

ANTECEDENTS OF EPHRAIM WHEELER
AND HIS WIFE HEPSEBETH HAPGOOD
WHOSE MARRIAGE INTENTIONS WERE
PUBLISHED AT STOW, MASSACHUSETTS,
23 DECEMBER 1768

Compiled by
Mary C. Brown LaRocca

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ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA
GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Assumptions

As this paper was being researched and written, printed records and legal documents such as wills and deeds were accepted as true and valid primary data. Wherever possible such sources were used. Whenever it has been necessary to consult secondary sources, the assumption has been made that the data are probably at least as accurate as the records from which they were taken. Further, allowances were made for the fact that access to records and information today is considerably easier than it was in the past.

Acknowledgments

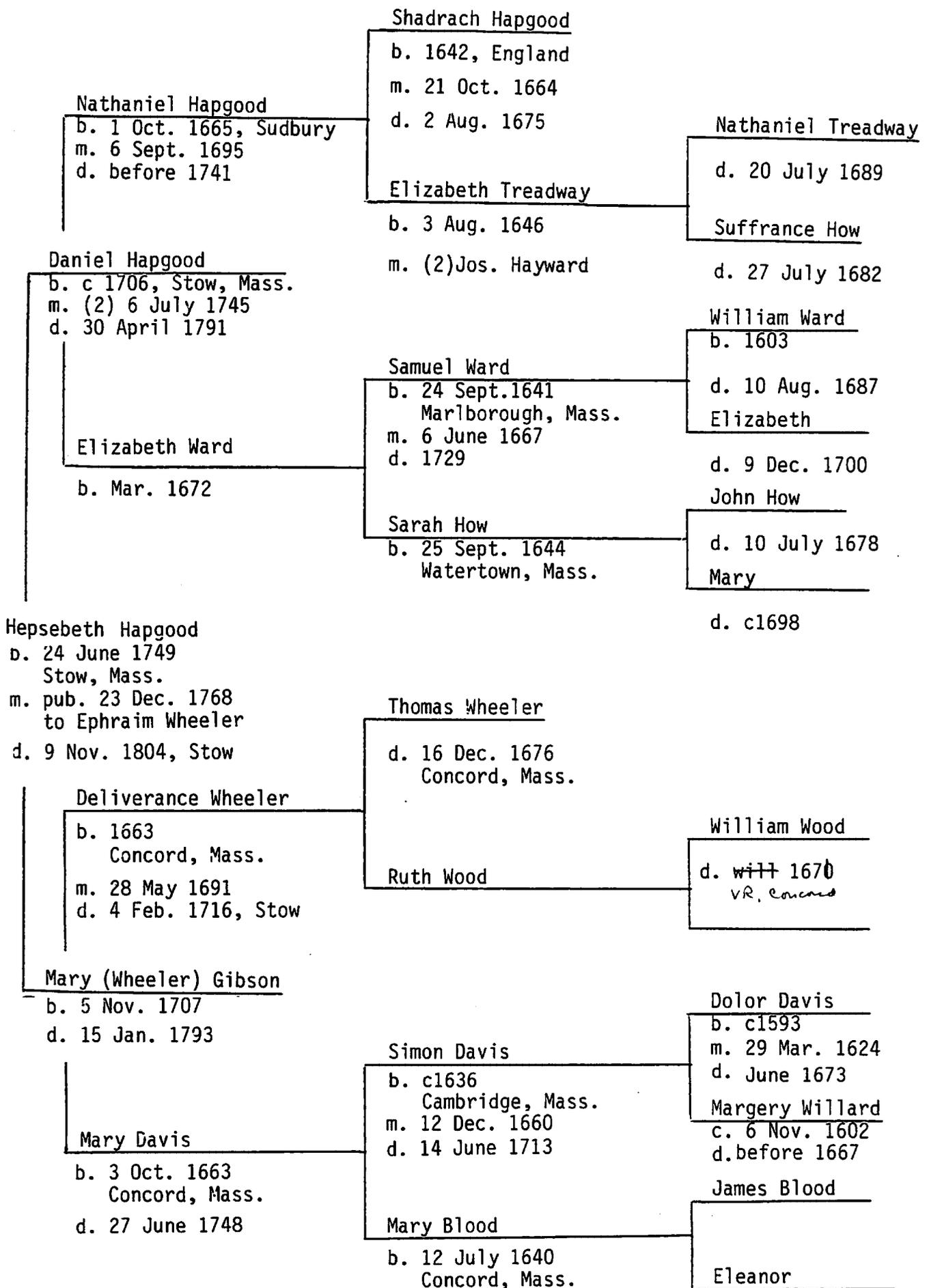
The work of many genealogists contributed to the writing of this paper. Without their groundwork, it would not have been possible to proceed very far. Thanks go to Captain Keith Brown of San Diego, California, who compiled much of the material related to the Treadway/How/Haynes controversy described in the Appendix. Ruth Wheeler's book and George Tolman's 1908 manuscript were especially helpful. The work of Louise Brown Worcester and her family was useful in Brown family research.

SUMMARY

The ancestry of Hephsebeth Hapgood who married Ephraim Wheeler at Stow, Mass., pub. 23 Dec. 1768, is given, beginning with the immigrant ancestor, Shadrach Hapgood, who came in 1656. The disputed parentage of Elizabeth Treadway, Shadrach's wife, is documented in Appendix A. Perhaps for the first time, both marriages and families of Mary (Wheeler Gibson) Hapgood have been compiled in one source.

Ephraim Wheeler's lineage is traced for the first time back to Captain Thomas Wheeler and Ruth Wood of Concord, Mass. Each generation is given, as the true identities of Ephraim's mother, Mary Daby, and his grandmother, Mary or Elizabeth Gates, were discovered and their ancestry revealed. The second marriage of Mary Daby Wheeler is shown. Each generation has been proven with documentary evidence and logically consistent secondary information.

Pedigree of Hephsebeth Hapgood



Pedigree of Ephraim Wheeler

Deliverance Wheeler

b. 1663, Concord
d. 4 Feb. 1716, Stow.

m. 28 May 1691

Mary Davis

b. 3 Oct. 1663
d. 27 June 1748, Stow.

Thomas Wheeler

b. 24 June 1697,
Charlestown, Mass.

Thomas Wheeler, Jr.

b. 30 Jan. 1722/3
Stow, Mass.
d. 1755, Stow.

Simon
Nathaniel Gates

b. c1675
d. 1731, Stow

Mary/Elizabeth Gates*

b. c1701
d. 23 July 1741, Harvard.
m. pub. 15 Apr. 1722,
Stow.

Hannah Benjamin
Mary Gibson

m. 17 Oct. 1700,
Concord, Mass.

Ephraim Wheeler

bapt. 4 Oct. 1747,
Harvard, Mass.
d. 19 Sept. 1808, Stow.
m. pub. 23 Dec. 1768, Stow.
to

Thomas Daby

Hepsebeth Hapgood

b. 24 June 1749
d. 9 Nov. 1804, Stow

John Daby

b. 26 Jan. 1687
Stow, Mass.
d. 6 Jan. 1769,
Harvard, Mass.

Mary

Mary Daby

b. 27 Oct. 1722
Stow, Mass.
m. 2 Aug. 1743,
Stow, Mass; m. (2)
Silos Gates, int. 25 Jul.
1756.

Hannah Buttrick

b. June 1686
d. 17 Nov. 1744,
Harvard, Mass.

Pedigree of Mary/Elizabeth Gates

Stephen Gates

b. Hingham, Co. Norfolk, Eng.
d. 29 Sept. 1662, Cambridge,
Mass.

Stephen Gates

b. Hingham, Mass.
d. 9 July 1707, Stow, Mass.
m. c1664

Ann

b. 1603, England
d. Stow, 5 Feb. 1683
m. (2)Richard Woodward

Nathaniel Gates

b. c1675
d. 1731, Stow, Mass.
m. 17 Oct. 1700,
Concord, Mass.

George Woodward, s. Richard.

d. 31 May 1676

Sarah Woodward

b. 6 Feb. 1643,
Watertown, Mass.

Mary

Mary/Elizabeth Gates*

b, c1701
d, 23 July 1741, Harvard.
m. pub. 15 Apr. 1722,
Stow, Mass.
to

Thomas Wheeler
b. 24 June 1697
Charlestown, Mass.

John Gibson

b. c1601, England
d. 1694, Cambridge, Mass.

John Gibson, Jr.

b. c1641, Cambridge, Mass.
d. 15 Oct. 1679
Cambridge, Mass.
m. 9 Dec. 1668

Rebecca

bur. 1 Dec. 1661

Mary Gibson

Abraham Errington

b. 1622,
New-Castle-on-Tyne, Eng.
d. 9 May 1677,
Cambridge, Mass.

Rebecca Errington

d. 4 Dec. 1713,
Cambridge, Mass.

Rebecca Cutler

d. 1697,
Cambridge, Mass.

Richard Woodward came in the "Elizabeth," 1634.
Stephen Gates came in the "Diligent," 1638

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Chapter			
I	INTRODUCTION		1
	Researching the Problem		1
	Difficulties Encountered		2
	Suggestions for Further Study		5
II	THE HAPGOOD FAMILY		6
	Shadrach Hapgood and Elizabeth Treadway . .		6
	The Death of Shadrach		6
	Elizabeth Treadway		7
	The Children of Nathaniel and Suffrance (How) Treadway		8
	The Children of Shadrach and Elizabeth (Treadway) Hapgood		8
	Nathaniel Hapgood and Elizabeth Ward		8
	Nathaniel Hapgood		8
	Elizabeth Ward		9
	The Children of Samuel Ward and Sarah How .		10
	The Children of Deacon Nathaniel Hapgood and Elizabeth Ward		10
	Daniel Hapgood and Mary Gibson		10
	Daniel Hapgood		10
	Mary (Wheeler) Gibson		12
	The Children of Abraham Gibson and Mary Wheeler		12
	The Children of Daniel Hapgood and Mary (Wheeler) Gibson		13
	Hepsabeth Hapgood and Ephraim Wheeler . . .		13
	Hepsabeth Hapgood		13
	The Children of Hepsabeth Hapgood and Ephraim Wheeler		14
III	THE WHEELER FAMILY		15
	Captain Thomas Wheeler and Ruth Wood		15
	Captain Thomas Wheeler		15
	Ruth Wood		16

CONTENTS -- (Continued)

The Children of Captain Thomas Wheeler and Ruth Wood	19
Deliverance Wheeler and Mary Davis	20
Deliverance Wheeler	20
Mary Davis	20
The Children of Dolor Davis and Margery Willard	20
The Children of Simon Davis and Mary Blood	21
The Children of Deliverance Wheeler and Mary Davis	21
Thomas Wheeler and Mary or Elizabeth Gates	22
Thomas Wheeler	22
Elizabeth Gates	22
The Children of Stephen Gates and Sarah Woodward	24
The Children of John Gibson, Jr., and Rebecca Errington	24
The Children of Nathaniel Gates and Mary Gibson	24
The Children of Thomas Wheeler and Mary or Elizabeth Gates	25
Thomas Wheeler, Jr., and Mary Daby	25
Thomas Wheeler, Jr.	25
Mary Daby	26
The Children of John and Hannah Daby	26
The Children of Thomas Wheeler, Jr., and Mary Daby	27
Ephraim Wheeler	27
APPENDIX A	28
APPENDIX B	30
APPENDIX C	31
SOURCES CONSULTED	32

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Researching the Problem

Betsy Wheeler, my great-great grandmother, was born at Stow, Massachusetts, in October, 1770, to Ephraim and Hephsebeth (Hapgood) Wheeler. Vital records of Stow and Sudbury, Mass., provided most of the answers to the ancestry of Hephsebeth, which were confirmed in the genealogy, the Hapgood Family.

