

13. *John*, b. abt. 1769; d. at Eastbury, 26 Jan. 1773 in 4th yr. (g. s.).
- x. SARAH, b. 2 Oct. 1721; d. at Glastonbury, 15 Nov. 1748 ae. 27 (g. s.); m. DANIEL<sup>3</sup> HOUSE [House Family, No. 8], b. at Glastonbury, 21 Oct. 1720, d. there 24 Apr. 1762 in his 43d yr. (g. s.), son of Joseph<sup>2</sup> and Rachel (Pitkin) House.
- xi. ANNE, b. 18 May 1725; d. at Glastonbury, 8 Feb. 1747/8 in 23d yr. (g. s.). Jeremiah Goodrich and Ruth his wife of Middletown conveyed, 2 June 1753, to John Root of Glastonbury, land in right of late sister, Ann Kimberly.<sup>k</sup>
- a. *Colonial Records of Connecticut*, 5:67, 114, 141, 163, 169, 205, 245, 276, 294, 405, 424, 427, 452, 490, 508, 519, 546, 572; 6:2, 19, 42, 68, 107, 140, 172, 206, 233, 270, 304, 317, 329, 367, 379, 411, 440, 456, 483, 513, 514, 518, 553, 554; 7:2, 6, 54, 55, 88, 89, 92, 120, 121, 123, 124, 153, 193, 194, 221, 224, 250, 251.
- b. Manwaring's *Digest*, 2:303.
- c. *Ibid.*, 3:76.
- d. Glastonbury Deeds, 5:10.
- e. *Ibid.*, 4:286.
- f. *Colonial Records of Connecticut*, 10:1, 39, 69, 75, 119, 151, 196, 241, 291, 327, 335, 353, 397, 405, 446, 457, 468, 553, 592, 597; 11:3, 57, 91, 173, 213, 220, 245, 302, 347, 367, 436. The Deputy for May 1759 was entered as Isaac Kimberly. There was no such person in Glastonbury, and Samuel seems indicated.
- g. Allyn S. Kellogg, *Memorials of Elder John White* (1860), 66.
- h. *Colonial Records of Connecticut*, 11:493, 497, 569; 12:6, 74, 121, 125, 246, 295, 341, 345, 456, 493, 540, 546; 13:1, 7, 92, 123, 169, 173, 234, 283, 288, 358, 414, 418, 511, 571, 575; 14:2, 71.
- i. 19 by Glastonbury Vital Records.
- j. Glastonbury Deeds, 10:50.
- k. *Ibid.*, 6:283.

## JOHN LEONARD

### SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

1. JOHN<sup>1</sup> LEONARD, born in England, killed by the Indians at Springfield, Mass., early in 1676; married at Springfield, 12 Nov. 1640, SARAH HEALD, born in England, , died at Springfield, 23 Nov. 1711. She married second, 21 Feb. 1676 [1676/7], Deacon Benjamin Parsons, who died at Springfield, 24 Aug. 1689; and third, at Springfield, 3 Nov. 1690, Deacon Peter Tilton, who died at Hadley, Mass., 11 July 1696.

The English origin of John Leonard has not been ascertained, and if related to James Leonard of Taunton, Mass., nothing has been found to indicate it. His wife's origin is likewise unknown, and since no Heald family was early settled at Springfield, she may have been brought there by a relative or as an indentured servant. It should be noted that in the next generation Gershom Hale or Heald, son of John Heald of Concord, settled in Springfield, and Sarah may have been Gershom's aunt and sister of John.

John Leonard was probably living in Springfield by 1638, for on 13 Jan. 1638/9 he proffered £2 towards the building of a house for the minister, Mr. Moxon, this comparing with £21 contributed by Mr. Pynchon, the wealthiest settler, but being twice as much as Robert Ashley, Thomas Merrick, and several others felt able to contribute. He was chosen surveyor, 26 Mar. 1640, to see that the highways were cleared and kept in repair. At the end of that year, action was taken against him, along with Henry Gregory and Robert

