eastow, who then sold to William White, who sold to Thomas Jones,

who sold to William Ilsley [EQC 7:194]. Finally, a deed of 1650 demonstrates that by this date (and certainly earlier) this William White resided at Haverhill [ILR 1:53].

In his will of 2 January 1683[4?], "William White of Haverhill" made bequests to "my grandson John White" and to "Sarah my present wife" [EPR 304:265-67]. The grandson was son of John White, who had predeceased his father and left a will naming his son John [EPR 2:108-9].

There are many other interesting twists and turns to this story, which will be laid out in the completed sketch, but the final picture is clear. The various records relied on by Savage and Pope, along with many other bits of evidence for which there is not space in the present account, show the presence in early Essex County of two men named William White. The first, who may be identified with the 1634 passenger on the *Mary & John*, settled at Ipswich in the year of his arrival and remained there until his death in 1684. He had two wives, one whose given name we do not know, and the second the widow of JOHN JACKSON {1635, Ipswich} [GM 2:4:25-28]. With his first wife he had a son James.

The second William White was certainly in Newbury by 1642, and probably in 1639, but removed soon after 1642 to Haverhill, where he died in 1690. He also had two wives, Mary Ware, whom he married in late 1639 or early 1640 [WP 4:168], and Sarah, the widow of Renold Foster. This William White had an only son John.