There was a missing link in the Hapgood line, however, although it was not apparent from the genealogy. The marriage of Mary Gibson to Daniel Hapgood in 1745 at Stow, Massachusetts, was given, but no attempt was made to identify her further.

The vital records of Newbury, Massachusetts, showed the marriage of Abraham Gibson and Mary Wheeler in 1724. The birth of their daughter Mary occurred in Stow in 1725, as it appears in the vital records of the town. A marriage of Daniel Hapgood and Mary Gibson is also shown in the vital records of Stow.

From these data, the assumption was made that Daniel Hapgood had married Mary Gibson, the daughter, a young lady some 20 years younger than he. Since it appeared that there was a Gibson line in the family through Mary Gibson and her father, Abraham, the search for Gibson ancestors was continued.

Thanks to the very thorough work of Mehitable C.C. Wilson (Descendants of John Gibson of Cambridge, Massachusetts), not only the first marriage and family of Mary Gibson was found, but the clue to her identity as Mary Wheeler, daughter of Deliverance and Mary (Davis) Wheeler, born at Stow in 1707. In addition, Mrs. Wilson had come up with the most likely answer to the question of the identity of Jacob Gibson, named by Daniel Hapgood in his will as "my beloved grandson."

Furthermore, Mrs. Wilson included data on Dolor and Simon Davis. Simon's daughter Mary married Deliverance Wheeler and it was their daughter Mary who married (1) Abraham Gibson and (2) Daniel Hapgood. Dolor was the father of Simon Davis. (See Appendix B for the will of Simon Davis).

Abraham Gibson, first husband of Mary Wheeler, was the brother of Timothy Gibson, Sr.* who married Rebecca Gates. Jacob, their grandson (son of Timothy Gibson, Jr., and Persis Rice) was the grandnephew of Mary Wheeler Gibson and undoubtedly the "beloved grandson" of Daniel Hapgood's will.

Research on the Wheelers was hampered by numerous contradictory explanations given by various authors. Also especially frustrating was our inability to obtain copies of unpublished manuscripts. That of George Tolman, "The Wheeler Families of Concord, Mass.," when finally available, suggested a possible line for Ephraim Wheeler. This line, with corrections, proved to be the right one.

Tolman listed the line as follows: (1) Captain Thomas Wheeler/Ruth Wood; (2) Deliverance Wheeler/Mary Davis; (3) Thomas Wheeler/Elizabeth Gates; (4) Thomas Wheeler/Mary Gates. Tolman listed the children of Thomas Wheeler/Mary Gates as Deliverance, Thomas, and Mary.

Difficulties Encountered

There were several problems with Tolman's manuscript. First, he had omitted two of the children of Deliverance/Mary (Davis) Wheeler, namely Ephraim and Mary. Yet the record of the administration of estate of Deliverance (1716) showed the children to be Deliverance and Thomas (of age) and Ephraim and Mary (minors). Had Tolman noted the birth of Mary (1707, Stow), he might have discovered her two marriages.

Secondly, the vital records of Stow and neighboring towns did not show an Elizabeth Gates b. c1701 who married Thomas Wheeler at Stow in 1722. Interestingly, the death record of Elizabeth at Harvard in 1741 (Harvard vital records) showed two names, Elizabeth and Mary. The account of Mehitable C.C. Wilson (Descendants of John Gibson of Cambridge, Mass.) of the family of Nathaniel Gates/Mary Gibson of Stow, showed a Mary Gates of the right age.

*See Appendix C.

Thus, Tolman was partially in error as to the wife of Thomas Wheeler, Sr. (m. Stow, 1722). She was Mary Gates, also known as Elizabeth. Tolman had called her Elizabeth and looked no further.

Probate Court records showed the administration of estate for Thomas Wheeler, Jr., who died intestate at Stow in 1755. Mary Wheeler and Simon Daby posted bond, as they did for the guardianship of the minor children: Ephraim, Deliverance, Thomas, Mary. Harvard vital records showed the birth of Mary Daby (not Gates), who married Thomas Wheeler in 1745, and the baptism record of Ephraim, Oct. 4, 1747. So, Tolman had again erred. His Mary "Gates" was actually Mary Daby of Harvard. She and Thomas Wheeler, Jr., also had a son, Ephraim, whom Tolman had overlooked. Tolman showed three children; there were four.

The first Thomas Wheeler, husband of Ruth Wood, is referred to as Captain Thomas Wheeler and the convention has been retained in this instance in order to distinguish him from all the other Thomas Wheelers.

Information concerning the origins of Captain Thomas Wheeler is so contradictory that no attempt has been made to take the line back another generation. It appears that Donald L. Jacobus (Old Families of Fairfield, Connecticut) is probably accurate for the most part as to Connecticut matters, since dates and records are cited. Jacobus did not study Concord records, however; therefore, Ruth R. Wheeler (Concord: Climate for Freedom) and George Tolman, who did study Concord records, are considered the better authorities as to the activities of Captain Thomas Wheeler of Concord, Mass.

Probably Mr. Jacobus followed Bodge (Soldiers in King Philip's War) when he referred to a Lieutenant Thomas Wheeler of Connecticut who returned to Concord, where he was sergeant in the foot company. Savage (Genealogical Dictionary of New England) also calls Captain Thomas Wheeler a sergeant in the foot company, but Savage departs from Bodge in calling another Thomas Wheeler a lieutenant. These writers seem to have confused Sergeant Thomas Wheeler of Concord with Captain Thomas Wheeler of Concord and Fairfield, Connecticut, and perhaps his father, Thomas Wheeler of Fairfield, also apparently called a lieutenant. Jacobus is unable to make a clear-cut distinction between the two Thomas Wheelers of Fairfield and suggests that the second one may be a younger half-brother of the first.

Ruth Wheeler pointed out that Captain Thomas Wheeler was first a lieutenant in the horse company which he founded at Concord in 1669 and then commissioned a captain in 1671. If this is the case, our Captain Thomas Wheeler can be clearly differentiated from Sergeant Thomas Wheeler, who was at Concord at the same time.

Savage and Jacobus both thought that Captain Wheeler had a second wife Hannah who administered his estate in 1686, with his son Thomas. They could have meant the Thomas Wheeler who married Hannah Harwood at Concord, although that Thomas Wheeler died in 1691, not 1686. In fact, as the record shows, Captain Thomas Wheeler died at Concord in December 1675/6, four months after he was wounded.

Thomas Wheeler, Jr., who was also wounded in the attack, died in January, 1676, as did his brother, Nathaniel. It is supposed that Thomas and his father never recovered from their injuries, but the cause of Nathaniel's death is not known.

Captain Thomas Wheeler's death record plainly names him as the husband of Ruth. The death records of his sons, who followed him so soon in death, refer to them as sons of the "widow Ruth," as does the death record of Ephraim, who died some 13 years later, in 1689.

Timothy Wheeler's will, written in 1687, is often used as evidence that he was the brother of Captain Thomas Wheeler and there seems no reason to dispute the claim. Timothy names Ephraim, Joseph and Deliverance, "my brother Thomas his sons." Bodge thought that James Wheeler, who married Sarah Randall at Stow in 1681, might have been another son, but there is absolutely no proof that he was.

It is debatable whether or not Captain Thomas Wheeler was made freeman at Concord in 1642, as has been stated. If he was the son of Thomas Wheeler of Fairfield (who was presumably baptized at Cranefield, Bedfordshire, England, in 1603), then a birth date of 1625-1630 is likely for Thomas, Jr. (Captain Wheeler), and he would have been too young for the honor of freeman in 1642.

Assuming that our ancestor came here as a small child, that he may have gone with his family from Concord to Connecticut, where he grew up and learned about horse troops and Indian affairs, then it is believable that he returned to Concord about 1656, after receiving the Concord property from his father's estate. That would have been the logical time for him to have married Ruth Wood of

Concord, whose father William Wood was one of the original proprietors of the town and therefore not very likely to be found in Connecticut.

Jacobus, however, has Captain Thomas Wheeler buying land in Derby, Connecticut, in 1657, which he did not sell until 1664. Possibly Captain Thomas did own land at Derby at that time, but the record shows that he and others bought the right to trade with Indians on the Merrimack River in 1657. Conceivably the same man did both of these things, but he could not possibly have lived on the Derby property.

Suggestion for Further Study

George Tolman traced the Wheeler families to Cranefield, Bedfordshire, in England, near the parish from which the Reverend Peter Bulkeley came to Concord. Timothy Wheeler bought most of Rev. Bulkeley's property in Concord from his estate after his death; George Wheeler bought the rest.

Both Tolman and Ruth Wheeler give evidence to show that place names are similar or identical to those near Cranefield. Furthermore, Tolman lists baptism records which show the sons of a Thomas Wheeler, Thomas and Joseph, as baptized there in 1603 and 1609, respectively. Two Thomas Wheeler appear on the tax rolls at Cranefield in 1627 and 1628.

Probably, in order to straighten out the tangled Wheeler lines and to sort out the various progeny who carried the same given names, it would be helpful to start at Cranefield. Once the various data are stored, a computer program might help to combine them into groups based on common characteristics. However, this will not be an easy task.

CHAPTER II

THE HAPGOOD FAMILY

Shadrach Hapgood and Elizabeth TreadwayShadrach Hapgood

Shadrach Hapgood, like so many other immigrants to our shores, did not arrive with pedigree in hand. He was a lad of fourteen when he embarked on the "Speedwell," Robert Locke, master, bound for New England, May 30, 1656. (Hapgood Family) Since he was a minor, he probably did not pay for his own passage. It has been proposed that Shadrach's uncle, Peter Noyes, an early planter at Sudbury, Massachusetts, and a person of wealth and stature in the Colony, may have paid to bring Shadrach here. Peter Noyes came from Penton, Mewsey, quite near the place where Hapgood genealogists believe that Shadrach was born, the probable son of Thomas Hapgood. (The name was originally spelled Habgood).

