

FLETCHER LINEAGE

1928

**Compiled for
Henry Fletcher**

by

**Winifred Lovering Holman S.B.
Life Member New England Historic
Genealogical Society
and member
Long Island Historical
Maryland Historical
Virginia Historical
Societies**

FLETCHER LINEAGE

ROBERT FLETCHER

FRANCIS FLETCHER

JOSEPH FLETCHER

SAMUEL FLETCHER

LINCOLN FLETCHER

(CAPT) JOEL FLETCHER

JOEL FLETCHER

GEORGE MARLEY FLETCHER

ELIZABETH WHEELER

MARY DUNLEY

ABIGAIL HUBBARD

ELIZABETH FLETCHER

MARY (HAINES) BRACKETT

SERVIAN THOMSON BRIGGS

IDA SHARP

HENRY FLETCHER
ROBERT SHARP FLETCHER

FLETCHER LINEAGE II

ROBERT FLETCHER

FRANCIS FLETCHER

MEZERIAN FLETCHER

ELIZABETH WHEELER

MARY MOOD

ELIZABETH FLETCHER

*ROBERT FLETCHER, founder of the prominent New England family of that name, was born in England, about 1592, and died in Concord, Middlesex County, Mass., 3 Apr. 1677, over eighty years. In his will dated 1672 he gives his age as about four score years. The name of his wife, and mother of his children is at present unknown, she may have been named Sarah.

Appallingly little is known of the immigrant, Robert Fletcher, there is some tradition that he came originally from Yorkshire, but whether this has any foundation is not known. Another tradition has it, that with him came a brother William Fletcher, it would be of real interest to do thorough research on Robert, to place him in England if possible.

He is said to have settled very early in Concord, a town some twenty miles northwest of Boston, and in 1637, he was appointed by that town as its constable. In 1645, his name appears among a list of petitioners there, and in 1656, he again appears on a petition which deals with bridges in Concord. That same year, 1656, he became a jurymen and in 1664 signed another petition.

The Middlesex Court Files contain a very interesting petition under date of 1669, in regard to Robert Fletcher, his grandson Joshua Fletcher, and his son, William Fletcher, and cites that Robert Fletcher is now, "bereaved of sight".

In 1652, ~~a Hannah Blanchard names~~ "my father Goodman Fletcher" in a case. The question at once arises, who was she, was she another, hitherto unknown daughter of Robert?

If the town meeting, the town proprietors', and the other sources and records were examined, doubtless more detail, biography, and possibly clues to English origins would be gained and could be added to this account, but

*The account of Robert Fletcher, that is the first generation, is but a temporary one.

so much time was involved in correcting the descent of Henry Fletcher from Robert Fletcher, as the line given in the Fletcher Genealogy was found to be erroneous, that it was deemed wise to let this part of the research wait until a later date.

There was no mention of Robert Fletcher in the indices of the Middlesex County Deeds, nor does he appear in the Supreme Court Files of Massachusetts. Middlesex County Files have been consulted. In the records of the Court of Assistants we note that on 4 June 1639, "Rob't ffletcher was discharged being not found faulty", what the complaint was is not given.

A brief abstract of Robert's will follows:

" the 4th of february 1672

. . . I Robert fletcher of Concord . . . being about fourescor years of
edge . . . declare this to bee my last will and Testament . . . my body . . .
to be decently buryed by my three sonns . . . and for the rest of my estate
. . . my Sonn frances and his loving and loved wife doe take the speciall
Care of my loving wife for long as the lord shall Continue her and them in
the land . . . and in Case Shee shall stand in needs of or see Cause to make
use of oney part of this estate here after to be mentioned for her own Com-
fort that Shee shall hereby have lawfull power for to doe and after her de-
cease my will is that I may be devided as followeth videlicet unto two equall
partts and my will is my Sonns William and Samuell may have on of the parts
equally devided betwixt them and that my sonn frances shall have the other
part whom I do hearby appoint to bee my wholl executor to this my last will
. . . and I do appoint for overseers . . . my Trusty and lovinge freinds
deacon Robert Merriam deacon Luke Potter of Concord . . ."

Witnesses: John hoare
Nathaniell How

"Robert Flecher" signed by mark and sealed.

attested to 19 June 1677.

The inventory was made 12 May 1677 and attested to by the executor,
Francis Fletcher. (Middlesex Probate 7913)

" An Inventory of the estate of Francis (sic) Fletcher was p^resented
in Court & attested on oath by Fra: Fletcher" County Court 19 June 1677.
(Miscellaneous County Court Record Book p. 156)

The name of Luke Potter is of interest, as Robert apparently had a son
of that name. As everyone of Robert's sons named a daughter Sarah, it is
possible that Robert's wife was of that name.

Children, as far as now known, probably all born in England:

- i. Grizell², b. about 1618; m. Thomas Jewell, Humphry Griggs, Henry
Kibby, John Gurney, and John Burge.* She d. 1669.
- ii. Francis, b. about 1620; m. Elizabeth Wheeler.
- iii. William, b. about 1622; m. Rachel --- and Lydia Bates.
- iv. Luke, b. about 1625, d. 21 May 1665, Concord, [apparently unmarried.]
- v. Samuel, b. in 1632; m. Margaret Hailstone,
probably others.

*

The error has been many times repeated that this daughter was named Cary per-
haps due to the error in Wyman's notes on the Middlesex Court Files. The
original papers have been lost. Mrs. Mary Lovering Holman, in a work soon
to be published for Mrs. Charles Pillsbury of Minneapolis, has straightened
up the matter of Grizzell and her five husbands and gives the proof that
Grizzell was the sister of William, and the daughter of Robert Fletcher.

FRANCIS² FLETCHER (Robert) born probably in England, about 1620, died in Concord, Middlesex County, Mass., after 1704. He married there, 11 Oct. 1656, Elizabeth Wheeler, born about 1636, died there, 14 June 1704, daughter of George and Katharine (---) Wheeler.

George Wheeler left a will which appears in a Wheeler Genealogy, the original will cannot be found, the Middlesex Probate Registry was formed 1695, prior to that estates were filed in the County Court, the papers of which were open to the public, it is quite possible that the original paper was taken years ago. * An abstract follows: " I George Wheeler Senir in the Town of Concord . . . I will to my two sons Thomas Wheeler & John Wheeler . . . to the Children of my son William deceased . . . to my daughter ffoxes children . . . I give to my four daughters Elizabeth Fletcher, Sarah Dudley, Ruth Martwell and hanah Fletcher the sune of fifteen pounds apiece . . . my too sons Thomas Wheeler & John Wheeler the executors of this my Will . . . dated 28 Jan. 1684, signed by mark, proved 2 July 1687; witnessed by: Samuel Meriam, John Scorthford, and Jonathan Hubbard.

Francis ~~Wheeler~~ remained in Concord with his father where he owned a great quantity of land in the eastern part of the town. As evidenced by her father-in-law's will, Elizabeth, wife of Francis, was held in high esteem by Robert Fletcher. In 1677, Francis Fletcher became a Freeman of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and that same year, was in full communion with the church. In 1666, he owned lot seventeen in the "east quarter", being four hundred thirty seven acres. 14 Dec. 1664, he signed a petition to enable an inhabitant of Concord to sell wine. In 1671, we note a writ against Francis Fletcher, suit of John, only son of William Allen deceased. The next year, testimony of Jerusha Fletcher aged eighteen [b. 1654] was given in Court, who was she?

In 1686, Francis Fletcher served as a selectman, and in 1697-8, he sat on a jury. It is unfortunate for our purposes, that the records prior to 1738 of the old First Church of Concord (then Congregational, now Unitarian) are lost.

There is nothing of interest in the Supreme Court Files re Francis Fletcher, but we do find a number of important deeds of his in the Middlesex Registry:

4 Mar. 1683, " I Francis Fletcher in y^e Town of Concord . . . For . . . Sixteen pounds . . . paid by Patrick ffasset Scotchman of . . . Billerica . . . Confirme unto him . . . Twenty Acres of Land Upland & Meadow lying . . . in . . . Concord . . . as also Elisabeth Fletcher my wife in acknowledg- ment . . . " He signs, she does not, witnesses: John Scotchford, John Mariam. Recorded 1696. (Middlesex Deeds 10:479)

20 Feb. 1693, " Francis Fletcher of . . . Concord . . . Yeoman . . . For . . . Twenty Seven pounds . . . paid . . . By Benjamin Whittmore of y^e afore- said Town . . . weaver . . . Do . . . Confirme unto him . . . A certaine par- cell of Meadow within . . . Concord . . . Eight acres . . . as also Elisabeth my now married wife . . . consenting thereunto . . . " He signs, she marks, wit: Noah Brooks, Samuel Fletcher, Thomas Browne Sen^r. Rec. 1694. (Ibid. 10:369)

31 Oct. 1693, " Francis Fletcher of . . . Concord . . . Yeoman . . . For . . . Fourteen pounds . . . paid by Benjamin Whittmore . . . have . . . Con- firmed unto him ye said Benjamin . . . Upland . . . within . . . Concord . . . in y^e East part of y^e Town . . . " He signs, Elizabeth marks, wit: Noah Brooks, Thomas Browne Sen^r. Rec. 1694. (Ibid. 10:370)

3 May 1694, " Francis Fletcher of Concord . . . Yeoman . . . to Show my Tender Love unto and fartherly care of my Eldest Son Samuel Fletcher of the aforesaid Town . . . Confirm unto him . . . Several parcels of Land and Mea-

dow which are in this instrument . . . Imprimis The house lott upon which he now dwelleth [etc.] all these . . . Scituate . . . in the East part of the Town of Concord . . ." He signs, his wife does not appear. Wit: Thomas Brown Sen^r, Ruth Brown Sen^r, Ruth Brown Jun^r. Recorded 1725. Acknowledged 1717-18 (?). (Ibid. 24:541)

30 June 1694, " Francis ffletcher of . . . Concord . . . yeoman . . . to Shew my ffatherly Love To and Care of My Son Joseph ffletcher of y^e Said Town . . . I having a desire to acomodate him with a Competency of houseing and Lands in order to his Settlement . . . Confirme unto him . . . Severall parcells of Land and Medow with the houseing that stands upon said Lands [a very long description follows] . . ." His wife Elizabeth consents, and he signs, she marks. Wit: John Dudley, Fleazer Hall, Thomas Browne Sen^r. Rec. 1703, acknowledged 1699. (Ibid. 13:409)

10 Dec. 1694, "ffrancis Fletcher of . . . Concord . . . In ye Consideration of the Dutyfullness of my Son John Fletcher of Concord . . . unto me and to Express my love and care that I have to him . . . Confirme unto him my Son . . . John . . . Severall parcells of Land and Medow within . . . Concord . . . in y^e East part of y^e Town [description follows] also Elisabeth my now married wife . . . of her free Consent . . ." He signs, she marks. Wit: Thomas Jones, Thomas Browne Sen^r, Hannah Fletcher her mark. Rec. 1715, acknowledged 1703. (Ibid. 17:533)

1 Apr. 1702, " I ffrancis ffletcher of . . . Concord . . . Yeoman ffor . . . the good Will and affection that I . . . Bear unto my well beloved Son Hezekiah Fletcher of the Same Towne . . . Confirme unto him . . . A certain Messuage . . . Scituate . . . within . . . Concord . . . Containing one Dwelling house and Barn and Severall parcells of Land [description follows] . . . as also Elisabeth ffletcher my now married wife . . . consenting to

this" He signs, she marks. Wit: John Fox, John Fletcher, John Meriam Jr., rec. 1704. (Ibid. 13:598)

By the above deeds, Francis Fletcher disposed of his property during his lifetime to his sons, eldest son Samuel, son Joseph, son John, and son Hezekiah, in the order of their births, and so we do not find that he left a will, nor was there any administration on his estate, nor that of his wife's. The daughters were probably provided for at their marriages, as was then the custom. Francis, as eldest son of Robert, received a double share of Robert's holdings, hence had much land to dispose of, when his time came.

Children, born in Concord:

- i. Samuel³, b. 6 Aug. 1657, d. there, 26 Oct. 1744; m. 15 June 1682, Elizabeth Wheeler, b. there, 24 Feb. 1664, d. there, 26 Oct. 1744, dau. of Sergt. Thomas and Sarah (Meriam) Wheeler. He was a Corporal, selectman, and town clerk. Children born in Concord (Fletcher), (1) Samuel, b. 28 Oct. 1683, d.y.; (2) Joseph, b. 26 Mar. 1686; (3) Elizabeth, b. 2 Apr. 1688; (4) Sarah, b. 19 May 1690; (5) John, b. 26 Aug. 1692; (6) Hannah, b. 1 Dec. 1694; (7) Ruth, b. 2 Mar. 1696, d. 1700; (8) Rebecca, b. 2 June 1699; (9) Samuel, b. 27 Apr. 1701; (10) Benjamin, b. 29 Apr. 1703, d. 1703; (11) Timothy, b. 28 Aug. 1704.
- ii. Joseph, b. 15 Apr. 1661; m. Mary Dudley and Elizabeth Carter.
- iii. Elizabeth, b. 24 Aug. 1663; m. Samuel Stratton in 1683.
- iv. John, b. 23 Feb. 1665; m. Hannah Hunt.
- v. Sarah, b. 24 Feb. 1668; m. William Wheeler.
- vi. Hezekiah, b. 6 Apr. 1672; m. Mary Wood, parents of Elizabeth⁴ who m. Lt. Ebenezer⁵.
- vii. Hannah, b. 14 Oct. 1674, living 1694.
- viii. Benjamin, b. 1 Dec. 1677, died young.

