

Descendants of William of Ipswich Averell

Generation 1

1. **WILLIAM OF IPSWICH¹ AVERELL¹⁻²** was born in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England. He died between 03 Apr 1652-29 Mar 1653 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts³. He married Abigail Hynton on 26 Nov 1618 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England². She was born on 05 Oct 1595 in Bicester, Oxfordshire, England⁴. She died before Mar 1655 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts⁵.

Notes for William of Ipswich Averell:

Descendants names appear as Everil, Averill, Averil, Avirel, Averel, Eviril, Averal

The notes refer to this William Avery as William (Sr), who was also called Avery.

According to the notes, William and Abigail Averell settled at Ipswich, Essex Co, MA before March, 1637. Also their last son was born in 1632 in England.

Averill Book Notes

Ipswich received its present name August 5, 1634. It was taken from common land which had been known as Aggawam before Captain John Smith visited it in 1614. It was occupied by settlers in 1628, but ordered abandoned in 1630; so that the first permanent settlement was made by John Winthrop, Jr. and his companions in 1632-1633, when it was called Plantation of Aggawam. The following year, 1634, about one hundred settlers came, and in 1635 a much larger number, including Bradstreets, Dudleys, Cogswells, Saltonstall, Jackson, Kinsman, Perley, Woodmansee, Andrews and others with whom William Averell was associated more or less.

All the records we have of our progenitor from 1637 to 1653 show that he was a resident of Ipswich and these are found in the Town Proceedings of Ipswich (1634-1885), and Essex County Records at Salem (which include land transfers, probate records, court records, and two volumes of Essex County Marriages).

An act was passed September 9, 1639, ordering vital statistics to be kept "of every person in this jurisdiction"; and June 11, 1642 an act was passed supplementary to that of 1639, ordering an annual return by Clerks of the Writs of all such vital statistics in the several towns, "to the recorder of the Court nearest their habitation." As a result of these two acts we find today in Salem in the Essex County Court Records, the two volumes mentioned above; one volume (Ipswich Ct. Series) covering the years from 1654 to 1691, which gives not only county marriages, but Ipswich births and deaths for this period; the other volumes containing county marriages from April, 1681, to March, 1786, including those of Ipswich.

As "to become a freeman each person was legally required to be a member of some congregational church, a majority of the people of Ipswich at this period were undoubtedly identified with the only church there, the First Congregational Church, which was organized in 1634. Reverend Thomas Parker was its first minister. Reverend Nathaniel Ward was ordained its pastor in 1635, and he was succeeded by Reverend John Rogers, who was ordained in 1638, and who held the position until 1655. Reverend John Norton was associated with him during that period. The records of this earliest church are preserved from 1720 to 1885; but unfortunately for us all those preceding 1720 are lost.

The following items were copied from records mentioned above, and are here united and preserved for the benefit of his descendants.

Although for nine years William Averell's name appears on Ipswich town records always under the surname of Avery, and always under that name in the Index of the Proceedings of the Town, nevertheless all the references are to the same person, who in the records is called, Aveye, Avery, Averell, and Averill (The name is rarely written in Ipswich with u for v appears frequently and also the in the Essex County deeds).

Laws for the Proprietors Records, May 14, 1634, states that none but the General Court hath power to...dispose of lands, viz, to give and confirm properties, After September 6, 1638, though the first planters were allowed 50 acres for each person this benefit was not to be allowed to all others.

The first mention of William Averell is in the grant found in Ipswich Town Records, called The Town Proceedings, page 32; 2d day of March, 1637; Granted to William Avery, six acres of planting ground on the further side of Muddy River, Also twenty acres of upland and six acres of meadow at Chebacco neare Allin Pearleyes.

Generation 1 (con't)

(Muddy River is directly north of the Town House, and about one mile from what have always been called both "Avery's" and "Averill's Birches," which are on the way to Rowley. The above mentioned "six acres - on the further side of Muddy River," appears to be the land sold by William Averell, Jr., 1658, to John Woodam, under "vol. I, p. 598.")

Many people whose names are well known had grants at Chebacco. Among those was a grant of land to Samuel Dudley at Chebacco, which preceded January 13th, 1637; for in a grant to Jonathan Wade at that date at Chebacco, the land is described as "lying on the South-west of Mr. Samuel Dudley's land, and on the South-east of Mr. John Winthrop's, and on the North-west of Chebacco Creek."

The above mentioned "Chebacco" was later called Argilla, although the name has been given since then to a town in Essex County about five miles from Ipswich Town House.

Of the ancient Chebacco referred to in the grant to William Averell of twenty acres of upland and six acres of meadow, we have an interesting account in The Old Argilla Road by T. Frank Waters, 1634:

"The high-way to Cheboky or Juboqu is easily identified as the later road to Argilla or Argilla Farm. The majestic hill whose base is skirted by the ancient road is commonly known as Heartbreak Hill. The tidal creek that intersects it is known as a Labour in vayne, and the other small rive or creek that flows up from Essex River is mentioned as Chebacco Creek and commonly known by that name.

Chebacco, Cheboko or Jeboke was the best the English tongue could do toward preserving the name by which the Indians had called the pleasant region stretching from the creek to the beach: Heartbreak Hill was divided into tillage lots and granted to settlers.

"Of land grants on the sunny northern side of the hill: East of Wm. Fuller's Denison had four acres; proceeding down the road (Old Argilla) were Allen Perlie's four acre lot, Robert Kinsman's six acres, Richard Haffield's four acres, Humphry Wyeth's six acres and Alexander Knight's four-acre lot, each fronting on the road and running back up and on the crest.

"Mr. Dudley, sold his lot on the hill to Wm. White; he to Thos. Treadwell in 1638: Mr. John Tuttle to Reginald Foster in 1638 (Eight acres)."

The following year William "Avery" had a house lot lying near the great cove, as shown by the following: [PTI] 27th day of July 1638. "Memorand, that Richard Lumpkin hath sould unto John Tuttell the day and year above written, one house and house lott, with certaines other Landes as hereafter followeth, that is to say, one house lott lying near the great cove of the Town River, having a house lott now in the possession of William Avery, on the South West, Rovert Kinsman's house lott on the North West, the Towne River on the South East, and a house lott now in the possession of Samuel Hall on the East, also upon the sayde lott one dwelling house formerly built by Richard Saltonstall, by whom it was sould unto the sayd Richard Lumpkin.

No mention of the assignment or deed to William Averell of the above mentioned house lot "near the great cove of the town river" has yet been found. {We surmise this may be because he was a landholder prior to 1634, when the record keeping began.}

26 day of September, 1638: "Memorand, that whereas John Tuttel, hath lately bought of Richard Lumkin one house lott, lying neare the great cove beneath the falls of the Twon River, having a house lott now in possession of William Avery on the South West, and a house lott of Robert Kinsman on the North West, as the book folio 13, more at large appeareth. Also upon the sayd lott one dwelling house, formerly built by Richard Browne, now of Newbury, as in the foresaid folio, doeth appear. Now the sayd John Tuttell, hath for divers good considerations him thereunto moveing sould and alienated unto Reynold Foster all the sayd lott together with the sayd dwelling house together with all out housing gardens frenceing together with all other the appurtenances unto the sayd hous and lott."

Under the date of January 13, 1639, the seven men decided to allow owners of cattle individually or combined to have commonage under specified conditions for one gull and eight cows free of pay. Forty-three persons are named as owners. 'Avery,' who was one of them, appears sixth on the list, and in a group associated with Jo, Jackson and Hodges:

Generation 1 (con't)

"12 January 1639: Agreed that each three years old Bulls unwrought, shall have allowed 8 cows free of pay, from Keeping and Bulls, and 2 year old Bulls 4 cows apiece free in consideration that the Bulls shall go with the herd till the first day of September.

Mr. Brasye 4 Tho: Clark 1 Jo: Perkins 1 Jo: Walker 1 mr. Gardner 1 Avery 1 Wm. White 1 Mr. Norton 1 Varnham 1 Mr. Vincent 1 Mr. Wittingham 1 Bachelor 1 Rrovert Mussy 1 Allen Perley 1 Theop: Sachwell 1 Mr. Boreman 1 Edw. Ketcham 1 Newman 1 Reginald Foster 1 Hodges 1 Ma Whipple 1 Mr. Firman 1 Mr. Wilson 1 Goodman Smith 1 Mr. Wm. Payne 2 Mark Symons 1 John Sachwell 1 Daniel Warner 1 Jo: Wyat 1 Jo: Perkins 1 Jo: Warner 1 Mathew Curwin 1 Mr. Bartholmew 1 Jo Jackson 1 Wm. Fuller 1 Mr. Wade 1 Ro Payne 1 Mr. Baker 1 Mr. Tredwell 1 Rich: Kimble 2 Alex, Knight 1 Mr. Jo. Tuttle 1 Stayee 1

[In the original entry these people were in groups. This copy of names was taken from Schofield's printed copy.]

17th of the 12th mo. 1641, appears: "The names of such as are Commoners in Ipswich viz: that have right to Comonage there: the last day of the last month 1641."

There are one hundred and eleven in this list. "Wil'm Aveye" being the one hundred and second; among names following his were those of John Jackson and Matthew Whipple, who were associated with him in other ways.

"At a meeting of the seven men the first month 1646. Agreed with William Averill, to keep the herd of Goats on the North side of the River, to begin the 10th of this month: and to have for his paines 5s 6d the week, to have 6d a head at their first going out, and the rest at the end of his time, of this pay 3d for every head to be paid in butter or wheat only the last mo. He is to have bur 3s 6d a week."

(Signed) William Averill

(The above item, found on p. 129 of the copy from the original record, was copied by Clara Avery from the original volume, before she was sent to Taunton, MA, for repairs and for preservation by the TWR Emery process. At that time the important question was whether our William's real name was Avery or not. The difference between Averell and Averill was not especially considered then. The entire item she then thought written and signed by William Averell, as it differed in penmanship and in construction from the entry given below which appeared to have been made by the Town Clerk, and had no signature. Returning to Ipswich another year (June 1907), to verify the spelling of the surname and obtain reassurance about the autograph and to secure a tracing, and if possible a photograph of the entry, she was unable to find it in the preserved records of the original volume. She therefore believes that the page was not strong enough to bear the process of restoration. See the attested body of the original records, p. 129, and Schofield's printed copy of Ipswich Proceedings, First Volume, Old Town Records, 1634-74.)

[ITP] 22d 1 mo 46 (From attested copy of the original records): "Agreed with William Avery to Keepe the heard of goates on the North side of the River, to begin the 24th of this present month until the first day of the ix mo. And to have for his pay after six shillings (for the Goates on this side: () Goats on the South side then he is to have after 8s the week, the tyme is to () until the first of November () of his pay he is to have 6d the () first going out, the rest at time, 3d the end in ()."

(There was no signature to the above which was evidently an entry by the Town Clerk.)

"The Generell Town meeting held the 19th of December 1648:

"Whereas the Inhabitants of this Town have engaged themselves to pay yearly on the 10th day of December, unto Major Denison soe long as he shall be there leader, the sum of twenty pounds seaven shilling, in way of Gratuity to encourage him in his military helpfulness unto them, as by their several subscriptions under their hands may appeare. And because it is moset manifest the sayd sum will not be raysed, unless some better order be takeh for the same, especially in respect of the alteration & change of the Inhabitants.

"It is therefore ordered, that henceforth, the seaven men, shall yearly in Nonember put the said sume of 24 £ 7s 0d into a rate, yyortioning (portioning) it upon the inhabitants, having also respect unto the bill of subscription of the Towne from yeare to yeare, to be levied and collected by the Constables, and payd unto the sayd Major Denison, on the 10th of December yearly, soo long as he shall continue to be leader of this

Generation 1 (con't)

companye. Voted by the Towne at the generall meeting above mentioned."

"A list of names of those that did subscribe their names to allow unto Major Denison there (or these?) severall somes yearly, while he continued to be our Leader." [This list contains 161 names of wich "Willm Averill's name is the fortieth. Of these one gives £0. 10s. 0d., Mr. Robert Payne; four give £0. 8s. 0d., John Apleton, Samuel Apleton, Mr. Tuttle, Rich: Shatowell; three give £0. 6d. 0d., Mr. Willm Payne, Willm Bartholomew, Edward Waldern; three give £0. 5s. 0d., Job Bishop, John Chote, John Andrews, Jun.; thirty five give £0. 4s. 0d., including Mr. Saltonstall, Mr. Hubard, Mr. Rogers, Mr. Norton, Jeames Chute, John Whipple Jun., Thos Perkins, John Burnam, Joseph Emerson, Daniell Ringe, Willm Cogswell; thirty seven give 20s00340.03s. 0d., among these are Mr. Symond, Frances Dane, Jeames Howe, Will Clarke, Thos Knolton, Willm Averill, REnald Foster, Moses Pengrye, Aron Pengrye, John Fuiller, John Adnrews Ser., Robert Pearpoynte, Thos: Burnhame; Sisty eight give £0. 2s. 0d., among these are John Whipple, Theophilus Wilson, Robt Lord, Humph: Boradtreet, John Woodham, John Jackson, Andrew Hodges, Stephen Jordan, John Denison, Willm Adams Jun., Willm Adams Ser., Thos: Clarke Jun., Joseph Medcalfe, Thos: Lee, John Lee, Edward Browne, John Hassell, John browne, Dan Hovey, Robert Kinsman Jru., Willm Storye, Thos: Bishop, John Emerson.

As Robert Lord and "Jeames" Howe were among the "seaven men chosen for this year (27 Feb. 1648)," and Theophilus Wilson, and Thos: Knolten were chosen Constables at the same tiem, Willm Averell's generosity toward their military leader must be undoubted. [It speaks well for the community that there were only ten who gave less than the above mentioned sums.]

Extracts from Essex County Deeds, which mention William Avery, Averell, Averill:

[Until 1641 there were no method in recording deeds, which may account for the loss of some records. Essex County deeds are recorded from 1640.]

Vol. i. p. 192. "Feb. 8, 1648;" William Averell was witness to a deed of John Davis.

Vol. i. p. 137. "26th of 4 mo 1648: From Sale of an Estate by Wm. White to Ralph Dix (Description of land of Wm. White), which is " on the north side of the rive by the river toward the south, having the land of William Avery, John Woodham and the widow Jackson toward the north east, and the land of Mr. Samuel Symonds toward the south west coming to the meeting house greene toward the nor west, and also another portion on Muddy River bounded by that river in pat (and lands of others, among whom is Reginald Foster);

Volume 1. p. 267. "4th day of the 8th mo. 1651: George Palmer of Ipswich sells to Ralph Dix six acres of land on the North side of the river of Ipswich, joining on the N.W. the land of Wm. Chute and South East the land of Wm. Avery;

Volume 1. pp. 377 & 433. "Indenture May 20, 1653, between the Appletons and John Woodam; John Woodam and May his wife grant to John Appleton and Samuel Appleton all their dwelling house fences and house lot by estimate three acres be it more or less with the commonage belonging to the dwelling house as it now lyeth bounded and fenced to the ledge of rocks next the meeting house green, from the corner of the lane from the meeting house greene, leading to the river, to ye rock wall, turning down to the house where John Wooddam now dwelleth and so from the corner of the land aforesaid to the house lott of Reonald Foster, and so over to the house lott of the Widow Averell and thence to the corner of the rock wall aforesaid next the meeting house green in the towne of Ipswich...this land above menetioned given in exchange for another house and house lot adjoining to the house lott first above mentioned in this present writing toward the north, and upon the river toward the south...house lot of Symonds to the West, and the Widow Avarell toward the East.

Vol. i. p. 492. "4th day of 11th mo. 1655. John West deeds three and a half acres to William Story. It has the common ground of Ipswich toward the North, the land of Thomas Low toward theEast, Robert Kinsmans that was lately, now of sd William Story toward the South, and of William Averill toward the Weast. [This and the two items following refer to land occupied by William Averell, Sr., which was Wm. Jr.'s only by inheritance.]

Volume i. p. 549. "Feb. 17, 1656. John Kimball Att. For Thomas Scott, deeds 15 acres of land in Ipswich to Geo. Farrow. 3 acres of it are bounded by land of William Prichett toward the East, of William Avery toward the South of John Warner toward the West - the fence north.

Generation 1 (con't)

Volume i. p. 598. "Oct. 4, 1658. William Avarell, 'carpenter,' for £6 deeds 'one six acre lott' 'lying within Ipswich common fence near Muddy river toward Rowley' to John Woodam. It is bounded by the land of Thomas Hart toward the East; of Richard Satchwell toward the South, Samuel Younglove toward the West and of ...toward the North."

There is no evidence that William Jr., purchased any land in Ipswich, or was granted any, either before or after his father's death; and as his Mother died shortly after, he must have come into possession of this property through some unpublished or unrecorded agreement with his brothers and sisters.

It does not appear that William Averell was a freeman. In 1631 it was decided that "no man shall be admitted to the freedom of this body politic but such as are members of some of the churches within the limits of the same" (Fiske's Beginnings of New England, p. 109).

In Plymouth "freemen" were at first the signers of the compact, and such persons as might be added by majority vote.

1656: It was ordered that "such as are admitted to be freemen of the corporation shall be propounded by the Court being such as have been app'd by the freemen of the town where they live."

1658: They were to be propounded by one June Court, and admitted at the next June Court if thought right. (Not until 1674 was it ordered that the names of freemen be kept upon the Town Records.)

1658" "No 'Quaker Ranter' or any such corrupt pson Shal bee admitted to bee a freeman of this Corporation."

From Felt's Ipswich: "To become a freeman each person was legally required to be a respectable member of some Congregational Church. Persons were also made freemen by the General Court of the Colony and also by Quarterly Courts of the Counties. None but freemen could hold office or vote for rulers."

There is absolutely no evidence that William or his family had any church associations during his life time. It has been supposed by some that the family were Quakers, and the facts that the wife of William Averell was not received into the Topsfield Church until after her husband's death, and that all his large family of children (except his oldest son, William, who had lived in Ipswich) were baptized after his death indicate at least an unusual state of mind toward the Congregational Church. A search of Massachusetts Quaker records has been made, but it did not reveal any Averys or Averells of Ipswich or Topsfield in 1637-91 as belonging to the Society of Friends.

The following items relating to ancient Ipswich and to the contemporaries of William may be of interest. They are from Ancient Records of the Town of Ipswich 1634-1654, and Willcomb's Hand book of Ipswich History.

1629: "Settlers were to be given 50 acres of land." "At a Court holden at New Towne August 5th 1654; It is ordered that Aggawam shalbe called Ipswich."

"Att a gen'all Court, holden att Newe Towne March 4th 1634: It is ordered, that John Winthrop, John Humfry & John Endicott Esq. or any two of them shall have power to devide ye Lands att Ipswich, within 4 myles of the Town, to yrticular ysons as in equity they shall thinke meete" (y stands for p in many cases)>

1634: "Itt is concluded amongst us that any man having a house lott granted unto him, shall have any trees felled upon the same, paying a valuable consideration for the falling of them." (This was enacted at a period which we think of as being rich in a primeval forest that covered all the land to the very sea-shore.)

The same year November, 1634: "A mill and a Weir were allowed upon the Towne River about the falls of it to Mr. John Spencer and Mr. Nicholas Easton, upon this condician, that they shall pte with an equal share of theire Fish to all the Inhabitants of this Town if they bee demanded att five shill a thousand more or less according to the common price of the Countrye". Then follows the first recorded list of grants of which we have knowledge: - "Grants of the 1634, the mo. Of November to Mr. John Spencer, 20 acres; Mr. Nicholas Easton 20 acres; John Wintrop Esq. 6 acres; and again 300 acres; Mr. William Clerke 60 acres; Mr. Robert Coles 200 acres; John Perkins the Elder, 'fourtye' acres; Mr. John Dillingham, 6 acres. Later to John Newman, William Sergiant and William Franklin 12 acres more or less to be equally divided between them, land which Mr. John Spencer had resigned unto the Towne again.

"To John Perkins Junr with Thomas Hardy and Francis Jordan 6 acres shared with John Maninge. John Gadge 4 acres John Gage with Thomas Clerke six acres shared. Also six acres to John Gadge, in equal shares with Thomas Clerke and others. To Mathias Currin 2 acres. To John Maning 6 acres, with Thomas Howlett, John Gage & others." "Mr. William Clerke was Clerke of the Towne."

Dec. 29th, 1634. "Mr. John Spencer & Mr. Nicholas Easton freely resygne all that interest they have in the former Towne grant to build a Mill and a Ware upon the Town River" (under specified conditions.)

1636. Newbury was settled by persons from Ipswich.

Generation 1 (con't)

- 1637. Only 37 plows owned by the people of all MA.
- 1638. Seven selectmen were appointed.
- 1641. Deeds ordered to be recorded in one book.
- 1642. The town voted to establish a free school.
- 1643. Indian beans are used in voting.
- 1645. Topsfield was set off from Ipswich.
- 1647. The second meeting house was built. The Reverend Nathaniel Ward publishes "The simple Cobbler of Agawam."
- 1649. Smoking forbidden when on the streets.
- 1651. The town established a Latin School.
- 1652. The second prison in the colony is built at Ipswich.
- 1659. Town bell rung a 9 p.m. each day.

The first mention of Chebacco is the grant Dec. 29, 1634, to Richard Kent, "of fouer acres of Land near the River Chebacco and ytt is consented unto, he may build another war upon the same River and enjoy the profits of the same."

The second mention is of the same date: "given and granted unto Mr. Nicholas Easton, a great hill of Land, lyeinge toward a Cricke coming out of the River Chebacco...If 300 acres of Land bee not found on that side of the River, ytt is to bee layed out upon the other side of the River, to make upp 300 acres."

The third mention is of the same date: "Given and granted unto Mr. John Spencer, three hundred acres of Land, lyeinge next unto the Land of Mr. Easton, towards the River Chebacco." On June 28, 1638, more than a year after the grant to William "Avery," Musconominot, Sagamore of Agawam, sells to Mr. John Winthrop for "Twenty Uounds, all the Rights, yroperty, and Cleame I have or ought to have unto all the Lands lying and being in the Bay of Agawan, als (alias) Ipswich being soe Called now by the English, as well as all such Lands w'h I formerly reserved unto my own use at Chebacco, as alsoe all other Lands belonging unto me in those parts Mr. Dummers farme excepted only." He also relinquishes at the same time "all of the Right and interest" which he has "in the Havens, Rivers, Creeks and llands, huntings and fishings, with all the Woods, Swamps, Timber," etc., and secures him "against the title and cleame of all other Indians and Nations whatsoever." The Witnesses to this deed were Jno. Jollife, Thomas Coytomore, James Downinge, Robert Harginge,

We quote by permission from Sketch of John Winthrop the Younger by Thomas Franklin Waters.

"(2) Winthrop undoubtedly owned tow considerable outlying estates, each of about three hundred acres - respectively known as Argilla and Castle Hill farms, - the former about two miles from the town, near Labour in Vain Creek, the latter, much more distant, neat Ipswich Beach. Both were ultimately sold by him to his brother-in-law, Samuel Symonds, and there is not a particle of evidence that he had previously lived on either. On the contrary, his deeds to Symonds mention no dwelling houses, and at the time of the Argilla purchase Symonds wrote Winthrop at length about a house he intended to build.

"(3) A third estate of Winthrop's, - smaller, but nearer the original settlement, - consisted of six acres of land lying near the River on the South side thereof. This is one of the earliest grants for tillage or houselots mentioned in existing Town Records, but it was not made until 1634. In 1686 the widow of Rev. John Rogers, President of Harvard College, owned and occupied an estate on the West side of the open Green now known at the South Green, or School-house Green, and in the same year she claimed part of the land 'outside a line drawn from Mr. Saltonstall's fence' and some land 'at the end of the new orchard before the land of William Avory, all this upon the satisfaction of a grant to Mr. Winthrop of six acres of land in 1634,' The town voted her £10 and provided 'that the said land laid down shall be common' and not impropriated by any particular future grant to any person or persons.' It is evident that Winthrop's grant bordered on, if it did not comprise, the South Green, and it apparently included not merely the fine open meadow long part of the Head estate, but the property at present bounded by Poplar, County, and School Streets. This would have made a very slightly location for his dwelling, but there is not a line of record, not even a floating tradition, that he ever built there." (See Mr. Waters very complete and interesting History of Ipswich with excellent diagrams of the property of the earlier settlers, including the town lot of William Averell. Mr. Waters very kindly granted the use of the plates for those diagrams to Clara.)

In 1694 the heirs of William Averell sold the old homestead in Ipswich, three acres of land, to Francis Crompton; and it was described as "bounded South East and South West mostly upon ye land ye homestead of Mr. John Rogers minister," the one referred to in the above article.

These records are of value because they give us the names of William Averell's neighbors; Allin Pearley,

Generation 1 (con't)

Robert Kinsman, Richard Hatfield, Samuel Dudley, John Tuttle, Reginald Foster, Richard Lumpkin, Samuel Hall, Richard Browne(?), Richard Saltonstall, William White, John Woodham, John Jackson, Widow Jackson, Samuel Symonds, Ralph Dix, William Chute, John and Samuel Appleton, William Prichett and Richard Satchwell. If their residences were not on the properties mentioned, their lands at least adjoined. His wife survived him and attested to the truth of the inventory of his estate, March 29, 1653.

The will of William Averell of Ipswich was drawn the "3rd of the 4th mo. 1652" (June 3); and as it was proved March 29, 1653, he must have died between those two dates. His wife and widow Abigail Averell died before 27; 1:55, at which date an inventory of her estate was presented by her son William Averell, to the Court held at Ipswich.

The will appears in the Essex County Probate Records among Old Ipswich Records, Volume xv. P. 122; also in the Court copies of the early records in volume ii. P. 54.

Inventory of the Estate of William Averell

This is a true inventarie of o' goods.