From Shadrach's age at embarkation, one can estimate the year of his birth as 1642 and thus Shadrach was 22 years old when he married Elizabeth Treadway at Sudbury, Massachusetts on October 21, 1664. The couple lived at Sudbury. It has not been determined whether they and their children actually lived at Stow, where Shadrach had apparently built his house prior to his death.

In 1668/9, Shadrach Hapgood and eleven others from Sudbury, Concord, and Chelmsford, Massachusetts, petitioned the General Court for land at Pomposetticut. They were allowed 50-acre grants in May, 1670, and were probably still settling their lots in May, 1675, when Philip's War overtook them. Despite all obstacles, however, the new town of Stow was incorporated, thanks to the efforts of these early settlers and others who followed.

The Death of Shadrach

Shadrach's lot was on the south side of the Assabet River, about one and one-half miles south of the site of the first meeting house, we are told, and he may have been still working on it, while his family remained in Sudbury, when he was called by Captains Hutchinson and Wheeler to join their small horse troop in a trip

to Brookfield to parley with the Nipmuck Indians. The Nipmucks, stirred up by the redoubtable, marauding Philip (so-called by the English), were talking peace with the English, but there was fear that they could not be trusted. The trip to Brookfield was made in an effort to secure their loyalty.

This tragic incident, since it involved another ancestor, Captain Thomas Wheeler, will be discussed at greater length later. Suffice it to say here, that the Nipmucks ambushed the small troop at Quabaug, outside of Brookfield, and killed eight, while wounding three. So, on August 2, 1675, the 33-year-old Shadrach lost his life in a swamp to an Indian's bullet.

The administration of Shadrach's estate was handled by his widow, Elizabeth. An estate which was evaluated at 145 pounds in September, 1675, was devalued to 106 pounds a month later, as the widow evidently hoped for a rebate of the difference. During that month's time, the Nipmucks had burned the village of Stow, including the house of Shadrach Hapgood.

Elizabeth Treadway

Elizabeth Treadway was born on February 3, 1646, to Nathaniel Treadway and his wife, Suffrance (How)^{*} Treadway. Suffrance was the daughter of Elder Edward How of Watertown, Massachusetts, and his wife, Margaret.

The will of Edward How (June 3, 1644) names Nathaniel Treadway, to whom he left several acres of land and other goods. The widow Margaret, Nathaniel Treadway, and John Stone, another son-in-law, were the executors.

Margaret (How) Bunker, who married George Bunker after the death of Edward How, in her will, proved Dec. 18, 1660, gave one-half of her estate to Nathaniel Treadway, while one-third went to John Stone. At the time of Margaret's death, Nathaniel Treadway occupied the house of Margaret (How) Bunker.

*There is a difference of opinion as to the identity of Suffrance who married Nathaniel Treadway. Some descendants of Walter Haynes believe that she was a Haynes, daughter of Walter. For the pros and cons of the controversy, see Appendix A.

The Children of Nathaniel and Suffrance (How) Treadway

1. Jonathan, b. 11 Nov. 1640, Sudbury; m. 1 Mar. 1666, Judith Thurston.
2. Mary, b. 1 Aug. 1642, Sudbury; m. (1) John Fisher, 12 Sept. 1665;
(2) Timothy Hawkins, Jr., 21 July 1675.
3. James, b. c1644, Sudbury (named in his father's will).
4. ELIZABETH, b. 3 Feb. 1646; m. SHADRACH HAPGOOD, 21 Oct. 1664;
(2) Joseph Hayward.
4. Lydia, m. 2 Oct. 1667, Josiah Jones.
5. Josiah, m. (1) Sarah Sweetman, 9 Jan. 1673/4; (2) Dorothy.
(Bond, Nathaniel. Genealogies of the Families and Descendants of the
Early Settlers of Watertown, Mass.)

The Children of Shadrach and Elizabeth (Treadway) Hapgood

1. NATHANIEL, b. 21 Oct. 1665; m. ELIZABETH WARD of Marlborough.
2. Mary, b. 2 Nov. 1667; m. John Whitney, 10 April 1688, Watertown.
3. Thomas, b. 1 Oct. 1669; m. Judith Barker, 1690/1; d. 15 Aug. 1757.
4. Sarah, b. 1672; m. 1691, Jonathan Whitney.
5. Elizabeth, b. 1674; d. 20 July 1689.

These were the five surviving children of Shadrach Hapgood, as listed when the estate was settled. Their mother, Elizabeth, m. (2) Joseph Hayward of Concord, Mass. Ebenezer, James, Simon, and Abiell Hayward were born at Concord between 1679 and 1691.

During those years at Concord, Elizabeth also lost her parents. Suffrance (How) Treadway died at Watertown in 1682 and Nathaniel Treadway died there in 1689. Both grandparents left legacies to the children of Elizabeth Hayward by her husband, Shadrach Hapgood.

Nathaniel Hapgood and Elizabeth Ward

Nathaniel Hapgood

Nathaniel Hapgood was born on Oct. 21, 1665, at Sudbury, Mass., to Shadrach and Elizabeth (Treadway) Hapgood. His marriage to Elizabeth Ward was published Aug. 14, 1695, at Marlborough, Mass. (Hapgood Family)

Nathaniel's land holdings covered some 700 acres, all told, including 80 acres adjoining the home lot, which he purchased in 1697

from Major Simon Willard for 32 pounds, 10 shillings, plus lots which came to Nathaniel "in the right of his father, Shadrach." Nathaniel bought and sold land in Lancaster, Worcester (now in Holden), and in Grafton, Mass. In 1725 he conveyed land to his son Shadrach; this was land originally located in both Lancaster and Stow, which went over to the town of Harvard, Mass.

From the records of the town of Stow, it appears that Deacon Nathaniel Hapgood was active in town affairs, holding office as selectman, grand juror, and town treasurer, at various times. Evidently his estate was settled in his lifetime and he probably died intestate. There is no record of an administration of estate and his name does not appear in the records after 1732. Since his wife was a widow by 1741, it would seem that Nathaniel Hapgood died between 1732-1741.

Elizabeth Ward

Elizabeth Ward, wife of Nathaniel Hapgood, was born at Marlboro, Mass., in March, 1672, to Samuel Ward and Sarah (How) Ward, daughter of John How of Marlboro. Samuel Ward was the son of William Ward and his wife (name unknown) and was born on Sept. 24, 1641. (Ward Family).

Sarah How, mother of Elizabeth Ward, was married to Samuel Ward on June 6, 1667; she died Aug. 11, 1707. Her husband died in 1729. Her father, John How, was freeman at Watertown in May, 1640, having gone there from Sudbury. He removed to Marlboro in 1656 and died there in 1678. His wife was Mary.

Samuel Ward was 84 when he died in 1729 and he left most of his estate to his son Samuel. Other heirs protested the will in Probate Court in Dec. 1729, stating that Samuel Ward was not competent when he wrote the will. Eventually the dispute was settled out of court.

Samuel Ward was the ninth child (of 14) of William Ward, who settled in Sudbury, Mass., in 1639. William had two wives, perhaps both named Elizabeth, and it is not clear which one was the mother of Samuel. The genealogy offers some rather murky evidence that the first wife was mother only to the first three children.

If this is the case, Elizabeth, the second wife, was mother to Samuel, who died in 1729. That she was a woman of courage and stamina is evident from the fact that she was over 74 years old when she made several horseback journeys into Boston (over 30 miles) to effect a settlement of her husband's will from the intractable and tyrannical Governor Andros. Elizabeth Ward, widow of William, died in Marlboro Dec. 9, 1700, aged 87 years.

The Children of Samuel Ward and Sarah How

1. Sarah, b. 22 Apr. 1668, unm.
2. Joseph, b. 1670; m. Abiah Woodcock
3. ELIZABETH, b. March, 1672; m. NATHANIEL HAPGOOD, 6 Sept. 1695
4. Mary, b. 1676; m. Caleb Rice
5. Samuel, b. March, 1678; m. Mary
6. Bethiah, b. 25 May 1681; d. unm. 1757 (a lace maker)
7. Daniel, b. 1687; d. 13 April 1700

Elizabeth (Ward) Hapgood died Nov. 5, 1748. She left an estate of over 625 pounds, which was divided among her children and grandchildren. Daniel Hapgood, her son, received ten pounds.

The Children of Deacon Nathaniel Hapgood and Elizabeth Ward

1. Nathaniel, b. c 1696; m. (1) ? ; (2) Mary Heald of Stow
2. Hezekiah, b. 1699; m. 1723, Sarah Whitney, b. 1703, Stow.
3. Shadrach, b. 6 Nov. 1704 at Stow; m. Elizabeth Wetherbee, b. 1714; d. 30 Nov. 1808.
4. DANIEL, b. c1706; m (1) Hapsebeth (1715-1738); (2) MARY GIBSON, 6 July 1745.
5. Elizabeth, b. c1708; m. Phineas Gates
6. Sarah, b. c1710; m. Phineas Gates, widower of her sister, Elizabeth.

Daniel Hapgood and Mary Gibson

Daniel Hapgood

Daniel Hapgood was born at Stow about 1706, the fourth child of Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Ward) Hapgood. His first wife was Hapsebeth (1715-1738), who apparently left no children. Mary Gibson, his second wife, was the daughter of Deliverance and Mary (Davis) Wheeler of Stow, the widow of Abraham Gibson of Stow, who died in 1740.

Daniel Hapgood and Mary (Wheeler) Gibson were married at Stow on July 6, 1745.

Daniel inherited the family homestead in Stow and the east half of the original 700-acre plantation, as well as the deaconship of his father, Nathaniel. It appears that Daniel had deeded his real estate to his children before he wrote his will of August 13, 1785. (Middlesex Probate Court record #10292).

Daniel's will is a rarity as it expresses feeling seldom seen among similar documents of the era. Written in a firm hand, it is legible. The terms of the will indicate that this was a dignified, but warm and generous man.

After the customary disposing of his soul to the hands of God and the consignment of the body "to be buried in decent Christian burial," Daniel then bequeaths to his heirs as follows: First, to his dearly beloved wife, Mary Hapgood, two cows of her choosing. His executor (hereafter named) is further charged to provide the widow "in sickness and in health, during her natural life, with all things suitable, necessary, and convenient for a person of her age and quality and, at her decease, shall have a decent Christian burial at the discretion of my executor."

The remainder of the livestock was to be divided equally among his sons, Daniel and Samuel, and his daughter, Hesebeth Wheeler, "except my black mare, which is known and distinguished by the name of my riding mare, which mare I give and bequeath to my well-beloved sons, Daniel and Samuel Hapgood, to be kept on the farm on which I have already settled them."

