

P73

PERLEY, Sidney
Plumer Genealogy
Augusta-92912/P73/1917

NEWCOMB & GAUSS
Printers
SALEM, MASS.

162075

THE PLUMER GENEALOGY.

15436

ABOUT the year 1630, Francis Plumer, a linen weaver, just past his thirty-sixth birthday, was living in Norfolk county, or in Woolwich, near London, England. Some say that he was a Welshman; but wherever his abode, or whatever his nationality, records have not removed the doubts that tradition has originated.

Tradition is also responsible for the statement that he was one of the company which came to New England with Rev. Thomas Parker of Newbury, Berkshire, England, in the early spring of 1634, in the ship *Hector*, sailing from London.

With Mr. Plumer came his family, consisting of his wife Ruth and three children, at least, Samuel, aged fifteen, Joseph, four, and Hannah, three. They had a daughter Mary, but whether she was born just before or immediately after their arrival is unknown.

They landed at Ipswich, where the company remained during the summer. Many of the men were given the rights of suffrage in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, of which Ipswich was a part; and Mr. Plumer was made a freeman on May 14, 1634. He must have been a member of the church in good standing at the time, for that was necessary to his eligibility to citizenship. He had undoubtedly united with the church in England.

Early in the autumn, the company, with some other colonists, decided to settle at a place about six miles northerly from Ipswich, between what are now known as Parker and Merrimack rivers. They established themselves on the north bank of Parker river, about two miles from its confluence with Plum Island river, where the stream is about three hundred feet wide. It was a beautiful spot, dry, healthful and fertile, and well supplied

with water. The village was laid out systematically, a lot of six acres being first marked off on the border of the stream for a public square. The following is a diagram showing the location of the first grants to freeholders of the settlement and consequently the location of their original habitations. As will be seen, Mr. Plumer located upon Merrimack street, as it was then called, which is now the main street, and only a few rods from the "village green." The house lots varied in size from half-an-acre on the square to four acres on the streets. It is presumed that Mr. Plumer chose the street location because he could thus obtain a larger quantity of land. All



land adjoining this first layout of the settlement was held in common for pasturage, forest and cultivation. Soon, however, some of the settlers wished to own larger tracts of land, and further grants were made to individuals by the local government, which the freemen of the colony constituted, and in many instances the settlers left the village to live upon their broader acres. Francis Plumer was thus enabled to purchase two lots next his own on the north, thus securing a homestead of twelve acres of land fit for cultivation, and the best in the region. Near his house he dug a well and planted an orchard. In the spring of 1893, the walls of the cellar of the house were disclosed by the plowshare, they having been permitted to remain when the cellar was filled, evidently. The older members of the family then living in the neighborhood

remembered having seen the old well. The illustration herewith given shows the site of the house as it appeared in 1893, the stake in the ground designating the precise location.

From the volume in which are recorded the grants of real estate made to the early settlers of Newbury, the following records are taken. These are all that appear in favor of Francis Plumer.

To Francis Plumer an house lott of four acres be it more or less in breadth eight rod & in length four score rods. Bounded by Mr. Batt on the south Richard Kent sen^r on the north Merrimack street on the west & great salt marsh on the east.

And four acres of upland on the neck over the Poynt be it more or less bounded by the River on the south the Creeke on the north Robert Coker on the east and Nicholas Batt on the west.

And a field Lott of twenty acres of upland and meadow on the Little River be it more or less bounded by John Mussellwhite on the south John Pike sen^r on the North the river on the west and the comon on the east

Also seven acres of meadow be it more or less and is bounded by Mrs. Straten on the south Thomas Smith on the north the four acre Lotts on the west and Archelaus Woodman on the east

And five acres of meadow be it more or less by Mr. Woodbridg & is bounded by Mr. Parker on the north Mr. Noyes on the south & west and a great Pond on the east

And eight acres of salt marsh in the Great marsh be it more or less Bounded by Mr. Stephen Dumer on the north & west and a creek west & Henry Lunt on the south

And two acres of upland be it more or less Bounded by Thomas Blumfield on the south the four acre lotts on the west John Remington on the east and

In consideration of Francis Plumer his resigning up into the Townes hand of four acres of land in the neck over the river wch he doth by these presents yeald up ther was granted unto him four acres of upland in the feild of Exchange land beyond the new Towne to enjoy to him & his heys Forever

Laid out unto Francis Plumer four acres of land be it more or less in the field of Exchange beyond the new Towne Joyning to Abraham Topans land on the east Nicholas Batts land on the west the comon on the south and the way going to Birchen meadows on the north

In consideration that Francis Plumer did resign up nine acres of that twenty two acres of his scituate on Merrimack River and also

did Resigne and yeild up into the Towne hand nine acres of Divident land they granted him the Inheritance of his owne house lott and Abraham Toppans house lott as they be seituat in the Old Towne notwithstanding they have lands therfore at the new Towne to enjoy to him & his heys Forever

ANTHONY SOMERBY Register.

The following is a copy of the record of another grant made to Mr. Plumer :—

In consideration of his receiving of twenty acres of land at the new Towne by the way and John Musselwhites land and Richard Kent senr his land Francis Plumer Resigned up unto the Townes hands the twenty acres of Land by that which was John Musselwhites and John Pikes Land wth Condition that if ever the lands be returned to any other use than Comon Then to returne to Francis Plumer againe Only Francis Plumer reserves the trees to himself and the meadow adjoining to the Little River but the upland to remaine to the Towne Forever

Laid out unto Francis Plumer for his Freehold portion in the neck over the great River five acres of marsh Land be it more or less bounded by John Bishops land on the east and southeast a great creek west and southwest and a little creek northwest and north and the comon North west from the creek on a straight line to John Bishops north west bounds.

In the list of those who in 1642 had rights in the ox and cow commons in Newbury the name of Francis Plumer appears, and five rights are assigned to him.

Mr. Plumer was one of the ninety-one freeholders of the town, and as such to him and his heirs was granted his share of salt marsh, woodland and planting lots. "This freehold right," said William Little, president of the Old Newbury Historical Society, "appears never to have been sold, but was transmitted through the line of his son Samuel, Joshua, Joshua, Simon, and to his daughter who married Samuel Danforth, and their son, George Plumer Danforth, who died in 1876, was the last living person who acted as one of the proprietors of Newbury, and he represented Francis Plumer. This proprietorship was terminated in 1827 by the sale of Plum Island, the last of the common and undivided lands of the town."

So far as the records show Mr. Plumer received but one

deed of real estate. In it he is described as of "Newbury, Lynnen weaver." The grantor was John Bishop of Newbury, carpenter; it was dated March 5, 1648, acknowledged March 31, 1652, and conveyed "an house lott of four acres be it more or less with a barne orchard and fences to it which Richard Kent senior formerly gave to Samuel Scullard as p^t of a marriage portion with Rebecka aforesaid another house lott of four acres be it more or less adjoining thereto with the appurtenances thereto belonging both which lotts are bounded by the house lot of Francis Plumer on the south W^m Palmer on ye north merrimack street on the west & a neck of upland on the east; with an other house lott of four acres be it more or less w^{ch} is bounded by W^m Palmer's lott that was on the south Robert Marstons lott on the north & the street west & neck of upland aforesaid East."^{*}

Mr. Plumer made two conveyances by deed. The first was to William Sawyer of Newbury, dated Nov. 16, 1649, acknowledged June 15, 1657, no wife being mentioned, and the consideration being five pounds. It conveyed "All that four acre lott be it more or less which was formerly Henry Palmers and is now in the possession of W^m Ilsley as it lyeth situate in Newbury aforesaid bounded with y^e land of the said W^m Ilsley on the south & north Merrimack street on the west & the neck of upland next to the marshes on the east."[†] The other conveyance, in which Mr. Plumer is described as of "Newbury, yeoman," was to Robert Coker of Newbury, dated Jan. 7, 1651, acknowledged March 31, 1652, no wife being mentioned. It conveyed four acres of upland in Newbury "adjoining to the land of the said Robert Coker where also his house standeth on the east end of the street on the south, & the lane going to Watts seller on the West & John Bartletts land on the North."[‡]

As soon as the people of the little hamlet, which consisted of about twenty families, had become established in their new home, Mr. Plumer was chosen to be its innkeeper, being licensed therefor by the general court Sept.

^{*}Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 1, page 101.
[†]Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 1, page 191.
[‡]Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 1, page 109.

3, 1635, in the language of the records, to "keepe an ordinary in the plantacon where he lived during the pleasure of ye court." He probably continued his inn for only two years, as, in June, 1637, John Knight was appointed to that position. Mr. Plumer devoted the remainder of his life to the cultivation of the soil, although he undoubtedly did more or less weaving for the families in the town.