JOSEPH³ FLETCHER (Francis², Robert) born in Concord, Middlesex County, Mass., 15 Apr. 1661, died there probably about 1744. He married there, #7 June 1688, Mary Dudley, born there, 9 Feb. 1636, died there, 27 Apr. 1705, daughter of Francis and Sarah (Wheeler) Dudley and grand daughter of George Wheeler. He probably married secondly, in Concord, 20 Dec. 1705, Elizabeth Carter, who survived him, her identity not as yet established.

Francis Dudley left no estate nor did his wife Sarah Wheeler. He was not connected with the Governor Dudley family, as far as anyone knows, but was an early settler of Concord. Elizabeth Carter was probably a widow, her parentage will be settled later.

The Josephs and the Samuels, who were contemporaries in Concord, are most confusing and it is difficult to distinguish them by their deeds. Prior to 1745 we note, Joseph Jr., weaver and clothier; Joseph tertius, grandson of Francis; Joseph with wife Hepsibah; and "M^r" Joseph, wheelwright, who left widow Elizabeth in 1744. From the vital records and the Genealogy we glean that: Joseph Jr., weaver and clothier was probably that Joseph⁴ born 1689, son of Joseph³; that Joseph tertius, grandson of Francis, was probably that Joseph⁴ born 1686 son of Corporal Samuel³, who married Hepsibah (Chandler) Jones went to Acton where he died 1746 and whose son Daniel of Holden settled his estate, and that said Joseph did not have first wife Elizabeth Carter as stated in the Genealogy; and that "M^r" Joseph Fletcher, wheelwright, wife Elizabeth, a widow in 1744, was in reality Joseph³ Senior, born 1661, who married Mary Dudley and Elizabeth Carter. The deeds of all the Josephs and Samuels were read and abstracted in order to clear the matter.

We have seen that by deed of gift, Joseph's father, Francis Fletcher, gave him lands in Concord in 1694. Either Joseph did not record his deeds, or he had few purchases and sales, for we find very few deeds that apply to him.

There are however, three depositions, recorded in the land records which are of much interest; all dated 27 Feb. 1733-4:

" Samuel Fletcher and Joseph Fletcher both of Concord . . . both more than Seventy years of age testifie . . . that . . . there were three Sperate Families that lived upon a Farm formerly called Bricklers" etc.

" Samuel Fletcher and Joseph Fletcher of Concord both of them between 70 and 80 years of age testifie . . . that . . . there were three Sperate families on the old Iron works land in Dwelling houses and that they had improved Land there in Concord 1684 . . ." etc.

" Samuel Fletcher and Samuel Jones both of Concord of lawful age testifie and say that . . . th Joseph Fletcher of Concord had a Dwelling house and improved lands in said Concord in . . . one thousand seven hundred and fifteen . . ." (Middlesex Deeds 34:494)

The said Samuel and Joseph were of course brothers, sons of Francis Fletcher. The following may apply to our Joseph: 9 July 1734, Samuel Hayward of Concord sells to Joseph Fletcher of the same land there. (Ibid. 36:530)

21 Apr. 1741, Joseph Fletcher of Concord, wheelwright, sold to Samuel Robbins of Sudbury, land in the east part of Concord, being seven acres, recorded 1744. (Ibid. 44:452)

-- Sept. 1744, Samuel Robbins of Sudbury conveys to "Elizabeth Fletcher relict of th Joseph Fletcher" late of Concord deceased, all his rights to a seven acre tract in east part of Concord, rec. 1744. (Ibid. 44:453)

So we learn that Joseph died between April 1741 and September 1744, and that his wife Elizabeth survived him. Neither Joseph, his first wife Mary, nor Elizabeth left any recorded estate. It is to be assumed that his children shared amicably in his property at his decease, for there is no record.

We do know, as stated, that he held much land from his father Francis, in the east part of the town, that he was a wheelwright by trade, but was held in respect by the inhabitants, as the term of "M^r" was given to him, that he lived to old age (in fact longevity seems to run in this line) and that by his two wives he had a large family born in Concord, who presumably settled his estate, without need of legal proceedings.

Children born in Concord:

By Mary Dudley,

- i. Joseph⁴, b. 7 June 1689, living 1729, weaver, clothier, and "J^r".
- ii. Benjamin, b. 1 Jan. 1690-91.
- iii. Samuel, b. 30 Nov. 1692; m. Abigail Hubbard.
- iv. Ebenezer, b. 23 Mar. 1694.
- v. Mary, b. 11 Dec. 1695 (m. Thomas Hubbard?).
- vi. Francis, b. 12 Nov. 1693; m. Abigail Brooks. (Gen. states he d. 1783 in New Ipswich, N.H.)
- vii. Jane, b. 29 Nov. 1700.

By Elizabeth Carter.

- viii. Lucy, b. 22 Sept. 1703, d. 27 June 1727.
- ix. Abigail, b. 9 July 1708.
- x. Lydia, b. 3 Nov. 1710.

Of the above children the Genealogy (p. 32) only "carries forward" Samuel and Francis.

(In as much as the wife of Lieutenant Ebenezer⁵ Fletcher (Samuel⁴, Joseph³, Francis²) was Elizabeth⁴ Fletcher (Hezekiah³, Francis²) it seems fitting here to give an account of her father, Hezekiah³ Fletcher. Ebenezer and Elizabeth were first cousins once removed.)

HEZEKIAH³*FLETCHER (Francis², Robert) brother of "M^r" Joseph Fletcher, wheelwright, was born in Concord, Middlesex County, 6 Apr. 1672, living there in 1747. He married there, 11 May 1703, Mary Wood,** daughter of Abraham Wood of Concord and Sudbury, who was also living in 1748.

It is quite possible that they removed from Concord to a more western town, in Middlesex County. We recall that Worcester County embracing parts of Middlesex and Suffolk was established in 1732.

Hezekiah was the youngest of Francis's sons that grew up to maturity, and it was not until 1702 that he received by deed of gift his portion of his father's estate, being a dwelling house, barn, land etc., in Concord. In 1733, when his older brothers, Samuel and Joseph testified to certain lands in Concord, Hezekiah did not appear.

6 July 1702, Isaac Wheeler of Concord for three pounds sells to Hezekiah Fletcher of same woodland there, one of the witnesses was Samuel Fletcher. (Middlesex Deeds 13:596)

8 July 1702, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, yeoman, for six pounds conveys to Benjamin Whittamore of same, land there, signs by mark. Wit: Joseph Meriam, Noah Brooks, Samuel Meriam, John Meriam Jr. Recorded 1736. (Ibid. 37:159)

13 Jan. 1703, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, yeoman, for twenty four pounds sells to Corporal Daniel Brooks of same, meadow there, Signs by mark as does his wife Mary Fletcher. Samuel Fletcher one of the witnesses. Rec. 1725.

* See p. 32 Fletcher Genealogy.

**Acc. to Hist. Chesterfield Rev. Abraham Wood, first minister there, b. 1748 Sudbury, Harvard 1767, was a nephew of Mary (Wood) Fletcher? See p.14.

(Ibid. 25:174)

30 Dec. 1703, " I Hezekiah Fletcher of . . . Concord . . . Yeoman ffor
. . . five pounds . . . paid . . . Corp^{ll} Samuel ffletcher of the Same . . .
Husbandmen . . . Confirme unto him . . . parcell of upland & Swamp . . .
Three acres . . . within . . . Concord . . . in ye East part of y^e Town".
Wit: Nathl Stow, Ebenezer Meriam, John Meriam Jr. acknowledged 1719, rec.
1720. (Ibid. 21:190)

6 Sept. 1704, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, yeoman, for eleven pounds
paid by Lionel Hoar of same weaver sells upland there, Mary releases. Both
sign by mark. Wit: Benjamin Whittimore, Abraham Taylor, John Meriam Jr.
rec. 1718. (Ibid. 19:129)

23 Jan. 1705-7, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, yeoman, for sixty pounds
sells Richard Stratton of Boston, miller, land in Concord. Wit: Samll Phipps,
Jos. Whittimore. (Ibid. 14:177)

1 Apr. 1707, Ebenezer Staw of Concord for fifteen pounds sells Hezekiah
Fletcher of same land in east part of same. (Ibid. 14:252)

12 Jan. 1707-8, John Wheat Sr., and Eleazer Flagg Jr., and Hezekiah
Fletcher all of Concord, husbandmen, sell land there to Samuel Wheat Sr.,
of same. Wit: Benjamin Whittimore, Joseph ffletcher, John Meriam Jr.
(Ibid. 14:177)

4 July 1710, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, yeoman for seventeen pounds
sells to Benjamin Hoar same, land there, wife Mary releases. Wit: Lionel
Hoar, Nathaniel Ball, John Meriam Jr. (Ibid. 19:382)

3 June 1712, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, husbandman, for one hundred
pounds sells William Wheeler and John Miller both of same land there. (Ibid.
16:428)

6 Oct. 1712, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, yeoman, for twenty four pounds,
sells Ephraim Hood of same land there. (Ibid. 16:198)

27 Apr. 1713, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord for eighteen pounds sells Daniel Brooks Sr., of same, land there, wife Mary releases. Wit: Joseph Meriam, John Meriam Jr., and Francis Fletcher. Rec. 1725. (Ibid. 25:175)

24 Jan. 1714-15, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, yeoman, for money paid by "my Honoured ffather in Law Abraham Wood of Sudbury" conveyed to him upland "formerly belonging to my Honrd Father Francis Fletcher". (Ibid. 17:579)

29 Apr. 1717, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord for one pound sells to Nathaniel Stowe of same "the whole Lott which was my hon^d father Francis Fletchers lott" in Concord. (Ibid. 25:239)

16 Feb. 1718-19, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord for four hundred pounds sells to Samuel Fletcher Jr., of same, upland there, Mary releases. Wit: Joseph and John Meriam. (Ibid. 20:205)

31 Mar. 1719, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, for twelve pounds sells Joseph Fletcher tertius of same a right belonging to the house lott which "my honoured Father Francis Fletcher deceased formerly lived upon". Wit: James and Rebecca Minott. (Ibid. 20:360)

2 Mar. 1721-2, Abraham Wood of Sudbury, housewright, quits to Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord certain houselot in Concord in east part of town. (Ibid. 22:399)

8 Mar. 1723, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord, for one hundred pounds sells to Joseph Fletcher same tertius land in east part of Concord. Mary releases. Wit: Tim^o Minott, Rebeca Rigsbee. (Ibid. 22:381)

5 Feb. 1723-4, Joseph Fletcher, Tertius, of Concord sues Hezekiah Fletcher re above sale. (Ibid. 26:536)

6 May 1724, Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord for one hundred twenty pounds sells Robert Cummings of same land in Concord, Mary releases. Wit: Zachariah Davis, Jona Ball, Timo Minott. (Ibid. 22:703)

Abraham Wood of Sudbury made an interesting will dated 23 Apr. 1743, proved 1 Feb. 1747, it is evident from its context that he disliked his sons-in-law. A brief abstract of his will follows:

" I Abraham Wood of Sudbury Yeoman . . . Being aged and Infirm of Body . . . Make . . . my Last Will . . . to my well Beloved wife Sarah . . . my three Grandsons Samuel wood Cornelius wood and Nathan wood all of Sudbury . . . My Dafter Mary Fletcher the wife of Hezekiah Fletcher of Concord . . . my will is that hir s^d Husband . . . shall not have any ordering . . . of any of the s^d money . . . my two Dafters Sarah willis the wife of Josiah willis of Sudbury and to my Dafter Rebecah Blood the wife of Jonathan Blood of Concord . . . My Dafter Abigail Booth the wife of John Booth . . . Grandsons Samuel Wood and Cornelius wood . . . Executors . . ."

Witnesses: John Cheney
William Walker
Josiah Richardson

"Abraham Wood"

The three grandsons were sons of his son Abraham Jr., late of Sudbury deceased.

A receipt dated 14 Apr. 1749, "Received of Samuel Wood and Cornelius Wood the Sum of twenty pounds Given to my Honrd mother Mary Fletcher By Her Father Abraham Wood Late of Sudbury Deceas^d in His Last Will . . . By Me as Her Attorney Witnesses, Ashur Cutler, Nathan Wood. Abraham Fletcher"

(Middlesex County Probate 25399)

On the face of it, it would seem that the Rev. Abraham Wood, first settled minister in Chesterfield, 1771, born in Sudbury, 1748, Harvard College 1767, was great grandson, not a son of Abraham Wood, testate 1743. At any rate he was a cousin of Joel⁶ Fletcher.

Children born in Concord:

- i. Hezekiah⁴, b. 15 Dec. 1704; m. Susanna ---, a wealthy and influential man, physician, d. 1754 in Rutland, Mass., where he had removed from Sudbury, son Dr. Alpheus d. there in 1763. Dr. Hezekiah's sister, Elizabeth, wife of Lt. Ebenezer⁵ Fletcher later removed also to Rutland. Their son, Abel⁶, named a son Alpheus⁷ Fletcher.*
- ii. Abraham, b. 20 Jan. 1706-7; m. Mary --- and Bethia Aldrich, rem. to Mendon.
- iii. Mary, b. 14 Nov. 1708.
- iv. William, b. 15 Dec. 1710; m. Dorcas Heald, said to have rem. to Vermont, a son James res. in N.H.
- v. Jerusha, b. 17 Jan. 1711-12.
- vi. Sarah, b. 22 Feb. 1714-15.
- vii. Rebecca, b. 13 Nov. 1717.
- viii. Elizabeth, b. 14 Sept. 1720; m. Lieut. Ebenezer⁵ Fletcher, (her cousin once removed), and with him removed to Upper Ashuelot (Keene, N.H.), Rutland, Holden, Newfane, Vt., and Chesterfield, N.H.