Daniel left to his daughter, Hesebeth Wheeler, the improvements of a farm in Stow, with dwelling house and barn standing on it, "it being the one in which her husband Ephraim Wheeler now lives, lying between the farms of the Rev. Mr. Newhall and Francis Eveleth." In addition, the improvement of 20 acres of woodland in Stow, "with the buildings thereon, now in the possession of Col. Hapgood," was given to Hesebeth Wheeler for use during her lifetime and was to be divided equally among her surviving Wheeler children after her death. She also was given 20 shillings in money, to be paid at Daniel's decease.

Daniel next bequeathed his land in Waterford, (then) Cumberland County, Maine, to his "beloved grandson, Jacob Gibson of Stow," plus a bed with bedding. The land consisted of two lots, covering "300-400 acres."

Sons Daniel and Samuel Hapgood were named executors of the will, which was witnessed by Samuel and Oliver Patch and a Walcutt.

Mary (Wheeler) Gibson

Mary Wheeler was born at Stow on Nov. 5, 1707, to Deliverance and Mary (Davis) Wheeler. Mary Davis, her mother, was the daughter of Lt. Simon and Mary (Blood) Davis. Her grandfather was the immigrant ancestor, Dolor Davis of Concord, Mass.

Mary Wheeler married (1) Abraham Gibson, son of Timothy Gibson/Rebecca Gates, at Newbury, Mass., Sept. 29, 1724. Abraham Gibson, born on Sept. 30, 1701, at Stow, died there on Nov. 8, 1740. About five years later (July, 1745) the widow married Daniel Hapgood.

At the time of her marriage to Daniel Hapgood, Mary Gibson had already borne seven children and was 38 years old. (Daniel was 39). There were four children still at home: Rebecca, 17; Sarah, 13; Abraham, 10; Ephraim, five. (M.C.C. Wilson)

On April 11, 1746, Mary Hapgood applied to the Judge of the Probate Court, Middlesex County, to appoint her father-in-law, Timothy Gibson, as guardian to Sarah and her brother-in-law, Stephen Gibson, as guardian to Abraham and Ephraim. This did not ensue, as on April 14, 1746, Stephen Gibson gave bond as guardian of Sarah and Ephraim; Daniel Hapgood gave bond for Rebecca, who was of age to choose her guardian. Stephen Gibson and Daniel Hapgood co-signed each other's bonds. It is not clear who retained guardianship of the 11-year-old Abraham.

The Children of Abraham Gibson and Mary Wheeler

1. Mary, b. 20 Aug. 1725; m. Ezekiel Davis of Acton, 28 Feb. 1743/4.
2. Rebecca, b. 27 Jan. 1728; m. Ens. Ephraim Hapgood, 19 Jan. 1746/7.
3. Abraham, b. 26 Aug. 1730.
4. Sarah, b. 26 Aug. 1732; m. Peter Conant, 18 Nov. 1749.
5. Abraham, b. 25 June 1735; m. Esther Fox, 13 Jan. 1760.
6. Ephraim, b. 23 Oct. 1737.
7. Ephraim, b. 21 June 1740; m. Lucy Wyman, 23 April 1761.

The daughter Mary Gibson became the mother of Captain Isaac Davis of Acton, said to be the first man killed at the "North Bridge fight," Concord, Mass., 19 April 1775. Her sister Rebecca Gibson married the nephew of her stepfather, Ensign Ephraim Hapgood of Stow, son of Capt. Hezekiah Hapgood and Sarah Whitney Hapgood.

The Children of Daniel Hapgood and Mary (Wheeler Gibson) Hapgood

1. Daniel, b. 16 Nov. 1747 at Stow; m. Esther Gardner; d. 5 May 1833.
2. HEPSEBETH, b. 24 June 1749; m. EPHRAIM WHEELER, pub. 23 Dec. 1768.
3. Samuel, b. 17 Oct. 1751; m. Elizabeth Maxwell; d. April, 1821.

It appears that Daniel and Mary Hapgood also may have raised her nephew, Jacob Gibson, the youngest son of Timothy Gibson and his wife, Persis Rice. Timothy Gibson, Sr., was a brother of Mary's first husband, Abraham Gibson, and thus Jacob was the grand-nephew of Abraham and Mary. Jacob was born in Stow after 1750 and probably did not move with his family to Henniker, NH. He married Hannah Hardy of Westminster, Mass., on Oct. 7, 1789.

According to Mrs. Wilson (John Gibson of Cambridge), Jacob Gibson was the "beloved grandson" to whom Daniel Hapgood left his lands in Waterford, Maine, where Jacob later removed. The Gibson family was large and Jacob was the youngest, who may have gone to live with the Hapgoods.

Daniel Hapgood died April 30, 1791; Mary died Jan. 15, 1793.

Hepsebeth Hapgood and Ephraim Wheeler

Hepsebeth Hapgood

The only daughter of Daniel Hapgood and Mary Gibson was born at Stow on 24 June 1747. She was obviously named for the young bride of Daniel Gibson, who had died at 23. The last name of Hepsebeth has not been given and is probably not to be found. The fondness which Daniel felt for her namesake, his daughter, is shown by the terms of his will, in which Hepsebeth is treated about as generously as are her brothers. This was unusual for the times.

The marriage intention of Hepsebeth Hapgood and Ephraim Wheeler was published at Stow, Dec. 23, 1768. The birth record of one child and the baptismal records of three others are found in the records of Stow. Since there is a 7-year gap between

the birth of Betsy and the baptism of John, it is likely that there were other children who died or whose records were lost.

The Children of Hephsebeth Hapgood and Ephraim Wheeler

1. BETSY WHEELER, b. 5 Oct. 1770. ("Little Hephsebeth"? m. WILLIAM⁶ BROWN (Jabez⁵, Joseph⁴, Jabez³, Jabez², Thomas¹) on May 6, 1792 at Stow. She d. 16 Mar. 1845 at Waterford, Maine; William Brown d. there, Feb. 1836. (Gravestone, Elm Vale Cem., Waterford)).
2. John, bapt. 9 Feb. 1777
3. Mary, bapt. 9 Mar. 1783
4. Sarah, bapt. 2 Dec. 1786

Stow Vital Records show the death of "Huldeth" Wheeler, 9 Nov. 1804. This was undoubtedly our Hephsebeth.

The ancestry of Ephraim Wheeler, which has been a long-time mystery will be followed in Chapter II.

CHAPTER III

THE WHEELER FAMILY

Captain Thomas Wheeler and Ruth Wood

Captain Thomas Wheeler

George Tolman ("Wheeler Families"), as previously stated, found the baptismal records of Thomas Wheeler and his brother Joseph, sons of Thomas Wheeler, at Cranefield in Bedfordshire, England. From that record:

Thomas, 20 Nov. 1603

John, 22 Oct. 1608; bur. 27 Dec. 1611

Joseph, 28 Feb. 1609/10

Elizabeth, 27 Feb. 1610/11

The Thomas Wheeler baptized in 1603 might have been the father of Captain Thomas Wheeler of Concord, Mass. If so, and if it was the senior Thomas Wheeler who took the freeman's oath there in 1642, he would then have been nearly 40. Possibly Alice, the daughter who died in 1641, may have been his; there is no indication of her age in the record.

Perhaps Thomas, Sr., came to Concord early, tarried there a while, and then went with his family to Fairfield, Connecticut, where Thomas, Jr., grew up, learned to be an Indian fighter and negotiator, and may have had a commission in some sort of horse troop there. This is conjecture, of course.

A Thomas Wheeler took the freeman's oath at Concord on May 18, 1642, at any rate (Ruth Wheeler). The next record at Concord is some 15 years later, as Captain Thomas Wheeler and and three others bought permission for 25 pounds from the Colony to trade with the Indians, July 1, 1657. It may be, as previously observed, that this was one of the first acts of Captain Thomas, after receiving his father's lands in Concord.

Also, as was proposed in the Introduction, Captain Thomas may have married Ruth Wood about that same time. For, marry Ruth he did, as her father's will attests. William Wood mentions his daughter Ruth and her husband Thomas Wheeler, in his will, in which he leaves "two brown cows" to Ruth, those which were "now in the possession of Thomas Wheeler."

At this period of his life, Captain Thomas Wheeler was trading with the Indians on the Merrimack River (Tolman). He was headquartered at a place now in the city of Nashua, New Hampshire, where Tolman said he had a farm with his son, Lieutenant Joseph Wheeler. It seems more likely that the co-owner was a brother, since Joseph, the son, would have been quite young at the time.

Joseph Wheeler married Mary Powers on March 1, 1681, and moved first to Stow, Mass., then to Stratford, Connecticut. From the date of the marriage and from the fact that Joseph was of age to administer his brothers' estates in 1677, it appears that he was the oldest son, probably born about 1658-1660. Joseph Wheeler conveyed his property at Concord, which had belonged to his uncle Timothy Wheeler, to Rebecca Minot in 1695, according to Tolman.

On January 12, 1669, Thomas Wheeler leased 260 acres of land west of Nashoba Brook for a 21-year period. This land was a new Acton grant which the town of Concord chose to lease, rather than to divide it. In addition to building a house on the land, Wheeler also had to pasture the cattle of townspeople, a condition which, according to Ruth Wheeler, presented some problems.

However, military matters were soon to take precedence, as Thomas Wheeler formed his horse troop as a defense against the Indian threat. This group was recruited from the train bands and only those who had the necessary horses, gear, and equipment were selected. The troop was to prove useful in 1675 when King Philip's War broke out.

The name of Thomas Wheeler is found amongst signatures on a set of instructions to the selectmen of Concord in 1672 (Ruth Wheeler). We are told that Thomas had his first house on Bay Road, between the lots of Moses and Joseph Wheat. This home was later sold to Peter Harwood by the heirs of Thomas Wheeler. Timothy Wheeler bought three-fourths of the property of the Rev. Peter Bulkeley, and George Wheeler, uncle to Timothy and Thomas Wheeler, bought the other fourth. The property was purchased in 1660 from the widow of Bulkeley.

Ruth Wheeler gives a concise explanation of events which led to the rampages of Philip in 1675 (pp 46-47) and she also reviewed the sequence of events (pp48-62) in which twelve towns were destroyed, 600 settlers killed and 600 houses burned. Mrs. Wheeler had little sympathy for the Indians. Only the massacre at Quabaug concerns us here.

Captain Edward Hutchinson (son of William and Anne) was commissioned to treat with the sachems of the Nipmucks, who were being persuaded by the warring Philip to break their treaties with the English settlers. Accordingly, Hutchinson was joined by the small horse troop of Captain Thomas Wheeler of Concord to seek out the Indians at Brookfield and to secure their promises to keep the peace.

After spending the night at Sudbury, where they soon were joined by others, the troop visited several Indian camps, which were all deserted, and reached Brookfield three days later. The troop was warmly received by the settlers at Brookfield and the few Nipmucks found there promised to meet the troop next day near Quabaug.

