

# THE LEAVENS NAME

## INCLUDING LEVINGS

AN ACCOUNT OF  
THE POSTERITY DESCENDING FROM EMIGRANT  
JOHN LEVINS: 1632-1903

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## DEDICATION.

**T**HIS book is dedicated to the boys. We mean the boys who bear the name LEAVENS or LEVINGS. We mean also the boys in whose veins runs the blood coming down from our early American ancestor. The boys of to-day have a fine part to play in the years just ahead. We want them to catch inspiration from the vigor, and the courage, and the industry, and the patriotism, and the sound character of their forefathers.

We do not have occasion to relate brilliant things in the story of the name we bear; but we bring to sight things honest and honorable, things creditable and useful, and such things are the best for imitation.

It runs in our blood to take a hand in public affairs wherever any of us live. The boys will note a considerable number on these pages who have pushed along through school, to college and into the professions. It is an example which we hope hundreds will follow hereafter, for the future is going to make large demands for men of influence in America.

We have taken pains to mention every one we could learn of who has taken part in any of the memorable wars which have made secure the happy land that we now enjoy. Let every reader note with reverence the names of those who fell or disappeared in the wars. We are indebted for our privileges to men who have dared, and to some who have died for their country.

GOD BLESS the boys of to-day and kindle in their hearts  
manly aspirations, worthy their blood and  
up to the full measure of their  
splendid opportunities.



## PREFACE.

THIS volume is the fruit of quiet study running through a lifetime. My racy old grand-mother had memories extending back clearly to the Revolution, in which her father had been a soldier. Few were the facts she could tell me about the Leavens people, because all her days were passed upon the edges of the forests of New England. But she told me enough to excite curiosity. When therefore I obtained access to books in the libraries of the great cities, and had the privilege of visiting historic sites in Connecticut and Massachusetts, little by little I worked out the story. It has never cost an effort. It has been diversion rather in the odd hours of a life otherwise fully employed.

I would have been very glad to push inquiries back to the records in old England and determine the identity and relation there of the first man of our name here; but I would not care for any research that were not exact and thorough, and the cost and effort would be more than I would like to bear single-handed. So I have said nothing of the English ancestry.

My foremost obligation for assistance is to the "History of Windham County, Conn." and its diligent author, Miss Ellen D. Larned, of Thompson. She will recognize numerous and extensive quotations from what she has written, and I here express to her my cordial thanks. The Colonial Records of the New England states are now published and are easily consulted in New York or Boston. Many an hour have I enjoyed in those pages. Then there are local histories of towns where Leavens people have lived, and I have turned the leaves of as many as I could lay my hands on.

I am somewhat reluctant to admit to my own mind how much I have besieged and importuned strangers with inquiries which (I sorely fear) may often have seemed impertinent. However I now beg pardon of one and all, and extend sincere thanks to every one who has borne the imposition and has responded with precious items of intelligence. If only now I were not haunted with the apprehension that these pages will be found blotched with errors, deficiencies, and perhaps blunders apparently inexcusable. I have done the best I could with the intricate task and will have to stand the blame. I have but a single remedy to propose. Probably I will have a few copies of the book bound with inter-leaved pages. If corrections and additions are sent to me, it will be a pleasure to make note of them, and I would be glad if I could transmit some day, a perfected record of the "Leavens and Levings Name" to the Public Library in each of the three great centres, Boston, Chicago and New York. The genealogists are keen-sighted and I know that nothing will escape their search; and I should hope that now and then one of the family, from pure affection, would be glad to consult such a corrected version.

P. F. L.





# THE LEAVENS NAME.

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## I.

### FROM OLD TO NEW ENGLAND.

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In order to picture to the eye the earliest settlement of Massachusetts, we cannot do better than to quote freely from the admirable "History of the English People." There had been effected a permanent lodgement at Jamestown, Virginia, in the year 1607, and the Mayflower, bearing the "Pilgrim Fathers," had landed at Plymouth in 1620. A movement quite distinct from either of these was the colonization of Massachusetts Bay. Yet, says Mr. John Richard Green, in the work above referred to, "from the moment of their establishment" (the Pilgrims at Plymouth) "the eyes of the English Puritans were fixed on this little Puritan settlement in North America. Through the early years of Charles" (1625 and onwards) "projects were being canvassed for the establishment of a new settlement beside the little Plymouth; and the aid which the merchants of Boston, in Lincolnshire, gave to the realization of this project was acknowledged in the name of its capital. At the moment he was dissolving his third Parliament" (March 10, 1629) "Charles granted the charter which established the colony of Massachusetts; and by the Puritans at large the grant was at once regarded as a providential call."

The Massachusetts Company had been formed in 1628, and a party, led by John Endicott, had come over and taken a position at Salem. The confirmation of the Company by a royal charter would, of course, stimulate its zeal.

"Out of the failure of their great constitutional struggle," continues Mr. Green, "and the pressing danger to 'godliness' in England rose the

dream of a land in the west where religion and liberty could find a safe and lasting home. The parliament was hardly dissolved when 'conclusions' for the establishment of a great colony on the other side of the Atlantic were circulated among gentry and traders, and descriptions of the new country of Massachusetts were talked over in every Puritan household. The proposal was welcomed with the quiet, stern enthusiasm which marked the temper of the time; but the words of a well-known emigrant show how hard it was even for the sternest enthusiasts to tear themselves from their native land. 'I shall call that my country,' wrote the younger Winthrop in answer to feelings of this sort, 'where I may most glorify God and enjoy the presence of my dearest friends.' The answer was accepted, and the Puritan emigration began on a scale such as England had never before seen. The 200 who first sailed for Salem were soon followed by 800 men; and 700 more followed ere the first year of personal government" (the king without a parliament) "had run its course. Nor were the emigrants, like the earlier colonists of the South, 'broken men,' adventurers, bankrupts, criminals; or simply poor men and artisans, like the Pilgrim fathers of the Mayflower. They were in great part men of the professional and middle classes; some of them men of large landed estate, some zealous clergymen, like Cotton, Hooker and Roger Williams; some shrewd London lawyers, or young scholars from Oxford. The bulk were God-fearing farmers from Lincolnshire and the eastern counties. They desired in fact 'only the best' as sharers in their enterprise; men driven forth from their fatherland not by earthly want, or by the greed of gold, or by the lust of adventure, but by the fear of God, and the zeal for a godly worship. But strong as was their zeal, it was not without a wrench that they tore themselves from their English homes. 'Farewell dear England!' was the cry which burst from the first little company of emigrants as its shores faded from their sight. 'Our hearts,' wrote Winthrop's followers to the brethren whom they had left behind, 'shall be fountains of tears for your everlasting welfare, when we shall be in our poor cottages in the wilderness.' "

The historian goes on:—"For a while, as the first terrors of persecution died down, there was a lull in the emigration. But no sooner had Laud's system made itself felt than again 'godly people in England began to apprehend a special hand of providence in raising this plantation' in Massachusetts; 'and their hearts were generally stirred to come over.' It was in vain that weaker men returned to bring news of hardships and dangers, and told how 200 of the new-comers had perished in the first winter. A letter from Winthrop told how the rest toiled manfully on. 'We do now enjoy God and Jesus Christ,' he wrote to those at home, 'and is not that enough? I thank God I like so well to be here as I do

not repent my coming. I would not have altered my course though I had foreseen all these afflictions. I never had more content of mind.' ”

Still further:—“As years went by and the contest grew hotter at home, the number of emigrants grew fast. Three thousand new colonists arrived from England in a single year. Between the sailing of Winthrop's expedition and the assembling of the Long Parliament (1630-1640), in the space, that is, of ten or eleven years, 200 emigrant ships had crossed the Atlantic, and 20,000 Englishmen had found a refuge in the west.”

Our attention is demanded near the beginning of this wonderful decade. In 1630 the government of the Massachusetts Company transferred itself to the colony, when John Winthrop came over and founded Boston. The disheartening reports of that first sad winter had gone back, and with them Winthrop's resolute words of determination. These things were pondered in Puritan homes. Happily we have a clear sign of the response. We learn from a good authority that,—“In a large Volume bound in vellum, now in the Rolls Office, Chancery Lane, London, are records of a few of the early emigrants to New England. On the cover of the Volume containing the earliest of such records yet discovered, is this inscription:—

“A Book of Entrie for Passengers by ye Commission, and Souldiers according to the Statuie passing beyond the seas, begun at Christmas, 1631, and ending at Christmas, 1632.”

On a certain page appears the following:

“vij Marcij 1631 The names of such men as are to be transported to New England to be resident vppon a plantacon, have tendered and taken the oath of allegiance according to the statute, vizt,”

Sixteen names then follow and among them appears,

#### JOHN LEVINS.

This was a man then past fifty years of age. He was accompanied by his wife Elizabeth. There is no intimation of children, either with them or left behind in England. Had they always been childless? Or had they unhappily lost children? What motive prompts them to leave Old England for the wilderness of America at their age? They can hope for nothing but to be buried and forgotten.\*

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\* (It may be well to say that we are to see the family name in various spellings. It is to be remembered that surnames had come into general and established use in England only so late as the period of the Reformation, and that all orthography was unsettled at the beginning of the seventeenth century. We shall therefore write LEAVENS, the form that became standard, except when quoting, and then we will copy the orthography.)

The emigrants embarked in the ship "William and Francis," which made up a passenger list at London early in 1632. She took on board the Rev. Thomas Welde, or Weld, of Terling in Essex, and it is probable that others who made the voyage were attached to his ministry. The "William and Francis" left London the 9th of March and arrived in Boston harbor June 5, 1632.

We are permitted to look in upon the infant colony, that June day, scarcely four years after its birth. The "General Court" was in session and was considering the blessings for which to be thankful. It is a striking evidence of the great thoughts that occupied the minds of those men, that, as an historian writes, "especially for the signal victories gained by Gustavus Adolphus, in Germany, by which he rescued that country from the popish yoke, a thanksgiving was ordered to be celebrated throughout all the Plantations." This refers doubtless to the battle of Breitenfeld, near Leipsic, fought Sept. 1631; Lutzen in which Gustavus fell was in Nov. 1632.

On the side of affairs closer home we see the initiation of policies toward the aborigines. "Some inconvenience had begun to be experienced by the colonists from an over-familiarity of the natives, who, under a pretense of trade, would intrude at all times and seasons into private houses. Therefore at this Court, it was agreed that at every plantation should be set up a trucking house. This it was thought would abate the difficulty."

Just at this time there were arrivals from over the sea. The "Charles of Barnstaple" came in, bringing about twenty passengers, and also the important accession of "near eighty cows and six mares, all safe and in health." As we have said, then arrived likewise the "William and Francis," Captain Thomas, with about sixty passengers. Among them were Mr. Thomas Welde and "old Mr. Stephen Bachelor (minister), being aged seventy-one, with their families, and many other honest men." A distinguished passenger in this voyage was Mr. Edward Winslow of Plymouth, returning from a visit to England, and to be Governor of Plymouth the next year. So there was high and wise fellowship on that memorable passage, wherein our prime ancestor found his way to America.

## II.

## JOHN LEAVENS OF NEW ENGLAND.

John Leavens belonged to the less affluent class of settlers, but by no means, we think, to the least prosperous. The rule prevailed that he who owned 50 pounds sterling in the stock of the Company drew 200 acres of land; he who came over at his own expense or brought a servant was entitled to 50 acres; but John Leavens fell into the list of those who acquired less than half a hundred. His parcel was eligibly situated in the Roxbury community and has been a landmark distinguished by fame.

As to the community itself, it is on record that "the Roxbury people were the best that came"; they were "not of the poorer sort." Indeed "they did enjoy little to be envied, but endured much to be pitied." Yet, says a writer, they came to plant not "for worldly ends," but "for spiritual"; and they did not repine.

Almost the first business was to gather a Church. These people had broken from the Church of England. Says Mr. Green, the historian, "the bitter resentment stirred in the emigrants by persecution at home was seen in their abolition of episcopacy and their prohibition of the use of the book of common prayer." They organized upon a model of their own. John Leavens was one of the nineteen men who joined in covenant. The work was quickly done, for before July had passed the Rev. Mr. Welde was "chosen and was invested with the pastoral care." The Church was not thus complete, however, for, according to the notion of these inventive ecclesiastics, a Church needed a "teacher" as well as a "pastor." To the office of teacher John Eliot was inducted in November of that year 1632.

These two able and remarkable men were high prizes for an incipient Church to draw. Concerning the settlement of Mr. Welde in Roxbury, it is said, "the diligent people thereof early preventing their brethren of other Churches by calling him to be their pastor." And Drake's History of Boston, referring to the date, Nov. 2, 1632, says, "Many of the good people of Boston were disturbed, about this period, because the reverend Mr. John Eliot had made up his mind to leave them and settle at Roxbury. They had intended to 'call' him to be their teacher, but Roxbury had also called him; "and though Boston labored all they could" to prevent it, "yet he could not be diverted, so they of Boston dismissed him."

We can not forbear to look upon these rival sites as they appeared to one at the time. Here are certain observations made by a person on the ground and written in 1634:— "Boston is two miles north east of Roxberry; this situation is very pleasant, being a peninsula, hem'd in on the south side with the bay of Roxberry, on the north side with Charles River, the marshes on the back side, being not halfe a quarter of a mile

over: so that a little fencing will secure their cattle from the wolves. Their greatest wants be wood, and meadow ground, which never were in that place; being constrained to fetch their building timber, and fire wood from the illands in boates, and their hay in loyers: It being a necke and bare of wood; they are not troubled with three great annoyances; of wolves, rattle-snakes and musketoes. These that live here upon their cattle, must be constrained to take farmes in the countrey, or else they can not subsist: the place being too small to contain many, and fitter for such as can trade into England, for such commodities as the countrey wants, being the chief place for shipping and merchandise."

So rude were the parishes; so great were the ministers; and as to the constituent Church members, John Eliot left an enrollment with the following quaint and honorable title:—

"A recorde of such as adjoyued themselves unto the  
fellowship of this Church of Christ at  
Roxborough: as also of such children  
as they had when they joyned & of  
such as were borne vnto them  
vnder the holy Covenant of  
this Church, who are  
most pperly the  
seede of this  
Church."

In this ancient Record we read:—

"John Leavens he arrived at N. E. in the yeare 1632. his wife lay bed-rid divers years. after she dyed he married Rachel write a Godly maide a membr of or church: John. his first borne, was borne the last of the second month ano 1640."

First a Church-member, afterward a citizen. On the fourth day of March, 1634, the man walked into Boston and took the oath as a freeman. The records of Boston preserve the fact, giving the date and writing the name, John Levens. A Roxbury record is quoted as saying, "John Leavens, or Levinz came in 1632—freeman in 1634."

But from the moment of arrival there were lands to be cleared; houses to be built before the dreaded winter; and plans to be matured for another year's seeding and future harvests. Roxbury is characterized by an early writer, as having been settled by "a laborious people who turned its swamps into fruitful fields and planted flocks and herds on its rocky hills."

John Leavens toiled under obvious disadvantages. At his age it could not have been easy to bend to the arduous work of a pioneer. Then

a "bed-rid" wife lay in his scantily furnished home, nor was there a child to do so much as bring her food. How was that primitive household managed? Happily we are able quite precisely to see. The General Court attended to business with rigorous formality, and its records have been preserved. Picking out the phraseology of entries made in 1635-37, we learn that one "Sayles' daughter" had been "put apprentice" to John Coggeshall and proving "overburthensome" to him the Court "thought it just to ease him." Meanwhile "the said girl was put by the said Coggeshall to one John Levens of Roxberry to be kept at certain" rate or price. Some differences had arisen on the account and the wise Court appointed a commission to adjust the serious matter. The point of interest to us is to see how a maid was found for service and to help over the dreary period in the house-keeping of pioneer John Leavens. Was it not a brave and tender man who could carry so heavy a part as was laid on him?

Roxbury originated the scheme of a free school, one of the very earliest in America. Here is the resolution:—

"Whereas, the inhabitants of Roxburie, out of the religious care of posteritie, have taken into consideration how necessarie the education of theire children in literature will be to fitt them for publicke service in Church and Commonwealthe in succeeding ages.

"They therefore, unanimously have consented and agreed to erect a free school in the said Town of Roxburie and to allow twenty pounds per annum to the Schoole master to be raised out of the messuages and part of the land of the several donors in several proportions as hereafter followeth under these heads."

They thus voluntarily imposed a rental, which became a lien upon their estates. The highest was 1£ 4s., the amount pledged by Mr. Thomas Dudley, Mr. Thomas Welde and Mr. John Eliot, each "for the house he dwells in."

The subscription of John Leavins was 00 03s. 04d., and there signed with his name, "Jno. Eliot witness." There were many who put down their names for smaller sums. It is said that the rents were collected for a hundred years under the original agreement. It was organized by the General Court in 1670, and continued until the Incorporation of the Grammar School in 1789. It is now the flourishing Roxbury Latin School.

The melancholy event of the death of the wife occurred in 1638. There is preserved a record of "Births and burials in Roxbury from the yeare 1630 unto the first month 1645". It contains an entry in these terms,

"Elisabeth the wife of John Levins buried 10 (8) 1638." This would indicate that on the tenth day of the eighth month, which in the "old style" would be October, she was laid to rest. There was left in the severe New England home a childless widower at the age of fifty-seven years. Less than a twelvemonth elapsed before his remarriage. Let us throw our minds

back into the pressing conditions of a colony of not yet ten years' standing; and let us not judge a man by the rules of easier times.

On John Eliot's roll of Church-members stands oddly inscribed:—"Rachel write a maide servant, she was married to or brothr John Leavins".