His home was indeed a wilderness one. To the south six miles of unbroken forest lay between them and their friends at Ipswich. North of them, at thrice that distance, were the two weak, defenceless settlements on the Piscataqua river. On the east rolled three thousand miles of trackless deep, and on the west was an equally trackless illimitable wilderness, shielding within its gloomy depths cruel savages and wild beasts. The forest extended to their very thresholds, the limited clearings they made for agricultural purposes comprising most of the open country around them. They had very little chance for intellectual improvement, as books were rare and newspapers and schools were unknown. Anthony Somerby taught children a short time, however.

Oct. 16, 1637, with other prominent men, Mr. Plumer was fined ten shillings for defect of fences, and he agreed that the fine should be added to his tax.

At a generall towne meeting feb. 24; 1637. . . . It was . . . agreed that w^m moody, James Browne, Nic. Holt, Francis Plummer, Nic. Noyse shall lay out all the generall highways in the towne that are to be made, as likewise tenn rodd between man & man for garden platts, this to be done by the fifth of march on the penalty of 5 s^{peice}.

April 21, 1638, with several other prominent men, he was fined two shillings and sixpence for not attending a town meeting.

At a Towne meeting of ye 8 men ye 16 December 1646. Itt is ordered y^t all such Inhabitants as will keepe or purchase any of ye valley of plough land where Mr No— is oufe lands shall lay downe seven ac^s of their dividant lands for one there. & also w^s Inhabitants still keepe or purchase any of ye plough land wch lyeth in the verge where francis Plumer dwells shall lay downe five ac^s

of his dividant land for one there further it is ordered y^t all thofe y^t will accept of the land afore mentioned on thofe termes shall w^{thin} three dayes after the publicacon thereof give in their names to Richard Knight or elf the land is to be difpofed of & the dividant lands to be layd out at the new Towne as was formerly Apointed.

Francis Plumer served on the grand jury at Ipswich quarterly court in 1646, 1653, 1654 and 1658.

His wife, who had braved the dangers of the ocean voyage and thirteen years of wilderness life, died July 18, 1647, causing the first breach in the family circle. After being a widower about two years, his household affairs being cared for by his daughters, who were in their teens, he married Ann Palmer, said to have been widow of William Palmer, who was formerly of Newbury, but latterly of Piscataqua, March 31, 1649.

In 1653, Mr. Plumer was an appraiser of the estate of William Stevens of Newbury, and his autograph, as he affixed it to the inventory, is given herewith.

In 1653, there was living in Salisbury one Robert Pike, thirty-six years of age, who had been formerly a near neighbor of Francis Plumer in Newbury, and had removed across Merrimack river into Salisbury. He had a good education, and was a worthy son of a puritan, being a magistrate and having served as a member of the general court for two years. He criticised the general court for their intollerance in religious worship, declaring "that those members who had voted for it had violated their oaths as freemen; that their act was against the liberty of the country, both civil and ecclesiastical, and that he stood ready to make his declaration good." They were amazed at his audacity, and arraigned him therefor. He was tried Sept. 7, 1653, and was convicted, "disfranchised, and disabled to bear any public office in town or commonwealth, and from pleading any case except his own in any court; and further, that he be bound to good behavior during the Court's pleasure, and be fined the sum

Francis Plumer

of twenty marks to the country." The obnoxious order was, however, immediately repealed.

These proceedings caused great agitation in the region of Pike's home, and petitions were circulated and signed, asking for the revocation of the unjust sentence. The petition of the Newbury citizens was signed by Francis Plumer and his sons Samuel and Joseph, and fifty-five others. The petitions were presented to the court at its next session, the following spring. The record of the action of the general court begins as follows: "The Court cannot but deeply resent that so many persons of several towns, conditions, and relations, should combine together to present such an unjust and unreasonable request as the revoking the sentence passed the last court against Lieutenant Pike, and the restoring him to his former liberty, without any petition of his own, or at least acknowledgment of his offence," etc. The court appointed a commission of six men to learn the reasons why the petitioners signed the request. The commissioners proceeded to perform their duty and the various offenders appeared before them. Some said that they signed without reflection; some because they were asked to do so; and others because they thought it was the proper thing to do. Francis Plumer said that Pike was a useful man, and that he thought that he might petition without offence; that it was in the liberty of the court to accept it or reject it, and that he could not see that he had done amiss in petitioning. Samuel Plumer said that he intended no affront to the honored court, but only desired Pike's liberty in a lawful way. Joseph Plumer said that the reason he signed the paper was expressed in it, he apprehending the person to be a quiet and serviceable man; and he would not divulge the name of the person who brought him the petition, saying that he was not bound to do so.

Among the petitioners the commissioners found fifteen refractory spirits, who either gave no explanation, or asserted their right to petition whenever they thought fit, denying the right of any persons, or body of persons, to interfere. The names of these fifteen were duly reported to the general court, which bound them over in the penal

sum of ten pounds each for trial in the county courts. Eight of these fifteen belonged in Newbury, one of them being Joseph Plumer. But their trial never took place.

This demonstration may have been of little moment in itself, but the vital issue of the right of petition was thus, for the first time, boldly asserted in America; and these men were in the front rank of the genuine defenders of civil liberty. The action of these men will impress the reader more deeply when he considers that the spirit of that time was such that the result of their action would most likely be a punishment equal to that of Pike himself.

In September, 1659, Francis Plumer was relieved from ordinary training, by the county court held at Ipswich, on condition that he pay eight shillings per annum for the use of the military company.

In 1662, by his attorney, who was his son Samuel, Mr. Plumer recovered judgment in a civil suit against Richard Dole for cutting and carrying away hedging from his land. The trial was held before the commissioners of Newbury Aug. 27th.

March 7, 1663, Francis Plumer was chosen a fence viewer for his end of the town.

After they had lived together sixteen years, Mrs. Plumer died, Oct. 18, 1665. Forty-three days later, Nov. 29, 1665, Mr. Plumer married, thirdly, Beatrice, widow of William Cantlebury of Salem. The court records show that she was a disagreeable woman to have in the neighborhood, yet Francis Plumer himself told Christopher Waller "that he lived so comfortably with her . . . as a man would desire, and that if he had sought all ye world over he could not have had a Better wife."*

In the long controversy that in his time almost rent the church in the hamlet, which is spoken of at length in the sketch of Francis Plumer's son Samuel, Mr. Plumer and both his sons were opposed to their pastor. The question at issue was, shall the clergy or the church govern, or, in other words, it was the early struggle between presbyterianism and congregationalism. The matter was carried

*See Salem quarterly court files, book 25, leaf 91.

into the courts, and Mr. Plumer was fined one mark, and each of his sons a noble for their part in the affair. This was in 1669 and 1670.

Mr. Plumer was now an old man, having had a varied and an interesting career. He died Jan. 17, 1672-3, aged about seventy-eight. His wife, Beatrice, survived him, and before June, 1676, married Edward Berry of Salem, whither she removed. They did not get along pleasantly, in spite of her name, and she evidently lived at last with one of her children in Salem, dying before 1684.

Mr. Plumer died intestate, and Feb. 20, 1672-3, two magistrates, Mr. Samuel Symonds and Major-general Denison, appointed the two sons of the deceased to care for the estate and bring in an inventory until the court met at Ipswich.* The court convened at Ipswich March 25, 1675, and appointed Samuel Plumer, the elder son, administrator of the estate. His surety was William Sawyer.†

The inventory of the estate of the deceased is on file in the office of the probate court at Salem,‡ and the following is an accurate copy of the original document:—

An Inventory of the Houseing lands goods & chattells of Francis Plumer who deceased this life January 17th 1672 taken January 24th by Richard Knight John Emery senr Thomas Hale junr & Anthony Somerby

Imp ^r the House barne orchard & sixteen acres of land adioyning being four four acres Lotts with previdg of frehold	120— 0—0
It twenty acres of salt marsh & meadow	120— 0—0
It a horse at 8 ^l & 2 mares & 2 colts at 8 ^l	16— 0—0
It four oxen one yoake 13 ^l & another yoake 11 ^l	24— 0—0
four Cows at 18 ^l & 2 yerling steers & 2 calves at 5-10 being wintred	25—10—0
five and twenty sheep	12— 0—0
His wearring Apparrell w th 2 pr of bootes 2 cushions 3 hatts & a pr of shoes	17— 0—0
four swyne	2— 0—0
In the chamber in Indian Corne about 20 buf h	3— 0—0

*Records of Ipswich quarterly court, 1672, page 191.

†Records of Ipswich quarterly court, 1673, page 104.

‡Docket number, 22,135.