The Indians were not at the appointed place, however, so the horse troop began to move toward Wickabaug. Suddenly they were ambushed between a swamp and some hills, with the only path of retreat being up the hills. The Indians had moved in behind the troop and cut off that avenue of escape. Captain Wheeler described the incident in his well-known narrative. He was shot; his horse was killed; his young son Thomas ("scarcely 13 years") saved his father, although also wounded himself.

The size of the horse troop may have been understated as 20 troopers plus Indian scouts; the number of Indians has been variously estimated as one hundred to several hundred. In any case, the Indians had the advantage of surprise and they killed eight of the troop and wounded three others.

Shadrach Hapgood was among those slain, as already noted. Captain Edward Hutchinson also died and Captain Thomas Wheeler, who was in command, was wounded, as we have said. This left Lieutenant Simon Davis to assume command, which he did. (Lt. Davis was later to be related to Capt. Thomas Wheeler through the marriage of Mary Davis, Simon's daughter, to Deliverance, Thomas Wheeler's son.)

On the third try, Davis managed to get a messenger past the Indians and this man, Ephraim Curtis of Sudbury, reached Marlborough, from whence Major Simon Willard with 46 soldiers and five Indian guides soon rode to the rescue. Before they arrived, the Indians burned Brookfield, mutilated and paraded the bodies of the dead, and then fled. (Major Willard was the uncle of Lt. Davis, whose mother was Marjorie Willard, sister of Simon.)

So the massacre at Quabaug was a sort of macabre family affair, as it turned out. Captain Thomas Wheeler returned to Concord to "tell and re-tell his story." He and young Thomas were dead in a few months, probably never fully recovered from their wounds. The "husband of Ruth" died on December 10, 1676, and Thomas, son of the "widow Ruth," died about 30 days later. The massacre of August 2, 1675, had taken a heavy toll of the family of Ruth Wood Wheeler.

Ruth Wood

Little is known about the lady who married Captain Thomas Wheeler. A list of proprietors of Concord, dated 1666, includes the names of William Wood, Thomas Wheeler of Virginia Road, Lieutenant Simon Davis, among others. No birth, marriage or death record has been found for Ruth Wood, however. (Ruth Wheeler).

When William Wood specified in his will that his daughter Ruth should have two brown cows, "now in the possession of Thomas Wheeler," he gave us the only clue we have to Ruth's identity.

It seems likely, for reasons stated, that Captain Thomas Wheeler and Ruth Wood were married about 1657, when he claimed his inheritance in Concord and when, as the record shows, he bought the right to trade with the Indians.

Deliverance, one son, was born in 1663, as evidenced from his death record; he died in 1716, aged 53. Thomas Wheeler, Jr., was 13 years old in 1675, as his father's famous narrative attests, and was, therefore, born about 1661/2. Joseph, another son, administered the estates of Thomas, Jr., and Nathaniel in 1676/7 and was thus of age, at that time, and probably born about 1658, the oldest son. Ephraim, who died in 1689, was not married and was probably the youngest, perhaps born about 1665-1670. That leaves only Nathaniel, who was also unmarried at the time of his death (son of "widow Ruth") and therefore may have been under 20 and perhaps born about 1659-1660. These dates are arbitrary, lacking birth records, but are logically consistent with those dates and records which we do have.

It is apparent that Alice who died in 1641 could not have been the sister of two brothers who died in their youth some 35 years later; nor could she have been the sister of a third brother who died young (Ephraim) some 48 years later. James Wheeler who married Sarah Randall

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was probably not another son as he was not named in Timothy Wheeler's will, as were Joseph, Ephraim, and Deliverance. Thomas and Nathaniel were dead by 1687 when their uncle wrote his will and Ephraim died two years later. Although it is customary to find Alice among the children of Thomas Wheeler and Ruth Wood, she is not on this list for reasons previously given.

The Children of Captain Thomas Wheeler and Ruth Wood

1. Joseph, b. c1658/9; m. Mary Powers.
2. Nathaniel, b. c1659/1660; d. 9 Jan. 1676/7.
3. Thomas, b. c1661/2; d. 17 Jan. 1676/7.
4. DELIVERANCE, b. 1663; m. MARY DAVIS, 28 May 1691; d. 4 Feb. 1716, at Stow, Mass.
5. Ephraim, b. c1665; d. 19 Feb. 1689.

Joseph Wheeler administered the small estates of his brothers, Thomas and Nathaniel. The boy who had saved his father's life at Quabaug left only a horse, pistols, a gun and a cutlass. Nathaniel left a pair of oxen.

There is little else to add to the story. Ruth Wood Wheeler lost her husband and two of her sons in about a month's time. A third son died a few years later. It appears that only Joseph and Deliverance survived. However, Joseph had married and moved away several years before Ephraim's death and Deliverance, the last one to go, married two years after Ephraim had died. He, too, moved away, first to Charlestown, then to Stow. Thus Ruth Wheeler, if she still lived in 1691, was left alone.

There were many stories told about the events of King Philip's War. Women, children, and men were killed and there are several accounts of uncommon bravery, such as that of Mrs. Rowlandson of Lancaster. If someone told the story, then participants in the unfortunate events were thus immortalized. So it was with Captain Thomas Wheeler's little narrative. Because he chose to write an eye-witness account of the most traumatic incident in his life, we can picture the scene at Quabaug on Aug. 2, 1675, and know something of those who fought there.

Deliverance Wheeler and Mary Davis

Deliverance Wheeler

The birth of Deliverance Wheeler occurred at Concord about 1663, as deduced from the age stated at his death, Feb. 4, 1715/16. He was married 28 May 1691 at Concord, Mass., to Mary Davis, daughter of Lt. Simon Davis and Mary Blood. Deliverance sold his Concord property in 1692 and moved to Charlestown, where his Uncle Timothy Wheeler had property. The second son of Deliverance and Mary Wheeler was born there. Deliverance bought land at Stow on Jan. 24, 1701, where he died intestate at the age of 53 years. (Tolman; vital records of Stow).

Mary Davis

Mary Davis was born at Concord, Mass., on Oct. 3, 1663 (vital records of Concord), the daughter of Lt. Simon Davis (he of the Quabaug massacre, Aug. 2, 1675) and Mary Blood, daughter of James and Elenor Blood of Concord. James Blood's name appears on the early proprietors' list of Concord, along with those of Lt. Simon Davis and Thomas Wheeler.

Dolor Davis, grandfather of Mary and father of Simon, was born about 1593 in England, probably Kent (Davis and 50 Allied Colonial Families of N.E.), and married there Margery Willard, sister of Major Simon Willard, who came to the rescue of the horse troop at Quabaug. Margery Willard was born on Nov. 6, 1602, at Horsmonden, Kent, the daughter of Richard and Margery Willard. Dolor Davis and Margery Willard were married Mar. 29, 1624, and came to Cambridge, Mass., in 1634 with three children. Their son Simon was born about 1636, probably at Cambridge. (See Appendix B for Simon's will.)

The Children of Dolor and Margery (Willard) Davis

- (3) John, Mary, and Elizabeth, b. England before 1634.
4. SIMON, b. Cambridge, c1636; m. MARY BLOOD 12 Dec.1660; d. 14 June 1713. (Mary Blood was born 12 July 1640 at Concord).
5. Samuel
6. Ruth, bapt. 24 Mar. 1645, Barnstable, Mass.

The Children of Simon Davis and Mary Blood

1. Simon (Dr.), b. 12 Oct. 1661, Concord, Mass.
2. MARY, b. 3 Oct. 1663; m. 28 May 1691, DELIVERANCE WHEELER;
d. 27 June 1748, Stow, Mass.
3. Sarah, b. 1666; m. Thomas Wheeler
4. James, b. 1668.
5. Eleanor, b. 1672; m. a Hunt.
6. Ebenezer, b. 1676.
7. Hannah, b. 1679; m. a Blood.

Mary (Davis) Wheeler, having presented an inventory of the estate of her late husband, Deliverance Wheeler, who died Feb. 4, 1716, at Stow, intestate, was given permission to administer the estate. (Middlesex Probate Court #24252, 14 May 1716).

A committee of men was named by Mary Wheeler and were charged by the Court to make an inventory of property and arrive at an equitable distribution of it. Those named were Captain Jacob Stevens, Deacon Nathaniel Hapgood and Ebenezer Graves of Stow; Phinehas Rice of Sudbury; and Jonas Houghton of Lancaster, Mass. (#24252, 19 April 1720).

Deliverance Wheeler and Thomas Wheeler were ordered to pay Francis Foxcroft, Esq., Judge of the Probate Court, a sum of 30 pounds on Nov. 23, 1721, and Thomas was told to pay his sister Mary 15 pounds out of the estate (#24252, 23 Nov. 1721).

Also on the 19th of April, 1720, young Ephraim petitioned the Court: "Then came before me the subject of Ephraim Wheeler, son of Deliverance Wheeler of Stow, deceased, and made a show of his mother, Mary Wheeler, for his guardian. James Minott, Justice." Mary Wheeler was obliged to post bond of 100 pounds with said Foxcroft. "The condition of the above written obligation is such whereas the above named Mary Wheeler hath taken upon herself the guardianship of Ephraim Wheeler in his seventeenth year and Mary in her twelfth year of age, the children of the late Deliverance Wheeler late of Stow in the County aforesaid, dec'd. intestate . . ." (#24253, 19 April 1720). Witnessed by Jonas Houghton, Jr., and Francis Foxcroft and signed by Deliverance Wheeler and Mary Wheeler.

From these documents it can be seen that Deliverance and Mary (Davis) Wheeler clearly had four children, in 1716, the year of Deliverance's death. (Tolman referred to the documents but fails to name either Ephraim or Mary.) Young Ephraim died in 1723, but Mary (b. 1707) was to become the wife of Abraham Gibson and, later, of Daniel Hapgood.

It would seem that Mary Wheeler had difficulty in making an equitable distribution of the estate, since four years later she and her son Deliverance named a committee of distinguished neighbors to do it for them. It also appears that five years after the death of her father, young Mary had not been adequately provided for. Furthermore, the sums paid to Foxcroft are mentioned to show what a profitable business this type of thing was for the justices of the probate courts.

The Children of Deliverance Wheeler and Mary Davis

1. Deliverance, b. 5 June 1692 at Concord, Mass.
2. THOMAS, b. 24 June, 1697 at Charlestown, Mass.; m. ELIZABETH GATES at Stow, pub. 15 April 1722.
3. Ephraim, b. 1702/3; d. 9 Oct. 1723 at Stow.
4. MARY, b. 5 Nov. 1707 at Stow; m. (1) Abraham Gibson at Newbury, Mass., 29 Sept. 1724 and (2) DANIEL HAPGOOD at Stow, 6 July 1745.

Mary (Davis) Wheeler died June 27, 1748 (Stow vital record).