1 hous: Lott & House	10-00-00
It 10 acres of upland groun & 6 As o' meddo;	10-00-00
It 2 Kine & 2 two-yer: old	i6-00-00
It 2 shoats	01-00-00
It 1 Iron pott, 1 brass pott 1 frying pan	
It 4 pewtr Plattrs 1 flago 1 Iro kettle 1 brass ketl 1 copp 1 brass pan & some othr smal things	02-17-00
It 2 chests 1 fethr bed: 1 othr bed: 2 payre o' sheets 2 colstrs 3 pillows 2 blanketts 1 covlid 1 beadstad & othr smal linnen	05-10-00
It 2 Coats, & wearing appel	03-00-00
It 1 warming pan	00-03-00
It A tub 2 pails a few books	00-10-00
A Corslett	01-00-00

what shee oweth 12-00-00

Reginold Fostr

Andrew Hodgs

The court held at Ipswich the 29th of march 1653 recd this Inventory p me

Robert Lord Cleric

Essex Co, MA Probate Book XV pg 122

Will of William Averell

I william Averill of Ipswich being weake in bodye but of pfect memorye doe make this my last will and testament first I do bequeath my body to the earth to be deasently buried in the Burying place of Ipswich my sperit into the hands of my Savior the Lord Jesus Christ. And for my outward estate being but small I doe give unto my children each of them being seven* in numbar the some of five shillings a peece & the rest of my estate my debts being discharged I give unto Abygal my wife whom I make sole Executrix of this my last will in wittnes heerof I have heerunto sett my hand and seale the 3th of 4th mo: 1652

Will Averell

Andrew Hodges, Renold Foster

* The word seven (which is not perfectly plain) was written in place of the word six which is crossed out.

Proven in court held at Ipswich the 29th of March 1653 by the oath of Andrew Hodges & Renold Foster p me Robert Lord cleric

Court copies of the above Inventory and Will were certified to in the Office of the Clrek of the Courts for Essex County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, September 24, 1897, by James P. Hale, Assistant Clerk. The signature of William Averell to his will was very carefully examined by this Clerk and others, and they decided without question that it was spelled as here printed: Averell. (see The Essex Ant., February, 1901, Volume v, No. 2.)

A photograph of this will was sent to England to Mr. C. A. Hoppin, Jr., and submitted to experts in the reading of writing of that period, there being some disagreement in America over the spelling of the surname. The English experts pronounced the signature to be without doubt Averell. Mr. Hoppin wrote that the will proved invaluable and that the signature was certainly Averell (1904). Nevertheless, the compiler of this genealogy believes that the first generations were not very particular

Generation 1 (con't)

about the spelling for we find that an even greater number of variations were in use by many families in America that bore other surnames.

INVENTORY OF GOODS OF ABIGAIL AVERELL

(Essex County-Probate Records Case No 1025)

this is a true Inventory of the goods of Abigail Auerell widdow and Executoresk of William Auerell; now deceased:

the house lott and house	12-00-00
the six acre lot att Muddy River	04-00-00
the pequett lot 7 acres	06-00-00
six acres of meddow	05-00-00
a steer 7 year old	05-10-00
a cow and a haifer	08-10-00
a yeer ould steer an uantage	02-00-00
a yeer ould haifer an uantage	02-00-00
a calfe at	01-04-00
a swive att	01-15-00
eleuen fowles	00-08-00
an Iron pott	01-00-00
an Iron Kettle att	00-03-06
a frying pan att	00-02-00
a brass skillitt att	00-02-06
a brass funes	01-00-00
a brass kettle	00-05-00
a warming pan	00-02-06
a smoothing Iron	00-00-08
a brase pan	00-07-00
a meall trofe	00-02-00
two ould paills	00-02-00
a ould halfe bushell	00-00-06
a bar of Iron	00-02-00
a pair of tonges	00-01-00
a drawing shone	00-01-00
a fier slice	00-00-04
a gridiron	00-01-06
a pair of pott hooks	00-00-03
a lampe 2s and two tramilles 2s	00-04-00
a hour glase	00-01-00
a cosslett	00-14-00
a bar of Iron	00-01-06
a spitt	00-02-00
a brase kettle	00-02-00
a pair of nippers and a Ripping hooke	02-01-00
a pair of scales and a pound weight	02-02-00
a wastcote	00-10-00
sum other ould cloths	00-05-00
a say (?) apron	00-02-00
a clocke	00-08-00
\a shood	00-05-00
a dublit	00-09-00
a caster hatt	01-00-00
an ould hatt	00-02-00
a white apron	00-04-00
two holand handcarchifs	00-04-00
an old holand hancarchif	00-01-00
two calico hancarchifs	00-01-06
5 cros cloths and a mufler	00-05-00
4 coines	00-01-04
four pewter platters	00-01-00

Generation 1 (con't)

two sines	00-01-06
a flaigon	00-02-06
sum ould pewter	00-01-06
four earhen uessels	00-01-00
a bible	00-05-00
an ould bible and two other books	00-05-00
a linin wheel	00-03-00
a mortising axe	00-02-00
a pair of tow cards	00-01-00
a hatt bruish	00-00-06
a few ould tubbes	00-02-00
a pine chest	00-06-00
an oke cheast	00-02-06
a box	00-01-06
a bouster filld wt flockes	00-03-00
another bouster	00-02-00
3 pillowes	00-12-00
a fether couster	00-06-00
the fethers of another	00-04-00
one pair of sheets	00-10-00
one sheet	00-05-00
a fether bed	01-10-00
two blankets	00-09-00
a cotton blanket	00-05-00
a couer lid	00-10-00
two ould pillows	00-02-00
3 curtens and uaulans	01-00-00
2 cuishens	00-01-06
a pair of shooes	00-01-08
a pair of stockings	00-01-00
a table cloth	00-02-06
a Red Cote	01-00-00
an ould stufe cote	00-04-00
another cloth cote	00-10-00
a gound	01-10-00
a hough	00-01-06
a baig	00-01-00
a cote	00-04-06
a hatt	00-02-06
a pewter pott	00-01-06
a cheafeing dish	00-01-00
an ould tunill with a spindle and a peece of ould linin	00-00-06
a eighteen cushells and halfe an halfe a pecke of wheat at 4s6d the bushell	
04-03-09	
80 foote of boerd	00-04-06
22 bush. an halfe of indian corn att 2s8d the bushell	
03-00-00	
a hoshead a wedg an a beetk Ring	00-04-0
9 pound of butter	00-04-06
the whole summ	77-04-11
what shee ougheth	13-00-00

the perticulers aboue written ware Aprized by us whose names are under written

Anderw hodges

Reienold ffoster

a frame raysed & something donE to it to be cousd (?) whether it be the estate of the widdows or otherwise
William Auerill took his oath in court held at Ipswich the 27 (1) 55 to this Inuentorye to be a true Inuentory to

Generation 1 (con't)

his best knowledge.
Essex SS. Probate Office. June 14, 1907.
A true copy.
Attest: J. T. Mahoney. Register.

If Abigail Averell left a will, no record of it has been found; nor have we found any record or reference to the distribution of her property. The inventory of her estate gives the house lot and house at in increased valuation, as is probably the case in the six acres of "meddow." It also includes the six acre lot at Muddy River, probably the original grant which for some reason was not specified under that name in the inventory of her husband's estate. It is possible that during the two years between William Averell's death and her own, she effected an exchange of some or all of the twenty acres out upland at Chebacco, for the "pequett" lott of seven acres, which may have been part of the lot of William "Prichett" (who lived near them), if "Pequett" and "Prichett" refer to the same person.

That Abigail Averell was held in loving remembrance, as well as her husband, is indicated by the fact that one of her sons and five of her grandsons named one of their daughters Abigail.

Notes for Abigail Hynton:

William of Ipswich Averell and Abigail Hynton had the following children:

- i. ABIGAIL² AVERELL⁶ was born on 17 Oct 1619 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England.
- ii. MARY AVERELL⁷ was born on 14 Oct 1621 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England⁷.
- iii. HANNAH AVERELL⁸ was born on 28 Sep 1623 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England⁸.
2. iv. WILLIAM AVERELL JR.⁹⁻¹⁸ was born on 26 Jun 1625 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England⁹. He died on 23 Apr 1691 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts¹². He married Hannah Jackson, daughter of John Jackson and Katheryne, on 31 Jul 1661 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 19-20}. She was born on 01 Mar 1635 in England. She died about 1702 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts.
3. v. SARAH AVERELL^{12, 21-24} was born on 16 Mar 1627 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England²². She died on 19 Jul 1692 in Salem, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25}. She married John Wildes on 23 Nov 1663 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{23-24, 26}. He was born in 1620^{25, 27}. He died on 14 May 1705 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts²⁷.
4. vi. THOMAS AVERELL^{12, 21, 28-33} was born on 07 Jan 1629 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England²⁸. He died before 07 Apr 1714 in York, Maine^{25, 29}. He married Frances Collings on 08 Dec 1657 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts^{21, 34}. She was born in 1635 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts. She died in 1672 in York, Maine²⁵.
- vii. JOHN AVERELL^{1, 12} was born on 11 Oct 1632 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England¹.

Notes for John Averell:

John's name appears in old Ipswich records (among Essex Co. Ct. R.), vols. 1-4, p. 159, as John Avery, dep. 1654; and in the same volume, p. 212, as John Averell, 1656, charged with striking Thomas Twigs in the meeting house in the time of public ordinances on the Sabbath. This was after his father's death, and he was not the only youth in Ipswich guilty of such insubordination. See the similar entry about Edward Cogswell and Thomas Bragg.

Generation 2

2. **WILLIAM² AVERELL JR.** (William of Ipswich¹)⁹⁻¹⁸ was born on 26 Jun 1625 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England⁹. He died on 23 Apr 1691 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts¹². He married Hannah Jackson, daughter of John Jackson and Katheryne, on 31 Jul 1661 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 19-20}. She was born on 01 Mar 1635 in England. She died about 1702 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts.

Notes for William Averell Jr.:

The notes mention possible alternative spellings: Averill or Avery.

Averill Book notes

Generation 2 (con't)

His name appears first in Ipswich Court Records and Files; 31:3:1649, as "Will Avery, jr." He and his brother "Thomas Avery" on this occasion were brought before the court for defect in watching [see Essex Ant. July, 1904; vol. viii]. As "William Avery jr.," he was also a witness, 10:8 mo:1650, in the case of Theophilus Salter of Ipswich, who was presented before the court for lying [Ipswich Ct. R. and Files]. Thomas Bishop was the other witness. Said Salter had also encouraged other youths "to steal apples" (!). As William Averell he witnesses a deed by John Wooddam to Daniel Roffe 21 February 1653; this was after the death of his father and before the death of his mother [Ipswich Ct. R.: vol. 1; p. 134; latest copy of Records, vol. 1; p. 383]; also, again as William Averell, he witnesses a deed by Daniel Roffe to Joseph Jowett, 21 February 1653 [id: vol. 1, p. 135]> there is no question about the spelling of his surname, both of the signatures as given above having been certified to July 14, 1912, by Willard J. Hale, Register of the Southern District of Essex County, MA.

After the death of his father William Averell (before June 3, 1653), William appears to be the head of his family; for at a Court held at Ipswich the 27 [1] 55, - i. e., March 27th, 1655, William Auerill took his oath in Court that the inventory of the estate of Abigail Averell, that is, of his mother's estate, which was presented at that time, was a true inventory to his best knowledge.

Essex Co. Ct. R., vol * i-iv, p. 336, mention William Averell, Ipswich, as dep. 1658; and again, p. 369, William Averill, Ipswich, as Wit., 1658. "He sold Oct. 4, 1658, to John Woodam a six acre lot of land; he possessed a lot of land Aug. 30, 1655, 'the corner of which came near the Mill dam'" [Hammatt Papers, 1854]. That the two lots of land mentioned above may have been the same, was suggested in E. O. Jameson's MS. Averills in America.

From the Town Proceedings of Ipswich vol. I, we learn that he was appointed to a public office of that town; At the General Town Meeting held the 18 February 1661: The Selectmen chosen for the year ensuing and other officers; Mr. Samuel Symonds, Mr. John Appleton, George Gidding, Deacon Pengry, Mr. Chute, Thomas Bishop, Robert Lord [these were the so called 'seven men']; Surveighor of Highways Thomas Harte, Reneld Foster, John Andrews, William Averill.

Hannah Jackson was a woman of good mental powers and nobility of spirit, and a strong influence for good in her family is proved by the noted mutual agreement between herself and her children, which held the family closely together for more than thirty-five years after their father's death.

Not many months after the birth of his son William he purchased "a messuage" (i.e., a dwelling house with adjacent buildings, and lands for the use of the household), at Topsfield, an adjoining town in MA in 1663. The family later removed to this property.

The Averells had left their mark in old Ipswich in their name, which, until this day (1916), clings to certain localities called both "Averill's Hill" and "Avery's Hill"; and "Averill's Birches" and "Avery's Birches"; - places so well known that they are mentioned daily by citizens of that old town, and by descendants of William Averell who still live there, one of whom, Lydia Manning Averill is the wife of Mr. Charles W. Bamford, who has been Town Clerk of Ipswich for very many years - 1887 to 1910 or longer.

Averill's Hill is first mentioned in the Town Records, April 10, 1665, as given to Corp. Andrews, and Nov. 19, 1666, Andrews' House on Averill's Hill is mentioned, and upon the plea of John Andrews he was given right of comonage for the future; also "Jan. 30. 1673 : There being no lot to Corpll John Andrews for his devission for his house at Averill's Hill, The Selectmen allowed him to have three acres next to Sargent Burnam, at the head of the Great Pasture."

This association of localities with the Averells of Ipswich has continued for nearly 250 years, but whether it dates from the first William, or only from his son William, is not known.

We find by the Town Records that on "Oct. 18, 1648 part of Ipswich, called the Village at the New Meadows, was named Toppesfield"; and by a comparison of Ipswich and Topsfield records, that a number of the early Ipswich families were the original settlers of Topsfield. There were some circumstances which may have strongly influenced William and Hannah Averell to settle in Topsfield. First, John Wildes, one of the earliest settlers of that town, had married in 1663 for his second wife, Sarah Averell, a sister of William; secondly, Francis Peabody [b. 1614] who was originally from St. Albans, Hertfordshire, Eng., and who appears as a settler at Ipswich in 1636, had married Mary Foster, dau. of Reginald Foster, an old friend, neighbor, and associate of William Averell, as well as of William. [It is said that Reginald Foster or Forster's family is honorably mentioned in Scott's "Lay of the Last Minstrel" and "Marmion."]

Generation 2 (con't)

As Topsfield had been a part of Ipswich in William's day, and as he had had influence as surveyor of the highways leading to it, and as several of his old neighbors were already established there, it does not surprise us to find that in Feb., 1663, he bought of Daniel and Mary Clarke of Topsfield one hundred acres of land in that town. The record is found among the deeds in Essex Co. Registry; vol. 9,

Clarke to Averell entered June 8th 1694.

February the Annoq- Domini 1663

Know all men by these p-sents that I Daniel Clarke of Topsfield in New England in ye County of Essex planter for good & valuable Considerations me thereunto Especialy moveing Haue & by these presents doe Bargaine Sell Alienate En feoffe & Confirme unto William Averell of Ipswich in ye County aforesd Carpr his heirs & assignes All that Messuage & Tenement alias my houselott together with my dwelling house & all all other Out houses & Edifices thereunto belonging or appertaining Also the Orchard thereunto adjoining & all ye other lands to the aforesaid Tenement belonging to it both Arable Meadow and pasture ground with all ye fences Woods & underwoods Standing or Growing in & uppon ye said land or any part or par cell thereof All which Messuage Tenement & lands as aforesd with ye Appurtenances Conteyning by Estimation one hundred acres more or less. Together wth ye Comonage thereunto belonging on the No Side of ye River, And ye Comonage of five hundred acres on ye South side of ye River an Scituate lying & being in Topsfield aforesd. The lands aforesd and every part thereof are bounded in manner and form following that is to Say on ye North East Side by a Brooke comonly called Mile brooke which brooke parts Goodman Euans land & this land now mentioned & soe with a line from ye Brooke to Mr Perkins his land And from thence bounded by ye Comon up to William Smithes Corner line on ye north west, and south west and On ye South Side bounded by ye land of William Smith & Robert Andrews and Like wise again by William Smithes land with Mark + trees on ye East Side To Haue & To Hold ye before Said Messuage and Tenement with all and Singular ye premises priueledges and Appurtenances thereunto belonging unto ye Said William Averell his hiers and assignes for euer. To ye only proper use and behoofe of him ye said William his hiers Executors Administrators & Assignes for Evermore Moreouer the aforesd Daniel for himselfe his hiers & assignes by these p-sents doth Couenant promise & grant to & with ye said William Averell his hiers & assignes to warrant & defend for Euer hereafter ye right title & Intrest that ye Said William shall or may have in ye aforesd lands & premises with ye Appurtenances & all ye freedomes & privi ledges there unto belonging or appertayning against all persons whatsoever Clayming or Challenging any right title or interest therein or in any part or parcel] thereof And furthermore ye said Daniel by these pr-sts doth Couenant promise & grant to and with ye Sd William his hiers & assigns that from henceforth for Euer hereafter the Said William his hiers & assignes shall & may freely & absolutely quietly and peaceably occupy possess & enjoy all & singular ye premises with ye appurtenances without any interrupcon let Molestation Ejection Evicon or Contradicon of him ye said Daniel his hiers or assignes or of any other person or persons in his name doe by or under him Clayming any right title or Intrest in or to ye premises with ye appurtenances or any part thereof In Witness where of ye Said Daniel hath to these p-sents interchangeably Sett his hand & Seale The Day & yeare aboue sd 1663.

Sealed & Deliuered in ye

Daniel Clarke & a Seale

Mary Clarke & a Seale

p-sence of William W Evans

Sus(?) - -. Wiles

of

Daniel Clarke acknowledged this writing to be his act & deed before me

Daniel Denison March 11th 1663

Examined p. Steph: Sewall Regr.

The precise date of the removal of William and his family to Topsfield has not been ascertained. Topsfield records were kept for many years by "ffrancies pabody," the Town Clerk, and are very illegible. But to one familiar with early writing, and interested in the early history of Topsfield, those records would prove very entertaining. Fortunately the honored historian of Topsfield, Mr. George Francis Dow, has deciphered the writing and has published an interesting copy of the early records in the Historical Collections of Topsfield, a magazine which he edits.

Among the following items relative to William Averell are many copied by permission from those published records.

Generation 2 (con't)

[T. H. C, Vol. 2.] At a lawfull Towne meeting the 7 March 1664: It was decided that the common land was to be divided by John Wiles and Willi Auerell (and others) into three equall proportions; Among the names of those rated that year appear those of thomas aueril and thomas Hobbes on mr bro dstreets land, 01, 14, 02; and John Wiles on mr brodstreets land 01, 12, 10; 19 mch 1666-7 a 'hie way' ordered 'between William Aueriell house and the Mill threw his ground as they shall see most Convenyant.' (This, the Peabody mill, was built on what was then called Pye Brook, running from Lowe's Pond in Boxford and also from Baker's (afterwards Pritchard's) , but what is now called Hood's Pond in Topsfield. T. H. C. Vol. 1.)

Topsfield, Mass., Soldiers [Putnam's Monthly His. Mag., vol. 4] : The Inhabitants & soldiery of Topsfield and the villiges adjoining thereto according to an order from Major Denninson met together the 21 of the 4 mo. 1666 and chose officers as follows

John Redington of Topsfield, head officer in commanding or leading the company, Joseph Bigsbey, Senior, Sergeant, Abraham Redington, senior (Redington Sr) of the village. Clerk of the bands, Edmond Town, John Comins, Wm Smith, corporals.

Request to Court for confirmation signed by Dan. Hovey and Wm Avril in the name of the rest.

Request allowed. [Essex Co. Ct. Files. Vol. ii.]

[T. H. C, vol II]. 8 Apriel 1667 William Aueriell and Daniell Borman (allowed) to make a dame at the mile brooke to float their medow; 1668 we find John Wills & ffraincies peabody are still laying out land for the town; and the hie way and house of Wm Aueriell is mentioned; March 11, 1669, lots were cast for land - among others ye 9 to John Wilds; - John Wilds again received 30 lots. In those shares no Averell is mentioned; Jan. 3d 1670 a Highway was laid out from the Vpper End of William Aueriell orchard one rod an a halfe wide.

Essex Co. Ct. R., vol. 15, contains the following: William Averell of Topsfield late Constable; dep. his annual address to the Court about the 14th of the 9th mo. last, 1670. [The office of constable was very important at that period, and a much higher honor than now.]

[T. H. C, Vol. 2] 20:7:1675. Wm Auiril is Chosen to sarue on the Jurie of trials at Ipswich Corte next Insuing. It is evident that on many occasions William' fearlessly expressed his contrari desent. March 14 1678-9 William averis land again mentioned; Mar. 2, 1679-80 William auerel Enteres his Contrari desent to action of the other selectmen; 7th of march 1681-2 William Auerey enters his desent to ye Voat aboue wrighteen about ye pulpit; In 1681 in rates for the minister william auerell stands No. 18 in the list for 01 00 06. 21 Nounber 1682 The Towne has Lefte it to ye selectmen adding Will: Auerey & Isacke Estey & John Wilds to ye selectmen for ye seateing of pepall in our meeting house. Voated. A little later William Auerey is chosen a tieingman, and March 13, 1683 William Auerey's ffaimelle is mentioned and on September 1677, the family of willyem Averell (This is out of order.) In March 1683-84 William Auerey Sener again enters his Contrey desent and the same month William Auery Senr is Chosen to sarue one the Jeurery of trials the next County Court to beholden at Ipswich.

[Id. Vol. 3.] William Aueriell senr is chosen Commisenor for the Towne of Topsfield: later, William Averell Senr. is Choen a Commitie to treat with Rowley Villeagers: Again he Enters his Contrey desents to ye Voate; and is Chosen a Commitey to treat with Rowley Viligers. On May 21, 1688, he is chosen a Selectman.

Mr. Dow in his revised edition of the Averill Genealogy gives us the following description of the site of William Averill's house :

A depression marking the former location of the cellar of his house may yet be seen on the left hand side of the road leading from "Springvale" towards "Mile Brook bridge," just beyond the Wildes-Perley house. This road was laid out from William Averill's home to what is now "Springvale," on May 19, 1666. Many of his descendants settled near him; and in after years an Averill neighborhood known as "The Colleges" from the fact, as the story goes, that the Averills at that time were some of the most intelligent people in the town, being prominent in town affairs and holding public offices. They were cabinet makers.

The view we give of William Averill's homestead site is looking on the ridge which lay between his house and the barn, the latter being on the north side of the ridge.

On April 23, 1691, is recorded the death of William Averell at Topsfield. This occurred fortunately for him, a year before his sister, Mrs. Sarah (Averell) Wildes, was accused of witchcraft and executed with Rebecca Nourse and others. Unfortunately for the compiler (Clara) of this genealogy, the record of William's death does not mention his age, so that we are left without a record of the year of his birth. His will, witnessed by his sister, Sarah Wildes, and her husband, reveals a fine spirit of consideration of which his descendants

Generation 2 (con't)

may be proud. The Inventory of his estate is found in Essex Co. Probate Records, Vol. 303, p. 54:

Essex Co Probate Records vol 303 book 3 pg 54

The Inuontary // of ye estate// off

William Auerell sener of Topsfeild who deceased ye 23r day of Aprill 1691

Bookes	02-04-00
Wearing cloaths	04-11-00
aremes & amonition	03-00-04
pewter coper brass Iron & tinn	07-15-00
beds & bedding Linning & wooling cloath	57-16-00
tables chests boxes & other Lumber	16-12-00
Cappenders tooles Joiners tooles & (other) tools	08-04-09
Impliments of Husbandrie	10-19-06
ye buildigns	150-00-00
ye whomsteed Land & medow	160-00-00
Land at Ipswich	100-00-00
stock as neat Catle sheep & Swine	68-1-08

at de 16, Aprill 1691

589-04-03

prizers Samuel Howlett

Daniel Redington

Hanah widdow Relict & Executrix of her decd Husband wm Averell prsented ye above as a trve inventory to ye best of her Knowledg promising to add wtt farther should Come to her Knowledge

In Court att Salem 30th June 91

attest: Benjm Gerrish Cler

The will of William- Averell is found in Essex Co. Probate Court Records: Clerk of Court's Office; Vol. 50, p. 134- (Vol. 303, p. 52).