Ashley, for disposing of their canoes outside the plantation, contrary to order. He was one of the town appraisers 28 Mar. 1645, for the purpose of a rate [tax] for Mr. Moxon's maintenance [salary]. He received several allotments of land, from 1640 on, of average amount, and 10 Jan. 1658/9 was granted 40 acres on the highland "adjoyning to Tho Miricks meddow over Agawam." <sup>a</sup>

In the first seating of the Meeting-house which has survived, that of 23 Dec. 1659, John Leonard occupied the third seat, with Thomas Stebbins, Miles Morgan, and three others. In 1663 he was still assigned the third seat; but his name appears again "On ye South side below ye Pillars." This last is doubtless a mistake for his son Joseph, then eighteen, for Thomas Cooper, Jr., and other young men were placed here. <sup>b</sup>

He was chosen presenter in 1655, an office which required him to take oath. He was one of the overseers of workers on the highways, 1667, and a viewer of fences in the "Chickuppe" section, 1668, and viewer for the field on the west side of the River, 1674. He was fined for his inability to make "sufficient excuses" for failure to attend a town meeting on 11 Apr. 1665, but absented himself again a few months later and was again mulcted sixpence. <sup>c</sup>

Inventory of the estate of John Leonard of Springfield was taken 28 March 1676. Administration was granted to Sarah, relict of the said John Leonard, and to the son Joseph. On 10 Jan. 1676/7, "Whereas ye widow Sarah Leonard of Springfield presented by her son Joseph Leonard of Springfield a paper to this Court wherein was drawn up some articles of Agreement betwixt her and her children and with ye aprobation of those persons appointed by the Court for yt work . . . which is as followeth, viz: ye widdow Leonard to hold and injoy ye Orchard dureing her life & also the thirds of ye lands left by her dec'd husband, Joseph Leonard to have and possess ye land in ye upper meddow & three acres of ye other meddow and eight acres of ye homelott and Benjamin, Abell and Josiah to make an equall division of ye Rest of ye land lying in ye meddow amongst ym the Rest of ye estate to be ye widdows with this Proviso, ye Court confirmed ye abovesd ye widow paying to her three daughters unmarried fifteen pounds apiece and Benjamin, Abell and Josiah paying out of their shares four pounds apiece to their four sisters yt are married which will be three pounds apiec to them." <sup>d</sup>

After the widow's death, action was taken to distribute her dower, 10 Sept. 1714. "As to a Distribution of the Wd Sarah Tilton, alias Leonard's Thirds of the lands of her first Husband Leonard's estate which is £120 by the Court apprizal which is to Joseph Leonard £21.16.5 to the rest of the children being nine £10.18.12 apiece the sons and their heirs to have all the lands and the daughters and their heirs to be paid their shares by said sons



in equall proportion." Distribution was made 8 Apr. 1718 of "some land in Springfield that was heretofore the estate of John Leonard . . . and left to or settle upon Sarah Leonard the widow . . . which land lyeth over Agawam River," mention being made of the agreement of 10 Jan. 1676/7. The heirs named were: Joseph Leonard Dec'd's heirs (a double portion); Benjamin; Josiah Leonard representative of Josiah Dec'd; the representatives of Sarah Keep; Mary Bliss; the representatives of Martha Waite; the representatives of Lydia Bedortha; the representatives of Hannah Simon; Rebecca Billings; the representatives of Rachel Hancock; and Deborah Loeff.<sup>e</sup>