Thomas Wheeler and Elizabeth Gates

Thomas Wheeler

Thomas Wheeler was born at Charlestown, Mass., June 5, 1697, to Deliverance Wheeler and Mary (Davis) Wheeler. He married at Stow, pub. April 15, 1722, Elizabeth Gates. According to George Tolman, this Thomas Wheeler was living at Harvard, Mass., in 1740. Tolman may have based that information on the death record of Thomas' wife, which occurred the following year (1741) at Harvard.

Elizabeth Gates

A check of vital records of Stow and neighboring towns did not turn up the birth record of an Elizabeth Gates, born c1701, who might have married Thomas Wheeler in 1722. The year of her birth is learned

from her death record at Harvard: "Wheeler, Elizabeth (Mary, C.R.I.), w. of Thomas, died July 23, 1741 (a. 40 y. C.R.I.)" From this record, it appears that Elizabeth Gates Wheeler was also known as Mary. Possibly she was given both names, Mary and Elizabeth.

A closer inspection of Mrs. Wilson's genealogy (John Gibson) revealed the following entry:

"Mary Gibson, b. Cambridge, d. of John Gibson, Jr., and Rebecca Errington, m. at Concord by Justice Minot, Oct. 17, 1700, Nathaniel Gates (b. perhaps Cambridge, d. 1731, aged about 56 yrs.), son of Stephen and Sarah (Woodward) Gates.

"Mr. Gates died intestate, inv. 15 Dec. 1731. Estate settled in 1732 names children: Stephen, Mary, Martha (Gates) Shaw, Rebecca, Sarah, and Nathaniel, a minor for whom Deliverance Wheeler gave bonds as guardian Feb. 7, 1731/2."

It is apparent that this was Deliverance Wheeler, Jr., son of Deliverance and Mary (Davis) Wheeler, b. 1692, lived at Stow, where he died, apparently unmarried in 1760. His brother Thomas had married "Elizabeth" Gates in 1722. It would seem that Deliverance, being unmarried and, as the oldest son, the probable heir to most of his father's estate, was therefore in a position to care for Nathaniel Gates, the presumed nephew of Thomas Wheeler, his younger brother. Again, this is speculation, although the identity of Deliverance can not be doubted.

Mrs. Wilson, in the absence of vital records, relied on the estate settlement record of Nathaniel Gates for the names of his children. There was no Elizabeth, but there was a Mary, perhaps born c1701, the first child of the marriage. She may have been called Elizabeth to distinguish her from her mother, who was also Mary Gates.

For some reason, only the married name of Martha is given, although Nathaniel Gates and Mary Gibson had been married for 31 years at the time of his death and therefore their daughters were old enough to have been married. In fact, only Nathaniel is listed as a minor.

This family was not followed further in the genealogy. It would seem that Mrs. Wilson had the names of the children and little else. Also, George Tolman mysteriously referred to Mary Daby, wife of Thomas Wheeler, Jr., as Mary Gates. He may well have been confused by the two names, Elizabeth and Mary Gates, on the records.

Stephen Gates, Jr., father of Nathaniel, was probably born at Hingham, Mass., the son of Stephen Gates and his wife Ann, who came on the "Diligent" in 1638. Stephen, Jr., married Sarah Woodward, daughter of George and Mary Woodward, and died at Stow, July 9, 1707. His will names his six sons.

The Children of Stephen Gates and Sarah Woodward

1. Stephen "of Stow."
2. Simon, b. Cambridge, 1666, "of Stow."
3. Thomas, b. 1669.
4. Isaac, "of Stow."
5. NATHANIEL "of Stow," m. at Concord by Justice Minot, Oct. 17, 1700, MARY GIBSON, b. Cambridge.
6. Sarah, b. 1679.
7. Rebecca, m. Dea. Timothy Gibson, brother of MARY.
8. Daniel, b. 1685.

John Gibson, Jr., was born about 1641 at Cambridge, Mass., son of John Gibson and his wife Rebecca. He married in 1668 Rebecca Errington, daughter of Abraham and Rebecca (Cutler) Errington. John Gibson, Jr., a trooper in King Philip's War, died in 1679. Rebecca, his wife, died in 1713.

The Children of John Gibson, Jr., and Rebecca Errington

1. Rebecca, b. Cambridge, 1669; d. Woburn, 1698.
2. Martha, b. Cambridge; d. Woburn after 1733; m. (1) Reuben Lilly; (2) Joseph Knight.
3. MARY, b. Cambridge; m. Oct. 17, 1700, NATHANIEL GATES; He d. Stow 1731, aged about 56 yrs.
4. Timothy, b. 1679; d. 1757 at Stow; m. Nov. 17, 1700, Rebecca Gates; m. (2) Mrs. Submit Taylor.

The Children of Nathaniel Gates and Mary Gibson

1. MARY (ELIZABETH), b. c1701; m. pub. 15 Apr. 1722 at Stow, THOMAS WHEELER, b. 24 June 1697, Charlestown, Mass. MARY d. 23 July 1741, Harvard, Mass.
2. Stephen
3. Martha, m. a Shaw.
4. Rebecca
5. Sarah
6. Nathaniel, ward of Deliverance Wheeler, Jr.

Elizabeth or Mary (Gates) Wheeler died at the age of 40, leaving her husband, one son, and three daughters. Her husband had been involved in a family dispute, apparently, over the estate of his father, Deliverance Wheeler, Sr., who died in 1716. It took at least five years to settle that estate, as the record shows, and Thomas Wheeler and Mary/Elizabeth Gates were married about the time of the settlement.

Neither husband nor wife left a will, unfortunately. It may be that Thomas Wheeler, who survived his wife, left most of his property to his only surviving son, Thomas. If there was a deed, Tolman did not find it.

The Children of Thomas Wheeler and Mary/Elizabeth Gates

1. THOMAS, b. 30 Jan. 1723 at Stow; m. 2 Aug. 1743, MARY DABY at Harvard, Mass.
2. Elizabeth, b. 15 Feb. 1727; m. 16 Dec. 1755, Samuel Harper.
3. Mary, b. 19 Sept. 1730 at Harvard.
4. Sarah, b. 23 August 1733 at Harvard.
5. Deliverance, b. 9 July 1737 at Harvard; d. 6 Sept. 1739.

The births of Thomas and Mary are shown in the vital records of Stow, while all five births are shown on Harvard vital records. It seems probable that the move from Stow to Harvard occurred about 1730.

Thomas Wheeler, Jr., and Mary Daby

Thomas Wheeler, Jr.

Thomas Wheeler, Jr., was destined to die young and intestate. Available documents do not show the value of his estate, which was administered by Mary (Daby) Wheeler, her brother Simon Daby, and John Gates.

Married to Mary Daby of Harvard in August, 1745, Thomas Wheeler died 10 years later at age 34, as records show that his widow was granted permission to administer his estate Jan. 23, 1756 (Middlesex County Probate Court #24358). No death record has been found, but it is likely that death occurred in late 1755.

George Tolman was in error as to the name of Mary Daby, which he lists as Mary Gates, probably confusing her with her predecessor,

Tolman also omitted to list one of the children of Mary Daby, Ephraim Wheeler, who grew up to marry Hephsebeth Hapgood.

Mary Daby

Mary Daby was born at Stow on October 27, 1722, the fifth child of John and Hannah Daby. John Daby was born at Stow on Jan. 26, 1687, the son of Thomas and Mary Daby. It is not known who Hannah was, nor is the surname of Mary, wife of Thomas, known. Vital records of Harvard, Mass., show the marriage of Mary Daby to Thomas Wheeler, Jr., August 2, 1743. From the records, it also appears that John and Hannah Daby were early at Concord, Mass., lived several years at Stow, and then moved to Harvard.

The Children of John and Hannah Daby

1. Nahum, b. 23 Feb. 1712, at Concord; m. April 1, 1742, Mary D. Sheldon at Harvard; d. Harvard, 12 Mar. 1779.
2. Simon, b. 27 Feb. 1714 at Stow; m. Marcey; d. 18 Dec. 1802, Harvard.
3. Joseph, b. 15 Dec. 1716 at Stow; m. 8 June 1738, Elizabeth Nurse at Harvard.
4. MARY, b. 27 Oct. 1722 at Stow; m. 2 Aug. 1743, THOMAS WHEELER, JR., at Harvard.
5. John (Capt.) m. Elizabeth; d. 4 Mar. 1781. Elizabeth d. 9 Sept. 1767.

From the vital records of Harvard: Hannah Daby, wife of John, d. 17 Nov. 1744, a. 58 y. 5 m. G.R.I.; John Daby d. 6 Jan. 1769, a. 80 y. 11 m. G.R.I. No death record has been found for their daughter, Mary Daby Wheeler.

The guardianship of the children of Thomas Wheeler, Jr., was granted to his widow on April 13, 1756 (#24359). Mary Wheeler, the widow, and her brother Simon Daby posted bond of 300 pounds for the minor children, viz: Ephraim, Deliverance, Thomas, and Mary. Mary Wheeler and Simon Daby signed in the presence of Andrew Boardman and Reuben Prentice.

Mary Daby Wheeler was then 33 years old and her oldest child was only eight years old (Ephraim). She was not to remain a widow for long. Stow vital records show the following entry: "Wheeler, Mary, wid., and Silos Gates, int. July 25, 1756."

The Children of Thomas Wheeler, Jr., and Mary Daby

1. Child, stillborn, 26 Mar. 1744, Harvard, Mass.
2. Deliverance, b. 9 July 1745; d. 7 Oct. 1748 at Harvard.
3. EPHRAIM, bapt. 4 Oct. 1747; m. HEPSEBETH HAPGOOD pub. 23 Dec. 1768; d. 19 Sept. 1808 at Stow.
4. Deliverance, b. 22 Dec. 1749 at Harvard.
5. Thomas, b. 1 Feb. 1752 at Harvard.
6. Mary, b. 4 July 1754.

Ephraim Wheeler

Ephraim Wheeler was born at Harvard, Mass., in 1747, lost his father in 1755, and apparently acquired a stepfather, Silos Gates, a few months later. There were four young children in the household when Silos Gates married Mary (Daby) Wheeler, widow of Thomas Wheeler, and probably there were soon Gates children, also.

Therefore, it is not very likely that Ephraim Wheeler brought much in the way of worldly goods to the marriage with Hephsebeth Hapgood, when he was twenty-one. Daniel Hapgood, father of Hephsebeth, apparently had provided them with a home, which in his will of 1785 is left to Hephsebeth, along with other property and farm animals. When the Revolutionary War broke out, Ephraim Wheeler answered the call to duty.

"Ephraim Wheeler, Stow. Sergeant, Lieut. Nathaniel Sartell's co., Col. William Prescott's regt; muster roll dated Aug. 1, 1775; engaged April 24, 1775; service, 98 days; also, Capt. Ephraim Corey's co., Col. Prescott's regt.; company return dated Cambridge, Oct. 7, 1775, and endorsed "The late Capt Parkers" co; also, order for bounty coat dated Camp at Cambridge, Oct. 31, 1775." (Mass. Soldiers and Sailors of the Revolutionary War; Boston: Wright and Potter, 1902. Vol. XIV, p. 967).