The Roxbury records note the matrimonial event in these words:—"John Levins and Rachel Wright were married July 5 1639". A former note by the reverend pastor, as we have seen, described the bride as "a Godly maide, a membr of or church". Such a tribute at the hand of John Eliot is a voucher for character which, in the American mind, should be equivalent to a patent of nobility.

And now let us look upon a fragmentary document which has escaped remarkably the destruction of time. Its date is calculated to lie after 1634 and not later than 1643. It is entitled,

"A note of  
ye estates and persons of ye inhabitants of Roxsbury."

A certain line runs as follows,—

"Accres.	half ac.	Persons	and estate.
11	00	John Levins 3	17 00 00"

This accredits the man named with eleven acres valued at just 17 pounds; and there are three persons in his family. It might be inferred perhaps that the inventory was taken as late as 1640, after the birth of his first child; but it is not conclusive. On the reverse side of this precious sheet, written among his neighbors endowed like himself, appears again John Levins, possessor of,

"8 goats and 8 kidds".

Presently children began to brighten the renewed home. The afore mentioned record of "Births & burials" says,

"John the sonne of John Levins borne 27 (2) 1640." That fixes his birth at April 27.

The children arrived rapidly. The Church record of baptisms gives us the surest information. It says,

"1642 month 2 day 24

Jams the son of John Leavins."

And then the following, which is unique,

"1644 month 7 day 15

Peter Leavins & | Twins. the children of John Leavins

Andrew Leavins | in the 63 yeare of his aige.

a doble blessing."

But the "double  
blessing" was soon marred; for, four months after his baptism, the babe Peter was dead and buried. One child more entered the Roxbury home, and was baptized,

"1646 month 6 day 2

Rachel Leavins the daughter of John Leavins".



The next year the father went from the world. A record says:—"1647 month 9 day 15 John Levens an ancient godly Christian dyed of a dead palsie"

The necrologist of the times adds, "he lived on the Dorchester road where he had a lot of seven acres and a house".

It would appear that the bit of real estate had been diminished. This is substantiated by an act in the General Court:—

"1648 18 Oct. Upon petition of Rachell Levins, that the pcell of ground sould by her husband, John Levins, to Martin Stebbins, & by Martin Stebbins to Richard Gardner, & no writing, may be confirmed to the s'd Martin & Rich. Gardner, & his heires wch is granted".

A few days later the Court had the affairs of the estate again in hand and ordered thus:—

"1648 Oct. 27. In answer to the petitio of Rachell Leuens, of Roxbury, it is ordered, that, according to her request, she shall enjoy the howse & land left her by her late husband (Joh Leavens) dureing her naturall life: findinge the howse & fences in repayre, so to leave them to her children after her decease; and it is also further ordered, that the land sould by her sd husband before his death vnto Martin Stoben & since by him vnto Richard Gardener, shal be confirmed & made good vnto the sd Martin & Richard Gardener, & to his assignes for ever. By both."

In the Probate Office of Boston there is a well-preserved document concerning an estate, apparently the sixty-ninth settled in the colony. Deciphered from the quaint handwriting of the ancient time, it reads as follows:—

An Inventory of the goods & Chattells of John Levins of Roxsbury deceased taken and apprised by us whose names are underwritten the thirtyeth day of the sixt Month 1648.

Imprimis his wearing Apparell linen & woollen

	£	s	d
Itm 3 flock beds	04	10	00
Itm 2 fether boulsters & 3 other boulsters	02	00	00
Itm 2 fether pillowes & 3 other pillowes	01	05	00
Itm 3 blanketts 1 old Cording & Rugg	01	00	00
Itm 5 paire of sheets	03	00	00
Itm 3 Iron potts & 1 grt kettle	02	00	00
Itm 5 brasse gettles 3 skilletts & 1 Iron skillet	03	00	00
Itm 12 peeces of pewter & 4 basons	01	10	00
Itm Napkines 4 hollow pillowbeers 2 Cotton pillowbeers 4			
Canvs table cloths & other small linen	01	10	00
Itm a Muskett sword & bandileers	0		
Itm a joynd Cupboord table forme & chairs	01	00	00
Itm 1 Trunk 3 Chests & 4 boxes	01	10	00
Itm 1 Cupboord	00	04	00

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Itm	1 p of brand yrons & 2 trammells & bellows	00	10	00
Itm	5 Axes 5 howes 4 wedges 2 frowes (?) 2 Carfe saws (?)			
	1 handsaw, 1 shaye 1 Iron peelee (?) 1 p tonges with other			
	Irons	01	10	00
Itm	1 kneading trough 1 new baskett & tubbs	00	12	00
Itm	1 warming pann & 4 Cushions	00	12	00
Itm	bowles dishes spoones & trenchers	00	10	00
Itm	a new linen wheele (?)	00	03	08
Itm	a bible & other bookes	00	12	00
Itm	a Mattock & a shovell	00	03	00
Itm	2 Cowes & one heifer	12	00	00
ltm	5 hogges	04	00	00
Itm	6 accres of Corne & owing by Jo: Bowles	08	00	00
Itm	inhouses & lands	50	00	00

JOHN STOW  
WILLIAM PARK

## III.

## THE FAMILY AT ROXBURY.

The fifteen years that John Leavens spent in the new world, separated from his mother country, were a period of wondrous interest. The ships constantly arriving with loads of emigrants brought intelligence of events at home. Did he not receive it with eager mind? He heard at length how the Parliament, famous as the "Long Parliament," began in 1640 its contest against King Charles; he heard of John Pym, of the impeachment and execution of Stratford, and then of the judicial death of the aged Archbishop Laud; the doleful tidings of the civil war reached his ears, and he heard how John Hampden fell at Edgehill and then of Cromwell and the battles of Marston Moor and Naseby. He heard also how the Assembly of divines was convened at Westminster to settle the Government, Liturgy and Doctrine of the Church, and tidings of its slow progress came month by month. Perhaps some of the poems of John Milton fell under his eye; but those eyes closed finally in the midst of the grandest drama of English history.

In his new sphere this first John Leavens joined in the welcome to the host of English people who crossed the sea in one grand throng, as it were, to found New England. He lived to see plantations opened numerously in the forests, and something like orderly living established. He was familiar with the Indians, and observed the rise of his pastor's flaming zeal for their enlightenment and conversion. The Church, the school, and the self-governing civil community were started on their career,—a career destined to lead to the perfected American Republic,—before this weary man fell asleep. He had borne his part. No one of his descendants can re-produce him in imagination, considering his age, his sore bereavements, the infant children hanging on him as their father when he was three score years old, and the little home he had hewed out of the wilderness, without being touched by the heroism of his character and the pathos of his fate.

The home left by him was like the nest which a mother bird has swung upon a bush that overhangs the water, where an unusual tide may engulf it any day, or the sudden blast of a storm may sweep it to ruin; where yet it may perchance escape both storm and tide until its fledglings fly away to safer shelter. When the widowed Rachel led back her brood from the rude grave-yard (why not that ancient cemetery at the corner of Washington St. and Eustis, where one finds the tomb of John Eliot?), that chill November day in 1647, she was not a "Rachel weeping for her children," but "comforted" rather because they were. She had great things to live for. The eldest of the four was seven years old; the youngest

little more than a year. No doubt the winter's store had been laid up beforehand by the provident father; and no doubt she measured it out with careful hand day by day, then night by night sang her English lullabies till her babes all slept, at last barred doors and windows against maurading Indians, and as for the rest trusted God.

I can believe that in summer time the passer-by noted at the cottage door the wholesome flowers of old England—the peonies, the yellow lilies, perhaps the fleur-de-lis; the sweet william and the gay hollyhocks; then the asters, the nasturtiums and the trailing morning glory. In the garden behind, did not the early lettuce grow upon the sunny “banking” and the sage and summer savory in their beds; while a little way farther off flourished the caraway, needful for the “seed-cake,” and the mustard for either condiment or poultice? And it was glorious if in the May mornings the doves cooed in cotes, and the martens sang from the steps of bird-houses, however rudely constructed. Any way, we must not forget at all that the domestic life hereabouts was old England renewed in every particular possible; and Rachel Leavens' heart throbbed with memories! What stories had not she with which to entertain her three boys and the tiny girl!

Year by year they grew. The “8 goats and 8 kidds” of an early day had been supplanted by “two Cowes and a heifer”; and if each year there were raised some “accres of Corne,” it is easy to guess at the daily fare. The milk and the bread of rye-and-Indian, the samp and supawn with succotash in its season, the fresh vegetables with pork from the “hogges”—well, it was good enough diet for the sons of kings. There was a sound sense, as well as a sound law, that kept the little estate to the widow and her children; for the records of Roxbury through many years describe lands bought and sold as bounded on this side or that by the “estate of John Levins' heirs.”

There was for these children the free school which their father had helped to found, and which their patrimony must help to maintain. And there was the rigorous Church, with its stern doctrine and strict discipline. And there were the customs of toil and thrift ever an example to their youth. We may assure ourselves that it was no stifling atmosphere in which they grew to manhood. There had been and still were splendid spirits in that Roxbury settlement.

Look at venerable Thomas Dudley. He had been born at Northampton, England, in 1574; his father had perished in battle when he was a child; a lad he had been page to the earl of Northumberland; he was made a captain by Queen Elizabeth and served in France. At the age of twenty-five or thereabouts Thomas Dudley had fallen under Puritan influences and become deeply religious. Afterward he served as steward to the Earl of Lincoln, having charge of his affairs. Then in 1630, at the age of fifty-six, he removed to New England. Roxbury was his home.

Three times was he Governor of the Colony, and thirteen times Lieutenant-Governor. He served on the most important commissions, and was a foremost man in New England. The second John Leavens was a boy thirteen years old when that veteran, whose career spanned the wonderful space from Elizabeth to Oliver Cromwell, and bridged the ocean main between the old world and the new, gathered up his feet in death at four score years.

The Rev. Thomas Welde had finished his ministry, but the impression made by him remained in Roxbury. A native of Essex, England, he had taken the degree of A. B. at Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1613, followed by an A. M. in 1618. We have seen how he became pastor at Roxbury in 1634. In 1639 he assisted Mr. Mather and Mr. Eliot in making the tuneful New England version of the Psalms." In 1641 he was sent with Mr. Hugh Peters to England as an agent for the province and never returned. His service for the colony ended in 1646, and then he was settled at Gateshead, England, but was ejected on the restoration of Charles II. in 1660, and died the same year.

After him the leadership of the Roxbury Church devolved upon the Rev. John Eliot. He had been born at Widford upon the Ware, a typical English village not far from London, and had received his education at Jesus College Cambridge. Not content with the care merely of his intelligent Church, in 1646 he turned his attention to the Indians. Devising his own methods, he set to work and learned their language; he reduced the same to writing, translated the Bible, preached, gained converts, organized churches of Indians, and set over them teachers of their own race. Reports of his success were borne back to England and excited deep interest. Money was raised for him, and a society was organized to afford him assistance. It is not too much to say that the great movement of Protestant missions received a prime instigation from the wonderful work of John Eliot at Roxbury in the period at which we are now pausing.

While life went on amid circumstances thus suggested, we wonder if ever an inquiry was sent after the family of John Leavens from kindred over the sea. It is impossible to tell. The interest of the English family centres in the oldest son, for he is the heir. Those who leave are apt to be younger sons, and perhaps younger sons of younger sons. We have indeed ample records of a distinguished family in Oxford and vicinity, at the period when our John Levins must have been born and bred. It was sprung from the famous Levens Hall in Westmoreland, and the name undergoes all the variations and transformations that appear in the New England records, but we are not willing to affirm the connection of our ancestor until we find indisputable proof in the old English records.

The stern fact is that the isolated household at Roxbury was bred to the spare and hardy life of pioneers. It went on till one June day the

second John Leavens, who had learned the trade of a carpenter, wedded Hannah Wood of Sudbury. It promised relief to a burdened mother and a new link in the family chain. Next year a girl child was born and with her cry of life the young mother suddenly died. This calamity fell Oct. 25, 1666. Meanwhile the eldest son had come to the title of the precious estate. It had been settled upon him by act of Court in 1662, about the time he came of age. In the year 1670 he sold a parcel of it to one Samuel Williams. The deed is extant at full length.

Afterward John Leavens wandered from Roxbury. James and Andrew tarried—tarried against the dawn of a fateful year.

King Philip's war broke out in 1675. The Colony raised forces in an orderly manner. No matter about the details; we probably could not recover them, if we were to try. Certain it is that a body of colonial soldiers marched straight inland, westward, until they reached Hadley on the Connecticut river, then the exposed frontier. Hostilities were precipitated sooner than anticipated. A fight occurred at Hadley Aug. 25, 1675. The Rev. Solomon Stoddard of Northampton wrote of it to the Rev. Increase Mather of Boston, under date Sept. 15, 1675, in the following words:—

“They (the English) intended to parley with the Indians, but on a sudden the Indians let fly about forty guns at them, and were soon answered with a volley from our men; about forty ran down into the swamp after them, made them throw down much of their baggage, and after a while our men, after the Indian manner, got behind trees and watched their opportunity to make shots at them. The fight continued about three hours; we lost six men upon the ground, though one was shot in the back by one of our men; a second died of his wounds on coming home, and two died the next night, nine in all, of nine several towns, every one of these towns lost a man.”

The names of these nine are preserved and one is “James Levins of Roxbury.” The utmost obituary we can write (and it deserves to be written) is, ‘Born at Roxbury in the year 1642; slain in the service of his country by the Indians in a fight at Hadley, Aug. 25, 1675; aged 33 years.’

Andrew Leavens, like his brother James, served in “King Philip's War,” and was in the field at Hadley.

He was one of Roxbury's quota of soldiers. It was a practice that each town should assume the payment of its own men, and then should be credited the amount on the colonial “rates” or taxes. It had the advantage of securing prompt payment, when punctuality was necessary for the man or any dependent on him. Now on Aug. 24, 1676, Roxbury-town has a credit of 1£ 10s on the account of Andrew Levens.

The man did not return to Roxbury to live. The records show that Andrew Levens took the freeman's oath in Hadley, Feb. 8, 1678. He settled into the life of this border town, not, however, as a land-holder.

When the tax-rate of Hadley for building Fort River bridge was made out in 1681, the name of Andrew Leavens appears, paying simply the poll-tax of 2s 3d. Again in the tax-rate for town debts, 1687, he pays the poll-tax, 2s 1d. The tax-payers appear to be enrolled in the order of their estates as the town had been originally laid out and allotted. Andrew Leavens is inserted next to Capt. Aaron Cooke, Jr. Now the Cookes were a famous family of soldiers, and it raises a presumption that Andrew followed his predilection for arms. The settlements in the Connecticut valley had need of military guard in those days. In 1690 Hadley was a town able to muster no more than sixty-six men fit for soldiers. The perils of the situation on the frontier toward the Indians and the French were very great. Here the man passed his days. The genealogical records of Hadley put down Andrew Leavens as dying Feb. 19, 1698, and it does not appear that he left kith or kin by descent, or even that he was married. We may simply write—'Born at Roxbury in 1644; a soldier; died at Hadley 1698; aged 53 years.'

## FAMILY NO. 1.

JOHN LEAVENS, b. in England, perhaps 1581: m. Elisabeth ———: reached New Eng. June 5, 1632, and settled in Roxbury: d. Nov. 15, 1647.

ELISABETH, b. in England: reached New Eng. with her husband: d. or was bur. Oct. 10, 1638.

Afterward he m. (2) Rachel Wright.

RACHEL, b. in Eng.: d. ?

Their children all b. at Roxbury:—

John, b. Apr. 27 1640:

James, b. Oct. 16 1642: d. Aug. 25 1675.

Peter, b. Sept. 11 1644: buried Jan 15 1645.

Andrew, b. Sept. 11 1644: d. Feb. 19 1698.

Rachel, b. Aug. 1646.

## IV.

FROM ROXBURY TO WOODSTOCK.

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The preservation of the family name now depended upon the second John Leavens. He had become a widower in 1666, and wandered from Roxbury. He re-appeared in Stratford, Conn. The records of that town contain this entry—"Whereas John Wheeler hath let his accommodations in Stratford unto John Levens, and presenting his desire to ye town, this first January 1674, that the said Levens be accepted, presenting also a certificate of his blameless conversation according to law; the town voted and consented the same day to his admittance as tenant."

Before the expiration of that year, he, being now 34 years old, was married to Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Preston, a maiden of nineteen years.

And here we ought to fix definitely the standing of this interesting bride.

Her grandfather, William Preston, came in the year 1635 to America from England. He owned an estate in Yorkshire in the western part of the West Riding. Savage (*Genealogical Dictionary*, Vol. 3, p. 482) conjectures that he may have sent forward his sons Edward and Daniel in the "Christian," the first ship of the year 1635. Himself with his wife, Mary, and three girl children came over in the "Truelove," the latest of the seventeen ships of that year. He settled at Dorchester, but remained not long. He had been born in the year 1591 and was therefore at the age of 44 years. He removed to New Haven in season to be among the first subscribers to the compact in 1639. His will is dated July 9, 1647. He bequeaths one fourth of his estate in England to his surviving wife and three fourths to the children of his first wife. He and his wife are enrolled in the New Haven Church.

Among the heirs to the English property appears the son, Edward Preston. He had been born in the year 1622 and had come over at the age of thirteen years. His wife was Margaret, but we do not find the date or place of the marriage. He is sometimes alluded to as a "mariner." The records show their children, to wit:

Hannah, b. Sept. 14 1653: d. May 1669.

ELIZABETH, b. Sept. 29 1655:

Abigail, b. Jan. 1644: m. Joseph Thomas March 21 1687 8.

Samuel, b. June 1668:

"An inventory of the estate of Edward Preston late of New Haven, dec'd, was exhibited in Court and approved for record." This entry is as late as Nov. 13, 1699.



The marriage records of New Haven show (p. 62) that "Elizabeth dau. of Edward Preston married John Levins Nov. 23 1674."