* Both Drs. Hezekiah and Alpheus were proprietors' clerks in Rutland, and their names appear constantly on the early records. In 1731, the former then of Sudbury bought land in Rutland. They had many deeds in Worcester County. Hezekiah left no will but administration was gr. on his est. 1754, son Alpheus the adm., heirs being: wid. Susanna, Alpheus decd eldest son, son Thomas, dau. Lucy w. of Capt. John Stone, dau. Susanna w. of Thomas Staples, dau. Dorothy decd, late w. of Lt. Joseph Wood. (Worcester Probate 21447) Settlement of son Alpheus's estate in 1763. (Ibid. 21440)

⁴
 SAMUEL FLETCHER* (Joseph³, Francis², Robert) first cousin once-removed of Dr. Hezekiah Fletcher, was born in Concord, Middlesex County, Mass., 30 Nov. 1692, living there in 1728, died before 13 Sept. 1751. He married there, by Justice Minot, 18 Jan. 1721-2, Abigail Hubbard, born there, 23 Jan. 1698-9, died in Barre, Worcester County, Mass., 15 Apr. 1778, where her gravestone gives her name as, "Abigail Broadstreet widow", who died, " in y^e 81st year of her age", daughter of Jonathan and Hannah(Rice)Hubbard.

Abigail(Hubbard) Fletcher married in Concord, by Rev. Mr. Daniel Bliss, secondly, and as his second wife, 15 Oct. 1751, Captain Jonathan Bradstreet of Lunenburg, of him more anon.

Jonathan Hubbard, father-in-law of Samuel Fletcher, made a will, of which a brief abstract follows:

" In the Name of God amen. The twenty fifth Day of August . . . one Thousand Seven hundred and twenty four I Jonathan Hubbud of Concord . . . Yeoman being of perfect mind and memory . . . ordain this my last Will and Testament . . .
 Ith Ipp^r I Give and Bequeath unto my well beloved wife Hannah Hubbud all my moveables in the house for ever and the intire use . . . of the East end of my house . . . also three pounds of money . . . during her widowhood . . . also . . . one cow . . . [etc.]

Item To my Daughter Mary Davis I Give one featherbed and a boulster

To my son Jonathan Hubbud three pounds of money and my cane

To my Daughter Hannah Temple three pounds of money

To my Son Sam^{ll} Hubbud three pounds of money and my stuff

To my Son Joseph Hubbud thre pounds of money

To my Daughter Elizabeth Heywood one feather bed and a boulster

* See page 454 Fletcher Genealogy.

To my Son John Hubbard three pounds of money

To my Son Daniel Hubbard the one half of my village right and three pounds of money

To my Son Thomas Hubbard three pounds of money, and to my Daughter Abigail Fletcher three pounds also

Item I give all my wearing Apparel unto my Sons to be equally Divided among them and my books unto my sons and daughters . . . equally . . .

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my Son Ebenezer Hubbard whom I make the Sole Execut^r of his my last will . . . the residue . . . paying out the Several legacies abovesaid . . . Providing for my wife . . . and burying her in case She dies my widow . . ."

Witnesses: Samuel Meriam
William Wood
Timothy Minott

"Jonathan Hubbard"

The following receipt is included in the papers of the estate:

" Sept 1728

These are to certify whom it may concern that we whose Names are Subscribed, being the Relict Widow, and children of M^r Jon^{an} Hubbard of Concord late Dec^d: Do hereby Signify and Manifest our free consent unto the Proof and Establishment^t of the last Will and Testam^t of said Jon^{an} Hubbard - As witness our hands ---

her
Hannah H. Hubbard
mark

John Hubbard

Jonth Hubbard

Daniel Hubbard

Samuel Hubbard

Thomas Hubbard

Joseph Hubbard

Samuel Heywood

Samuel Fletcher

Daniel Davis"

(Middlesex Probate 12191)

Just as there were a number of contemporary Joseph Fletchers of Concord, between 1700 and 1745, there were also a number of contemporary Samuels. In the land records we note: Samuel, corporal, with wife Elizabeth, who deeds to son Samuel for life care; Samuel Jr., housewright, later dropping the "Jr."; and Samuel, yeoman, all of Concord. These three men were: Corporal Samuel³, son of Francis, born 1657, wife Elizabeth Wheeler, both died 1744; Samuel⁴ Jr., housewright, son of Joseph³, nephew of the former, born 1692, married Abigail Hubbard; and Samuel⁴, yeoman, son of Samuel³, born 1701, married Rebecca —, died in Concord, 1771.

Our interest is with Samuel Fletcher Jr., housewright, nephew of Corporal Samuel, first cousin of Samuel, yeoman, who married Abigail Hubbard and lived in Concord. He apparently had but the few land records noted below, and there is no record of his estate, nor that of his widow's in either Middlesex or Worcester Counties. It seems most probable that he lived and died in Concord.

3 Aug. 1720, Samuel Fletcher Jr., of Concord, housewright, sells thirty acres there to Jonathan Stone of same town. (Middlesex Deeds 21:164)

24 May 1721, Samuel Fletcher Jr., of Concord, housewright, quits rights on certain land there to Josiah Heywood of same town. (Ibid. 21:386)

11 Dec. 1722, Samuel Fletcher of Concord, housewright, sells to Nathaniel Billings of same, a house in Concord, "in which I now dwell in the East part of Concord with the Land", for seventy pounds. (Ibid. 22:154)

20 Dec. 1722, Samuel Fletcher of Concord, housewright, for ninety seven pounds sells land in east part of said town to Nathaniel Ball of same. (Ibid. 23:52)

Looking at these deeds casually, it might seem, as though Samuel sold his inheritance of lands in Concord, and removed elsewhere, but he signed a receipt in 1728, probably then of Concord, (See Hubbard Estate); his daughter, Mary, married there in 1744; his son, Ebenezer, married there in 1748, and his widow, Abigail,

married there in 1751.

A Samuel Fletcher appears on a list dated 4 Nov. 1724, of soldiers who were posted at Worcester, and were dismissed that fall from service. (Mass. Archives) This service may apply to our Samuel⁴ Fletcher.

According to the town records of Lunenburg, Worcester County, Mass., " Purpose betwixt Cap^t Jonathan Bradstreet of Lunenburg & Mrs Abigail Flecher of Concord", entered 17 Sept. 1751. And the Concord records cite that " Jonathan Bradstreet of Lunenburgh & Abigail Fletcher of Concord", were married by Rev. Mr. Daniel Bliss, 15 Oct. 1751.

Capt. Jonathan Bradstreet, son of Capt. Moses and Sarah(Platts)(Prime)Bradstreet, was baptized in Rowley, ~~Mass~~ County, Mass., 22 June 1690, died in Lunenburg, 22 May 1757. He married first, in Rowley, 7 Nov. 1710, Sarah Wheeler, baptized there, 15 May 1692, died after 1727, daughter of Jonathan and Mary Wheeler, by whom he had four children, born there, viz., Samuel, born 9 Aug. 1711, died 1761, Lunenburg, married 9 Nov. 1736, Rowley, Dorcas Spafford; Mary, born 5 May 1714, married 10 Jan. 1737-8, Rowley, David Chaplin; Jonathan, born 11 Feb. 1719-20, married 16 May 1741, Lunenburg, Olive Wheelock, removed to Winchendon, and later to Fitzwilliam, Cheshire County, N.H.; and Sarah, born 11 Jan. 1726-7, married --- Colburn. From his land records in Worcester County, we learn that he first purchased land in Lunenburg, then of Rowley, in 1739. (Worcester Deeds 20:517, also see Probate 6916 for Samuel)

There are no land records of Jonathan and Abigail Bradstreet's in Middlesex County. Jonathan Bradstreet made the following will:

" In the Name of God Amen The Seventeenth Day of April . . . one Thousand Seven Hundred and fifty Two I Jonathan Bradstreet of Lunenburg . . . Gentleman . . . ordain this To be my Last will . . . Imprimis To my well beloved wife Abigail I will and bequeath The use and Improvement of one third of my Real Estate During the Term

that She Remains my widow And a Room in my Dwelling House viz the Lower Room and a priviledge in the Back Room and Cellar And a Seat in my Pie in the meeting House These priveledges to be Enjoyed by Her During the term She Remains my wid^o I also Give to Her All the Household Goods She brought to me at marriage And a Cow with priviledges in the Barn to keep a Cow And my will is That in Case She Dies my wid^o That she Shall be buried out of my Estate at the Direction of my Executors . . .

Item To my beloved Son Samuel . . .

Item To my beloved Son Jonathan . . .

Item To my beloved Daughter Mary Chaplin . . .

Item To my beloved Daughter Sarah Colburn . . . my Two sons . . . To be the Executors . . . Jonathan Bradstreet"

Witnesses: Ruth Stearns
Anna X Taylor, her mark.

The widow assented to the will, 2 June 1757, and signed by mark.

(Worcester Probate 6911)

12 Mar. 1768, recorded 1777, " . . . we Abigail Bradstreet of Rutland Widow Jonathan Bradstreet of Lunenburg . . . gentleman and Olive Bradstreet wife . . ." convey to Joshua Martin of Ipswich, Essex County, land and mansion house, barns, etc., in Lunenburg, Jonathan and Olive sign, Abigail signs by mark. (Worcester Deeds 77:297)

17 Aug. 1779, Dorcas Bradstreet widow, Dorcas Fowler widow, George Henry and Relief his wife, Abigail Bradstreet spinster, Vashtie Bradstreet spinster, all of Lunenburg, William Kennall of Townsend and Sarah his wife, convey land to Joshua Martin of Lunenburg, which was set off to Abigail widow of Capt. Jonathan Bradstreet as her dower, and also what was set off to the heirs of Samuel Bradstreet, deceased, (Ibid. 98:185)

After Captain Bradstreet's death, it was evident that his widow, Abigail, went to

live with her eldest son, Captain Jonathan Fletcher, in that part of Rutland, which in 1776, was set off to form the new town of Barre. Here she died, 15 Apr. 1778, and was buried there as the widow Abigail Broadstreet, aged eighty years. There is no recorded settlement of her estate. At the time of her death, her son, Lieutenant Ebenezer Fletcher was living in Chesterfield, N.H.

Children born in Concord:

- i. Jonathan⁵, b. 21 Oct. 1722; m. Mary Bullard, ~~Abigail (---) Royes,~~ and Huldah (---) Bangs. Brief notes concerning Captain Jonathan will be found on the next page.
- ii. Mary, b. 15 July 1724; m. 14 Mar. 1744, Concord, Timothy Larrabee of Concord.
- iii. Ebenezer, b. 17 Mar. 1725-6; m. Elizabeth⁴ Fletcher and Mary(---)Thrall.

(Jonathan and Ebenezer were probably named for their uncles Jonathan and Ebenezer Hubbard)

* * Did he ever marry this
widow Abigail ^(quint) Hayes? No see Mid Probate
She on a Haines by 1763. 16068 & 16069.
He certainly m. 1 May 1760 at

Hardchurch!

Mary Sears, dau Barnabas & Mary (Freeman) 19
b. 24 Apr 1738, Hardchurch d. 11 Sept 1743

She was raised by her Uncle
Robert Sears (Sears gen. 1296. May,
p 105) and she was mother of
all children born after 1 May 1760
d. 24 Apr 1945

See Simon Stone gen p 95
Sears gen. p 105

1st. Hardchurch

Mid Probate 16068 & 16069 Josiah
Hayes & child.

BRITISH NOTES RE CAPT. JONATHAN FLETCHER
BROTHER OF LIEUT. EBENEZER FLETCHER

Capt. Jonathan⁵* Fletcher (Samuel⁴, Joseph³, Francis², Robert) born in Concord, 21 Oct. 1722, died in Barre, Mass., between 28 Nov. 1787 and 21 Oct. 1788. He married first, in Rutland, Mass., intention dated 26 Aug. 1748, Mary Bullard, born 1730, who died there, 13 Sept. 1756, aged twenty six; second-
ly, in Rutland, intention, 25 Mar. 1758, widow Abigail Noyse of Sudbury; and
thirdly, in Barre, 8 Jan. 1786, Mrs. Huldah Bangs, who survived him and married again in Barre, 23 July 1789, Mathias Stone of Claremont, Cheshire County, N.H.

An intention recorded in Rutland is dated 21 May 1748, Jonathan Fletcher and Lucy Stevens, again note, intention there 14 Dec. 1748, Lucy Stevens and Benjamin Willard, and finally 14 Dec. 1753, marriage of Lucy Stevens and Isaac Bullard.

Rutland was established in 1713, Barre set off from the same in 1776. Captain Jonathan lived on Barre Hill and in 1741 Benjamin Fletcher of Concord sold Jonathan Fletcher of Rutland land on Barre Hill. (Worcester Co. Deeds 18:108) There are many deeds of Jonathan recorded in Worcester County.

He served as an officer, being a captain, in the Colonial Wars and there are many records of his service as such, being of particular interest to us, as his brother Ebenezer served as a lieutenant under him in the same campaign. On a number of papers his signature appears, i.e. Jonathan's autograph.

Jonathan Fletcher appears on an order dated at Northampton, 30 May 1758, signed by said Fletcher and others, in Capt. Samuel Robinson's co., Col. Timothy Ruggle's Regt., res. Rutland. (Mass. Archives 93:152) On a billeting account 1758. (93:343) On a billeting account 25 Jan. 1759. (96:362)

*See p. 454 Fletcher Gen.

