

K.C.V.O., then Somerset Herald and Registrar of the College of Arms, London, England, who was later recognized by advancement to a much higher position in the College, that of Garter Principal King of Arms. Mrs. Ethel Titcomb, widow of No. 159, has been very cooperative in supplying information about the family in England from this genealogy and in granting permission to use that information in this book.

ORIGIN OF THE NAME

Hereditary surnames were not assumed in England until after the Norman conquest [1066] and then only gradually and by families of rank. It is difficult, therefore, to trace the pedigree of a family beyond the 13th century. There was much confusion in family names at the beginning of the 15th century and surnames were not permanently settled before the era of the Reformation.

In the beginning there were simple names like James, John, or Robert. Eventually it became necessary to identify the different Johns and Roberts. Examples might be taken from bible times of the four most common methods of identification:

1. Place of residence, as Jesus of Nazareth. John of Horton in England later became John Horton.
2. The patronymic, as James, the son of Zebedee.
3. The trade or calling, as Jeremy the prophet. More modern examples are Smith, Abbot, Chamberlain and Baker. Smith and Baker, being trades, must have given separate origin to many families in England, entirely distinct from each other.
4. A personal characteristic, as Simon, called Peter. The Romans had a clan name, the nomen, and a personal characteristic name, the cognomen.

Titcomb, or Tidcombe, belongs to class number one above. Literally it means small valley or a ridge of small hills. Thus, valleys between ridges came to be called combs or combes and

probably the first of the name lived at such a place, as the manor or parish of Tidcombe in Wiltshire, England. Another theory attempts to derive the name from the French de petit-comble which means from the small hill.

Sir George Bellew found that the family had been "resident for many generations, prior to the 17th century," in Wiltshire. For the most part the Titcombs appear to have been of prosperous yeoman rank. During the late 17th century Colonel, later Lieut. General, John Tidcombe* of Estcott, County Wilts., was granted a Coat of Arms and Crest by the College of Arms. Calne, his birthplace, is only about fourteen miles from Ogbourne but his relationship to William Titcomb, the immigrant to New England in 1634, has not been established.

PLAN

Primary sources have been used wherever possible in establishing the relationships of earlier generations. For recent generations, of course, it has been necessary to rely on records supplied privately. Data on family branches whose ancestry has not been determined will be included in Chapter Eleven. Additions or corrections will be welcomed by the compiler as a second or supplementary volume may be published at a later date.

The plan and numbering system follow the REGISTER style as recommended by the New England Historic Genealogical Society. Perhaps my general method follows that of the 9th century Welshman Nennius, or Nemnius, author or editor of Historia Brittonum. In his words, "Coacervavi omne quod inveni" [I have made a heap of all that I have found].

G. M. T.

Fort Fairfield, Maine
19 February 1969.

* Sir George Bellew found the following 15th-17th century spellings of the name: Tytcom, Tytcomb, Tytcombe, Tyttcombe, Tidcombe and Titcombe. A rarer form was Tatcome.

Chapter One

THE TITCOMB FAMILY IN ENGLAND

"The progenitors of the family of Titcomb were resident for many generations, prior to the 17th century, in Ogbourne St. George and Ogbourne St. Andrew, two parishes in that part of the Hundred of Selkley which is in the Marlborough and Ramsbury division of Wiltshire in England . . .

"As for the more remote history and origin of the family, the result of some enquiry into this question has failed to indicate any possible association of the family with any part of the country other than Wiltshire and the adjacent County of Berks., and it is to be assumed therefore, that the family was in Wiltshire at a much earlier date. Doubtless, in early feudal days, when surnames were first generally adopted in England, the first of the family to be named held land in Titcombe, now spelled Tidcombe, a very ancient parish but ten miles to the south-east of Ogbourne and in the Hundred of Kinwardstone."*

According to Mabel Bowen, who wrote a history of Tidcombe Manor in 1932, this area was once a hunting ground of King John. Certainly it was held by the early Saxon kings. "Among the bequests to Eadric in Aethelwold's will were Ogburn in Wiltshire and Washington in Sussex. Ogburn was held at the time of King Edward by Earl Harold Godwinsson; . . . The descent of these properties from Eadric, through Aethelweard and Aethelmaer to Godwine and his sons, is almost self-evident."†

The records of the College of Arms in London, England, show,

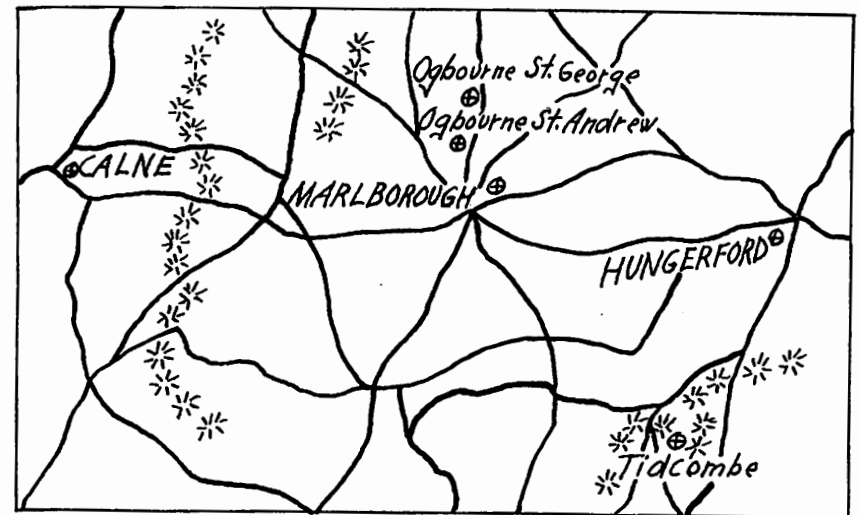
* Bellew, Sir George, A Genealogy of the Family of Titcomb of Farmington, Me., USA & of Ogbourne St. George & Ogbourne St. Andrew, County Wilts., England.