This fact most happily re-establishes the family succession.

The records of Stratford give the family of John & Elizabeth Levens, to wit,

James, b. Dec. 9 1675

Peter, b. Nov. 9 1677

James, b. Oct. 24 1679.

In another place we read, "James Levens son of John died Apr. 23 1678."

We infer that the first born of this household received the name of his father's brother, who had fallen in the Indian fight at Hadley four months before the birth; but he died when two and a half years old, and then the name was conferred on the child born next after his death.

But his interests drew John Leavens back to Roxbury about the year 1680. There was the patrimonial estate which had passed to him as eldest son; James had perished, and Andrew was absent in Hadley; if the mother survived, she was advancing in years. So in Roxbury his fourth child was born in 1681. There he joined the Church. The record has it,

"1684 month 4 day 22", \*\*"were received to take hold on the covenant", eight persons, of whom one is John Leavens. Such is their way of expressing the act, and we notice, as the eye runs down the page, another entry that may as well be put in sight here:—

"1685 month 2 day 5", among others Peter Aspinwall "took hold on the covenant." He will come into the thread of this story significantly one day.

But Roxbury is growing old, indeed Roxbury is becoming crowded. The disposition to push into the wilderness and establish new settlements—the beginning of the westward tendency, which has not spent its force in two centuries—has seized the people. The scene of our history is to change. In the year 1683 the town of Roxbury accepted from the government of Massachusetts the grant of a tract seven miles square at Quatasset, in the country of the Nipmucks. It was one of the conditions "that thirty families should be settled on said plantation within three years and maintain among them an able and godly minister." Roxbury was now divided into "stayers" and "goers." John Leavens joined the latter class, and he seems to have joined it so effectively as to instigate his posterity to this day. They have been such incessant "goers" from place to place as to lay a heavy burden on their historian to trace them. It is too late to question the wisdom of John Leavens' move, but there was a good deal at stake either way.

The proposed plantation lay some eighty miles distant, in the vicinity of hands of Eliot's "praying Indians," and was to be reached by a route a great part of which was wilderness almost pathless. The advance guard of thirteen prospectors set forth early in April, 1686. The emigrant train was ready to follow later in the summer. Let him conceive that journey who has a lively imagination. There were fine New England family names in the party,—Bacon, Sabin, Bowen, Lyon, Morris, Chandler, Hubbard, Davis, Johnson and others. "These colonists were all men of good position and character, connected with the best families of Roxbury." John Leavens was among them with his household. There is his twenty-year-old daughter, whom Jonathan Peake is going to claim as a wife. Then there are the three rugged boys and a girl babe in arms, children of Elizabeth, the present wife.

Arrived upon the scene, a lodgement effected Aug., 1686, and their land surveyed, it was necessary to distribute the parcels. This is the way,—  
"After solemn prayer to God Who is the disposer of all things, they drew lots according to the agreement, every man being satisfied and contented with God's disposing, and were settled as follows;"—

John Leavens was number twenty-five. He was entitled to a lot of twenty acres, but for some good reason he consented to take it in two parts, fourteen and six acres respectively. In consideration of this inconvenience his acreage was enlarged a bit. Then he had certain "rights" in land beyond the sphere described as "home" lots. The business was managed with a scrupulous regard to equity, and the record of the transaction is extant to this day. There were thirty-eight proprietors in this new settlement.

We think John Leavens must have re-visited the old home the next year, for the precious estate in Roxbury seems to have been sold in 1687. It went to Mr. Joseph Warren of Boston. And we will not have a place more convenient than here to tell something of its subsequent fortunes. An angle (sold as we have seen by the first proprietor) is said to have become the garden and nursery of Peter Gardiner, and to have been long known as Gardiner's Green. Another remnant had already been sold by the son. What now went from the family became the Warren estate. Mr. Warren built a mansion in 1720, as we understand, on the site of the original Leavens home. It was substantial and commodious and stood on what is now Warren street, then near the centre of the principal village. A later Joseph Warren married a Stevens and occupied the place. He is described as a "farmer who was highly respected, led an exemplary life, and held several municipal offices to the acceptance of his townsmen." He paid much attention to fruit-raising and introduced into the neighborhood of Boston the apple denominated for him the "Warren (or Roxbury) russet." But he paid a costly price for his predilection. One day, about the year 1755, while in the orchard gathering fruit, he fell from the ladder

on which he was mounted and was killed by breaking his neck. The youngest boy "had been sent by his mother to call his father to dinner, and met the body as two laborers were bringing it to the house." There were four sons left in that house, and two rose to very high distinction. The oldest became Gen. Joseph Warren, patriot. He fell in the battle of Bunker Hill, one of the earliest and saddest casualties of the Revolution. The youngest, John Warren, was a high medical officer, subscribing himself as "General Surgeon of the Continental Army," immediately under Washington. After the War he attained eminence in his profession. On the site of that Warren mansion, which had displaced the early Leavens home, stands now a modern house built of stone, which bears two inscriptions on the front of the second story. One of them reads:—

"On this site stood the house erected in 1720, by Joseph Warren of Boston, remarkable for being the birth-place of General Joseph Warren, his grand-son, who was killed at the battle of Bunker Hill June 17 1775".

The other reads:—

"John Warren, a distinguished physician and anatomist was also born here. The original mansion being in ruins, this house was built by John C. Warren M. D., as a memorial of the spot".

John Leavens, the second, left something indeed when he quitted that Roxbury estate, for it is now fine city realty far within the limits of Boston. We are happy to think of it as so memorably identified. He took the trifle it brought him and went to a new start in the wilderness. Again then we are to witness the hardy life of a pioneer; and that, too, for a man at an age when he should have been lightening his labors rather than taking on new burdens. The new town obtained the name Woodstock; it is the famous Woodstock, Conn. Our settler seems to have borne at least a modest share in affairs. In 1690 he was one of the selectmen, in whose hands was placed "the whole power of the town excepting granting lands and admitting inhabitants". In Oct., 1691, he was at the head of a committee for building a meeting-house "with power to let out the work and improve men to work on the same."

There were serious troubles with the Indians during the first decade of Woodstock. Whenever there was war between France and England in Europe, it produced irritation between the French of Canada and the English of New England, and set the intervening Indians on the war-path. This was the period of hostilities which ensued from the dethroning of James II. We will do well to notice two men who were especially vigilant and active in the defense of Woodstock. One is Peter Aspinwall, now Lieutenant in command of a military company and an authorized scout against the Indians. Another is Capt. John Sabin, a bold and enterprising pioneer, who had come from Rehoboth in 1691 and established his family in a fortified house a considerable distance to the south of the

Woodstock settlement. He acquired great influence and control over the Wabaquassetts.

The most alarming disturbances arose in the summer of 1696. Hostile Indians were at the very doors of the settlers, and it was necessary to rely in part on friendly Indians for protection. The minister, Mr. Dwight, exhorted and encouraged the people; Lieut. Aspinwall was doubly watchful; Capt. Sabin displayed his best skill and energy. And yet not a few colonists withdrew for safety into the older towns. The General Assembly ordered in Oct., 1696, "That Woodstock be accounted a frontier and comprehended within an Act to prevent the deserting of the frontier." Inhabitants were thus prohibited from leaving without special license. Now in the stress of this acute trial John Leavens succumbed to the inevitable. He died Oct., 1696.

Look into his house and see the stalwart lads, Peter at 19 years; James at 17; Joseph at 13; Benjamin, a Woodstock child, at four years of age; and on the other side, Rachel, a girl of eleven years, and Mehitable, a babe of eight months—choice material no doubt for an Indian massacre, yet better far to be spared as the foundation of a wide-spread American family. And here follows:—

An "Inventory of ye estate of Jno. Leavens, late of Woodstock, deceased,

The house and homestead,	£30 00
Rights and divisions of land,	20 00
Cattle horses and swine,	21 10
Bedding and furniture,	5 10
Iron, pewter, brass and Gun,	4 00
Tools and tackling,	0 10
Lumber,	0 12
Books,	0 8
Corn & Flax & yarn,	6 00
Money,	0 18
	<hr/>
	\$89 08

Apprised ye 15th Oct. 1696.

Benjamin Sabin,

John Carpenter,

John Chandler Jun.

Elisabeth Levins, Widow.

## FAMILY NO. 2.

JOHN LEAVENS (John) m. Hannah Wood, June 17 1665; d. Oct. 16 1696, at Woodstock (now) Conn.

HANNAH, dau. of John Wood of Sudbury; d. Oct. 25 1666.

Their child, at Roxbury,  
Hannah, b. Oct. 17 1666; m. Jonathan Peake of Woodstock.

He m. (2) Elisabeth Preston, daughter of Edward Preston, of New Haven, Conn., Nov. 23 1674.

ELISABETH, b. at New Haven, Sept. 29 1655; d. at Killingly, date unknown.

Their children, at Stratford,  
James, b. Dec. 9 1675; d. Apr. 23 1678.  
Peter, b. Nov. 15 1677:  
James, b. Oct. 14 1679:

at Roxbury,  
John, b. Dec. 10 1681; d. young.  
Joseph, b. Nov. 15 1683:  
Rachel, b. Dec. 10 1685; m. Thomas Brown.

at Woodstock,  
Benjamin, b. Apr. 10 1692:  
Mehitable, b. Feb. 3 1696; m. James Wilson Jr. Nov. 17 1718.

The widow m. Peter Aspinwall, Mar. 24 1698, 9. A daughter was their only child.

## V.

FOUR KILLINGLY FAMILIES.

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Our history lies in extremely serious age. And yet it is not dying of gravity, if the Rev. Mr. Dwight of Woodstock may be regarded as illustrating its humor. What finer drollery than his saying in a sermon—"If unconverted men ever got to heaven they would feel as uneasy as a shad up the crotch of a white oak." It was indeed a century and a half too early for that genial philosopher, Mr. Weller, with his famous caution, "Samivell, bevare of the vidders," but could anything be funnier in fact than that Lieut. Peter Aspinwall should come forward to marry Elisabeth Leavens! He actually did so March 24, 1699, and we should dearly like to have heard the dry comments of Parson Dwight when he tied the knot.

But it seems to us needlessly petulant that the relatives and friends (we can hardly say posterity) of the mature bridegroom should have persisted in discontentment about it. As far back as 1767 one of them wrote:—

"Peter, the son of Peter, was settled at Woodstock and married a widow with a large number of children \*\*\*\*they and she always kept him low: he had by her one daughter and she married a Bateman and had a son and several daughters, said Peter was a meek and sensible man and a Deacon."

This might pass, but quite lately the compiler of the Aspinwall Records brings out a shadow on Elizabeth, apparently in order to heighten the lustre of Peter. It appears that during her short residence in Massachusetts she incurred the displeasure of the authorities by expressing her mind too freely, and suffered a reprimand from the courts. Thereupon the inference is drawn that "Peter Aspinwall's wife was not so meek as her husband."

This Peter Aspinwall was son of a preceding Peter, and born in Muddy Brook (now Brookline, adjacent to Roxbury) June 4, 1664. He "took hold on the covenant," in the Church at Roxbury, as we have already seen, and came out with the pioneers of Woodstock, a young man of twenty-two years. He lived in continual contact with the family of John Leavens while that fellow-citizen and fellow Church member survived, and he looked upon the fatherless household two and a half years thereafter, before he ventured upon matrimony. He had a chance to know what he was about, and he had reached the mature age of thirty-five years. He was a man of versatile genius. He could command a company of raw soldiers; he could pull a trigger on a skulking Indian; he could drive a sharp bargain in wild lands; he could lay out a new road or bridge a

river; he could represent the town in the legislature; and, after all, he could come home and play the part of a "meek and sensible man and be a Deacon." We admire him for it; and we are not disposed to do him the disrespect to presume that he could not discern what would be for his interest and his happiness in marrying.

Whatever were Elisabeth Leavens' troubles in the tribunals that antedated the Suffolk County Court may not now be cleared up. It may have been to the credit of her Connecticut blood that she rebelled against the rigor of some Massachusetts prescription. Not a few persons suffered undeservedly for transgressing laws of that crotchety colony. But she had her revenge. In the very year after they stigmatized her, she went out with honor in the company that settled Woodstock. The day came when all the inhabitants of that spirited town were "rayling" against Massachusetts, and they called in a son of that same Elisabeth Leavens to help them break from the jurisdiction and go over to the colony which was hers by birthright. Outshining facts are these—that she sprang from a wholesome community, was born in a well-to-do and enterprising family and was wedded to John Leavens after he had passed the scrutiny of the townsmen where he chose to live; that she was his wife through toilsome years in her Connecticut home and afterward in his old home in Roxbury; that she followed him and shared his fortunes in the new home in the wilderness; that she sheltered the daughter of his former wife; that she brought into life six sons and two daughters, laid two in the grave and reared the rest to manhood and womanhood fitted to be the heads of strong lines of posterity; that she followed also a second husband into a fresh wilderness, bore to him the only child he ever had, and kept his hospitable home while he gained in old Killingly that reputation unto which the records of the town and state bear witness. We propose to honor her memory in this narrative as "the mother of us all." The New Haven child, the Stratford bride, the Roxbury woman, the Woodstock matron, among the very first of the gracious host of home-makers in Killingly—blessed be her name!

To the east, or south-east, from Woodstock lay a rough country extending to the Rhode Island line, and watered by the Quinebaug river and its affluents. Certain patents and grants of lands had been made to non-residents and were located hereabouts. Now, at an early day Peter Aspinwall had been employed by the Woodstock authorities "to lay out a road to the Quinebaug, where it may be most convenient to make a bridge, and lay out a road to Providence." In other ways it was a field for adventure. Its pine forests yielded a supply of turpentine, for which there was a sale at the country store of James Corbin in Woodstock. Indeed the young men, James Leavens at the age of twenty, and Joseph at seventeen, were employed by Corbin in gathering the product

about the year 1700 upon the tract in question. And here falls the occurrence which went down the Leavens family by tradition for generations. It is related by Miss Larned:—"The younger brother, Joseph, on one occasion strayed off alone, and, while felling a tree, was suddenly struck and wounded on the thumb by one of the original proprietors of the soil, a venomous rattlesnake. No help was near, the young man was in imminent danger, but with great coolness and presence of mind he hacked off the bitten thumb with his axe and then dispatched his assailant." "His peculiar chirography," adds the writer, "corroborates the truth of this legend, as also the sobriquet, 'Old One Thumb,' afterward given him by the Indians."

Meanwhile Lieut. Aspinwall had become deeply interested in the new country. The Leavens estate in Woodstock was sold to John Childs (it is now in the possession of the Woodstock Agricultural Society, and is part of their Fair Grounds), and the whole Aspinwall-Leavens combination was transferred, becoming thus among the foremost settlers of Aspinock, as the region was called. They lighted upon a choice location therein and set up a home. It is noticeable that fine lands in the neighborhood fell into the thrifty hands of Capt. John Sabin of Pomfret. Step-father Aspinwall was not long troubled with the older Leavens' sons. Peter and James were already of age. They fixed upon lands in the vicinity and soon had wives. The others delayed marriage; and we embrace the opportunity to observe some of the prominent families as they arrive and take up estates. There is Jonathan Eaton, locating eligibly between the Quinebaug and the Mill rivers. The Cadys from Groton, Mass., get good places. Land traffic grows lively, and nobody knows affairs better than Lieut. Aspinwall. James Leavens goes into the speculation, even to the venture of a saw-mill near the Rhode Island line—and a saw-mill is a prime institution in a new country. David Church settles near James Leavens. Capt. Sampson Howe is an important arrival, but he sits down farther north. The Cutlers, who come from Cambridge, are a most significant addition to the Killingly population, and they buy land upon "the advice of James and Joseph Leavens."

In the year 1707 a town organization was authorized by the General Assembly of Connecticut. The south boundary was Plainfield; the east Rhode Island, but the north supplied a bone for long contention. The territory covered was the north-east corner of Connecticut. Grantees took up their land, and at the end of 1709 thirty families were to be counted. Among the proprietors were Peter Leavens, James Leavens and Joseph Leavens, and we note, besides names already mentioned, John Chandler, James Danielson, Ephraim Warren, George Blanchard and numerous Allens. In the course of the charter runs this sentence:—"And this Assembly desires the Hon Governour to commissionate Lt. Aspinall or some other suitable person to train and command the souldiers in the said town-



ship, and to give a name to said town, and also to appoint the figure of a brand for their horses." Doubtless the worthy man suggested was adequate to these incongruous duties. At any rate, the town got the name Killingly.

## (1.)

We have peered into the darkness to distinguish the family of the first Peter Leavens. His wife was Patience, but what else we know not. He had many dealings in wild lands; his home was in the Quinebaug valley, and there the story vanished. But we have found the trail at last. The settlement of his estate is on the records of the Probate Office in New London. First, "Memorandum. Peter Levens dyed Feb. 7 1708 9." Then "in inventory of his estate, "proved accepted and ordered to be recorded." Here for curiosity is the inventory, "as followeth, in or as money":—

	£	s.	d.
"Imprimis, The house and homestead, containing near 100 acres of land	30	00	00
Item 30 acres of land lying on the plain and middle Entervail	20	00	00
Item, 33 acres of land on Rattle Snake hill,	6	13	04
Item. 40 acres of second division land in Woodstock,	15	00	00
Item. 3 acres of meadow in Woodstock near Jonath Peak	3	00	00
Item. The undivided land in Woodstock, being a 20 acre right Arms and Aparel	6	00	00
	7	13	10
4 cows 4 Stears 3 heifers a Calfe 2 sheep & 2 lambs, an old horse and eight swine	28	18	00
A Bed bedstead and furniture with 9 yards of Woolen cloth at 5 per yard	8	05	00
Pewter, Brass, Iron ware & Iron tools, Chairs, Tubs, Chest and other Lumber	1	10	09
Debts due to the estate,	14	15	11
	146	10	11

"Left a Widdow and 2 small children, a son Peter about 1½ years old, a Daughter Hester about 3½ years old very neady".