Jonathan Fletcher appears on a return dated Rutland, 10 Apr. 1759 of men enlisted for the invasion of Canada, rank, Captain. (97:111) On a billetting roll 27 Apr. 1759, rank, captain, autograph. (97:192) On a muster roll at Boston, 21 Feb. 1760, quality, captain, residence Rutland, autograph. (97:378) Also appears on an account dated Boston, 22 Feb. 1760, autograph signature. (97:377) Again on a muster roll as member of a company which marched to the relief of Fort William Henry in August 1757. Said roll dated Worcester 28 Jan. 1759, quality, sergeant, marched from Rutland to Kinderhook, name spelled as "Flecher" (95:531)

His will dated, 28 Nov. 1787, proved 21 Oct. 1788, and signed by him, in which he calls himself "of Barre . . . Gentleman" mentions wife Huldah (from the text, evidently a second wife) son Benjamin Fletcher, heirs of daughter Relief Jennison deceased, heirs of daughter Abigail Parker deceased, to daughter Mary Sears, to sons Barna, Jonathan, and Alpheus, to daughters Marcy and Anna under twenty one. Wife and Capt. Joseph Farrar of Barre, executors, witnessed by Josiah Dana, Benjn Lee, Wm Willson. From the papers relating to the estate we learn that Barna died before 1792, Marcy married William Russell, Mary married Roland Sears, widow Huldah married Nathias Stone, Jonathan Jr., died 1797 left widow Polly. An insolvent estate.

(Worcester Probate 21486)

Children born in Rutland and Barre:

By Mary Bullard,

- i. Benjamin⁶, b. 13 Aug. 1749, living 1788.
- ii. Relief, b. 13 July 1751, d. bef. 1788; m. 1773, Barre, Hopestill ~~Jennison~~.
- iii. Amy, b. 11 Feb. 1754, d. 10 Sept. 1756.
- iv. Diana, bapt. 17 Feb. 1754, prob. twin of above, d.y.
- v. Abigail, b. 3 Apr. 1756, d. bef. 1788; m. Joshua Parker of Putney, Vt. 1779.

By Abigail (~~---~~) Noyse, *Mary Sears*
1 July 1767

- vi. Mary, b. ~~about 1766~~, m. 1787 Barre, Roland Sears. *a cousin*
- vii. Jonathan, b. 1763, d. 21 Oct. 1763, ae 3 mos. *[11 weeks]*
- viii. Barnabas, b. about 1765, d. bef. 1792. *alive 1788 "Barna"*
- ix. Jonathan, b. ~~about 1767~~, d. 1797; m. 1795 Hardwick, Polly Cobble *[Cobb]*
to 18 June 1769 Barre
of Hardwick who m. (2) 1800 Caleb Morse.
- x. Alpheus, b. ~~about 1769~~, living 1788. *31 Mar 1771 Barre* *is* *he* the Alpheus of Lyndon?
- xi. Marcy, b. ~~about 1771~~, under 21 in 1788; m. 1792, Barre, William Russell.
4 Apr 1773 Barre
- xii. Hannah, b. in 1775, d. 11 July 1777 ae 2.
"Anne" b. 16 Aug 1775 Barre
- xiii. Anna, b. about 1778, living 1788 under 21. *m Jonathan Power*
of Sutherland

LIEUT. EBENEZER⁵ FLETCHER (Samuel⁴, Joseph³, Francis², Robert) born in Concord, Middlesex County, Mass., 17 Mar. 1725-6, son of Samuel and Abigail (Hubbard) Fletcher, living in Chesterfield, Cheshire County, N.H., in 1797*. He married, first, in Concord, 28 Feb. 1748, Elizabeth Fletcher, born there, 14 Sept. 1720, died before 1797, daughter of Hezekiah³ (Francis²) and Mary (Wood) Fletcher, sister of Dr. Hezekiah Fletcher, of Rutland, Worcester County, Mass.; secondly, in Chesterfield, 27 Nov. 1797, Mrs. Mary Thrall, possibly connected with the Rutland, Vt., Thralls.

As has been explained, Lt. Ebenezer's first wife and mother of his children, was his first cousin once removed, his grandfather Joseph, and her father Hezekiah being brothers. There is no recorded settlement of Hezekiah's estate.

They immediately removed from Concord to Rutland and after 1749 went north to Upper Ashuelot, N.H. (now Keene) where Lt. Ebenezer had seen military service. When the French and Indian Wars broke out afresh, she returned in August 1754 to Rutland and he soon followed her there. They were in Rutland but a few years, entered the births of three children there, and about 1756 the family settled six miles south of Rutland in Holden. It is easy to understand this interest in Rutland, for Captain Jonathan, Lt. Ebenezer's brother, and Dr. Hezekiah, Elizabeth's brother were both of that town. Lt. Ebenezer had service in the Colonial Wars from Holden.

His name disappears from the Holden records about 1764, and after an interval of about eleven years, he and his family were living in Chesterfield, a town some twelve miles from Upper Ashuelot. The son James evidently remained with his uncle in Barre Hill, Rutland. Lt. Ebenezer then continued to live in Chesterfield over twenty years, the last record we have of him, being his marriage in 1797, although he may have been living in his son Abel's family in 1800.

* See p. 454 Fletcher Gen.

As for the interim between 1764 and 1775, at that time he doubtless had returned north to the Ashuelots and vicinity, the French Wars had ended, and in 1771 was living in Newfane, Windham County, Vt.

Perhaps it is well here to give a few notes concerning the various towns in which he lived.* Concord, of course a very old town established 1635 in Middlesex County; Rutland established 1718, and in that part of Middlesex set off to form Worcester County in 1732; Holden established in 1741 from northern Worcester, and about half way between Worcester and Rutland, all in Worcester County. In 1737, Samuel Chamberlain of Westford, Mass., called together the first meeting of the proprietors of a new grant of land, north of Northfield, Mass., called as Ashuelot. This land was what is now the southern part of Cheshire County, N.H. From this grant, various townships were chartered about 1752, township number one, became ~~Chesterfield~~; number two Westmoreland; number three, Walpole; and number four, Charlestown. Upper Ashuelot granted 1737, was rechartered as Keene in 1753, Lower Ashuelot became Swanzey; and Arlington became known as Winchester, now known as Hinsdale, all in New Hampshire. The original grant was made in 1733 to Josiah Willard and others. There was no real settlement of Chesterfield til about 1761, the town records begin 1767**, the early proprietors' records were burned, and no one knows what has become of the old church records, although the first church was established there in 1771. (Rev. Abraham Wood as pastor)

* In regard to the records of these towns, the town meeting records are extant, and were personally read in Chesterfield, Rutland, and Holden. Chesterfield and Holden church records are not extant, Rutland are extant and were personally examined. Concord church records are lost prior to 1738, I am trying to have the dismissions read.

** there were 365 inhabitants of Chesterfield in 1767.

An examination of the Keene records was made for Ebenezer Fletcher.

"Upper Ashuelot Proprietors Records" 1753-1786, no mention.

"Upper Ashuelot Proprietors Records" 1746-1763, no mention.

Town Records of Keene, Town Meetings, 1753-1756, 5 Mar. 1754,
"Choose Eben^r Fletcher Benjamin Twichel and William Smeed Surveyor of High-
ways".

Keene and vicinity suffered from the Indian forays beginning about 1754 and that is evidently why Ebenezer sent his wife and three children, and later came himself, to Worcester County.

The following abstracts of deeds prove that Lt. Ebenezer Fletcher was of Keene, N.H., in 1754, of Newfane, Vt., 1771, and by 1776, of Chesterfield, N.H. We already have proof that from Keene he went to Rutland and Holden, Mass., that in 1748, he was of Concord, Mass., and in 1749, of Rutland from whence he went to Keene.

19 Apr. 1754, "I Ebenezer Flecher of Keen in the Province of New Hampshire . . . yeoman For . . . Thirteen Pounds Six Shillings and Eight Pence . . . Paid by Benjamin Guild of Wrentham in the County of Suffolk . . . Massachusetts Bay Joyner . . . Sell unto him . . . Tract of Land . . . in Keene . . . Twenty Acres . . . being a part of four House Lots (No) 55:56:57:58 lying on . . . Nine Lott Plain . . ."

Wit: Ephraim Dorman
Ichabod Fisher

"Ebenezer Flecher"

Acknowledged at Cumberland Co., N.Y., 24 Sept. 1771, before Saml Wells J.P.
Recorded 26 Sept. 1771, by Josiah Willard Recorded.

(Cheshire County, N.H. Deeds 2:82)

11 Sept. 1754, "I Ebenr Fletcher of Keene in ye Province of New Hampshire in New England Husbandman For . . . Eight Pounds Ten shillings and Eight Pence . . . Paid by Jonah French of ye Same Town . . . cordwainer . . . Suitclaim unto the sd. Jonah . . . Four Acres & tow Pole of Meadow Land lying in Keene . . . Said Land is Part of a first Devision of Eight acre Lot of Meadow Land No. 24 laid out to John Wit by Virtue of house lot No. 4 . . ." "Ebenr. Fletcher"

Wit: Titus Belding
Saml Larrabee

Acknowledged at Westminster, Co. of Cumberland, 15 Sept. 1773, before Wm. Willard, J.P. Recorded 16 Sept. 1773, by Josiah Willard, Recorder.

(Ibid. 3:337)

23 Sept. 1774, " I Ebenezer Fletcher of New Fane in the County of Cumberland & Province of New York Gentleman For . . . One Hundred Pounds . . . paid

. . . by Uriah Willson of Keene in the County of Cheshire & Province of New Hampshire Husbandman . . . confirm to him . . . Land Containing Ninety acres Lying on the east Beach hill . . . & are Lots Number Sixty and Sixty one & one half of Lott number fifty Eight & half of Fifty Nine . . . "Ebenezer Fletcher"

Wit: Samll Wells, Acknowledged 24 Sept. 1771 at Cumberland Co., N.Y.,
Melach Church. before Samll Wells, J.P., Recorded 19 June 1773, by
 Josiah Willard, Recorder.

(Ibid. 2:321)

7 May 1773, " I Ebenezer Fletcher of Newfane in the County of Cumberland and Province of New York Gent for . . . Eighty pounds . . . paid to me by Luke Knowlton of Newfane . . . Esq. . . . confirm to him . . . land . . . in Newfane . . . Lot No. Nineteen in the first Division of Lots . . . fifty acres . . . Agreeable to the Survey and plan made by Capt. Charles Baker in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy two . . ."

Wit: Phinehas Smith
Joseph Gleason

"Ebenezer Fletcher"

Acknowledged 20 May 1784 Windham Co., before Samuel Knight,
J.P.; Recorded 22 June 1784 by Luke Knowlton Town Clerk.
(Newfane Deeds 1:436)

12 Jan. 1774, mortgage, "This Indenture Made the Twelfth day of January . . . One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy four Between Ebenezer Fletcher of Newfane in the County of Cumberland & Province of New York Gentleman of the first Part And Luke Knowlton of Newfane . . . Esquire of the Second Part Witnesseth: That the said party of the first part for . . . ; Eighty Eight Pounds Nineteen Shillings & Nine Pence . . . already by him received . . . confirm unto the said party of the second part . . . Land . . . in . . . Newfane . . . Lot Number Twelve a first Division Lot . . . fifty acres . . . And all the edifices thereon . . ."

"Ebenezer Fletcher"

Wit: Sarah Ball
"Samuel Fletcher"

Acknowledged 20 May 1784, Windham Co., before
Samuel Knight, J.P., recorded 22 June 1784 by
Luke Knowlton, Town Clerk.

(Ibid. 1:143)

14 Mar. 1776, mortgage, "This Indenture Made the Fourteenth Day of March
One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy Six Between Ebenezer Fletcher of Chester-
field in the County of Cheshire in the Province of New Hampshire . . . Gentleman
of the first part
And Samuel Fletcher of Chesterfield . . . Labourer of the second Part
Witnessesth: that the said party of the first part for . . . Forty Pounds . . .
confirm unto the said party of the Second part . . . Land . . . in Newfane in
the County of Cumberland and Province of New York (viz) the Lots Numbered
Thirteen and Fifteen in the Fourth Division containing Fifty acres each Lot
. . . And all the Edifices thereon . . ." "Ebenezer Fletcher"

Wit: Amos Hubbard
"Abel Fletcher"

Acknowledged in Cheshire Co., 8 Nov.
1788 by Ebenezer Fletcher before Jonathan
Hildreth, J.P., recorded 8 Nov. 1788
by Luke Knowlton, Town Clerk.
(Ibid. 2:19)

The History of Keene mentions the French and Indian Wars service of
Ebenezer Fletcher at the two Ashuelots in 1748, and again his service in the
Revolution as an officer in 1776. A search has been made of the town meet-
ing records there from 1749-1756.

The first town meeting of Newfane (now Windham County, Vt.) was held,
17 May 1774, and our Ebenezer was chosen "Moderator" of the meeting, and also
one of the two "Overseers of the Poor", there is no further mention of him in
the town meeting records, nor do the vital records of Keene or Newfane mention
him.

Newfane some eleven miles from the Connecticut River, was first granted
in 1753 a new charter given in 1761, and in 1772 a new grant made by the
Governor of New York to certain men of New York City, who in turn sold it to
Luke Knowlton and John Taylor of Worcester County, Mass. The town was first
settled in 1766 by Jonathan Park, Nathaniel Stedman, and Ebenezer Day, all of
Worcester County, Mass. It was probably soon after this that Lt. Ebenezer Fletcher

settled there. For several years it was necessary to transport everything to Newfane from Hinsdale, N.H. The population in 1771 was fifty two, the church established in 1774. Luke Knowlton, born in Shrewsbury, Mass., 1738, was a soldier at Crown Point, and it is probable that Ebenezer became interested in the new town from his associates in this war.

Lt. Ebenezer has no land records in Middlesex County, and only three on record in Worcester, the rest of his dealings being recorded in New Hampshire.

23 June 1756, "Ebenezer Fletcher of Rutland . . . Husbandman For . . . Twenty Eight pounds Two Shillings and Eight Pence . . . paid by James Mulholand of Rutland . . . confirm unto him . . . Land . . . in the West Wing of Rutland . . ."