† N. E. Historical and Genealogical Register, hereafter cited as Reg., CXI:30-38.

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under date of 15 Feb. 1692/3, a grant of Armorial Bearings to Colonel John Tidcombe of Estcott, County Wilts., as follows: Or a bend azure between two fox's heads erased gules. Crest, a dexter arm and hand couped above the elbow, armed proper, garnished or, the hand grasping a broken lance gules. Mr. R. P. Graham-Vivian, Windsor Herald of the College of Arms, in a letter of 11 April 1956, informed the compiler of this genealogy that "It is clear from the wording of the Grant that John was already using the Coat, without any Crest. But as no previous authority can be found for the Coat, the whole thing may be taken as a new Grant." There is some evidence on which to base the assumption that this coat was used by Colonel John's father and, perhaps, by earlier generations. It was customary from Tudor times in England to use a regular system of differencing the coats of younger sons. The eldest son has a label, the second son a crescent, the third a star, etc. The print of Kneller's portrait of Colonel John Tidcombe which appears in this book was obtained from the British Museum. If the coat of arms at the bottom of the portrait is examined closely, a crescent may be plainly seen. Evidently Colonel John considered this to be his father's coat and either he or an ancestor through whom it was passed down was a second son [the eldest son drops his label upon succeeding to the family coat, but the younger sons retain their individual marks and pass them on to their descendants]. As mentioned in the FOREWORD, it has not been possible to determine Colonel John Tidcombe's relationship to William Titcomb, the immigrant to New England in 1634. However, early generations of the family in New England used coats of arms which were very similar to that of Colonel John. Unfortunately there is not sufficient evidence to give William Titcomb's descendants a "legal" claim to the coat used by Colonel John.*

* On 9 Apr. 1958, the College of Arms, London, England, granted to Gilbert M. Titcomb, "to be borne and used by him and his descendants and by the other descendants of his father, the said Howard Chessman Titcomb, according to the Laws of Arms," the following coat: Or a Bend Azure between two Fox's heads erased Gules on the Bend in dexter chief point an Eagle displayed bendwise Gold. In simple terms, the ancient arms with a gold eagle on the bend.



Area around Ogbourne St. George, County Wilts.,
England

THE TITCOMB FAMILY IN ENGLAND

The following interesting article about the Colonel or Lieut. Gen. John Tidcomb mentioned above is from the Dictionary of National Biography* and is reprinted with the permission of the publisher.

"Tidcomb or Tidcombe, John (1642-1713), lieutenant-general, b. in 1642, was a son of Peter Tidcombe of Calne, Wilts. He matriculated as a servitor at Oriel College, Oxford, on 22 Mar. 1660-1. On 20 June 1685 he was gazetted captain in the Earl of Huntingdon's regiment of foot (now the Somerset light infantry). In the same year he was present at the coronation of James II in the capacity of a gentleman pensioner. He was appointed col. of the 14th foot on 14 November 1692. In March, 1695, he accompanied King William on his visit to Oxford and was created D.C.L. He received command of a regiment on the Irish establishment in 1700. In August, 1701, a whole company of it deserted from Limerick and fled to the mountains. He afterwards served in Portugal. In March, 1705, he and Lieut.-gen. Stewart conveyed letters from Ormonde to Marlborough when the latter was in London. In the following month Tidcombe was appointed major-general, and in 1708 farther promoted to lieut.-general. He would appear to have been a protegee of Ormonde . . .

"Tidcomb was a wit as well as a soldier, and was a member of Kit-Kat Club. When Mrs. Manley was dismissed by the Duchess of Cleveland, he 'offered her an asylum at his country-house,' but she declined his overtures. Tidcombe is the Sir Charles Love-more who, in Mrs. Manley's memoirs (The Hist. of Rivella) is supposed to relate her story to his friend the Chevalier d'Aumont in the gardens of Somerset House. In the introduction he is characterised as 'a person of admirable good sense and knowledge.'

"Tidcombe died at Bath in June, 1713. His portrait was painted by Kneller and engraved in 1735 by J. Faber (Bromley's Catalog of Engraved Portraits; Memoirs of the Kit-Kat Club, 1821, with portrait, pp. 176-177)."



John Tidcomb Esq.

* XIX:862. Contributed by Gerald Le Grys Norgate. By permission of the Clarendon Press, Oxford.

DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM TITCOMB

In the records of the College of Arms in London, England, a pedigree of the Titcomb family is recorded which starts as follows:

WILLIAM TYTCOMB or Titcombe of Ogbourne St. George, County Wilts., England, baptised there 22 August 1584, son of William and Edith Tyttcombe.

He married Alice Colman at Ogbourne St. Andrew, County Wilts, on 25 July 1617.

Children born and baptised at Ogbourne St. George:

- i. William, bapt. 6 Aug. 1620; emigrated to New England 16 Apr. 1634 in ship HERCULES; d. Newbury, Mass., 24 Sept. 1676; m. (1), Joanna Bartlett; m. (2), widow Elizabeth (Bitsfield) Stevens.
- ii. John, bapt. 2 Mar. 1622; resided Ogbourne St. George; will dated 2 May 1670, proved 16 May 1671 at Hungerford, wife Mary executrix, mentions 5 sons and 1 daughter as follows:
 1. John
 2. William
 3. Thomas
 4. Walter
 5. Francis
 6. Mary, wife of Thomas Wixce.
- iii. Millicent, of Ogbourne St. George, spinster, will dated 24 Feb. 1659, proved 11 Jan. 1661/2 at Sarum. In it she mentions her brother William living in Newbury, New England, brother John and his 4 oldest children, and her cousin Thomas Colman.
- iv. Mary, bapt. 19 Oct. 1625.
- v. Elizabeth, bapt. 30 Apr. 1626.*

* College of Arms reference: Surrey XVI, 159.

