

A CULVER FAMILY

*Culver
family*

By Rev. Garford F. Williams

OCCGS REFERENCE ONLY



Jane Culver

Wife of G.H. Blakeslee

Taken about 1860

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



A CULVER FAMILY

As we begin this article, we must first pay our debt of sincere gratitude to the late Miss Fannie Jane Blakeslee of Nicholson, who shared with us some fifty years ago her vast and excellent manuscripts on the early families of Springville, Susquehanna County, who had migrated there from Waterbury, Bristol County, Connecticut, between 1800 and 1850. The Culvers were given intensive study by her in Waterbury, to which she added what local information she could find in Springville seventy-five years ago. This she preserved and is now our only source to bring this family line to the present.

The standard volume on this family is entitled: Colver-Culver Genealogy -- Descendants of Edward Colver of Boston, Dedham, and Roxbury, Massachusetts; and New London and Mystic, Connecticut. 1635-1909, by Frederick Lathrop Colver, and published in 1910. This has long been out of print and we have not seen it but Miss Blakeslee used it as a basis for her search. This book does not cover those who lived in Springville, but gives only their ancestry.

Miss Blakeslee also used another standard work: Genealogical Register of the Inhabitants of the Town of Litchfield, Connecticut, from the Settlement of the Town in 1720 to the year 1800 etc., by George C. Woodruff, published in 1845. This contains the Culver line and has this statement: "settled in Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania." This information was repeated word for word by Frederick L. Colver.

A Third source was Charles T. Payne's, Record of Inscriptions Upon the Tombstones of the Towns of Litchfield and Morris, Connecticut, published in 1905.

We purchased a copy of the new Culver book entitled: Colver-Culver Family Genealogy, by Valerie Dyer Giorgi, printed in California in 1984. This contains thirteen generations from the immigrant and fills seven hundred pages. Like all of the above mentioned books, this one gives us no information on the Springville or other Susquehanna County Culver families. It states simply, "moved to Great Bend, Pennsylvania," on pages 88 and 132. Of course we know that the Culvers did not live ever in Great Bend but went directly to Springville.

Hence it was of great interest to us to merge Miss Blakeslee's research to complete this family record and supplement these genealogies. Also added by us is information we have found in the federal census, National Archives, our County court house, our Historical Society, and cemeteries. No living person we have found could give us any new information on this "forgotten family" of Springville.

Culver is a popular name and we have found families of this surname in Brooklyn, Susquehanna County, and a number of families in Wyoming and Bradford counties. These have been studied by us only to make sure those belonging in Springville were placed properly.

I. **EDWARD COLVER** the immigrant ancestor, was born about 1610 in County Suffolk or County Middlesex, England. He emigrated in 1635 to Boston in New England. He was a wheelwright and millwright. In 1636, he was persuaded to become a member of the colonization of the town of Dedham, ten miles southeast of Boston. In 1648, he removed to Roxbury, now part of Boston. In 1653, he went to New London, Connecticut, and later was in Mystic, Connecticut where he died in 1685. He was buried in the Wightman Cemetery, and his grave is marked.

Edward Colver was married 19 September 1638, in Dedham, Massachusetts, to Ann Ellis, daughter of John. They were married by the Rev. John Allyn, pastor of the

church in Dedham to which they both belonged. Edward Colver was a member of the town militia and fought in the Indian skirmishes, including King Philip's War. Ann and Edward Colver left nine children, all of whom had large families.

11 **EDWARD COLVER** junior was born 1653/4 in New London, Connecticut; and died 7 April 1732 in Litchfield, Connecticut. He was married 15 January 1682 at Norwich, Connecticut, to Sarah Backus, daughter of William and Sarah (Charles) Backus. She was born 14 June 1663 at Norwich. In 1680, he was living in Norwich; in 1698, he became an original proprietor of the town of Lebanon, Connecticut. Sarah and Edward Colver were charter members of the church in Lebanon, and left twelve children.

In 1712, Edward Colver was appointed Lieutenant of the Connecticut Militia, and had charge of a large section of eastern Connecticut. He fought in King Philip's War for which he received a land grant. In May, 1719, he became an original proprietor and grantee of the town of Litchfield, Connecticut, and his children followed him there. His occupation was that of surveyor.

111 **SAMUEL COLVER** was born 11 February 1690/1 in Norwich, New London Co., Conn.* He was married 13 May 1714 in Lebanon, Connecticut to Hannah Hibbard, daughter of Robert and Mary (Walden) Hibbard. She was born about 1691 in Lebanon and died 16 July 1770 in Litchfield, her death occurring only a few weeks after his. They left ten children.

Samuel Colver lived with his parents in Lebanon, where he became a church member. Like his father, he was a surveyor and in the town militia with the office of sergeant. He was one of the founders of the town of Litchfield, and spent the rest of his life there in the section called Chestnut Hill, where he owned a very large estate. This estate in his old age, he deeded to his children in separate parcels. He was in charge of the school affairs and hired teachers. He was very active in church circles and was several times a member of the General Assembly of Connecticut which met in New Haven.

1V **ZEBULON COLVER** was born 29 November 1717 in Lebanon, Connecticut, and died 14 December 1806 in Litchfield, Connecticut, where he was taken by his parents when he was an infant. His gravestone there states that he was ninety years of age, so he spent more than eighty-five years of his life in that town. He is buried in the East Burying Ground and his monument stands.

Zebulon Colver was married 30 July 1740 in New London, Connecticut by the Rev. Timothy Collens, to Eleanor Taylor who was born 5 May 1723 and died 29 March 1805 in Litchfield. They are buried side by side; on his gravestone the family surname is spelled Colver; and on hers it is Culver. However his descendants preferred Culver which will be the spelling hereinafter in this article.

Zebulon Culver was a Lieutenant in the town militia, appointed in October 1767. If he served in the American Revolution, his record is not found in the Daughters of the American Revolution Patriot Index.

Zebulon Culver and his wife, Eleanor, were the parents of thirteen children, all born in Litchfield, Connecticut. The children are recorded in the vital records of Litchfield and were:

1. Ruth born 22 September 1743
2. Joel born 13 May 1745
3. Eleanor born 3 June 1747, married Amasa Moss
4. Ann born 1 September 1749, married Benjamin Ames
5. Azariah born 23 September 1751, married Elizabeth Baldwin
6. Rachel born 16 December 1753, m. 1st Joseph Merriman; 2nd Amos Moss

*He died in 1770 in Litchfield, Connecticut.