A thousand of boards 2 ladders 4 formes troughes 3 hold pofts & old timber of a house false downe	3— 0—0
A long cart with wheels stockbands boxes plow & Irons yoaks & 2 chaynes	3—10—0
In the shop a weavers loome with Gears harnesses & with 6 prongs pitchforks a spade f hoveil Hoos an Iron Barre a frooe Chiffells Augurs Beestle & wedges 4 axes 5 Iron Hoopes planes files an Iron vice a wooden vise a short Croffcut saw 2 hand sawes wimble stocks wimble bitts 2 saddles & bridles 2 paire of scales & weights & many other tooles for smiths tooles & carpenters square which we are not able to particularise	14— 0—0
In the parlour a feather bed & bolfter 2 pillows a blanket & coverlet & bedsted	7— 0—0
In the Hall a table & forme a Cubbard & great chest	3— 0—0
In another Roome a bed w th 2 flock bolfters a pr of blankets a Rug & Coverlet	4— 0—0
four paire of sheets 8 pillow bears 1 holland pillow bears a table cloth 7 napkins a shirt & 4 peices of old sheets & 2 caps	5— 0—0
two paire of gloves & a remnant of kerfy	0— 7—0
A small Iron kettle & Iron pot & Iron skillet 4 penter dishes 2 bafons a small flagon a pint pot a pint bottle a brafen candlestick, a lining dripping pan 4 spoones & an old Iron kettle	2—15—0
A bible & 4 bookes	0—16—0
It 2 chaynes, a small table 2 tramells a Grid Iron a smoothing Iron a spit tongs old fire f hoveil bellows a chest 3 paire of wooll cards a welf h bill 5 trays 2 bucketts 9 trenchers an earthen pan & pitcher a wooden platter 5 dishes a paire of shoes 4 sacks	2—15—0
In the Hall chamber 6 bufhels of barley 2 bufhels of Rye three bufhels of wheat 8 bufhels of oats a bufhell of peafe & beanes & 5 bufhels of meale & 2 bufhels of malt	4— 0—6
Three hayre seines a Kidder a seine a trowell 4 old hogfheds 3 barrells a meale trough a bottom of an old trunk a flanne 3 Raw sheep skins a hogskin A Reele a spinning wheele an old bedsted & lumber	1— 4—0
fifteen pound of wooll & 10 pd & 1-2 of cotton wooll	1—12—0
It 2 pound of feathers 4 pound of flaxen yarn & 2 pd of tow yarne	0—12—0
A Grindstone	0— 7—0

A Gun a sword bullets snapacke	1-10-0
two barrells a meshing tub a halfe bushel & gallon & a pounding trough	0-11-6
twelve pound of woollen yarne	1-10-0
In the Little chamber a great Tray a trough a fyder presse a cheese preff cartrope Dungpot old wheelbarrow & old f led 2 tand f kins	1- 0-0
In the dairy house 4 fitches & halfe of Bacon & a quarter of a barrell of porke about 28 pound of cheese and 3 pound of butter with 2 barrells & a butter tub	4-10-0
In the Cellar a peice of leather a full Barrell of fyder 2 empty barrells & an old Churne	1- 5-0
Debts from Joseph Plumer	6- 0-0
from William Sawyer	4- 0-0
In Larde	0-10-0
Total Sum is	412-05-6

ANTHONY SOMERBY
RICHARD KNIGHT
JOHN EMMERRY JR.
THOMAS HALE JUNR.

Samuell Plumer administrator to the estate returned this Inventory into court upon oath to be a full & true Inventory of the estate to the best of his knowledge & if more doe after appeare that he will add it In court held at Ipswich the 25 of march 1673

As attest ROBERT LORD Cleric.

	l	s	d
Debts due from the estate to severall men and to the widdow	33	8	9
	35	0	0
	68	8	9
Clare estate is	343	16	9
	412	05	6

Debts due from francis Plumors estat defeased	0	18	0
Item to goodm Pore	0	10	0
It for two bushels of wheat for the burial due to goodman march	0	13	3
to goodie Rondall	0	3	0
to goodman Person	0	8	0
to John Adkinson	0	17	0
to goodman Sumerbe	0	17	0
to goodman Ilf lay	0	4	6
to thomas haines	0	2	0

to goodman Perfe	0	4	0
to the Conftable for Rates	0	17	0
to goodman Emry	0	15	0
to Stover Grenleaf	0	12	0
to Peter tayok	0	15	0
to Samvell Plumer	4	6	0
to Abram Adams	0	4	0
to Thomas Moyre	1	15	0
to John Wold	0	6	0
to goodman davis	1	0	0
to Joseph Palmer	0	10	0
to Marie duoll	2	10	0
to goodman Mirick	0	3	0
to Richard dole	4	10	0
to Capt Gerifh	0	4	6
to thomas hale senior	0	6	6
to Rich knight goodm Sumerbe John Emry tho hale	1	0	0
	24	08	9
to william titeum	2	0	0
2 Befides what is due to the widdow vpon a late Agreement	5	0	0
to John knight	2	0	0

Crossed out on back of the original inventory is the following:—

The widdow doth lay Clayme to these things vnder written as due to her by marriag Contract that is not fet down in the Covenant (viz):

A Cloake prifed at	3-0-0
2 chayns at	0-5-0
A musket	1-0-0
A bedsted at	1-0-0
A brewing tub & barrell	0-5-0
2 pewter Chamber pots	0-5-0
pot hooks & tofting Iron	0-3-0
And a little kettle	0-4-0

Befides (the faith) that her husband borrowed of her after she was marryed fifty shillings & thirty shillings and two & forty shillings in mony within a weeke after she was marryed & the faith he promised to pay her againe.

The marriage covenant referred to is on file in the office of the probate court at Salem, with the papers in this estate, and is as follows:—

Articles of Agreement made the five & twentyeth day of November In the yeare of our Lord one thousand fix hundred and Seaven-ty, Betweene Francis Plumer of Newbury in the County of Essex in Newengland & Beatrice his wife, witneffeth that said Francis Plumer did & do hereby agree as a contract between him the said Francis Plumer and Beatrice his wife upon their marriage, that *if* the said Francis Plumer shall Deceafe before the said Beatrice his wife that then the said Beatrice shall have all the estate of goods & chattells that was properly hers before marriag, and also to have the new Roome and halfe the Orchard *with* half *of* the please and the Thirds of the Lands of the said Francis Plumer her husband during her naturall life and also fire wood out of the said Francis Plumers twenty acres that is neere the little River & the garden as it is now enclosed And if the said Beatrice shall deceafe first before her said husband that then she shall have full liberty & power to dispose of what estate was properly hers before marriag to any of her relations whomsoever she please And if any person or persons shall lawfully clayme any debts due from William Cantlebury deceased that then the said estate of the said Beatrice shall pay such debts & not the estate of the said Francis Plumer her now husband

november 25th: 1670

Signed seald & deliuerd

in the p^{re}nce of vs

RICHARD DOLE

ANTHONY SOMERBY

FRANCIS P PLUMER

his marke

(SEAL)

An Invoyes of the estate that Francis Plumer had with Beatrice his wife

Imp^{ts} A horse & mare & cattell so many as was prised to him at *five & thirty pounds to be paid within one yeare* after the decease of Francis Plumer

It two Ruggs, & four blanketts, two paire of sheets of cotten & linnen, and a pr of *fine* sheets of six yards a peice in them, one feather bed one brass kettle & an Iron kettle a paire of sheets more, & one chest with a coffer with wearing linnen in them & petticoats & wacoats two pillows foure platters & a bason & poring pint pott a paire of old curtaines & vallons

Theise goods above said Francis Plumer do by these p^{re}sents acknowledge to resigne vp unto the heirs of his wife Beatrice or *her* assigns if the said Beatrice shall Deceafe before the said Francis Plumer (Casualtyes excepted) or else at the Death of the said Francis these are to be at her dispose

the five & thirty pounds above said is to be paid within one yeare after the decease of either of the said Francis plumer or Beatrice his wife

november 25th 1670

witnes RICHARD DOLE

ANTHONY SOMERBY

FRANCIS P PLUMER

his marke

It is to be vnderstood that house & land at Salem that was William Cantleburys is the proper estate of the said Beatrice the now wife of Francis Plumer & that the said Francis Plumer do acknowledge himselfe to have no Interest in it by the marriag contract between the said Francis & the said Beatrice besides four cattell that is now in the hands of me the said Francis Plumer and also what is due by bills from Joseph Plumer Daniell Thurston & Rob^t Long & further Francis Plumer do engage not to require any thing for keeping my wifes Grandchild for the time past to this day & there is also four sheep in my hands

november 25th 1670

Witnes

RICHARD DOLE

ANTHONY SOMERBY

FRANCIS R PLUMER

his marke

At the decease of Francis Plumer his homestead passed to his son Samuel, who gave it to his son Ephraim by an interesting deed, which is still preserved with care by descendants. This deed is dated Nov. 7, 1679, and begins as follows: "Whereas a contract of marriage exists between my son Ephraim and Hannah the daughter of Henry Jaques," etc. The house was owned and occupied by the family of Ephraim until it was taken down. The house has since remained in the possession of the family.