WILL:

The last will and testament of william Averell of topsfield senr in the county of essex in new england: I being weak in body but thorow gods goodness yett of compitent vnderstanding and memory I comitt my body to the dust when god shall take me hence: and my speritt into the hands of allmyghty god and my most mercifull Redeemer and my outward estate as foloweth: I doe will vnto my eleuen children the sum of six pounds a peece for the present: to be payd as they are or shall com to age: in such specia of mouables as the estate consists in not to be prized as mony but as vpon pay account: and this rule to be attanded in all other payments hare after to be mentioned the remainder of my estate viz my lands and housing stocke and household goods moueables and vnmouables: my will is to leave it with my dear and louing wife to be Improved for the mutual Relieefe and comfort both of her selfe and family I shall leave with her: or soe many of them whose harts god shall incline to Hue together with their dear mother as brethren in peace loue and unity: and to be mutually helpfull in improueing the land and stocke for their oune and each others liuelyhood: that they may by keeping near together be helpful vnto each other in an hour of danger: my will is that if my present dwelling house shall continue in being vntell after my wiues deseace and allso that my son John and my son nathanaell shall be then liuing that they shall haue each of them ten pounds out of the value of the house before any diuition be made or if either of them shall siruiue and not the other: then his ten pound shall be his due if they shall boeth dye before their mother: then this to be voyd and of none efect; my will is that after my wiues decease my lands ||and|| housing shall with the Rest of my estate that shall then be in being be equally deuided amongst my children that shall be then liuing the lands and housing to belong equally vnto my sons: yet soe as they shall not make sale or convayance vnto any strainger of their proportian before they have prefered the same to such of their brethren as may be willing to buy the same: who shall haue one full years liberty to purches or Refuse: if any shall doe contery harenvnto he shall forfitt his interest in his share of land and housing nor shall he hold his proportion at a higher price to his brethren then the same will yeeld to a strainger my will is if the land shall fall short in value that my sons have not their due in value: whatt shall be wanting shall be made vp out of the stocke and mouables: and the like to be done if stocke and mouables fall short: the heirs of the lands and bowsing to pay euery on his part: my will is that my son nathanaell may use the shop toles not to make any strip and wast or to depriue the family of the benifit of such as they shall haue ocation for: while they shall continue together: I doe hareby giue vnto my wife full power to determine whot kind of houshold goods shall belong

Generation 2 (con't)

vnto each of our daughters: and also to impart as there may be need: either to sons or daughters what may be conveniently spared: keeping a true account thereof: not exceeding what will be their proportion at the last diuision: and what they shall soe Receiue: shall be accounted vnto them as part of their last proportion out of my estate [: I doe not intend here the first six pounds and vpwards in the former part of these lines] I doe (torn out - about one word gone) giue liberty to my wife to allow Reasonable Recompence to s^r of our children tho not yet com to age as shall (torn out - about one word gone) owe themselves diligent faithfull and constant in improving (torn out - about one word gone) and stocke for the good of the family after they com to full age which shall be taken out of the estate or income thereof as a due debt before diuision be made: I doe further hereby make my Dear and louing wife my full and sole executrix vnto this my last will and testament during the term of hir widowhood: if she shall see cause to change hir condition; then my will is that she take two of her sons whom she shall Iudg to be best able and most faithfull to Joyne with her in executorship : to the end that noe stranger nor son of a stranger may be admitted into soe small a liuing to the wrong of the proper heirs or any of them: lastly my will is that any of my sons as they may be able may and will be helpfull vnto their dear mother in what difficultyes she may meet withall and that they Hue at peace amongst themselues: and you will haue the promis that the god of peace will be with you for confirmation hereof I haue hereunto set my hand
dated the 15 day of april 1690

as witnesses

John Wills

William Auerell

the mark

Sarah Wilds

of

The witnesses above mentioned made oath in Court at Salem June 30th 1691 y^e they were present and saw w^h Auerell signe seale & deliver & heard him publish the aboue-written as his last will & testam^t & yt he was then w^h understanding of a disposing mind
attest Benja Gerrish Cler.

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Essex, ss. Office of the Clerk of the Courts. September 24, 1897.

The foregoing are true copies, as on file in this office.

Attest, Jas. p. Hale, Ass' Clerk.

Some time after the death of her husband, Mrs. William Averell and her sons John and Nathaniel decided to sell some of the land in Ipswich which had remained for many years in the Averell family.

The record of this transaction is found in the Essex Registry of Deeds, Vol. 10, P. 25.

AUERELL Hanah John & Nathaniel: To Francis Crompton Augt 21. 1694.

To all Christian people before whome this present Writing shall come Greeting Know yee that Hanah Averill Widow & John Averell and Nathaniel Averill all of Topsfield In ye County of Essex In ye province of ye Massachusetts Bay In New Eng^l Executors to ye last Will & Testament of William Auerell of Topsfield aforesd Deced for & in Consideration of ye full and Just sume of Eighty & Two pounds of Good and Currant money of New England To them in hand paid by Mr Francis Crompton of Ipswich in ye County aforesd & To thier full Satisfac^on & Content of any further payment doe fully & Absolutely Exonerate Acquit & discharge ye Sd Crompton his heirs Executors Administrators & Assignes for Euer by these p-sents Have Given Granted Bargained and Sold alienated Enfeoffed & Confirmed & by These P-sents doe fully freely & absolutely Give Grant Bargaine & Sell alienate Enfeoffe and Confirme unto ye Said Francis Crompton his heirs Executors Admex and assigns for Euer A Certain parcell of land Scituate lying & being In Ipswich aforesd Containing by Estimaton three acres & is ye homestead formerly William Averells Deceased bounded South East & SouthWest mostly upon ye land ye homestead of Mr John Rogers Minister In Ipswich and North West by ye Mill River and North East by ye high Way ye Country Rode that leads Downe to ye Mill Riuer aforesd & as it is bounded & fenced In with all the Rights priuiledges and Appurtenances there unto belonging or any ways appertaining as fences fruit Trees Comon Rights or what Ever belongeth thereunto To Have & To Hold & peaceably to Occupy possess & enjoy all ye aboue Demised premises with Euey of its Appurtenances be ye same more or less. To him ye Said Francis Crompton his heirs Executors Administrators & assigns for Euer ffree Clear & Quitt & ffreely and Clearly Acquitted & Discharged of & from all former & other Gifts Grants Debts Suites Troubles arrests Judgments

Generation 2 (con't)

Executions Extentions bequests Jointures thirds Dowries Or Any Other Intanglements or Incumbrances whatsoever So that ye Said Francis Crompton his hiers Executors Administrators and assigns Shall ffrom Time to Time & att all Times for Euer hereafter Have Hold use Occupy possess and Enjoy all ye Demised premises with Euey of its appurtenances To his & Thier only proper use behoofe and benefit without any Condition Reservation or Limitation whatsoever So as to alter Change Defeat or Make Void ye Same furthermore ye Said Hanah Auerell and John Auerell & Nathaniel Averell for themselves thier heires Executors & Administrators doe Covenant promise & engage To & with ye Said Francis Crompton his hiers Executors & Administrators and assignes that at the Time of ye Ensealing and Deleuery here of they have Good right full power & Lawfull Authority in thier Owne name to alienate Sell and Dispose thereof as aboue Said and that it is an absolute Estate of Inheritance in ffee Simple & so to be Secured for Euer from ye left Suit or deniall of ye Said Hanah & John & Nathaniel Averell their hiers & assignes or any other person or persons laying Any Lawfull Claim thereto or any part thereof In Witness whereof ye said Hanah Averell & John Averell & Nathaniel Averell have here unto Sett their hands and Seales This Tenth Day of July Anno Dom One thousand Six hundred & Ninety Three & In ye fifth yeare of thier Majties Reigne

her marke

Hanah X Auerell & a Seal
Signed Sealed & Deliuered
In ye p-sence of vs
John Willson
William ffelows
Examd p Steph: Sewall Regr

John Auerell & a Seal
Nathaniel Auerell & a Seal

Hanah Auerell John Auerell and Nathaniel Auerell all appeared & did Acknowledg this Instrument aboue written to be thier Act & Deed
July ye 13th 1693 before me Samuel Appleton Just, of ye peace

On Feb. 4, 1701-2, Mrs. Hannah (Jackson) Averell, widow of William, joins with her children in publishing an instrument which is famous among such New England documents, and for that reason it is given here in full :

Essex Reg. of Deeds (So. District) B. 42, p. 243:
William Averill, John Averill, Nathaniel Averill &c their Settlement or Division of Lands. Recd on Record, July 3rd 1724.

To all Christian People to whom these presents shall come, Hannah Averill of Topsfield, in the County of Essex, within the Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, widow, executrix to the last will & testament of her late husband William Averill of the above s'd Town & County, deceased, & William Averill, John Averill, Nathaniel, Job, Ebenezer, Thomas, Paul, Isaac & Hannah Averill, Abigail Bishop, & Mary Averill, all children of said William & Hannah, send greeting: Know yee, that whereas said William the parent, died seized of a considerable estate, both real & personall, as by ye inventory given in, of ye same, more fully appears, in order to ye Settlement of the same to the mutuall satisfaction of said parties (together with other estate purchast since) it is agreed that whereas the said Hannah, executrix, hath with the consent & assistance of the said Brethren & Sisters alienated part of the lands that said William, the Parent dyed seized of, and with the assistance of severall of the persons named purchased severall lands, that the sd widow may still have a comfortable maintainance out of the said estate real & personall which her said husband left her during her widowhood and that hath been purchased since the said William the Parents decease. It is agreed that the said Hannah shall receive the same out of the lands & from the hands of those brethren hereafter named that oblige themselves, and heirs thereto, and that she the said Hannah shall have the use of such moveable estate and household goods which she hath reserved dureing her naturall life. Also it is mutually agreed that each Brother and Sisters part & portion may be well & duely paid according to the tenour & purport of their said parents will, and what is purchased it is also hereafter Agreed and concluded, which of said persons shall make payment of ye respective parts, vizt : such as have accepted of the lands, houses & tenements built before the decease of sd parent or purchased since shall performe the duty & make payment of ye respective sums, they are respectively obliged unto upon the respective obligations given by the said persons unto the others interested in the said real estate, the said persons that before signing hereof had interest in said real estate hath consented to take personall estate of said persons following and have hereafter quited claime unto said real and personall estate, except what is set out as their part of what they are to receive and what may fall & happen to any of them

Generation 2 (con't)

by the death of any under age, which if any depart this life before, it is mutually agreed that such part share or shares shall be equally divided for quantity amongst the survivors that live to age. Imps It is mutually agreed & said Hannah the Parent consenteth & agreeth to live and abide with her son John Averill who willingly accepts of sd trustment and promiseth to afford said parent all suitable sustenance and maintainance dureing her naturall life, said parent remaining a widow and abillity in body and assisting as at present towards her Livelyhood, but if disenabled by sickness and infirmities and cannot assist as at present, it is mutually agreed by his three brethren, Nathaniel, Ebenezer & Job Averill that they shall and each obligeth himsef and his respective heirs, executors and adminrs to yeild and pay each part of what sum and sums of payments shall be needfull towards her sustenance and maintainance with their said Brother, who each stands obliged unto said parent for their respective quarter part, which if any of said parties or their heirs, executors and adminrs fail in the supply and payment thereof, unto their said parent or the respective party or his heirs, executors or adminrs with whom the said parent shall see it best for her to live & shall reside; it shall be & is in the liberty and power of said parent, notwithstanding the settlement hereafter made to lease & rent out or sell so much of the defective parties lands as shall be needfull to procure such supplies as such defective party ought to have made and is hereby obliged unto and for said parents support. Item, It is agreed mutually and John Averill accepts of as his full share, in his said fathers lands, and also of the purchast lands since his sd parents death, vizt : the house, barne & outhouseing orchard, garden, yards & lands, scituate about the same, containing by estimation sixty acres, be it more or less, as bounded westerly & Southwest side by the land of Mr. Timothy Perkins, in part and the Common in part So.= & So.=East by the land of Mr. Thomas Bakers in part and Mr. Perkins in part. So.=westerly by said Perkins land till it comes to the highway that leads to the brook called Mile Brook, and then by the Brook up stream by the meadow of John French and Daniel Boarman, being on the No. East side: Also the said John is to have of Nathaniel's part of meadow dureing his mothers naturall life the use of one acre and halfe of River Meadow upon the receipt of which said John obligeth himsef to pay of ye money owing from the estate, thirty pounds, together with the interest that is due already, for said thirty pounds and that shall accrue hereafter, till it's paid, also the sum of One Hundred and thirty pounds which said John hath given severall bills for to the Legatees upon their quitting claime to the real estate that he is now possesst of. Item. It is mutually agreed and Nathaniel Averill accepts of as his full share of his fathers lands, and also of the purchast lands since his fathers decease, vizt : about one hundred acres of upland & meadow by estimation be it more or less, being part of that was purchast of Governour Bradstreet as it is set out & bounded by boundaries agreed on betwixt himsef and his brother Ebenezer, all the said buildings upon said Land, and halfe ye common rights that belongs to that land & Ebenezers: upon the receipt of which he, the said Nathaniel obligeth himsef to pay of currant silver money owing from the estate. Twenty & Five Pounds together with all interest that is & shall become due for it untill paid, also the sum of Seventy-Five Pounds which said Nathaniel hath given bills for to the legatees, upon their quitting claime to the real estate that he is hereby possesst of and that his father dyed seized of. Item. It is mutually agreed & Ebenezer Averill accepts of as his full share of his Father's land as the lands purchast since his father's decease, vizt : about one hundred acres of upland and meadow ground, by estimation be it more or less, being part of that was purchast of Governour Bradstreet as it is set out and bounded by boundaries agreed on betwixt himsef and his Brother Nathaniel: all the said biuldings & outhouses and halfe the common right that belongs to said land and Ebenezer's, upon the receipt of which he, the said Ebenezer obligeth himsef to pay of currant silver money owing from the estate the sum of thirty pounds together with all interest that is & shall become due for it untill paid: Also the sum of Seventy-five pounds, which said Ebenezer hath given bills for to the Legatees upon their quitting claime to the real estate that his father died seized of and that he is hereby possesst of. Item: It is mutually agreed & Job Averill accepts of as his full share of his father's land and the lands purchast since his fathers decease, vizt : about one hundred & fifty acres of upland and meadow ground, by estimation be it more or less forty acres of it, being part of the land purchast of Governour Bradstreet, about three or four score acres of it purchast of Mr. Zerubbabel Endicott with other lands purchast of other persons, together with the grist mill that is the right which belongs to us and the house and barne which said lands are scituate upon the north & South sides of the River called Ipswich River, upon the receipt of which the said Job obligeth himsef to pay in currant silver money owing from the Estate, the sum of Fifty Pounds, together with all the interest that is or shall become due, untill it is paid. Also the sum of Seventy & Five Pounds which said Job hath given bills for to the Legatees upon their quitting claime to the real estate that his father died seized of and the lands purchast since, that he is hereby possesst of. Whereas there are severall sums due by obligations to sd estate, thirty & six pounds of which are made to Nathaniel Averill and fifteen pounds unto John Averill, it is mutually agreed that sd sums shall respond the payments which are due from the estate in money, besides ye perticular payments each are hereby obliged to make. We, John Averill, Nathaniel Averill, Job Averill, and Ebenezer, haveing settled said parts before mentioned and accepted as exprest in the perticular Division to each as our respective

Generation 2 (con't)

shares in the real & personall estate that our said father dyed seized of as well as of that which hath been purchased since: by these presents have remised, released and forever quitclaimed & doe by these presents remise, release & forever quitclaime unto each other their heirs. Execrs, Adminisrs and assignes, of all actions, cause of actions, suit & suits, Controversies, claimes and demands of or concerning any further part of any of the real or personall estate given by our late father William Averill, Decd, or any of the lands purchased since his decease, that we, or any of us, our heirs &c. might make claime or demand of and unto, except what is particularly mentioned in our respective Divisions hereby covenanting & promising to and with each other that each party & their respective heirs, executors, administrators and assignes shall forever have, hold and enjoy the respective parts accepted by, each party without any Lett, molestation interruption, suit or deniall of us or our heirs, executors, adminrs or assignes, we, William, Thomas, Paul & Isaac Averill and Hannah Averill & Jonathan & Abigail Bishop of Beverly, & Mary Averill, Children of William Averill, late of Topsfield, deceased, haveing received of our mother Hannah Averill, executrix to the estate & will of her said husband William Averill & such as she hath appointed to make payments to our full satisfaction of what we might respectively claime and demand in the estate of our said father by will or otherwise, therefore by these presents, we, William, Thomas, Paul, Isaac, Hannah & Mary Averill & Jonathan and Abigail Bishop have remised, released and forever quitclaimed and doe by these presents remise, release and forever quitclaime unto said Hannah as executrix to said William deceased, of all actions, cause of actions, suit, suits controversy & controversies & for concerning any further part of said Williams Estate that he died seized of whether reall or personall then what is paid and secured to be paid by bills bearing date with these presents covenanting and promising that the respective shares mentioned to each particularly in ye former part of this agreement shall be and remiane to them respectively as mentioned and their respective heirs, executors, adminrs & assignes forever without any lett, suit or deniall of us or any of our respective heirs, executors, admin^{""^} or assignes forever. In testimony that this is the mutuall agreement of us the children of William Averill, deceased and that which we doe promise & engage to each other to fulfill and performs we have hereunto sett our hands and seals this fourth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred one or two.

Signed, sealed & delivered, to each other as their act & deed in presence of, Witnesses.
William Howlett.
Daniel Redington.

John Averill & a seal, Isaac Averill & a seal,
Nathaniel Averill & a seal. Jonathan & Abigail
Bishop & a Seal. Job Averill & a seal. Ebenezer
Averill & a Seal. Silus & Mary Fitts (Titus)
& a Seal. Thomas Averill & a Seal.
Preston, May the 30^{""} day 1724:

Then the above named Thomas Averill and Isaac Averill both personally appeared and freely acknowledged the above written instrument to be their own free act and deed.

Before me, John Browne. Js of ye Peace.

Bristol sc. Norton, June 2^{""} 1724. Jonathan Bishop and Abigail, his wife, and Silus Titues & Mary Titus, his wife personally appeared and each of them acknowledged the above written instrument to be their voluntary act & deed.

Before me, George Leonard. Justice of Peace.

Essex sc. Att an Inferiour Court holden at Salem, June 30^{""} 1724. Daniel Reddington one of the witnesses to this instrument made oath that to the best of his remembrance he saw the parties to this instrument sign the same, but he cannot perfectly remember it and that he believes he signed as a Witness with William Howlett, but cannot possitively remember it but that the above is his handwriting as he verily believes.

Examined, Sworne in Court, Attest, Stephen Sewall. Clerk.

Essex Registry Deeds, So. Dist.

Salem, Sept. 30^{""}, 1897.

The foregoing is a true copy of record in this office.

Attest. WILLARD J. Hale, Reg.

The names of William and Hannah Averell do not appear in Rev. Joseph Caven's "list of ye members in full communion at Topsfield when I was first ordan'ed or yt were admitted afterward" [1684 to 1709], although we do find in this list the name of "John Wilds his wife." And, strangely enough, it was not until May 16, 1697, six years after the death of the father, and when the eldest son was thirty-five years of age, that their children, with the exception of William, were baptized by the above mentioned minister. Those children were "Johnn" Averell, Nathaniel, Job, Ebenezer, Thomas, Paul, Isaac, Hannah, Abigail and Mary. Their

Generation 2 (con't)

brother William was married and a member of one of the Ipswich churches at this time, and probably was baptized there. [As William- Averell in Apr., 1690, mentions his "eleven children," and their names appear in the "mutual agreement," Feb. 4. 1701-2, it is probable that Ezekiel and Silas died before Apr., 1690. The date of the death of the first Isaac is on record.] It is equally remarkable that "Widow Averill" was not "admitted to the Congregational Church at Topsfield" until "June 30. 1706." As there was at this date no other widow Averell, our Hannah (Jackson) Averell must be the one mentioned.

Queries: What was the religious belief of William and his wife Hannah? What was the nature of their association with the Ipswich and Topsfield Churches? Why did she and her children come so late into the church? And why in spite of their unusual attitude toward it was he so trusted and honored by Topsfield citizens?

Mrs. Hannah Averell lived after her husband's death with her son John, and we have no record of the date of her death.

Essex Co, Registry vol 9

Clarke to Averell entered June 8th 1694

February the Annoq- Domini 1663

Know all men by these p-sents that I Daniel Clarke of Topsfield in New England in ye County of Essex planter for good & valuable Considerations me thereunto Especiall moveing Haue & by these presents doe Bargaine Sell Alienate En Feoffe & confirme unto William Averell of Ipswich in ye county aoresd Carpr his heirs & assignes All that Messauge & Tenement houses & Edifices thereunto belonging or appertaining Also the Orchard thereunto adjoining & all ye other lands to the aforesaid Tenement belonging to it both Arable meadow and Pasture ground with all ye fences Woods & underwoods Standing of Growing in & appon ye said land or any part or par cell thereof All which Messuage Tenement & lands as aforesd wth ye Appurtenances Conteyning by Estimation one hundred acres more or less. Together wth ye Comonage thereunto belonging on the No Side of ye River, And ye Comanage of five hundred acres on ye South side of ye River an Scituate lying & being in tobspfield aforesd. The lands aforesd and every part therof are counde in manner and form following that is to Say on ye North East Side by a Brooke comonly called Mile brooke which brooke parts Goodman Euans land & this land now mentioned & soe with a line from ye Brooke to Mr. Perkins his land And from thence bounded by ye Comon up to William Smithes Corner line on ye north west, and south west and On ye south Side bounded by ye land of William Smith & Robert Andrews and Like wise again by William Smithes land with Mary + trees on ye East Side To Haue & To Hold ye before Said Messuage and Tenement with all and Singular ye premises priueledges and Appurtenances thereunto belonging unto ye Said William Averell his Hiers and assignes for euer. To ye only proper use and behoofs of him ye said William his hiers Execurots Administrators & Assignes for Evermore Moreouer the aforesd Daniel for himselfe his hiers & assignes by these p-sents doth Couenant promise & grant to & with ye said William Averell his hiers & assignes to warrant & defend for Euer hereafter ye right title & Interest that ye Said William shall or may have in ye aforedd lands & premises with ye Appurtenances & all ye freedoms & privi ledges there unto belonging or appertayning against all persons whatsoever Clayming or Challenging any right title or interest therein or in any part or parcell thereof And furthermore ye said Daniel by these pr-sts doth Couenant promise & grant to and with ye Sd William his hiers & assigns that from henceforth for Euer hereafter the Said William his hiers & assigns shall & may freely & absolutely quietly and peaceable occupy possess & enjoy all & singular ye premises with ye appurtenances without any interrupcon let Molestation Ejection Evicon or Contradicon of him ye said Daniel his hiers or assigns or of any other person or persons in his name doe by or under him Clayming any right title or Interest in or to ye premises with ye appurtenances or any part therof in Witness whre of ye Said Daniel hath to these p-sents interexchangeably Sett his hand & Seale The Day & yeare aboue sd 1663

Sealed & Deliuered inye
his

Daniel Clarke & a Seale

p-sence of William W. Evans
marke

Mary Clarke & a Seale

Sus (?) (her mark) Wiles

Daniel Clark acknowledged this writing to be his act & deed before me Daniel Denison March 11th 1663

from the Historical Collections of Topsfield by George Francis Dow

Generation 2 (con't)

At a lawfull Towne meeting the 7 March 1664; It was decided that the common land was to be divided by John Wiles and Willi Auerell (and others) into three equall proportions; Among the names of those rated that year appear those of thomas aueril and thomas Hobbes on mr bro dstreets land, 01,14,02; and John Wiles on mr brodtreets land 01,12,10; 19 mch 1666-7 a 'hie way' ordred 'between William Aueriell house and the Mill threw his ground as they shall see most Convenyant.'