7. Zebulon Jr. born 30 November 1755, married Mary Blakeslee
8. Irene born 28 March 1757
9. Stephen born 15 March 1759
10. Hannah born 2 May 1761, married Stephen Bidwell Jr.
11. Eunice born 31 December 1762, married _____ Churchill
12. Lois born 4 August 1765
13. Sabra born 16 March 1768; died 21 March 1791, aged 22 years..

Zebulon Culver left a will on file (#1573) in Litchfield. From the copy in the Connecticut State Library, we find that he names only eight children. The will reads: "In the Name of God, Amen.... I, Zebulon Colver of Litchfield, in the county of Litchfield, state of Connecticut, being of sound mind and memory, blessed be God; therefore do make this my last will and testament.

"In the first place, I order my executor hereafter named, decently to interr my body after my decease, in such manner as shall be most agreeable to my surviving friends and relations, humbly hoping that through the mercies of Almighty God, I shall have a happy resurrection from the dead.

"As to my worldly goods, I give and bequeath them in the manner following (viz) FIRST to my daughter, Elinor, I give....land; SECOND to my daughter, Anna, I give half of the house and half of the barn, and land....THIRD, I give to my daughter, Rachel, one half of the house and half of the barn, and land....FOURTH, I give to my daughter, Hannah, land....FIFTH, I give to my daughter, Eunice, ten acres of land lying near the Waterbury River, bounded by Zebulon Colver Jr.SIXTH, I give to my grandson, Moses Colver, the remainder of the Waterbury River lot....SEVENTH, I give to each of my sons: ZEBULON, AZARIAH & STEPHEN, four dollars each, to be paid out of the moveable estate.... EIGHTH, After paying the debts and charges, the remainder of my estate to be divided equally between my daughters above named.

And I do hereby revoke, disannul and declare to be void all former wills made by me and I do hereby declare this to be my last will and testament. I do hereby appoint Benjamin Ames and Stephen Bidwell Sr. to be executors of this my will and testament. In witness whereof I have set my hand and seal this 10th day of October A.D. 1805.

ZEBULON COLVER

In presence of Levi Catlin, Isaac Moss and Jamey Moss.

"Returned and established January 6th 1807. Frederick Wolcott, Judge of Probate Court."

The "Distribution of the Personal Estate of ZEBULON COLVER 1807 (file #1573)" is found in Litchfield records, and is as follows:

"The personal estate of ZEBULON CULVER, late of Litchfield, deceased, is distributed and set off in the following manner to Zebulon Jr. four dollars & Azariah Colver four dollars, to each, a total of \$8. for which they gave receipt. To STEPHEN COLVER pair black breeches, black silk handkerchief, pair worsted stockings, a bottle-green vest....total four dollars. To ELEANOR MOSS a bed, checked blanket, tablecloth, hat, pair of everlasting breeches, file, stand, chain, bred tray. To ANNA AMES a saddle, hat, butternut colored vest, pair sheets #4, pair shoes, hay knife, account book, whip, pitch fork, pewter cup, plate, three knives and a fork. To HANNAH BIDWELL a silver spoon, pair sheets #2, chest, a case of bottles, trunk, crane, 3 towels, bedstead. To RACHEL MOSS pair woolen sheets, pair of linen sheets, rose blanket, pair buck-skin slippers, pair sheets, pair of shoes, pair breeches, pair pillow cases, shaver, plane, shirts, pair breeches. To EUNICE CHURCHILL red blanket, pair linen sheets, saw, one service book, trunk, frying pan, pair woolen sheets, two woolen shirts, a linen shirt, a bandano handkerchief, cotton handkerchief, one gallon bottle, slice and tongs, pair of Pillow Cases. ***** To the Honorable Judge of the Court of Probate for Litchfield District: Sir: The above distribution is as near to your

directions as the property to be distributed would allow of. Daniel Garrett and Levi Catlin. Litchfield, 8 June 1807."

V ZEBULON CULVER junior was born 30 November 1755 in Litchfield, Conn. He died in Litchfield, in 1817, aged about 56 years, and buried in Litchfield. He was married in the Congregational Church, Plymouth, Connecticut, by the Rev. Andrew Storrs, on 20 May 1784, to Mary Blakeslee, daughter of Mehitable Allen and Moses Blakeslee. She was born at Waterbury, Bristol County, Connecticut, 20 February 1754 and died in Springville, Susquehanna County, Pennsylvania, 27 March 1831, aged 77-1-7. She is buried in the Episcopal Cemetery in the village of Springville. On the family monument, she is called the mother of Zuar Culver.

A distribution (file #1702) in the estate of Zebulon Culver Jr. is as follows:

"Know all men by there presents, that we PHINEHAS LORD and ZUAR CULVER, both of Litchfield, in the County of Litchfield, Connecticut, are holden and stand firmly bound and obliged unto FREDERICK WOLCOTT Esq., Judge of the Court of Probate for the district of Litchfield, in the penal sum of two thousand dollars, lawful money of said State, to be paid to the said Judge, or his certain Attorney and/or successor in said office: To which payment, well and truly to be made and done, we the said PHINEHAS LORD and ZUAR CULVER do bind ourselves and each of us, our heirs, executors and administrators, and each and every of them, for, and in the whole firmly by these presents, signed with our hands and sealed with our seals. Dated at Litchfield, on the 2nd day of June Anno Domini 1817.

