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The Great Migration Begins

BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE: In 1943 Mary Walton Ferris prepared a brief sketch of the life of Daniel Shepardson [Dawes-Gates 1:545-46].

HENRY SHERBORN

ORIGIN: Odiham, Hampshire

MIGRATION: 1632 on *James* [Hotten 150]

FIRST RESIDENCE: Piscataqua

OCCUPATION: Tavernkeeper and ferryman. "...ordered by Court to keep a ferry & to have for his pains from the great house to the great lland 2d. and the province 12d. two rows 2d. to Strawberry Banck 6d. for one man and if there come two or more to have 4d. a party to Strawberry Banck 8d. a party to the Province & 2d. a party for all the other ferries. And tis further ordered that he shall keep an ordinary of 8d. meal..." [NHPP 40:9]

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: Church warden at Strawbery Bank, 25 May 1640 [NHPP 1:111].

EDUCATION: Sufficient to be clerk of the county court. His inventory included "2 books" valued at £1 10s.

OFFICES: Clerk of the County Court, 1657 [Annals of Portsmouth 41]. Grand jury, 30 August 1643 [NHPP 40:11]. Collector of rates, 7 September 1647 [NHPP 40:28]. Auditor, 3 October 1648 [NHPP 40:41]. Commissioner to hear small causes, 9 October 1649, 8 October 1652, 8 November 1659, 23 May 1664, 27 June 1665 [NHPP 40:51, 93, 191, 209, 413]. Administered the oath of fidelity 2 October 1666 [NHPP 40:220]. Petit jury, 30 June 1674 [NHPP 40:303].

Portsmouth selectman, 1652-72 [GDMNH 628; NHPP 40:147].

ESTATE: On 13 January 1652 Henry "Sherborn" was granted fifty acres in Portsmouth [PTR 1:11-12].

On 29 September 1659 "Henry Sherburne of Portsmouth" deeded to "Richard Slooper in consideration of his marrying with my daughter" one-half "the land I bought of Ambrose Lane's estate" [NHPLR 2:32b]. On 28 December 1660 "Henry Sherburne of Portsmouth, yeoman," deeded to "my son Sam[ue]ll Sherburne" the other half of the island or neck of land given to Tobias Leare" [NHPLR 3:4b].

On 3 September 1674 "Henry Sherburne of Portsmouth, yeoman," deeded to "Samuel Sherburne & Love his wife" a parcel of land in return for "their taking into custody & Christian keeping of the said Henry Sherburne's daughter Rebecca Sherburne (who is both dumb & wanting of understanding)" [NHPLR 3:97a-b].

The inventory of the estate of Henry Sherburne was taken 26 March 1681 and totalled £126 12s., including £55 in real estate: "the house &

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land formerly Walter Abbot's," £50; and four acres of land, £5. It was ordered that a division be made of a third of his real estate to be set off to Sarah Sherburne, widow, who stated "that she knew not how to live for want of maintenance she having nothing of either former husband, Walter Abbott & Hen: Sherburne" [NHPP 31:252, 40:378, 383]. The appraisers were ordered that "the writings found in said Sherburne's house after his decease now in the hands of John Pickerin or any other person shall be delivered up to the Administrators & if there be any papers among them that are of public use for this province to be rendered to some of the Council" [NHPP 40:378].

BIRTH: Baptized Odiham, Hampshire, 28 March 1611, son of Joseph Sherburne [NEHGR 58:227] (deposed 25 June 1662 aged about forty-eight years [NHPP 40:499]; deposed 9 October 1665 "aged about fifty-three years" [MBCR 4:2:271]).

DEATH: By 7 December 1680 (when he failed to appear in court to prosecute his case against Edward Bickford's children [NHPP 40:370]). (His daughter Mary said "[m]y father Henry Sherborne died about the year '80 or '83. His death we was not sensible of" [Waterhouse Anc 62].

MARRIAGE: (1) 13 November 1637 Rebecca Gibbons, daughter of AMBROSE GIBBONS [Waterhouse Anc 62]; she died 3 June 1667 ("My mother, Rebekah Sherborne, died the 3d June 1667 about noon, and was buried by four of her children" [Waterhouse Anc 62].

(2) By 30 June 1668 Sarah (____) Abbott, widow of Walter Abbott (when "Mr. Hen: Sherburne & Sarah his wife executrix to the estate of Walter Abbet" appeared in court [NHPP 40:235]).

CHILDREN:

With first wife

- i SAMUEL (twin), b. 4 August 1638 [this date is not in the authentic version of the Sloper record]; m. 15 December 1668 Love Hutchins [Waterhouse Anc 62], daughter of John Hutchins of Newbury.
- ii ELIZABETH (twin), b. 4 August 1638 [Waterhouse Anc 62]; m. (1) 10 June 1656 Tobias Langdon [Waterhouse Anc 62]; m. (2) 11 April 1667 Tobias Lear [Waterhouse Anc 62]; m. (3) Richard Martyn [GDMNH 464; Waterhouse Anc 101].
- iii MARY, b. 20 November 1640 [Waterhouse Anc 62]; m. 21 October 1658 Richard Sloper [Waterhouse Anc 62].
- iv HENRY, b. 21 January 1642 [Waterhouse Anc 62]; d. 10 July 1659 ("went to sea in '58, with Solomon Clark, and coming home 10th July, 1659, died at sea and was buried in the sea" [Waterhouse Anc 62].
- v JOHN, b. 3 April 1647 (and bp. Newbury 4 October 1657) [Waterhouse Anc 62]; m. about 29 January 1677/[8]