Children of John and Sarah (Heald) Leonard, born at Springfield:<sup>f</sup>

- i. JOHN,<sup>2</sup> b. 25 Aug. 1641; d. 22 June 1648.
- ii. JOSEPH, b. 17 Mar. 1642/3; d. 20 May 1643.
- 2 iii. JOSEPH, b. 20 May 1644; d. 9 Aug. 1716.
- iv. SARAH, b. 13 Dec. 1645; killed with her husband and a child coming from Longmeadow to Springfield, 20 Mar. 1676; m. at Springfield, 31 Dec. 1663, JOHN KEEP [Keep Family, No. 1].
- v. MARY, b. 14 Sept. 1647; d. at Springfield, 1 Jan. 1723/4; m. there 10 Nov. 1665, SAMUEL BLISS [Bliss Family, No. 1, xi], b. [say 1642], d. at Springfield, 23 Mar. 1720, son of Thomas and Margaret (——) Bliss.
- vi. MARTHA, b. 15 Apr. 1649; m. at Hartford, 8 June 1670, BENJAMIN WAIT, of Hatfield, who was slain at Deerfield, 29 Feb. 1703/4.
- vii. LYDIA, b. 20 Oct. 1650; drowned 18 Mar. 1683; m. (1) 18 Mar. 1674/5, JOHN<sup>2</sup> DUMBLETON [Dumbleton Family, No. 1, ii], b. at Springfield, 2 Jan. 1650 [1650/1?], killed by the Indians, 27 Oct. 1675, son of John<sup>1</sup> and Mercy (——) Dumbleton; m. (2) at Springfield, 2 Oct. 1678, JOSEPH BEDORTHA, b. at Springfield, 15 Mar. 1648/9, d. after 1707, son of Reice and Blanch (Lewis) Bedortha.
- viii. JOHN, b. 10 Sept. 1652; d. 13 Mar. 1662/3.
- 3 ix. BENJAMIN, b. 5 Sept. 1654; d. 21 Dec. 1724.
- 4 x. ABEL, b. 22 July 1656; d. 10 Mar. 1689/90.
- 5 xi. JOSIAH, b. 28 Mar. 1658; d. 15 Feb. 1688/9.
- xii. HANNAH, b. 19 Feb. 1659/60; d. before 1718; m. 24 Apr. 1676, DANIEL DENTON.<sup>g</sup>
- xiii. REBECCA, b. 26 May 1661; m. (1) 1 Dec. 1681, THOMAS MILLER [Miller Family, No. 1, ii], b. at Springfield, 1 Apr. 1653, d. there 5 Mar. 1689/90, son of Thomas and Sarah (Marshfield) Miller; m. (2) 30 Dec. 1691, SAMUEL BILLINGS, b. at Hatfield, 8 Jan. 1665, d. , son of Samuel and Sarah (Fellows) Billings.
- xiv. DEBORAH, b. 1 Oct. 1663; living 1718; m. GABRIEL LUFF of Jamaica, L. I.<sup>g</sup>
- xv. RACHEL, b. 8 Nov. 1665; m. 17 Mar. 1684/5, THOMAS HANCOCK, b. abt. 1645, d. at Farmington, Conn., 11 July 1734. The wife of Thomas Hancox was admitted to the Church in Farmington, Conn., 25 May 1690.

a. Henry M. Burt, *History of Springfield* (1898), 1:161, 166-8, 171-3, 175, 177, 190, 221, 242, 261, 388.

b. *Ibid.*, 1:127, 128, 329-31.

c. *Ibid.*, 1:243, 337, 354, 360, 363, 364, 405.

d. Old Hampshire Probate, 1:174, 186.

e. *Ibid.*, 2:108; 4:5.

f. Springfield Vital Records; John Adams Vinton, *The Giles Memorial* (1864), 279-80; Henry M. Burt, *History of Springfield* (1899), 2:597-8. Constance Leonard's ms. Leonard Genealogy at



the Springfield Public Library has also been consulted for this and subsequent generations. As with all the Springfield families, Thomas B. Warren's manuscript genealogies (photostatic typed copy at Connecticut State Library) has been found most useful.

g. Daniel Denton, supposed son of Rev. Richard Denton of Hempstead, L. I., was born, we should judge, as early as 1625, for in 1650 he signed a document (somewhat grandiloquently) at Hempstead as "Daniell Dentonius Clericus." A Daniel Denton was prominent in Jamaica, L. I., 1658-68. He is generally considered to be the same Daniel Denton who came to Springfield and married, for his second or third wife, 24 Apr. 1676, Hannah Leonard, then a girl of only sixteen years, by whom he had children born at Springfield, Hannah, 5 Aug. 1677, Samuel, 29 Sept. 1679, and Sarah who died November, 1681. "Mr." Denton was admitted an inhabitant of Springfield, 23 Feb. 1675/6; was mentioned there as schoolmaster in 1678 and 1679; Selectman and Recorder, 1681; and had departed by 5 Jan. 1682/3 when the Town declared forfeit certain land that had been granted him, as he had failed to fulfil the terms of the grant.