Topsfield soldiery under order from Major Dennison 21 f mo, 1666 request of court confirmation was signed by Wm Avril

8 April 1667 William Aueriell and Daniell Berman were allowed to make a dame at the mile brooke to float their medow

in Essex Co Ct R vol 15 William Averell of Topsfield late Constable; dep. his annual address to the Court about the 14 of the 9th mo last, 1670

20 July 1675 he was Chosen to sarue on the Jurie of trials at Ipswich Cort next Insueing.

He fearlessly expressed is contrari desent in voting issues

21 Novemeber 1682 he became a selectman along with John Wils and Isacke Estey

he was later chosen Commisenor for the Towne of Topsfield, on a commitie to treat with Rowley Villeagers 21 may 1688 he was chosen a Selectman

His house set on the left hand side of the road leading from 'Springvale' towards 'Mile Brook bridge,' just beyond the Wildes-Perley house. The road was laid out 16 may 1666. The neighborhood known as "the Colleges" because the Averills at that time were some of the most intelligent poeple in the town, being prominent in town affairs and holding public offices. They were cabinet makers. the barn was on the north side of the ridge, house on the south

Essex Co, MA Probate Book 303 pg 52

The will of Wiliam Averell

The last will and testament of william Averell of topsfield senr in the county of essex in new england: I being weak in body but thorow gods goodness yett of compitent understanding and memory I comitt my body to the dust when god shall take me hence: and my speritt into the hands of almyghty god and my most mercifull Redeemer and my outward estate as foloweth: I doe will unto my eleven children the sum of six pounds a peece for teh present: to be payd as they are or shall com to age: in such specia of movables as the estate consists in not to be prized as mony but as upon pay acount: and this rule to be attended in all other payments hare after to be mentioned the remainder of my estate viz my lands and housing stocke and household goods moveables and unmovables: my will is to leave it with my dear and loving wife to be Improved for the mutual Relieefe and comfort both of her selfe and family I shall leave with her: or soe many of them whose harts god shall incline to live together with their dear mother as brethren in peace love and unity: and to be mutually helpfull in improveing the land and stocke for their owne and each others livelyhhod: that they may by keeping near together be helpful unto each other in an houir of danger: my will is that if my present dewlling house shall continue tin being untell after my wives deseace and allso that my son John and my son nathanaell shall be then living that they shall have each of them then pounds out of the value of the house before any divition be made or if either of them shall sirvive and not hte other: then his ten pound shall be his due if they shall boeth dye before their mother: then this to be voyd and of note efect; my will is that after my wives decease my lands{and} housgin shall with the Rest of my estate that shall then be in being be equally devided amongst my children that shall be then living the lands and housing to belong equally unto my sons: yet soe as they shall not make sale or convayance unto any strainger of their proportian before they have prefered the same to such of their brethren as may be willing to buy the same: who shal have one full years livity to purchase or Refuse: if any shall doe contrery harunto he shall forfitt his interest in his share of land and housing nor shall he hold his proportion at a higher price to his brethren then the same will yeeld to a drainger my will is if the land shall fall short in value that my sons have not their due in value: whatt shall be wanting shall be made up out of the stocke and movables: and the lkie to be done if stocke and movables fall short: the heirs of the lands and housing to pay every on his part: my will is that my son nathanaell may use the shop toles not to make any strip and wast or to deprive the family of teh benifit of such as they shall bave ocation for: while they shall continue together: I doe hareby give unto my wife full power to determine whot kind of houshold goods shall belong unto each of our daughters: and allso to impart as there may be need: either to sons or daughters

Generation 2 (con't)

what may be conveniently spared: keeping a true account thereof: not exceeding what will be their proportion at the last division: and what they shall so receive: shall be accounted unto them as part of their last proportion out of my estate [I do not intend here the first six pounds and upwards in the former part of these lines] I do (torn out - about one word gone) give liberty to my wife to allow Reasonable Recompense (ce to s*) such of our children who not yet come to age as shall (torn out - about one word gone) owe themselves diligent faithful and constant in improving (torn out - about one word gone) and stock for the good of the family after they come to full age which shall be taken out of the estate or income thereof as a due debt before division be made: I do further hereby make my Dear and loving wife my full and sole executrix upon this my last will and testament during the term of her widowhood: two of her sons whom she shall judge to be best able and most faithful to join with her in executorship: to the end that no stranger nor son of a stranger may be admitted into so small a living to the wrong of the proper heirs or any of them: lastly my will is that any of my sons as they may be able may and will be helpful unto their dear mother in that difficulties she may meet withal and that they live at peace amongst themselves: and you will have the promise that the god of peace will be with you for confirmation hereof I have hereby set my hand date the 15 day of April 1690

William Averell

as witnesses John Wills, the mark, Sarah Wilds

the witnesses made oath in Court at Salem June 30th 1691 that they were present and saw William Averell sign seal & deliver & heard him publish the will

Essex Registry of Deeds Vol 10 pg 25

Averell Hannah John & Nathaniel: To Francis Crompton Aug 21. 1694

To all Christian people before whom this present Writing shall come Greeting Know ye that Hannah Averill Widow & John Averell and Nathaniel Averill all of Topsfield in the County of Essex in the province of New England Bay in New England Executors to the last Will & Testament of William Averell of Topsfield aforesaid Deceased for & in Consideration of the full and Just sum of Eighty & Two pounds of Good and Current money of New England To them in hand paid by Mr Francis Crompton of Ipswich in the County aforesaid & to their full Satisfaction & Content of any further payment doeth fully & absolutely Exonerate Acquit & discharge ye said Crompton his heirs Executors Administrators & Assignes for ever by these presents Have Given Granted Bargained and Sold Alienated Enfeoffed & Confirmed & by These presents doeth fully freely & absolutely Give Grant Bargain & sell alienate Enfeoff and Confirme unto ye said Francis Crompton his heirs Executors Admrs and assigns for ever A Certain parcel of land Scituate lying & being in Ipswich aforesaid Containing by Estimation three acres & is ye homestead formerly William Averells Deceased bounded south East & South West mostly upon ye land ye homestead of Mr John Rogers Minister in Ipswich and North West by ye Mill River and North East by ye high Way ye County Road that leads Downe to ye Mill River aforesaid & as it is bounded & fenced in with all the Rights privileges and Appurtenances there unto belonging or any ways appertaining as fences fruit Trees Common Rights or what ever belongeth thereunto To Have & To Hold & peaceably to Occupy possess & enjoy all ye above Demised premises with every of its Appurtenances be ye same more or less. To him ye said Francis Crompton his heirs Executors Administrators & assigns for ever free Clear & Quitt & freely and Clearly Acquitted & Discharged of & from all former & other Gifts Grants Debts Sutes Troubles arrests Judgments Executions Extentions bequests Jointures thirds Dowries Or Any Other Intanglements or Incumbrances whatsoever So that ye said Francis Crompton his heirs Executors Administrators and assigns Shall from Time to Time & at all Times for ever hereafter Have Hold use Occupy possess and Enjoy all ye Demised premises with every of its appurtenances To his & Thier only proper use behoofe and benefit without any Condition Reservation or Limitation whatsoever So as to alter Change Defeat or Make Void ye same furthermore ye said Hannah Averell and John Averell & Nathaniel Averell for themselves thier heirs Executors & Administrators doeth Covenant promise & engage to & with ye said Francis Crompton his heirs Executors & Administrators and assigns that at the Time of ye Ensealing and Delevery here of they have Good right full power & Lawfull Authority in thier Owne name to alienate Sell and Dispose thereof as above Said and that it is an absolute Estate of Inheritance in fee Simple & so to be Secured for ever from ye lett Suit or deniall of ye said Hannah & John & Nathaniel Averill thier heirs & assigns or any other person or persons laying Any Lawfull Claim thereto or any part thereof In Witness whereof ye said Hannah Averell & John Averell & Nathaniel Averell have here unto Sett their hands and Seales this Tenth Day of July Anno Dom One thousand Six hundred & Ninety Three & In ye fifth yeare of thier Majties Reigne Hannah (her marke) Averell & a Seal

Generation 2 (con't)

John Auerell & a Seal

Nathaniel Auerell & a Seal

Signed Sealed & Delivered In ye presence of vs

John Willson, William ffelows

Examd p Steph: Sewall Regr

Hannah Auerell John Auerell and Nathaniel Auerell all appeared & did Acknowledg this Instrument avowed written to be thier Act & Deed

July ye 13th 1693 Before me Samuel Appleton Just. of ye peace

William Averell Jr. and Hannah Jackson had the following children:

- i. WILLIAM³ AVERELL III^{12-13, 25, 35} was born on 01 May 1662 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25, 36}. He died before Sep 1728. He married Mary \ before 1685. She died on 14 Mar 1728 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25}.

Notes for William Averell III:

The notes list William III with "Jr" in parentheses.

The notes indicate that William III died circa < 1728-29 and that he was married c<1685.

Our records of him are very few. He was admitted to membership in the Congregational Church of Topsfield as Wilham Averill Jr., May 24, 1685. In March, 1688, he was living at Ipswich, as is proved by the following record:

[From Ipswich Cong. Ch. Records, Copied by E. O. Jameson, in MS. on Averills, for Samuel Johnson Averill] : Mentioned in Church ; W" Averill, jr, 24 May, 1688; and March 11. 1688 Wm Averill jr. ye had fallen under scandall by irreverant carriage in Ipswich meeting house on a Lecture day in ye time of worship ... as also for reproaching Mr Wise ... ye said Mr. Averill did then own this ... ye church did generally manifest their satisfaction he was again restored to the church from which he had been suspended about half a year" (As he is here called "Mr Averill" he was probably a married man, and he must have been well known as the son of his father, William Averill, the family having been identified with Ipswich from 1637.

They evidently returned to Topsfield; for "Oct. 25, 1702, Mary the wife of William Averill, Jr.," was admitted to the Church to which he had been admitted in 1685. He was a carpenter; and in 1706-7, sexton and grave digger.

From the Town Records of Topsfield we gathered the following items (Aug. 31, 1898): March 5, 1706-7; Action numbered "10"; The town granted unto William Averell half an acre of Land somewhere where a committee shall be ordered by ye Town to lay it out for him, ye sd Averill, Duering his and his wife's life time, and ye sd William Averell is hereby obliged to sweep ye Meeting House and dige graves & to be payd for his work (Voted the meeting is adjourned to ye day following next). Action numbered "13"; At a lawful Gen. Town Meeting (etc.), March 5; agreed that William Averell shall have half an acre of land layd out to him upon ye common somewhere near among the Hills to ye Norwest of ye Meeting House where a committee chosen to lay it out shall think Convenient for him the said Averell & his wife duering their Lifetime; Voted. Action "14." The town agreed that Capt. John Gould & Sargt John Hovey shall be ye Committee to lay out the above mentioned land for William Averill. Action "15." The Town doth agree that William Averell shall have the use of the frute of ye parsonage orchard till the Town have use for it, and ye said Averell is not to fence the said orchard. As William Averill was at this date about 45 years of age it is possible that his children were too young to be of very great help to him. It may be that through illness he had become incapacitated, as this change of employment during the last years of his life would indicate lack of material prosperity, as also the migration of most of his family to other states, where they became valued and influential men and founders of families of influence and traditions. Although mentioned in it, he did not sign the Mutual Agreement between his Mother - the widow Hannah Averill - and her Children in connection with the division of his father's estate. He died, probably, just before it was fully executed, as some signed Feb. 4, 1701-2; and others not before 1724. It was not recorded until July 3, 1724. In this agreement several children are mentioned as having received their share in the estate, among them William; ("We, William, Thomas, Paul and Isaac Averill, and Hannah Averill and Jonathan and Abigail Bishop of Beverly, and Mary Averill having received of our Mother Hannah

Generation 2 (con't)

Averill, Executrix, payment to our full satisfaction of what we might respectfully claim quit claim ...all; but William Averill, Jr., did not sign this.

The following item in Tops field Records undoubtedly refers to Mary, the wife, and afterwards widow, of William Averill: "Widow Mary Averill died March 14, 1728-9."

At this date there were living, two sons in Connecticut, William and Jabez ; and three sons in Arundel, Me., Samuel, Joseph and Stephen ; and at least one daughter, Mary, who was m. July 9, 1719, to Caleb Jackson of Ashford (Conn.), by Mr. Daniel Rogers, Justice of the Peace. It is to be noticed that Mrs. Mary Averill's sons, William, Samuel, and Joseph had each a dau. Mary.

Topsfidd Records, March 2, 1730-1, give the following: Whereas there is some of ye Estate of the Widow Mary Averill (Late of Topsfield Deceased) In the hands of the Selectmen: The Town do now order that the sd Estate shall be delivered unto Mary Jackson or her order if there be opportunity for it. She being a Daughter of Said Deceased & a poor Widow. - Voted.

Topsfield Records, Kennebunkport Records, and family statements, together with Bradbury's History of Kennebunk Port from its First Discovery, which was published in 1837, give us the children of William and Mary () Averill.

- ii. NATHANIEL AVERELL^{10, 12-14, 18, 23, 25, 35, 37-39} was born on 13 Oct 1664 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{10, 12, 14, 25, 40}. He died on 03 Apr 1751 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25}. He married (1) SARAH HOWLETT on 13 Dec 1698 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 21, 23, 39}. She was born on 25 Nov 1874 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts⁴¹. She died on 11 Jul 1729 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 18, 25, 42}. He married (2) LYDIA FRENCH on 17 Jun 1730 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25, 38}. She died on 31 May 1746 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 18, 25}.

Notes for Nathaniel Averell:

all his children were bap. Congregational Church of Topsfield

he was a millright

The family lived on the land he purchased from Govenor Bradstreet, with descendants still living there and hold the deed.

B 54 pg 205

Deed of April 24, 1729 by Job and Paul Averill both of Middleton, a quit claim all rights in a Cottage Right, containing two acres and being ye 21 lot in s'd Cottage Rights in Topsfield as by the Proprietors Book and Records may appear... to Nathaniel Averill of Topsfield Carpenter

Wts Job Averill Junr, Benj. Towne

Essex Co, MA Probate Record B 330 pg 13-15

Will of Nathaniel Aberell of Topsfield, Essex Co, MA Drawn April 24, 1741

I Nathaniel Averell of Topsfield carpenter...give to my beloved wife Lydia her lawful right in my estate...all of the goods and estate that she brought with her...I give to my three sons Nathaniel, Jacov and Jeremiah all of my lands to be equally divided amongst them except the piece at or on the Island of Hassak meadow...which piece I gave to my son Jeremiah...To Jacob and Jeremiah ... the upland from the meadow across the Farm (Homestead) to Luke Averell's land... equally ... The great swamt... to be divided among my three sons... The dwelling house to Jeremiah, reserving the west chamber for my daughter Sarah as long as she shall remain unmarried. I give my half of ye sawmill to my said three sons - to be imporved by them. To Jacob and Jeremiah all my shop and carpenter tools... I give to my son Jacob and my son Jeremiah my two guns and my sword... and my will is that neigher of my said sons shall sell their Land or any Part Threof to a Stranger till he or they have First given his or their Brother or Brothers y Refusal thereof, and not to hold it dearer to a brother than shall be Reasonable for another.

I give to my daughter Abigail Hovey together with what she hath already had 70... To my daughter Meriam Neland together with what she hath alread had 70... and my will is that what I hereby give to my three daughtes shall be equal to Province Bills of the Old Tenor,

Generation 2 (con't)

and that my said sons shall pay unto each of my said daughters Ten pounds a year and every year after my decease... until each of my daughters shall have their portion... My two youngest (eldest?) sons Jacov and Nathaniel ...to be the executors of this my last will and testament.

Nathaniel Averell

Witness

Luke Averell, Daneil davis, Jacob Peabody

Allowed and Approved at Court at Ipswich, April 29, 1751

- iii. JOB AVERELL SR^{10, 12-14, 25, 35, 42-43} was born on 01 Jan 1666 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{10, 12-13, 25, 40, 44}. He died on 01 Jun 1730 in Middleton, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25}. He married Susanna Brown on 01 Feb 1702/03 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 42}. She died before 16 Dec 1732 in Middleton, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25}.

Notes for Job Averell Sr:

Job was a yeoman and lived in that part of Topsfield that was incorporated as Middleton in 1728

Job received a good inheritance of land by the mutual agreement of 1701-2, and added to it in following years. He signed the agreement when about 31 years of age; he was bap. (May 16, 1697) with his brothers and sisters by Rev. Joseph Capen; and June 30, 1706, was received with his mother ("widow Averill") and his wife Susanna into the Topsfield Church.

The land on which he lived was in "that part of Topsfield inc. as Middleton in 1728" {T. H. C), and his name appears in records of both towns. He inherited his father's grist mill ("the right which belongs to us"), and the house and barn; the lands were upon the north and south sides of the Ipswich River.

The Records of baptisms in the Topsfield Church contain the baptisms of the children:

Job Averel- his Job. Aug 1, 1707;

Job Averell- his Judith June 18, 1710

Job Averill- his Israeli Jun 21, 1713

Job Averil - his Kezia 1715 (between May 15 & Aug. 14).

Job Averil - " Samuel Aug. 14, 1720

" Susanna Sept. 1722.

From Essex Co. Registry of Deeds we have the following :

March 18, 1700 Job and his brother Paul purchase land from Zerobabel Endicott. {Essex Reg., B. 15, p. 135.]

Job Averill sells 8 acres of land in Topsfield which he owns with Samuel Simons Sr. of Boxford -- 17 - (?) This was recorded Aug. 4, 1709. (B. 21, p. 106.)

"I Job Averill in Topsfield, husbandman, for £18, paid to me by my brother Paul Averill living in Topsfield" sell to said Paul ... a certain parcel of land in Topsfield on both sides of Ipswich River part of Mr. Endecott's farme - containing about 20 acres which is halfe a parcell of land as I, said Job, and my Brother Averell above said bought of Mr Endicott, the whole containing about 40 acres My beloved wife Susannah Averell doth freely surrender up all her right and interest in all, etc etc. Sept. 13, 1709 (B. 20, p. 207), recorded same date.

"Mr Job and Paul Averill," their division recorded May 14, 1718. Articles of agreement made and concluded April 7, 1718 by and between Job Averill of Topsfield and Paul Averill of Topsfield, husbandmen, who hold in common Three pieces of land, Upland Lowland, Swampy land and Meadow partly in Topsfield, partly in Boxford, containing about 50 acres in the Co. of Essex.

Know that the parties named came to an amiable and Brotherly agreement with respect to the partition of ye s'd lands equally betwixt them.

1st part 20 acres in Boxford, chiefly meadow and swampy land to be divided; South

Generation 2 (con't)

Westward, and north Eastward from a swamp white oak
2d part, at S. Western side or end on a straight line to another swamp white oak, at N.
Eastern side or end -

The said Job Averill to have the North Western part, and Paul the South Eastern.
Another piece 20 acres in Topsfield bounded Northerly on Ipswich River, Southerly on
Robinson's (land) which is bounded by a Highway that leads from Tho. Robinsons lott to a
brook that runs into Ipswich river, and the upper end of Wallcotts Meadow, to be a circular
line as the high way runs. Job Averell and heirs etc to have liberty of a passage of about 3
rods over end of ye Pine hills for to pass and repass to a watering place for his stock
forever, downe to ye River. Job Averell to have the Southerly end or side next to
Robinson's, Paul the Northern part next the river.

3d piece adjoining the last piec parted by the brook above said from that piece Job the
South Eastern part. (B. 37, p. 1.)

I Job Averell of Topsfield for £67, to me in hand paid by Richard Town of the same place
have sold etc. to him a tract of land . . . in Topsfield, on the South side of the river and on
the Westerly side of the county Road bounded Easterly with the Remainder lott laut out to
Aron Esty - South Easterly with sd Esty's former division.

Westerly with the lott laid out to the heirs of John Town dec'd, and Northerly with the County
Road 24 poles 14% feet from stake to stake (on Road side) 18 poles and 1/2 in breadth at
South Easterly end, and contains 6 acres and 116 poles which land I own as a good and
perfect estate of Inheritance.

Susannah Averell the wife of me the said Job Averill doth by these presents freely yield up
and surrender her right of Dowry and Power of Thirds in this land -
March 20, 1726.

Signed Job Averell

Susannah Averell

This was ackd Apl 21, 1726 (B. 48, p. 27.)

Also to Nathaniel Averill

Deed of April 24, 1729 by Job and Paul Averill both of Middleton. They quit claim all rights in
a cottage Right, (so called) containing two acres and being ye 21 lot in s'd Cottage Rights in
Topsfield as by the Proprietors Book and Records may appear

To Nathaniel Averill of Topsfield, Carpenter.

Wts Job Averill Junr

Job Averill

Benj. Towne.

Paul Averill

Essex Co. Middleton, April ye 8, 1730 then Job Averell and Paul Averell acknowledged this
to be their free act and deed.

Recorded Apr. 10, 1730 (B. 54, p. 205.) "

I Job Averell of Middleton for £23, sell to Paul Burton a tract of meadow land part in
Topsfield and part in Middleton containing 2 acres and 30 rods between land of the above
said Job Averell and Thomas Robinson - Susannah Averell my wife, surrendering her dowry
right etc.

Oct. 1. 1729,

(Signed)

Job Averill

Susannah Averill

Wits William Hobs; John Averill Junr

Ackd April 8, 1730 by Job and Susannah Averill (B. 61, p. 79.)

Job Averell appears many times as grantor and grantee in the Essex Registry, and, as the
owner of a grist mill, was a man of importance in those days. As Middleton was not
incorporated until a short time - about two years - before his death, his name is to be found
more frequently in Topsfield records. But his children were identified for some years with
Middleton. We find his death recorded 1730, and his will proved June 1,
1730.

MEMORANDA.

* The parentage of Susanna Brown has not been discovered. Job Averill's brothers, Thomas
and Isaac, were associated with John Brown of Preston, Conn., who had removed from
Mass. to that place about the time of their removal. This John Brown witnessed a deed of
Thomas and Isaac, Nov. 14, 1705; and his son, John Brown, Jr., and Jacob Brown

Generation 2 (con't)

witnessed a deed of Isaac Averell to his son Samuel, Aug. 18, 1738, at Preston. Susanna Brown, wife of Job, may have belonged to the family of John Brown. Also, we find Hannah Brown, b. 1691, dau. of Nathaniel and Judith (Perkins) Brown of Ipswich, m. in 1708 Edward Cogswell. Nathaniel Brown was the son of a John Brown.

Will.

Impr

In The Name of God Amen The Last Will and Testament of Job Auireal of iddleton in the County of Essex in his Majestey I Comit my Immortall soule to God that gave it hooping through ye merrites of Jesus Christ my Redemer for a blesed Resvrrection and my body I Commit to ye Earth to a desent buriel at the descretion of my Christian frinds and after my Just depts and funirael charges is paid and as for my outward Estate that God has blest me with all I despose of as followeth

Eitm

I give to my beloved Wife Susanah the one third part of the yearly InCome of all my houseing and Land that I am now possessed of and one third part of all my Liue stock dureing her naterall Life

Eitm

I give to my two Eldest sones Job Auriel and Israel Auriel all my houseing and Lands that I am now possessed of in middleton and Topsfield and boxford to them and thire hieres and asings & and all my mouables both within dores and without dores Excepting what I haue disposed of allreddy to my wife

Eitm

I give to my other two sons namely Samuel Airell and Ezeckel auriel fiuety pounds apease to be paid to them when they Come to the age of Twenty one yeares to be paid by my executors heare after nameed and my will is that my two sons Samuel and Ezeckel shall be bound out Each of them to a trade Such as they shall Chuse

Eitm

I giue to my three Daughters namely Judith Auriel Kezia Auiel Susannah Auirl fiuety pounds Each of them to be paid them when they come to ye age of Twenty one yeares and if they are marreyed before they come to the age of twenty one yeares then thire portions to be paid them upon there marrage by my Excutr here after named and my will is that my Daughter Judeth shall haue a rome in my dwelling house with my wife so long as they remain unmarried and for my Children that are under age I Leaue them to the description of my wife to despose of and my will is that if Either of my Excu" heare after named should decease before he comes to y" age of Twenty one yeares then the suruiuer is to InJoye the whole of y" Land: and if any of my other flue Children should dy disposed of there portision then there portion to be deuided amongst my Suruiing children and I do constitute and ordain my Loueing wife Susanah together with my Sons Job Auiel and Isreal Auriel the Excutrick and Excutors to this my Last will and testament my wife to stand and remain in full pouer with my son Job untill my son Israel Comes to y" age of twenty one yeares of age Dated this seuenth day of february 1729/10 singd sealed and Declared to be my Last will and Testament

in the presents of

Job Aerill

Seal.

Samuel Symonds

Daniel Towne

Nathll Porter

Essex ss. Ipswich June 1' 1730 Before the Honble John Appleton Esq" Judge of the Orobate of Wills &cc in sd County of Essex Saml Symons, Danll Town Nathl Porter all Personally appd & made Oath that they ware present and Saw Job averell Late of Midletown Dec'd Signe Seale & heard him publiis & Declare ye within written Intmt to be his Last Will & Testamt & when he So Did he was of good understanding & of a Disposing mind to the best of thir Discing and they all att the Same time Sett to thier hands in his presence as Wittness

Sworn Att Danl Appleton Regr

Upon which this will is prov'^ approv" & allow" being presented by ye Excrs who accept ye trust Saving (Israeli who is not of age) & to give in an Invty by ye first Mndy July 1730 Essex, ss Probate Office, Aug. 21, 1912. A True Copy, Attest: Ezra D. Hines, Asst.

Generation 2 (con't)

Register.

(A tracing of the above signature by Job Averell shows that he was too feeble to sign in his usual manner, for the v was left out, and the ri, in very different writing, was inserted above, as if by another hand, so that the previous signatures in his case are the ones to be relied upon. Clara Avery.)

Nearly three years after the death of her husband, Mrs. Susanna Averell died; the exact record of the date of her death has not been found.

A letter of administration was granted to Job Averill of Topesfield in the County of Essex on the Estate of his mother Susannah Averill late of Topsfield widow Dated Ipswich 16 Day of Decb" A. D. 1732; John Appleton Judge of Probate. Said Job Averill gave bond, with Francis Peabody of Midletown & Benj ' Towne of Topsfield, Dated 16th day Decb^ A. D. 1732. In said bond Susannah Averill is said to be of Midletown.
Essex, ss Probate Office, Aug. 21, 1912. A True Copy, Attest: Ezra D. Hines, Asst. Register.

- iv. JOHN AVERELL^{12, 25, 35, 45} was born on 01 Jan 1666 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25, 46}. He died in 1719 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts. He married Hannah "Anna" Greensleet on 08 Jun 1710 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25}. She was born on 05 Oct 1668 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts. She died on 04 May 1737 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts.

Notes for John Averell:

He was a planter and yeoman. His life was passed in his native town. Feb. 1, 1692, he and his brother Nathaniel Averell bought 200 acres of land in Topsfield from Gov. Simon Bradstreet [Essex Reg., B. 11, p. 255; rec. June 21, 3 697].

We find recorded Dec. 21, 1700, a sale of land in Topsfield by him to his brother Ebenezer [Id., B. 14, p. 98] ; and March 20, 1715, a sale of land to John Wildes [Id., B. 30, p. 72] ; and, as purchases by him, Mar. 5, 1715, land from Thomas Baker [Id., B. 30, p. 9] ; and Ap. 24, 1718, John Averell et al from Thos Putnam et ux [B. 33, p. 174].

In 1694 he unites with his mother and brother Nathaniel as exrs. of his father's estate in the sale of some land in Ipswich.

Tops field Historical Collections [Vol. 3] records that "John Auerill is appointed fence viewer" ; and 1691-2 "John Awerelle is appointed Serveyer". He is also mentioned later in the records.

He appears in the Town Records Mar. 2, 1696-7 as John Averell Sargt, and probably held this office in the train band. He was not baptized until thirty-one years of age, when, on May 16, 1697, Rev. Joseph Capen baptized him and his brothers and sisters.

It is probable that he lived with his mother, Mrs. Hannah (Jackson) Averell, in the old homestead all his life, as she was sole exr. of her husband's estate, and as he remained unmarried so far as we know until 44 years of age.

In the agreement as to the mutual division of his father's estate, which he signed Feb. 4, 1701-2, his mother agrees to make her home with him during the balance of her life.

John Averell was m. by Rev. Mr. Capen, June 8, 1710, at Topsfield, to Anne Greensleet, "both of Topsfield" (T. R.). Her Christian name appears in records as Ann, Anne, Anna, and Hannah ; her surname - if she was of the Salem stock of Greensleets,* appears in records as Greensled, Greenshd and Greenleaf. She may have been a granddaughter of Thomas Greensleet of Salem by one of his several sons whose names appear below. The Averells and Greensleets had a common interest in the Salem witchcraft accusations and executions, as Ann Greensleet, wife and widow of the above Thomas Greensleet .(and later

Generation 2 (con't)

the wife and widow of Jacob Pudeator (Pointdexter) of Salem), was accused of witchcraft, and, as Ann Pudeator, was executed at Salem in 1692, as was also John Averell's aunt, Sarah (Averell) Wildes [see Upham's Salem Witchcraft].