Chapter Two

THE FIRST AND SECOND GENERATIONS IN AMERICA

WILLIAM¹ TITCOMB, the first and probably the only emigrant bearing our surname, was born at Ogbourne St. George, a parish in the County of Wiltshire, England, baptised there 6 August 1620, eldest son of William and Alice (Coleman) Titcomb of that parish.* He died at Newbury, Massachusetts Bay Colony, New England, 24 September 1676.†

On 24 March 1633/4 he took the Oath of Supremacy and Allegiance at Southampton, England, "to pass for New England in the MARY AND JOHN of London, Robert Sayres, master." The majority of his fellow passengers were from Wiltshire and Hampshire. Included in the group were three Puritan parsons, Mr. Thomas Parker, Mr. James Noyes and Mr. John Woodbridge. William Titcomb was one of six who were left behind "to oversee the Chattle [cattle] to pass in the HERCULES," John Kiddey, master, which embarked from Southampton on 16 April 1634.‡ Both ships arrived at Boston, New England, in May or early June, 1634, and most of the company went to Ipswich in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.§ From there, a year later, they removed a few miles up the coast and founded the village which was to become the town of Newbury.

William Titcomb's sister Millicent died at Ogbourne St. George in 1659 making the following bequest in her will dated 24 February of that year: "To my brother William, living in Newbury, New England, all my goods, monyes, and chattells whatsoever, upon the condition that he come over or send for it within two years."¶

* Records of the College of Arms, Surrey, XVI:159.

† Vital Records of Newbury, Mass. [printed], II:742.

‡ Reg., 9:265-268. § Winthrop's Journal, May-June, 1634.

¶ Records of the College of Arms, as cited above.

DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM TITCOMB

He married (1), about 1638/9, Joanna, daughter of Richard Bartlett, Sr., of Newbury, Mass.* Joanna died 28 June 1653, the day her seventh child was born. He married (2), on 3 Mar. 1653/4, at Newbury, Elizabeth (Bitsfield) Stevens. She was a daughter of Samuel Bitsfield and widow of William Stevens who died 19 May 1653.

William Titcomb took the Freeman's Oath on 22 June 1642. At a general town meeting on 10 December 1646, the town being informed that Mr. Thomas Parker was unwilling to act any longer in any matters concerning the new town and that Mr. Cutting was going to sea, "did make choise of Nicholas Noyes and William Titcomb to be added to the rest of the new towne men for six weeks."† At a court held at Ipswich on 3 June 1651, "William Tittcombe sworn Constable of Newbery." At another court held there on 27 March 1655, "William Tittcum and Harchales Woodman sworn Commissioners for Newbery."‡ On 23 May 1655, he was chosen as Newbury's Representative at the General Court. § On 30 March 1658, Mr. Edward Woodman, Nicholas Noyes and William Titcombe of Newbury were sworn as Commissioners to end small causes. And on 25 March 1662, 25 September 1666, and on 26 March 1667, William Titcomb was a member of the Grand Jury for courts held at Ipswich. He was again Deputy or Representative for Newbury at the General Court 1657. ¶ He was often the moderator at town meetings.

Mr. Titcomb was also active in church affairs. In the long controversy between the Reverend Thomas Parker and Mr. Edward Woodman, he was one of Mr. Woodman's chief supporters. In 1670, several of the petitions to the General Court from Mr.

* Richard Bartlett, Sr., mentions dau. Joanna Titcomb in will, 1647.

† Coffin, J., History of Newbury, Mass., 1845, hereafter cited as Coffin, p. 47.

‡ Records and Files of Quarterly Courts of Essex Co., hereafter cited as Recs. & Files, I:226, 387.

§ Records of Mass., ed. Shurtleff, 1853. III:373.

¶ Recs. & Files, II:40, 69, 347; III:344, 387.

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Woodman's party were signed by William Titcomb and Caleb Moody "in the name of the rest."*

On one occasion William Titcomb was in trouble with the law. At a court held at Ipswich on 9 April 1657, he was presented for lying at a general town meeting at Newbury "when they voted for governor." Some twenty of his neighbors came to his defense certifying in a petition to the court, "that to their great grief, their neighbor, William Titcomb, was complained of." They testified that they had known him for years, "and observed him to be honest and christianlike in his conversation and not a liar, etc."†

As one of the original proprietors he must have shared in all the early land grants of Newbury. On 19 September 1670, "the town granted to William Titcomb and Amos Stickney the little pine swamp to be their propriety, with skirts of the common, provided they make and maintain a sufficient fence about the hole for the safety of the cattle from time to time."‡

William Titcomb's will, dated 18 September 1676, was probated at Ipswich eight days later. He gave to his eldest daughters, Sarah and Mary, twenty shillings each as they had received their portions during his lifetime; to daughter Elizabeth Bartlett ten pounds she having received part of her portion during his lifetime; to sons Benaiah, William, Thomas and John, and to his other four daughters Rebecca, Tirzah, Lydia and Anne, twenty pounds each to be paid within one year after his decease to as many as shall be of age, but sons under twenty-one and daughters under eighteen years are not to receive their portions until they are of age; to his wife the thirds of his lands and housing during her natural life, then to return to his heir; son Penuel to be his heir and executor; in case his heir should die without children, all of his land and housing to be possessed and enjoyed by his son Benaiah. Witnesses: Richard Bartlett, Thomas Bartlett. An

* Coffin, p. 88.

† Recs. & Files, II:40, 41.

‡ Coffin, p. 89.

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inventory was taken on 26 September 1676 by Anthony Somerby, John Bartlett, Sr., Samuel Plumer, Sr., and Richard Bartlett, Sr. His clothing was valued at £10, his housing and lands at £420. There were the usual farm implements, cattle and furniture. The inventory totaled £829:12:0.*

Children, all born at Newbury, Mass., by first wife:

- i. Sarah², b. 22 June 1640; living Sept. 1676; m. 16 Mar. 1664/5, at Ipswich, Thomas Treadwell.
- ii. Hannah, b. 8 Jan. 1641/2; living 1647, date of Richard Bartlett's will, prob. d. before 18 Sept. 1676, as not mentioned in father's will.
- iii. Mary, b. 17 Feb. 1643/4; living Sept. 1676; m. 27 Feb. 1665/6, at Newbury, John Poore.
- iv. Millicent, b. 7 June 1646; d. Newbury, 20 Jan. 1663/4.
- v. William, b. 18 Mar. 1648(/9); d. Newbury, 2 June 1659.
2. vi. Penuel, b. 16 Dec. 1650.
3. vii. Benaiah, b. 28 June 1653.