Ephraim Wheeler died at Stow on Sept. 19, 1808, 61 years old, having outlived "Huldeth" (Hephsebeth) by four years.

The following births are shown in Stow vital records. Presumably these are the children of Silos Gates and his first wife, Mary (last name not known):

1. Elizabeth, b. 16 July 1744
2. Annar, b. 27 Mar. 1746
3. Daniel, b. 28 Oct. 1747
4. Jonathan, b. 25 July 1749
5. Silos, b. 19 Feb. 1750/1
6. Oliver, b. 20 April 1753

It may be assumed that Mary, the first wife, died and possibly some of the children died, also. Then the following birth is shown in the vital records of Stow:

1. Mary, b. 28 June 1757

Thus, bit by bit, we learn more of the circumstances in which our ancestor Ephraim Wheeler grew up. There was a large family (a combined family, as we say nowadays) and presumably the financial resources of both parties were also combined. Since Ephraim's father died intestate, there was little chance of his own children receiving any of part of his estate.

We can thus theorize that Daniel Hapgood's generosity toward Ephraim Wheeler and Hephsebeth Hapgood was prompted by necessity, in part. Daniel, however, very shrewdly stipulated that the property he had left to Hephsebeth would go to her children after her death. This is an unusual circumstance, at least by today's standards.

These ancestors were determined that what they had worked for was not to go to those outside the family. Hence they usually left the largest share to the first son. In fact, the sons in general were left the land and property, which meant that these items stayed in the family.

Repeatedly we see in the wills of the era the stipulation that property will go to the wife or that she may have the use of certain items or property, "as long as she remains my widow," or "as long as she remains unmarried." Men who had acquired material possessions and property with great difficulty were conscious of how easily these things could be lost. The importance of leaving a will is seen from the case of Ephraim Wheeler.

APPENDIX A

The Treadway/How/Haynes Debate

As previously noted, there is a difference of opinion as to the identity of Suffrance who married Nathaniel Treadway. Some descendants of Walter Haynes say that she was his daughter, basing their claim on the 1929 Haynes genealogy, edited by Frances Haynes.

In that genealogy, it is inferred that all sources which report that Nathaniel Treadway married Suffrance Howe and that Josiah Treadway married Suffrance Haynes are in error. It appears that Haynes researchers were not able to find references to Josiah Haynes in vital or town records and thus were at a dead end in their research. If they could claim that Nathaniel, not Josiah, Treadway was the one who married Suffrance Haynes, then there were records available and they could neatly wrap up the Treadway line. So, they did exactly that.

Questions remained, however, as to the fate of Josiah Haynes, Suffrance How, and her sister, Ann, who married John Stone. Hudson's History of Sudbury, Mass., addresses that question under Errata, p.46:

"Nathaniel Treadway married Suffrance Haynes, daughter of Walter Haynes. Elder Edward Howe of Watertown and his wife had no children."

Presumably then Josiah ^{Treadway}Haynes did not exist either and John Stone had no wife!

Those of us who descend from Shadrach Hapgood have nothing to gain either way. We have an ancestor, in either case, Edward How or Walter Haynes. Unfortunately for the Haynes case, the facts argue for Edward How. Some of the sources which support the case for Edward How are John Haynes' Blue Book, c1772; Bond's Watertown Genealogies; Barry's History of Framingham; and of course the History of Sudbury before the recently added Errata.

More important evidence are the court records showing Suffrance How, daughter of Edward and Margaret How, was the wife of Nathaniel Treadway:

(1) The will of Edward How (June 3, 1644) gives land and other property to Nathaniel Treadway and to Anne Stone. Edward How's wife, Nathaniel Treadway, and John Stone are made executors.

(2) ". . . The wife of Nathaniel Treadway was Sufferana, daughter of Edward Howe from England. Dea. Howe died in 1644, and had besides Mrs. Treadway, a daughter, Mrs. Anna Stone of Sudbury. Mr. Treadway died July 20, 1689, and Mrs. T., July 22, 1682." (NEHGR, July 1852)

(3) "1646 May 6. In answer to the petition of Mr. Richard Dummer about a difference between him & Mrs. Howe, John Stone, & Nathaniel Treadway. . . " The case was referred to a committee. (Colony records)

(4) "1646 Nov. 4. In answer to the petition of Mrs. Margaret Howe and Nathaniell Tredaway, liberty was graunted them to drawe two butts of wyne, which they received for debt, which they cannot sell without great losse by ye butt. By both howses." (Colony records)

(5) The will of Margaret How Bunker, widow of Edward and 2nd wife of George Bunker (April 8, 1647) gives one half of her estate to Nathaniel Treadway, including the house he occupied at that time, and one-third to John Stone of Sudbury. The residue went to her sister.

APPENDIX A -- (Continued)

(6) The will of Thomas Noyes (20 May 1664). Thomas Noyes was the son-in-law of Walter Haynes, having married his daughter, Mary. It appears that Thomas and Mary Noyes had no children, as the will names his sisters and the two eldest daughters of Josiah Treadway, whose wife Sufferance was the sister of his wife. (Savage. Genealogical Dictionary of New England. III: 299.)

This controversy demonstrates one of the more ignoble aspects of the pursuit of genealogy. When a case can be built for an ancestor and all contrary evidence (in this case, overwhelming proof) can be ignored, then the study (for surely it is far from science) has taken on the aspect of a monumental spoof.

There can be little doubt that Josiah Treadway existed and that he was probably also a decent man. We know from Thomas Noyes' will that Suffrance Haynes Treadway may have been dead by 1664, when the will was written. We also know that the couple had at least two daughters, probably more. It would behoove the descendants of Walter Haynes to obtain copies of the will of Thomas Noyes and to look for a similar document for Josiah Haynes. Surely they have given up too easily!

Treadway

APPENDIX B

Essence of the Will of Simon Davis

I Simon Davis Senior of Concord in the County of Middlesex in New England and about seventy-four years doe make my last will and testament. First and principally, I commend my soul to Almighty God, and my body to ye earth to be buried at ye discretion of friends. My outward estate is disposed of as follows. My executor is to pay all my debts and funeral charges, a confirmation of the lands I formerly gave to him, and ye which are in his actual possession, his home lot of about thirteen acres, also a parcell of land adjoining Spenser's brook, thirty-five acres by estimation, four acres of meadows and fifty acres and eleven acres and three-quarters adjoining to my son James. I do confirm it all and the conveyance thereof.

I give unto my eldest daughter Mary Wheeler twenty pounds in good passable money to be paid three years after my wife's decease. also to my second daughter Sarah Wheeler twenty pounds to be paid four years after my wife's decease. To my daughter Elenor Hunt five pounds to be paid five years after the death of my wife and to Samuel Hunt my grandson ten pounds to be paid five years after my wife's death. To Hannah Blood, my daughter, five pounds.

To Mary my wife the westerly room of the dwelling house where I now live and half the use of the cellar, 8 bushels of grain, one of wheat and four of rye, to be delivered on the 25th day of March each year for the rest of her life, also a milch cow for her use as long as she is my widow. The household furniture is to be divided among my four daughters after my wife's death if it is not worn out, except for a bed and coverlid which belong to Ebenezer. Ebenezer is my sole executor, as long as he pays his sisters their money and his mother 20 shillings yearly. If Samuel Hunt dies before his money is due, it is to be divided among the other heirs. I request that my loving friends Thomas Brown and Thomas Bateman oversee the administration of my will. 24 June 1710.

Witnessed by Jona. Hanes, Sr., Thomas Brown, Sr., and Jane Dudley (her mark).

Will proved 6 July 1713.

APPENDIX C

The Family of Persis Gibson and Thomas Brown

Persis Gibson, daughter of Timothy Gibson and Persis Rice and sister to Jacob Gibson (Daniel Hapgood's adopted grandson) was born in 1741 at Stow, Mass., and married Thomas⁵Brown (Joseph⁴, Jabez³, Jabez², Thomas¹) of Stow (pub. Oct. 1, 1763). Thomas Brown, who was not named in his father's will, was the son of Joseph and Grace (Fairbanks) Brown of Stow, where he was born on Aug. 1, 1740. Thomas died at Henniker, NH, Mar. 13, 1790.

The Children of Thomas Brown and Persis Gibson, born at Stow

1. Betty, b. Mar. 13, 1766; m. Josiah Morse.
2. Rebecca, b. June 29, 1768; m. Daniel Dow.
3. Persis, b. July 1, 1770.
4. Nahum, b. April 26, 1772; m. Abiel Eastman. (Nahum was a deaf mute, as was his son Thomas, the first president of the New England Gallaudet Ass'n.)
5. Susanna, b. Feb. 25, 1794; m. Charles Rice.
6. Sarah, b. Feb. 29, 1778; m. Thomas Steele.
7. Jerusha, b. Oct. 29, 1779; m. Joseph Amsden.
8. Abigail, b. April 28, 1784; d. Henniker, NH, 1794.

This family is typical of what was happening by the fourth or fifth generations of descendants of those who came to Massachusetts in the 1630's. There was plenty of land around the first settlements to accomodate the large families of the first two or three generations. As the population grew, however, it was necessary to expand into other areas. The Gibson family was in New Hampshire and Maine by the mid-1700's, seeking land of their own which could later be left to their children.

From the early wills, we see that the sons were given the lands of their fathers, with the rule of primogeniture still applying. The daughters were given money, where there was enough, but they were expected to marry and to be provided the necessities of life by their husbands. Later generations were unable to leave much to their sons or daughters, who had to scratch for themselves, as most still do today.

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THE WHEELER FAMILY

From the research of Doris Cline Ward

LIEUT. JOHN WHEELER

The pension application papers for John Wheeler gave us what details we know of himself and his wife. They were reprinted in the Essau-Huppeday, Newsletter of the Broad River Genealogical Society, Vol. 7, #4 (Nov. 1987). His widow's application for pension supplied the names of their children. (White: Revolutionary Pensions)

It was this application and narrative account of John's experiences in the Indian Wars and the subsequent Revolution that inspired one whole section of the recently produced video "Buncombe Beginnings." Although the section was found to be too long to be used, it was finally reduced to the scene of the settlers' cabins being put to the torch, followed by the settlers attacking the Indians and destroying their villages and their gardens...all covered by a scene of a blazing fire while the narrator told what was happening. In the application, John stated he had been born in Prince Edward County, Virginia, and to the best of his knowledge he was 76 years of age at this point of his application - 6 May 1833, making his birth date about the year 1757.

His parents' names were not listed, and no one by that name was on the list of early settlers in Prince Edward County. John did not give the name of his brother who had gone from Surry Co., NC to try to establish a home on the Holston River. John had gone there to try to help him, but became involved with the Indian fighting, together with Col. Henry Clark.