John Averell died during the winter of 1719-20 [see Averill Gen., Essex Ant, Vol. 14, No. 9] ; and Apr. 13, 1724 (?), his widow Anna Averell was granted adm'n.

In Essex P. R., B. 316, p. 494, we find that Judge Appleton app'd Capt. John Hewlett; Deacon Jacob Peabody; Nath' Averell; Benj Town & John Perkins all free holders in the Co. of Essex to divide the one full third of the real estate of John Averell late of Topsfield dec, unto his Widow Ann Averell as her right of dower, and to make a true & just apprisement of the other two thirds among the children of the dec'd in parts not exceeding seven and to report as to the division. [Id., B. 317, p. 127.] The same date Apr. 7, 1735 Judge Appleton appointed John Wilds of Topsfield guardian of the children of s" John Averell dec; Emma; Katherine; Ebenezer, Abial.

[Id., B. 316, pp. 495-6.] The report was rendered and the com. above named made the distribution as follows:

John Avery	2 shares	132.17.6
Tho' Avery	1 share	66. 8.9
Emmi	1 do	66. 8.9
Kattern	1 Do.	66. 8.9
Ebenr	1 Do.	66. 8.9
Abigail	1 Do.	66. 8.9

In the division of land the part called No. 1, is settled on John Avery and his heirs and valued at £245. 0.0

Part No. 2. is settled on Thomas Avery and his heirs and valued at 225. 0.0

This apportioning was approved by Judge Appleton of the Probate Ct., July 7, 1735.

We find that it was not until April 30, 1738, that "Widow Ann Averill was ad to the Cong. Ch. at Topsfield." Query: What had been her previous church associations? Her children were bap. in the Congregational Church at birth. Was she a Quaker ?

MEMORANDA.

Greensleet, Greensled, Greenslit.

* An Inv. of the Est. of Thomas Greenslet late (of Salem) dec'd presented 1677, Mar. 27th.; on file [Case 11851], Essex Co. P. R.

The Inv. of Thomas Greenslet deaseased Salem 21 Mar. 1676

An Greenslet adm"" testified to the truth of the inventory of her late husband Thomas Greenslet before the Court held at Ipswich the 27 of March 1677. Robert Lord Cleric

Between this date in 1676, and Nov. 28, 1682, Widow Ann (----) Greensleet m. Jacob Pudeator (this name being a corruption of the surname Pointdexter) of Salem, Mass., whose will was proved at the last date, before the Court at Salem. Mention is made in the will of Ann's children by her previous marriage, and a debt of £5 is forgiven her son John "Greenfield," and bequests to the same am' made to "the other fouer of my wives children : that is to say Tho Greenslid, and Ruth, & Samuel & James Greensled"

His "loving wife Ann" was named as exx and was to have the use of his property during her life ; and at her decease it was to go to his cozen (nephew?) Isaac Pudeater. At the end of the instrument he adds : "I have desired my loving freind s cozen Mr John Browne Senr, Mr Francis Scevey (Seavey?), and John Massey to be the overseers of this my will." Among names of debtors to the estate, and for very small amounts, appear those of Samll Verey,

Generation 2 (con't)

Senr £2. 10s, Ensign Bancroft ; Jacob Baun Esq., Price Edwards [Essex P. R., Vol. 302, p. 25; Inv. same vol. and page] .

Widow Ann (Greensleet) Pudeator was executed for witchcraft 1692 at Salem; and Dec. 10, 1694, an inventory of the est. was presented and admn granted Mr Philip English, attorney for Grace Pudeater, Legatee [Essex P. R., Vol. 303, p. 198; Case 22909].

James Greensleet starts action against the estate but lets it fall, and Ruth Greenslate alias Bridges receives her legacy of £5 from the estate of her step-father, Jacob Pudeator. Some of Ann's children M[^]ere at Casco Bay, near Portland, Me., in 1692. The Inv. of the estate of "John Greensit, late of Salem (prob, son of Ann, above mentioned), who dec'd Oct ye 24, 1693," was presented Oct. 30, 1693, and admn was granted his widow, Abigail Grenslitt [Essex Probate, Vol. 303, pp. 165, 166].

It is possible that "Joan Greensleet a single woman" who was m. at Boston, Nov. 10, 1643, to James- Avery, son of Christopher[^] Avery of Cape Ann and Gloucester, Mass. (progenitors of the Groton Avery Clan), was of this Greensleet stock, and a relative of Ann the wife of John Averell. Joan Greenslade was admitted to the First Church of Boston in 1643, and dismissed after her marriage to unite with the church at Gloucester in 1644 [see The Groton Avery Clan, pp. 43-4-5, for Greenslade, etc] .

- v. HANNAH AVERELL^{10, 12-13, 25, 35} was born on 18 Dec 1667 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{10, 12-13, 25}. She died after 1702¹².

Hannah Averell^{10, 12-13, 25, 35} died after 1702.

- vi. EBENEZER AVERELL^{12-13, 16, 23, 25, 35, 39, 42, 47-49} was born on 14 Oct 1669 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12-13, 16, 25, 50}. He died on 22 Dec 1717 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 18, 25, 45}. He married (1) SUSANNA HOVEY on 30 Nov 1697 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 21, 23, 39}. She was born in England²⁵. She died on 11 Nov 1699 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25, 39}. He married (2) MEHITABLE FOSTER on 31 Dec 1700 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 21, 23, 39}. She was born on 12 Oct 1675²⁵. She died between 21 Oct-15 Nov 1740 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts²⁵.

Notes for Ebenezer Averell:

He was bap. in Topsfield May 16, 1697, by Rev. Joseph Capen, was a husbandman and lived in his native town.

Susanna Hovey (T. R.). was "his first wife, that came from England" (Averill Gen., The Essex Ant.).

On Mar. 5, 1706-7 he was a selectman of the town. He was mentioned in the mutual agreement as to the division of his father's estate, and received his share (see p. 91), and his name appears in Essex Co. Registry a number of times as grantor and grantee. After his death "his widow, Mehitable Averhill," was granted "Administration on all goods of Ebenezer Averhill, Esq., of Topsfield, Dec'd" (Essex Co. P. R., B. 312, pp. 193-4). Mrs. Averell made her own will Oct. 21, 1740, at which time all the daughters appear to have died excepting Susanna and Phebe, both of whom receive bequests and were evidently unmarried as no other surname appeared. Luke is to be the executor, and is called "my son in ye Law," and is to have his own mother's moveable estate, while the remainder of the estate after all obligations are met, is to be divided equally among "my own children and grandchildren"; that is, the grandchildren were to have "the shares their Mothers would have had if living." This will was proved Nov. 15, 1740. Essex Co. P. R., Vol. 324; pp. 242-3.

MEMORANDA.

* Between 1735 and 1738 Mehitable Averell, Hannah Howlett and John Howlett Jr., Mary Porter and Nathaniel Porter Jr., Lydia Gould and Daniel Gould and Jemima Averell sell to their brother Luke Averell their shares in their father's and their sister Ruth's estate (see Essex Ct. R., Vol. 84, p. 243) ; and Susanna and Phebe ack. receipt of £71, 14s. 4d. from their brother Luke as given "by our mother's last will and testament" (1741).

(iv) Will of "Susannah Averell, singlewoman," July 4, 1749:

Generation 2 (con't)

To my brother Luke Averell whom I make Executor - all my right title etc to the Real estate left me by my "Honored father Ebenezer Averell of said Topsfield Dec'd." To my sister Hannah Howlet the widow of John Howlet of Ipswich late dec'd £1, 10s.

To my cousin Susannah the daughter of my said brother Luke Averell

To my sister Phebe Averell £1, 5s. and also one third part of my real estate (or of all my Estate?) not willed away already Except my new Bible which Bible I give unto my cousin Sarah Peabody.

I give unto the heirs of my sister Mehitable Peabody dec'd one third part of all my Estate which is not willed away already, and also £1, 5s. I give unto the heirs of my sister Jemima Perkins late deceased one third part.

and also £1, 5s.

Wit's

Susannah (X)

Averell

Jacob Averell

Jacob Averell Jr.

Nathaniel Averell Jur.

Allowed Sept 25, 1749.

{Essex Co., P. Rs., B. 329, pp. 7-8.}

(x) The two marriages of Phebe are found in the genealogical MS. of Samuel Johnson Averill, but no Christian names were given and no dates of marriages. Clara Avery

- vii. ISAAC AVERELL^{12, 17, 25, 35} was born on 26 Jan 1671 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 15, 25}. He died on 11 Jun 1680 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 17-18, 25}.
- viii. THOMAS AVERELL^{11-13, 15, 25, 35, 51-52} was born on 09 Dec 1672 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{11-13, 15, 25, 53}. He died before 11 Nov 1734. He married Mary Baker on 27 Jan 1702 in New Preston, Litchfield, Connecticut⁵². She was born in 1675 in New Preston, Litchfield, Connecticut. She died on 22 Nov 1762.

Notes for Thomas Averell:

He was bap. in Topsfield by Rev. Mr. Capen, May 16. 1697; signed the mutual agreement of his father's heirs (having date "this fourth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred one or two") while living at Preston, Conn.; ---his brother Isaac Averell making acknowledgment with him before "John Brown, Js. of ye peace," May 30, 1724.

The wife of Thomas Averill joined the First Church of Preston in 1703; and the Second Church (now in Griswold) in 1720, and her husband in 1721.

His first purchase of land is recorded at Preston, Conn.; the deed is as follows: Book ii, p. 43:

"To all Christin people to whome these presents shall com Greeting Know ye that j John Brown of preston in New London county in the Coloney of conecticot in New england for and in consideration of forty pounds of mony in hand Payed by thomas Auerill of the same town and county & coloney above mentioned ye resait is here of acknowledged and myself there with satisfied content & payed & of every part there of doth exonerat aquit & discharge him ye sd thomas Auerill his heires executors administrators and assigns for euer doath by these presents fully freely clerely & absolutely give grant bargain sell alien enfeofe make ouer & confirm unto him ye sd thomas Auerill his heirs executors administrators & assigns foreuer a sartain percll of up Land medow Land and Swomp Land setuat Lying and being within ye township of preston on ye East of poachoag River in ye county and coloney a boue sd beginning at ye North westwardly corner of ye sd Land by ye river at a stake & heap of stons then running on an East & be South Corse unto a white oak tree with a cwatch in it, & stons about it from thence on ye same corse seuenty chains to a great whit oak tree marked with stons about it & from ye tree on ye same corse thirty five chains unto a chestnut tree marked IA then turning upon a south corce a hundred & twenty one roods by ye comon unto a black oak tree marked on four sids then turning westwardly & running on a strait line about fower hundred fifty five roods unto a stake & heape of stons which stands by pachoag riuer then taking ye riuer ye same way it runneth for ye Westwardly bounds untill it cometh to ye first bound mentioned.

To have and to hold y" above sd Lands according to ye butts & bounderis & number of roods from bound to bound as they are mentioned to ye only proper use benefite & behofe of him

Generation 2 (con't)

ye sd Thomas Auerill his heirs executors administrators & assigns forever with all ye profits priveledges & appurtenances there unto belonging or in any wise appertaining as woods trees springs of water watercourses & all other whatsoever & j ye above sd John Brown hath in myself good right full power Lawfull authority to give grant bargain sell alien enfeofe make ouer & confirm all ye above sd Land in manner & form as aboute sd to him ye sd thomas Auerill his heirs executors administrators & assigns forever so as he & they may euer here after peaceably & quietly occupy posses & enjoy ye same free & clere & clere & clere & freely & clerely acquitted & discharged of and from all & all maner of other gifts grants bargains Sales alienations or act or acts or incombrances what soever had made or done or sufered to be made or done by me ye sd John Brown & j ye aboute sd John Brown doth couenant promise & ingage for myself my heirs executors administrators and assigns forever ye j nor they will nor shall Never here after molest nor hinder y" sd thomas Auerill his executors administrators or assigns in ye peaceably & quiet occupying possessing & improving ye sd Land as in witness of my full consent; have herewith sett my hand and Seale for ye confirmation of thes presents preston Dated September ye 15 in ye yere of our Lord god one thousand seven hundred & three in ye second year of ye Raign of our souerain Lady Quen Ann Anno quede signed sealed & deliuered in ye presenc of us witnesses

John Brown (a seal)

Jonathan Tracy

Timothy herrick

peter Damson March 14 1705

his free act and Deed before me

Jonathan Tracy

justis of peace

This Deed entred March 18, 1706

Per me Jonathan Tracy Recorder

September 15, 1703 Mr. John Brown

appeared and acknowledged ye

above written instrument to be

[Abstracts from deeds relating to Thomas, which are recorded at Preston, Conn., we give as follows] :

Thomas "Auerill" of Preston, deeds land "on the pachog river" in Preston, to his brother Isaac "Aueriel," "March ye 28 in ye yere of our Lord god one thousand seven hundred and three four" (1703-4). See under Isaac. 21.

Thomas Auerell of preston husban man, sells to Hopestell Tyler of preston, 120 acres of land be it more or less lying in preston, 110 acres by the pachogage River, and ten acres not far from it, Aprell the fift one thousand seven hundred and foure.

(Signed) Thomas Auerell Book i, p. 377.

Witnesses: Jonathan Tracy, Mary Tracy, Ack. June 20, 1704.

Thomas "Auerell" witnesses a deed of William Billings Dec. 7, 1704.

Book i. p. 376

He sells John Hill 33 acres in Preston, Feb. 28, 1712.

(Sig.) Thomas Averil. Book iii. p. 32

He sells land to Gates & Clark, Oct. 27, 1718.

(Sig.) Thomas Averill Book iii. p. 161

Also others- Book ii, p. 171; Book iii, pp. 110; 146; Book iv, p. 343. And Book iv, p. 811; - John Cook of Preston gives to Thomas and John Averill, for £63. 12s., quit claim deed to about 100 acres of land in the North Society of Preston on south side of Paucchoag River bounded by Edward Cogswell's land; April 30, 1733.

Book iv, p. 811. Thomas and John Averill of Preston sell to Ephraim Harrick, Jr., land by the River Pachog, for £240, which land was bounded by the Benjamin, Tyler Cogswell, Averell lands. May 1, 1733.

Thomas Averell d. before Nov. 11, 1734. His will was proved at a court held at New London, Conn., Nov. 26, 1734, and ordered recorded; and an inventory was also exhibited, approved and ordered recorded. The following is an abstract of the will:

In the name of God Amen. May ye 9th 1734.

I Thomas Averill of Preston, in ye county of New London and Collony of Connecticut in New England being very weak and under uncomfortable circumstances of Body but in perfect mind and memorydo . . . (etc.)

To my loving wife Mary Averill my two best beds with all there furniture and ye bedsteads

Generation 2 (con't)

and one third part of all ye rest of my movables after she has taken out all my puter all to be at her disppose forever. And I give unto her my dwelling house and ye improvement of all ye one third of my Real Estate so long as she continues my widow. Unto my son John Averill I give five shillings money to be paid him by my executors and that with that money he did receive for ye land that I sold unto Mr. Ephraim Herrick Junr which sum was between two and three hundred pounds money, with what other things he has had of me (after he has paid forty pounds money unto my son Solomon) is ye whole of his portion out of my estate. I give unto Ichabud Averill all ye rest of my estate both Real and personal or moveable where ever it may be found forever, he doing what I shall here after direct. Ichabod shall give ... to my third son Abijah £15, within two years after he reaches the age of 21;To my fourth son Solomon, 10 Shillings (and the £40, mentioned above) ; to my eldest daughter Mary Averill £30, 2 years after my death; to my dau. Hannah Averill, £30 5 years after my death; to my daughter Abigail Averill £25, 7 years after my death. Solomon is to live with Ichabud till he reaches the age of 21. Mary my said wife and Ichabud my son to be my executors to this my last will and testament.

Signed Thomas Averill. (Seal.)

Witnesses John Cooke

Samuel Lenerd

Jacob Brown

These witnesses proved the will at Preston, Nov. 11, 1734.

It was recorded May 22, 1735. Vol. ii. p. 94. Probate Records, New London Co., New London, Conn. Page 95, same vol., gives the inventory, certified to by the executors Nov, 26, 1734, as correct. This showed that Thomas Averill had left his family in comfort, and that he was probably a religious man, as he had five Bibles and three Testaments; he also left twelve small books.

It is evident that Thomas Averill did not marry Abigail Cogswell in Ipswich, Nov. 29, 1712, as all records show his only wife was Mary.

His wife and widow survived him some years; the date of her death is not known ; but she petitioned the Court Sept. 25, 1753, to appt a com. of freeholders to set off for her the freehold estate left to her by her husband's will. The Court appd Maj. Samuel Coit, Capt. Moses Tyler, and Elijah Beleherall of Preston to divide and "sett off to sd widow her proper meets and bounds in sd Estate." Journal B. v. p. 130. Probate Court, New London Co.

There must have been some delay, for the Journal Probate Court, B. vi, p. 162, 1754, states that she, Mary Averell, widow and Relict of Thomas Averell late of Preston dec'd, again asks the same favor. And this time the com. appd is Mr. Wm Witter, Esq., Messers Stephen Tucker and Ebenezer Leonard, freeholders, all of Preston. If the copy is correct it appears not to have been accomplished until the Nov. 22, 1762, Court.

Undoubtedly a more thorough search of records would explain the occasion of a second application, and the date of "Nov. 22, 1762," affixed to the action of the Court, - which is very likely a mistake of the copyist (Ed.). Such a search might also reveal the dates of the death of Thomas Averell and his wife.

- ix. ABIGAIL AVERELL^{12-13, 25, 35, 41, 54} was born on 08 Mar 1674 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12-13, 25, 54-55}. She died before 1724²⁵. She married Joanathan Bishop before 06 Jul 1699. He was born between 1668-1678 in Salem, Essex, Massachusetts. He died in Feb 1752 in Rehoboth, Bristol, Massachusetts²⁷.

Notes for Abigail Averell:

She lived at Topsfield, and is mentioned in the mutual division of her father's estate, Feb. 4, 1701-2, and June 2, 1724. She was bap. at Topsfield by Mr. Joseph Capen, May 16, 1697. Jonathan Bishop was a sadler and lived in Beverly for some years. June 2, 1724, he, and his wife, with their sister Mary (Averell) Titus and her husband, Silas Titus, signed and acknowledged the deed of mutual division of the Willam Averell estate, at Norton, Mass. It is said they settled at Rehoboth, Mass., and were there after 1706, although the above instrument proves they were in Norton in 1724.

- x. EZEKIEL AVERELL^{12-13, 25, 41, 54} was born on 24 Jul 1675 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12-13, 25, 41, 54}. He died before 1690.

Generation 2 (con't)

- xi. PAUL AVERILL SR.^{12-14, 23, 25, 35, 45, 56} was born on 21 Jun 1677 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12-14, 25}. He died after 1756 in Killingly, Windham, Connecticut²⁵. He married (1) SARAH ANDREWS, daughter of Joseph Andrews and Sarah Pearly, on 27 Mar 1706 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 23, 25}. She was born on 20 Aug 1683 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{13, 57}. She died on 16 Oct 1732 in Middleton, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25, 58}. He married (2) MARY SYMONDS on 03 Feb 1736 in Wenham, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25}.

Notes for Paul Averill Sr.:

The notes list three alternative spellings for Paul Averill's last name: Averil, Averill, and Avrill.

Paul Averill Sr's birthdate was listed as June 21, 1677 or June 27, 1676, alternatively.

He may have died after February, 1756, and he may have been buried in Killingly, MA.

He was bap. with his sisters and brothers at Topsfield, May 16, 1697, by Rev. Mr. Capen (C/i. R.), when he was about twenty or twenty-one years of age. He resided many years in that part of Topsfield which was later included in Middleton, Mass., as shown by extracts of deeds here given. His name appears twice in the deed of mutual division of his father's estate, but he does not appear to have signed that instrument.

[From Middleton Records: A true copy of the Records of Wenham. Attest. B. C. Putnam, Clerk.]

[A true copy. Attest. E. S. Phelps, Town clerk of Middleton.]

Essex Reg., Vol. 42, p. 172. (Abstract) I Paul Averill of the town of Topsfield for £13.10. paid me by John Burton of the Town & Co & Province aforesd Carpenter have sold him a Piece of Meadow & Meadow ground about one acre and a quarter in Topsfield on the Southerly side of the River called Ipswich River not far from the River between a certain Brook that runneth into the River & the West End of the Island called Walcott Island & is bounded as followeth to begin at the North East corner of the S' Isle land at John Putnams bounds & from thence to run westerly by the meadow of John Putnam to the Brook & from thence Southerly up by the brook to Robinson s meadow & from thence to from thence to ----- run North Easterly by the meadow of sd Robinson to the Island called Wolcotts Island - twenty ninth Day of June Anno Dom 1722 & in the Eighth year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lord George King of England etc.

Wits

Edward Putnam Junr

Elisha Putnam -

Ack- Salem Jan 9. 1723

before Stephn Sewall Just Peace

Paul Averill & a seal

her mark

Sarah O Averill & a seal

Vol. 72, p. 69. (Abstract) Paul Averill of Middleton- Husbandman for Divers good causes thereunto moveing But more Especially for the Love Good Will & Naturall Affection that I have & Do beare towards my Son Paul Averill Junr have given granted etc - unto my Son Paul Averill the One half of a Certain Tract of Land lying & being in Middleton for Quantity and Quality and the Westerly End of my Dwelling house which is now Erecting and One half of my barn sd Piece of Land Lyes on the North Easterly part of Middleton Towns Line on the South & North Side of Ipswich River & it is Bounded as follows Begining at a White Oak tree Marked at the Corner of the Land that was formerly Endicotts Farm & thence Running Easterly about Sixty Rods to a Stake & Stones by a fence at the Corner of Robert Bradfords Land Joyning to sd Bradfords Land & from thence Southerly by Nine Rods to a heap of Stones Joyning to sd Bradfords Land & from thence Easterly about Twenty Rods to a Stake and Stones Joyning to sd Bradfords thence Southerly about four Rods to A Stake & Stones at A Corner of sd Bradfords land and my owne land & thence Easterly about Forty Rods to A Stake & Stones by Salem Road thence. Northerly to the Southeasterly Corner of my Orchard Joyning to sd Road thence Easterly about fifty Rod to A Stake & Stones by A Cartway And thence Northerly about Thirty Rods to Ipswich River as the fence now Stands and thence Westerly about fifty Rods to a Cartway over the River Joyning to sd River & thence Northerly A Cross the River about Twenty five Rods to the Northwesterly Corner of Nath" Symonds Meadow Joyning to sd Symonds Land, and thence

Generation 2 (con't)

Easterly about twenty Three Rods to A heap of Stones Joyning to Job Averill's Land & thence Northerly about Eighty Rods to A Swamp Comonly Called Inland Meadow Swamp Joyning to sd Bradford & Job Averill's Land & thence North Easterly Joyning to ye Upland Round as the Swamp Goes to the Petitione Lines Between my Land and the Land of Job Averill and Israel Averill & thence Westerly about forty Rods to the Land of Deacon Samll Symonds & thence to A Popple tree at the Northerly Corner of Deacon Symonds Meadow Joyning to Deacon Symonds Land and thence Southerly about Forty Rods to A White Oak tree marked Joyning to Deacon Symonds Land & Thence Westerly about Twenty four Rod to A Stake & Stones Standing in the Line of Endicott's Farm Joyning to the Land of Deacon Symonds, And thence Southerly about fifty Rods A Cross the River to the first Bound Mark mentioned (Paul Jr to have all the above etc) Excepting Thirds of ye fruit of the Orchard which I Reserve to my own Use so Long as I Live.

Fourth Day of August, Anno Domini One Thousand Seven hundred and Thirty six & in ye Tenth Year of the Reign of our Sovereigne Lord George the Second ...

Witn

Paul Averill & a Seal

William Campbell

Ack. Salem Aug. 5, 1736

John Higginson.

before John Higginson J. Peace

Vol. lxxxi, p. 218. (Abstract) Paul Averil Senr & Junr Division Rec'd and Recorded April 25, 1741

This Indenture of Partition made the Thirtyeth Day of March in the Fourteenth year of His Majesties Reign Annoque Domini One Thousand Seven Hundred & Forty one Between Paul Averil of Middleton in the County of Essex Yeoman of the One part & Paul Averil Junr of Middleton aforesd Yeoman of the other part. Whereas ye parties before named stand Seized in Fee of and in a Certain Tract of land in Middleton afores" lying partly on the North side & partly on the South side of Ipswich River.

(Then follows a long description of the land, part of which corresponds to that given to Paul Jr. by his father Aug. 4, 1736. Paul Sr. retains certain specified privileges as to house, orchard, passage, etc.)

Wits

Signed Paul Averill & a Seal

John Higginson Jr

Paul Averill Jun"" and a Seal

Andrew Higginson

The Middleton Church was established in 1729; and the names of Mr. and Mrs. Paul Averill appear on its rolls as dismissed from the Topsfield Church and added to this one in 1738. Mr. Averill was chosen Constable of Middleton, Feb. 19, 1733-4; and Apr. 8, 1735, he and several others were allowed "to build a back seat under ye windows in ye West Gallery in our Meeting House" (T. R.).

Paul Averill and his brother Job bought land of Mr. Endicott, 40 acres of which they divided Sept. 13, 1709, Paul receiving about 20 acres, which lay on both sides of the Ipswich River, in Topsfield [Essex Deeds, Vol. xx] .

April 7, 1718, they agreed on another division of land which they held in common, - three pieces, - "Upland, Lowland, Swampy Land and Meadow," lying partly in Topsfield, partly in Boxford, and containing about 50 acres in the County of Essex. The parties named came to an amiable and Brotherly Agreement with respect to the partition of ye sd lands equally betwixt them.