Children by second wife, all born Newbury, Mass.:

- viii. Elizabeth, b. 12 Dec. 1654; d. Newbury, 26 Aug. 1690; m. 23 May 1671, at Newbury, Samuel Bartlett.
- ix. Rebecca, b. 1 Apr. 1656; m. 25 Mar. 1678, at Ipswich, Nathaniel Treadwell.
- x. Tirzah, b. 21 Feb. 1657(/8); m. (1), 24 Nov. 1685, at Newbury, Thomas Bartlett; m. (2), James Ordway, Jr.; d. Newbury, 10 Jan. 1695/6.
4. xi. William, b. 14 Aug. 1659.
- 5. xii. Thomas, b. 11 Oct. 1661.
- xiii. Lydia, b. 13 June 1663; m. 15 May 1683, at Newbury, Jonathan Clark.
- xiv. John, b. 17 Sept. 1664; mentioned father's will, 18 Sept. 1676.
- xv. Anne, b. 7 July 1666; d. Newbury, 1 Oct. 1750; m. 10 Mar. 1686/7, at Newbury, Stephen Sawyer.

* Essex Probate, Docket 27, 743.

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2. PENUEL² TITCOMB (William¹) was born in Newbury, Mass., on 16 December 1650. He married there on 8 January 1683/4, Lydia, daughter of John Poore of Newbury. Penuel Titcomb died at Newbury on 5 February 1717/8.

Penuel Titcomb resided in that part of the town which was later to become Newburyport. He was involved in the dispute relative to the building of a new meeting house near the east end of the West Precinct. Because of the distance many had to travel to attend the church on Pipestave Hill, there was a movement to build this new church but the General Court did not approve of the project. In August, 1711, the Court ordered that "Samuel Bartlet, John Ordway, deacon Joshua Brown, Joshua Bailey, Skipper Lunt and Penuel Titcomb be anew served by the sheriff with a process and order of this court of nineteenth July, strictly forbidding them and their associates proceeding in the work of their intended meeting house and so forth, and that said persons be summoned to attend this court on the second Wednesday of their fall session."*

In his will dated 4 January 1717/8, proved 11 February 1717/8, his estate was left to his three sons, William, John and Joseph, his wife to have a life interest in a third part of it. The silver and household goods also went to his wife. He bequeathed to his daughter, Sarah Bailey, only four pounds as she had received her portion already. His three sons were executors and he appointed his brothers, Benaiah and William, overseers. †

Children, all born at Newbury, Mass.:

- i. Sarah³, b. 22 Dec. 1684; d. young.
- ii. Sarah, b. 14 Dec. 1685; m. (1), 18 May 1708, at Newbury, Isaac Bailey; m. (2), 27 Sept. 1727, Richard Bartlett.
6. iii. William, b. 8 Apr. 1687.
7. iv. John, b. 24 Sept. 1689.
8. v. Joseph, b. 27 July 1700.

* Coffin, p. 180.

† Titcomb, S. E., Early New England People, pp. 154-5.

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3. BENAIAH² TITCOMB (William¹) was born at Newbury, Massachusetts, on 28 June 1653. He married there on 24 December 1678, Sarah, daughter of Richard Brown, Sr., of Newbury by his second wife Elizabeth who was a daughter of Captain Edmund Greenleaf. Sarah was born at Newbury on 7 September 1657 and died there 18 August 1741, aged 84 years. Benaiah died at Newbury on 23 February 1728/9, "in his 76th year."

Benaiah Titcomb took the Oath of Allegiance in 1678, "as by the king's request having in 1669 sworn fidelity to Massachusetts."* In a deed dated 29 December 1709 he is described as "Cornet Benajah Titcomb of Newbury in ye County of Essex and Province of ye Mafsachusetts in New England, Gentleman . . ."† A Cornet was the grade of commissioned officer in a British cavalry troop who carried the standard. Old documents in Massachusetts Archives indicate that he was an owner of vessels engaged in the West Indies and coastwise trade. In a petition to the Governor and Council dated 16 July 1703, he asks that the impost money be abated on goods brought in his "Ketch" from the island of Antigua to Newbury on account of the vessel having been taken by Guillian La Fauche, a Frenchman with a letter-of-marque, his vessel having 20 guns and 50 men. Benaiah, Jr., who was supercargo and mate, was forced to buy the vessel of La Fauche at an extreme rate, the master, Robert Kimball, going to France as a hostage for the payment of the money. His petition was granted. ‡

On 28 May 1703 he was part owner of the brigantine FRIENDS ADVENTURE in partnership with Samuel Wentworth and James Barton of Boston, "being a Square Sterned Vefsell of the burthen of about Forty Tuns was built at Amesbury in the Province aforesd in this present year 1703."§ Benaiah Titcomb and his son Edmund were owners of the sloop CONTENT as proved by the following document: "Jurat Benajah Titcomb of Newbury within

* Savage, J., Genealogical Dictionary of First Settlers of New England, IV:307.

† Essex Deeds, 23:144.

‡ Titcomb, S. E., Early New England People, p. 166.

§ Mass. Archives, 7:223.