Francis Plumer is the ancestor of nearly all the people bearing the name of Plumer or Plummer in the United States. His children were all by his first wife, Ruth, and were as follows:—

- 1-1. SAMUEL², born about 1619. *See family numbered "2"*.
 2-1. JOSEPH², born about 1630. *See family numbered "3"*.
 4-out. HANNAH², born perhaps about 1631; married Samuel Moores of Newbury May 3, 1653. She survived her wedding day but nineteen months, and died in Newbury Dec. 8, 1654, at the age of about twenty-three, childless. Mr. Moores subsequently married Mary, daughter of William and Barbara Hsley of Newbury Sept. 12, 1656; and probably removed from Newbury.
 5-IV. MARY², born about 1634; married, first, John, son of John and Martha Cheny of Newbury April 20, 1660. He was a brother of her brother Joseph's wife. Mr. Cheny died in Newbury, where they lived, Jan. 7, 1671. Mr. Cheny's physician was Dr. David Bennett of Rowley, and during his professional visits became acquainted with Mrs. Cheny, whom he married April 29, 1672. She

lived with Doctor Bennett in Rowley until her decease in 1682. At the time of her marriage with Doctor Bennett he was about fifty-seven years old; and after her death he married Rebecca Spencer in 1683, when he was nearly seventy. She was a daughter of Capt. Roger Spencer and a sister of the wife of Sir William Phips, the wealthy governor of the colony. He had three children by each wife. Mrs. Bennett died March 26, 1712; and the doctor Feb. 4, 1718-9, at the great age, according to the records, of one hundred and three years. Mary Plumer had three children by each of her husbands.

2997

#718

Elizabeth m. Samuel Plumer
 → SAMUEL PLUMER², born in England about 1619. He was a yeoman, and lived in Newbury.

In 1642, the town granted him some land in the following language:—

In Consideration of Samuell Plumer his resigning & yielding into the townes handes seven acres of ex-change land out of his father's two and twenty at the — which his father gave him and ten akers of divide which he doth by the pents They granted him — his house lot and halfe an akre that was Joh — chins and a quarter and halfe that was formerly fa — knights to mr Brownes and an akre of his owne lo — the hill to enjoy to him and his heirs forever.

The following extracts from the town records relate to an exchange of land with Edmund Moores:—

Samuell Plummer of this towne March 1st 1648. Acknowledged to have sold unto Edmund Moores of this towne, also, his seven Akers of lande that lyeth in the verge of lotts that butteth the lane going downe to watts his feller on the righte hande of the lane being at ye west end of the lott, the Lande of Henry Somerby on the north side & the East end & the Lande of francis plumer on the south to remaine to him & his heires for ever for & in Consideration of Seaven Akers of marish & meadow that lyeth in the great marish on the east side of those lotts that lyeth in the old towne from newbury River vp to the oxen Comon. before me Anth. Somerby.

Edmund Moores of this towne March 1st 1648 Acknowledged to have sold unto Samuell Plummer also of this town for & in Consideration of foure Akers of planting land y^t lyeth on the Right hand of that lane that goeth down to watts feller, all his Seaven Akers of marish and meadow that lyeth in the great marish, bounded with

the land of John Pike fere on the north & east, & with the land of francis plumer on the South, & the verge of lotts that lyeth between Newbury great River and the oxen common on the — to remaine to him & his heires for ever before mee Anth. Somerby.

At a Generall meeting of the Towne march 6: 1671, 72. . . Samuell Plummer proposed to surrender vp all his right Title & interest in his fathers twenty acres neere the little River for about three acres of marsh in the necke referveing the timber for himselfe.

At a General meeting of the Towne April 29: 1672 whereas the Towne of Newbury and Samuell Plumer made choise of Capt. will Gerrish Archelaus woodman Steven Greenleife Daniell Peirce fere & John Emerfon to Issue a motion of Sam: plumer about the exchange of what Land the said Plumer hath by the Little River in Lobbs pound derived from his father francis Plumer as by deed appeared. It is agreed this eleventh day of May 1672, That francis Plumer & sam: Plumer doe declare themselves satisfied for all their Interest (except wood & timber) what interest they have had or may in the said land or to any exchange the Towne may make with any man for the said Land, although by agreement if disposed of it would bee theirs for and in consideration of a parcell of meadow, over the River in the necke, about four acres bee it more or lesse, bounded from the south corner post by a pond from his own Land to another pond which is neare a strait Lyne from thence to another pond, which lyes west from that pond & so to the great Creeke to a Stake agreed upon by vs, which runs into the great River and so to the great River vpon the north his owne Land on the east & the Comon on the South. This being the full Issue of the exchange & demand that may be made by francis Plumer his heirs or assignes or Sam: Plumer his heirs or assignes. In witness hereof wee have put our hands this 11th of may 1672

WILL GERBISH
 ARCHELAUS WOODMAN
 JOHN EMERY FERE
 STEVEN GREENLEIFE.

Mr. Plumer's real estate transactions, as recorded in the registry of deeds, are several in number. In 1666, he bought of William Deal of Haverhill twelve and one-half acres of land in the east part of that town;* and the next year he sold it to John Swaddock.† He purchased of John Perry of Newbury, for thirty-five pounds, April

*Old Norfolk Registry of Deeds, book 2, page 133.

†Old Norfolk Registry of Deeds, book 3, page 70.

1, 1651, "all that his house land meadow marsh & upland containing 21 acres be it more or less eight acres of it being partly upland and partly meadow commonly called the fishermans lott being bounded with Newbury great river on the north the land of Mr Henry Sewall on the east & west & Steven Kent's land on y^e south the other land being nine acres adjoining to the house bounded with the land of Daniel Thurston on y^e west the marsh on y^e south; other four acres of it lying in the same is also bounded with the said river on the north and the land of the said Mr Sewall on the east West and south and four acres also adjoining to the said nine acres on y^e east wch the said John Perry formerly bought of Abell Huse with priviledge of a freehold which John Merrell also sold to him formerly belonging to John Kelly deceased."* June 3, 1651, Mr. Plumer bought of William Gerrish of Newbury, for one hundred pounds, "All that his dwelling house barn hayhouse with all other housen on the ground situate in Newbury old-town with twelve acres of broken up ground or thereabouts be it more or less with 6 acres of pasture ground adjoining to it on the south side, butting on y^e river with islands & flats, . . . also all shelves dressers doers with their locks & keys to the said house belonging with a freehold or priveledge of comoning; . . . & what other land the s^d W^m Gerrish hath in the ould town Newbury bounded high street on the north the green on the east Newbury river on the south and Anthony shorts land on y^e west."† He sold to William Sawyer, in 1656, five acres of salt marsh in the great neck in Newbury,‡ and bought it back ten years later.§ He also conveyed to Sawyer ten acres of marsh at a place called Jericho in the great marsh in Newbury, in 1656,|| and bought it back ten years later.¶

Mr. Plumer conveyed to his son Sylvanus, upon the occasion of his first marriage, Jan. 18, 1681-2, one new house with an orchard, containing half-an-acre of land,

*Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 1, page 130.

†Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 1, page 129.

‡Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 1, page 135.

§Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 3, page 13.

||Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 1, page 185.

¶Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 3, page 10.

the land having formerly belonged to Mr. Sewall; also twenty acres of upland & pasture & plow land joining to my house bounded with the riuer upon the south Mr Kents & Rich^d Doles land westerly, John Kents orchard & the hight st. Northerly and the orchard of John Webster & the Greene easterly together with my house barne & all other out houseings orchards fences appertaining;" sixty-seven acres of marsh at Jericho in the great marsh in Newbury; sixteen acres of "pasture land joyning to the s^d meadow southerly and easterly with the land of John Emery and Ephraim Northerly and the land of Rich^d Dole southerly and by merrimack st on the west;" and his freehold right in the common lands in Newbury.* Nov. 14, 1698, "in consideration of y^e affection he had to his dutiful son Joshua Plumer of Newbury and as a recompence for said son's good service which he had done for him in his old age," he conveyed to him "a parcell of about three acres of vpland with dwelling house barn standing vpon the same bounded vpon y^e high street northerly by y^e green commonly caled Old Town Green easterly by John Kents orchard Westerly by y^e land of Silvanus Plumer Southerly from ye Northerly corner of John Websters Orchard vpon a streight line to y^e south-east corner of John Kents orchard;" a two acre lot known as "Cheneys lott with one acre & a half of pasture land joyning to it y^e whole being bounded with land formerly in y^e possession of Rich^d Kent late of Newbury Dec^d on y^e west John Kents land & the high st on y^e north and the grantors Pasture on y^e East and y^e River on ye South;" one and one-half acres of land, "bounded with Ephraim Plummers land on ye north Richard Doles land on ye South Merrimack street and Rich^d Doles Orchard on ye west & the Grantors Pasture on y^e east;" "a little orchard on y^e south side of y^e great Hill Joyning to ye High street;" four acres of marsh on Plum island, "which I have possessed for many years past;" ten acres of marsh on Newbury river; the wood and timber growing on twenty acres of land in Lobbs Pound; the grantor's rate lot laid out to him in the "upper woods beyond

*Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 4, leaf 448.

Artichock River;" and six acres of pasture in a place called John Emery's neck.*

In 1688, he conveyed to John Emery, sr., of Newbury about one and one-half acres of marsh on Plum island, in Newbury.†

Mr. Plumer lived, during the latter part of his life, at least, west of the green and about thirty rods north of the river, in an old house that formerly stood where the residence of Dr. Daniel T. Plumer now stands.