1st piece: The first part, of the 20 acres in Boxford, chiefly meadow and swampy land, ran S. W. & N. E. from a Swamp White oak; the second part, at the S. W. side or end of this, ran on a straight line..... to another Swamp white oak at N. E. side or End; Job Averell to have the North Western part, and Paul Averell the South Eastern part.

The 2d piece: Of 20 acres in Topsfield, bounded Northerly on Ipswich River, southerly on Robinson's land, which is bounded by a High Way that leads from Tho. Robinson's lott to a brook that runs into Ipswich river, and the upper end of Wallcotts meadow, to be a circular line as the high way runs; Job Averell and his heirs, etc., to have liberty of a passage of about 3 rods over end of ye Pine Hills for to pass and repass to a watering place, for his stock forever, downe to ye River.

Job Averell to have the Southerly end or side next to Robinson's, and Paul Averell the

Generation 2 (con't)

Northern part next the river.

The 3d piece, adjoined the last piece, and was parted by the brook aforesaid from that piece. Job Averell as the South Eastern part; Paul Averell has the other part [Essex Deeds, Vol. xxxvii, p. 1]. (These divisions are also mentioned in deed by Job Averell of Sheepscoot.)

April 24, 1729, Job and Paul Averell both of Middleton quit claim all rights in a Cottage Right (so called) containing two acres, and being ye 21st lot in sd Cottage Rights in Topsfield as by the Proprietors Book and Records may appear, to Nathaniel Averill of Topsfield, Carpenter.

Witnesses

Job Averill, Junr

Benj. Town.

Rec'd, apr. 10, 1730.

Signed Job Averill

Paul Averill

Ack. Apl. 8, 1730 by both grantors.

Mr. & Mrs. Averill were dismissed Aug. 5, 1753, from the Church in Middleton, and admitted to the Church in Killingly, Conn.

From deeds at Killingly, Conn., we have the following : -

"Know ye that I Nathaniel Peabody of Middleton, in the County of Essex, In the Province of Mass. Bay - for the sum of £900, . . . well and truly paid by Paul Averil of Middleton in the County aforesaid the receipt whereof I acknowledge, have given, granted him two certain tracts of land Lying in Killingly, Co. of Windham (Conn.), containing by estimation 104 acres of land.

Dated, April 20, 1747.

Feb. 28, 1756, I Paul Averil of Killingly, Conn., in consideration of love, goodwill, and fatherly affection which I have to my well beloved son Joseph (Averell) and for other valuable considerations which I have received of him, said Joseph Averill, & for service he hath done me, since he . . . arrived at ye age of twenty years & for his advancement in ye world . . . do grant him etc., One certain tract or parcel of land containing 100 acres.

Signed by Mary Averil and Paul Averil. [The name is spelled Averil, Averill and Avrill in this deed.]

We have no later record of either Mr, or Mrs. Paul Averill, although interest in the search, together with the preservation and indexing of old Conn. records may bring some other facts to light. They died probably at Killingly after Feb., 1756.

"The records of Killingly are not very complete in the early years of this town," we the Town Clerk, Mr, F. T, Preston, in 1898.

MEMORANDA.

* There are traditions which suggest that Paul (No. 9) Averell really had a son Ebenezer, who was the ancestor of Nos, 211 to 218 inclusive, ascribed to Ichabod (No. 75), and of all the Coopersville, Mich., Averills, and possibly of Josiah (No. 243), ascribed to Joseph (No. 84).

t The death of Robert Bradford does not appear on the Middleton records, nor that of his wife; but, from an old account book kept by Col. Benj. Peabody of Middleton, I obtained the following item: "Nov. 20, 1790; To making a coffin for Mr. Robert Bradford; and that day he died." Mrs. A. A. Averill.

There is no mention of the children of Hepzibah and Robert Bradford in the Middleton town or church baptismal records; but one who claimed to be "a descendant of this Robert Bradford" visited Mrs. A. A. Averill, at Middleton some years ago, to learn about her Gould, Bradford, and Averill ancestors. She was Miss L. A. Gould of Boston, Superintendent of an Industrial School there, and dau. of Daniel Gould and -----Holmes, his wife. Her father was b. at Bedford, N. H., and was the son of Daniel Gould who was b. in Maine, and said to have been a Baptist Minister. She was not able at that time to verify her descent from Robert and Hepzibah (Averill) Bradford; and we have found no evidence to establish her claim. ~ Clara Avery

- xii. SILAS AVERELL^{12-13, 17, 25} was born on 01 May 1679 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{13, 17, 25, 59}. He died before 1690.

Generation 2 (con't)

- xiii. ISAAC AVERELL^{12-13, 17, 25, 52, 60-65} was born on 10 Nov 1680 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12-13, 17, 25, 64, 66}. He died after 27 Aug 1744 in New Preston, Litchfield, Connecticut²⁵. He married Esther Walker on 16 May 1709 in Rehoboth, Bristol, Massachusetts^{25, 62}. She was born before 04 Jul 1697. She died after 1749 in New Preston, Litchfield, Connecticut²⁵.

Notes for Isaac Averell:

Isaac joined the First Church at Preston in 1720, and the Second Church of Preston (now Griswold) Nov. 30, 1720; and Esther, his wife in 1721. Mr. Averill was a carpenter and a housewright.

He was an ingenious carpenter and framed in Providence, RI, the largest meeting house of his time.

Mr. George Francis Dow of the Essex Institute, Salem, MA issued in April and July 1912 in the Essex Hist. Colls - Averill Genealogy - William Averill of Ipswich and some of his Descendants.

Although Isaac lived at Topsfield in his youth, he joined his brother Thomas at Preston, CT, probably about 1703 or 1704. He, his son Samuel and his nephew Jabez are said to have lived for a time at Rehoboth, MA, where he married, but up to this time no evidence of such residence has been found either in deeds or other records except in the publications of Samuel Averill's Int. of mar., although Isaac's sister Mary, m. 1709-1710, Silas Titus of Rehoboth. Isaac is mentioned in the deed of mutual division of his father's estate, which instrument he signed as appears by the following:

Preston, May the 30th day, 1724: Then the above named Thomas Averill and Isaac Averill both personally appeared and freely acknowledged the above written instrument (The Mutual Agreement) to be their free act and deed.

Before me, John Brown, Js. of ye peace.

The above was affixed to the said instrument, which was drawn up Feb. 4, 1701-2. Preston Deeds, B. 1, p. 369:

Isaac Auerel and Jonathan Tracy witness a deed of Joseph Benjamin, June 24, 1704/ B. ii, p. 31, Thomas Auerill of Preson deeds land on the Pachong river in Preston, to Isaac Auerill, March ye 28 in ye yere of our Lord God one thousand seven hundred and three four and in ye third year of ye Raigne of our souer Lady Quen Ann:

(Signed) Thomas Auerill

Wit's

John Brown

James (his mark X) Tyler

(John Brown adds further that he agrees to this disposition of the said land)

Ack'd by Thomas Auerill, Nov. 14, 1705, at Preston.

The following abstracts will be of interest as indications of his holdings at Preston:

Preston, CT, Deeds, Bk. li, p. 73. Thomas Stanton to Isaac "Auerell," 50 acres for £8, in 1706.

Book ii, p. 140. Nathaniel Tracy to Isaac Iverill for £10, land in Preston Also on the Pachong (this river is in the town of Griswold, and empties into the Thames.); July 7, 1707.

Book ii, p. 415. Isaac Averell of Preston, CT £16.10s sells to John Benjamin land on the Pachong river.

Nov. 10, 1710

Isaac Auerell

Book iii, p. 34. Isaac Averill and Jno Cook chosen with Lieut. John Brown and sworn by Me. Daniel Palmer Esqr one of his Majesties Justices of ye peace for ye county of New London for to renew and fix up bounds of tract of land scituate in Preston Northward from Capt. Wm Billings his dwelling formerly given by Mr. Wm Billings of Sloughon late decd to his dau. Lydia wife of Sam'l Coye...rendered a report 24 Jan. 1722.

Book iii, p. 36. Isaac Averill of Preston CT, for £15, sells to Jacob Burton (land in the same town and county) Dec. 21, 1714.

Isaac Auerill.

Book iii, p. 37. Isaac Averill to Edward Cogswell fro £80, (land in Preston) April 8, 1713.

Book iii, p. 12. Josiah Harris of Groton CT sells land in Preston to Isaac Avirell of Preston for

Generation 2 (con't)

£58. 1712/13

Book iii, p. 163. A piece of land laid out to Isaac Auerell by the Surveyors of Preson 140 rods E. 36 rods N. 140 West and 20 r. South. Dec. 16, 1719

Book iv, p. 583. Isaac Averill to John Averill..... one of ye sons of my Brother William Auerill of Topsfield in ye county of Exxex, in the province of MA Bay...aforesaid 1717 Bound to me for more than ten years...about 50 acres Feb. 11, 1729/30

Book iii, p. 34 Isaac Averill sells land to Samuel Coys 1723.

Book v, p. 378. Isaac Averill to Wm Denison of N. Sutonington for £980, sells him 108 acres more or less with all housings, orchards, Buildings, priviledges etc...

Wit's Aug. 23, 1744 Isaac Averill

Ephraim Smith, William Witter.

Ack. By Isaac Averill in Preston, Aug. 27, 1744.

Book v, p. 94 Isaac Averill, House wright, of Preston, deeds land in Preston to his son Samuel Aug. 18, 1738.

The Town Records of Preston show that "Isaac Averill was chosen Lister, Dec 1714; Granery man 1718; Constable 1722; Justice of the Peace 1722; Tythingman, 1724." The position of Constable was one of great importance in those days both in Old and New England.

With the purchase of land in Waramaug Reserve in ancient Woodbury, CT, by his son Daniel, and Edward Cogswell, the attention of the family was turned westward, and Isaac Averill removed in 1746 with his sons, Daniel, Samuel, and Moses, to that locality, called by the settlers New Preston, which is now in the township of Washington, Litchfield Co, CT. That he lived at New Preston with his son Samuel, and that he died there, is stated by his family.

THE AVERILLS OF WASHINGTON. CONNECTICUT

The Town of Washington was incorporated in January, 1779, and was taken from the towns of Woodbury, Litchfield, Kent and New Milford. The Waramaug Reserve embraced part of some of these towns.

Our earliest records of the Averills who settled in this part of Connecticut date from 1744 ; and the removal of Isaac Averill and his family from Preston to the Waramaug Reserve must have taken place between 1744 and 1749. The sons of Isaac Averill - Samuel, Daniel and Moses - became identified with the development of this part of the state.

xiv. MARY AVERELL^{12, 25, 35} was born between 1682-1685 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts¹². She died on 09 Feb 1730. She married Silas "Avery" Titus on 16 Feb 1709 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25}. He was born on 12 Aug 1683 in Rehoboth, Bristol, Massachusetts²⁵.

3. SARAH² AVERELL (William of Ipswich¹)^{12, 21-24} was born on 16 Mar 1627 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England²². She died on 19 Jul 1692 in Salem, Essex, Massachusetts^{12, 25}. She married John Wildes on 23 Nov 1663 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{23-24, 26}. He was born in 1620^{25, 27}. He died on 14 May 1705 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts²⁷.

Notes for Sarah Averell:

She passed her youth at Ipswich, Mass. Nov. 23, 1663 (Ct R.), she became the second wife of John Wildes (Wild, Wilde, Wiles, Wyles) of Topsfield, Mass., whose first wife, Priscilla Gould (dau. of Zacheus) had d. April 16, 1663 (Topsfield V. R.), leaving a large family. John Wildes was b. abt. 1615 (by dep, made 30.11.1677, when he was 62 years of age). He sailed from London, England, by the ship "Elizabeth," in July, 1635. The ship's passenger list included three Wilds; "William Wild, aged thirty (30) : Alice Wild, aged forty (40) : John Wild, aged seventeen (17) : " who came together. Ages were often incorrect in those passenger lists, so that the difference between 17 and 20 years is not of importance.

In 1639 Mr. Wildes took up land with Endicott, Simon Bradstreet and others at what was then called New Meadows, and about ten years later (1648), Topsfield. He became a prominent citizen of that town, holding many important offices such as juryman of trials in the County Court, etc., as shown by the published records of the town in The Historical Collections of the Tops field Historical Society.

In these published records his name first appears Dec. 4, 1643: Jo. Wilds (paid) 3s. for serving against the Indians the previous year; and March 25, 1659, as John "Wildes," and not long after we find this entry:

Generation 2 (con't)

"At a lawful Towne Meeting the 7 March 1664: It is ordered that the timber of the five hundred acres of common lands on the other side of the riuer which is to remaine common to perpetuity is to be deuided by John Wiles Willi Auerell Thomas Baker & Edmond Towne or either three of them into three equall proportions as two foure and six according to that rule to be deuided. Voted."

Apart from the marriage of his sister Sarah, this is the first association of William Averell and John Wildes which we find recorded ; but many others appear later in their common committee work for the public good, as those published records prove.

William Wild or Wildes, John's uncle, settled at Ipswich in 1635. He died in 1668, and as the quit claim deed of Edward Bishop and others, heirs of William Wild or Wildes, recites, William gave his lands to his nephew John, son of his brother John, and said John, deceased, made conveyance to John Harris, locksmith.

The children of John (Wild) in this deed, quit claimed to Harris their interest in the house and an acre of land sold to Harris Dec. 14, 1685. Apr; 15, 1690, John "Wills" and Sarah Wilds witnessed the will of Sarah's brother William Averell; and June 30, 1690, they both made oath in Court at Salem that they were the said witnesses (See Will, pp. 86 and 87), and saw him sign the will. The following year, in the month of March, 1692, in the Village of Salem (now Danvers), came the climax in New England of those incredible delusions which Cotton Mather called "a prodigious possession of devils, which it was then generally thought had been by witchcraft introduced;" and Sarah Averell Wildes became one of the first victims of the accusations made at that time.

The belief in witchcraft was prevalent everywhere in Europe as well as in America at this time; and sporadic cases were recorded in New England from 1648 down to this "Salem Witchcraft" period, and later in the Southern portion of our country.

With few exceptions the most eminent men, in both countries, believed in the reality of these evidences of supernatural power, and credited much of the testimony rendered in witchcraft cases. Therefore when the flame kindled in Salem Village the majority of people of all classes accepted the phenomena as evidences of Satanic influence, even if they believed many of the accusations unjust or without grounds.

It is believed that the chief instigator of these tragic experiences was a West Indian slave woman by the name of Tituba (or Titcuba) who belonged to the Minister of Salem Village, Mr. Samuel Parris ; and that she initiated some of the Minister's household - the young people and their friends and neighbors - into her voodoo necromancy. The results of their intimate association amazed and terrified not only the Minister, but the whole neighbourhood ; and the young people, affected by her instructions, accused of witchcraft not only their Indian leader in mischief, Tituba, but also Sarah Good and Sarah Osburn, all of Salem Village.

Warrants were at once issued for their arrest on Feb. 29, 1692; and they were all examined before the Magistrates of Salem Village Mar. 1, 1692, and sent to the jails in the County of Essex. The "afflicted children" who claimed to be bewitched by the accused were Elizabeth Parris Jr. (nine years of age) dau. of the minister; Abigail Williams, a niece of Mr. Parris and a member of his household (eleven years of age) ; Ann Putnam Jr. (twelve years of age) ; Elizabeth Hubbard (seventeen years of age). All of these it is believed had become the only too apt pupils of Tituba during the winter of 1691-2, between the first of December and last of February.

On March 12, 1692, Mrs. Martha Corey, a woman of unusual mental equipoise and excellence of character, was accused, and a warrant for her arrest issued March 19. On March 23, a warrant was issued for the arrest of Mrs. Rebecca Nurse, a noble and highly esteemed woman; immediately after a tiny child of four or five years, Dorcas or Dorothy, dau. of Sarah Good, was accused, and a warrant issued for her apprehension; and she like all the others was committed to jail.

April 4, Mrs. Sarah Cloyse and Mrs. Elizabeth Proctor were accused and tried April 11, before a Council held at Salem with deputy-governor Thomas Danforth Esq. present, instead of two Magistrates. Abigail Williams, Ann Putnam, Mercy Lewis and Mrs. Bubber witnessed against one or both of them; Benjamin Gould testified against "Goodman Corey and his wife, Procter and his wife, Goody Cloyse, Goody Nurse and Goody Griggs."

"The transaction now became a Massachusetts affair," says Upham in his History of Salem Witchcraft.

"The 18 of April warrants were out against Giles Corey and Mary Warren both of Salem Farms, Abigail Hobb (dau. of William Hobbs, of Topsfield) , and Bridget Bishop, wife of Edward Bishop of Salem ;" they were committed to prison, and two days after, April 21, warrants were issued against William Hobbs and Deliverance his wife ; Nehemiah Abbott, Jr., Mrs. Mary Easty, wife of Isaac Easty, and Mrs. Sarah Wilds, the wife of John Wilds, all of the town of Topsfield or Ipswich;

and Edward Bishop and Mrs. Sarah Bishop his wife (dau. of John Wilds of Topsfield), of Salem Village, and

Generation 2 (con't)

Mary Black a negress of the Village, and Mrs. Mary English, wife of Philip English of Salem. Our Sarah Averell Wildes found herself in an elect company and proved herself by her patience, fortitude, and Christian virtues quite worthy her companions, she at no time weakening or retracting her first denial of guilt and affirmation of innocence, and meeting her dreadful end in a way that elicited no hostile public comments from those who were only too willing to see evil in all the accused. It is now known that many of the accused belonged to the better classes instead of the lowest as first thought. Six of those accused April 21, belonged to good families of Topsfield. Mrs. Easty's husband and Mrs. Wildes' husband were associated in the affairs of that town and in connection with the division line between it and Salem in 1686. Mr. Hobbs and Mr. Abbot were old residents of the place. Mrs. Wildes' son, Ephraim, was filling the then very important office of Constable of Topsfield. Sarah Wildes Bishop was his step-sister and therefore the step-daughter of Mrs. Wildes (Jonathan Bishop, son of the above Sarah Bishop, m. about 1699 Abigail Averell, the niece of Sarah Averell Wildes and dau. of William Averell of Topsfield). As Mrs. Nurse and Mrs. Cloyce were sisters of Mrs. Easty, in so limited a town as Topsfield they must have been well known to Mrs. Wildes, apart from her knowledge of Salem Village people through her daughter-in-law's residence there. Upham also implies a relationship between either Sarah Averell Wildes or Sarah Wildes Bishop and Rebecca Nurse which we have not yet been able to verify or disprove. Mrs. Bridget Bishop was of course well known to Mrs. Wildes as being the step-mother of Edward Bishop. Elizabeth How, wife of James How, Jr., of Ipswich, was the daughter of William and Joan Jackson of Rowley and prob. related to Sarah Averell Wild's sister-in-law, Hannah Jackson, wife of William Averell. Upham (from whose Salem Witchcraft most of the above data has been taken) believed that back of this terrible "possession" of evil spirits lay the years of feud between Ipswich, Topsfield and Salem, relative to Salem Village boundaries: and a disagreement relative to the two Salem Village ministers, Mr. George Burrows and Mr. Samuel Parris. In the light of our time, 1907, it might be attributed, - according to one's belief, - to suggestion, hypnotism, or "malicious animal magnetism." The results were a blot upon that period of our Colonial History, however we may account for it. This epidemic lasted about six months before the reaction came. During that period twenty persons suffered death, fifty-four were tortured or frightened into a confession of witchcraft; and when a special Court convened Oct., 1699, one hundred and fifty accused persons were still in prison. Sarah Wildes, wife of John Wildes, was arrested Apr. 22, 1692, on a warrant issued the day before.

John Buxton and Thomas Putnam went down to Salem from the Village on the 21st and complained of Mrs. Wildes to the justices. The justices issued their warrant to Marshal Herrick to arrest her and bring her to Lieut. Nathaniel Ingersoll's. It has been said that her own son had to arrest her, but Nevins states that the Marshall of Salem served the warrant on Sarah Wildes and that young Wildes arrested Mr. Hobbs and his wife. The testimony of her son shows, that according to his belief, Mr. and Mrs. Hobbs, after being seized by Constable Wildes, accused his Mother in revenge for his legal action. She and the others, arrested on the 22nd, were brought in to Lieut. Ingersoll's before the magistrates, examined, committed for trial, and condemned. We give only abstracts from the records as published by Ira Hutch which are almost literally as they appear in the Record of Salem Witchcraft copied from the Original Records, by W. Elliot Woodward, 1864, although Hutch's copy was made in 1859. In these records it will be seen that Sarah Wildes' husband and child said only good of the beloved wife and mother, and that they tried their best to save her. (For other records of the trial, see The Wildes Family of Essex Co., Mass., by Walter Davis, Jr., in The Essex Institute Hist. Colls. Vol. xlii, pp. 137-143 inc., April, 1906.)

It may be well to insert here the following testimony of John Wilds as it refers to Sarah Averill Wildes' brother, and also the testimony of her son Ephraim (Ira Hutch's Salem Witchcraft, p. 204). "John Wiells testifieth that he did hear yt Mary the wife of Jno Reddington did raise a report yt my wife had bewitched her and I went to ye saide Jno Reddinton & told him I would arest him for his wife defaming of my wife but ye said Reddinton desired me not to do it for it would but waste his estate and yt his wife would a done it in tyme and yt he knew nothing she had against mye wife after this I got my brother Averill to goe to ye said Sarah Reddinton & my sd Bror told me yt he told ye said Sarah Reddinton yt if she had anything agst my wife yt he would be a means and would help her to bring my wife out; but yt ye said Sarah Reddington replyed yt she knew no harm mye wife had done her." (The year and month that John Wildes' "brother Averill" spoke to Sarah Reddington does not appear in said document. But William Averell died April 23, 1691, and as the accusation of Sarah was after that date, the brother Averell was undoubtedly her brother Thomas Averell of Wells or York, Me.) The Testimony of Ephraim Willdes aged about 27 or thereabouts testifieth and saith that about four yeers

Generation 2 (con't)

a goe there was some likly hode of my having one of Goody Simonds dafter and as the maid towld me hur mother and father were verily willing I should have haur but after some time I had a hint that Goodeey Simonds had formerly said she believed my Mother had done her wrong and I went to hare and tock Marke how that is now dead who dyed at the Eastward along with me, and before both of us She denied that euer she had eneeey grounds to think eniey halme of my Mother only from what Goodiey Redington had saide and afterwarde I left the house and went no more and euer since she bene veriey angriey with me and now she will reward me.

Ephraim Willdes

(Office Clerk of Courts Essex Co., Salem, Mass. The foregoing is a true copy of Original on file in this office. Attest Clerk.)

p. 205.

This may inform this Honored Court that I Ephi-aim Willdes being Constabell for Topsfield this yere and the Marshall of Sallem coming to fetch away my Mother he then shurd me a warrant from Authority directed to the Constabell of topsfeld wherein was William Hobbs and Deliuerence his wife with many others and the Marshall did then require me forthwith to gow and aprehend the bodyes of William hobs and his wife which accordingly I did and I have had sereous thoughts many times sence whether my sezing of them might not be some case of here thus acusing my Mother thereby in some mesure to be revenged of me the woman did show a veriey bad spirit when seized. we might all most se revenge in her face she looked so malishosly on mee As fore my Mother I never saw aney harm by har upon ainey such a cont neither in word nor action as she is now acused for.

She hath awlwais instructed me well in the Christian religion and the wais of God euer sence I was abell to take instruction And so I leve it all to this honord cort to consider of it. Ephraim Willdes

(Office Clerk of Courts Essex Co., Salem, Mass. The foregoing is a true copy of original on file in this office. Attest Clerk.)

(Death Warrant.) p. 498.

Warrant of Execution of Sarah Good, Rebecka Nurse, Elis. How, Susanna Martin & Sarah Wildes, On Tuesday 19 July 1692.

(Office Clerk of Courts Essex County, Mass. The foregoing is a true copy of original on file in this office.

Attest Clerk.)

Salem May 12th

Went May 13th to Boston

1 George Jacobs Senr

6 Bridget Bushop alias Oliver

2 Giles Cory

7 Sarah Wild

(3 Wth Hobs)

8 Mary L Nath putnam's negro

4 Edwd Bushop

9 Mary English

5 Sarah Bushop his wife

10 Allice parker

11 Ann pudeater.

Woodward's Salem Witchcraft: p. 215 (?).

Reversal of Attainder October 17, 1711.

Province of the Massachusetts Bay.

Anno Regni Anna Reginae Decimo.

An Act to reverse the attainders of George Burrough and others for Witchcraft. (Includes the names of "Mary Eastey Sarah Wild, and Abigail Hobbs all of Topsfield") Essex Dec. 1711.

Upham's Salem Witchcraft.

Vol. ii. p. 268. "The Court met again on Wednesday, the 29th of June (1692), and after trial, sentenced to death Sarah Good, Sarah Wildes, Elizabeth How, Susanna Martin, and Rebecca Nurse, who were all executed on the 19th of July" (1692).

Vol. ii. p. 480. "On the 17th of December, 1711, Governor Dudley issued his warrant for the purpose of carrying out a vote of the "General Assembly"; by and with the advice and consent of Her Majesty's Council, to pay the sum of £578, 12s. to such persons as are living, and to those that legally represent them that are dead; which sum was divided as follows:

(A list of 21 names, with the addition of wives of three men.) Among those mentioned were: £

Rebecca Nurse 25.0.0. Mary Easty 20.0.0. Wildes 14.0.0. Elizabeth How 12.0.0.

"The distribution is as unjust and absurd as the smallness of the amount, and the long delay before it was ordered are discreditable to the province The public mind evidently was not satisfied and the Legislature was pressed for a half century to make more adequate compensation and thereby vindicate the sentiment of justice and redeem the honor of the province."