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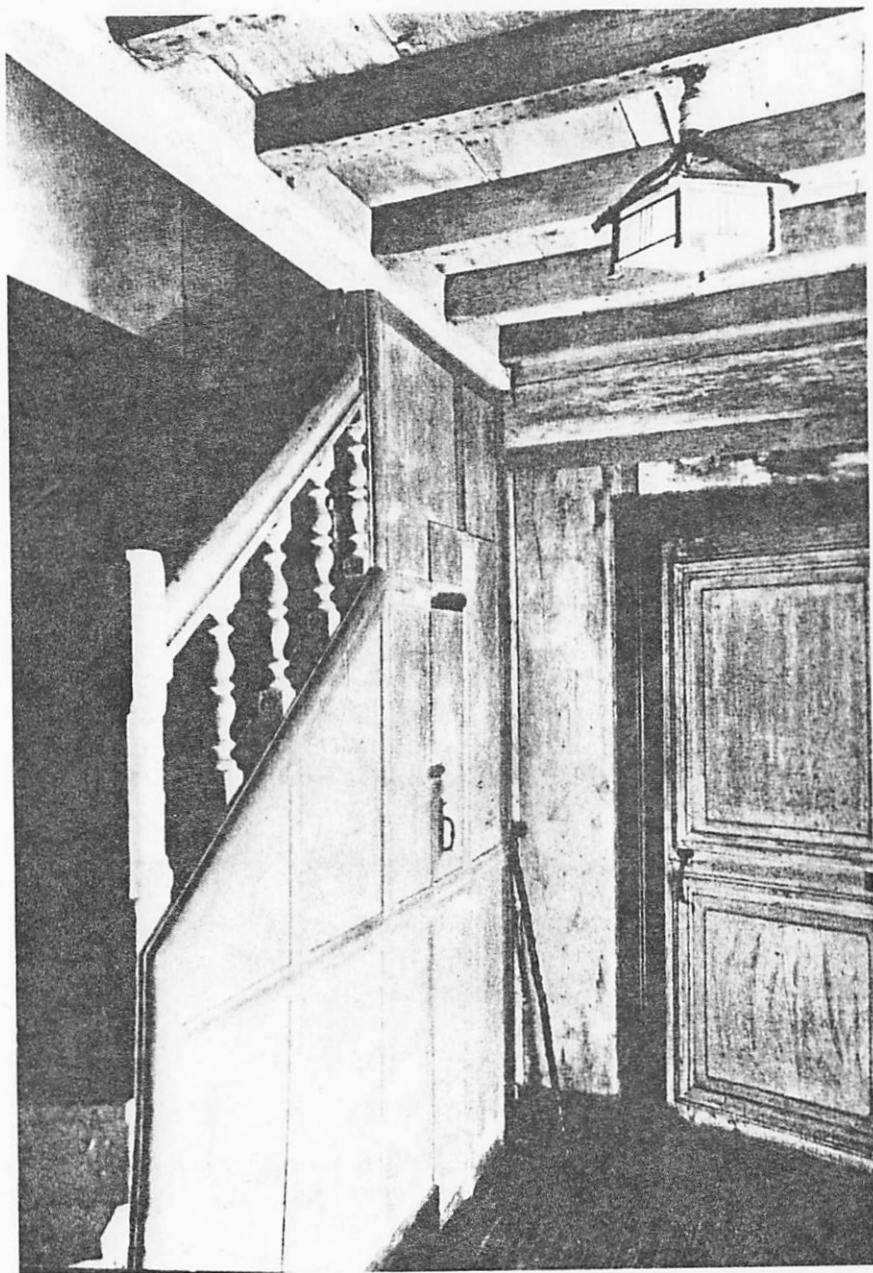
the Province of the Mafsachusetts Bay in New England, merchant, that the Sloop Content of Newbury aforesaid whereof John Stickney is at present mafter being a Square Sterned Vefsell of the burthen of about Twenty five tuns was Built at Newbury within this present year One Thousand Seven hundred and Thirteen. And that Edmond Titcomb of Newbury aforesaid with him the said Benajah Titcomb at present are Owners thereof and that no foreigner directly or indirectly hath any share or part or interest therein. Sworn before his Excellency Joseph Dudley Esq. Gov. and John Jekyll Esq. Collr. "*

On 15 July 1695, Benaiah Titcomb purchased one-half acre of land from Richard Dole at what is now the corner of Merrimack and Green Streets in Newburyport. Here he built, soon after this date, the two-story dwelling house in which he lived for the rest of his life and which was willed to his son Enoch as mentioned below. This property was owned by Benaiah's descendants until 23 January 1801 when "Sarah Titcomb, widow, sold the house and land to Moses Brown."† It was still standing at its original location in 1911. Soon after this date, plans were made to tear it down to make room for a new building. The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities made an attempt to save it and pictures of it at the original location may be seen in one of their bulletins [Vol. 2, No. 2]. What eventually happened to it may be learned from an illustrated article in the Ladies' Home Journal for October, 1949. "Curiously enough, this house on the outskirts of town [in Essex], overlooking the meadows that run down to the dunes and the ocean, is not a native of Ipswich, but was brought here about thirty years ago from Newburyport, ten miles away. . . it has found a home where its future is assured; partly because of its present owner, Dr. Langdon Warner, Professor of Oriental Art at Harvard, whose occasional Korean pieces blend beautifully into the early American setting." Interior and exterior views of the house which accompanied this article are reproduced in this book with the permission of the publisher. One of the most outstanding features of this

* Mass. Archives, 7:483.

† Currier, History of Newburyport, Mass., 2:54.

*D. 1/2 not
copied (don't
need to)*



Stairway, entrance hall, Benaiah²Titcomb house

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Children of Benaiah and Sarah (Brown) Titcomb, all born at Newbury, Massachusetts:

- i. Benaiah, Jr.³, b. 24 Oct. 1679; a mariner; d. s. p. 1745, will dated 17 Oct. 1740, proved 1 July 1745; m. 26 Oct. 1709, Mary Wigglesworth.
- ii. Joseph, b. 25 Jan. 1680/1; d. before 2 Apr. 1691.
9. iii. Edmund, b. 9 Dec. 1682.
- iv. Elizabeth, b. 14 Dec. 1685; m. 1 Jan. 1706/7, Henry Sewall.
- v. Sarah, b. 2 Mar. 1687/8; living 17 Oct. 1740, mentioned will of brother Benaiah, Jr., of that date.
- vi. Joseph, b. 2 Apr. 1691; not mentioned father's will.
10. vii. Josiah, b. 29 Mar. 1693.
11. viii. Enoch, b. 1 Apr. 1695.
- ix. Mary, b. 17 Feb. 1697/8; not mentioned father's will.