Due from the estate

	£	s.	d.
To James Leavens,	1	11	08
To 4 of the children of John Leavens late of Woodstock, deceased, by reason of which the land in Woodstock is put into this Inventory—to each 6£.	24	00	00
Funerale charges,	1	01	00
To Mr. Joseph Whipple,	6	05	08
To Richard Clemence,	3	13	00
To Joseph Cady,	1	00	00

Dribbling debts the sums not known yet.

Patience Leavens, "widow and Relict," appeared in Court of Probate June 8, 1709, "and made solemn oath that she gave to the appraisers a true presentment of the estate of her deceased husband according to the best of her knowledge and if any thing further appears to be his estate it shall be added to this inventory." Thereupon she received power of administration "on his Goods Chattels and Credits", filing her bond, with Obadiah Johnson as surety, in the sum of £100. All this indicates a disastrous rupture of the family of the first born of the four Leavens brothers. He had died at the age of 32.

(2.)

Of James Leavens, Miss Larned writes:—"a youth of much enterprise, collecting turpentine from Killingly forests for Woodstock tradesmen. A deposition from him refers to forty barrells of tar for James Corbin. He was thus enabled to purchase many land grants, which he sold to advantage. He secured a mill privilege on the Asawaga, or Five Mile river, in the east end of the town and ran a flourishing saw-mill. John May, one of the first settlers of North Woodstock, buys boards for his house of James Leavens in 1711. He was much employed in the land transactions of Killingly, laying out land for the minister and serving on the town committee. He was a constituent member of the Church organized in 1715, bringing a letter from the Woodstock Church."

We see his marriage distinctly. He took a wife from the Woodstock family of Chamberlain; but the children are not explicitly on record. We give them according to the best opinion to be formed. "He deeds a valuable farm to John Leavens with the dwelling-house and barn on the west bank of Five Mile river in 1732," and the inference is that John is his son, afterward a very important man. "No record has been found of the death of James Leavens and wife, or of the distribution of his estate. He probably died soon after 1744."

(3.)

As to the third brother we walk on sure ground. Let us consider ourselves invited to a Puritan wedding of the olden time. Joseph Leavens has made his courtship at the sumptuous home of Major John Sabin in Pomfret. John Sabin (son of William) lived originally in Rehoboth. There he married, Dec. 3, 1689, Sarah, daughter of Samuel Peck. Judith, their eldest child and only daughter, was born in Rehoboth, Aug. 26, 1690. In 1691 they removed to the region which became Pomfret. John Sabin was "a bold and active pioneer"; a "leading military spirit," and his services were acknowledged by the colonial governments. Until 1715 his Church connections were in Woodstock. He had three sons born in Pomfret, namely, Hezekiah, John and Noah. The mother died Oct., 1738, and Major Sabin died Oct. 25, 1742. Joseph Leavens had found the way to their home, and at the very proper age of 24 had won the consent of Judith

Sabin, though she could have been hardly 18 years of age. Miss Larned shall tell us of her:—

“Our first glimpse of Judith Sabin is as a small infant in her mother’s arms en route for Connecticut in 1690. After a wearisome journey through the wilderness, they reach the swollen Quinebaug at night-fall, and the tired mother ‘gave up,’ woman fashion, and refused to cross the formidable stream. John Sabin was too wise a man to argue with a tired woman, but solved the problem with one skillful stroke. Snatching the little Judith from the mother’s arms, he dashed through the fording-place to the opposite bank, and the wife was ready enough to follow.”

It would be a delightful exercise to let fancy loose to handle the ascertainable customs of those primaevae days and re-construct the wedding-day; but we forbear. The fact is that a valuable farm not far from the Aspinwall-Leavens home went with the bride. We used to think it must have been a task to clear it, but we learn that the Indians had burned it over for their rude tillage, so that it was partly in condition. Here Joseph Leavens set up the estate, which has been the one continuous Leavens home in Killingly to this day. A great family sprang up around these worthy parents.

(4.)

The fourth son was a Benjamin indeed. He was but seven or eight when the migration to Aspinock occurred. At the age of 23 he made a happy marriage alliance in the family of David Church. This early settler had bought lands of the elder Leavens brothers, and now he gives Benjamin a farm beside them. There is the appearance of energy and promise in the outstart, but unfortunately this Benjamin (the very first of that innumerable repeated name) is taken away early.

He died in 1724, a man only 32 years of age. On the first day of October of that year the Court of Probate at Lebanon granted letters of administration to Elizabeth Levins, widow. The sureties in her bond of £500 were James and Joseph, her husband’s surviving brothers. The inventory was presented and accepted. There were four children. Before the administratrix was ready to present her account she had become by a re-marriage Elizabeth Horsmor. The account was received in 1727, and subsequent records show that the children were well cared for.

There was a time, say between 1715 and 1720, when there were four Leavens families counted in the rude houses of primitive Killingly. That of Peter had become fatherless by his decease; that of James was not numerous perhaps; that of Joseph was increasing rapidly, and that of Benjamin was only begun. The river that had flowed out of Roxbury into Woodstock here “parted and became four heads.” From these four head-springs proceed all the Leavens people in America who can claim colonial origin from New England. But how meagre was the development of the family in the one hundred years from the day when the first John Leavens landed at Boston, the century from 1632 to 1732!

## VI.

PRIMITIVE DAYS IN KILLINGLY.

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Killingly once organized became sovereign of her lands, but had no meeting-house or minister. Between selling the lands, building the meeting-house and calling the minister, there was going to be a good deal of public business and great opportunity for town-meeting statesmanship. First of all Lieut. Aspinwall obtains from the legislature of the colony authority to tax the lands of non-resident owners for religious purposes. Then the town agreed to give Mr. John Fiske 350 acres of land "for his encouragement to settle in the ministry," (no small encouragement, it seems to us), and James Leavens and Sampson Howe are appointed to lay it out. This was in 1711.

Settlers were coming along, and we notice Ebenezer Knight and John Green around Chestnut Hill; in another direction John Hutchins; and in the northern part, the important arrivals of William Larned from Framingham and Samuel Converse from Woburn. There comes also Simon Bryant from Braintree, fore-handed of money and with a houseful of daughters. James Wilson and Samuel Lee introduce new family names.

Now arises a question which will convulse many a town meeting and worry the General Court. The line between Connecticut and Massachusetts had been pushed by a new survey farther north than theretofore assumed. Query, therefore—does Killingly-town stretch on to overtake it, or does the gain of territory accrue to the advantage of the Colony, to be disposed of by the General Court? Killingly naturally asserted jurisdiction, for it lay in her way; but Peter Aspinwall had to answer for it when he went to the legislature as the first town-representative, or "deputy," in 1713. The Colony then commanded Killingly to draw her north line parallel to her south and nine miles distant. The town insisted on going to the new Massachusetts line, which was fifteen miles or more from her Plainfield boundary.

Pending these disputes, the meeting-house was built, and Peter Aspinwall and Simon Bryant carried to the Assembly a devout request for Church organization, the supplication ending magniloquently thus:—

"We therefore your humble petitioners, affectionately pray this Great and General Court in their great wisdom and extensive benignity to exert their authority for our benefit as the law directs, by passing an act that the brethren in full communion among us may enjoy the leave and approbation of this honorable Assembly for embodying into church estate, that so a gospel candle-stick may be erected in the fields of the wood, with a burning and shining light fixt in it, to the glory of our ascended Lord and for the comfort and edification of ourselves and lastest posterity,—Which good work we have appointed (God's gracious providence permitting) to accomplish very speedily."

Such an appeal was surely irresistible, and the Church was organized Oct. 19, 1715.

Peter Aspinwall and Elisabeth, his wife, brought credentials from the Church of Woodstock, so did James Leavens and wife; others brought letters from churches in Massachusetts, and we notice the name of Stephen Grover, admitted on examination. The little Church grew. Here is where Peter Aspinwall attained the honor of deacon; Eleazer Bateman was his associate in office. Joseph Leavens and his family must have joined the Church on examination, the first year, for in one day, July 22, 1716, he led five children to the baptismal font to dedicate them unto God. And, mark it, the wedlock of Hannah Bryant, daughter of Simon Bryant, to William Larned was the first marriage.

There was a distribution of the public lands in 1721. Nothing can be done without Peter Aspinwall. He, James Leavens and Joseph Cady are the committee in charge of the ticklish business, and there are eighty proprietors to satisfy. Society multiplies institutions. There must needs be a "train-band"; and it is high time for a burying-ground. Peter Aspinwall gives the latter; he has been justice of the peace since 1716.

Here is an incident in the Colonial Assembly. In 1723 there appears a "petition of the Trustees of Yale College versus James Levinz, and versus John Fisk." In 1725 there turns up a counter-petition of John Fisk and James Levinz, which shows how they purchased grants that "through ignorance and mistake" "happened to be laid" on tracts to which Yale College maintained a title. The petitioners were permitted to "take up" equivalent land elsewhere. Here is another dated May, 1726. "Upon consideration had in this Assembly of the pleas offered in abatement of the petition of Paul Dudley, Saml<sup>r</sup> Morrice &c. v. Joseph Levens, Joseph Cady, proprietors of Killingly: The question was put whether such pleas were sufficient to abate the same: Resolved in the affirmative. Cost allowed said Levens and Cady is £1 02s. 4d." All this probably refers to the remonstrance of residents in the disputed lands to the northwards against the pretensions of Killingly to govern them. We must keep an eye on that interesting territory. Settlers slowly sift in. Besides names already quoted, we greet the emigrant train of Samuel Morris from Marlborough, Samuel Davis, the Horsmors who buy of Leavens and Aspinwall; and then Hezekiah Sabin, brother-in-law of Joseph Leavens, moves over from Pomfret and becomes the pioneer on Quinnatisset, now Thompson Hill. Other settlers are Bixby, Wiley, Joslyn, Upham and more.

By this time Joseph Leavens has become a prominent figure in the affairs of Killingly. He was appointed a Justice of the Peace for Windham County by the Assembly. of 1725, and was re-appointed year after year for a long period. Among his many duties, he assisted in settling the affairs of Pomfret. This sister town lies immediately west of Killing-

ly. Included in her men are found the Sabins, Samuel Perrin, Daniel Waldo, the Williams's, and such names as Weld, Adams, Whiting, Dana, Cheney, Cleaveland and more of familiar sound. Ready to constitute themselves more perfectly a town, they engage Justice Joseph Leavens to "warn" the meeting of "proprietors," to be held Mar. 6, 1726, "at the school house near the sign post." The new Justice comes over to the meeting, of which Major Sabin is made moderator; and no doubt the veteran takes pride in seeing his son-in-law "swear in" the town-clerk and thus sanction by the authority of the General Court of Connecticut the government of a new town.

Joseph Leavens represented Killingly in the General Assembly of 1726, again in 1728 and for five consecutive years. James Leavens was one of the two "deputies" in each of the next three years, 1733 to 35. Then Joseph takes the office three years, from 1737 to 39, inclusive.

That colony land north of Killingly is ever restless. Again in 1727 there appears before the General Court a petition for town-organization; and again Joseph Leavens and Joseph Cady successfully resist it. But leave is granted to the inhabitants to embody as a distinct society, or precinct. Justice Joseph Leavens is to warn the meeting, and now we get a specimen of his rugged style in composition. Dated June 18, 1728, the warning represents:—"That whereas there is a precinct set off at the north end of the town of Killingly by an act of the General Court, held at Hartford in May last, and they want to be imbodyed: These are therefore in his Majesty's name, to Mr. Benjamin Bixby and Mr. Hezekiah Sabin, and Mr. Ebenezer Green, all of said precinct, to require you to warn or cause to be warned all the inhabitants within your precinct to meet at the dwelling-house of Hezekiah Sabin in said precinct, on the 9th day of July—then and there for to choose a precinct clerk, and any business that shall be lawful and thought needful for the health of the precinct." This brought the people together, and the first resolution voted was "to hire a minister to preach the gospel in said society." From this outstart the business went along through months to the erection of a meeting-house, and at last, Jan. 28, 1730, the organization of a Church. The men acting in one capacity or another who chiefly attract our regard are Samuel Bryant and his son-in-law, William Larned, Joseph Cady, Henry Green and his many sons, Hezekiah Sabin, Nathanael Merrill, Benjamin Bixby, Uriah Horsmor, Samuel Converse and his sons, Jonathan Eaton, who is chosen deacon, and last of all the young pastor-elect. This is the Rev. Marston Cabot. A Harvard graduate of the class of 1704, he was twenty-six years old when he assumed charge of the new parish, known as the North Parish of Killingly, but afterward, and now, as the Church of Thompson, Conn. All this will be found of deep concern to the Leavens family when we reach the marriages of the children now growing up.

Indeed, we may follow this interesting community somewhat farther for glimpses of the times. In 1730 the parish embraced some 40 or 50 families, more being added frequently. The names Wolcott, Marsh, Russell, Fuller, Child enter the record. The young parson, Mr. Cabot, had married a daughter of Parson Dwight, long of Woodstock, and it led the racy veteran to Thompson to spend a quiet old age. Life will not stagnate with him around. The boundary between Massachusetts and Connecticut causes no end of trouble. At Hartford in 1733 it was resolved, that "This Assembly do order and appoint Roger Wolcott, Esq., Mr. Jonathan Burnham, Mr. Roger Newbury, and Mr. James Leavins, or any three of them, to be a committee to perambulate the said line and renew the monuments therein." Next year there is a grand arbitration over the disputed Thompson lands, in which James Leavins and Isaac Cutler appear on behalf of the proprietors of Killingly, while Joseph Leavins and two others argue for the rights of the town. Then comes the institution of a military company, as if there were some premonition of the vast demand presently to be made on these hardy families for soldiers. And next the schools—"for the benefit and advantig of having their children educated in reading wrighting and sifering!" These arrangements completed, the meeting-house elaborately finished, and a pound for cattle established, Thompson Parish marched along the high road of prosperity. Still it was territorially a part of Killingly, and it will be a long day before it becomes a separate town.

Let us review the four original families during a period coming down to about 1740.

(1.)

We have seen the premature death of the first Peter Leavins in 1708 9 and the adjustment of his estate. Nineteen years roll by and there is written on the records of a Court of Probate in New London (April 10, 1727) as follows:—

"Peter Levens the only son of Peter Levens Late of Killingly, Deceased has made choice of his unkle Joseph Levens Esq of Killingly to be his Guardian as appears by a Cirtificate under the hand of Mr. Justice Pierce of Plainfield, which choice this Court approves of and the s'd Joseph Levens acknowledges himself bound to the Treasurer of the County of New London in the sum of one hundred and forty pounds that he will be faithfule in his Guardianship afores'd as the Law directs.

Whereas Joseph Levens \*\*\*informs this Court that Patience Levens administatrix on the estate of the s'd Dec'd has been also a long time dead, and that there are only left one son and one daughter, and thereupon moves y't ye s'd estate may be distributed to ye s'd children according to Law, and Whereas there is no account of administration but what appears from the records of this Court exhibited with the inventory being funerale charges and debts due from the estate wh the s'd Guardian sais were undoubtedly paid out of the estate by the Administatrix in her lifetime wh

amounts to the sum of £37 11s 4d, the same is allowed; wh being taken out of the sum totale of the Inventory, there remains for distribution the sum of £108 19s 7d wh this Court distributes as follows viz. to the only son a Duble portion being £72 13s 00d and to the daughter the remainder being £36 06s 07d wh makes her a single portion the daughter to be paid in movables as far as they will go\*\*\* \*\*\*\*

Thus the little estate is distributed as the son comes to his majority. From examination of the land records Miss Larned says that the "son Peter sells land in 1728; sells his home lot in 1731, and probably leaves the town." The conjecture is correct, for from other sources we learn of him in Dutchess County, New York, where, as we shall see, he married and became the head of a great family.

Why did he leave? Perhaps the burden was too heavy for the heart of the lad. There was burden indeed. Not without reason did the inventory back in the year 1708 speak of the child Hester, "3½ years old very neady"! In the year 1739 the colonial Assembly received a petition from the select-men of Killingly concerning one Esther Leavinze, a person of defective mind. It appeared that by order of Court in 1727 they had been required to take care of her estate, which consisted entirely of land, and they now sought leave to sell 33 acres for "defraying past charges and future support" of this person. There was long and prudent care of the one left an orphan and "very neady". There is a record of "Esther Leavens d. Apr. 1 1774, aged 69"

#### FAMILY NO. 3.

PETER LEAVENS (John, John) m. Patience —: d. Feb. 7 1708 9.

PATIENCE b. ? : d. long before 1727.

Their children, at Killingly,

Esther, b. Dec. 4 1705: d. Apr. 1 1774.

Peter, b. Nov. 17 1707.

#### (2)

The home life of James Leavens does not come out clearly, although his career in business was so conspicuous. The indications show a man defective in education, but shrewd in judgment, vigorous in action and trusted for counsel.

#### FAMILY NO. 4.

JAMES LEAVENS (John, John) m. Mary Chamberlain Nov. 21 1699: d. ?

MARY, b. ? : d. ?

Their children,

Hannah, bapt. at Woodstock Nov. 18 1700: m. Eleazer Brooks, Jan. 16 1725.

Jerusha, bapt. Nov. 21 1714:

John, b. ?



Elizabeth, "dau. of Sergeant James Leavens" joined the Killingly Church Oct. 30 1737.

(3.)