"The condition of this obligation is such, That if the above bounden PHINEHAS LORD administrator of all and singular the goods, chattels, credits, and estate of ZEBULON CULVER, late of Litchfield, deceased, do make or cause to be made a true and perfect inventory, of all and singular the goods, chattels, credits and estate of the said deceased, which have or shall come to the hands, possession, or knowledge of the said PHINEHAS LORD or in the hands, or possession of any other person or persons, for him and the same so made, do exhibit or cause to be exhibited into the registry of the said Court of Probate, in the district of Litchfield, at, or before the 2nd day of August next ensuing. And the same goods, chattels, credits and estate, and all other the goods, chattels, credits and estate of the said deceased, at the time of his death, which at any time after shall come to the hands or possession of the said PHINEHAS LORD or into the hands or possession of any other person or persons for him do well and truly administer according to law. And further, to make or cause to be made a true and just account of his said administration, at or before the 2nd day of February A.D. 1818. And all the rest and residue of said goods, chattels, credits and estate which shall be found remaining upon the administrator's account; the same being first examined and allowed by the said Court of Probate, shall deliver and pay unto such person or persons respectively, as the said court of probate, by their decree or sentence, pursuant to the true intent or meaning of the law, shall limit and appoint; and if it shall hereafter appear that any last will and testament was made by the said deceased, and the executor or executors therein named, do exhibit the same into the said Court, making request to have it allowed and approved accordingly; if the said PHINEHAS LORD being thereto required, do render and deliver the said letters of administration (approbation of such testament being first had and made) in the said Court, then this obligation to be void and of none effect; or else to remain in full force and virtue.

PHINEHAS LORD

ZUAR CULVER



BOND #1702 1817 #1 ZEBULON CULVER

Additions to the inventory of the Estate of ZEBULON CULVER, late of Litchfield, deceased,
viz:

to the rent of the farm of the deceased
the summer of the year 1817 \$30.00

Litchfield, Jan'y 6th 1818

PHINEHAS LORD Administrator

Paid to widow \$30.
sell land \$250

#1702 #2

An INVENTORY of the real and personal Estate of ZEBULON CULVER, late Litchfield,
deceased

50 3/4 Acres of Land		\$1193.50
1 Cow		23.
1 Hatt		.34
1 Black great coat		5.50
1 London brown coat		1.50
1 blue coat		.84
1 black Sattinett vest		.34
1 blue woollen vest		.34
1 pair white linnen breeches		.25
1 pair velvet breeches		.34
1 pair black velvet breeches		.67
2 linen shirts		.34
1 red flannel shirt		.34
1 pair striped linen trowsers		.34
1 pair brown linen trowsers		.17
2 pair woollen trowsers 17¢ each		.34
1 pair mixed blue & white woollen stockings		.50
3 pair old woollen stockings		.50
1 pair mittans		.34
1 checked woollen bed quilt		.50
1 striped woollen bed quilt		.34
1 Red woollen bed quilt		.34
1 new checked blanket		3.50
1 old plaid blanket		.50
1 Red blanket		.84
1 striped blanket		.50
1 Feather bed, boulster & pillows & under bed		12.00
1 Bedstead & cord		1.50
4 pair pillow cases 12¢ each		.48
4 pair linnen sheets 50¢ each		2.00
1 pair new flannel sheets		2.50
1 pair flannel sheets		1.75
1 pair old flannel sheets		.50
1 pair old flannel sheets		.34
1 small table		1.00
1 low chest		.25
1 armed chair		.50
2 chairs with bark bottoms 25¢ each		.50
3 chairs without bottoms 12½¢ each		.37*
1 brass kettle		5.75
1 iron pot		.50
	Amount carried forward	\$1265.95

*incorrect addition

INVENTORY Estate of ZEBULON CULVER deceased continued

	Amount brought forward	\$1265.95
1 Tea Kettle		.67
1 frying pan		.34
1 pair Andirons		1.60
1 pair shovel & tongs		1.25
1 crane, trammel & 2 hooks		1.50
1 pair small steelyards		.50
1 pair sheep shears		.17
1 cross cut saw		1.75
1 hand saw		1.12
3 augers		1.00
10 pounds of scrap iron		.75
1 chain weight 19 pounds	@.126¢	2.20
1 crow bar weight 17 pounds	@.6¢	1.02
1 iron square		.12
1 milk pail		.25
1 grind stone & crank		3.50
1 Hackle		.75
1 large spinning wheel		1.50

half of two Acres of Rye standing on the ground, the quantity to be ascertained when it is garnered & thrashed

\$1286.02

We the subscribers appointed Appraisers by the Honorable Court of Probate on the above mentioned Estate have appraised it, as above stated, having taken the oath according to Law.

Litchfield 4th June 1817

CHARLES BUELL }
DANIEL GARRITT } Appraisers

Inventory received and accepted July 30th 1817

This is the List of the claims against the Estate of ZEBULON CULVER, LATE OF LITCHFIELD, Deceased

Due to Sabra Culver	\$ 15.00
Due to Ozias Warner	2.00
Due to Samuel Wright for taxes	1.30
Due to Samuel Buel & c	63.27
Due to Miles Norton--Society tax	.60
Due to Charles Buel for taxes	1.21
Due to Philip Wells	1.53
Due to Daniel Sheldon	.53
Due to Abel Catlin 2nd	1.75
Due to Zuar Culver on a discount to James Baldwin	6.00
Due to Zuar Culver in full	100.00

Litchfield January 6th 1818

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
PHINEAS LORD, Administrator
GENERAL LAND SOCIETY

Litchfield Probate #1702

Agreeably to an order of the Court of Probate for the District of Litchfield, I have sold of the real estate of ZEBULON CULVER, late of Litchfield, deceased, to the

amount of \$270.05, viz:

I have sold to ZUAR CULVER two acres and 130 rods for \$67.50	\$ 67.50
I have also sold to ELON BEAMPTON seven acres, 2 quarters and 23 rods	\$202.55
Making the whole the avails as above, reference being had to the Deeds	<u>\$270.05</u>

Dated January 8th 1818. For a more particular description of Land, the sales incurred the order of Court. The sum of \$20.05, which I found it necessary to make to accommodate the purchasers.