4. WILLIAM² TITCOMB (William¹) was born at Newbury, Massachusetts, 14 August 1659; died there 5 February 1739/40, "in his 81st yr."

He married 15 May 1683, at Newbury, Ann Cottle, daughter of William and Sarah (Ring) Cottle of Salisbury and Newbury, Massachusetts, who was born 12 July 1663. She was "one of the beauties of the town."* She died at Newbury 18 August 1748.

Mr. Titcomb was a blacksmith by trade and served the town as tax collector in 1716. † On 20 September 1721 he was referred to as "Ensign William Titcomb" in Newbury town records.

His will dated 7 June 1737, proved 25 February 1739/40, mentions wife Anne, sons Jedediah, Joseph, Daniel and Moses; daughters Joanna, now wife of Michael Hodge, Sarah, now wife of Moses Pearson, and Mary, now wife of Jeremiah Pearson; wife Anne and son Joseph to act jointly as executors. Witnesses were John Ordway, Jr., Moses Ordway and Ichabod Woodman. An in-

* Essex County Biographical Review. 1898.

† Coffin, p. 188.

DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM TITCOMB

Inventory taken 16 May 1740 by Major John Greenleaf, Jr., John Ordway and Abraham Tappan totaled £2181:19:9.*

Children, all born at Newbury:

- i. Jedediah³, b. 17 Jan. 1683/4; d. s.p. before 10 May 1756; † m. int., Ipswich, Mass., 29 June 1717, Elizabeth Boardman.
- ii. Joanna, b. 15 July 1686; m. Michael Hodge. She was a widow 26 Dec. 1758. †
12. iii. Daniel, b. 22 Apr. 1691.
- iv. Sarah, b. 17 Dec. 1693; d. 1766; m. 14 Jan. 1719/20, Deacon Moses Pearson.
- v. Elias, b. 27 Feb. 1695/6; not mentioned father's will.
- vi. Benjamin, b. 30 Mar. 1698; not named father's will.
13. vii. Joseph, b. 30 Mar. 1698.
- viii. Moses, b. 19 June 1700; d. young.
- ix. John, 3 Sept. 1702; not mentioned father's will.
- x. Mary, b. 4 Oct. 1704; m. 10 Nov. 1726, Jeremiah Pearson, Jr.
14. xi. Moses, b. 8 July 1707.

¹⁹⁸⁶ 5. THOMAS² TITCOMB (William¹) was born at Newbury, Massachusetts, 11 October 1661; died there, will proved 1734. He married, at Newbury, Mary Dam perhaps daughter of John Dam [or Dame] of Dover.

Thomas Titcomb was a cordwainer by trade. Newbury records sometimes refer to him as "Sergeant."

His will dated 23 October 1732, proved 20 May 1734, mentions wife Mary; sons Isaac and Jacob; daughter Judith, now wife of Stephen Swett, Jr.; daughter Mary, now wife of Benjamin Swett, Jr.; daughter Anne, now wife of John Coats. Also daughter Mille and son Abraham the latter to be executor. Witnesses were Sam-

* Essex Probate, Docket 27, 744.

† Essex Deeds, 103:100.

‡ Ibid., 106:232.

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uel Pilsbery, Moses Titcomb and John Brett, Jr. An inventory was taken 17 May 1734 by John Titcomb, Richard Jaques and John Smith.*

Children, all born at Newbury:

- i. Elizabeth³, b. 3 Sept. 1695; not mentioned father's will.
- ii. Hannah, b. 5[*sic*] Sept. 1695; not named father's will.
- ¹⁹³³ → iii. Judith, b. 30 July 1698; m. 8 Nov. 1723, Stephen Swett, Jr.; following children b. Newbury, surname Swett:
 1. Melba, b. 25 Aug. 1724; m. 18 Feb. 1748/9, Benjamin Howard.
 - ¹⁹⁹⁵ → 2. Benjamin, b. 9 Feb. 1727/8; m. 3 May 1749, Rebecca Pierce.
 3. Thomas, b. 10 Apr. 1730.
 4. Isaac, b. 6 June 1733.
 5. Keturah, b. 9 Mar. 1736/7; m. Stephen Wyatt, Jr.
 6. Thomas, b. 30 Aug. 1738; m. 3 Jan. 1760, Rebecca Hudson.
- iv. Mary, b. 17 Aug. 1700; m. 30 Nov. 1721, Benjamin Swett, Jr.
- v. Anne, b. 27 Jan. 1702/3; m. 8 Dec. 1725, John Coats.
- vi. Mille, b. 6 Apr. 1705; m. 17 May 1733, Enoch Poor.
- vii. Abraham, b. 23 July 1708; d. 6 Jan. 1762 at Newbury, estate probated 15 Mar. 1762†; executor, father's will.
- viii. Isaac, b. 11 Jan. 1711[2]; admin. estate brother Abraham, 1762.
- ix. Jacob, b. 18 Mar. 1714[5].

* Essex Probate, Docket 27, 742.

† Ibid., Docket 27, 678.

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daughter Hannah Dummer, wife of John Dummer; daughter Martha, wife of Thomas Thomas; the children of his son Benaiah and the children of his son Samuel. Witnesses were Joseph Frothingham, Sewall Short and John Sprague.*

Children of Josiah and Martha (Rolf) Titcomb, all born at Newbury:

21. i. Benaiah⁴, b. 8 Jan. 1718[/9].
22. ii. Josiah, b. 23 Oct. 1723.
- iii. Sarah, b. 15 Sept. 1725; not mentioned father's will in 1770; perhaps the one who m., at Newbury, 14 May 1742, Thomas Stocker.
23. iv. Jonathan, b. 12 Sept. 1727.
- v. Samuel, b. 21 July 1729; d. before Mar. 1739/40.
- vi. William, b. 17 May 1731; not mentioned father's will.
- vii. Martha, b. 3 Nov. 1732; m., "in N.H.," 18 Sept. 1769, Thomas Thomas. †
- viii. Paul, b. 13 Aug. 1734; not mentioned in father's will.
- ix. Hannah, bp. 30 Mar. 1736; m., at Newbury, 20 Feb. 1755, John Dummer.
24. x. Samuel, bp. 9 Mar. 1739/40.