In regard to the family of Joseph Leavens the materials of history are copious. Thanks to the endowment of Major Sabin it started prosperously. And the munificence of the father-in-law continued unto the end. He died in 1743, bequeathing £20 each to two of his sons, £100 to Judith Leavens, and the remainder of the great estate to the son Noah, who remained in Pomfret. (It is interesting to note that "his armor was valued at £15; books £4; brass and iron £35; husbandry utensils £64; stock £306; six horses £90; one Indian girl £20".) Joseph Leavens was not under a necessity of speculating like his brothers, and devoted himself to his home and his estate. Before he began his public career in 1725, ten children had come into his home, and others were born later.

In process of time there were marriages, and, the ice once broken, weddings happened often. The son Joseph found a wife in the family of Deacon Jonathan Eaton of the Thompson Church.

The son Noah took a wife from the family of Nathanael Merrill.

The son John went over to Pomfret (but it was much later) and took Esther Williams.

But the Leavens girls! eight in a bunch! and each obtained a worthy husband, and all were settled in a group around the paternal home! Our understanding of the matrimonial allotment gives Judith to Thomas Trusdell, Nov. 20, 1737. He died in 1744, leaving three children. She then appears to have become the wife of Wyman Hutchins.

Rachel was married Feb. 12, 1736 to Samuel Knight. They had ten children, and descendants of them are now living in Thompson village.

Zerviah went to Joseph Hutchins Jan. 22, 1735.

Abigail was married to Ezra Hutchins Dec. 10, 1740. Miss Larned says: "They had nine children. The youngest, Dr. Penuel Hutchins, was one of the first physicians in Killingly. The Hutchins-Leavens combination made very strong characters, and an unusual number of ministers have been reared in the several families."

Sybil was married to Nathanael Daniel.

Sarah was won by Silas Hutchins, Jan. 14, 1747.

Hannah was the first wife of Grindal Rawson, m. Feb. 26, 1745. There were two children, Joseph, who perhaps died young, and Hannah, who survived and was provided for in the will of her grandfather. The mother died at the end of 1750.

Keziah was married, Dec. 28, 1749, to Ebenezer, third son of William and Hannah Bryant Larned. They had eleven children. Ebenezer Larned

"was a man of sterling character, serving as select-man and deacon. His home was in the neighborhood east of Killingly Hill, where the memory of the gracious bearing and kindly acts of Mrs. Larned was long preserved. Their son Amasa, inserting an E in the name, became a prominent lawyer and politician in New London, and was the ancestor of that influential branch of the family known as the 'New London and Norwich Learneds.'"

Alice married Hezekiah Green of Thompson Parish, Dec. 11, 1755, and had seven or more children.

Thus this powerful family sent out branches in many directions while its patriarchal head was yet full of life. Justice Leavens has yet a strong part to play in affairs, as we are to see.

#### FAMILY NO. 5.

JOSEPH LEAVENS (John, John). m. (1) Judith Sabin 1707: d. at Killingly, Nov. 5 1773.

JUDITH, b. at Rehoboth Aug. 26 1690, dau. of John and Sarah (Peck) Sabin: d. 1751.

Their children, b. at Killingly.

Joseph, b. 1708: bapt. July 22 1716.

Sarah, bapt. July 22, 1716: d. young.

Judith, bapt. July 22, 1716: m. (1) Thomas Trusdell.

m. (2) Wyman Hutchins.

Rachel, bapt. July 22 1716: m. Samuel Knight.

Zeruiah, bapt. July 22, 1716: m. Joseph Hutchins.

Abigail, bapt. 1718: m. Ezra Hutchins.

Noah, bapt. 1720:

Sybil, bapt. 1722: m. Nathanael Daniel.

Sarah, bapt. 1725: m. Silas Hutchins.

Hannah, bapt. 1727: m. Grindall Rawson: d. Dec. 21 1750.

Keziah, b. Mar. 8 1729: m. Ebenezer Larned.

Alice, b. Aug. 13 1732: m. Hezekiah Green.

John, b. Sept. 23 1734.

He m. (2) Hannah, dau. of Simon Bryant, and widow of William Larned, Dec. 17 1755: she d. Apr. 12 1781.

#### (4.)

After the premature death of Benjamin Leavens the widow married again. At a Court of Probate in 1727 Elizabeth Horsmor presented her account as administratrix of the estate of her first husband. There was some careful provision for the children. In the year 1730 the boy Benjamin chooses his uncle Joseph Leavens for his guardian. Each of the others follows the same precedent, James in 1733; Mary in 1735; and Elizabeth in 1736. The son Benjamin was trained for manhood so as to become a most

active citizen. A memorandum has been found from the hand of an early school-master: "Names of Schollars I taught at Woodstock in ye year 1729 etc., viz.—From 10th November 1729 to 1st of April 1730." James Leavens is in the fortunate list.

The daughter Mary was married Jan. 8, 1740, to James Converse of Thompson. Miss Larned writes, "Her son Benjamin, sergeant on Capt. Elliott's Company at Bunker Hill, removed with the first band of emigrants to Marietta, Ohio, where he was greatly esteemed and left fine children."

The daughter Elizabeth was married to David Hebard (Hibbert) of Windham, Sept. 15, 1742.

#### FAMILY NO. 6.

BENJAMIN LEAVENS (John, John), m. Elisabeth Church, Dec. 21 1715: d. 1724.

ELISABETH, b. ?: d. ?

Their children in Killingly,

Benjamin, b. May 29, 1716:

James, bapt. June 8, 1718:

Mary, bapt. June 19 1720: m. James Converse.

Elisabeth, bapt. Feb 13 1724: m. David Hebard.

The widow Elisabeth joined the Church June 16 1724: and May 12 1725 was married to Uriah Horsmor.

## VII.

### THE WIDENING CIRCLE.

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Let our next period stretch away from about 1740 to the breaking out of the French and Indian War in 1755. We are now more than a hundred years distant from the day when the first John Leavens came over the sea among men with the tastes and refinement of Englishmen of the Elizabethan era. Life in the new world has roughened their descendants. They make up a vigorous, hardy and daring people; but the community is rude. Whoever may have been familiar with a New England region forty years after its first settlement will remember how stumps and stones still blotched the best of farms. Many a primitive log-house was still the family dwelling. Albeit the fields of the thrifty and prosperous may have become smooth, and there will be spacious homes surrounded by barns and granaries bursting with plenty. Every day was filled with toil. The round of the seasons brought "spring's work," "haying," "harvest" and a hundred intermediate occupations as regularly as the flight of time. The spinning-wheel buzzed in the kitchen and the loom clattered in the attic. The community produced all the necessities of its life—its variety of seasonable foods, its fruits, its raiment of woolen or flax, leather from its own tanneries and shoes or harness from its own shops, its moderate luxuries also, and its stimulants, whether moderate or sometimes immoderate.

These Englishmen of New England were roughened, we may admit; but were not demoralized. The "poor whites" of the south are said to be the degenerate posterity of sturdy Scotch-Irish settlers: the Boers of South Africa have fallen away from the identical stock that produced in another direction the aristocratic Knickerbockers of New York: if the English race in New England suffered on the surface, it never degenerated in the heart. The unadulterated blood of the Elizabethan Puritan still flowed in the veins of the Killingly farmers in the middle of the 18th century, and the intellectual impulse throbbed in their minds. They made much of public affairs, and well they might, for honor in town-meeting is no different thing from honor in an imperial parliament. Their schools were deficient in precision (as, for example, in the orthography of their names), but they induced pupils to think. The Church was an institution of the State in the Connecticut colony. Property was taxed to support it: and "town-meeting" was held in the "meeting-house," where the worship of God took place on Sunday. Doubtful was the experiment; but it forged principles. There was high speculation in theology, and there was spiritual fervor throughout that era. Jonathan Edwards was then at his prime in Northampton, a prince of American theologians who has not been sur-

passed, and volumes were coming from his pen. The "Great Awakening" spread over New England soon after 1740, and no settlement but felt the mighty revival. George Whitfield passed to and fro, and the yeomen of Connecticut were permitted to hear that most eloquent voice of the age.

Killingly was abreast with the times. She had her own agitations and controversies. The dismissal of Parson Fiske was an event to mark the year 1741. He had enjoyed a fruitful ministry of twenty-six years. During that time he had baptized no less than 763 persons, mainly the children of Christian parents, the seed of the immense harvest of stalwart population that poured out from that mother town. The Church had risen to 400 members. His departure from the pastoral office was succeeded by a bitter strife over the erection of a new "meeting-house." A committee from the General Assembly of the Colony pitched upon a site on Break Neck Hill as suitable to accommodate the south part of the town, where worship was already established, as well as to serve the earlier inhabitants of the north. Against this locality the latter protested vehemently. They would prefer a division of the society, with permission to build for themselves. Their appeal to the General Assembly discloses the temper of the times:—"They which underwent or bare the burthen and charge of the first settlement can not but look upon it as a very great hardship if they shall be obliged to assist in the building a new house for public worship to be set at a great distance from them, to gratify ye inhabitants of ye south part, especially since ye committee sent by ye Court directed said house to be built where very few can be accommodated, remote from settlements, environed with rocks and swamps," which will require great outlay for roads. "Your humble memorialists \*\*\*\* esteem themselves happy in having a wise Assembly to resort to—and their prayer is that they and their families may be made into a distinct precinct or another committee be appointed."

There are fifty-one names appended to the memorial, among them Joseph Leavens, James Leavens, Benjamin Leavens and Noah Leavens—the two first named being the well known brothers, the third a son of the first Benjamin, and Noah, the son of Justice Joseph. The old Justice is now a power in the Church, and his opponents think him an autocrat. He is clerk of the society and on the committee to fill the pulpit. He moderates the stormy meetings, and when the rash party proceed with the building on Break Neck, he obtains a stay from the Deputy Governor and Council. This document is addressed "To the Committee of ye prime society of Killingly" and is based on representations made by "Mr. Justice Leavens and Mr. John Leavens." This brings to sight John, the son of the first James Leavens. The paper was dated March 23, 1744, and that year, "Anno Regni Regis, Georgii Secundi Decimo Septimo, the deputies in the Assembly from Killingly were "Mr. Joseph Levinze and Mr. Joseph Cadey."

As the issue of the long controversy the Break Neck meeting-house was finished, and the Society was also divided. Then ensued a re-organiza-

tion of the original Church of Killingly. Here is the covenant adopted Nov. 25, 1745, a very flower of New England Puritanism:—

“That we have taken the Lord Jehovah for our God; will fear Him, cleave to Him, and serve Him: bind ourselves to bring up our children in the knowledge and fear of God, and in special by orthodox catechism; to keep close to the truth of Christ, taking the sacred Scripture as the only rule of faith and practice.

“Declare ourselves a Church of Christ according to Congregational principles as laid down in the Cambridge Platform, saving that instead of ruling elders we will from time to time choose two or more of the principal brethren to be helps and assistants to our pastor for the time being in managing the prudential affairs of the Church, and also to be present with our pastor at the examination of candidates for our holy communion, which candidates being approved shall exhibit in writing or otherwise a relation of their experience publicly on the Lord’s Day before the Church and congregation in order to their being admitted to full communion.”

Among the seventeen names signed we read, Joseph Leavens Sen., Joseph Leavens Jun., Benj. Leavens, and John Leavens, each of whom we recognize as the head of an important household. A committee appointed to locate a new meeting-house reported to the Assembly of 1746 that they had been on the ground, heard all parties concerned and decided on a site “on the east side of the country road, right against Noah Leavinze new house, where said Leavinze has given a deed of an acre of land for that use, where we have set down a stake which is to be enclosed with the sills of said meeting-house”. This was on the apex of Killingly Hill, since known as Putnam Heights. Then followed the erection of a spacious meeting-house, which was a rallying-point for many a day thereafter and saw stirring scenes.

Let us keep the eye on the central figure, our old, one-thumbed patriarch, the ancestor of so many of us. We may follow him into civil life, for he is in demand beyond the limits of Killingly. In 1745 he was one of those entrusted with the delicate task of locating a meeting-house for West Woodstock, which had been set off as a separate parish.

A still greater question was at hand. The town of Woodstock was in a furor. Its charter rights had been derived from Massachusetts, and it still paid allegiance to that colony. But in point of fact it lay south of the north line of Connecticut, and did it not owe allegiance to this colony? It became a question of withdrawing from the former and accepting the latter jurisdiction. A “notable meeting” to organize as a Connecticut town was held in the “first meeting-house” on Woodstock Hill at 10 a. m., Friday, July 28, 1749 O. S. Residents from all parts of Woodstock were present and many from neighboring towns. It needed a sagacious and fearless pilot in this venture, and such an one was on deck. “The venerable Joseph Leavens of Killingly, an honored son of Woodstock, called the meeting to order.” A full list of town officers was chosen, and “all were sworn into office by Justice Leavens.” A Connecticut town was made in

a day. But Massachusetts remonstrated that Leavens and others "exercised powers unwarrantably." The Governor of Connecticut retorted, forcibly if not logically, that the people of Woodstock belonged to his jurisdiction, "where God and the king had fixed the bounds of their habitation." But it could not be conceded without a struggle. For example, one Flagg, sheriff of Worcester County, Mass., served a writ in Woodstock. A Connecticut constable summoned a force of citizens and released his prisoner. The party who had been apprehended then had the Massachusetts sheriff arrested and brought before Justice Leavens, who promptly convicted him. An appeal was taken to the Windham County Court and it sustained the justice. The pilot brought his craft to port and Woodstock is to this day a Connecticut town.

Let us take our stand on Killingly Hill about the year 1753. The Rev. Perley Howe has suddenly died, and the Rev. Aaron Brown has been installed as his successor. Benjamin Leavens is treasurer of the Church; James Leavens is dead; Justice Joseph continues active; he had been in the Colonial Assembly in 1749, and again in 1750. Miss Larned's History gives us this picture:—

'Five hundred acres north of Chestnut Hill were sold by the heirs of John Knight to "Ebenezer Larned, innkeeper," son of William Larned of Thompson Parish in 1750. Mr. Larned was afterward deacon in the Church and an active member of society. His wife Keziah, daughter of Justice Leavens, was also greatly respected for intelligence and sound judgment. Among other notable women of this generation in Killingly were eight daughters of Joseph Leavens, happily married in their native town. Four of these sisters married four sons of John Hutchins, and occupied contiguous farms between Killingly Hill and the Centre.'

We have now to enter again the Leavens households. All save the third of the original four are extinct. That of Justice Joseph has been re-constructed. The noble mother of his children, Judith Sabin, died in 1751. Four years later, being at the age of 72, he married the widow of William Larned, the one who, as Hannah Bryant, had been the first bride in the Killingly Church, forty years before, and whose son Ebenezer had married one of his daughters. This venerable pair have many years of wedded life before them.

Now we have to do with the fourth generation, and for convenience we will number the families from seven to thirteen, inclusive.

Peter (PETER) must have wandered extensively, for he had reached the age of thirty-eight when in 1745 he married in Dutchess County, New York. It is significant that his first children re-produce the names Patience and Esther of his father's broken household in Killingly; and as soon as sons arrive they are named Peter, Joseph and Benjamin. This family developed amid the wholesome Quaker influences that made Nine Partners a famous locality in its day.

## FAMILY NO 7.

PETER LEAVENS (Peter, John, John) m. Catharine Caston, Feb. 24 1745: d. 1776.

CATHARINE, b. June 6 1722: d. May 12 1809.

Their children, b. in Dutchess County, very likely at Nine Partners.

Patience, b. Nov. 30 1745: m. Vermilye (Vincent?).

Esther, b. Feb. 2 1747: d. young.

Hannah, b. Feb. 22 1750: m. Joseph Thorn: d. Feb. 14 1830.

Peter, b. Oct. 13 1751:

Joseph, b. Feb. 5 1754:

Elisabeth, b. Jan. 9 1756: m. Daniel Dean.

Sarah, b. Oct. 27 1757:

Catharine, b. Mar. 6 1760: m. Abram Hyatt; to Canada.

Phoebe, b. May 15 1762:

Benjamin, b. Oct. 10 1766:

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John (JAMES) heads a great family. He married Mary Winter, Nov. 6, 1730, and the baptisms of his children are carefully noted, for John and Mary Leavens joined the Church, Sept. 26, 1731. He was prominent in Killingly as surveyor and select-man; he took a vigorous part in the Church; and at a later date he was active in colonial affairs. He had a seat in the Assembly in the year 1753 for the first time as deputy for Killingly, having Hezekiah Sabin for a colleague. Seven sons were born to him between 1731 and 1745. They were beginning to reach their majority in the period now under review, capital material for soldiers in the wars that are impending. It will be interesting if we succeed in following the fortunes of all these sons in the troublous years.

## FAMILY NO. 8.

JOHN LEAVENS (James, John, John) m. Mary Winter, Nov. 6 1730.

Their children in Killingly,

Samuel, b. July 3 1731: bapt. Sept. 26: Joined Church 1757.

Peter, b. Sept. 14 1732: bapt. Sept. 17.

John, b. Feb. 17 1734: bapt. Feb. —

Isaac, b. May 18 1735: bapt. May —

Penuel, b. March 18 1737: bapt. March —

Jerusha, b. Jan. 5 1739: bapt. Jan. 15.

Simeon, b. June 4 1741: bapt. June 8.

Benjamin, b. Mar. 3 1743: bapt. Apr. 24.

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When Joseph (JOSEPH) wedded Alice Eaton it was Parson Marston Cabot who solemnized the ceremony. This pair seems to have settled to a quiet life in a place carved out of the estate of the old Justice. Perhaps



it is the extraordinary vigor of the senior Joseph that throws the junior of the same name into the shade. Nevertheless the latter has a creditable record and lived to a hale old age. Alice Eaton Leavens survived him ten years and her body reposes, apart from her husband, in the grave yard at Windsor, and is the link to connect the Leavens family of Vermont to the good Connecticut stock.