PHINEHAS LORD Adminsitrator

Litchfield Jan.Y 8th 1818

Administrators A/C on the Estate of ZEBULON CULVER, late of Litchfield, deceased:

Paid to Augustos F. Hull for a Coffin	\$5.00
Paid to Ashbel Marsh for Digging the Grave	1.50
Paid to Phinehas Lord to half a day to the court	.50
Paid to Joseph Adams for surveying the land	.38
Paid to surveyor for half a day	.50
half a day with the surveyor	
half a day with the appraisors	1.00
half a day to obtain orders to distribute the widow's dower	.50
one day to attend to the farm, the summer past	1.00
one day to obtain the claims against the Estate	1.00
Paid to ZUAR CULVER for furnishing the Appraisors & Distributors	3.50
Paid to the Apprisors one day each	2.00
Paid the Distributors for the Widow's Dower	7.50
half a day with the Distributors for the Widow's Dower	.50
January 6....one day at the Court	1.00
January 7....one day to sell Land	1.00
January 8....Paid the Distributors for two days each	4.00
Paid the surveyor one day	1.50
Paid myself two days with the Distributors	2.00
January 8....Paid for two deeds	.34
Paid to the Administrator in full	3.00
Paid to the Court in full	13.00
	<u>\$44.72</u>

PHINEHAS LORD Administrator

DISTRIBUTION in the Estate of Zebulon Culver Jr. #1702...1818

Litchfield, January 10th 1818

We, the subscribers, appointed by the Honorable Court of Probate for Litchfield district, distributors on the Estate of ZEBULON CULVER, late of Litchfield, deceased, and having taken the oath according to law, have distributed and assigned to the several heirs, the following described real estate, viz.:

To JAMES CULVER, son of the deceased, we have assigned one piece of land lying at the south west corner of the farm of the deceased, bounded south on Daniel Garritt's

land, west on highway, north on land we this day assigned to ROGER CULVER, son of the deceased and east on the Widow's dower, being 20 rods, 13 links wide at the east end 22 rods, 14 links at the west, containing 4 acres and 1 rood.

To ROGER CULVER, son of the deceased, we have assigned one piece of land, bounded south on land we this day distributed to JAMES CULVER, west on highway, north on land we this day distributed to CYBIL CULVER, daughter of the deceased and East on Widow's dower, being 18 rods, 10 links wide at the west end and 12 rods 12 links at the east end, containing 3 acres 3 rods.

To CYBIL CULVER, daughter of deceased, we have assigned one piece of land, bounded south on land we this day assigned and distributed to ROGER CULVER, west partly on highway and partly on Elon Cramton's land; north on land we this day assigned to SABRA CULVER, and east on the Widow's Dower, being 2 rods wide on highway and 30 rods 9 links on Elon Cramton's land at the west end and 20 rods 9 links wide at the east end; containing 5 acres and 10 rods. Also one other piece of wood land lying east of Daniel Ford's, bounded south on Philo Moss's land; west on land we this day distributed to SABRA CULVER: north on Elon Cramton Junior's land and East on Daniel Ford's land being 13 rods 8 links wide at the south end and 14 rods, 8 links wide at the north end.

To SABRA CULVER, daughter of the deceased, we have distributed and assigned one piece of land bounded south partly on the Widow's Dower and partly on land we this day assigned to CYBIL CULVER, west on Elon Cramton's land, north on land, we this day assigned to ZUAR CULVER, son of the deceased and east on Sd. Zuar's land, being 19 rods 4 links wide at each end, containing 5 acres, 1 Rood and 10 rods. Also one other piece of wood land lying east of Daniel Ford's, bounded south on Philo Moss's land; west on land we this day assigned to ZUAR CULVER: north on Elon Cramton Junior's land and east on land we this day assigned to CYBIL CULVER being 13 rods 8 links wide at the north end and 14 rods, 8 links at the south end.

To ZUAR CULVER, son of the deceased, we have distributed and assigned one piece of land bounded south on land we this day assigned to SABRA CULVER, west on Elon Cramton's land; north and east on his own land, being 21 rods wide at the west end and 30 rods wide at the east end, containing 5 acres 1 Rood and 16 Rods. Also one other piece of wood land lying east of Daniel Ford's bounded south on Philo Moss's land, west on Reuben Webster's land, north on Elon Cramton Junior's land and east on land we this day assigned to SABRA CULVER, being 13 rods 8 links wide at the north end and 14 rods and 8 links wide at the south end.

We have also distributed the personal estate of the deceased in the following manner: To the widow, MARY CULVER, wife of the deceased;

2 bed quilts @ .34¢ ea.	.68
4 pr. pillow cases	.40
4 pr. linen sheets	2.00
1 pr. flannel sheets	1.75
1 pr. old flannel sheets	.50
1 pr. old flannel sheets	.34
1 table	.50
1 low chest	1.00
2 chairs	.50
1 pr. andirons	1.60
1 pr. shovel and tongs	1.25
1 pr. steel yards	.50
1 Hackle	.75
1 large spinning wheel	1.50
1 hand saw	1.12

1 iron square	.12		
Cash	<u>10.29</u>		
	\$24.88		
To ROGER CULVER			
1 great coat	\$ 5.50		
Cash	<u>4.45</u>		
	\$9.95		
To JAMES CULVER			
1 hat	\$.34		
1 blue coat	.84		
1 blue vest	.34		
1 pr. velvet breeches	.34		
1 pr. velvet breeches	.67		
1 red flannel shirt	.34		
1 pr. woollen trousers	.17		
3 pr. old woollen stockings	.50		
1 pr. mittins	.34		
10 pounds old iron	.75		
3 augers	1.00		
Cash	<u>4.32</u>		
	\$9.95		
To ZUAR CULVER			
1 London brown coat	\$1.50		
1 black sattinett vest	.34		
1 pr. striped linen trousers	.34		
1 pr. brown linen trousers	.17		
1 pr. woollen trousers	.17		
1 pr. mixed woollen stockings	.50		
1 crow bar	1.02		
1 pr. sheep shears	.17		
1 cross cut saw	1.75		
Cash	<u>3.99</u>		
	\$9.95		
To SABRA CULVER			
1 new woollen sheet	1.25		
1 armed chair	.25		
1 chair without bottom	.12		
1 striped blanket	.50		
1 grind stone and crank	3.50		
Cash	<u>4.33</u>		
	\$9.95		
To CYBIL CULVER			
1 new flannel sheet	\$1.25	Total Amount to Widow	\$24.88
2 chairs without bottoms	.25	Total Amount to Roger Culver	9.95
1 reddish blanket	.84	Total Amount to James Culver	9.95
1 chain	2.25	Total Amount to Zuar Culver	9.95
1 pr. linen breeches	.25	Total Amount to Sabra Culver	9.95
2 linen shirts	.34	Total Amount to Cybil Culver	9.95
Cash	<u>4.77</u>		
	\$9.95		\$74.63

CHARLES BUEL } distributors
DANIEL GARRITT }

Estate of ZEBULON CULVER of the town of LITCHFIELD, Connecticut.