11. ENOCH³ TITCOMB (Benaiah², William¹) was born at Newbury, Massachusetts, 1 April 1695; died at Newburyport, 9 June 1780, "in his 86th y." He is buried at Newburyport Old Burying Hill. He married, at Newbury, 1 January 1718/9, Elizabeth Moody, daughter of Joshua and Mary (Greenleaf) Moody of Newbury. She died at Newburyport, 14 February 1779 in her 81st year, and is buried beside her husband.

The will of "Enoch Titcomb, distiller, of Newburyport," dated 29 October 1765, was probated 24 June 1780. In it he mentions his wife Elizabeth, sons Enoch, Joshua and Richard; daughter Elizabeth, wife of Charles Hodge; daughter Mary, the wife of

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Henry Titcomb; daughter Sarah; grandsons Zebulon, Enoch, Benaiah and William, children of his son Richard. His son Enoch was executor. The inventory, totaling £4,509:18:0, included land in Newbury, Newburyport and Salisbury; also an interest in Titcomb's Wharf at Newburyport. Witnesses were Joseph Somerby, Abiel Somerby, Jr., and John Woodman, Jr.*

Children of Enoch and Elizabeth (Moody) Titcomb, all born at Newbury, Massachusetts:

- i. Elizabeth⁴, b. June 1720; d. Newburyport, 4 May 1815; m., at Newbury, 9 Sept. 1742, Charles Hodge.
- ii. Enoch, b. 12 Sept. 1721; d. Newburyport, 10 Feb. 1799.
- iii. Mary, b. 16 Feb. 1723[/4]; d. Newburyport, 26 July 1805, a. 81 yrs.; m., Newbury, 5 Feb. 1746/7, Capt. Henry Titcomb, see No. 29.
25. iv. Joshua, b. 2 Oct. 1726.
- v. Benaiah, bp. 9 Mar. 1728/9; not mentioned father's will.
- vi. Richard, bp. 31 Oct. 1731; d. Newbury, 28 May 1736.
- vii. Zebulon, bp. 23 June 1734; d. young.
26. viii. Richard, b. 17 Dec. 1736.
- ix. Zebulon, bp. 12 Oct. 1740; not mentioned father's will.
- x. Sarah Elizabeth, b. 11 Feb. 1742/3; d. Newburyport, 28 Apr. 1810; m., at Newburyport, July 1766, John Titcomb, see No. 33.

12. DANIEL³ TITCOMB (William², William¹) was born at Newbury, Massachusetts, 22 April 1691; died at Dover, New Hampshire, in 1758 or 1759. He married at Dover, 1 January 1718/9, Ann Wingate Drew, daughter of John Wingate and widow of Francis Drew. Ann had one child by her first marriage named Joseph Drew. She died in 1787. †

Daniel Titcomb removed to Dover, New Hampshire, and was ad-

* Essex Probate, Docket 27, 694.

† Family records, Mrs. Elizabeth Titcomb Conner of Woodstock, Vt.

* Essex Probate, Docket 27, 719.

† Records St. Paul's Church, Newburyport, Mass.

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mitted to the church there on 10 March 1728[9?]. He had a farm there which, according to tradition, was called the "Damefarm." In his will he bequeathed his dwelling house to son Daniel; to son Benjamin land in Rochester; to his other children from £50 to £200 (old tenor) each.*

Children of Daniel and Ann (Wingate) Titcomb, probably all born at Dover, N.H.:†

- i. Anne⁴, b. 15 Oct. 1719; m. Joseph Drew.
- ii. William, b. 30 Dec. 1721.
- iii. Sarah, b. 27 Jan. 1724; m. _____ Wingate.
- iv. Mary, b. 27 Jan. 1724; m. (1), _____ Tebbets; m. (2), Edward Woodman.
- 27. v. John, b. 20 Mar. 1726/7.
- vi. Elizabeth, b. 21 Apr. 1728; m. _____ Plummer.
- vii. Daniel, b. 31 Apr. 1731.
- viii. David, b. 25 July 1733.
- ix. Abigail, bp. 23 Nov. 1735; m. _____ Libby. ‡
- x. Enoch, bp. 30 Apr. 1738.
- 28. xi. Benjamin, bp. 12 June 1743.

13. JOSEPH³ TITCOMB (William², William¹) was born at Newbury, Massachusetts, 30 March 1698; died at Newburyport, 2 April 1779, in his 81st year, and is buried at Old Burying Hill Cemetery. He married, at Newbury, on 3 October 1721, Anne Smith, daughter of John and Sarah Smith, who was born at Newbury on 22 August 1706. She died at Newburyport on 20 May 1763, in her 57th year.

He was a blacksmith by trade. At the time of his marriage, he was called "Joseph Titcomb, Jr." in order to distinguish him from his cousin Joseph, the son of Benaiah². In later Newbury town records he is called "Captain Joseph Titcomb." He was ac-

* Titcomb, S. E., Early New England People, p. 171.

† Ibid.; Reg., 8:132; Dover, N.H., Vital Records.

‡ Cutter, New England Families.

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tive in both church and town affairs.