## FAMILY NO. 9.

JOSEPH LEAVENS (Joseph, John, John) m. Alice Eaton Feb. 18, 1736:  
d. 1787.

ALICE, b. ?; d. Feb. 26 1797 at Windsor, Vt.

Their children, b. and bapt. at Killingly,

Jacob, b. Oct. 25 1736:

Darius, b. Mar. 28 1738.

Calvin, b. May 13 1741: apparently died early.

Lurana, b. Nov. 18 1743: m. Benoni Cutler Dec. 22 1763.

Charles, b. Aug. 23 1746:

Hannah, b. July 4 1750: m. Joseph Lee July 15 1770.

Noah (JOSEPH), with his wife Mary Merrill, began finely. He started a home on the apex of Killingly Hill, on lands taken no doubt from his father's possessions. A new house was built and children were born rapidly. But he was stricken with sickness. Conscious that the end was near he wrote a Will of singular beauty and hopefulness. He seemed to expect that his estate would go forward after his death as he would have carried it by his own strong hand, and that it would be able to turn out bountiful legacies to his children when in the distant years they should one by one become of age. Little did his closing eyes foresee in 1751 the two devastating wars that would be waged within the next thirty years. The little flock left fatherless consisted of three boys and two girls. The babe Joseph died the next year.

After a widowhood of three years Mary Leavens was married, Feb. 14, 1754, to Lieut. Isaac Larned, a widower with a large family in Oxford, Mass. There the four Leavens children were reared. In the year 1759 Rebecca was married to Peter Shumway (a nephew of Isaac Larned), and the name Leavens was long perpetuated as a first or middle name in the descendants of that couple. In 1762, Dec. 16, Zerviah Leavens was married to Samuel Moore.

The two boys Abel and Elijah had legacies in the Will of their grandfather, Justice Joseph. It was land, and they sold it to their uncle, Capt. John. It appears from a tax list that Elijah was at Oxford as late as 1771. (He served in the Revolution, but beyond that we do not keep sight of him.) Farther on we will trace the brother Abel as the ancestor of a great branch that now goes by the name LEVINGS.

## FAMILY NO. 10.

NOAH LEAVENS (Joseph, John John) m. Mary Merrill Oct. 1 1740:  
d. 1751.

Their children, b. in Killingly,

Abel, b. Jan. 14 1741: (1741)

Rebecca, b. June 29 1743: m. Peter Shumway, June 4 1759, in Oxford  
Mass.: d. Mar. 11 1826.

Zerviah, b. June 11 1745: m. Samuel Moore, Dec. 16 1762, in Oxford.

Elijah, b. Aug. 1 1747:

Joseph, b. Aug. 8 1749: doubtless d. in infancy.

Joseph, b. Mar. 29 1751: d. June 8 1752.

Mrs. Mary Leavens was married to Isaac Larned in Oxford Feb. 14,  
1754, as his second wife; she died May 16, 1789.

John (JOSEPH) during the period in hand is a youth in his minority.  
He is to have a lively part, we think, in the French and Indian War,  
and it will not be timely for him to marry until the issues of it are  
settled.

Then he will be the mainstay of his aged father, the executor of his  
Will, and the residuary legatee of his landed estate. It indicates a man  
of substance and capacity, befitting his familiar appellation, "Capt. John."  
There are indications that his home was a centre of hospitality and intelli-  
gence. His enterprise will be demonstrated in leading out a vigorous  
family among the pioneers of Ohio. Though a little in advance, we insert  
his family here.

## FAMILY NO. 11.

JOHN LEAVENS (Joseph, John, John) m. Esther Williams of Pomfret,  
March 20 1762: emigrated to the North West Territory and settled  
in Belpre Ohio, Nov. 1789: d. July 1799.

ESTHER, b. at Killingly (Thompson) Jan. 27 1744: d. in Putnam (Zanes-  
ville) O. Nov. 27 1828.

Their children, b. in Killingly,

Joseph, b. Sept. 21 1763:

Judith, b. May 21 1765: m. Shuba'l Wilmarth, North Adams Mass.: d.  
Jan. 27 1840.

Vine, b. Aug. 5 1767: tradition that he perished at sea.

Frances, b. Sept. 24 1769: m. in Ohio Nov. 14 1790 to Maj. Joseph Lincoln  
from Salem Mass.: d. at Gallipolis O. Mar. 1830.

William, b. Sept. 17 1771: d. June 21 1773.

Hannah, b. Sept. 5 1773: m. (1) Joseph Plummer.

m. (2) Stephen Pierce. d. 1826.

Betsy, b. Sept. 28 1775: m. Mar. 23 1803 Dr. Increase Matthews, at Marietta O., d. May 3 1852 at Putnam (Zanesville) Ohio.

William, b. Sept. 24 1777: d. Aug. 1778.

Esther, b. July 25 1779: m. Thomas Sandford Nov. 27 1803: d. at Alexandria Va. 1852.

John, b. Oct. 2 1781:

Matilda, b. Nov. 28 1783: m. John White: d. in Indiana.

Benjamin (BENJAMIN) married Elisabeth Cady in 1742. Ten years later one child was born to them and he was a widower. Afterward he married youthful Dorothy Perrin, Jaughter of Samuel Perrin of Pomfret. Seven sons were born to them in the twenty years from 1755 to 1775. They were growing to manhood in the thrilling period when their father was active in public affairs. For this Benjamin was a man of commanding influence during the excitements of the French and Indian War and also in the War of the Revolution. The home lay adjacent to that of Justice Joseph, and alongside the Justice he is one of the strongest men of the Leavens blood. The seven sons matured in his home and went out to be heads of large families. The oldest of this group saw service in the Revolution and all were molded in character by the grand events of their time. The posterity of this patriarch was carefully collected by Mr. Erastus W. Leavens more than thirty years ago, and we shall be greatly indebted to his work in following out the lines farther on.

#### FAMILY NO. 12.

BENJAMIN LEAVENS (Benjamin, John, John) m. (1) Elisabeth Cady Dec. 4 1742: d. July 27 1798.

ELISABETH, d. of Capt. Joseph Cady: d. March 17, 1752, aged 32 years.

Their child, b. at Killingly,

Elisabeth, b. Mar. 10 1752. m. Ebenezer Gay Mar. 5 1773: d. 1837.

He m. (2) Dorothy Perrin July 18 1754.

DOROTHY, b. ? : d. Feb. 27 1809.

Their children at Killingly,

Jedidiah, b. Aug. 19 1755:

Lucy, b. Dec. 30 1756: m. Joseph Cady Apr. 10 1782.

Roland, b. Sept. 7, 1758:

Hezekiah, b. Sept. 12 1760:

Benjamin, b. July 2 1763:

Dorothy, b. Jan. 25 1765: m. John Kingsbury: d. Dec. 25 1820.

Oliver, b. Nov. 16 1766:

Royal, b. June 9 1769: d. March 24 1775.

Eden, b. Nov. 20 1772:

James, b. July 6 1775:

James (BENJAMIN) became a member of the Thompson Church in 1741. His wife was Bathsheba, but we know neither her maiden name nor the date of the marriage. Seven, if not nine, children appear either on the town record of births or the Church record of baptisms in Killingly. Only two are sons, and they appear to have died young. The family removed to Mansfield. The recently published records of that town show a second marriage of James Leavens and other children. Again the sons die young. We arrange the records according to our best judgment and we presume that there is no Leavens posterity upon this line.

The inventory of his estate was presented to a Court of Probate in March, 1794, and may now be found in the Court House at Willimantic. It indicates a man of substance and of refinement. He had "lands about 107 acres with all the buildings thereon" appraised £438 14s 11d. The total estate was £495 2s. 2d. Letters of administration were granted to Jonathan Hebard and a son-in-law, Amasa Stoel (Stowell), a strong indication that there was no son.

#### FAMILY NO. 13.

JAMES LEAVENS (Benjamin, John, John) m. Bathsheba ———  
d. 1794.

BATHSHEBA, b. ? : d. in Mansfield Jan. 6 1760.

Their children, b. at Killingly,

Prudence, b. June 6 1743: m. Isaac Cushman Nov. 14 1776 in Mansfield.

James, b. July 19 1745: d. May 9 1746.

Amasa, b. Sept. 3 1747: d. in Mansfield Jan. 4 17——

Elizabeth, bapt. Nov. 1 1749 (Mansfield record).

Mary, b. June 25 1752: m. Josiah Stowell Nov. 5 1772 in Mansfield.

Abigail, b. Apr. 22 1754: m. Abner Huntington, Oct. 15 1781 in Mansfield

(A Killingly record ascribes to James Leavens Sybil and Lucretia,  
both bapt. Mar. 2 1766; perhaps it is an error for 1756.)

Bathsheba, b. at Mansfield Nov. 5 1759: m. Amasa Stowell Feb 21 1786 in  
Mansfield.

James Leavens then m. Esther Curtice dau. of Henry Curtice of Coventry, Apr. 23 1761.

Their children, b. in Mansfield,

Esther, b. Oct. 18 1763:

Amasa, b. Oct. 20 1765: d. Aug. 11 1791.

Henry, b. Aug. 31 1767: d. June 5 1776.

(In the Mansfield records there is a marriage of Daniel Howe Jr. to Olive Leavens, May 16 1793.)

## VIII.

THE FRENCH AND INDIAN WAR AND AFTER.

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The occurrence of hostilities between England and France in Europe was sure to be felt immediately and disastrously in America. It would set the French colony of Canada against New England, and indeed involve all the English colonies. It would at once rouse to excitement the Indian allies of both parties. Not waiting for an outbreak, even the apprehension of a war started the flame in 1755. The French took position at Crown Point on Lake Champlain, menacing most seriously all the English interests. In that year the plan was agreed upon that the New England colonies should raise a force for the relief of Crown Point and the strategic positions on Lake George. Connecticut was to furnish a thousand men. At this hour the name of Israel Putnam looms to view. Born in what is now Danvers, Mass., anciently Salem Village, he had married in 1738 and the next year had bought an estate in the Mortlake district, afterward Pomfret and now Brooklyn, Conn. There he lived the quiet and hardy life of a farmer. The affair of his shooting a savage wolf, in her den, in the winter of 1742-3, brought him into conspicuous notice among his neighbors.

There is dispute as to Putnam's first service in the French and Indian War. Bancroft and many historians say that he served as a private in 1755. There is a firm tradition, however, that he raised a company of which he became captain. Anyway, there was a great stir in Connecticut. The General Assembly of 1755 (in which John Leavens was a deputy) held a session for urgent business in the autumn. Miss Larned writes, "In November Israel Putnam received a commission as captain and was ordered to raise a company of men to hold possession of Fort Edward during the ensuing winter." General Humphrey, his earliest biographer, says, "As he was extremely popular, he found no difficulty in enlisting his complement of recruits from the most hardy, enterprising and respectable young men of his neighborhood." One Peter Leavens was sergeant under him, and it surely was son of John (who sat in the Assembly) and grandson of JAMES. Everybody knows that Putnam's company did illustrious service as scouts and rangers.

In 1756 war was formally declared between the two mother countries. It affected their colonies everywhere in the world. Here began the movement which ultimately gave India to England; and here also was the training-school for the subsequent war of the Revolution, which cost her the loss of America. But for the present the colonists, our forefathers, were fighting for the king against France. In the General Assembly of 1756 (Benjamin Leavens sitting for Killingly), forces were ordered to be

raised and officers were appointed. Putnam was captain of the 4th company in the First Regiment. In the 3rd company, of which John Payson was captain, there was John Leavinze 1st Lieut. We think this must have been the youngest son of Justice JOSEPH. The campaign of 1756 was disastrous. In 1757 Fort William Henry on Lake George was taken by the French under Montcalm with fearful losses and horrible atrocities to the Americans. Soldiers were now demanded in great numbers. The Assembly of 1757 was raising its 11th regiment. Four companies marched from Windham County. The volunteers were men in advanced years, the fathers of the towns. The colonial records say, the Assembly "do establish Benj. Levins to be Lieut. of the 4th company or train band of the 11th Regiment in the Colony". He had been in the Assembly the previous year, and he leaves behind a group of small children if he now goes to the field.

Under the ministry of William Pitt in England new life was infused into the world-wide war, and it was felt in the remotest settlement. From Oxford, Mass., there is a "return of men enlisted in John Chandler's regiment for the invasion of Canada under Gen. Amherst", and among the men is Abel Leavens aged 17. This is the son of Noah, grandson of JOSEPH, who had been left by the death of his father in 1751. The same year Connecticut made "Israel Putnam Esq. Major of 3rd Regiment and Captain of 3rd Company". In this company Was Peter Levinze, Ensign. Next year the 7th Co. has Peter Levens for 1st Lieut.; and in 1760 he is spelled Peter Leavens. It is quite surely one and the same Peter, though his surname is handled so capriciously. They give it another twist in 1761, when he is Peter Levins 1st Lieut. of the 11th Co.

There was active war at all points on the American horizon—Louisburg, Fort Du Quesne, Fort Frontenac—then in 1759 at Ticonderoga and down the Lake, while the gallant Wolfe was capturing Quebec. Finally in 1760 Canada went to the British. The war dragged on in other lands and the military organization was kept up in the colonies. One Penuel Levins comes to sight as Ensign of the 11th Co. in 1762. He must be a brother of the foregoing Peter. And at last—Peace in 1763!

The disaster to the colony of Connecticut had been frightful. Hosts of her young men had perished. Farms had been left uncultivated; families had suffered to the verge of starvation; morality and religion had sunk to a low ebb; the colony lay in a miserable plight. We have seen certain Leavens names attaining to commissions or to subordinate offices; surely there may have been others in the ranks. It were a wonder indeed if some were not numbered among the killed in battle, the dead of disease, or the lost in ways unknown. There are some sons' names on the lists of births or baptisms of whom we never hear again. They may have been engulfed in the wars. Unhappily there are no rosters of the soldiers of the French and Indian War to identify them.

From the close of the great conflict to the breaking out of the Revolution was a period of barely twelve years. The time was brief for recuperation. It was long enough, however, for a class of boys to grow to the age of bearing arms, and not so long but that the experienced soldiers of the former could take part in the latter struggle.

The material prosperity of the colonies was quickened by the rising controversy with Great Britain. The "Stamp Act" became a law in 1765 and excited the spirit of resistance. Duties on tea, glass and paints were imposed in 1767. The effect was a determination to foster industries at home, to practise frugality, to increase manufactures and diminish importations. It was a severe regimen, but nothing could have been better for the country. The "Non-Importation Agreement" among the colonies was taken up in 1769. The Act of Parliament shutting the port of Boston in 1774 brought things to an acute strain. The country was stirred throughout; and the towns, one by one, took action. The inhabitants of Killingly in a meeting, June 29, 1774, reached the following resolutions:—

"That we will not purchase any goods of linen or woollen manufacture imported from Great Britain, and will break off all trade and commerce with the Indies if it be thought best by the committees in general Congress."

"That we will to the utmost of our power encourage manufactures among ourselves."

"That we will not sell any flax seed to any person, except to be sold in the country or ground into oil."

"That we will religiously abide by these resolves, till the port of Boston is opened and the liberties of the people restored."

"Also—Voted and chose a committee to take in subscriptions of the inhabitants of this town in sheep or otherwise, to be transmitted to the poor in Boston."

While these sentiments and resolutions were ripening, the Leavens families in Killingly were multiplying. As far back as 1760, a town-meeting in the great meeting-house on Killingly Hill chose Benja. Leavens as one of the select-men. Joseph Leavens Jr. had to be content with the humble office of "horse-brander." He enjoyed some compensation in the Church, where he was "society clerk." Lieut. Benjamin rose to be deacon in 1765. The young men of the fifth generation were taking wives and setting up households.

Before the first shot of the War of Independence a notable obituary is to be written. "JUSTICE JOSEPH LEAVENS, a founder and father of the town, the last survivor of the settlers of Killingly, after having faithfully served God and his fellow-citizens for successive generations, departed this life Nov. 5, 1773, aged ninety years."

His was a rugged and heroic character. There are abundant evidences of his kindly and generous disposition, and yet a broad hint lies

in the record of Theophilus Knight that "the old squaw said she did wonder what made everybody afraid of Old One Thumb"!

The progeny which sprang from him was immense, especially on the side of the daughters. The census of his grand-children was attempted by Theophilus Knight (one of them, who survived till 1844), but he confessed himself bewildered. There were to his knowledge 22 Hutchins in three families; 10 Knights; 9 Larneds; and 7 Greens. There were also Rawsons, Daniels and Trusdells in whose veins ran Leavens blood. He says, "the three brothers had thirteen children that I knew—they had more I suppose but how many more they had they were so long before my day I never knew how many more they had". He might have counted, we think about seventy-five grand-children to the sturdy old Justice.

His body reposes in the ancient grave-yard of Killingly (now Putnam) beside Judith, the wife of his youth, and on the double head-stone one reads,

"Our precious Souls have taken Flight  
To Realms of Everlasting day  
And left our bodies here confined  
To mix and dwell with fe(llow) clay".

Here follows in full his last Will and Testament:—

In the name of God, Amen.

Sept. the 15th AD 1732—I Joseph Leavens of Killingly in the County of Windham and Colony of Connecticut in New England, Esqr. being in health of body and perfect mind and memory, thanks be given to God therefor, calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing it is appointed for all men once to die,

Do make and ordain this my last will and testament, & principally and first of all I will & bequeath my soul into the hand of God that gave it, hoping to be saved by Jesus Christ, & my body I will to the earth, to be buried at the discretion of my executor hereafter named, and touching such earthly estate which it pleased God to bless me with in this life, I give and demise and dispose in the following manner and form.