Witnesses: John Deen, Willm Thomas. No release of dower. (Worcester Deeds 37:559)

20 Dec. 1759, "I Richard Flagg of Holden . . . Gentleman For . . . fifty three pounds Six Shillings & Eight pence . . . paid by Ebenezer Fletcher of Said Town . . . confirm unto him . . . Land . . . in Holden". (Ibid. 45:456)

1 May 1764, "I Ebenezer Fletcher of Holden . . . Gentleman For . . . one hundred Pounds . . . paid by Ross Wyman of Shrewsbury . . . Blacksmith . . . confirm unto him . . . Land . . . in Holden . . . One hundred & Fifty Acres . . ." Witnesses: Dan^l McFarland, Artemas Ward. Recorded 1765. No release of dower. (Ibid. 52:168)

[Among the other Ebenezers I note, Ebenezer of Westford who bought 1772 in Ashburnham, Ebenezer of Sutton who later settled in Croyden, N.H., wife Lucy, and after 1800, Ebenezer of Worcester]

"Names of Persons who owned the Baptismal Covenant having been baptised in Infancy The Time &c . . . 1749 . . .

Dec^r 3 Ebenezer Fletcher & his Wife" (Church Records of Rutland)

Among the baptisms in the same first church of Rutland, note:

"1749 . . . Elizabeth of Ebenezer Fletcher"

6 Apr. 1755, "Samuel of Ebenezer Fletcher"

10 Apr. 1757, "James of Ebenezer Fletcher" [printed records in error give baptism as 28 Feb. 1757, whereas he deposes he was b. Rutland, 20 Feb. 1757]

(Ibid.)

There are no dismissals recorded until 1818.

13 May 1755, Warned from the town of Rutland ["Warning out" was practised by the towns from about 1750 to 1800, merely meant that the newcomer so warned, if he became impoverished, must be cared for by the town from whence he came. It did not in any way imply, that he or she, was at all undesirable. Sometimes these warnings were filed with the County Court by the towns], "13 May 1755, Fletcher, Eliza., 3 ch. from Upper Ashuelet, N.H. Aug. 1754. Ebenezer from same, March 2, 1757." (Worcester County Warnings)

As Ebenezer and wife were members of the church in Rutland in 1749, and their eldest child baptised there that same year, it would seem quite clear that they lived in Upper Ashuelet from about 1750 until August 1754, when his wife returned to Rutland, and where he followed her.

From the Rutland Town Proceedings: "The Wife of Ebenz^r Fletcher & 3 Children [Elizabeth, Ebenezer, and Samuel] warn^d out of town in ye year 1755". "Ebenz^r Fletcher Warn^d out of Town in the year 1756" 1749, appointed a "hogreave," "Ebenz^r Fletcher"; allowed for rates in years 1755 and 1756, "Ebenez^r Fletcher". No other mention in same from 1748 to 1780. (Rutland Town Records originals)

From Holden Town Proceedings: "To see if the Town will abate all or any part of the Rates of ^{Srs} Ebenez^r Fletchers others ~~who~~ were Last year in His Majesties Service", Annual Meeting of 1759. "Rates Abated Voted that the article in the warning to ^aabte the Rates of ^rEbenezer Fletcher and of others and it was voted to put it of to the May Meeting". These rates were abated. 1761, in a lay out of road, "Beginning at the House of Leu^t Ebenezer Fletchers". 17 Nov. 1762, "these men with their wives Seated in the fore Seats . . .

Ebenezer Fletcher", this in reference in seating the meeting. (Holden Town Records originals*)

In a list of the inhabitants of Holden, 1760, no mention of Ebenezer, in a like list there 1773 no mention. In the former instance he was in service, in the latter had evidently removed.

We have seen that in the town records of Holden, mention is made of Lt. Ebenezer being "in His Majesties Service", further confirmation of which:

Ebenezer Fletcher, muster roll at Boston, 2 Nov. 1748, Centinel under Capt. Josiah Willard Jr., from 27 Mar. to 26 Oct. (Mass. Archives 92:162) Ibid. at Boston, 19 Apr. 1749, Centinel under Capt. Josiah Willard Jr., 27 Oct. to 4 Dec. (Ibid. 92:185). This service was at the ~~Two~~ Ashuelets. (N.H.)

Ebenezer Fletcher, muster roll at Boston, 2 June 1757, under Capt. Samuel How, a private, at Crown Point, residence Holden. (Ibid. 95:42) At Worcester, muster roll of detachment of men of Capt. John Biglo's Co., Col. John Chandler's Jr., Regt., at Fort William Henry, a private, marched from Holden to Sheffield. (Ibid. 95:540). 24 May 1758, on a billeting roll of Capt. Philip Richardson's Co., Col. Timothy Ruggles Regt., enlisted 27 Apr. 1758, roll made 24 May 1758, 27 days. (Ibid. 96:121) On an order at Northampton, 30 May 1758, signed by said Fletcher and others in Capt. Philip Richardson's Co., Col. Timothy Dwight. (Ibid. 96:145) Return at Worcester, 11 Apr. 1759, served under Col. John Chandler Jr., Regt., aged 33, residence Holden, enlisted 2 Apr. 1759, former service at Lake George etc. (Ibid. 97:124)

Ebenezer Fletcher, Billeting roll certified at Brookfield, 27 Apr. 1759, of Capt. Jonathan Fletcher's Co., Col. Timothy Ruggles Regt., enlisted 31 Mar. 1759, roll dated 1 May 1759, 31 days, rank Second Lieut. (Ibid. 97:192) At Boston, muster roll, 21 Feb. 1760, under Capt. Jonathan Fletcher, 2nd Lieut., residence Holden, enlisted 31 Mar. to 7 Sept. Endorsed on expedition to Crown

* Read 1755-80.

Point. (Ibid. 97:378) Muster roll at Boston, 21 Feb. 1760, under Capt.

Jonathan Fletcher, at Holden, 8 Sept. - 30 Nov. Expedition to Crown Point.

First Lieutenant. (Ibid. 97:378)

(Massachusetts State Archives)

Following the interim of 1764-1775, we now pick up Lt. Ebenezer in Chesterfield, N.H., and give brief abstracts of his deeds:

[The Fletcher Genealogy page 454 gives the following account of our Ebenezer:

"EBENEZER⁵ (7279) b. Mar. 17, 1725-6; m. Elizabeth Fletcher (), Feb. 28, 1748; res. Rutland, Mass., where all his children were b., viz.:-
7284. i. Elizabeth⁶, b. Jan. 4, 1749.
7285. ii. Ebenezer⁶, b. Aug. 6, 1752.
7286. iii. Samuel⁶, b. Apr. 2, 1754."

These children are not carried forward, nothing more is given.

The History of Chesterfield, page 316, a very mixed account:

"Fletcher, Ebenezer, is said to have been a brother of Abel Fletcher (1) His wife was Mary Calder(?) Jan. 15, 1777, he was appointed a lieutenant by the N.H. Assembly. He probably d. in Chfd. His ch., so far as ascertained, were Silas, John (both of whom rem. to Canada); William, Daniel, Elizabeth m. ---- Hoffman; Susanna, Ebenezer, d. young."]

Cheshire County de ds begin in 1771, prior to that all New Hampshire deeds known as the Provincial Records are at Concord, there is no mention of any Ebenezer Fletcher in the Provincial Records.

28 Jan. 1775, Ephraim Hubbard [b. Rutland of the Concord family] of Chesterfield sells to Ebenezer Fletcher of same, gentleman, land there being lot number three tenth range, where said Ephraim now lives. (Chesterfield Deeds 1:190)

28 Jan. 1775, Timothy Ladd of Chesterfield gentleman sells to Ebenezer Fletcher same, land there being lot number three eleventh range. (Ibid. 1:190)

1 Mar. 1775, Peter Wheeler of Chesterfield yeoman sells to Ebenezer Fletcher of Chesterfield, gentleman, land there being part of houselot number one in the twelfth range. (Ibid. 1:189)

18 Feb. 1779, Josiah Willard of Winchester, N.H., sells to Ebenezer Fletcher

of Chesterfield land in Chesterfield. (Ibid. 10:330)

9 May 1787, Ebenezer Fletcher of Chesterfield sells to Timothy Ladd of same. (Ibid. 12:20)

13 Sept, 1788, Ebenezer Fletcher of Chesterfield sells to Abel Fletcher [his son] of same land there being one hundred acres, lot number three in eleventh range, also part of lot number three in tenth range. (Ibid. 18:389)

There are no further land records for our Lt. Ebenezer, nor any recorded settlement of his estate, nor any of his two wives. It is probable that he may have buried his first wife soon after 1790. A careful search of all three of the old graveyards in Chesterfield have failed to help in this report.

The Association Test at Chesterfield 1776 was signed by the following Fletcher: "Samuel Fletcher"; among the thirteen who refused to swear allegiance to the Colonies, and thus defy the King at this time was "Ebenezer Fletcher Junr".

(N.H.State Papers, 30:32)

Ebenezer Fletcher, Sr., or Lt. Ebenezer, as we know him, does not appear, doubtless because he was at that time away in service. It is estimated that of those who actually engaged in the Revolution, only about one third have their services recorded, pension affidavits prove this, hence we are not surprised that there is no record of his service that year. In 1776, Abel, Joel, and James, were minors, hence do not appear on the Test.

"Journal of the House" [1777] "Wednesday, Jan^y 15th, 1777 . . . Voted, . . . That Lieut, John Gregg of Keen be a Captain

Ebenezer Fletcher, of Chesterfield 1st Lieutenant

Benjamin Ellis, of Keen 2^d Lieut

Joseph Tracy, of Walpole Ensign"

(Ibid. 8:466)

1777, Lieut. Ebenezer Fletcher of Chesterfield 3rd Battalion, Continental

(Jonathan Hubbard, Ebenezer's uncle, was one of the original proprietors of Chesterfield.)

Regt. of N.H. (N.H.Rev. Rolls 1:555) [no pension]

Chesterfield Petition for a Lottery to Build a Road [1786]

" Eben^r Fletcher

Oliver Coleleigh

Committee for Chesterfield"

Elisha Rockwood

(Petition not granted)

(N.H.State Papers 11:345)

Chesterfield Petition for Incorporation of a School [1790] (Chesterfield Academy) among the subscribers were: "Eben^r Fletcher . . . Abel Fletcher . . . Sam^l Fletcher . . ."

(Ibid. 11:350)

Chesterfield Town Records:

Jan. 2, 1778* * *

5 To Hear the Report of Leu^t Eben^r Fletcher Leu^t Rockwood and Leu^t Fairbank a Committee chosen to Enquire into the accounts of Decⁿ Silas Thompsons and Cap^t Martin Warner they being a Committe Chosen to Lay out \$75 on the out side of the meeting house

(Leu^t Fletcher and "said Fletcher" are again referred to on the same page in connection with a "Pue" which had been sold to David Stoddard "Deceased" and for which Fletcher was willing to pay the sum it was first sold for)

(Vol. 1:237)

Mar. 6, 1782* * *

6 Chose Leu^t Eben Fletcher & Larrance Walton tiding men (Vol. 1:298)

Aug. 8, 1791* * *

3^d Chose Lisu^t Ebenezer Fletcher Grandjurymen for the Term of one Year.

(Ibid. p.435)

In volume one, pages, 30, 373, and 374, reference is made to Ebenezer⁶ Fletcher Jr., the son, in 1781 and 1788, which will appear under his account.

1783, Ebenezer Fletcher was a selectman. In 1781, he was one of those who subscribed to the Vermont Articles as of Washington County, Vermont.

It is unfortunate that the church records of Chesterfield cannot be located, the old first church, of which Lt. Ebenezer was a member, as see the foregoing, was Congregational, the meeting house and town hall were one building, which burned down in 1852. The church was disbanded some thirty years ago, the last minister being Rev. Mr. Sinaett, a letter to him, brought a reply from his executors, who stated that much genealogical data had been found among his effects but had not been as yet examined. Behind the site of the old building, is a very fine old graveyard. Mr. Savage, the present Methodist minister, has been most helpful, in trying to locate the old Congregational records, and in copying these old stones. The town records are at present at Concord, where they are being copied by the State.

The tax lists of Rutland and Holden, Mass., and of Chesterfield, N.H., are not extant.

The census of New Hampshire for 1790 listed but three Fletchers in Chesterfield, Abel Fletcher, three males over sixteen, four under, and two females; Samuel Fletcher, one male over sixteen, two under sixteen, and five females; and Ebenezer Fletcher, two males over sixteen, none under and two females, that is himself, son Joel, wife, and daughter Lucy. Ebenezer Jr., had evidently removed by that time, to New York State, and James had gone by 1784 to Woodstock, Vt.

By 1800, there was only one of Ebenezer's sons left in Chesterfield, being Abel Fletcher, who is listed there in the census of that year, with four males under ten, two between ten and sixteen, two between sixteen and twenty six, and one between twenty six and forty five, and one over forty five; also three females under ten, four between sixteen and twenty six, and one between twenty six and forty five.

Ebenezer himself does not appear, it is probable that he had deceased by that time or was with Abel. The last record we have of him is 27 Nov. 1797, when "Lt Ebenezer Fletcher" of Chesterfield married "Mrs. Mary Thrall".
(Town Records)

Now the Fletcher Genealogy page 401, states that a James Fletcher, son of a certain Timothy⁴ (Samuel³, Francis², Robert) Fletcher of Concord, was the father of these Chesterfield Fletchers. The whole error probably arose years ago, when someone, confusing the brother James Fletcher, stated that Abel was a son of a James Fletcher, instead of, what we know now to be correct, Abel's being a son of Lt. Ebenezer Fletcher, and a brother of James. This James, son of Timothy, apparently never lived to adulthood, there is no record of him any where beyond his birth in Concord, no such service as is quoted either in Mass., or in N.H. All the Timothy and James deeds in Middlesex, Worcester, Hampshire, and Franklin Counties, Mass., and Provincial Records in N.H. and Cheshire, etc., have been examined, as also all other sources that could be thought of.