Drakes' Annals of Witchcraft in New England (1869), p. 199, gives the following:

Sarah, wife of John Wildes of Topsfield was executed on the 19th of July having with four others been

Generation 2 (con't)

condemned on the 30th of June preceeding. She was arrested about the 22nd of April and imprisoned till her execution.

The Gruff Denunciations and Demands to confess of the Court did not move her, and she died firmly denying all knowledge of the crime for which she suffered.

She was hanged with Rebecca Nurse and others on Gallows Hill in Salem.

Woodward's Records state that, Ephraim Wild son of "Sara" Wild, was paid the sum allowed by the Court to his Mother's heirs £28.9.1711, at Ipswich (Court?), the sum being that previously stated, £11.0.0.

Upton says that the examination of Sarah Wilde had no peculiar features - "She maintained her innocence with dignity and firmness; and the Magistrate prejudging the case against her rebuked her obstinacy in not confessing, in his accustomed manner.

(The "widdow pudeater," was Mrs. Ann Pudeator of Salem, widow of Mr. Jacob Pudeator, who was her second husband.

Her first husband, Mr. Greenslitt, or Greensleet, had died, leaving her with five children, among whom was a son, Thomas Greenslitt, and probably John, who are said to have been living in Casco Bay (Portland), Me., in 1692.

Thomas testified relative to Mr. Geo. Burrows, who had been executed; and he also was with his Mother during her trial and when she suff'ered the death penalty. (See Upham pp. 298, 329.)

She was probably about 70 years of age at the time of her death, and a woman of position and property, owning two estates in Salem on the North line of the Common. Her second husband, Mr. Jacob Pudeator ("Pud-e-tor"), or Poindexter, d. 1682 and by will gave her his whole estate after the payment of legacies of £5 to each of her Greenslit Children.

She was regarded with affection and esteem. It is probable that John Averell married her granddaughter, as he was m. June 8, 1710, to an Ann Greensleet, who has not yet been connected by any positive proof with any one of the name; these being the only Greenslitts known to us at this period, unless the wife of James Avery of Groton, Conn., and formerly of Gloucester, Mass., was also of this family. - Ed.)

PHILIP ENGLISH AND HIS WIFE.

Vol. xi. p. 133. The next victim of those arrested on the 21 (Apr. 1692), was Sarah Wildes. She too was of Topsfield and like Mrs. Easty behaved with all the firmness and dignity of innocence at her examination. Sarah Wildes, like Mrs. Easty, was condemned and executed. She was one of the eleven sent to Boston jail on the 13. May (-) , and in company with Mrs. English.

On the 19. of July (1692), Mrs. Wilds was executed in company with Sarah Good, Rebecca Nurse of Salem, Elizabeth How of Ipswich and Susanna Martin of Amesbury.

Ipswich in the Mass. Bay Colony, by Thomas Franklin Waters, p. 296, gives the bill of Robert Lord, the blacksmith of Ipswich, "for making fouer payer of Iron ffetters and tow payer of hand Cuffs and putting them on to ye legs and hands of Goodwife Cloys, Estes, Bromidg and Green all att one pound

£ s d

aleven Shillings Money. 1-11-0. Robt Lord, Smith (July, 1692).

The same page gives the account of John Harris, the Deputy-Sheriff, "of Sondry Charges at ye Corts of Irau terminar held at Sallem in ye yere 1692."

Among the items is the following:

lb. s. d.

"for pressing of hores & man to gard me with, ye wife of John Willes & ye widdow pudeater from Ipswich to Salem myself & gard.

9 - 6."

No other facts have come to our knowledge about the late life of Sarah Wildes, She lived over thirty years in Topsfield as the wife of John Wildes, who survived her several years, he dying in 1705. For several years he was called affectionately "old father Wildes," even while strong enough to continue his services to the town with whose history he was so closely identified. His eldest son John had died many years before, and his son Ephraim had attained to a position of influence and importance, so that the father had gradually stepped out of an active life.

The family seem to have been in no way less esteemed because of their affliction, and continued to live in Topsfield: and Sarah Averell and John Wildes have today many descendants of whom they could be justly proud. Among many of distinction are

Capt. Wildes of the Boston in the late Cuban War; Hon. Asa W. Wildes of Newburyport, Mass., father of Col. A. W. Wildes of the Maine ; Col. Henry Wildes of California, and Rev. George Dudley Wildes of New York. (W. E. D., Portland, Me., 1899).

MEMORANDA.

The children of John Wilde by his first wife, Priscilla Gould were:

i. John, b. 16 - ; lived at Topsfield; was a soldier; made his will Oct. 22, 1676, when going into the army,

Generation 2 (con't)

and in that document mentioned his five sisters and one brother, namely: Sarah (w. of Edward Bishop) ; Elizabeth (w. of Benjamin Jones) ; Phebe (w. of Timothy Day) ; Priscilla (w. of Henry Lake) ; Martha. He d. before 1677. (Will Essex Co. Probate.)

ii. Sarah, b. between 1648-56; m. before 1685. Edward Bishop of Salem.

iii. Elizabeth, b. betw. 1648-56; m. Benj. Jones of Gloucester.

iv. Phebe, b. betw. 1648-56; m. Timothy Day of Gloucester.

v. Priscilla, b. Apr. 6, 1658, at Topsfield; m. May 9, 1681, Henry Lake of Topsfield.

vi. Martha, b. May 13, 1660, at Topsfield.

vii. Nathan b. Dec. 14, 1662, at Topsfield; d. Mar. 17, 1662-3, at Topsfield.

(See T. H. C.)

From The Wildes Family of Essex, County, Massachusetts by Walter Davis, Jr.

Her marriage to Wild within a year of his first wife's death seems to have caused trouble between Wild and tow relatives of his first wife, Lieut. John Gould, her brother, and mary, wife of John Reddington, her sister, who lived on an adjoining farm. The first intimation of this state of affairs, appears in the statement John Wild, Jr., made in his will, regarding his Gould inheritance, in order that his father might not be troubled by any claims of his uncle Gould. In 1686 the breach was widened by the testimony of John Wild against John Gould on the charge of treason. Shortly after this episode, Mary Reddington began to spread witchcraft stories about Sarah Wild through the town and it is to her authority that most of the evidence against Sarah Wild may be traced. When John Wild threatened to sue her husband for slander, she denied her previous statements, by evil had already been wrought. Now the Goulds were related to the Putnam family of Salem Village, in whose home the delusion originated and who were the chief accusers in the trials to come and it is probable that the accusations brought agaist Sarah Wild by their Topsfield connections, were brought to the willing ears of the afflicted girls of the Putnam family and proved the immediate cause of her arrest. On April 21, 1692, the following warrant was issued, casting terrible affliction upon several Topsfield homes, none more so than that of John wild, for the warrant named not only his wife but his daughter and son-in-law, Edward and Sarah Bishop of Salem Village.

"Salem April the 21th 1692/

"There being Complaint this day made (before vs) by Thomas Putnam and John Buxton of Salem Village Yeoman, in behalf of their Majets, for themselves and also for severall of their neighbours Against William Hobs husbandman Believe his wife, Nehemiah Abot Junior weaver, Mary Easty, the wif if Isaac Easty and Sarah Wilds the wife of John Wilds, all of the Towne of Topsfield or Ipswitch and Edward Bishop husbandman and Sarah his wife of Salem Village and Mary Black A negro of Leut. Nath Putnams of Salem Village also. And Mary English the wife of Philip English Merchant in Salem for high Suspition of Sundry acts of witchcraft donne or Committed by them Lately vpon on Bodys of Anna Putnam and Marcy Lewis belonging to the family of ye abouesd Thomas Putnam complaint and Mary Walcot ye daughter of Capt Jonathn Walcot of sd Salem Village and others, whereby guest hurt and damage hath beene doune to ye bodys of said persons aboue named therefore craued Justice.

"You are therefore in their Majestis names here by Comrequired [sic] to Apprehend and bring before vs William Hobs husbandman and ___ his wife Nehemian Abot Junr weaver Mary Easty and all the rest avouenamed tomorrow aboute ten of the clocke in the forenoon at the house of Lieut Nathll Ingersalls in Salem Village in order to their examination Relaiting to the premises abouesayd and here of you are not to Faile.

Dated Salem Aprill 21th 1692

John Hathorne, Jonathan Corwin Assists.

"To George Herrick Marshall of Essex : and or all of ye Constables in Salem or Topsfield or any other Towne."

On the next morning marshal Herrick arrived at the Wild Home in Topsfield. By the irony of fate, Ephraim Wild, the only son of John and Sarah was the constable of Topsfield that year, and the marshal brought the warrant to him. What a tragedy is laid bare in these old and musty records - the young man finding his mother's name upon the warrant, witnessing her arrest and sad departure from her home and family, never to return and then slowly turning to his duty - the arrest of the remaining victims. His first petition for the release of his mother gives some details of the details of the scene at the house of William Hobbs: - " the woman did show a ueriy had spirit when I seized: on might almost se revenge in har face she looked so malishouly on mee." At her examination, which apparently occurred before that of Sarah Wild, Deliverance Hobbs confessed herself a witch, and "to be revenged of mee" as Ephraim Wild said, accused his mother of tormenting her. She declared that the shape of Mrs. Wild tore her nearly to pieces, and passed her the

Generation 2 (con't)

Devil's book to sign, bribing her with promises of new colthes. The account of the examination of Sarah Wild is still preserved:

The examination of Sarah Wild at a Court held at Salem village 1692 by the wop - John Hathorn & Jonathan Corwin

The Suffers were seized with son [fits as soon as] the accused came into the Court

Hath this woman hurt you

Oh she is vpon the beam

Goody Bibber that never saw her before says she saw her now vpon the beam & then said Bibber fell into a fit

What say you to this are you guilty or not?

I am not guilty. Sir.

Is this ye woman? Speking to the afflicted.

They all or most said yes, and then fell into fits.

What do you say are you guilty

I thank God, I am free.

Here is clear evidence that you have been not only a Tormenter byt that you have caused done (some) to signe the book the night before liast. What you say to this?

I never saw the book in my life and I never saw these persons before.

Some of the Afflicted fell into fits.

Do you deny this thing that is?

All fell into fits and confirmed that the accused hurt them.

Did you never consent that these should be hurt?

Never in my life.

She was charged by some with hurting John Herrick's mother.

The accused denied it.

Capt. How gave in a relation and conformation of the charge made.

She was ordered to be taken away and they all cryed out that she was on the beam and fell into fits.

The evidence of the witnesses that appeared against her has been lost, but from other papers the names of some of them may be learned. "John Herrick's mother," mentioned in the examination, was probably Mary Reddington, whose daughter Mary had married John Herrick. This same Mary Reddington, whose hatred seems to have been insatiable, was responsible for the testimony of the wife of Samuel Simonds of Topsfield, with whose daughter Ephraim Wild had made a marriage engagement which had been broken when the girl's mother believed the gossip circulated by Mary Redington. "And now she will reward me" the heart-broken son says in a petition. The only other witness, of whom there is any record, is the little daughter of Martha Carrier, one of the accused. She tells the story of a witches' meeting, held at night in Mr. Parris's field, at which Sarah Wild and many others were present, pledging the Devil in wine cups filled with blood, a story which received full credit from the most learned and serious men of the time.

Mrs. Wild was taken to Boston gaol on May 13. In the interval of over two months which elapsed before her execution, her husband and son did everything in their power to prove the evidence against her false and save her from death. Three of their petitions are preserved and are as follows:

"John Eiells testifieth that he did hear yt Mary the wife of Jno Reddington did raise a report yt my wife had bewitched her and I went to ye saide Jno Reddington and told him I would arrest him for his wife defaming of my Wife but ye said Reddington desired me not to do it for it would but waste his estate and yt his wife would a done wth it in tyme and yt he knew nothing she had aginast mye wife - after this I got my brother Averill to goe to ye said Sarah Reddington and my sd Bror told me yt he told ye said Sarah Reddington yt if she had anything agst my wife yt he would me a means and would help her to bring my wife out: and, yt ye said Sarah Reddington replied yt she new no harm mye wife had done her.

"The testimony of Ephraim Willdes aged about 27 or thereabouts testifieth and saith that about fouer yers agoe there was some likely hode of my hauing one of Goody Simonds dafter and as the maid towld me hur mother and father were uerley willing I should haue her but after some time I had a hint that Doodsey Simonds had formerly said she she veleud my mother had done her wrong and I went hare and tock Marke how that is now dead who dyed at the Eastward: along with me and before both of us she denied that euer she had eney grounds to think any halme of my mother only from what Goodiey Redington had saide and afterwards I left the house and went no more and euer since she (has) bene anriey with me and

Generation 2 (con't)

now she will reward mee.
Ephraim Wildes"

"This may inform this Honored Court that I Eprtain Wildes being constabell for topsfield this rere and the Marshall of Sallem coming to fetch away my mother he then showed me a warrant from authority directed to the constable of topsfield wherein was William Hobbs and Deliverence his wife with many others and the Marshall did then require me forthwith to go and apprehend the bodies of William hobs and his wife which accordingly I did and I have had sereous thoughts many times sence whether my sezing of them might not be some case of here thus a cusing my mother thereby in some mesure to be reveinded of me the woman did show a uerley bad spirit when I sezed: on might almost as revenge in har face she looked so malishouly on me as fore my mother I neuer saw any harm by har upon anley such acout neither in word nor action as she is now acused for she hath awlwais in structed me well in the Christian religion and the wis of God euer since I was abell to take instructions and so I leve at all to this honored Cort to consider of it
Ephraim Wildes"

All the efforts of the family were in vain, however, and Sarah Wild was executed on July 19, with Sarah Good, Rebecca Nourse, Elizabeth How, and Susannah Martin. Edward and Sarah Bishop managed to make their escape from prison, and Phoebe (Wild) Day, the other daughter of John Wild, who was imprisoned on the same charge at Ipswich, was apparently never tried.

Notes for John Wildes:

From The Wildes Family of Essex, County, Massachusetts by Walter Davis, Jr.

He was born in England in 1618 and settled with his brother in Ipswich. In 1637 the new sellters were plunged into war with the Pequot Indians and John Wild was among the men of Ipswich who served, receiving 3s for this service in 1689. His name was also in the list of soldiers to whom it was "agreed that each soldier for their service to the Indians shall be allowed 12s a day." December 4, 1643. The date of his removal to New Meadows or Topsfield, as it became in 1648, is unknown, but it probably occurred around 1645 at the time of his marriage to Pircilla, daughter of Zaccheus Gould, one of the earliest settlers and most prominent men of the town.

The first record found after his settlement in Topsfield is a deed of sale, dated July 15, 1654, from John Wilds, carpenter, to Robert Andrews, for twenty acres of upland "Lying between ye upland of John Wilds towards the South West & Daniel Clarks toward ye birth West." On July 5, 1660 he purchased of Richard Swaine of Hampton one hundred acres of upland "bounded with the common land in Topsfield toward ye northwest, land of the said John Wild toward the northeast, land of Thomas Perkins & Robert Andrews towards the Southwest, and land of John Readdington towards the Southeast." Between 1663-1686 he sold ninety-four acres of land in Topsfield at various times to William Acie of Rowley, John French, Thomas Perkins, William Perkins, and Robert Andrews of Topsfield.

The town records of Topsfield contain the following items relating to John Wild:

John Wiles shared in the common land in 1661,

Minister's rate, 1664, John Wiles, 01-12-10

County rate, 1668, John Wilds, 13-3-0

"John Wiles and danil borman are Chosen to vew fences this yeare insuing." March 1677/8

John Wiles took the Oath of Allegiance and Fidelity in 1677 and 1678

He serced on committees to lay out land or to run bounds, elven time between 1668 and 1686

"John wiles is Chosen Juriman of trials for this next Court to be at Ipswich." March2, 1679/80

"John wiles and John how a[re] Chosen to looke that men Ring thare swine according to towne order."
May 10, 1689

He was a member of a committee to confer with Mr. Danforth "for his Continuing with vs at topefeeld in the worke of the minestri" in 1680

"Iliut pebody Deckon perkins Sargt Redington James How senr Mr. Tho : Baker John Gould Sargt peobody Samuell Busell senr John Wilds John How lacke estey Clarke are Chosen a Commity to discourse with Mr. Capen to stay and preach here with vs at Topsfeild a while." July 29, 1681

His rating was eighteenth in the minister's rate in 1681, with one hundred and five men taxed.

"The Town has Left it to ye selectmen adding Will: Auerey & Isacke Estey & John Wilds to ye selectmen for ye seateing of pepall in our meeting house.: Nov. 21, 1682.

Generation 2 (con't)

"John Wilds is chosen a tieingman and his presinkes is from Samuel Howlett & all ye ffaimelies there about by Deckon perkins & all about Daniell Clarke. March 18, 1682/3.

In 1684 John Wilds and his wife were members in full communion of the Topsfield Church. Priscilla (Gould) Wilds had died in 1662 and he had married Sarah Averill, November 23, 1663.

During the long dispute which the colonies had with the government of Charles II, concerning the validity of their charter, the town of Topsfield took action as follows: - "Wee doe hereby declare yt wee are vtterly Vnwillling to yield ether to a Rasignation of the Charter or to anything yt shall be equeualent there Vunto Whereby ye foundation there of should be raced. Wee Whoes Names are Vunder Wrighteen doe hereby declare that Wee are desierous yt all humbell application be made to his maiesty yt Wee may still inicy or priuilliges according to charter

John How, William perkins, John Robinson, John Wilds, John Townes"

It is difficult to reconcile John Wild's sentiments as expressed in this record to the fact that he was one of the chief witnesses against his brother-in-law, Lieut. John Gould, who was charged with treason on August 5, 1686, for expressing the same sentiments in a more forcible and indiscrete manner. It would seem that the relations between the Wild and Gould families became strained after the death of Priscilla (Gould) Wild, and John Wild's second marriage. The fact that John Wild, Jr's will was made in 1676, in order "that my father may com to no trobell by any claims of my onkel gould," is further evidence toward this conclusion. The part which the family of Wild's first wife played in the trial of his second wife for witchcraft, in 1692, will be shown later.

When the terrible Witchcraft delusion swept over Essex county, the Wild family were among the greatest sufferers. The wife, two daughters, and a son-in-law of John Wild, were all imprisoned, but all escaped except his wife, Sarah Wild, who was convicted and executed.

On April 9, 1690, John Wilds, Carpenter, transferred to his son Ephraim Wilds "in Confideration of ye Natural affection I beare to my Son" and "in Confideration of Seuen years Seruice that I had of him when he might have been for himself...all my housing lands & meadow together with all my stork of Cattol Sheep Swine Carts ploughs houfehould Stuffe of all Sorts & kinds whatfoever." The farm was bounded as follows: "with lands of John ffranches on ye west and lands of Mr. William Perkins towards ye South & with lands formerly John Reddingtons towards ye east and with lands formerly Robert Andrews and Mr. Baker towards ye north." The old Wildes homestead, which remained standing until 1835, was situated in what is now a pear orchard at the forks of the road coming from Mile Brook bridge. On June 26, 1693, John Wild married for his third wife, Mary Jacobs of Salem. During the latter years of his life he is referred to in the town records as "old father Wildes.". He died in Topsfield may 14, 1705, at the age of eighty-five years.

John Wildes and Sarah Averell had the following child:

- i. EPHRAIM³ WILDES^{10, 17, 25, 67} was born in Dec 1665 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{10, 13, 25}. He died after 02 Apr 1725 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts²⁷. He married Mary Howlett on 18 Mar 1689 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts²⁵. She was born on 17 Feb 1671 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{15, 25, 68}. She died on 17 May 1758 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts²⁷.

Notes for Ephraim Wildes:

from "The Wildes Family of Essex County, Massachusetts by Walter Davis, Jr.

In 1689, he was one of the selectmen of Topsfield and in 1692 he became town treasurer and constable. The story of his connection with the Witchcraft Delusion has already been told in the biography of his mother - a story which shows him to have been a man of truly noble character. He lived in the family homestead in Topsfield which his father deeded him in 1690, and occupied a prominent position in the affairs of the town. He is several times dignified with the titles, Mr. and Quartermaster in the town and county records. The following story is obtained from the town records and illustrates the duties imposed upon him during his term as constable. When the minister's rate for 1692 was being collected, Constable Wild had trouble in obtaining this tax from an Irishman, Nealand by name, who lived on the boundary line between Topsfield and Ipswich. Whenever the constable called, Nealand was sure to be found in the Ipswich side of his house. Finally the constable, with several other Topsfield men, visited the pig pen of the delinquent, and the minister received his rate in pork. Soon after this incident, the town sued Goodwife Nealand for defaming the town of

Generation 2 (con't)

Topsfield. In the latter part of his life, he served as selectman in 1714, 1720, and 1722. Tradition states that before his death, which occurred on April 2, 1725, he saw his thirteen living children gathered about his fireside. His will follows: -

Knowing that it is appointed for all Men to Dye and being under Infirmy and Weakness of Body and senseable of my own Mortality Do make this My Last Will Confirming this and none other. First I give and bequeath My Soul to Almighty God who first gave itt being, and my body to be Deceantly buried att the Direction of my Executors hereafter named nothin Doubting but I Shall receive again att the Resurrection and as for what Worldly estate itt hath Pleased God to bless me with all I Dispose off itt in manner following.

Item. I Dogive and bequeath to My Well beloved Wife Mary Wilds all my my household goods and two Cows for her own use and to dispose of as Shee Shall See Most Convenient Amongst my Children and also I give to my beloved Wife the Liberty of one End of my Dwelling house together with the Improvement of one third Part of all My land So lond as Shee Shall Remain my Widow, but in case Shee Shall See cause to marry again that then Shee Shall have Twenty pounds Paid to her by my Executors, hereafter named and my will is that then Shee Shall Resigne up all her Right of Dower or Power of third in my Real Estate to My Sons John and Ephraim whom I do appoint and Constitute to be My Sole Exeexecutors to this My last Will and Testament.

Item. I Do give to my Son John and to my Son Ephraim all my buildings and all my lands both Meadow and Upland with all the privilidges and Appertances thereunto belonging together with My Rights of land in Common and also I Do give to My Sons John and Ephraim all my Stock of Cattle (Excepting the two Cows before given) and all my Sheep and Horses (Excepting the black Colt which I Do give to my Son Elijah) and also I Do give to My Sons John and Ephraim all my utensils of husbandry they Paying all My Just Debts and Such Legacies as I shall order them to Pay in this my Last Will.

Item I Do Give to My Son Johnathan Sixty Pounds to be Paid by my Executors within two years after my Decease which is for his portion out of My Estate.

Item I Do Give to My Son Samuel sixty Pounds, to be paid by my Executors when he Shall come to the age of Twenty one years itt Being for his Portion

Item I Do Give to My Son Nathan Sixty Pounds, to be paid by My Executors when he Sall come to the age of Twenty one years itt Being for his Portion

Item I Do Give to My Son Amos Sixty Pounds, to be paid by My Executors when he Sall come to the age of Twenty one years itt Being for his Portion

Item I Do Give to My Son Elijah Sixty Pounds, to be paid by My Executors when he Sall come to the age of Twenty one years itt Being for his Portion

Item I Do Give to My Daughter Mary Perkins Twenty Pounds besides what Shee hath already had to be paid by My Executors : in four years after My Decease which is for her portion.

Item I Do Give to My Daughter Susannah Town Twenty Pounds besides what Shee hath already had to be paid by My Executors : in four years after My Decease which is for her portion.

Item I Do Give to My Daughter Dorothy Perkins Twenty Pounds besides what Shee hath already had to be paid by My Executors : in four years after My Decease ltt being for her portion.

Item I Do Give to My Daughter Priscilla Twenty Pounds to be Paid by My Executors when Shee Shall bome to the Age of Twenty one years or the Day of her Marriage.

Item I Do Give to My Daaughter Hannah Thirty Pounds to be paid when Shee Shall come to the age of Twenty one years or att her Marriage If She be married Sooner. But in case any of My children that are under age Should Dye before they come of age to Receive their Portion that tehn my will is that what Should have been Paid to them Shall be Divided amongst the Surviving brothers and Sisters and also my Will is that If any of My Children that are of age Should Dye before the time Sett for payment of there Portion that then itt shall be Paid to thir Heires, and itt is to be Noted that notwithstanding, all My buildings and Lands are given to My Son John & My Son Ephraim itt is to be understood that they are not to Debar or hinder their Mother of any Privilidges given to her in My home or Land. I Confirmation of all that is before Written in this Will I have hereunto affixed My hand and seal this Second Day of April one thousand Seven hundred and twenty five.

Signed Sealed and Delivered In the Presence of John Howlett Joseph Andrews Jacob Peabody

Generation 2 (con't)

Ephraim Wildes

4. **THOMAS² AVERELL** (William of Ipswich¹)^{12, 21, 28-33} was born on 07 Jan 1629 in Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, England²⁸. He died before 07 Apr 1714 in York, Maine^{25, 29}. He married Frances Collings on 08 Dec 1657 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts^{21, 34}. She was born in 1635 in Ipswich, Essex, Massachusetts. She died in 1672 in York, Maine²⁵.