Imprimis,—I give to my beloved wife Hannah all that estate she brought to me and also which room in my house she pleases, with privilege of the well and cellar, and sufficiency of wood at the door cut fit for the fire, and all provisions necessary for life both in sickness and in health at the charge of my estate all to be performed as long as she pleases to live in my house and is my widow, also I give her a mare called my mare for her own forever, to ride to meeting and elsewhere when she pleases.

Item—I give to my son Joseph a tract of land in that part of my farm called the lower intervail, to begin at an old stump which is Benjamin Leavens corner on the bank of the river, thence down stream by the river till it comes to intersect the lower end of the plowing land, thence easterly across the intervail to a white oak tree marked, under the hill, thence southerly by a small pond hole to a farm formerly belonging to Capt. Sabin deceased, thence westerly by said farm till it come to a farm formerly



belonging to Jabez Allen deceased, thence northerly by said farm till it come to intersect the south line of Benjamin Leavens, then westerly to the bound first mentioned: and also half my wearing apparel and that with what I have given him before, I judge to be his full share of my estate.

Item,—I give to my two grand sons Abel and Elijah Leavens, two tracts of land in the lower intervail which bound south John's land, North and East Joseph, West on the river; the other tract lyes in that part of my farm called the great field, that is, one moiety or one half of said field, Quantity for quality, said two tracts of land to be equally divided between them two and they to come into possession as they arrive at the age of twenty one years, and if either of them happens to die before that then the other to have the whole.

Item,—I give to my son John all my houses and lands not before disposed of with all my husbandry tools and utensils and my great bible and half my wearing apparel. And further my will is that after my just debts and funeral charges are paid, that all my personal estate indoors and out doors not yet disposed of shall be equally divided between my eight daughters and my Grand Daughter Hannah Rawson and my son John, that is Hannah and John to be each equal to one of my daughters, Viz. Judith Hutchins, Rachel Knight, Zerua Hutchins, Abigail Hutchins, Sarah Hutchins, Sibel Daniels, Keziah Larned, Alice Green, Hannah Rawson and my son John, meaning that they share equally alike, and I do hereby revoke and disannul all other wills by me made ratifying this only to be my last will and I do hereby constitute and appoint my son John Leavens Executor of this my last will and testament

Signed, Sealed, published and declared and pronounced by the said Joseph Leavens to be his last will and testament.

JOSEPH LEAVENS L. S.

Damaris Howe

Damaris Brown

Aaron Brown.

The above Will as offered for examination "November ye 12th AD 1773"; and "At a Court of Probate held at Pomfret, within and for the district of Pomfret, on the 7th day of December AD 1773 present Ebenezer Williams Esqr. Judge, personally appeared Mr. John Leavens, the Executor named in the foregoing will and exhibited the same for Probate, and accepted the trusts therein reposed by the testator as Executor, and the same is by this court approved, allowed of and ordered to be recorded and kept on file".

## IX.

### THE REVOLUTION.

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In the events of the Revolution, especially during the early years, the inhabitants of Windham County could not but take the most lively interest. Many of them had sprung from the Massachusetts colony, where the troubles began. They now lay on the highway between Boston and the large towns of Connecticut, leading thence to New York and Philadelphia. Couriers flew through their streets. Israel Putnam, destined to be so prominent in military affairs, was of their number. Jonathan Trumbull, who was Governor of Connecticut throughout the Revolution, was a Windham County man. He was a confidential adviser of Washington, who, as it is related, used to say, when in perplexity—"Well, we must consult Brother Jonathan"—and hence the well-known epithet.

The people acted as towns. After the stanch resolutions of June, 1774, Killingly's committee (of which Benjamin Leavens was one member) reported their town "to be well united, and determined to maintain its privileges at the risk of their lives and fortunes, and ready to contribute to the necessities of those called to suffer". A contribution of sheep for the hungry in Boston accompanied the resolutions.

The conflicts on Lexington Green and in Concord occurred on Wednesday, April 19, 1775. The news sped to Windham County. It was told to Putnam at his plow in the field. He "loitered not", but left his young son Daniel, "the driver of the team, to unyoke it in the furrow", and started out among the people. He advised them to wait until they were called out regularly, and then set forth on a night ride to Cambridge. Friday the 21st was spent by the people in active preparations. Our historian writes. "There is some evidence that Killingly received the news at a still earlier hour on Thursday morning by a direct express from Boston, brought to the house of Mr. Hezekiah Cutler. He arose from his bed and fired his gun three times to give the alarm, and before sunrise, with fifteen men, had started for the battle field". "Many snatched their guns and marched off without waiting for formal orders. Killingly's stock of powder was stored in the meeting-house, under charge of Hezekiah Cutler, who had left orders that each volunteer should be furnished with half a pound and the house was thronged all day with squads of men coming from all parts of the town to claim their portion and march onward to Cambridge".

A regular body of troops was dispatched on Sunday, April 23. Killingly sent 146 men. Among them were Major William Danielson and Captains Elliot and Cady. In the company of Capt. Joseph Cady there are accredited,

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Darius Leavens, corporal,	20 days
John Leavens,	7 "
Penuel Leavens,	7 "
Benjamin Leavens,	3 "

Capt. McClellan's "troop of horse" mustered at Woodstock. They were off before Putnam's message was received from Cambridge. A memorandum says there were "36 horses rode". Among the names were Perley How, Waldo, Lyon, Sabin, Williams, Perrin, Buck, Cady and others. On the roster is recorded "Charles Levings, 5 days". This is unquestionably Charles Leavens of Killingly.

Of course the great proportion of the excited volunteers would return to their homes and avocations when military operations were reduced to order. Putnam came back to advise the Connecticut government. Six regiments were provided for, and he was named to be one of the Brigadier Generals. The Windham County soldiers were assigned to the Third Regiment, of which Putnam was Colonel and Experience Storrs Lieut. Colonel. The eighth company was from Killingly, with Joseph Elliott for Captain. Many who had sprung forward at the first alarm were formally mustered into this regiment. Darius Leavens was corporal in Co. 8. The regiment marched to the seat of war and joined the patriot army which was investing Boston and holding the British regulars therein. Other Connecticut troops had arrived, and New Hampshire men under Stark were on the ground. The whole business was under the direction of Massachusetts, whose highest officer was Gen. Artemas Ward; but there was great confusion of authority.

Simultaneously there were lively actions in the north, where Ethan Allen captured Ticonderoga and pressed his way down Lake Champlain toward Canada.

In June occurred the battle of Bunker Hill. Darius Leavens of Co. 8 must have been under arms. It is understood that his part of the regiment covered the retreat when the Americans withdrew from the field.

By this time the Continental Congress sitting in Philadelphia was prepared to assume direction of the War. It appointed Washington Commander-in-Chief and named Putnam to the fourth Major-Generalship. His part at Bunker Hill and the valor of the Connecticut troops were universally applauded. Washington arrived and took command July 3rd, and Putnam was placed over the third division with head-quarters at the Inman house in Cambridge. The campaign resolved itself into a prolonged siege of Boston, within which the British were shut up. The besieging lines cut through that estate which the first John Leavens had settled in Roxbury and which was now the home that mourned for General Joseph Warren, killed at Bunker Hill. It is mentioned as an incident of the time how most of the fine apple trees on the place were cut down by the soldiers.

In the autumn Gage passed the British command over to Howe. On the American side there were loud complaints on account of the inactivity of the campaign. In December the Connecticut troops could not be persuaded to prolong their enlistments, and this accounts for the expiration of the service of Darius Leavens on the 13th of that month. It is believed that the majority of Putnam's regiment re-enlisted in Washington's Continental Army.

In February arrived some of the canon captured by Ethan Allen at Ticonderoga. It is timely also to notice that New Hampshire patriots were astir. The Revolutionary records of that state show that "in the pay roll for Capt. Jason Wait's company in Col. Bedell's regiment, the name of Peter Leavins appears as a private in February 1776, in the first battalion of New Hampshire troops in Continental service".

On March 4 and 5, 1776, the Americans occupied Dorchester Heights. It left Gen. Howe no option and on March 17 he embarked his army and sailed away to Halifax. Thus was Boston relieved, the campaign in Massachusetts closed and the seat of war transferred to the line of the Hudson.

Meanwhile the campaign in the north against Canada was failing. The Declaration of Independence was issued on the Fourth of July. Washington had left Boston in April for New York, and the British were now concentrating in that harbor. They landed and gained the battle of Long Island Aug. 27. Gen. Howe crossed East river into New York, Sept. 14, and the city was burned on the 21st. The American army withdrew north toward Westchester County. It was a dark hour for the patriot cause and the help of volunteers was eagerly solicited. From eastern Connecticut Major Backus' Regiment of Light Horse responded. It was ordered to New York in September and marched on the eighth. In the company of Capt. Keyes is enrolled the name of Charles Leavens. The Eleventh Regiment of militia marched Sept. 14th. Capt. Joseph Cady commanded Co. 3 and in the ranks stood Jedidiah Leavens. The intense strain in New York was alleviated somewhat by the battle of Harlem Heights, Sept. 16th, an advantage to the Americans, but won at the high cost of the death of Col. Thomas Knowlton, a gallant officer, a son of Windham County.\*

The troop in which Charles Leavens served remained in the field till November, when Washington issued the following in General Orders:—"A relief having come for his Light Horse under Major Backus, that Corps is now dismissed with the General's hearty thanks for their faithful

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\*When Connecticut in 1895 honored the memory of Col. Knowlton with a splendid statue in the State House, one member of the Statuary Commission was Kirke H. Leavens, Esq. of Norwich, a grandson of Jedidiah Leavens, above named.

services and the cheerfulness and alacrity they have shown upon all occasions."

It is deeply to be regretted that the rolls of the seven "Continental" regiments for 1776 from Connecticut are missing. We should look with keenest interest for Leavens names upon them.

While the situation was so intensely strained in camp and field, what was the feeling at home? There were no mails, no daily newspapers and no telegraph to keep the people informed of events and forewarned of what was likely to happen. A thousand fears sprang to their high-strung minds. At times there was blank consternation. Miss Larned sketches a moment when an alarm was sounded in Killingly:—"Not a man was left at home but decrepit grandfathers and paralytics: no arms, no ammunition. Flight seemed the only resource, and a dismal, miry swamp was selected as the place of refuge. A boy was sent to rally all the neighbors. He ran to Larned's store, then a well-known business centre. Lieut. Larned had gone to the front with his regiment, leaving business and family in charge of his wife. She was not one to run from the face of danger. A rousing fire was blazing in the huge kitchen fire-place, filled with kettles of water and every iron instrument that could be mustered, with which she intended to make a stand against the invaders. "Old Granny Leavens"—the aged widow of the first William Larned of Thompson—was equally resolute. She had survived several Indian wars and two husbands, and now, sinking back into her chimney corner, exclaimed with Calvinistic resignation—"If I AM to be killed by the Tor-ies tonight, why then I SHALL BE, so I'll e'en stay with Becky."

This was the second wife and widow of Justice JOSEPH, and it is our last glimpse of his immediate family.

For New England there was the liveliest matter of concern in the invasion from Canada by Gen. Burgoyne. He re-took Ticonderoga in July, 1777, advanced to Fort Edward, was checked by the result of the battle of Bennington, Aug. 16, and surrendered at Saratoga, Oct. 16. There could not have been a soul in New England that was not thrilled by these proceedings, and we cannot but regret our inability to record the acts and thoughts of every one of our ancestral family. A single illustration is recorded (see Family No. 21).

An item of peculiar interest comes from New Hampshire. "In a return of Major Whitcomb's Independent Corps of Rangers from their enlistments till they were taken from under his command to join the Continental Army by order of Congress the name of Noah Levings of Westmoreland appears as enlisted March 18, 1777, for the war." We can not trace the career of this soldier, but "in an account of state bounties for Continental soldiers who enlisted in the year 1781 for three years or during the war the name of Noah Levins appears as having enlisted Jan. 1, 1781, in 3rd Co., 1st Reg't, commanded by Col. Cilley". (See Family 25).

The personal attention of Washington was bestowed upon affairs around New York and Philadelphia during 1777 and 78. A side issue was an attempt to dislodge the British from Newport. A body of militia commanded by Gen. Tyler served under Gen. Sullivan, and was present Aug. 21 at the battle of Rhode Island. In Col. Chapman's regiment, Capt. Cady's Co., appears "Isaac Leveans," the first private on the roll. (See Family No. 19).

There were levies enlisted for short terms in the 3rd regiment, 1779-80. Among them served Joseph Levins, July 15, '80, to Dec. 12, '80. This regiment was with the main army on the Hudson during the campaign of 1780 and wintered, '80-'81, at Connecticut village.

(It is difficult to assign the following, which appears in the Massachusetts Records:

"Levins, Joseph, Private, Capt. Israel Harris's co; Col. Benjamin Symonds's (Berkshire Co.) regt.; enlisted Oct. 12 1780; discharged Oct. 15 1780; service 6 days, including 3 days (60 miles) travel home; company marched to northern frontier by order of Gen. Fellows on alarm;

ALSO, Lieut. Alexander Sloan's detachment from Capt. Samuel Clark's co., Col. Asa Barnes's regt; enlisted Oct. 22 1781; discharged, Nov. 2 1781; service 12 days; detachment marched from Berkshire Co. to Northern frontiers".)

Among the levies in the 8th regiment was Samuel Leavens, from Sept. 16, '80, to Dec. 9, '80. This regiment also was with the main army in the campaign of 1780 and then wintered at Connecticut village.

These two youths must have been, we think, sons of Samuel Leavens, Fam. No. 17.

During the later years of the Revolutionary War the field of operations was in the South and the conduct of affairs lay with the Continental Congress. If any Leavens men were in the Continental Army it would be difficult to trace them in the far-away campaigns.

The New England colonies at once after July 4, 1776, re-organized as states independent of the British crown. Benjamin Leavens sat for Killingly in the General Assembly of Connecticut in the autumn of 1776, when the decisive resolution of independence was ratified. He attended three sessions of the Assembly in that memorable and eventful year, two in 1778 and one in 1779—an honorable legislative service in a time that required courage and wisdom. This patriarch survived to the age of eighty-two and died in the year 1798. He lies beside his wife Dorothy, in the ancient grave yard of Killingly.

Let us take the opportunity in the stress of the Revolution to review the Leavens families. We will bring into a group all of the fifth genera-

tion, both those within Killingly and those beyond the borders; both those actual before 1775, and those possible and prospective.

Peter (Peter, PETER) appears in the enrollment of patriotic men in Dutchess County at the approach of the Revolution. We have great difficulty in determining his family. In a letter from Lewis T. Leavens of Bloomfield, Ont., dated May 28, 1894, we have the following, in answer to inquiries about this Peter Leavens:—"Quite unexpectedly one of his grand-daughters, a lady over seventy, came to my place for a visit from the far West, Vancouver, B. C. She said that her grand-father married in Dutchess County and had one son, named Richard. The mother died and after two or three years he married again a lady named Hannah Hunt. The boy Richard was apprenticed to a trade, but became dissatisfied, and took his own course, changing his name so as to spell LEVINGS. By the second marriage of the father four children were born in Dutchess County, Samuel died when a child, Peter and Robert lived to start families, Mary married John Harrass and moved to Canada. Robert also moved to Canada and died in early life, leaving children. The father Peter died when the son named Peter was about five years old."

This is the most definite and authentic information that we have, and we re-construct the families accordingly. We venture to surmise that the imperfect recollections which we have from kind correspondents now living in Dutchess County confuse the two families of Richard and Robert. However, we must close the inquiry, and our results are subject to correction.

FAMILY NO. 14.

PETER LEAVENS (Peter, Peter, John, John) m. (1), \_\_\_\_\_ in Dutchess Co.: d. 1778.

Their child,  
Richard, b ?

He m. (2) Hannah Hunt.

Their children,  
Samuel, d. young.

Mary, m. John Harrass; moved to Canada: d. 1855.

Peter E., b. Nov. 26 1783:

Robert, b. ? : m. and removed to Canada: d. 1830 in Prince Edward Co.

Joseph (Peter, PETER) was at the age of twenty-one when the Revolution broke out and he married in that year, 1775. His occupation as a teacher and his bent as a religious leader indicate a man of peace. And yet in the public records of the times there appears an "enlisted man," Joseph Leavens, in the "Dutchess County Militia," fifth regiment, entitled to "Land Bounty." The man belonged to the Orthodox Quakers and was a minister of that Society forty years. He lived to preach at

the funeral of a great-great-grand-child. With his family he removed to Canada in the year 1798. We understand him to have been the pioneer in the remarkable "migration" from Dutchess County to "Upper Canada." His wife, Phoebe Atwill, used to say that she went there "to have plenty of wood to burn and plenty of wheat bread to eat." There is the tradition that three sons of the venerable Quaker minister did duty for their adopted country in the War of 1812.

#### FAMILY NO. 15.

JOSEPH LEAVENS (Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Phoebe Atwill, Jan. 1 1775: d. in Prince Edward Co., Canada, 1845.

PHOEBE, b. in Dutchess Co., June 5 1755: d. in Prince Edward Co. 1842.

Their children in Dutchess Co. N. Y.

Sarah, b. Nov. 26 1775: m. Cornelius Palmer: d. in Canada, Dec. 13 1862.

Mary, b. Jan. 1 1777: m. James Barker.

Catharine, b. 1781: m. Enoch Cronk: d. March 24 1858.

Deborah, b. : m. Martin Van Blaricombe: d. May 15 1862.

Benjamin, b. May 11 1786: m. Dency Huyck: no record of family.

Peter, b. Jan. 3 1789:

Eliphalet, b. May 24 1791:

William, b. Nov. 21 1794:

James W., b. Oct. 29 1797:

Benjamin (Peter, PETER) was a boy nine years old at the outbreak of the Revolution. He would not be the head of a family until five years after the close. This family removed to Canada in 1803.