The travel from Boston and Salem to Portsmouth was doubtless through this little settlement, and Samuel Plumer established a ferry across the river near his house, probably, previous to 1649, as that year, in answer to his petition, the general court granted him liberty of two pennies for each person he ferried across the stream. Some years later, after Thurlow's bridge was built across the river, he petitioned the general court again, "humbly Shewing that by a county highway & bridge set fourth & erected up the river by y^e county court of Ipswich for y^e benefit of y^e county his inheritance & trade is much weak-ened & endangered & humbly desiring this court to make such due reparation to him in consideration thereof as in their wisdomes they shall see meet." The erection of this bridge did not cause the abolition of the ferry, and the court allowed Mr. Plumer "to take one penny more than formerly for the passage of each person & each beast that he shall transport over that ferry & that he is and shall be discharged of all rates that are or shall be made in refference to the bridge and highway mentioned in his petition so long as he shall duly attend y^e ferry." He was conducting the ferry as late as 1684, when the town paid him ten shillings for ferriage.

Mr. Plumer was publicly known all his life. He served in the county court as a trial juror in 1647, 1664, 1668 and 1679, and as a grandjuryman in 1665, 1666, 1667, 1673, 1677, 1680 and 1681. He also served, in 1648, on a jury of inquest which sought to discover the cause of the death of a young son of Thomas Smith of Newbury, who was found dead in a pit on the green.‡

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 13, leaf 73.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 15, leaf 193.

‡Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 1, page 54.

He also held numerous town offices. He was a fence viewer for the Neck in 1666 and 1680, and he probably lived there for a while, perhaps for some twenty years, until he took up his abode on the other side of the river. He was chosen constable in 1671, but held the then honorable office of tithingman in 1680, 1682, 1684-1686 and 1697. He served as one of the selectmen, to manage the prudential affairs of the town in 1665, 1670, 1673 and 1681; and was the representative of the town in the general court in 1676. In those days the inducements to serve as a legislator were not very strong, except the honor. It necessitated a long and tedious journey through a country little travelled, and the pay was small, but this was a year that demanded able deputies, as the Indian war was about at an end, leaving the people poor in goods and weak in defence, so many of the able men having been killed.

Mr. Plumer took the oath of a freeman when about twenty-two years of age, and with most of the men of the colony took the oath of allegiance to the King in 1678.

He served on committees in the church many times, and assisted in the settlement of estates.

Mr. Plumer was one of the signers of the petition to the general court for the reversal of its action in regard to the punishment of Robert Pike of Salisbury. Although he was not quite as assertive as his younger brother, yet he was in full sympathy with the feeling entertained by his entire family and others that the right of petition to a representative body chosen by themselves was a natural one.

He was the most prominent member of his family in the early local church troubles. The church in Newbury and churches generally in New England originally were governed in the congregational way, and for the first ten years all went smoothly in the church at Newbury. Mr. Parker had at first supported the congregational system, but a few years later entertained the idea of control by the clergy. Then began to rise a restlessness on the part of the laity that they should have a voice in their own affairs. The church was awakening to its position when the assembly of elders was held at Cambridge, Aug. 4,

1643. The presbytery system at Newbury was discussed freely, and the famous Cambridge platform, which was the result of the convention, was in a great degree the outgrowth of the discussion. In Newbury, this feeling against the control by the clergy was manifest in 1664, by the town voting to reduce Mr. Parker's salary. In 1669, the matter was so acute that the civil authority was sought to adjust the differences and restore harmony. The people were tenacious of their supposed rights, and jealous of every real or apparent encroachment upon them. The church was divided into two nearly equal parties. Edward Woodman, the leader of the congregational side, was a man of talent, influence, firmness and decision. One of his most devoted supporters was Samuel Plumer. Mr. Parker continued his labors, and both factions regularly attended the services of the church. Each party claimed to constitute a majority of the members of the church. Councils were called to advise, and each party held meetings, passed orders, etc. When the matter was brought before the county court the judges had diverse opinions, and so the civil power proved inadequate.

On a Sunday in February, 1670, one of the opposers of Mr. Parker read a paper in the open congregation after meeting without leave of the elders, charging Mr. Parker with being the cause of the division and trouble. Mr. Woodman called a "church meeting," at which his party "considered" the charges, and found Mr. Parker guilty and worthy of blame. This decision was reported to him by Samuel Plumer and three other men, and Mr. Plumer read the finding of the meeting to him.

The next month, Mr. Parker was suspended from all official acts in the church. A number of letters passed between the factions, each exhorting the other not to be obstinate, but to submit to the discipline of the church. Samuel Plumer was generally the spokesman on these occasions.

The next month, at a council, called for the purpose, a covenant was agreed upon, but it was of brief continuance, and the ecclesiastical storm again raged.

May 29, 1671, the county court decided that the doings of Mr. Woodman's party were improper and offensive,

not being a majority of the church, and the participants were accordingly fined. Francis Plumer, the father of Samuel, was fined one mark* and Joseph and Samuel, the sons, a noble† each. After some months, quietude again settled over the church.

Mr. Plumer married Mary, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Bitfield, about 1646. She was probably living in Boston at that time. Mr. Bitfield died in 1660, having, in his will, devised his residence in Boston to his wife for her life and then to his grandson, Samuel Plumer, jr., to be entailed in his family. Mrs. Bitfield died in 1669, and Samuel Plumer, jr., took possession of the Bitfield homestead upon his marriage the next year.

Mrs. Plumer died in 1701, and Mr. Plumer died in the summer of the following year, at the age of eighty-three.

The following is an accurate copy of Mr. Plumer's will transcribed from the original instrument on file in the office of the probate court at Salem:—

In y^e name of God I Samuel Plumer of Newbury in the County of Essex in y^e Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England (yeamon) being in Bodily health & of a disposing mind do Humbly Comitt my Soule into y^e hands of God who gave it & my Body to y^e earth hoping thro' y^e Mercies of God in Jesus christ to have a happye resurrection

And for my Worldly Goods I do dispoſe as is heerafter expreſſed
Imprn. To my son Samvel Plumer of Boston I give five pounds in or as mony to be paid by my son Silvanus Plumer w^{thin} one moneth after my Death Befides what I formerly gave him

Item To my son Ephraim Plumer I give one shilling in mony to be paid by my executr besides what I formerly gave him

Ite To my son Silvanus Plumer I give one shilling to be payd by my executr besides ye housing & land that I have given him by deed of gift under my hand & seale

Ite To my son Joshua Plumer I give all my utenfiles of Husbantry as also all the diviſion or diviſions of land that shall be layd out in any of ye Comons or undivided lands of Newbury to me or my right by vertu of my paying Rates in the years 1684 & 1685 to the Ministry in Newbury according to the votes of sd Towne in the year 1685 besides the housing & lands wch I gave to my said son by a deed under my hand & seale bearing date Novembr 14th 1698.

*A mark was equal to 13s., 4d.

†A noble was equal to 6s., 8d.

Itē To my son in law Nathaniel Hazeltine who formerly married wth my Daughter Ruth (now deceased) I give one shilling to be paid by my executr besides what I formerly gave to my sd Daughter.

Itē To my Daughter Mary Swett the wife of John Swett I give one shilling to be paid by my executr besides what I have formerly given her.

Itē To my Daughter Hanah Bachelour the wife of David Bachelour I give one shilling to be paid by my executr besides what I have formerly given her

Itē I Give to my Daughter Elizabeth Jackman the wife of Richard Jackman five pounds in or as mony to be paid by my executr as also the Great Bed in my Kitchen Chamber wth one Bolster to the sd Bed belonging to be delivered to her imediatly after my Death

Itē To my Daughter Deborah Jaques the wife of Stephen Jaques I give one shilling to be paid by my executor besides what I have formerly given her

Itē To my son in law Joseph Morfe who Married wth my Daughter Lydia (deceafed) I give one shilling besides what I formerly gave her wch shilling is to be paid by my executr

Itē To my Grand Daughter Lydia Morfe the daughter of Joseph Morfe I give one shilling to be pd by my exeecutr

Itē To Bittfield Plumer the son of my son Ephraim Plumer I give five pounds in or as money to be paid by my son Silvanus Plumer wthin one month after my deceafe also I give him three of my Great platters

My Will is that Kate my Indian servant at my death shall be free & at her owne dispose & I give her one flock bed one Blanket & one coverlid

All ye rest of my Estate both real & p^{sonal} (not formerly by me dispofoed of in this my last will & Testament or other wife) that is due to me by Bill bond Booke or other wise or that in time to come may become due to me I give to my son Joshua Plumer hereby ap-
poynting him to be the sole executor of this my last will & Testa-
ment my debts & funerall charges to be by him discharged heerby
revoaking all former wills of mine In wittness wherof I the sd
Samuel Plumer as my last will & Testament have heerunto sett my
hand & seale this 24th day of January. Ano Domi 1704