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- Mary Cowell (in his deed of that date Henry Sherborn gave land to John "upon his marriage with Mary Cowell to which I have freely consented" [NHPLR 3:145b]).
- vi AMBROSE, b. 3 August 1649 "and baptized at Newbury" [Waterhouse Anc 62]; living 11 July 1656 when his grandfather Ambrose Gibbons named him in his will [NHPP 31:32] but d. by 27 June 1676 when his father administered his estate [NHPP 31:175].
 - vii SARAH, b. 10 January 1651 [Waterhouse Anc 62]; m. Mark Hunking.
 - viii REBECCA, b. 26 April 1654 [Waterhouse Anc 62]; d. 29 June 1696 [Waterhouse Anc 62].
 - ix RACHEL, b. 4 April 1656 [Waterhouse Anc 62]; d. 28 December 1656 [Waterhouse Anc 62].
 - x MARTHA, b. 4 December 1657 [Waterhouse Anc 62]; d. 11 November 1658 [Waterhouse Anc 62].
 - xi RUTH, b. 3 June 1660 [Waterhouse Anc 62]; m. probably m. about 1678 Aaron Moses [Waterhouse Anc 76].

ASSOCIATIONS: Henry Sherborn's younger brother John Sherborn came to New England by 1642 [Waterhouse Anc 101-03].

COMMENTS: Many of the vital records for this family come from the Sloper record, which has appeared in different versions, of varying reliability. For further discussion of this record, see the sketch of AMBROSE GIBBONS.

"Henrie Sherburne" witnessed the letter of Henry Joselyn dated 20 July 1634 agreeing to be accountable to the Laconia Company [NHPP 1:95].

With other leading men of Strawberry Bank he signed the petition to the court in Boston 20 October 1651 asking that their township be laid out and that Assistants be appointed [NHPP 1:193].

He witnessed the 16 April 1660 will of Jeremiah Walford of Portsmouth [NHPP 31:43], and took the inventory of John Jackson of Portsmouth 6 December 1666 [NHPP 31:46]. As executor of the estate of Thomas Walford with Richard Tucker, he encountered a very complex array of inheritance law through the deaths of many of Walford's heirs, and the difficulties came home to roost even after Henry's death, with papers being demanded of John Sherbourne Jr. from his father Henry's estate [NHPP 31:88, 223, 40:215, 224, 246, 344, 352].

He was called "father-in-law" by Tobias Lear in his will of 25 January 1677[8] [NHPP 31:205].

Henry Sherburne successfully sued Thomas Wedge at court 8 October 1649 for slandering his wife, but we are not told what he said [NHPP 40:57]. On 26 June 1660 "Mr. Henry Sherburne" sued Stephen Ford

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and Peter Wallis for keeping his boat on Sherburne's mooring and staying in Sherburne's boat [NHPP 40:148]. "Hen: Sherb" of Portsmouth was ordered to lay out a way and mend it before next court 27 June 1661 [NHPP 40:158, 164].

At court 28 June 1664 Henry Sherburne sued the town of Portsmouth over several grants of land and arbiters were appointed [NHPP 40:195, 204].

On 30 June 1668 Henry Sherburne was presented for beating his wife "several times" to which he confessed and was fined. At the same court "the wife of Henry Sherburne" was presented for "beating her husband & breaking his head". She also confessed and was fined and both were ordered to post bonds [NHPP 40:242]. At court 29 March 1670 "Mr. Henry Shurband" and John Kenniston were presented for fighting, and "Mr. Henry Shurband & his wife" were presented for "disorderly living and fighting" [NHPP 40:253]. Aaron Ferris was presented for abusing "Mr. Henry Sherburne & his wife" at the same court and was fined [NHPP 40:258]. At court 28 June 1671 "Mr. Hen: Sherburne" and John Keneston were presented for fighting, and were admonished. The same court, "Mr. Hen: Sherburne & his wife" were presented for disorderly living and fighting. He confessed that they lived "disorderly" and they were both to be fined 50s. or whipped ten stripes. They paid their fees [NHPP 40:271].

At court 27 June 1673 "Mr. Hen: Sherburne and John Sherburne his son" were tried for opposing the whipping of David "Cambell which had like to have made an insurrection among the people." The Sherburnes were fined and after humbly admitting their fault, the fines were partially remitted [NHPP 40:299].

At court 7 December 1680 "Hen: Sherburne" sued Edward Bickford for damage done by Bickford's hogs, cattle and horses, but the court found for Bickford [NHPP 40:370]. At the same court, "Mr. Hen: Sherburne" complained against Edward Bickford's children "stealing of pears & being legally called & not appearing to prosecute, said Bickford" was discharged [NHPP 40:370]. Edward Bickford with his wife and children were summoned to appear before the court and "answer sundry objections about Mr. Sherburne's death" but no evidence of foul play was found and they were set at liberty 9 June 1681 [NHPP 40:378].

BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE: In 1949 Walter Goodwin Davis produced an excellent account of Henry Sherborn, including information on his parents and two of his brothers [Waterhouse Anc 93-103].

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