Notes for Thomas Averell:

1671-1673 land 200 acres of upland and 10 acres meadow at Merryland in Wells

York Deed Book III Fol 11

Bee It known vnto al men by these Presents, that I Thomas Everell of the Town of Wells, In the County of Yorke In New England, for my selfe, my heyres executors, Administrators, & Assignes, for a valewable some of Twenty pounds with other pay already received, in hand haue Covenanted barganed sould & Assignd, & made over, & by these Prsents doe grant sell aliene & make over, vnto Francis Littlefejlđ Senjor of Wells in the County aforesd, Two hundred Acers of vpland & tenn Acers of fresh Meddow, lijng & being in the Town shipe of Wells, at a place Commanly Called Mary Land, bounded as followeth, the Beddow begining at a little pitch pine tree marked Closs by the Meddow side, & a Maple Tree growing against It in the River, at the lower end of Fran: Littlefejlds, Junjor Meddow, & soe to runne eight scoore pooles down to the River on both sides, which is tenn Acers ye vpland to begine at the aforesd marked pine tree, at the vpper end of the sayd Meddow, & soe to runne eight scoore poooles by the Meddow, & soe along from the Meddow Westward, as It is bounded by marked trees, till two hundred Acers bee Compleated, with all the appurtenances & Commoditys there to belonging, to him the sayd Fran: Littlefejld Senjor, his heyres, executors, Administrators & Presents doe Ingage to make good the sayd Tytle to ye sayd Littlefejld his heyres or Assignes from by or vnder mee or any other / And the sayd Littlefejld is to discharge all such rents, or acknowledgmts as here after may bee demanded, by any Legall proprator, vrunto I haue set my hand & seale this Twenty thyrđ day of Febru " In the yeare of our Lord Anno Dom : one Thousande six hundred seuenty three. seventy foure. Thomas Averal (his seale)

Sealed signed & Deliuerd.

In the psence of us/

Joseph Bolts/

John Cloyse his marke

Thomas Averall appeared this first of Aprill 1674: & did acknoledg this Instrument to bee his free Act & Deede, according to ye Tenor there of here in experssed, before mee Bryan Pendleton Assote: Vera Copia of this Instrumt avoue written, transcribed, & compard with the originall this 29th day of January 1676;

p Edw: Rishworth ReCor:

York County, Maine Deed Book IV Fol. 32

Received by mee John Smyth Senior of Cape Nuttacke of the Town of yorke of my sonn John Smyth Junjor resident in ye same town & place, the iust summe of seaven pounds six shillings 13d in money the remajnder In Corne & worke vidzt In worke accepted of Thos Everell, fiuetu shillings, In Corne Twenty eight shillings, payd mee tenn shillings by my sd sonn John In worke, & fourty fiue shillings after wards; I say received of my sonn John Smith the iust sum of seaven pounds six shillings, in part of payment of yt thirty pounds which was for ye Land that I sould him; by mee his father John Smith as aboueed, this 21th day of Aprill 1685: as Witness my hand or marke/ John Smith Senjor his marke

Witness, Edw : Rishworth, Mary Sayword Jujor

vera Copia of this receate trauscribed & with originall Compared this 29 : April 1685 p Edw : Rishworth Re; Cor:

York County, Maine Deed Book VI Folio 142 mentioned in Francis Littlefield deed "Lying at Merriland which I bought of Thomas Averil bounded with a little Pitch pine tree marked close by the Meadow side and a Maple tree...20 March 1682

Averill Book Notes

Is mentioned by name in Ipswich Court Records and Files: "Court, 31 :3 :1649 : "Will Avery, jr., Thomas Avery, John Aniball and Thos. Robinson, sr., for defect in watching." (See the Essex Ant.,

Generation 2 (con't)

Vol. viii, July, 1904.)

Essex County Court papers, Vols, i-iv, pp. 339 and 360, refer -to Thomas Averill of Ipswich, debt., 1658; and "dep." 1659; Court at Ipswich; pp. 237-238, to Thomas Averill dep. 1657 (two entries), Court held at Salem, 1657.

In 1692, more than a year after the death of William Averell of Topsfield [in 1691], John Wildes of Topsfield states: "My brother Averill tried to have the accuser state his testimony against his sister" (Sarah Averill Wilde, who was accused of witchcraft).

Thomas Averell was married Dec. 8, 1657, at Ipswich, Mass., to Frances Collins {Ct. R.} . She was probably the daughter of John Collins of Salem, 1643, and of Gloucester, 1646, who had two sons and two daughters (Hist, of Gloucester) .

The Collins and Averell families were associated with each other later. March, 1640, "thomas Aueril" associated with Mr. Hobbs "on Mr. brodstreets land," was rated, £01.14.02 ; and this Thomas Averell, of Topsfield, had a dau. Sarah, b. March 23, 1666 (Ct. R. Topsfield, Vital Statistics). He was rated in Topsfield in 1668: Thos. Avery at £00.04.03 (will Avery at £00.06.00; John Wilds at £00.13.00). This is the last Essex Co. Record.

Oct. 20, 1671, he was at Wells, County York, Province of Maine.

Abstracts from deeds recorded for that county (and now found at Alfred, Me.) show that he had land at Wells 1671, '6, '80; and at Cape Neddick, 1680-9; and later. Other records show that before his death, which was before Apr. 7, 1714, he had been at Jebano (Scarborough), and had removed from there to York and back to Cape Neddick, and had at last returned to York, which was his place of residence at the time of his death.

His wife, whose name does not appear after their marriage on any records found up to this date, appears to have died soon after her husband, certainly before Apr. 9, 1726, when her son Job Averil renders his account as admr. of his father's estate.

It is not thirty miles in direct line from Cape Neddick to Kennebunkport (Arundel and Cape Porpoise), where Thomas Averill had some nephews; and Wells is between these two towns, but closer to Cape Neddick. At the extremity of Cape Neddick is the Nubble - a noted barren rock which is an island at high water. This and the Old Man of the Sea, on the Northern coast of Cape Neddick, are attractions for visitors at York, which is close to the Cape.

We give the following abstracts from deeds recorded for County York, which relate to the above Thomas Averell:

(Deeds of Co. York at Alfred, Me. Book iii, Fol. 11, 1673-4).

I Thomas Everell of the Town of Wells, in the county of York in New England for myself my heyres executors for a valewable some of twenty pounds with other pay already received in hand, have covenanted barganed sould unto Francis Littlefield Senjo r of Wells two hundred acers of upland and tenn acers of fresh meddow lijing and being in the Townshipe of Wells ... at a place commonly called Mary Land (Signed) Thomas Averall.

Wit's - Joseph Bolls - John Cloyse.

Ack'd by Thomas Averall Apl. 1, 1674 before Bryan Pendleton

Rec. Feb. 26, 1676.

(This land was purchased from Jonathan Hamons, Oct. 20, 1671. Co. York Deeds, Book iii, Fol. 11).

Quit claim of the above land sold by Thomas Averell was endorsed on deed by "Thomas Everell," when he made over the land to Fran. Littlefield, "with the consent of his wife" (whose name is not given), Feb. 26, 1676.

N. B. Feb. 23, 1673. John Cloyce and Elizabeth his wife sell land to John Manning "at a place called Totnucke in the Townshipp of Wells lying in the Prcells - about a quarter of a mile from Thos. Everell's

Generation 2 (con't)

To Jacob Curtice attorney to Benjamin Averill and Ebenezer and Sarah Lufkin children of sd Thomas Averill, £7.18.8,

allowed Oct. 4. 1726.

Vol. iii. p. 223. 1726.

John Wheelright, esq. Judg-e of Probate, To Messrs Samll Sewall, Daniel Simpson, Ebenezer Coburne, John Wells and Eliakim Wardwell all of York . . . Whereas Mr Job Averill administrator on ye estate of Mr Thomas Everill Late of York dec'd, having issued and made up his account of administration on sd Estate, and application being made by ye Heirs of ye Said Thomas Averill that there be a division made of ye estate of the sd Thomas Averill according to the Law. These are therefore to app't you to make a just Distribution of ye Surplusages or Remaining goods and Estate as well real as Personall in manner following (Consideration to be had of any who had any estate by settlement of the Intestate in his life time) and equal division and distribution to be made except the surviving issue of ye eldest son dec'd, who you shall order two shares or a double portion of ye whole. To Return acc't by Oct. 3. next ensuing.

Kittery ye 27th day of August 1726.

(Signed) John Wheelright

Co. York Probate. Vol. iii. p. 224. 1726.

Account of Commissioners appointed Aug. 27, 1726, on distribution of Estate of Mr. Thomas Everill late of York, dec'd.

"We have divided the real estate of sd Thomas Everill (there being no personal small estate to be found) as Followeth:

1st We have laid out to the Heirs of Job Averill Dec'd the oldest son of ye said Thomas Everill a tract of land on the Neck below the way that leads from Cape Neddock to Wells, comonly called "Averills Neck" and bounded as followeth; Northwestwardly by ye old way southwestwardly by Land now in ye Possession of Eliakim Wardwell, SouthEast and NorthEast by ye Sea -round to the southwest end of ye Beach next to ye Eastward of ye house where ye sd Job Averill lately lived, and also part of the land on the Northwest side of ye sd way part on the common.

Secondly, we have laid out to Benjamin Averill the other son of the sd Thomas Averill Dec'd ... a lott of land (bounds) for his single share.

Lastly we have laid out to Sarah Lufkin the Daughter of ye sd Dec'd for her single share the residue of the said tract of land divided as followeth....

Oct. 3. 1726. (Signed) Daniel Simpson, John Wells

Ebenr Cobourne, Eliakim Wardwell

Samll Sewall

Ack. same date before Judge Wheelright

Co. York P. R. Vol. iii. 1719-1728.

(Thomas Averill: admn.)

The Account of Job Averil of York admr on the estate of his Father Thomas Averil late of York dec'd To Removing his father and Mother from Jebano to Cape Neddick in a sloop with his household goods and stock £ 6.00.00

To Removing my father and family from Cape Neddick to York, and sometime after removing him and his family from York to Cape Neddick £ 3.00.00

To Taking Care and supplying my father and Mother in their old age about seven years in ye time of ye War* £21.00.00

To Expense on my father in his last Sickness and his funeral 3.00.00

To taking care of my Mother and Providing necessaryes in the Time of her old Age until her Death, near one year and her funeral Expenses £13.00.00

To taking Administration charges in taking the Inventory with my Extraordinary Trouble in Administration 6.00.00

£52.00.00

Job Averil was allowed £52.00.00 by the Court, April 9, 1726.

The great Massacre at York was Feb. 5, 1692, when one hundred and sixty known persons and many others were taken into captivity. The old jail of 1653 and the old McIntire garrison house of the same period are both still standing in York.

The names of all of the children of Thomas (No. 3) Averell and Frances Collins, his wife, are not known to

Generation 2 (con't)

us. Of those who were living at the time of the settlement of the father's estate in 1714 to 1728, York County Court Records have given us some knowledge. They were:

MEMORANDA.

i Essex Reg. Book vii p. 18. 1703: Abstract;

I Thomas Lufkin Ser., To my son Ebenezer Lufkin carpenter with consent of my wife Mary, give him after our death my home that we now dwell in with homestead and land belonging thereto (18 acres in Township of Gloucester bounded N. E. by the Ipswich line - all other sides bounded by Gloucester Commons) ; also all my part of that pond of Meadow formerly called Haskall's Mill Pond (5 or 6 acres), granted by the town of Gloucester to me.

Jan. 8. 1699. Ack. in Ipswich. Thomas Lufkin.

Wit's Thomas Lufkin Jr.

* The Samuel, Joseph and John mentioned in the following records were probably the children of Thomas (No. 3), as they were all of York.

Suffolk Co. Mass. P. R. for 1691, No. 1785, Vol. 8. pp. 154, 181. Admn Samuel Averell

By Samuel Sewall Esq', Isaac Addington Assist.

January 16, 1690-1. Power of Admin to all and singular of the Goods Chattels rights and Creditts of the Estate of Samuel Averil late of Yorke who died in Boston is granted unto Joseph Averill his Brother he bringing over an Inventory of the decet's Estate and giving bond to administer the same according to Law.

Attesr (being present)

Joseph Webb (Clerk)

(No record of the inventory is found in Suffolk Adm'ns. It is possible that it may be found at Alfred, Me., in York Co. Adm'ns) [This Samuel and Joseph were too old to have been the sons of William (No. 9)].

** Yo7'k Deeds. Jan. 16. 1698, John Every witnesses a record of William Hilton Ser., and Arthur Beal of York, Me. And Job "Avery" or "Averall" and Edward Beal testify 1712 to an act of W^m Hilton Ser. & Co. York Co. Deeds, Alfred, Me. Book iii. Fol. 87. June 5, 1680.

I Andrew Everest of the Town of Yorke in the Province of Mayne in New England... sould unto Thomas Everell of Wells a certain tract of upland and marsh comanly called at Pond Marsh in the way which goeth from Cape Nuttacke to Wells . . . with the consent of (my wife) Barbary Everest

June 5, 1680.

Book iii. Fol. 132. July 10, 1683.

Deed from Peter Weare Sr. of Neck containing 27 acres on East side of Cape Neddick river in York ... to Thomas Everell some tyms of Wells (consideration £14). the tract of land lying and being about one mile on the Eastward side of Cape Nuddacke River, beginning on the South side of a small pond of water

July 10, 1683.; Also B. v. Folio 109, in deed of Peter Ware of Cape Nedick, 28 day - , 1687, the land of Thomas Avery of Cape Nedick is mentioned.

Book viii. p. 176. Oct. 10, 1689.

I Thomas Averell of Cape Nuduck in ye Co. of York in the Province of Maine Planter do sell to Francis Littlefield Sen'r of the Town of Wells ... a certain land commonly known by the name of Tatnack about 6 miles from the Town of Wells ... two hundred acres

Oct. 10, 1689. (Signed) Thomas Averell.

(Frances Littlefield was from Ipswich, Essex Co., Mass., as is shown by the next deed to the above in York Co. Deeds, Book viii.)

Thomas Averell and Frances Collings had the following children:

- i. SARAH³ AVERELL^{10, 12-13, 25, 31, 33, 69-74} was born on 23 Mar 1666 in Topsfield, Essex, Massachusetts^{10, 12-13, 25, 33}. She married Ebenezer Lufkin on 12 Apr 1700 in Essex, Massachusetts. He was born on 18 May 1676. He died on 06 Oct 1746 in Gloucester, Essex, Massachusetts.
- ii. JOB AVERELL^{25, 29, 31-32, 69-70, 75-77} was born in 1671. He died on 05 Jul 1726 in York, Maine^{25, 70}. He married Mary Prebles on 26 Apr 1700 in Boston, Suffolk, Massachusetts. She was

Generation 2 (con't)

on or before July 16, 1745...and render a true account...at or before Oct. 16, 1745.
Vol. vi, p. 151.

Samuel Averill rendered an account of his administration of his Mother's Estate at Wells,
July 16, 174.

P.R. for Co. York (Vol. iv, p. 225, 1728-35)

Job Averell (jr) Adm'n of his Estate.

Judge John Wheelright, To Samuel Averel Brother to Job Averil late of Your in the county of
York....Coaster, deceased.

Whreas Jove Averill afores'd Coaster dec'd having

He lived lately dyed

Intestate...I do commit unto you full power of adminster all and singular the goods...of the
late dec'd...and render an Inventory of the saem...on or before the 25th day of January nex
ensuing, and render an account of same on or before April 25, 1736.

Nov. 5, 1735 John Wheelright.

P. R. for Co. York, Vol. v, p. 49, 1735-742.

Inv. Job Averill's Estate, presented by Appr's Nov. 25, 1735 attested by Samuel Averell
adm'r Jan. 20, 1735/6.

To one Jackt Bridire of Calimineo part worn £ 2.10.

To one So-ng reboded, Bread Cloth Coat part worn £ 4.10.

To Silver buttons for sleeves 8.

To £30 bills of credit

£30.00.00.

To £42.10 bills of credit £42.10.00.

To one pare of silver shoe buckles 18.00.

Total Equally £81.18.00.

Vol. v, p. 92.0From Accs of Adm'n of Jobe Averill's Estate by his brother Samuel Averell

Item To my own time and expense and Victuals and Drink

for ye Appraisres

£ 1.13.-

Item The funeral Charges

£10.00.00

And other items -making a total of

£93.14. 2 ½

See also Samuel Averell (York Deeds, Vol. xx, p. 280)

York Deeds. Vol. xxvii, p. 3 1749-50.

The following abstract relates to Abigail Averell, b. 1713-4.

Mr. John Matthews of North Yarmouth in the Co. of York...Husbandman and Avigail his
wife, daughter of Job Averell late of York dec'd for £15 paid us by Eadeth Averell of York
widow and admins to the Estate of her late husband Samuel Averell dec'd...do...sell her all
our rights and titles to the Estate of our Hond Gather the aforesaid Job Averell dec'd, or our
Hond Grandfather aforesd decd, or our Brother Job Averell also dece'd, who was brother to
the sd Samuel...Situat in York aforesaid...now in the possession of said Eadeth Averell
Adms.

Oct. 6, 1746

Signed John Matthews

her

Abigail X Matthews.

mark.

- iii. BENJAMIN AVERELL^{25, 30-31, 69-70, 79-81} was born about 1673²⁵. He died before 23 Apr 1759 in
Gloucester, Essex, Massachusetts²⁵. He married Mary Chambet on 24 Jul 1702 in Boston,
Middlesex, Massachusetts²⁵.

Notes for Benjamin Averell:

Benjamin was a "Yeoman, and Mariner" {York Records) at Alfred, Me., when he expresses
to the court his wish to have the estate of his father, Thomas Averell dec'd), equally divided.

The History of Gloucester by Babson, states as follows : "Benjamin Averill (Sr.) came to

Generation 2 (con't)

Gloucester in 1703, and by his wife Mary had ten children born here. Three of his sons appear to have married in town. He had a grant of land in 1707 on Eastern Point, adjacent to Samuel Ingersoll's."

He undoubtedly had removed from Co. York, Me., to Gloucester, Mass., by 1704, and Jan. 26, 1725, he was living at Gloucester. He was m. July 24, 1702, at Boston, Mass., by Rev. Cotton Mather, to Mary Chambet (T. R.), who was living July 12, 1746.

Benjamin Averill in 1723 appears in a list of grantees in Gloucester who received woodland, all who were in town in 1704 being on this list. He d. before Apr. 23, 1759, at Gloucester, Mass.

The following Abstracts from the York Registry of Deeds give us some facts. Vol. xi, p. 247 (1722-1726).

I Benjamin Averell of Gloucester (County of Essex Prov. Mass. Bay.) Mariner send greeting For and in consideration of the sum of £30, in hand paid me by Jacob Curtise of York Carpenter, I Benjamin Averell do grant sell to s'd Jacob Curtis all that my Quarter part of a certain tract of Land in York near Cape Nuteck bounded as my father Thomas Averell formerly purchased in sd place containing one hundred and ten acres

Nov. 2, 1725

(Signed.) "Benjn' Averell"

"Mary Averell"

Ackd, Gloucester, Essex Co. Prov. Mass. Bay

Nov. 3, 1725, Epes Sargent Just. Peace.

Recorded in York Deed according to the Original Nov. 10, 1725.

Co. York Deeds, Vol. xi, p. 265. 1722-1726.

I Benjamin Averell of Gloucester in the Co. of Essex, Prov. Mass. Bay, for £40, to me in hand paid by Jacob Curtis of York have sold to the s'd Curtis the one quarter part of a certain Piece of land to the Eastward of Cape Nettick which land was formerly my honored Fathers, Thomas Averell aforesaid. Fisherman of sd York dec'dcontaining 126 acres Eastwardly upon the sea, Westwardly partly by the Town's Comone I the sd Benj Averell, and Mary Averill the Wife of me the sd Benjamin Averell does willingly give up ... her Right of Dowry and Power of Third in and unto the above demised . . . Jan. 18, 1725/6

Wit's were

Philamon Warner

Philamon Warner Jr.

Benj' Averell

Mary Averell

MEMORANDUM.

It was agreed by both parties that there was a deed given dated which is already on record wherein the consideration was £30, and this deed is for the same quarter part as if it were one Deed only. Jan. 18, 1725/6.

Rec'd of the within Jacob Curtis with what I had rec'd before the full sum of fourty pounds being the whole consideration and to my Satisfaction I say rec'd in full by me. Benja Averell

Essex Gloucester, Jan. 27, 1725

Ack. before Epes Sargent Just Peace Feb. 23, 1725/6

Recorded in York Deeds according to the Original.

York Deeds, Vol. 21, p. 126. The following abstract shows that Benjamin was interested in land near Sheepscot about the time that Job settled there:

Benjamin Averill of Gloucester Co. EssexMariner and

Mary his wife for £5, paid to them by John Ludgate of Boston, sold him one quarter part of all the interest that we now may might or of right ought to have of all the Plantation formerly (belonging?) to Henry Champroise late of Wennegance in the Eastward Part dec'd, which lies between Damariscotty River and Sheepscot River to the East, also one quarter part of all my interest of all that Marsh called The Two Beken Marsh, also one quarter part of all my interest of the Lobster Cove Meadow and the Planting Field adjoining it, and also one quarter part of all my interest of the Planting Field that lies next the Mill pond, Together with all and singular one quarter part of the Rights and Priveleges ...

Generation 2 (con't)

Dec. 12, 1735. (Signed) Benjan Averill
Wit's. Caweis (?) Champnes Mary Averell
John Tudor Ack. Boston Dec. 13, 1735.

Essex Co. P. R., Vol. 336, p. 296.

I Benjamin Averell of Gloucester, in the County of Essexon this 12 July 1746 do give and bequeath unto my grandsons James Averell, Hammond Averell and Benjamin Averell Children of my son James Averell dec, each 20s I give to my son Samuel Averell, 20s to my daughter Mary Bailey 20sto my daughter Abigail Averell 20s to my daughter Rachael Averell 20s.... I give and be queath to my loving Wife Mary Averell all my Estate real and personal

Witnesses, Daniel Witham, Lydia Witham Hannah McFredderic.

Allowed, Signed

April 23, 1759.

Benjamin Averell

Essex Co. P. R., Vol. 336, p. 297.

Will of Benjamin Averell of Gloucester. July 12, 1746. An addition after the drafting of the first part, but of the same year and day of month gives an additional twenty shillings each to his grand Children Hammond Averell James Averell & Benjamin Averell, under special conditions.

Wits were

Daniel Witham (Esq.)

Lydia Witham

Hannah M' Frederick

Pd. April 23, 1759.

- iv. JOHN AVERELL²⁵.
- v. JOSEPH AVERELL^{25, 82-83}. He married (1) JANE \.
- vi. SAMUEL AVERELL^{25, 76}. He died before 16 Jan 1690 in Boston, Suffolk, Massachusetts^{25, 83}.

Sources

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- 2 Church Records, Chipping-Norton, Oxfordshire, England Marriages 1618.
- 3 County Court Record, Ipswich, Essex Co, MA Probate Book I pg 277.
- 4 Church Records, Bicester, Oxford, England 1595.
- 5 County Court Record, Ipswich, Essex Co, MA Probate Book I pg 387.
- 6 Church Records, Chipping Norton Oxfordshire, England Baptisms 1619.
- 7 Church Records, Chipping Norton Oxfordshire, England Baptisms 1621.
- 8 Church Records, Chipping Norton Oxfordshire, England Baptisms 1623.
- 9 Church Records, Chipping Norton Oxfordshire, England Baptisms 1625.
- 10 Town Records, Topsfield, Essex County, Massachusetts 1664-1668 pg 6-7. Nathaniel Averell, Job Averill, Ephraim Wildes, Sarah Howe, MarkHoweSarah Averill, Hannah Averill Birth.
- 11 Town Records, Topsfield, Essex County, Massachusetts 1671-1673.
- 12 The Essex Antiquarian, Vol IV 1900.
- 13 Town Records, Topsfield, Massachusetts Births.
- 14 Town Records, Topsfield, Massachusetts Vital Records Book A pg 4.
- 15 Town Records, Topsfield, Massachusetts Vital Record Book page 10-11. Isaac Averill, Mary Howlett, Ann Howe, Thomas Averill Birth.
- 16 Town Records, Topsfield, Massachusetts Vital Records Book pg 8-9. Ebenezer Averill, John Howe Births.
- 17 Town Records, Topsfield, Massachusetts Vital Record Book pg 14-15. Silas Averell, Isaac Averill Birth.
- 18 Massachusetts Vital Records, footnote.com, Topsfield Deaths.
- 19 County Court Record, Essex Co, MA Marriage Records. have document.
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- 27 Davis, Walter, Jr, The Wildes Family of Essex Family (Name: Location: Topsfield, Massachusetts; Date: 1905;).
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- 29 County Court Record, York County, Maine Probate Book 2 p91b.
- 30 County Court Record, York County, Maine Deed Book 11 pg 247.
- 31 County Court Record, York County, Maine Deed Book 19 pg 240b.
- 32 County Court Record, York County, Maine Deed Book 27 pg 3 b - 4 a.
- 33 Ancestry.com, Massachusetts, Town Vital Collections, 1620-1988 (Name: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc.; Location: Provo, UT, USA; Date:2011;), www.ancestry.com, Database online. Record for Sarah Averill.
- 34 Town Records, Ipswich, Essex County, Massachusetts Marriages 1657-1659.
- 35 Court Record.
- 36 Town Records, Ipswich, Essex County, Massachusetts Births 1661-1662.
- 37 County Court Record, Topsfield, Essex Co, MA Town Records. Nathaniel son of William born.
- 38 Vital Record, "Electronic."
- 39 Town Records, Topsfield, MA Vital Records Book A pg 1.
- 40 County Court Record, Topsfield, Essex Co, MA Town Records. have doc Topsfield, Essex, MA 010.
- 41 Town Records, Topsfield, Massachusetts Vital Record Book pg 12-13. Abigail Aveeill, Sarah Howlet, Ezekiel Averell, Samuel Howe Birth,MaryHowe Death.
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- 43 County Court Record, Topsfield, Essex Co, MA Town Records.
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- 51 County Court Record, Topsfield, Essex Co, MA Town Records. Thomas son of William born.
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- 75 Allen, Neal W, Province And Court Records of Maine vol 6 (Name: Name: Maine Historical Society; Location: Portland, Maine; Date:1975;), Dallas Public Library, pg 33,34.
- 76 County Court Record, York County, Maine Probate Book 5 pg 92b.
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