Signed Sealed & declared

by m^r Samuel Plumer
in p^{resents} of us

JOSEPH WILLET
RICHARD DOLE ye 3d
HENRY SHORT

SAMUELL PLUMER [SEAL]

This will was proved Oct. 14, 1702, at which time an inventory was filed in court by the executor. The following is an exact copy of this inventory taken from the original document on file in the office of the probate court at Salem:—

An Inuentry of the estat of samuell Plumer lat of Newbury de-
cest taken this 23 dy of september 1702.

to thre oxen & 5 Cowes and 3 Calves and 7 young cattell	33— 0—0
to 15 shep: and 7 lambs:	4 ^{lb} 8 ^s 0 ^d
to a horse 20 ^s : to 11 swine	5 ^{lb} 10 ^s 0 ^d 10—18—0
to waring apparill wowllin and linin and bookes	14— 0—0
to 2 fathar bead and 3 flok beds and 5 Covrleds a blinkit 2 Ruges	14— 0—0
to 2 bedsteds and a paire of Curtins: and bedcords	2— 0—0
to 2 trunckes and a chist: and 3 tabals: and 5 joyent stuels	3—10—0
to a Cubard 20 ^s : and 6 Chares 12 ^s and 2 whels: and ould Caske	3—10—0
to putuar and bras. and Iron pots and andears: tongs: a Iron cettel	6— 0—0
to a bead pan 10 ^s and severall utensels	2— 0—0
to corne and heay 20 ^{lb} to a plow Chairs whels youckes. axis howes	23— 0—0
to sieths bedall Ringes wiges. a saddell a sled	2— 0—0
to a bill standing out 20 ^{lb} to shepes woull and cloth	21—18—0
	135—16—0
halfe ye ferry boat & halfe the Cannoe	1—00—0
	136—16—0

Taken by us
TRISTRAM COFFIN
CUTTING NOYES

The inventory was sworn to by Joshua Plumer, the
executor, Oct. 14, 1702.

Mr. Plumer's homestead was next occupied by his son Silvanus, and has been in the possession of the family since that time.

Their children were born in Newbury, as follows:—

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→

- 6—I. SAMUEL³, born April 20, 1647. *See family numbered "6"*.
- 7—II. MARY³, born Feb. 8, 1649-50; married John, son of Stephen and Hannah (Merrill) Swett of Newbury Dec. 6, 1670, the day after her brother Samuel was married. Mr. Swett was born in Newbury Oct. 20, 1648. They lived in Newbury. She died before 1717; and he died in Newbury March 17, 1717-8. They had seven children.
- 8—III. JOHN³, born May 11, 1652. At the age of twenty-three, he entered the military service of the colony in the armed resistance to the final attempt of King Philip to regain Indian supremacy over New England; and he was one of the famous company, which has ever since been known as "The Flower of Essex," being composed of many of the best and most promising young men of the county. During the summer of 1675, King Philip was operating along the Connecticut river, and a considerable force of the colonists were stationed at Hadley. Preparations were being made to gather at that place a large supply of provisions, and a considerable quantity of wheat was in stacks at Deerfield. To take that to Hadley in safety required a military escort, and this company of about eighty men volunteered for the service. The wheat was threshed and in wagons had proceeded on its way as far as a brook in the South Deerfield woods, when the company stopped to gather some grapes along the narrow road. Here, the Indians ambushed them in great numbers, and only seven or eight of the colonial soldiers escaped from the murderous fire of the unseen savages. Young Plumer was slain. This was on Sept. 18, 1675. He was unmarried.
- 9—IV. EPHRAIM³, born Sept. 16, 1654. *See family numbered "9"*.
- 10—V. HANNAH³, born Feb. 16, 1655-6; married David, son of John and Rebecca Batchelder of Reading Dec. 30, 1679. He was born in Dedham Dec. 14, 1648. They lived in Reading; and had five children.
- 11—VI. SILVANUS³, born Feb. 22, 1657-8. *See family numbered "11"*.
- 12—VII. RUTH³, born Aug. 7, 1660; married, first, Richard, son of

Henry and Anne (Knight) Jaques of Newbury Jan. 18, 1681-2, on the same day that her brother Silvanus was married. Richard Jaques was a brother of the wife of his wife's brother Richard, and of the husband of her sister Deborah. He was born in 1658; and lived in Newbury, where he was drowned May 28, 1683, at the age of about twenty-five. She married, secondly, Nathaniel, son of John and Joan (Auter) Haselton of Haverhill July 20, 1688. He was born in Rowley Sept. 20, 1656; and lived in Haverhill. She was his second wife, and died before 1702. He died in Haverhill, where he was a farmer, Jan. 14, 1723-4, at the age of sixty-seven. She had two children by her first husband, and five by the second.

- 13—VIII. ELIZABETH³, born Oct. 19, 1662; married Richard, son of James and Joanna Jackman of Newbury June 26, 1682. He was born in Newbury Feb. 6, 1660. He succeeded his wife's family in the business of the ferry over Parker river. They had five children.
- 14—IX. DEBORAH³, born March 13, 1665; married Serg. Stephen, son of Henry and Anne (Knight) Jaques of Newbury May 13, 1684. He was born in Newbury Sept. 9, 1661; and lived there, being a carpenter. He built the meeting house there in 1699 for five hundred and fifty pounds, and this was the church of Oldtown from 1700 to 1806, a large portion of the worshippers there being Plumer families or their connections. He is best known, however, by his interesting and valuable journal. He died in the summer of 1744, his wife having gone before him. They had ten children, one of whom was Richard, who, as a soldier against the Indians at Norridgewock, Me., shot the chief, Mogg Megone, and the French priest, Father Sebastian Rásle, Aug. 23, 1724.
- 15—X. JOSHUA³, born July 2, 1668, twin with Lydia. *See family numbered "15"*.
- 16—XI. L³ A³, born July 2, 1668, twin with Joshua; married Joseph, son of Anthony and Elizabeth (Knight) Morse of Haverhill Jan. 4, 1688-9. He was born in Newbury July 29, 1665; and was a weaver, living in Haverhill until his wife's decease, Nov. 8, 1689, at the age of twenty-one, six days after the birth of her child and less than ten months from her wedding day. Mr. Morse returned to Newbury and married again and again.

17—XII. BATHSHEBA^a, born July 31, 1670; probably died young and unmarried, as she is not mentioned in her father's will, in 1702.

8

'JOSEPH PLUMER', born in England about 1630. He lived in Newbury, on the Neck.

Upon the records of the proprietors of Newbury are found the following extracts:—

In consideration of Joseph Plumer resigning up into the Townes hands four acres of salt marsh by Great Pine Island to Ly perpetually Comon the Towne Granted him over the Great River the propriety of the cutting of the grass of four acres to be laid out within the creeks so y^t it Do not prejudice the cattels feeding to him and his heyres For Euer to be laid out by Richard Knight Tho Hale & Daniel Thirston.

At a meeting of the Townes-men Feb. 2, 1653 Having considered Joseph Plumers proposition about the changing of the way from his house runing into the meadows and finding that the neighbours Tho. Hale and Daniel Thirston and John Poer are all willing and do consent therunto

It was therefore Granted unto Joseph Plumer that in consideration of his resigning up into the Townes hand that half acre of land at Old Towne on the east side of Samuel Plumers Orchard and also a parcell of land for a way into the meadows along by his house and by the side of Daniel Thirstons land that is to say three rod broad by the street at the going in neer about two rod and an half at the cross fence and between the street and the cross fence in the midst neer about two rod broad and from the cross fence downe the side of his lott to the meadows which is broader & broader as now the fence stands and at the house Joseph Plumer doth reserve twelve foot from the west end of the house the breadth of his house to build on

There was granted that Joseph Plumer should have the old way into the war as now the fence stands to be to him and his heyres For Euer Only Mr. Sewall is to have a way to all his land of two rods broad by Daniel Thurstons land & Mr. Sewalls land wth a gate to go in to it

Laid out unto Joseph Plumer four acres of marsh in the neck over the Great Riuer bounded by the Great River on the North and his owne land on the west and that marsh he had of Thomas Smith on the South and the land he had of Richard Dole on the east

Laid out unto Joseph Plumer in the Behalfe of Thomas Smith

three acres of marsh in the neck over the Great River be it more or less Bounded by Joseph Plumer land on the north and west and the land which Joseph Plumer had of Richard Dole on the South & East this three acres is part of the six acres and it was granted that if ever the land be improved to any use but for comon of that wch was yielded up It shall returne back to the said Joseph Plumer again.

Laid out unto Joseph Plumer in the behalf of Richard Dole four acres of marsh in the neck over the Great River bounded by a great creeke coming out of the River at the east end and his owne Land on the west and the comon on the south Bounded wth three stakes on a streight line and range to a little creeke at both ends from the stake this four acres is in consideration of Benj. Rolfe his resigning vp into the Townes hands four acres of his land in the Aspen swamp.