Date 1817 No. 1702 LITCHFIELD PROBATE DISTRICT

1 Bond
2 inventories
2 returns to court
2 distributions
1 Account of Administration
8 Total Documents

Deposited in Connecticut State Library 1918

ZEBULON CULVER'S Estate: Distribution of Dower, received and established Jan 6th 1818

We the subscribers appointed by the Honorable Court of Probate for the district of Litchfield, distributors on the Estate of ZEBULON CULVER, late of Said Litchfield deceased, to assign and distribute to the WIDOW OF THE DECEASED, her thirds or dower of the real Estate of the deceased; and having taken the oath according to law have assigned and distributed to her the following described pieces of land, Viz.:

One piece of land lying south west from where the deceased last lived, bounded East 22 rods 13 links on high way, thence westerly by Stephen Bidwell's land, 16 rods, thence southerly by Said Bidwell's land 22 rods 22 links, thence westerly by Said Bidwell's land 12 rods 17 links, thence southerly by Said Bidwell's land 14 rods, thence westerly by Daniel Garrit's land far enough to make 13 acres, thence, a due north line, until it strikes a line running in the same direction as ZUAR CULVER's south line, thence East by land belonging to the heirs of the deceased and by Zuar Culver's land to the highway.

Also one other piece of wood land lying Easterly of Daniel Garritt's dwelling house, containing 2 acres, bounded north on Benedict A. Law's land, east on Joseph Merriman's land; south on land belonging to the heirs of the deceased and west on Daniel Garritt's land being the north part of an undivided piece of land which was surveyed to the deceased by Timothy Skinner and Nathaniel Goodwin, Proprietors Committee and recorded April 1805.

CHARLES BUEL } Distributers
DANIEL GARRITT }

Litchfield December 4th 1817

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

The genealogies mentioned earlier in this article state that the wife of Zebulon Culver junior is 'unknown.' However that statement could only mean that the authors had not bothered to search for the marriage record. Miss Blakeslee found it readily and proof of her finding is verified by the above distribution of the estate of her husband, and the information on the family monument.

The record of the marriage of Zebulon Culver and Mary Blakeslee is found in the book printed by the Mattatuck Historical Society of Waterbury, in 1917, volume two, under the title: "Ancient Burying-Grounds, together with other records of Church and Town, of Waterbury," compiled and edited by Katharine A. Prichard. On page 191, under "The Congregation Church Records of Northbury Parish (later Plymouth) 1765-1809, compiled by Emma S. Tomlinson, 1917, under marriages: "Zeb Culver to Mary Blakeslee, 20 May 1784."

The children of Mary Blakeslee and Zebulon Culver junior were:

1. Zuar Culver born about 1785, married Lydia Warner
2. James Culver, listed in the distribution of father's estate
3. Roger Culver, listed in the distribution of father's estate
4. Sabra Culver born about 1792
5. Cybil P. Culver born about 1795, married Edward M. Hawley
6. Moses Culver, if a son, was named for his grandfather Blakeslee.

We find Sabra Culver, aged 58 years, born in Connecticut, living with her sister, Sibyl Culver, in the 1850 census for Springville Township. Sabra did not appear in the census after 1850, unless she had married.

Sybbel P. (Cybil, Sibyl, etc.) Culver Hawley died in Springville and is buried in the Culver plot in the Episcopal Church Cemetery in the village of Springville. The gravestone states that she was the wife of Edward M. Hawley, and died 7 April 1875, in the 79th year of her age. The stone also states that her daughter Mary is buried with her. The stone is sunken and the information regarding Mary is below the ground level.

Sybbel P. Culver is listed in the 1850 census, as aged 53 years. In 1870, she is called Sibyl Hawley, aged 70 years, born Connecticut, and living with Emery Culver, her son.

Emery H. Culver, in 1850, was aged 30 years, born in Pennsylvania, and was a wagonmaker, single. In 1860, he is given in the census as 30 years, same occupation, with \$2500 in real estate and \$2000 in personal property. In 1870, he is 38 years old, occupation a wheelwright, his wife, Abigail is 38, and they have two children: Albert B. aged 5 and Orson aged 1. They are listed again in 1880, and Emery states that his father was born in Pennsylvania and his mother was born in Connecticut.

Emery H. Culver married Abigail D. Bullard, born 26 January 1830 and died 9 April 1887 in Scranton, where they had been living. Her obituary appeared in a Montrose newspaper. No further research was done on these people.

V1 ZUAR CULVER, son to Mary Blakeslee and Zebulon Culver junior, was born about 1785 in Plymouth, Connecticut, and died 16 January 1871 in Pierceville, Nicholson Twp., Wyoming County. His gravestone states that he was 84 years old, and he was buried in the Episcopal Church Cemetery, Springville. He was married about 1808, probably in Waterbury, Connecticut, to Lydia Warner, daughter to Tamar Nichols and Ozias Warner, born 14 March 1782 in Waterbury, and died 13 July 1864 in Springville Township, aged 82-3-30, buried in Episcopal Cemetery. They had nine children, all of whom were born in Litchfield, Connecticut, except Samuel, the youngest child, who was born in Springville. The family came to Springville in 1825. The children were:

1. Ozias Warner Culver born about 1810; married Sarah
2. Jane Culver born about 1812; married George Henry Blakeslee
3. Anson Culver born about 1813; married Augusta
4. Elon Culver born 14 June 1814; died 7 April 1842, aged 27-9-24;
probably unmarried; buried in Culver plot, Springville
5. Mary Culver born about 1816; died 2 July 1835, aged 19 years;
probably unmarried; buried in Culver Plot, Springville
6. David Culver born about 1818; married Eseba (Avery) McCracken
7. Emeline M. Culver born 17 October 1821; married Joseph Stephens
8. Harriet Culver born about 1823; died 25 April 1864, aged 41 years;
unmarried, buried in Culver plot, Springville
9. Samuel Buell Culver born 5 January 1827; died 5 March 1871, aged
44-2-0; buried in Culver plot, Springville.

Samuel B. Culver, the youngest son, is living with his parents in 1850, and was aged 23; in 1860, he is aged 30 and was the constable in Springville; in 1870, he is living in Nicholson with his sister, Mrs. Stephens. His will is on record in Wyoming County (WB 2, p. 655); he gives all of his property to his sister, and asked that out of his estate \$500 be spent to erect a monument in the Episcopal Cemetery, to his mother, his sister, Harriet, and himself. Apparently Mrs. Stephens did this and included all members of the immediate family who were buried there.