John married Susannah Clark, daughter of Col. Henry and Sally (Jones) Clark on her father's plantation 15 Dec 1779 on Kendrick's Creek near the Long Island of the Holston pension. She was born 21 Jul 1761.[Given in the application.] John was elected Lieutenant by his colleague soldiers, and Col. Clark brought him back his commission following a trip to Hillsborough.

The claim John made which he felt entitled to was for six months service under Capt. Bohannon and Col. Christie, an fifteen months under Capt. Martin at the Rye Cave, and two months under Colonel Shelby, and one month in the Highwassie campaign as a Lieutenant. Also, for the three months' expedition to Carolina as Lieutenant. This involved expedition against the Indians, under the leadership of Dragging Canoe, and later against the Tories.

After the war he lived a few years in North Carolina, moved to South Carolina on the Saluda River and remained there about eleven years. From there he moved to Shelby County, Kentucky and lived there about two years, after which he moved to Livingston County where he lived for the rest of his life.

John Wheeler bought land in Rutherford Co., NC from Uel Lamkin of Rutherford Co. on 5 Sep 1882 for 100 lbs. Witnesses were Henry Clark, James Peterson, and William Cornelius. On 29 Oct. 1783 he sold it to Hugh Ivester of Lincoln Co. for 70 lbs. - 1205 acres on Knobb Creek adjoining Benjamin Hardin. Witnesses were Samuel Carpenter and Nathaniel Clark. His family was seen to have been of Cathey's Creek later at the time of his daughter Sarah's marriage to John Hill in 1808.

Many land grants were given to Rev. War veterans in Kentucky, and John died in Livingstone Co., Kentucky (which later became Crittenden Co.) on 24 Nov. 1838.

On 1 May 1844 his widow, Sarah, applied for a pension from Crittenden Co. KY. He and his wife had a family of 13 children but only 10 were listed in her widow's pension.

Known children of John and Sarah (Clark) Wheeler:

1. Henry Wheeler, b. 16 Nov 1780
2. James Wheeler, b. 16 Oct 1782
3. John Wheeler Jr. b. 9 Dec 16784
4. Maryann Wheeler, b. 25 Dec. 1786

In Memory of:

by Doris Cline Ward

We remember Miss Evelyn Hess for the many years of library expertise she donated to The Old Buncombe County Genealogical Society almost from its beginning, in helping to set up its growing collection of library books, maps and periodicals. She was a retired librarian from the Downtown Public Library in Buffalo, NY, where her specialties had been maps and periodicals, and was very knowledgeable about where items should be put, filed, and cataloged.

As we look around our library today, we see her legacy of books in proper order, thanks to her directions, as well as the electric magnifying glass purchased for her later use, and the fine large map drawer purchased in her honor.

We are grateful for the many hours of volunteer work she donated in her last years and the training she gave others. Born on 23 February 1919, she passed away in Asheville on 12 October, 2001. Memorial services were held in Avon, N.Y. She is survived by a relative, Mr. Willard Hess, 43 Country Lane, Maxwell, TX 78656.

Washing Clothes

Years ago a Kentucky grandmother gave a bride the following recipe for washing clothes

1. Bilt fire in backyard to heat kettle of rain water.
2. Set tubs so smoke wont blow in eyes if wind is pert.
3. Shave one hole cake of lie soap in bilin water.
4. Sort things, make 3 piles. 1 pile white, 1 pile colored, 1 pile work britches and rags.
5. To make starch, stir flour in cool water to smooth, then thin down with bilin water.
6. Take white things, rub dirty spots on board, scrub hard, and then bile. Rub colored, don't bile, just rinch and starch.
7. Take things out of kettle with broomstick handle, then rinch, and starch.
8. Hang old rags on fence.
9. Spread tea towels on grass.
10. Pore rinch water in flower bed.
11. Scrub porch with hot soapy water.
12. Turn tubs upside down.
13. Go put on clean dress, smooth hair with hair combs. Brew cup of tea, sit and rock a spell and count your blessings.

Hang this above your automatic washer, and when things look bleak, read it again, and count your blessings!

This is from Rootsweb: Thanks to Earl C. ("Cal") Padgett, Jr. <ECP6522@aol.com>



5. Sally (Sarah) Wheeler b. 10 May 1789, married John Hill of Rutherford Co., NC.
6. Benjamin Wheeler, b. 22 Mar 1791
7. Polly Wheeler, b. 28 Jul 1693
8. Matilda Wheeler, b. 15 Apr 1798
9. Isaac Wheeler, b. 25 Jun 1800
10. Susan Wheeler, b. 11 Mar 1804

JOHN AND SARAH (WHEELER) HILL

Sarah Wheeler, named for her grandmother Sally (Jones) Clark, was born in Rutherford County, NC, the daughter of John and Sarah (Clark) Wheeler, and lived her early life in the community of Cathey's Creek. On 27 Sep 1808 she and John Hill were married (Rutherford County Marriage Bonds) and they were members of Bill's Creek Baptist Church as late as the membership role of Oct. 1, 1829 [listed in "Bridges to the Past", July 27, 1973, page 314]. The famous Rev. Perminter Morgan pastor of this church from at least 1802, for the following 17 years at least, possible he officiated their marriage.

John Hill was the son of Robert and Margaret (Johnson) Hill, (who were also members of the church, the oldest Baptist Church in the community), born in Rutherford Co., NC on 25 July 1788. They settled in an area of Rutherford County, which was annexed by Henderson County in 1844, and called "Reedy Patch" in Edneyville Township. They reared 14 children, Sarah died on 10 April 1852.

At the age of 64, John Hill married secondly, to Nancy Ann Gilbert, on 12 Dec. 1852, and they had five additional children. They were shown on the 1860 census of Henderson County as living in Hendersonville, with John being 72 years of age, and Nancy, aged 33.

John died on 1 February 1875, aged about 87. He was buried beside Sarah near the old home site in the family cemetery in Reedy Pach. The graves of John, Sarah, and one son, Robert, are the only ones with engraved headstones.

Children of John and Sarah (Wheeler) Hill:

1. Lewis Hill, born ca 1810; died 1884. Married Nancy Taylor.
2. Mary Hill, married (..) Dalton.
3. Nancy Hill, married (..) Laughter
4. Alva Hill, married (..) Laughter
5. John Hill Jr. married Dorcas (Unknown)
6. Robert Hill, b. ca 1837, married Nancy (Unknown)
7. Manson Carson Hill, b. 6 Feb. 1817. Married Mary Ann Arledge, whose father was instrumental in forming Polk County, NC.
8. Henry Hill, born ca 1830. Married Fannie (Unknown)
9. Johnson Hill, married (1) Elizabeth Lyda; (2) Callie Crawford.
10. Sarah Hill who married (..) Mills. Possibly moved out of Henderson Co. NC
11. Louisa Hill, (aka Lulu) married Jonathan Hampton Hyder [parents of Nancy Hyder - married Thomas B. Case, parents of Winnie Pearl Adeline Case Byers -]
12. Hampton G. Hill, married (1) Rachel Parris; (2) Emily E. Pyle.
13. William Walter Hill. Not listed on the Henderson Co. Census for 1860.
14. Bertha Hill, married (..) Mullins. Not in Henderson Co., NC in 1860.

Issue of John and Nancy Ann (Gilbert) Hill: Reuben, Harriet, Mary, Elizabeth and Ellen.

Any one descending from any of the above persons who can connect to Sarah Wheeler Hill, Lieut. John Wheeler and Col. Henry Clark as described, are eligible for membership in the DAR. Although this last family was early in Old Buncombe County (now Henderson), it is not likely that they themselves were here by 1800 to qualify them for the First Families of Old Buncombe County. It would be necessary to research their spouses' history for that qualification.

Descendants of Jesse Jackson

First Generation

submitted by Kimberly Abelon

One of our newest members, Janet Hamrick Abelon, has family information that comes from North Carolina. The following details were taken from "Jesse Jackson Family History, from 1818 to 1996," written by Merle Jackson Hamrick and Sharon Parker Talbert.

Jesse Jackson: was born in 1818 in North Carolina. He died in Alabama. The 1850 Sumter County, Alabama census record shows that Jesse and Louisa Jackson lived in house #127, family #129, with property valued at \$800. Jesse had 8 children living with them from a previous marriage. Jesse was born in North Carolina and Louisa was born in London, England. Both are buried in Brightwater Cemetery (no tombstone per Lona Jackson Runnels). Jesse and Louisa were living in Alabama when their first child, a son, was born in 1856. They named him John W. Jackson. After moving to Texas three more children were born, Jennie in 1861, Louisa J. in 1861, and James in June 1864. The family then moved back to Alabama, bringing a herd of cattle with them. While crossing the Mississippi River by ferry, one of the cows jumped over and drowned. This was between 1864 and 1868. They settled near Gilberttown, Alabama. Their final child, a son named Robert E. Lee Jackson, was born in Alabama in 1869. On the census of 1870, Nancy Raybun, born 1825, a white domestic servant was living with them. Nancy had three children, Emma Raybun born 1858 and Anna Raybun born 1865, per Choctaw County, Alabama census records of 1870. Jesse Jackson was a rancher per Lona Runnels.

Jesse Jackson was married to (Name unknown) in 1837 and they had the following children:

Alexander Jackson

Eliza J. Jackson, b. 1846, in Alabama

Lewis Jackson

Andrew Jackson, b. 1847, in Alabama

Mary Ann Jackson, b. 1841 in Alabama

Jesse W. Jackson, b. 1848 in Alabama

Josephine Jackson, b. 1844, in Alabama.

Samuel Jackson, b. 1849, in Alabama

He was married to Louisa Elizabeth Walker on Jan. 3, 1850, in Sumter County, Alabama.

Louisa Elizabeth Walker was b. in 1833 in London, England. Jesse Jackson and Louis Elizabeth Walker had the following children: John W. Jackson, Jennie Jackson, Louisa J. Jackson, born 1862, in Texas. Date of death unknown. Louisa never married and was buried in Smith Cemetery (per Lona Runnels). She had no children. James Jackson and Robert E. Lee Jackson.

In Memory of:

submitted by Diane Grape

We remember Ida Silver Wilson one of our lifetime members. She served as the curator of the Colburn Gem and Mineral Museum in the 1960's and again in the 1980's. A native of Madison County born in 1917 and was married to Leslie J. Wilson who preceded her in death. She passed away on December 3, 2001. A remembrance service was held for her on December 15, 2001 at the Elkwood United Methodist Church in Woodfin, NC. She is survived by her son, Bascombe Jay Wilson and his wife Kathryn and a grandson, Kevin J. Wilson of Berthoud, CO. She is also survived by nieces, nephews and her sister-in-law Alice Wilson Lynch all of the Asheville area. The family has asked for all memorials to be sent to the Appalachian Mineral Society Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 9306, Asheville, NC 28805.