Laid out unto Joseph Plumer For Mr. Greenleaf three acres of marsh be it more or less in the neck over the Great River being a part of that eight acres of marsh the towne granted unto Mr Greenleaf for eight acres of land Mr. Greenleaf resigned up to the Towne by the Little River the which three acres of marsh is Joyning to the River next Bowley on the south and a great Creek on the west and a Creek on the east and a piece of meadow of a Rod of land Joyning to the Northwest part of it and joyning to a creek on the west and the comon on the east and it is Bounded wth two stakes and runing over a salt pond to make up three acres Given in to be Recorded Dec 6 1657

Per Richard Knight

Teste Anthony Somerby

Joseph Plumer In consideration of his receiving of a parcell of Land over the great River in the neck Joseph Plumer resigning vp into the Townes hands that half acre of land he had at the Old-Town on the east side of Samuel Plumers Orchard under the great Hill to Remaine to the Towne For-Ever.

March 1, 1652, the spring preceding his marriage, Joseph Plumer bought of Thomas Hale of Newbury a four-acre lot of upland and marsh on the neck, adjoining his own land on the south. It was bounded on the east and south by a creek and on the west by a highway leading to the marsh.*

He conveyed to his son Joseph, in fulfilment of an agreement with him and John Jewett of Ipswich, whose

*Ipswich Registry of Deeds, book 1, page 185.

daughter Joseph was engaged to marry, one-half of his buildings and land in Newbury, Jan. 20, 1684.* June 17, 1695, Mr. Jewett, Edward Nealand and Caleb Boynton testified in regard to this agreement,—that the father and son dwelt together under one roof on Newbury neck when Joseph was first married, and the father thought that he should in about five years build a house and then Joseph should occupy the old house alone, etc. The father reserved to himself the land he had in Rowley field.†

Mr. Plumer conveyed to Tristram Coffin of Newbury, for ten pounds and twelve shillings in money and thirty-six shillings in pork, “his rate lott land in Newbury in y^e vper woods about 24 acres bounded by y^e land of James Smith westerly & by y^e Comon Land northerly & by y^e land of Daniel Merrill easterly & by a high way Southerly,” Feb. 20, 1687-8.‡ He also conveyed to Mr. Coffin, June 24, 1690, freehold lot numbered fifty-five, “in y^e vper woods,” containing about twenty-six acres, “bounded with Bradford highway Easterly & y^e Land of Henry Lunt southerly & y^e highway by merri[m]ok River westerly & y^e Land of Benj Rolph Northerly.§

Mr. Plumer conveyed to his son Jonathan, Sept. 14, 1694, for forty pounds in silver and as a recompence “for y^e constant & faithfull service that his said son Jonathan hath done & performed for his said parents since he arrived at y^e age of twenty & one years,” reserving to himself and his wife the right to remain as long as they live in the house, which Jonathan is to keep in repair, one-third of his real estate in Newbury, forty-six acres in all, viz. : “y^e house barne Orchard & outhouses with Tilliage land adjoining being about ten acres by land Called Mr Sewalls northerly : by land set out by S^d parent to his son Josephs thirds . . . on ye south & by his Orchard as pt of s^d third West and by other parts of his third p^t Easterly Westerly & Southerly & Westerly bounded partly by ye

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 243.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 13, leaf 156.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 474.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 5, leaf 478.

way yt leads to s^d Joseph Plumer Junr. his house ;” four acres of pasture, “bounded by Marsh Lotts doth lately layed out on ye southerly side by s^d Joseph Plumer Jr his plowing ground & marsh ground easterly & by y^e tilliage land before mentioned in part Northerly & s^d Josephs in part also westerly by y^e lane that leads by s^d Joseph Plumer Jr his house ;” about thirty acres of marsh on the south side of “Newbury Old-Town River ;” and two-thirds of a freehold right in Newbury.* He also conveyed to him, June 5, 1696, nine acres of upland, meadow and orchard on Newbury neck, bounded “by ye land of Ezekiel Northend on y^e West by ye Old Town River on ye north and on y^e easterly side by marsh of ye abovesaid Jonathan Plumer & southerly bounded by land now in y^e possession of Joseph Plumer Jr.”†

He conveyed to his “loving & dutifull son ffrancis Plumer of Newbury,” May 21, 1697, four acres of upland and meadow in Newbury, bounded “by ye cuntry Road leading from Rowley Towne to Newbury ferrey on ye east & Northeast by y^e Rough marsh of John Sawyers on ye North by land of Samuel Johnson on ye West & Northwest and by a way that Leadeth to perticular mens lands on ye south.”‡

Mr. Plumer bought of Richard Dole, sr., of Newbury, July 1, 1698, five acres of marsh on Newbury neck, bounded north by Parker river ;§ and sold it to Capt. Samuel Sewall of Boston just a month later, for thirty pounds.|| June 1, 1706, Mr. Plumer conveyed to Corp. Richard Jackman, sr., of Newbury, for four pounds, all his rate rights in Newbury, which belonged to him by virtue of his paying rates to the ministry of Newbury in the years 1684 and 1685, as voted by the town Oct. 20, 1686.¶

With his father and brother and other citizens, Mr. Plumer was summoned to appear before the committee of the general court and answer concerning his petition for

*Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 21.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 174.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 11, leaf 245.

§Essex Registry of Deeds, book 14, leaf 251.

||Essex Registry of Deeds, book 19, leaf 109.

¶Essex Registry of Deeds, book 19, leaf 109.

the reversal of the sentence against Robert Pike in 1658. He was also interested in the ecclesiastical troubles in the church at Newbury, about 1668. He was on the side of the congregationalists with the rest of his family.

Mr. Plumer was a farmer all his life. He was a trial juror in 1671, 1679 and 1688, and a grandjuryman in 1693; fence viewer for the Neck in 1674 and 1688; and tithingman in 1682, 1685, 1686, 1694, 1701 and 1702. He also served on various committees, perambulating town lines, protecting the common forest from being cut down, etc.

When he built his new house, in 1685, the town voted to give him liberty to cut the necessary timber off the Newbury common.

Mr. Plumer married Sarah, daughter of John and Martha Cheney of Newbury Dec. 28, 1652. She was born about 1637, and was living in 1692. He was alive in 1706, and probably died two or three years later, at about eighty years of age. When his sons established themselves in life he began to dispose of his estate to them, and so at the time of his decease had no estate to be administered. He was indeed his own executor.

Their children were born in Newbury, as follows:—

- 18—I. JOSEPH², born Sept. 11, 1654. *See family numbered "18."*
 19—II. BENJAMIN², born Oct. 23, 1656. *See family numbered "19."*
 20—III. DAVID², born about 1658; was probably never married; lived in Newbury; and died in 1697. Administration upon his estate was granted to his brothers Benjamin and Jonathan Sept. 27, 1697. It was agreed between the father and brothers of the deceased that they should all share equally in the estate.
 21—IV. SARAH², born May 13, 1660; died May 26, 1676, aged sixteen.
 22—V. FRANCIS², born April 23, 1662; died Dec. 5, 1668.
 23—VI. FRANCIS², born Feb. 25, 1663-4. *See family numbered "23."*
 24—VII. NATHANIEL², born Jan. 31, 1665-6; probably died, unmarried, before 1697.
 25—VIII. JONATHAN², born May 13, 1668. *See family numbered "25."*
 26—IX. ABIGAIL², born July 16, 1669; died Dec. 11, 1688, aged fourteen.
 27—X. — (daughter), born July 26, 1674; died young.

SAMUEL PLUMER³, born in Newbury, Mass., April 20, 1647. He was reared in Newbury, and after his marriage lived in Rowley for a while. In 1676 he removed to Boston and lived in the house his grandfather Bitfield had devised to him. He was a cooper, and the next year, with one hundred and twenty-eight others, who styled themselves "the hand-craftsmen, a very considerable part of the Town of Boston," petitioned the general court to protect them from unskilled labor, suggesting that thereafter no one should set up in business until he had served apprenticeship and become proficient in his trade, etc.*

Mr. Plumer married, first, Joanna, daughter of Nicholas and Ann (Pasgrove or Paulsgrove) Woodbury of Beverly Dec. 5, 1670. She was born in Salem, in that part afterward Beverly, in March, 1653. Her father died before May 8, 1700, when her mother conveyed to her and her sister and brothers, for love, her buildings and land in North or Great Yarmouth, Norfolk county, England.† April 6, 1714, she and her husband conveyed to Hezekiah Ober of Beverly, mariner, her interest in about eighty acres of land at Lord's hill, in Beverly.‡ Mrs. Plumer died in Boston June 30, 1714, at the age of sixty. Mr. Plumer married, second, Elizabeth Lake of Boston Dec. 9, 1714. He died there in October, 1718, at the age of seventy-one. His wife Elizabeth survived him, and married, second, Elisha Odlin, jr., of Boston Dec. 8, 1720.