Zuar Culver lived in Litchfield for over a quarter of a century, probably on land he inherited from his father. When he came to Springville, in 1825, with his mother, sisters, and his brother-in-law, Levi Warner, he found many friends, relatives, and acquaintances living in the area. He is listed in the 1850 and 1860 federal census for Springville; and the 1870 census for Nicholson. In the latter place, he was living with Mrs. Stephens.

V11 **OZIAS WARNER CULVER**, oldest son of Lydia Warner and Zuar Culver, was born about 1810 in Litchfield, Connecticut. He married Sarah who was born about 1816 in Pennsylvania. Their children, born in Springville, and listed in the 1850 and 1860 census were:

1. Adaline Culver born about 1842
2. Rachel Culver born about 1846
3. Louiza Culver born about 1846; may be the same as Rachel
4. Lydia Culver born about 1853.

He gave his name as Warner Culver, but used the initials O.W. Culver. In 1860, he had \$2000 in real estate and \$450 in personal estate. He seems to have left Springville after 1860.

Jane Culver, oldest daughter to Lydia Warner and Zuar Culver, was born about 1812, in Litchfield, Connecticut, and died with cancer of the womb, 30 July 1870, in New California, Clifton Township, Grant County, Wisconsin, aged about 58 years. She was married 20 October 1839, in Springville, by Albert Beardsley, J.P., in her father's home and her family as witnesses, to George Henry Blakeslee, son to Milla Ann Bronson and Merric Blakeslee. He was born 5 August 1815, in Waterbury, Connecticut, and was only three years old when his parents walked from Waterbury to Springville. In a sworn testimony, he stated that his mother carried him all the way in her arms, since he was a frail child. He died about 1889, in Wisconsin, aged about 73 years. He was a cooper by trade.

They lived in Springville and were well situated on a farm and making out well when the Drinkers ejected him from his farm and took everything he had. This was in 1856, and thereafter he was a poor man. This information is from his pension appli-

cation on file in the National Archives. They came to Lathrop Township; in 1864 were in Nicholson; in 1866 moved to Rockford, Winnebago County, Illinois; in 1868, to New California, Wisconsin; in 1872, he went to Chicago; in 1873, to Earlville, Illinois; and continued to move around until his death.

Jane Culver and G.H. Blakeslee had five children:

1. William Hall Blakeslee born on his father's birthday, 5 August 1840, in Springville. He enlisted in the Civil War in Company K, 143rd Regiment, Pa. Inf., and served two years. He was wounded several times and was killed in the Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia, 6 May 1864. He was not identified and rests in an unknown grave. He was unmarried and left no children.
2. Elizabeth Blakeslee born 13 September 1841 in Springville; and died on her birthday in 1924, in Binghamton, New York; buried in Oneonta, New York. She married first, Theodore Hyatt Luckey, who enlisted in Company H, 190th Regiment, Pa. Vol., and was killed in the Civil War, leaving children. She married second, George N. Colvin, a soldier in Company H, 2nd Regiment of Heavy Artillery. He was injured in the service. Their children were: Minnie, Annie, Gracie, Georgie, and Willie.
3. Robert Riley Blakeslee born 15 April 1844 in Springville; and died 29 October 1899 in Nicholson, Pa., of injuries received in the Civil War. He served in Company L, 9th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and was an invalid thereafter. He married first, Elizabeth A. Decker; and second, Emazilla Rought.
4. Mehitable (called Belle) Blakeslee, was born 4 November 1845 in Springville, and lived for many years in Earlville, Illinois. She married first to a man by name of Hasman or Hosman. They had a son, Frank. She married second, Floyd Foote and they had two daughters: Josie and Ida.
5. Harriet Blakeslee, born 8 September 1848 in Chicago. She lived in Chicago, Illinois for many years. She married Orrin T. Goodrich.

Anson Culver, son to Lydia Warner and Zuar Culver, was born about 1813, in Litchfield, Connecticut. (There is some speculation that he might have been born 14 June 1814, and was a twin to his brother, Elon.) Anson died in Springville, 3 April 1881, aged 67 years, buried in the Episcopal Cemetery, no gravestone. He stayed with his parents and lived on the family farm until 1880, when he moved into the village of Springville. According to the census, the family farm was next to that of Samuel Sutton, Sr. and Jr., Geroge, Asa, & Edward Strickland, Miles Prichard, Levi Warner, Samuel Wright, and O.W. Culver.

Anson Culver's death notice is in the *Independent Republican*, 11 April 1881: "Anson Culver died Sunday morning last, in his 68th year. Buried at Springville on Tuesday." From the census, we learn that his occupation was that of a butcher.

About 1865, he married Mary Augusta, who was born about 1827. They had three children:

1. Alice Louisa Culver born about 1867, in Springville
2. Florence T. Culver born about 1868 in Springville
married 8 May 1898, by Rev. R.M. Ives to Frank Foster
They lived in Springville for some years.
3. Samuel E. Culver born 16 January 1870, in Springville; died 22 June 1949 in Scranton, Pa., aged 79-5-16, buried in Nicholson Cemetery with the Stephens family. He was unmarried. After the death of his parents, he came to live with Anson B. Stephens and family. A very faithful church attendant.

David Culver, son to Lydia Warner and Zuar Culver, was born about 1818, in Litchfield, Connecticut; and died 24 November 1899, at Rush Township, Susquehanna County, aged about 82 years, buried Episcopal Cemetery, Springville. His obituary states: "David Culver, aged 82 years, was found dead in bed, 24 November 1899, at the Rush Poor Farm. He lived in Springville over forty years. Buried in Springville, by his son."

David Culver was married about 1848, to Eusebia (Esebia, etc.) (Avery) McCracken, daughter to Elizabeth Spencer and Elijah Avery, and relict widow of Peter McCracken, who died 1846. Eusebia was born about 1813 in Lemon Township, Wyoming County, and died in 1879, in Auburn Township, Susquehanna County, aged about 66 years, buried Episcopal Cemetery, Springville. There are no gravestones for these people.