To quote from the Fletcher Genealogy: 401:-

"James⁵[Timothy⁴, Samuel³, Francis², Robert] (6303) b. Sept. 23, 1734. He went with Capt. Oswood's company in the Nova Scotia expedition in 1755, and appears to have settled in Chesterfield, N.H., about the same time his bro. John went to Ipswich. Issue:

6326	i. Samuel ⁶ ½	[p.403]
6327	ii. Ebenezer ⁶ ½	[p.409]
6328	iii. Hannah ⁶ , m.	6--- Bowker; res. Lunenburg, Vt.
6329	iv. James ⁶ ½	[p.409]
6330	v. Abel ⁶ ½	[p.410]
6331	vi. Joel ½	[p.410-411]"

These children were of course all children of Lt. Ebenezer and Elizabeth (Fletcher) Fletcher.

The History of Chesterfield is also confused see pages 314-316:

"Abel Fletcher said to have been the son of James Fletcher, m. 1st. in Chfd., in 1784" etc. See his account.

"Fletcher, Samuel, was in Chfd., in 1776, which year he m. Elizabeth Whitney. His name not found after 1792" See his account.

"Fletcher, Ebenezer, is said to have been a brother of Abel Fletcher" see p. 31.

"Fletcher, Joel, probably brother of Abel Fletcher" see his account for rest.

Children of Lt. Ebenezer⁵ Fletcher:

- i. Elizabeth⁶, b. 4 Jan. 1749, Rutland, bapt. 1749 same, no further record.
- ii. Ebenezer, b. 6 Aug. 1752, recorded Rutland; m. Mary Calder.*
- iii. Samuel, b. 2 Apr. bapt. 16 Apr. 1755, Rutland; m. Elizabeth Whitney.*
- iv. James, b. 28 Feb. bapt. 10 Apr. 1757, Rutland; m. Catharine Russell.*
- v. Abel, b. 24 Sept. 1759, Holden; m. Phebe Hildreth, Sally Willard, and Charlotte Hubbard.*
- vi. Hannah, b. 12 Sept. 1761, Holden; (m. ---Bouker, rem. to Lunenburg, Vt., states Fletcher Gen. I can find no further record)
- vii. Joel, b. 26 Nov. 1763, Holden [Fletcher Gen. states 26 Nov. 1763]; m. Lucy Hubbard and Mary (Haines) Brackett.*
- viii. Lucy, b. about 1765, place unknown; d. 11 Dec. 1809; m. 19 Aug. 1790, Chesterfield, Amos Stearns, b. 10 July 1766, Lunenburg, Mass., d. 15 May 1829, Marlborough, Vt., son of Jonas and Submit (Davis) Stearns. He m. (2) Hepzibah Ammidon, b. 11 July 1773, Oxford, Mass., dau. of Ephraim. By Lucy he had (Stearns), (1) Nancy; (2) Lucy.

With the exception of Lucy, all the above children's births are of record in the printed vital records of Rutland and Holden. Ebenezer Jr. was perhaps born in Keene, Lucy, perhaps in Vermont.

* These children are carried forward for very brief accounts.

Brief Account.

EBENEZER⁶ FLETCHER (Lt. Ebenezer⁵, Samuel⁴, Joseph³, Francis², Robert)
birth recorded in Rutland, Worcester County, Mass., 6 Apr. 1752, no baptism
recorded there, death unknown. His wife is said to have been a Mary Calder.
(See Fletcher Genealogy page 409. See page 31 of this report for account of
him as given in the History of Chesterfield.) (Named for his father)

The Genealogy tells us that when he was of age his father gave him a farm,
which he mortgaged, there seems to be no record of this. He soon after the
Revolution removed to Williamstown, N. Y.

The following land record of Ebenezer Fletcher is recorded in Newfane, Vt.;

24 Apr. 1779, " This Indenture Made the twenty fourth day of April . . .
One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventy nine Between Ebenezer Fletcher Jun^r of
Chesterfield . . . New Hampshire of the first Part and Eben^r Robinson of At-
tleborough County of Bristol and State of Massachusetts bay of the second Part
Witnesseth: That the said Party of the first Part for the Consideration of
Five Hundred Pounds . . . already by him received . . . confirm to the said
Party of the second Part . . . Land Situate . . . in New Fane . . . Fifty
acres . . ."

Ezek. Harll
Samll King

"Ebenezer Fletcher Jun^r"

Acknowledged in Westmoreland 24 Apr. 1779, by Ebenezer Fletcher Junr before
Heber Miller, J.P., and recorded 26 June 1786 by Lot Knowlton, Town Clerk.

(Newfane Land Records 1:259)

This may be the land that the Fletcher Genealogy page 409 refers to,
given him by his father, and later mortgaged by him.

He was not an officer in the Revolution, that service belongs to his
father, Lt. Ebenezer, the following service may have been his in that war:
Served June 1777, under Lt. Oliver Cobleigh, 6 July 1777, at Fort Ticonderoga,

under Col. Alexander Scamuel, in third company. (See History of Chesterfield)

I do not find his record in the census of either N.H., Vt., or N.Y.

In 1776, he was one of the thirteen who refused to sign the Association Test in Chesterfield.* The following records are found in the Chesterfield Town Records: (June the 1 Day) 1781 then was taken up by Ebenezer Fletcher Jun^r (a dark) Brown Horse Cold Two year old Last Spring (Matral) Trotter. (Vol. 1:30) 18 Feb. 1788, among those to have his rates abated: "Ebenezer Fletcher Jun^r" (Ibid. 1:373+374)

So we realize that he was still in Chesterfield in 1788. He has no deeds in either Worcester or Cheshire Counties, and no pension was granted him.

Children:

- i. Ebenezer⁷. d.y.
- ii. Silas, b. Sept. 1780; m. Isabel Sutherland.
- iii. John, b. 19 Feb. 1782; m. Ruth Hollinshead.
- iv. Susanna
- v. William, went to India never heard from again.
- vi. David, b. Schoharie Co., N.Y., d. at 19 unm.
- vii. Elizabeth, b. about 1790; m. Jacob Hoffman. (Named for his mother)

Please note no son Timothy.

"Ebenezer Fletcher Jun^r"

Brief Account.

SAMUEL⁶ FLETCHER (Lt. Ebenezer⁵, Samuel⁴, Joseph³, Francis², Robert)
probably named for his grandfather, born in Rutland, Worcester County, Mass.,
2 April, baptised there, 6 April, 1735, died in East Montpelier, Vt., 28 July
1831. He married in Chesterfield, N.H., 2 May 1776, Elizabeth Whitney. (The
Fletcher Genealogy gives an account of him see page 408 and states he married
for a second wife Mary (Ames) Billings.) (See also page 31 this report)

He signed the Association Test in Chesterfield in 1776, and that is our
first record of him. It is possible that he is that Samuel Fletcher who
served, 7 May 1777, in the militia at Fort Ticonderoga in Colonel Bellow's
Regiment. (See N.H. Rev. Rolls vol. 2) He had no pension for any service
in this war, and must not be confused with other Samuels who served and who
were granted pensions.

He remained in Chesterfield till about 1793, when he went to Vermont, as
did his brothers James and Joel. He settled not far from Joel, in Water-
ford, Caledonia County, Vt., and here he and his wife were among the original
organizers of the Congregational Church there in 1798.

The Town Meeting Records of Chesterfield, 29 Mar. 1781, in acceptance of
a road mention "to Sam¹¹ Flichers Land thence south by sd Sam¹¹ Flithers
house to James Flichers House". (Vol. 1:292)

In the census of 1790 he is listed as head of a family in Chesterfield,
one male over sixteen, two under, and five females.

6 May 1784, James Fletcher of Chesterfield, yeoman, for \$270 sells Samuel
Fletcher of same land there, one hundred fifty acres except fifty acres I have
sold to Antipas Bowker of same, in lot number one, tenth range, and westerly
half of lot number one in ninth range. Recorded 1792, acknowledged 1785.
(Cheshire Deeds 19:297)

22 Aug. 1792, Samuel Fletcher of Chesterfield, cordwainer, sells for \$250 to Abel Fletcher of same, gentleman, land there, the entire lot number one in the tenth range, and the westerly half of lot number one in the ninth range. Witnesses: Ephraim Hubbard, "Joel Fletcher". Signs. (Ibid. 42:505)

Children, order uncertain:

By Elizabeth Whitney,

- i. James⁷, b. 11 Nov. 1778, Chesterfield; m. Lois Spear and Sybel Jones.
- ii. Eli, b. 16 Aug. 1780, Chesterfield; m. Olive Ballou.
- iii. Polly, b. 29 Nov. 1783, Chesterfield; m. Rufus Goodell.
- iv. Elizabeth
- v. Azubah
- vi. Melinda
- vii. John-C.

By Mary (Ames) Billings,

- viii. Sarah
- ix. Arad¹¹, b. 27 Sept. 1798, Waterford; m. Candace Chapman.
- x. Almira, b. 13 Oct. 1801, Waterford; m. Reuben-C. Benham.
- xi. Phoebe m. Rev. Elisha Brown.
- xii. Florilla m. --- Jackson and Willard Corliss.
- xiii. Augustus, b. 15 July 1801, m. Laura Wing, 1832
- xiv. Amanda¹¹, b. 28 July 1813, Waterford; m. William Duck.

No son Timothy.

Brief Account.

JAMES⁶ FLETCHER (Lt. Ebenezer⁵, Samuel⁴, Joseph³, Francis², Robert)
born in Rutland, Worcester County, Mass., 28 Feb. 1757, baptised there, 10
Apr. 1757. [not baptised there 20 Feb. 1757 as printed records state], died
in Jericho, Vt., 10 July 1834, aged seventy seven years, buried in Woodstock,
Vt., where his gravestone is extant. He married in Barre, Worcester County,
Mass., 15 July 1779, (so record gives, she states she was married 6 June)
Catharine Russell, born there, 15 May 1761, died in Woodstock, 11 July 1856,
aged ninety five years as stated on her gravestone, daughter of William and
Catharine (---) Russell.

(See Fletcher Genealogy page 409, no account of him appears in the History
of Chesterfield, beyond his being called father of Abel.)

As a boy he evidently remained in Barre with his uncle Capt. Jonathan⁵
Fletcher for he married there in 1779, and is also called of that town in the
deeds. His service in the Revolution is not of record anywhere, and for that
reason his pension record is of extreme importance and will be found below.
He has no deeds in Worcester County, by 1784 he had removed from Chesterfield
to Vermont, where he settled and lived in Woodstock, he is found there in the
census of 1790, as head of a family consisting of one male over sixteen, three
under, and three females.

We have noted that in 1781 his house is mentioned in the Chesterfield Town
Records, and that in 1784, he sold his holdings there to his brother Samuel
Fletcher (see page 39 of this report) the description of this land is identical
with the land he bought in 1778 of Abner Allen.

7 Sept. 1778, "I Abner Allen of Chesterfield . . . Yeoman For . . . Two
Hundred & Forty Pounds . . . paid . . . By James Fletcher of Berry in the
County of Worcester . . . Massachusetts Bay Yeoman . . . confirm to him . . .
Land In . . . Chesterfield . . . one Hundred & fifty acres . . . Lott No one
in the tenth range & the westerly halfe of Lott No one In the Ninth range"

Witnesses: Ebenezer Fletcher, Ephraim Baldwin. (Chesterfield Deeds 5:538, see also the sale 19:297)

Pension, James Fletcher, Mass. W. 19290, B.L.Wt. 11057, 160 ac. -50.

Catherine

Windsor Co., Vt., Aug. 4, 1832, aged 75 yrs., enlisted Barre, about May 1, 1775, under Capt. John Black, Col. Brewer. To Cambridge and joined General Green stationed at Prospect Hill. Served 8 months, Discharged Jan. 1, 1776. Went home, and enlisted under Capt. Bowker, Col. Whitney, and served to Apr. 1776. Returned home, and about June or July enlisted under Capt. Benge Coles, Col. Holmes, was in battles of Mookingsdale, Harlem Heights, White Plains. Discharged about first of Dec. and returned home. About 1 June 1777, he enlisted in Capt. Stockwell's co., Col. Cushing, was under command of Gen. Lincoln at the time Gen. Stark had the battle of Bennington and sent for Gen. Lincoln to come to his assistance. The battle took place Saturday and Gen. Lincoln's troops reached there on Sunday. Was on Guard duty (prisoners) until time expired. Returned home and immediately after a draft was made and one Geruson Low was drafted. Fletcher took his place and was in battle of Bemis Heights on Sept. 19, etc. Returned home again enlisted March or April 1778, under Capt. Wheeler for four months, this was next day after returning home, helped build barracks.

States he was born in Putland, Mass., 28 Feb. 1757, removed to Chesterfield, N.H., in 1779, four or five years later, removed to Woodstock where he has since resided. Claims two years, three months service.

Hartford, Vt., 4 Jan. 1837, Catherine Fletcher of Woodstock aged 75, states she is widow of James who died 10 July 1834. They were married 6 June 1779. (Town record not found but files church record as 15 July 1779 by Rev. Josiah Dana of Barre. James Fletcher and Catharine Russell)

3 Apr. 1838, Windsor Co., Vt., Catherine aged 77 etc., 1843 aged 81, 1844, age 83, 1848 age 87, 1849 age 88.

1832, Bezeleel Myrick of Addison Co., Vt., states he knew James Fletcher of Barre, Mass., in 1775. 1837, Jasper Fletcher of Woodstock states he is son of James and Catherine; 1839, Jasper gives age as 42; 1832, Abiah Rice certified as to service of James.