The following is a copy of Mr. Plumer's will, the original instrument being on file in the office of the probate court in Boston:—

In the name of God Amen I Samuel Plumer of Boston being sound in Memory but sick and weeke in Body doe make this my Last will and testament; I doe give my soule to God that gave it and my body to be desently buried and after my due debts are paid I give and bequeath to my deare and beloved wife Elizabeth Plumer all my personall esteat and debts oweing to me to maintaine her and bring vp my Child and I doe appoint and make her my sole Execu-

*Drake's History and Antiquities of Boston, page 426.

†Essex Registry of Deeds, book 14, leaf 258.

‡Essex Registry of Deeds, book 79, leaf 3.

FOURTH GENERATION IN AMERICA
ELIZABETH ROBERTS, 1697- (?),
who married PHILIP HUBBARD II

ELIZABETH married PHILIP in about 1717, when she was 20, and they had three children before he was killed by Indians in 1723. She remarried and moved to Dover. Her story is told on page 78.

BACKGROUND OF ELIZABETH JONES
who married LT. JOSEPH ROBERTS

STEPHEN JONES 1642-1680(?) of Oyster River

ELIZABETH JONES was probably the second child of STEPHEN JONES, a cooper, born about 1642. He was

in Oyster River (Dover) in 1660, and was received as an inhabitant on March 19, 1666. He took the oath May 15, 1672 and had a grant at Jonson's Neck. In 1668 he and Steven Chesley were arrested in connection with Edmund Green's death.

In 1680 others were reaping for him, and his widow was taxed in 1682, so we assume he died about 1680.

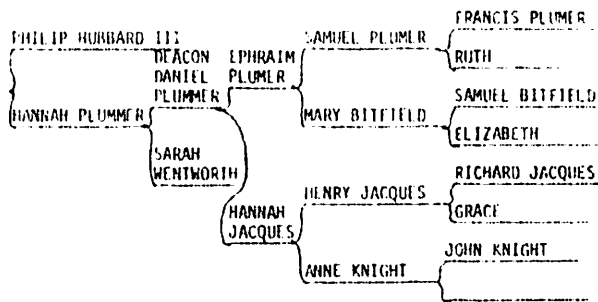
CHILDREN OF STEPHEN JONES 1642-1680(?)
ab. 1667 Stephen, m. Abigail Nutter, prob. dau. of Anthony or John Nutter
ab. 1673 ELIZABETH, m. LT. JOSEPH ROBERTS
ab. 1674 Joseph
William, m. Mary Chesley

PART V, Chapter 4. THE PLUMMER FAMILY

WHERE THEY RELATE TO THE HUBBARDS

HANNAH PLUMMER married PHILIP HUBBARD III, the Revolutionary War hero, and thus became the grandmother of MARIA HUBBARD.

She was a fifth-generation Plummer in this country, descended from FRANCIS PLUMER and his son SAMUEL, who both came to New England in the early days.



FIRST GENERATION IN AMERICA
FRANCIS PLUMER 1594-1673,
settler of Newbury, Mass.

FRANCIS PLUMER, born in 1594, a linen weaver from England (possibly Wales or Scotland--perhaps a descendant of the ancient family at Ringmer, Co. Essex, from The Barons' War, which was "respectable" among the gentry), came to Ipswich early. With his wife Ruth and several children, he arrived about 1633 and was made a freeman May 14, 1634, became a settler of Newbury, Mass. by the Parker River in 1635, was a town officer, and kept an ordinary (tavern).

There is a local story about their arrival at Newbury. They took a boat at Ipswich (then Agawan) through Plum Island Sound and up the River Quatcacunquen (now the Parker). When they came to the spot about 100 rods below the place where the bridge stands, they landed on the north bank and Nicolas Noyes was the first one who jumped ashore. Francis Plumer, followed by Ruth and their two sons Samuel and Joseph, were next.

Coffin's "History of Newbury" says his descendants still own the land he chose. Five of them, named Plumer, have been Congressmen. George Plumer, son of Jonathan, was the first white child born in Pennsylvania west of the Alleghany

Mountains. He was the first member of Congress sent from beyond the Alleghanies.

His descendants have settled in different parts of New Hampshire. William Plumer, Governor of the state for many years, and his son, Hon. William and many others lived in Epping. John Plumer, a judge for many years, settled in Rochester, and his sons Joseph and Bard settled the third parish, the northerly part of Rochester in 1780, now known as Plumer's Ridge, part of the town of Milton, incorporated 1802.

Francis married, about 1618, RUTH _____, born about 1598. They had four children. Ruth died Aug. 18, 1647, and Francis married (2) Mar. 3, 1649--or Mar. 21 or 31--the widow Ann Palmer. She died Oct. 18, 1665 and he married (3) Nov. 29, 1665, Beatrice, the widow of William Cantlebury of Salem. Francis died Jan. 17, 1673, in Newbury.

CHILDREN OF FRANCIS PLUMER 1594-1673
and RUTH _____ (?) - 1647

b. England:
1619 SAMUEL, m. MARY BITFIELD
1630 Joseph, m. 1652 Sarah Cheney
1631 Hannah, m. 1753 Samuel Moores
b. Newbury:
1634 Mary, m. 1660 John Cheney, Jr.

SECOND GENERATION IN AMERICA

SAMUEL PLUMER 1619-1702, ferryman on the Merrimack

SAMUEL PLUMER, a yeoman, was born in England in 1619, came to New England with his family about 1633, and went to settle Newbury in 1635. He became a freeman Jun. 2, 1641.

As the ferryman on the Merrimack River, the town fathers OK'd his fees: 17 Oct. 1649. Upon the petition of Sam: Plumer, ferryman of Newbury, for to had 2d p passenger (to have 2 pence per passenger) wch is granted.

In 1676 he was a Representative from Newbury. He married, about 1646, MARY BITFIELD, daughter of SAMUEL and ELIZABETH BITFIELD. She died in 1701; he died in 1702, at 83, in Boston.

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL PLUMER 1619-1702
and MARY BITFIELD (?) - 1701

1647 Samuel
Feb. 8, 1650 Mary
1652 John

p. 15, 436

William Stevens of Newbury, yeoman, proved by Robert Long, aged about 32 years (sworn 27: 4: 1653, by Wm. Gerrish, commissioner), and Anthony Somerby (sworn in Salem Court 28: 4: 1653). This will is printed in full in the Antiquarian, Volume V., page 30. Inventory of the estate of said deceased taken June 13, 1653, by Samuel Bitsfield (signed Bidfield), George Little, Anthony Somerby, Francis Plumer and Nicholas Noyes. Amount £166, 14s, 6d. Real estate, £71, personal, £95, 14s, 6d. Meadow near Nich; Noyes neck; house, barn, land, etc., land near the mill; and meadow at the little river. Sworn by Elizabeth Stevens (signed by X mark) late widow of the deceased, and Samuel Bidfield, one of the appraisers, 27: 4*: 1653, before Wm. Gerrish, Commissioner, William Stevens died May 19, 1653—Files]. VII., Essex Antiquarian, 179.

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PLUMER (PLUMMER) FAMILY.

Francis Plumer, of Newbury, 1635, a linen-weaver, came in 1633, says one tradition, from Woolwich, near London, but another says from Wales. We know not what town he first inhabited, but he became a freeman May 14, 1634. He brought over here his wife, Ruth, who died Aug. 18, 1647, and several children, certainly Samuel and Joseph. (Savage.) Francis came to Massachusetts with a company of emigrants from the west of England, and settled in 1635 at Newbury, of which town he was one of the original grantees. He is the common ancestor of all the Plumers in this country whose descent I have been able to trace; and was himself descended from the ancient family of the Plumers in England, which from the period of the Baron's Wars has always maintained

*June, old style.

a respectable standing among the gentry of that country. The land in Newbury where Francis originally settled and on which a house said to have been built by him was a few years since standing and perhaps still is, has remained in the family since its first acquisition, and is now held in the eighth generation by a direct descendant of the original proprietor. (Life of Wm. Plumer, Gov. of N. H., Boston, 1857.)

Samuel² Plumer, Newbury, eldest child of Francis, born in England about 1619, was freeman June 2, 1641. By his wife Mary, he had Sam'l, Mary, John, Ephraim, Hannah, Sylvanus (great-grandfather of Gov. Plumer of N. H.), Ruth, Elizabeth, born Oct. 19, 1662, Deborah, Joshua, Lydia and Bathshua. He kept the ferry over the Merrimack, was representative in 1676, and died in 1702. (Savage.) Elizabeth³ Plumer married Samuel² Bidfield (p. 203).

*wrong
she was 2*

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Editor has reason to congratulate posterity on the saving by the publication in this magazine of data the originals of which have been destroyed in the two great fires of Portland and Chelsea within the past year. Mrs. M. E. Stillings, to whom we have acknowledged our thanks for much information and many portraits already published, unfortunately lost everything in the Chelsea conflagration.

We acknowledge our indebtedness to the Rev. Everett S. Stackpole of Bradford, Mass., for the picture of Quamphegan Falls reproduced in this number. His recent book, "Old Kittery and Her Families" is an example of the vividly interesting and intimately convincing way in which the facts of local and family history can be presented. The work is splendidly and