David Culver and wife Eusebia were living in Dimock Township in 1850. The census states that he was aged 33, she aged 37, and with them are seven McCracken children: Egbert aged 20, Henry aged 18, Otis aged 14, Charles aged 13, Elizabeth aged 10, Daniel M. aged 7, and Volney McCracken aged 5.

In 1860, they are living in Springville. David is aged 43 and has \$2000 in real estate; \$775 in personal estate. Eusebia (Useba) is aged 47, Elizabeth McCracken aged 18, Volney McCracken aged 15, Daniel M. McCracken, aged 18, is apprentice to Emery H. Culver; Ockran Culver aged 10, and Eliza J. Culver aged 7 years. In 1870 they are in Auburn Township. David is aged 53, Eusebia aged 55, Eliza J. Culver aged 18, and Daniel S. Avery, aged 68, born New York, brother to Eusebia, is with them.

Children of David and Eusebia Culver:

1. Samuel Ocran Culver born 1850, married first, Ellen E. Foster, and second Nancy J. Howland
2. Eliza Jane Culver born in 1853, married 30 June 1874, John L. Hancock. These people were not searched.

Samuel Ocran (Ockran) Culver was born in 1850 in Dimock Township; and died 16 November 1910 in Springville, aged about 60 years, buried in the Episcopal Cemetery, Springville. He married first, 5 July 1868, in the Montrose Baptist Church, Ellen E. Foster, daughter of Orison Foster. They had one child.

1. Charles H. Culver born 7 October 1869 in Wyoming County; died 26 November 1939, aged 70-01-19, in New Milford, buried New Milford Cemetery. He was raised in Bridgewater Township, by his mother. (W.B. 16, p. 287, Montrose). He was married in 1891 to Grace P. Chapman (1872-1954) daughter to Asenath LeRoy and William B. Chapman of New Milford. They had three children: Gladys who married Louis Gates, Claire who married Howard Thomas Jr., and an infant born in 1898.

Samuel Ocran Culver and Ellen E. Foster, were divorced at Montrose, 2d Monday (12th) November 1872, #342. He married second, 23 October 1875, in Springville, by Albert Beardsley J.P., to Nancy J. Howland, born in 1857 and died 14 February 1921, in Springville, aged about 73 years, buried in Episcopal Cemetery. They had five children: Ray B. Culver born 7 October 1877, married Elizabeth Ainey (he lived in Eatonville, Wyoming County, in 1910); Clara Mae Culver born 3 April 1880, died 11 March 1885, aged 4-11-8, of membranous croup; Leigh Culver born 3 February 1886, died in 1905; Halford Culver born 23 March 1889, died 1918 in Albany, New York; and Coral E. Culver born 6 October 1891, died Friday, 4 August 1911, in Springville, aged 19-9-28, buried Episcopal Cemetery, Springville.

Samuel Ocran Culver enlisted in the Civil War, 29 August 1864, aged fourteen years. Dr. Platte E. Brush of Springville stated that he was the youngest volunteer

in the Union Army. He served in Company C, 203rd Regiment, Infantry, Pennsylvania Volunteers. He was discharged at Raleigh, North Carolina, 3 July 1865. He enlisted under the name of Ocran Culver. He was injured 23 February 1865 at Wilmington, North Carolina, carrying a log to build "breastworks." His comrad in front of him, stepped in a hole, throwing the log on Culver, injuring his right shoulder, breast and arm. Later he was run into by a boy on a handsled, thrown to the ground, ribs broken on the side of the injury. His pension record further states that he was six feet, two inches tall, weighed 200 lbs., had brown eyes, brown hair, and was dark complexioned. His character witnesses were H.T. Allen, N.H. Sherman, Stuart Riley, George E. Taylor, E.M. Blakslee, J.C. Blakslee, E.D. Emmons, E.R. Thomas, and John Oakley Lyman, all of Springville. He had a pension on his service beginning 2 August 1890 at six dollars per month. Nancy, his widow, was pensioned beginning 2 December 1910, at twelve dollars per month. Her sister, Lillian Reynolds and brother, F.M. Howland of New Milford, were asked to give testimony in her case.

Emeline M. Culver, daughter of Lydia Warner and Zuar Culver, was born 17 October 1821, in Litchfield, Connecticut, and died 1 January 1890 at Pierceville, Nicholson Township, Wyoming County, aged 68-2-14, buried in the Nicholson Cemetery. She was married in Springville, 22 May 1851, to Joseph Stephens, son of Elizabeth Felton and Eliphalet Stephens 3d., born 27 March 1819 in Nicholson Township...In 1874, they built the stone house on Route 92, one of the finest homes in the Township. This replaced the large house built by the Stephenses before 1800. Their children were:

1. Franklin Pierce Stephens born 29 December 1852 in Nicholson Township; and died in Binghamton, New York 26 March 1918, aged 65-2-2, buried Nicholson Cemetery. He married 25 December 1881, Hattie May Weaver, daughter to Maria Lee Chambers and John J. Weaver. There were five children:

- a. Bessie May Stephens born 19 June 1883, married Ray Capwell Snyder, four children
- b. Mortimer LeGrand Stephens born 21 August 1885, married Jean Cohen, no children
- c. Howard Jay Stephens born 28 June 1888, married Edythe L. Vanderpool, no children
- d. Bernice Madeline Stephens born 14 July 1894, married William August Schneider, four children
- e. Stanley Quay Stephens born 30 June 1896, married Margaret Ida Leonard, no children.

2. Anson Buell Stephens born 17 September 1854 in Nicholson Township; and died at Pierceville, Nicholson Township, 9 March 1925, aged 70-5-22, buried Nicholson Cemetery. He was married 31 March 1883, Effie Louise Thomas, daughter of Margaret L. Smith and Adelbert T. Thomas. Anson B. Stephens lived on his father's farm for many years. They had two children:

- a. Jessie Isabel Stephens born 4 March 1884 in Nicholson Township; married Floyd Sanford Finn, two children
- b. Marguerite Emeline Stephens born 22 March 1886, married George Alexander Albeck, three children.

The family line of Lydia Warner, wife of Zuar Culver, can be found in the histories of Waterbury, Connecticut, especially the one by Henry Bronson, M.D., and the one by Sarah J. Richard.