Queries, 1904, Frank F. Fletcher of Minneapolis, Minn.; 1917, K.S. Nichols of 1872 Shelby St., St. Paul, Minn.; 1917, Alvin W. Allen, of 2230 Allegheny St., Philadelphia.

Application for bounty land, 28 Mar. 1856, Windsor Co., Vt., Catherine Fletcher aged 88, of Woodstock, states James died in Jericho, Vt., asks for bounty land. Agency book records state she died 11 July 1856. (U.S. Pension Record)

Children:

Mary ; m. --- Jones.

Russell

Sarah m. 1808 Cyrus Allen.

Benjamin res. Woodstock.

James res. Bridport, Vt.; m. Patty Skiff.

Ceth m. had issue.

Paris, b. 21 Mar. 1794; m. Anna Miner, 1817.

Perry d.y., 1798 age 4.

Jasper, b. 1797; res. Woodstock.

Catharine m. --- Wilson, res. Fairfax, Vt., d. 1877.

Thaddeus-R., b. 12 Nov. 1801; m. Mary-Lawrence Peaslee.

Frederick, b. 21 Nov. 1804; m. Maria Whittenden.

No son Timothy.

Brief Account.

ABEL⁶ FLETCHER (Lt. Ebenezer⁵, Samuel⁴, Joseph³, Francis², Robert) born in Holden, Worcester County, Mass., 24 Sept. 1758, died in Chesterfield, Cheshire County, N.H., between 10 July 1813 and 9 Jan. 1817, the only brother to remain there. He married there, first, 18 Jan. 1784*, Phebe Hildreth, born in Westmoreland, N.H., 12 Dec. 1765, died about 1794, daughter of Jonathan Hildreth; secondly, 29 Mar. 1796, Sally Willard, born in Harvard, Mass., 1 Sept. 1770, died before 1813, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Farwell) Willard; thirdly, before 1813, Charlotte Hubbard, born in Chesterfield, 11 Aug. 1787, died there, 9 Feb. 1843, daughter of Ephraim and Lucy (Willard) Hubbard, sister of Lucy (Hubbard) Fletcher, first wife of Joel Fletcher. Charlotte (Hubbard) Fletcher, third wife of Abel Fletcher, married secondly, as his second wife, in Chesterfield, 4 Jan. 1819, Nathaniel Atherton, born 1 Jan. 1773, died there, 4 Aug. 1858, son of Joseph and Hannah (Farnsworth) Atherton.

Ephraim Hubbard in his will dated 22 Dec. 1827, proved 6 May 1828, names among others (see account of Joel Fletcher, p. 49) "Daughter Charlotte Atherton", and "Heirs of . . . Lucy Fletcher". (Cheshire Probate 403)

The Fletcher Genealogy page 410 gives a very brief account of Abel Fletcher, just names his first wife and lists the children. The History of Chesterfield gives quite a good account of him on pages 314-315.

Abel Fletcher was apparently too young to have service in the Revolution, as his brothers sold out and left Chesterfield, he bought out some of their holdings and remained there. The male listed in his family as over forty five in 1800 was possibly his father, Lt. Ebenezer. Abel is listed in the census of 1790 with a family of three males over sixteen, four under sixteen, and two females. In 1800, he has a very large household, four males under ten; two between ten and sixteen; two between sixteen and twenty six; one

* probb. 1783.

twenty six to forty five (himself); and one male over forty five (his father?); also, three females under ten; four females between sixteen and twenty six; and one between twenty six and forty five (his wife). If the male over forty five was his father, then his step-mother, Mrs. Mary Thrall, had either deceased, or had separated from her husband.

In 1810, Abel Fletcher and Alpheus Stoddard lived in the same household and had three males under ten; two males between ten and sixteen; and one over forty five; one female between ten and sixteen; and two females between sixteen and twenty six.

By 1820, there were three of the name in Chesterfield, Joel (son of Abel), Silas, and Daniel Fletcher.

Very brief notes re the many land records of Abel Fletcher follow:

19 May 1786, Antipas Bouker of Chesterfield sells to Abel Fletcher of same, yeoman, land there. (Cheshire County Deeds 11:289)

22 May 1787, Antipas Boucker of Chesterfield sells land there to Abel Fletcher of same. (Ibid. 18:390)

13 Sept. 1788, Ebenezer Fletcher of Chesterfield sells to Abel Fletcher of the same, land there, being one hundred acres in Lot number three in the eleventh range, also part of Lot number three in the tenth range. (Ibid. 18:389)

22 Aug. 1792, Samuel Fletcher of Chesterfield, cordwainer, for \$250 sells Abel Fletcher of same, gentleman, land there, being entire lot number one in the tenth range and westerly half of lot number one in the ninth range etc. Witnesses: Ephraim Hubbard, "Joel Fletcher". (Ibid. 42:505)

25 May 1793, Ebenezer Harvey of Chesterfield sells Abel Fletcher same, land there. (Ibid. 42:504) Deed recorded late.

5 Mar. 1799, Nathaniel Stone of Chesterfield sells to Abel Fletcher of the same, the eastern half of a pew in the meeting house there. (Ibid. 33:376)

8 June 1799, Abel Fletcher of Chesterfield sells to Jacob Ammidon of same, the eastern half of a pew in the meeting house there, formerly a Willard pew, he owned it with Josiah Willard, etc. (Ibid. 33:100)

21 Aug. 1800, Abel Fletcher of Chesterfield mortgages land there to Arad Hunt of Hinsdale, Vt. (Ibid. 36:489)

21 Aug. 1800, John Johnson "of Lyndon . . . Vermont" for forty dollars sells to Abel Fletcher of Chesterfield land in latter town. Wit: Polly Willard. (Ibid. 40:449) Same date, Arad Hunt of "Hinsdale", Vt., re-conveys to Abel. (Ibid. 40:449)

30 Aug. 1804, Martin Hildreth of Chesterfield sells land there in lot number five to Abel Fletcher of same. (Ibid. 45:78)

7 Mar. 1807, Simeon Willard of Chesterfield sells entire lot number eight in fifth range there to Abel Fletcher of same. (Ibid. 57:500)

2 Jan. 1808, Abel Fletcher of Chesterfield sells lot number five in fifth range there to Silas and Daniel Hildreth of same. (Ibid. 59:110)

22 Jan. 1808, Isaac Abbot of Chesterfield sells land there to Abel Fletcher and Phineas Henderson of same. (Ibid. 55:45)

30 Dec. 1808, Abel Fletcher of Chesterfield sells land there to John Crowningshield of same. (Ibid. 54:579)

(It is noticeable that all the sons and the father could write.)

Abel Fletcher made his will 10 July 1816, proved 1 Jan. 1817, of Chesterfield, names wife Charlotte, daughter Sally, grand daughter Louisa child of son Levi deceased, the rest of estate to "children" no names given, Arad Hunt of Hinsdale appointed executor. No list of heirs filed. (Cheshire Probate 149)

19 Mar. 1817, John Harris Jr., with John Kneeland and David Day as bondsmen was appointed guardian to David Stoddard Fletcher, Arad Hunt Fletcher, Caine Fletcher, and Abel Fletcher, all minor children under twenty one of Abel Fletcher late of Chesterfield deceased. (Ibid. 150)

31 Aug. 1810, Charlotte Fletcher widow, with Levi Jackson as bondsman was appointed guardian to Sally and Charles Fletcher, both minors under fourteen children of Abel Fletcher late of Chesterfield deceased. In 1828, John Harris was appointed in her place said children being then over fourteen, a petition to this effect was signed that year by Nathaniel Atherton, Charlotte Atherton, and Sally Fletcher. (Ibid. 157)

2 Oct. 1817, Joel Fletcher of Chesterfield sells rights in certain real estate formerly property of my father Abel Fletcher late of said town deceased, said land being in said town, to Asa Britton and Calvin Townsley of same. (Cheshire Deeds 72:108)

20 Nov. 1818, Samuel Fletcher, Silas Fletcher, Daniel Fletcher, Joel Fletcher, John Harris Jr., and Luna his wife, and David Day and Phebe his wife, all of Chesterfield; and John Harris Jr., as guardian to David S. Fletcher, Arad H. Fletcher, Cain Fletcher and Abel Fletcher, all minors; all children of Abel Fletcher late said Chesterfield deceased, also Charlotte Atherton wife of Nathaniel Atherton lately called Charlotte Fletcher guardian of Sally and Charles Fletcher minors also children said Abel deceased, sells real estate to Asa Britton of same. (Ibid. 86:312)

Further deeds in settlement of the estate, in which we learn that Joel went to Putney, Vt. (See Ibid. 80:445; 82:256; 105:439; and 131:538 et.als.)

Children born in Chesterfield:

By Phebe Hildreth,

- i. Samuel⁷, b. 29 Oct. 1783, d. 1867, una.
- ii. Levi, b. 10 May 1785; m. 1805 Luna Hildreth.
- iii. Silas, b. 29 June 1787; m. 1813 Polly Johnson.
- iv. Daniel, b. 6 Aug. 1789; m. 1810 Lucy Converse.
- v. Luna, b. 29 Sept. 1791; m. 1808 John Harris.
- vi. Joel, b. 2 Feb. 1794; m. 1817 Clarissa Johnson.

By Sally Willard,

vii. Alpheus*, b. 2 Oct. 1796, d. 1796.

viii. Phebe, b. 1 Jan. 1798; m. 1815 David Day.

ix. David-Stoddard, b. 1 Aug. 1800; m. Eliza Hubbard.

x. Arad-Hunt, twin of above,; m. Bethana Darling.

xi. Cain, b. 1805, d. 1830 unm.

xii. Abel, b. 1805 (twin of above) d. 1876 as 71 yrs.

By Charlotte Hubbard,

xiii. Sally, b. 23 June 1818; m. Wilder Stoddard.

xiv. Charles, b. about 1815; m. Hepzibah Henry.

No son Timothy.

*Notice how this name keeps coming into the family, from Dr. Alpheus of Rutland.

JOEL⁶ FLETCHER SR. (Lt. Ebenezer⁵, Samuel⁴, Joseph³, Francis², Robert)
great grandfather of Henry Fletcher, born in Holden, Worcester County, Mass.,
28 Nov. 1763*, died in Lyndon, Caledonia County, Vt., 6 Jan. 1858, and his
gravestone in Lyndon designates him as "Capt" and gives his age as ninety four
years. He married, first, in Hinsdale, N.H., intention dated 11 Mar. 1791,
Lucy Hubbard, born in Rutland, Worcester County, Mass., 5 Nov. 1769, died in
Lyndon, 24 Sept. 1824**, daughter of Ephraim and Lucy (Willard) Hubbard;
secondly, in Wheelock, Caledonia County, Vt., 30 Mar. 1817, Mary (Haines)
Brackett, born in Canterbury, N.H., 14 July 1773, died in Lyndon, 14 Jan.
1858, daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Johnson) Haines, and widow of Levi
Brackett.

The Town Records of Hinsdale volume one, page five hundred sixty six:

"Marriage is Intended Between Joel Fletcher of Chesterfield & Lucy Hub-
bard of Hinsdale March ye 11th 1791".

An abstract of Lucy's father's will is of interest here:

"Be it remembered that on this twenty second Day of December . . . one
thousand Eight hundred and twenty seven

I Ephraim Hubbard of Chesterfield . . . Gentleman Being advanced in age
. . . ordain this my last Will . . .

Unto my beloved wife Thankful Hubbard . . . all the Household furniture
which she brought with her when I married . . ." mentions my daughter Abigail,
my wife's son-in-law Nathan Thomas, my wife's son John Butler, to Louisa Hub-
bard and Lois Howe my grandchildren, and heirs of Barzillai Hubbard.

"I give unto Hubbard Fisher my Grandson all the real Estate which I own
in Lyndon . . . Vermont . . . unto my Son Bunker Hubbard . . . unto my Son
in Law John Butler . . . to my Daughter Charlotte Atherton . . . and the

*Fletcher Genealogy states 28 Nov. 1763, either day may be correct.

**Evidently a divorce.

Children She had by her first Husband Abel Fletcher and the Nathaniel Atherton her second Husband's children . . . and my son Nathan Hubbard . . .

I give unto my Children hereafter named . . . all my real and personal estate . . . not heretofore been disposed of . . . to be equally divided amongst the Heirs here after named (viz) The Heirs of Ephraim Hubbard Jun^r Lucy Fletcher Rebeckah Puggles, Abigail Hubbard Grata Butler Fber Hubbard and Ruth Pierce . . ."

Appointed his son-in-law John Butler executor and signs the will. Proved 6 May 1823. "Ephraim Hubbard" (Cheshire Probate 403)

Born just after the close of the Colonial Wars, in which his father had seen so much service, in Worcester County, Mass., Joel Fletcher witnessed in his long span of years, almost a century, the Revolution and its subsequent struggles, the Vermont Controversy, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the opening of the West, and had he lived but a few years longer, the great termination of the Abolitionist struggles in the Civil War.

A few words as to the Vermont Controversy, the river towns upon the Connecticut had the same interests as the towns in Vermont on the same river, and about 1781, measures were taken for these towns, among them Hinsdale and Chesterfield to become identified with Vermont. We have seen that in 1781, Lt. Ebenezer, Joel's father was in thorough sympathy with this movement. For several years, Chesterfield in its own town records called itself as of Washington County, Vt., and in one record, it appears it was in both Washington County, Vt., and Cheshire County, N.H.! New Hampshire finally won out and these border towns remained under its jurisdiction. It is but dry history now, but had a great effect on these towns and their people, and caused an exodus to Vermont.