The will of Captain Joseph Titcomb of Newburyport dated 28 January, proved 13 April, 1779, mentions son Henry who was to be executor; grandchildren, "children of my late daughter Anne Lowell deceased;" sons Benjamin and Oliver; daughter Sarah Ropes; his sons Joseph and John were to have his smith's shop and tools. He also mentions daughters Elizabeth Lowell and Eunice Dole; "the heirs of my daughter Mary Lowell deceased;" and his granddaughter Anne Torry. Witnesses were William Atkins, Edmund More, Jr., and Richard Titcomb. An inventory taken 23 April 1779, attested 23 June 1780, totaled £5918:13:9.*

Children of Captain Joseph and Anne (Smith) Titcomb, all born at Newbury:

- i. Sarah⁴, b. 23 June 1722; m., Newbury, Nov. 1754, John Ropes of Salem, Mass.
- 29. ii. Henry, b. 27 Sept. 1723.
- iii. Mary, b. 31 July 1725; d. bef. 28 Jan. 1779; m. _____ Lowell.
- 30. iv. Benjamin, b. 4 Jan. 1726/7.
- 31. v. Oliver, b. 27 July 1729.
- 32. vi. Joseph, b. 30 Dec. 1730.
- vii. John, b. 29 Oct. 1732; d., Newbury, 9 Jan. 1735[6?].
- viii. Anne, b. 15 Aug. 1734; d. before 28 Jan. 1779; m., Newbury, 27 Aug. 1752, Samuel Lowell.
- ix. Elizabeth, b. 31 Oct. 1736; m. Newbury, 6 Sept. 1757, Ebenezer Lowell.
- x. Eunice, b. 2 Sept. 1738; living 28 Jan. 1779; m. Jonathan Dole.
- 33. xi. John, b. 8 Dec. 1740.
- xii. Abigail, bp. 14 July 1745; d. 4 Jan. 1747[8].

14. MOSES³ TITCOMB (William², William¹) was born at Newbury, Massachusetts, 8 July 1707; died, killed in action at the battle of Lake George, on 8 September 1755. About 1728, he

* Essex Probate, Docket 27, 713.

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married Miriam Currier, born 10 April 1711 at Amesbury, Massachusetts, daughter of Richard and Dorothy (Barnard) Currier. She died at Newburyport on 19 March 1765, "a. 53 y."

Moses Titcomb had a blacksmith shop at the first wharf below Green Street in Newburyport. He served as a major at the siege of Louisburg under General Pepperell, and was a man of "fine physique." When the soldiers needed amusement, he could beat any man in his regiment pitching quoits, "could throw anyone in wrestling, or excel in lifting, and was as fearless as he was strong." Titcomb's battery, consisting of five forty-two pounders, was one of the five fascine batteries erected at the siege, and did as "great execution as any." It is claimed that he furnished this battery from his own means. He returned home with high honors, "bringing as a trophy the bomb-shell which now decorates the stone post at the corner of Middle and Independent Streets." He was commissioned colonel of a regiment at the battle of Lake George where he was killed in action on 8 September 1755. * Reverend John Lowell of Newbury preached a sermon on the departure of Colonel Moses Titcomb and his regiment for Lake George which was published later. We quote from the introduction: "To Moses Titcomb, Esq.: Lieutenant-Colonel of the Militia in and about Newbury, and Colonel of a Regiment raised in the Province of the Massachusetts Bay against the French at Crown Point, &c. . . Sir - That Battery which was projected and raised by you at Cape-Breton, and then called Titcomb's did great execution (in the opinion of the best Judges, and as the French own) in the operations of the Siege; and perhaps without it, the important Fortress there, would not have been reduced, and so Peace not so soon and easily have been restored to Europe: If we consider your Services in this light, what a vast Expenditure of Blood, how many Millions of Money must we see you have saved; And what a great Blessing thro' the Favour of Heaven, have you herein had the Honour to be, not to this Country only, but to Great-Britain and Mankind!"

* Essex County Biographical Review, 1898; Hutchinson, History of Mass.; Titcomb, S.E., Early New Eng. People.

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Colonel Moses Titcomb died intestate and the original inventory was filed on 9 October 1755. The estate was not settled for several years as another inventory and appraisal by Timothy Pike, Patrick Tracy and Cutting Moody was dated 8 July 1763. Moses Titcomb and Ebenezer Greenleaf attested on 11 July 1763. Among other items were "11 pictures and coat of arms" valued £5:8:0. The inventory totaled £1,409:4:2. In the division of the estate on 31 March 1767, the following children were named: Anne Wilcomb, Mary Rogers, Miriam Tracy, Lois Titcomb, Moses Titcomb (his eldest son), Nicholas Titcomb and Hannah Greenleaf. *

Children of Colonel Moses and Miriam (Currier) Titcomb, all born at Newbury:

- i. Anne⁴, b. 5 Oct. 1729; m. Joseph Wilcomb of Amesbury.
- ii. Hannah, b. _ Aug. 1731†; m. Newbury, 21 Dec. 1760, Ebenezer Greenleaf; d. Newburyport, 4 Sept. 1796.
- iii. Miriam, b. 5 Jan. 1732[/3]; d. Newburyport, 28 Oct. 1810, age 78; m. Nicholas Tracy.
- iv. Moses, b. 20 Feb. 1734/5; m. (1), Phebe ____, who d. 10 Dec. 1767; m. (2) perhaps, int. 31 Dec. 1768, at Newburyport, Sarah Lowden; one son by first wife:
 1. Moses⁵, b. 29 Sept. 1763.
- v. Lois, b. 28 Nov. 1736; d. before Sept. 1750.
- vi. Mary, b. 13 Mar. 1742; d. Newburyport, 5 Dec. 1827, "a. 86 y.;" m. Newbury, 15 Oct. 1761, Robert Rogers.
- vii. Lois, b. 18 Sept. 1750; d. Newburyport, 27 Apr. 1803, age 53; m. Andrew Frothingham. ‡
- viii. Abigail, bp. 19 Nov. 1752; probably d. before 31 Mar. 1767.
34. ix. Nicholas, b. 23 July 1754.

* Essex Probate, Docket 27, 729.

† Titcomb Family Tree made about 1885 by Albert Cushing Titcomb, now possession of his son Albert Clement Titcomb of Boston, Mass., hereafter cited as Family Tree.

‡ Ibid.