1. John Warner, an early settler of Hartford Connecticut; later was an original settler of Farmington. He married 28 June 1649, Ann Norton. They had three sons and

a daughter. John Warner was a Pequot soldier and for his services was given a grant of land, in 1671, in Mattatuck, now Waterbury. He died in 1679.

2. John Warner Jr., was a freeman, in 1669, and a proprietor at Mattatuck, in 1672. He lived in Farmington for a while, after 1700. Died in Waterbury, in 1707.

3. Dr. Ephraim Warner married Esther, daughter of Obadiah Richards, on 16 August 1692. He died 1 August 1753, in his 84th year. He practiced medicine in Woodbury with his brother, Dr. Ebenezer Warner, who lived in Waterbury, in the Bucks Hill section. Later Dr. Ephraim was with Dr. Daniel Porter, "the bonesetter" and surgeon. Dr. Ephraim was one of the "notabilities" of Waterbury and very active in all affairs of the town.

4. Dr. Benjamin Warner was born 30 September 1698 and died in April 1772. He lived at Bucks Hill in his father's former home, and assumed his father's medical practice. He was called "Dr. Ben" to distinguish him from his father. He married Hannah, daughter to Josiah Strong of Colchester, 17 March 1720. She died 8 April 1785, aged 85 years.

5. Josiah Warner born 10 April 1721, in Waterbury; and died there 26 August 1750. He married 26 May 1748, Rebecca Brown, daughter of Elizabeth Kirby and James Brown of New Haven. She was born 13 September 1726 and died 5 January 1756, leaving a son, five years old, an only child.

6. Ozias Warner born 21 August 1749 in Waterbury. He married 9 October 1770, Tamar Nichols, daughter of Elizabeth Hickcox and Richard Nichols, born 1 October 1748, in Waterbury. They had eight children:

- a. Becca Warner born 16 April 1771
- b. Eunice Warner born 2 April 1773
- c. James Warner born 18 October 1774
- d. Anson Warner born 9 August 1778
- e. Tamar Warner born 13 August 1780
- f. Lydia Warner born 14 March 1782, married Zuar Culver
- g. David Warner born 20 February 1784
- h. Levi Warner born 14 February 1786, married Susannah P. Warner

7. Levi Warner born 14 February 1786, in Waterbury. He was an invalid and a basket-maker. He died after 1860; married about 1812, Susannah P. (Susan) Warner, daughter of Elizabeth Porter (daughter of Dr. Porter) and Ard Warner Sr., (second cousins), and removed to Springville with their family. The 1850 census lists three children: (All born in Waterbury)

- a. Ard Warner 2nd born 1814
- b. Isaac Warner born 1818
- c. Mary Ann Warner born 1822

Susan Warner died after 1870. Apparently none of the children married.

The Culver family found in Brooklyn, Susquehanna County, begin with an Amos Culver who is found in the new Genealogy, but is not identified, and no residence is given for him. His wife was a Lester. Their son was:

Youngs Culver who married Polly Mills in Connecticut. She was born about 1778 in New London County, Connecticut, and died 20 December 1859, aged 81 years, in Brooklyn Pa. They settled in Brooklyn in 1826, with their only son: Youngs Leonard Culver who was born 17 February 1804 in Groton, and died 17 October 1868 in Brooklyn, Pa.

James Leonard Culver was married in New London County, to Mary Ann Baker, daughter to Susanna Avery and Elisha Baker, born in Groton, and died 5 August 1883, in Elmira, New York. They had nine children:

- a. Susan Mary Culver, married William Albert Bagley of Elmira
- b. George D. Culver died in the South. His father was appointed administrator of the estate, 4 January 1866. George is "deceased, late of Brooklyn."
- c. Emmer A. Culver, married 14 August 1858, Captain John C. Avery of New London, Connecticut
- d. Josephine Culver died 7 February 1851, aged 18 years
- e. Charles Culver lived in North Carolina
- f. Harriet Culver married a Smith
- g. James Culver
- h. Jared Culver
- i. William Culver, served in the Civil War, lived in Kansas.

Mr. E.A. Weston's, A History of Brooklyn, Pa., page 108, states that George, Emmer, James and Jared were dead before 1892, also page 285.

We are happy to have been able to preserve this record of some of the Culvers who have been forgotten by the national searchers. Our thanks again to the labors of Miss F.J. Blakeslee of Nicholson. If any of our readers can give us additional information on the Culvers, it will be received the Susquehanna County Historical Society with much gratitude.

Rev. Garford F. Williams
Nicholson, Pennsylvania

ATTENTION!

THE Patriotic citizens of the township of Bridgewater, and its vicinity, are requested to attend a meeting at the house of C. Carr, on the 8th day of May next, for the purpose of forming an Independent company of Artillery.

As there is no company of Independent Volunteers formed as yet in this county, it is earnestly requested that all those who feel anxious to have an independent company established would attend on the above mentioned day.

A. CITIZEN.

Montrose, April 9, 1816.

A Call in Earnest!

THE subscriber is about to close business in the Tavern keeping line, therefore ALL persons indebted to him must settle by the 15th of next month if they wish to save cost.

Daniel Curtis.

Montrose, April 25, 1816. 10 3w

In Good Nature, but,

(IN EARNEST!)

THE subscriber intends to leave this state in about three weeks, and he therefore requests all persons indebted to him to call and settle within that time.— By complying with this request, those indebted will oblige the subscriber, and perhaps, save themselves c—s

WILLIAM COOK.

Bridgewater, Feb. 8, 1817. 51t3

An Apprentice Wanted.

AN Apprentice to the *House Painting & Chair Making* business is wanted by the subscriber. A lad 14 or 15 years old will find good encouragement by calling on

Elihu B. Smith,

living in the township of Waterford— Who has a farm of 70 acres to sell, 16 of which are under improvement. Said farm lies near where he now lives.

Waterford, Feb. 8, 1816. 51t3

NOTICE.

THOSE persons who are indebted to me for the tuition of their children (in the first part of the year 1815) are requested to call and settle their bills; for the old paper has got badly worn, and I do not wish to have recorded on a Justice's docket.

C. CARR.

Montrose, April 8th. 1816.

Notice to Jurors.

NOTICE is hereby given to those who have been summoned to serve at the next Court as Grand Jurors, or Jurors that they are discharged from that service and need not attend.

AUSTIN HOWELL, Sheriff.
April 1, 1816. 719