It was certainly the Springfield Daniel Denton who appears prominently in records of Jamaica, L. I., shortly thereafter, and Hannah Denton signed deeds with him in 1684, 1685 and 1687; Daniel Denton, Jr. witnessed a deed of the elder Daniel in 1688. No death record or probate has been found for Daniel Denton, but as we shall see, his "estate" was mentioned in 1703, and very probably he died by the early 1690's. Hannah (Leonard) Denton was dead by 1718, when the late settlement of the Leonard estate refers to representatives of "Hannah Simon," hence unless a mistake was made in entering or reading her surname she had remarried.

The 1718 Leonard distribution names Hannah's sister "Deborah Looffe" as living. There is no doubt that her husband was Gabriel Luff of Jamaica, so the Dentons evidently took her to Jamaica when they returned there. The will of Daniel Whitehead of Jamaica, made 13 Nov. 1703, gave to "Jonathan son of Jonathan Stevenson, of Norwalk, Conn., deceased, £20;" also, "I give the £30 which is due to me from the estate of my son in law, Daniel Denton, unto his children, and to Gabriel Loffe, begotten upon the body of Deborah Loffe, the present wife of Gabriel Loffe; viz., to Daniel Denton, Abigail Denton and Deborah Denton, and to Abigail and Mary Stebbins, daughters of Benjamin and Abigail Stebbins, my son and daughter in law."

Administration on the estate of Thomas Stevenson was granted, 9 July 1668, to Robert Coe and Daniel Denton of Jamaica, and they were appointed guardians of his children. Daniel Whitehead had five married daughters when he made his will and his son Jonathan was born about 1672. We would guess that Daniel Whitehead was born as early as 1635. His wife is said to have been Abigail daughter of Thomas Stevenson, and presumably she was sister of Jonathan Stevenson of Norwalk. Whitehead would be younger rather than older than Daniel Denton, Sr., so could not conveniently have been his stepfather, and it was probably Daniel Denton, Jr., whom Whitehead called his son-in-law [stepson]. Benjamin Stebbins married at Springfield, Mass., 9 Oct. 1682, Abigail Denton, who thus was born about 1662, and Abigail is usually considered to be a daughter of Daniel Denton, Sr., by an earlier marriage. Hence it is seen that Daniel and Abigail Denton were step-children of Daniel Whitehead. So if they were children of Daniel Denton, Sr., and if it was Daniel Sr. who married Hannah Leonard, these facts cannot be reconciled except upon the assumption that Daniel Denton, Sr., married first, Abigail [?Stevenson] by whom he had Daniel, Jr., and Abigail, and from whom he was divorced, enabling her to marry Daniel Whitehead and make the latter stepfather of Daniel, Jr., and Abigail Denton, and enabling Daniel Denton, Sr., to marry Hannah Leonard.

However, the will of Anne Graves, wife of William Graves of Newtown, L. I., made 31 Dec. 1670, named her daughters Elizabeth Everitt and Abigail Denton, and her "cousin" Thomas Stevenson. As the first Thomas Stevenson died in 1668, the latter may have been his son, and Mrs. Anne Graves may have been a sister of the elder Thomas Stevenson and aunt of the younger Thomas. If it was her daughter Abigail who married Daniel Denton, then Abigail would be niece instead of daughter of Thomas Stevenson. But so far as the Whiteheads are concerned, it is to be noted that both sons of Daniel Whitehead, Jonathan and Thomas, had Stevenson names. A somewhat far-fetched theory would be that Anne had been wife of Thomas Stevenson; that between 1668 and 1670 she had married Graves; that the daughters named (one of whom was Abigail Denton) were born Stevenson; and that Thomas Stevenson was a grandson, the term "cousin" being occasionally employed in that sense instead of meaning nephew.

A further difficulty is why the sum Daniel Denton was owing to his stepfather Daniel Whitehead was ordered to be given not only to Daniel Denton's children, but also to the two children left by his sister Abigail (Denton) Stebbins, and to the child of Deborah (Leonard) Luff, Deborah being sister of the Hannah Leonard who married, as we suppose, Daniel Denton, Sr. Perhaps Daniel Denton, Jr., was also in debt to his sister's husband Stebbins and to his father's brother-in-law Luff.