Although, born in Massachusetts, Joel's boyhood was spent for the most

part in Vermont and New Hampshire, probably returning from time to time to visit his relations in Rutland and Barre. He did not marry until he was twenty eight and presumably was living in his father's household in Chesterfield in 1790, when Lt. Ebenezer had in his family two males above sixteen, evidently himself and his son Joel. However in Abel's family, there were three males over sixteen, and it may be possible that Joel was living in 1790 with his brother Abel.

With the exception of his marriage in Hinsdale in 1791 as given, the first public record we have of Joel is in August 1792, when with his father-in-law, Ephraim Hubbard, he witnesses a sale of land between his brothers Samuel and Abel Fletcher in Chesterfield. (Cheshire Deeds 42:505)

He personally has no recorded deeds in Cheshire County and must not be confused with his contemporaries, Joel of Newport, Joel of Hollis, Joel of Acworth, and other Joels all of Cheshire County at that time. His name does not appear on the town records of Chesterfield as does that of his nephew Joel⁷ Fletcher son of Abel. As has been stated it has been impossible to locate the church records as yet of the old town.

The History of Chesterfield page 313 states that: "Fletcher, Joel, probably brother of Abel Fletcher (1) appears to have resided in Chfd. a few years. He m. 1st. Lucy Hubbard; 2d Mary H. Brackett, wid. of Levi Brackett. His name disappears about 1792".

Probably soon after August 1792 he, with his wife, and probably the two eldest children removed to Lyndon, where in 1793 he is listed as one of the forty three inhabitants of that town. [The land records of Joel Fletcher in Lyndon have not been examined,]

In 1800, Joel Fletcher is listed as of Lyndon, with a family of one male under ten, one between sixteen and twenty six, two between twenty six and forty five; four females under ten, one between sixteen and twenty six, and one between twenty six and forty five. That is himself, wife, son, and

four daughters, and three other members of the household, a female between sixteen and twenty six, a male of the same age, and an older male between twenty six and forty five, possibly these last three were relatives or servants.

[In 1820, in Lyndon, there were four of the name, Isaac, Welcome, Alphus, and Joel Fletcher, the latter having one male under ten, one between sixteen and eighteen, two between eighteen and twenty six, one over forty five; one female sixteen to twenty six, and one over forty five.]

It did not seem necessary to have subsequent census records examined, except for the 1850 which lists Joel as of Lyndon, aged eighty two farmer, with wife Mary, aged seventy six, both born in Vermont(Sic) The same census lists his son Joel Jr., as aged thirty two, wife Zervia, aged thirty one, children: Charles H., aged nine, and Henry aged six, all born in Vermont, and eight others, Perkins Vinton, Joshua Hartwell, Thomas Maria, Ebenezer Bruce, Warren Brown, John Tully, Lucy Hunter, and William Wilson, all under thirty, evidently farm help. (U.S. Census Records Washington)

[As to Joel's bearing the title of Captain, the State Archives can throw no light on the matter, an examination of the Lyndon Town Records might help. Through your paternal and name line you are eligible to the Colonial Wars, S.A.W., Founders and Patriots (very difficult to qualify as to ancestry), and if we could verify his service in the 1812 War, it might also mean War of 1812 Society.]

The Fletcher Genealogy page 410 gives the following account of Joel Fletcher:

"JOEL⁶ (6781), b. in Chesterfield, N.H. [sic], Nov. 28, 1768; m. Lucy Hubbard, who was b. Nov. 28, 1768 [sic], and d. Sept. 24, 1814 [sic]. In 1798, being then twenty nine [sic] years of age he rem. from Chesterfield with his wife and two children, and following his older bros. Samuel and James to the State of Vermont, he purchased a tract of wild land in the town of Lyndon, a few miles distant from Samuel, who had purchased at Waterford, on the Connecticut River. Here he constructed a log cabin, and proceeded to clear off the forest. His choice of location was wisely made, and a fine farm with fruitful soil was developed in course of time. In person, tall and muscular, he possessed, to a

striking degree, the bold, energetic powers demanded by the circumstances and the times. As the country became settled and populated, he was foremost in laying out for the public good. He founded the public school and built the schoolhouse; he gave the land for the cemetery, and for the site of the academy. The title of "captain" attached to him from having been selected as leader of a band of farmers, who, in the war of 1812, organized for their common protection. He m. 2d, Mary H. [Haines], widow of Levi Brackett; at that time the mother of five children. She was b. July 14, 1778, and d. Jan. 14, 1853.

"Capt. Joel Fletcher was a man of high standing and influence in the community; and 'full of days and riches and honor' he d. Jan. 6, 1853, spared to the age of ninety-four to enjoy the fruits of his industry, and to witness the general comfort of his numerous descendants. A fine monument in the cemetery at Lyndon points out the place of his interment. Children, all except Joel, by the first marriage . . ."

In regard to my corrections, Joel was born in Holden, Mass., and did not live in Chesterfield til about 1775; his wife was born 5 Nov. 1769; and Joel was about thirty when he left Chesterfield for Lyndon. Lucy died 1824, not 1814.

Our interest is of course with the second wife of Joel, Mary, or Polly (Haines) Brackett, as she was the mother of Joel Fletcher Jr., grandfather of Henry Fletcher. She was the daughter of Samuel Haines, a Revolutionary pensioner of Canterbury, N.H. He served as a Sergeant in the Revolution, evidently title of lieutenant earned after the war in the Militia.

Canterbury Town Records (originals) page 193:

"Births &c of Lt. Samuel Haines's family-

Samuel Haines was born in Greenland August the 23th 1747

Mannah Johnson his wife born at Rowley in Massachusetts December the 22d A D 1749

They their first Child was born July the 14th 1773

Abner born December the 25th 1775

Josiah Haines was born April the 7th 1778

Samuel and Mannah twins born May the 30th 1780

Jane born was borne November the 25th 1782

Stephen was born August the 24th 1785

Charles was born January the 24th 1792"

Pension Record of Samuel Haines, N.H., s. 13342:

Merrimack Co., N.H., 28 Aug. 1832, age 85, resident of Canterbury;

Enlisted spring of 1775 at Canterbury for eight months service, under Capt. Jeremiah Clough, Col. Poor, served as corporal the full term. Again enlisted 1777, under Capt. James Shepard, Col. Tuman, for six months, was a first sergeant. Was born in the town of Portsmouth, but had lived in Canterbury for over fifty years, signed Sam Haines.

Benjamin Bradley and Joseph C. Harker deposed acquaintance and credance.

In the Interrogatories the answer to where born is: Greenland, N.H.

26 Aug. 1837, states his records are lost "about a year ago when my home was burned". Rev. William Patrick and Joseph M. Harper testify credance.

William Forrest of Northfield deposes service with Samuel Haines in Capt.

Clough's company in which Haines was second corporal. (U.S. Pension Records as abstracted by Misses Curry)

Now, Levi Brackett, born, date unknown, in New Market, N.H., died in 1805, intestate, in Wheelock, Vt., son of Ichabod and Mary (Hilton) Brackett. He married in Canterbury, N.H., 18 Sept. 1798, Mary Haines, born there, 14 July 1773, died in Lyndon, 14 Jan. 1858, daughter of Lt. Samuel and Hannah (Johnson) Haines, (the latter were married 9 July 1772). By this marriage, there were six children, all born in Wheelock, viz.: Samuel-Haines, born October 1794; married Amy Hanson; Jeremiah-Clough, born 4 Jan. 1796; married Uranah Mathewson; Hilton, born 8 Jan. 1798; married Olive⁷ Fletcher and Ruth-H.⁷ Fletcher; Haines, born 16 Dec. 1799, died 1806; Anson, born 20 Feb. 1802; married Mary Chamberlain, and Charlotte-A. Billings; and Ira, born 20 June 1804; married Clarinda Nye.

18 Nov. 1805, Polly Brackett, with Joshua Weeks, both of Wheelock, and Samuel Haines of Canterbury, N.H., as bondsmen, appointed administratrix of the estate

of Levi Brackett late of said Wheelock deceased. All sign. Original bond.

Administrator's Bond De Bonis Non, 30 Oct. 1817, granted to Joel Fletcher of Lyndon, with John Clark of St. Johnsbury as bondsman, on estate of Levi Brackett late of Wheelock deceased. All sign. (Vol. 7:266)

28 Nov. 1817, "Polly Fletcher Late the widow of Levi Brackett deceased" petitions for assignment of certain articles. Granted 29 Nov. 1817. (Ibid.)

Administrator's account, D.B.N., 29 Nov. 1817, among items: "Expenses in supporting family & in To sickness and nursing in the Family the first year after the death of the Said Levi Bracket also for taking care & bring up three small children" (Ibid. 267:268)

(Caledonia Probate)

18 Nov. 1805, guardian's bond, granted to Polly Brackett, with Joshua Weeks, both of Wheelock, and Samuel Haines of Canterbury, N.H., as bondsmen, she to be guardian of Samuel aged twelve, Jeremiah aged ten, Hilton aged eight, Haines aged six, Anson aged four, and Ira aged two, all minor children of Levi Brackett late of Wheelock deceased. They sign. Original bond.

23 Sept. 1817, Hilton Bracket chooses Mr. Nathan Hines of Wheelock as his guardian, original petition. 24 Sept. 1817, Anson, son of Levi Bracket late of Wheelock, aged over fourteen, makes choice of same, original.

25 Sept. 1817, Nathan Hines of Wheelock, with Joel Fletcher of Lyndon as surety, appointed guardian of Anson, aged sixteen, Hilton aged twenty, and Ira aged thirteen, all sons of Levi Brackett late of Wheelock deceased. They sign. (Ibid.)

Joel Fletcher Esq., left no recorded estate, nor did his second wife, Mary, or Polly (Haines) (Brackett) Fletcher. His first wife, Lucy (Hubbard) Fletcher, from whom he separated before 1817, died testate in 1824.

Lucy (Hubbard) Fletcher made her will 13 Mar. 1824, proved 4 Nov. 1824,

(she was buried in Lyndon, and died 24 Sept. 1824, aged fifty five years).

An abstract of her will follows:

"In the name of God amen. I Lucy Fletcher of Lyndon . . . being weak in body . . . make and publish this my last Will and Testament . . .

First I give to my Daughter Gratia H. Shaw . . . land . . . in Lyndon . . . and is the same land which Alanson Shaw bought of Benjamin Cusing . . . 1823.

Secondly. I give all the property of which I may die . . . possessed not disposed of as above to my Daughters Hannah Bowen, Betsey Fletcher, Maria Dickerman, Olive W. Fletcher, Ruth H. Fletcher, and my son Welcome J. Fletcher . . . and I . . . appoint . . . Jerry Dickerman my executor . . ."

Witnesses: I. Fletcher
Olin Harvey
John P. Guimby

"Lucy Fletcher"

(Caledonia Probate 9:512:513)

Children, first two probably born in Chesterfield, rest in Lyndon:

By Lucy Hubbard,

- i. Hannah-B.⁷, b. 5 Jan. 1792; m. John Bowen.
 - ii. Lucy, b. 12 Mar. 1793, d. 15 May 1803.
 - iii. Betsey, b. 17 Feb. 1795; m. David French.
 - iv. Welcome-J., b. 5 Apr. 1797; m. Martha-E. Hoffman, Sarah-E. Fisher, and Mrs. Martha Hall.
 - v. Gratia-N., b. 20 Aug. 1799; m. Alanson Shaw and Isaac Harrington.
 - vi. Maria-C., b. 21 Aug. 1801; m. Dr. Jeremiah Dickerman.
 - vii. Olive-W., b. 8 July 1803, d. 1837; m. Rev. Hilton Brackett.
 - viii. Ruth-N., b. 30 June 1805; m. Rev. Hilton Brackett.
- Polly (Haines) Brackett,
- ix. Joel, b. 3 Mar. 1813; m. Ferviah-Townsend Waigs, see pp. 66 of Pud-
Leavitt Report for his record. He d. 1875 test. mentions widow

Zerviah, sons, Charles H., Henry E., and George H. (Caledonia Probate)

Mannah-B., prob. named for his sister Hannah-Boucker, Lucy for his mother-in-law Lucy (Willard) Hubbard and his sister Lucy, Betsey for his mother Elizabeth, Gratia and Ruth were also Hubbard names, Welcome a common name in Chesterfield.

Gravestone records from Lyndon Cemetery copied 1919.

Lucy Fletcher, age 58, died 24 Sept. 1824. [b. 1769]

Capt. Joel Fletcher, age 94, died 6 January 1858, wife Mary Fletcher. [b. 1764]

Mary Fletcher, age 79, 14 Jan. 1843 [wrong should be 1853] husband, Capt. Joel Fletcher.

Town Records of Wheelock,

Joel Fletcher and Polly Brackett, his residence Lyndon, Vt., married by John E. Palmer, in Wheelock, 30 Mar. 1817.

(Vermont State Records)

COPY OF NOTICE OF DISMISSAL

" September Term 1808

Joel Fletcher) Joel Fletcher of Lyndon in Caledonia County Petitioner
vs)
Lucy Fletcher) against Lucy Fletcher his wife, Petitionee. This was a
22) Petition for a bill of divorce brought to the September term
of this Court 1807, and continued to the present term. And

now the parties aforesaid being called, the said Joel appeared
and the said Lucy also, when after a full hearing of the parties in the premises
it is ordered & decreed by this Court here that said Joel has not supported his
said Petition, and that the same be hence dismissed and the Petitioner take
nothing thereby."

[The clerk is still searching for further records, and sometime between
1808 and 1813, Joel and Lucy were divorced. Divorce records were then held
in the Superior Court of Caledonia County, Vt.] [The Superior Court Clerk
at Montpelier, Vt., was unable to find anything further.]