At Springfield, 27 Sept. 1681, Daniel Denton, Jr. and his wife Deborah were presented to the Grand Jury for disorderly marrying "while still under his father's government he ran away to



Rhode Island without his father's knowledge (though he had liberty from her parents to treat with her in reference to marriage)." [Old Hampshire Probate and Court Records, 1:216.]

We do not attempt to resolve these difficulties, but have merely brought together records which may aid others in arriving at a solution of the mystery.

2. JOSEPH<sup>2</sup> LEONARD (*John*<sup>1</sup>), born at Springfield, Mass., 20 May 1644, died there 9 Aug. 1716; married first, 24 Mar. 1671 [1671/2], MARY FELLOWS, baptized at Hartford, Conn., 9 Feb. 1650/1, died at Springfield, 29 Jan. 1680/1, daughter of Richard and Ursula (——) Fellows; married second, at Springfield, 29 Mar. 1683, ELIZABETH LYMAN, born at Branford, Conn., 6 Nov. 1655, died at Springfield, 6 July 1689, daughter of John and Dorcas (Plumb) Lyman of Northampton, Mass.; married third, 16 Jan. 1689/90, ANN (FORD) NEWBERRY, who died at Springfield, 16 Jan. 1690/1, widow of Thomas Newberry of Windsor, Conn.; married fourth, 2 Mar. 1692/3, REBECCA<sup>2</sup> DUMBLETON [Dumbleton Family, No. 1, ix], born at Springfield, 4 Oct. 1667, died there 16 Feb. 1693/4, daughter of John and Mercy (——) Dumbleton; married fifth, in 1695, MARGARET (——) THOMPSON, who died at Springfield, 1 Dec. 1711, widow of John Thompson (who died at Middletown, Conn., in 1694); married sixth, by 1714, SARAH (KILBOURN) CRANE [Kilbourn Family, No. 2, iv], daughter of Sergt. John and Sarah (Bronson) Kilbourn, widow of Joseph Crane. She married third, Benjamin Andrews of Farmington, Conn.

He was chosen Constable of Springfield, 1678 and 1696. He contributed 2s. 6d. towards fortifying the new Meeting-house, 1678. He was a fence viewer, 1694; surveyor of highways, 1692. He asked permission in 1696 to set up a saw mill on Agawam River, with "Liberty of Timber" and two or three acres to build on. This grant was measured in 1715.<sup>a</sup>

"Joseph Leonard the husband of Sarah Leonard had his death's wound by a cart overturning upon him which was August 9<sup>th</sup> 1716 he died the same day."

The final distribution of the estate of Joseph Leonard, Sr., was not made until 24 Nov. 1737, when it was set to the heirs of Samuel, the eldest son; the heirs of Joseph, the next son; Ebenezer, the other son; and Elizabeth Phillips alias Leonard, the only daughter.<sup>b</sup>

#### Children of Joseph and Mary (Fellows) Leonard, born at Springfield:

- i. MARY,<sup>3</sup> m. in Feb. 1674/5; d. in 1676.
- ii. SAMUEL, b. 16 May 1677; d. 17 July 1713 ae. 36; m. at Springfield, 3 June 1701, PENELOPE PHILLIPS, who d. 30 Mar. 1765. She m. (2) Oct. 1718, as his third wife, Lieut. Nathaniel Strong of Northampton, b. 25 Sept. 1673, d. Oct. 1750.
- iii. JOHN, b. 12 Sept. 1679; d. 14 Oct. 1679.
- iv. JOSEPH, b. 1 Jan. 1680/1; d. at West Springfield, 19 Oct. 1737 in 57th yr. (g. s.); Constable, 1720; fence viewer, 1719, 1723; surveyor of highways, 1718;<sup>c</sup> Lieut.; m. in 1704, SARAH BECKWITH, b. at Lyme, Conn., 15 Dec. 1684, d. 28 Feb. 1773 in 89th yr. (g. s.), dau. of Matthew and Elizabeth (——) Beckwith. Children, born at Springfield:<sup>d</sup>