#### FAMILY NO. 16.

BENJAMIN LEAVENS (Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Sarah Cunningham, Oct. 18 1787: d. Oct. 6 1844 in Prince Edward Co. Ont.

SARAH, b. in Dutchess Co. Mar. 30 1766: d. in Prince Edward Co. Aug. 27 1847.

Their children in Dutchess Co., except the last.

Daniel, b. Apr. 13 1789:

Phoebe, b. Feb. 5 1791: d. Jan. 26 1881.

William B., b. Jan. 27 1793:

Samuel T., b. May 15 1796: d. July 4 1807.

Thomas C., b. Sept. 29 1799: d. Oct. 6 1799.

Mary, b. in Prince Edward Co. Nov. 14 1805: m. Mastin.

Samuel (John JAMES) was the first born of a large family and in turn became the head of an important household in Killingly. He married



Elizabeth Johnson, Jan. 9, 1756. It is a fact perfectly established from the records of the town and of the Church that their first-born were twins, Joseph and Mary, who came Jan. 12, 1757; and the next additions were triplets (Willard, Alice and Eunice), born Aug. 3, 1759. The child Willard soon died, as the record of deaths shows. There is (or was), if we mistake not, a head-stone in the old burying-ground at Killingly that names an Alice Leavens who died in 1823, and she may well have been the triplet sister. Other children were born, among them a Samuel in 1765, and another Willard to replace the one lost. The two sons Joseph and Samuel appear in the Revolutionary records, and will find mention in the "migrations".

It is a remarkable fact that in the year of this publication there was still living a grand daughter of this Samuel through the son Joseph. Miss Valeria A. Leavens, who died at Glens Falls, N. Y., March 6, 1903, was born in the year 1813 to Joseph Leavens, who had been born at Killingly in the year 1757. She was deeply interested in the family history. She remembered hearing her father say that his mother had "five children under four years of age." She is spoken of as an amiable Christian woman; and we found her a sprightly and interesting correspondent.

FAMILY NO. 17.

SAMUEL LEAVENS (John, James, John, John) m. Elisabeth Johnson  
Jan. 9 1756: d. ?  
ELISABETH, b. ?: d. ?

Their children at Killingly,  
Joseph b. Jan. 12 1757:  
Mary, b. Jan. 12, 1757:  
Willard, b. Aug. 3 1759: bapt. Aug. 5: d. Dec. 21 1759.  
Alice, b. Aug. 3 1759; bapt. Aug. 5: d. Dec. 14 1823.  
Eunice, b. Aug. 3 1759; bapt. Aug. 5:  
Elisabeth, b. Mar. 31 1762: m. Caleb Marsh: d. 1855.  
Samuel, b. June 18 1765:  
William, bapt. Apr. 24 1768:  
Willard, bapt. Oct. 31 1770: d. Feb. 8 1823.

We have stray notes that may concern the family of the Willard here brought to sight.

A head-stone in the old burying-ground near Putnam commemorated "Rachel, wife of Willard Leavens, d. July 26 1802 in her 32nd year".

Elsewhere we learn that Rebecca Parks (b. Oct. 21 1776; d. Apr. 25 1840) m. Willard Leavens, son of a Leavens whose wife was Elizabeth Johnson.

Another head-stone commemorates "Elizabeth, dau. of Willard Leavens, d. Jun. 23 1845, aged 25 years".

Another says, "Willard Leavens d. Feb. 8 1823 in his 52nd year".

Suppose two marriages and these facts can be combined and account for a family.

#### FAMILY NO. 18.

Peter (John, JAMES) does not appear as the head of a family; but is to be mentioned later in the "migrations".

Isaac (John, JAMES) married, but we do not learn the date or the family from which he took a wife. A part of his children are on the records of births in Killingly, the earliest in the year 1765. He appears in the Revolutionary service, and his subsequent course is explained in the "migrations".

#### FAMILY NO. 19.

ISAAC LEAVENS (John, James, John, John) m. Mehitable ———: d.

Easton, Washington Co. N. Y., May 29 1810.

MEHITABLE, b. Dec. 25 1741: d. Mar. 10 1825.

Their children, the four first named b. at Killingly, the others uncertain,

Zerviah, b. Oct. 30 1765:

Polly (Mary), b. March 31 1766: m. Uriah Burton: d. Dec. 6 1831.

Roswell, b. Jan. 18 1768:

Noah, b. May 25, 1770: d. May 21 1826.

Joseph, b. Sept. 28 1772:

John, b. Sept. 20 1774: d. Aug. 23 1811 without children.

Lucy, b. March 14, 1777: d. March 17 1794.

Penuel (John, JAMES) came to sight in the militia at the close of the French and Indian War. He is also one of the men who started from Killingly at the "Lexington Alarm." There is a record of his marriage in the year 1778, when he would have been forty-one years old. It is said that Penuel Leavens was killed at Eaton's, afterward Bundy's, grist mill, half a mile above Cargill's mill in Thompson.

The family is not easily traced.

#### FAMILY NO. 20.

PENUEL LEAVENS (John, James, John, John) m. Joanna Brown, May 17 1778: d.

Their children, according to Town Clerk's record,  
Jesse, b. Oct. 2 1778:

Rhoda, b. Oct. 26 1779:  
 Stephen, b. Feb. 26: 1781:  
 Sarah, b. Dec. 25 1782:  
 Joseph, b. Jan. 11 1785:  
 Oliver, b. June 18 1789:

We hear of one STEPHEN LEAVENS, who m. Juliett Merick, in Onondaga Co., N. Y., and d. in Illinois, when his son was but two years old. The latter is BAIN LEAVENS of Shell Rock, Iowa. He has sons, but we are unable to give the record of the family.

The Stephen named above had a brother JESSE LEAVENS, who is said to have m. Martha Work. He had a son and a daughter, but the names do not come to us.

We presume that these are the first and second sons in the family of Penuel. We insert here such records as we have of the third and fourth sons and their posterity.

3.

JOSEPH LEAVENS (Penuel, John, JAMES) m. Dorcas Whitford.

Their children at Killingly,  
 Willard, b. Mar. 30 1811:  
 Mary Ann, b. : m. Pierce : d.  
 George H., b. 1816:  
 Sally, b. :  
 Miranda, b. : m. Hyde : d.

He m. (2) Annie, widow of his brother Oliver, Feb. 2 1823.

Their child,  
 Oliver, b.

He m. (3) Lucina Pierce, Sept. 23 1832.

LUCINA, b. ? d. Oct. 20 1879.

Their children,  
 Joseph, b. 1835:  
 Dorcas Annie, b. 1838: in Providence.  
 Sarah J., b. 1840: m. Shadrach Simmons, Nov. 18 1861.  
 Harriet, b. 1845: m. Adams : d. 1863.  
 Steaphen A., b. Nov. 4 1850:

a.

WILLARD LEAVENS (Joseph, Penuel, etc.) m. Susan Nott Hyde, Nov. 14 1843: d. Feb. 17 1892.  
 SUSAN N., b. July 2 1820 at Preston: d. about 1901.

Their child at West Killingly,  
Elisabeth Nott, b. Sept. 30 1845: d. Sept. 3 1891.

b.

GEORGE H. LEAVENS (Joseph, Penuel, etc.) m. Sophia W. ———  
d. May 1899.

SOPHIA, b. about 1813: d. Jan. 8 1860.

Their child,  
Miranda, m. Sweet, at Putnam.

He m. (2) Martha Lawton.

c.

OLIVER LEAVENS (Joseph, Penuel, etc.) m. Whittemore:

Their children,  
Eliza, b. ?  
Henry, b. ?

The family left Killingly about 1874.

d.

JOSEPH LEAVENS (Joseph, Penuel, etc.) m. Ruetta E. Chase, Nov. 19  
1856: d. Sept. 24 1866.

Their children at Killingly,  
William, b. May 25 1858: d. July 11 1877.  
Eva, b. Feb. 18 1861: d. about 1878.  
Joseph K., b. Apr. 10 1867: d. about 1870.

e.

STEPHEN A. LEAVENS (Joseph, Penuel, etc.) m. Margaret Palmer  
in 1871:

MARGARET, b. 1849 in Ireland:

Their children,  
Annie, b. 1872: m. Thomas Conley, in Providence.  
Joseph, b. 1874:  
Mabel, b. 1876: d. 1899.  
Margaret, b. 1878: m. William Robshaw, in Providence.  
Stephen, b. 1880: d. 1881.  
Willard, b. 1881.  
George, b. 1883:  
Charlotte, b. 1885:

John, b. 1888: d. 1891.

Thomas, adopted from Annie Conley.

This family resides in or near Providence, R. I.

JOSEPH LEAVENS (Steaphen A., Joseph, Penuel, etc.) m. Ella Adams,  
and lives at Valley Falls, R. I.

4.

OLIVER LEAVENS (Penuel, John, James, etc.) m. Anna ————:  
d. before 1823.

ANNA, d. before 1832.

Their children,

Lucina, b. ?

Nelson, b. July 18 1812:

NELSON LEAVENS (Oliver, Joseph, Penuel, etc.) m. Elizabeth P.  
Chollar: d. Jan. 24 1893.

ELIZABETH, b. Apr. 27 1810: d. Apr. 21 1879.

Their children,

William H. H., b. Sept. 21 1840:

Charles N., b. May 16 1849:

William H. H. Leavens belonged to Co. K, 18th Conn. Vols. must. in  
Aug. 18 1862: must. out June 27, 1865.

FAMILY NO. 21.

BENJAMIN LEAVENS (John, James, John, John).

The "Revolutionary Records" of Massachusetts, lately published, contain the following:—

Leavens, Benjamin. Private, Lieut. Constant Webster's Co; enlisted Aug. 15 (1777): discharged Aug. 23 (1777); service 12 days, including travel (90 miles) home; company marched from Worthington on expedition to Bennington to re-enforce army under Gen. Stark, and returned home, via Northampton, conducting prisoners from Bennington".

"ALSO, descriptive list dated Norhampton, Sept. 14 1780, of men detached from Col. Israel Chapins (2nd Hampshire Co.) regt, for the term of three months, agreeable to resolve of June 22 1780; Capt. Webber's Co; age 37 yrs.; stature 6 ft.; complexion dark; engaged for town of Worthington; mustered July 5 1780."

The age here recorded clearly identifies this man as the youngest son of John Leavens, Fam. No. S.

There is another entry which may also refer to him.

"Levins, Benjamin. Private, Capt. Ebenezer Sheldon's co; Col. Seth Murray's regt; enlisted July 30 1780; discharged Oct. 10 1780; service 2 mos, 18 days, including 7 days (132 miles) travel home; regiment raised to re-enforce Continental Army for 3 months".

We know nothing of the man after these services in the Revolution.

Jacob (Joseph, JOSEPH) m. Elisabeth Hascall in the year 1768. He succeeded to the ancestral estate, but apparently died before his children had arrived at full age. One of his sons followed in possession and built the house which is now occupied as the residence on the old place founded by Justice JOSEPH. The other son will be found in the stream flowing out toward the new countries opened after the Revolution.

#### FAMILY NO. 22.

JACOB LEAVENS (Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Elisabeth Hascall,  
Nov. 17 1768: d. 1786.  
ELISABETH,

Their children, in Killingly,  
Lurana, b. July 2 1769: m. Weld, Medina N. Y.  
Andrew, b. Feb. 11 1771:  
Elisabeth, b. July 4 1774: m. (Simeon<sup>1</sup>) Allen in Killingly.  
Susannah, b. Nov. 7 1775: m. Reuben Westcott, Milford N. Y.  
Sarah, b. June 2 1777: m. Wm. Andrews: d. Oct. 19 1859.  
Eunice, b. Sept. 28 1779: m. Chas. Wescott, Trenton Falls.  
Jacob, b. Oct. 14 1781:  
Mary, b. Oct. 14 1781: d. Dec. 12 1782.

Darius (Joseph, JOSEPH) married Martha Fairbanks in the year 1761. They two joined the Church Nov. 8 1763, and there is a record of the baptism of their first born child in the next month. He responded to the "Lexington alarm" Apr. 1775 and served 20 days as corporal. He belonged to the 8th Company in Col. Israel Putnam's Regiment, in which he served from May 10, 1775, to Dec. 13 of the same year. The regiment was on duty at the battle of Bunker Hill. According to the best of our knowledge the 8th Company was in the command that was ordered to cover the retreat of the patriot forces upon their withdrawal from the scene of the fight. Many of the Connecticut men upon the expiration of their term re-enlisted in the "Continental Army," but we do not follow the steps of Darius Leavens. Surely he had duties at home, where the last of his numerous children was born the next year. The mother died in 1783. The Church record of the father's death, in 1785, says, "aged 45 years", though he would seem to have been nearer 47. We must trace the orphan children when we come to treat of "migrations".

FAMILY NO. 23.

DARIUS LEAVENS (Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Martha Fairbanks  
 Nov. 26 1761: d. July 12 1785.  
 MARTHA, b. ? : d. Mar. 12 1783.

Their children in Killingly,  
 Alice, b. Apr. 28 1763: m. Rufus Fairbanks of Plainfield or Cornish, N. H.  
 Olive, b. Jan. 7 1765: m. Noah Bliss of Warren Mass.  
 Ellen, b. Mar. 3 1767: m. Benjamin Buck of Windsor Vt, Nov. 25 1790:  
 d. Feb. 23 1851.  
 Rufus, b. Apr. 22 1769:  
 Willard, b. Sept. 5 1771:  
 Thurlow, b. Feb. 18 1774:  
 Abel, b. Aug. 22 1776:

Charles (Joseph, JOSEPH) married Lydia Grover in the year 1773.  
 He comes to sight in Jan. 1775 in the public-spirited enterprise of buying a  
 "common" on Killingly Hill. There are thirty-four subscribers to the fund.  
 Among them appear Benjamin, Penuel, John, Jacob and Charles Leavens.  
 He responded to the "Lexington alarm" in April. He rendered service  
 in the autumn of 1776, which we note in the section upon the Revolution.  
 He tarried in Killingly until three children were born, and then removed  
 to Windsor, Vt. We here insert his family as the record of births is given  
 in the published History of Windsor.

FAMILY NO. 24.

CHARLES LEAVENS (Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Lydia Grover at  
 Killingly June 27 1773: d. at Windsor, Aug. 4 1822.  
 LYDIA, b. 1755: d. at Windsor, May 15 1839.

Their children, b. at Killingly,  
 Mary, b. March 15 1774: m. Benoni Buck.  
 Penuel, b. Apr. 25 1777:  
 Ira, b. Feb. 28 1779:

(born at Windsor)  
 Charles, b. March 13 1781:  
 Calvin, b. Aug. 18 1784:  
 Darius, b. June 17 1786:  
 John Grover, b. March 2 1788: d. Dec. 18 1801.  
 Chloe, b. Nov. 3 1789: m. Luther Wardner.  
 Jacob, b. Jan. 7 1792: d. Sept. 28 1801.  
 Marson, b. Dec. 8 1793: d. March 28 1808.

Abel (Noah, JOSEPH) was reared, we suppose, in the great family of Isaac Larned, his step-father, in Oxford, on the Massachusetts side of the line. He is mentioned with his brother Elijah in the Will of their grand-father Justice Joseph Leavens, dated Sept. 15, 1762, and probated Nov. 12, 1773. The brothers "quit-claimed" their interest in the estate to their uncle, Capt. John Leavens, long before their grand-father died. In the Oxford records there is a "return of men enlisted in John Chandler's regiment for the invasion of Canada under Gen. Amherst". Among the men, who were "all of Oxford," appears Abel Levens. He is described as "a(ged) 17". This was in the year 1758. After the service he married Esther Munsell in Oxford, Aug. 28, 1760. We presume that most of his children were born there, but we have not the dates.

Then came a great change. For the public records show Abel Leavens buying land, for which he pays £25, in Walpole, N. H., in the year 1772. The next year his youngest son, Elijah, was born at Walpole. This interesting family is traced farther in the "migrations".

#### FAMILY NO. 25.

ABEL LEAVENS (Noah, Joseph, John, John) m. Esther Munsell, Aug.  
28 1760: d. at Walpole N. H. about 1793.  
ESTHER, b. ? : d. ?

Their children, born, we presume, in Oxford, except the last, who was  
born in Walpole.

Noah, b. prob. 1762.

Rebecca, b. ? : m. Ebenezer Wellington, Sturbridge Mass.

Abel, b. ?

Elijah, b. Nov. 9 1773.

#### FAMILY NO. 26.

Elijah (Noah, JOSEPH) was also brought up in Oxford. He is mentioned as taxed there as late as the year 1771. He lived in the part now included in Charlton.

In the "Revolutionary Records" of Massachusetts, recently published, appear the following entries:

"Levins, Elijah, Charlton, Private, Capt. Jacob Davis Co; Col. Ebenezer Larned's regt, which marched on the alarm of April 19 1775 to Roxbury; service 12 days:"

"Levens, Elijah, Charlton, Private, Capt. March Chase Co. Col. Nathan Sparhawk's regt; enlisted Sept. 22 1778; service 2 mos. 24 days at Dorchester; company discharged, Dec. 12 1778."

"ALSO, Capt. Abijah Lamb's co.; Col. Jacob Davis's (Worcester Co.) regt; enlisted July 29 1780; discharged Aug. 8 1780; service 14 days in-



cluding 4 days (80 miles) travel home; company marched to Tiverton R. I. on an alarm."

This is clearly the first Elijah, son of Noah, born on Killingly Hill, brought up in Charlton (part of Oxford), Mass., and brother of the first Abel, the one who migrated to New Hampshire. We have no knowledge of this Elijah subsequent to the Revolutionary record.

Joseph (John, JOSEPH) was a boy of twelve at the out-break of the Revolution. He was a young man when he followed his father in the migration to Ohio. There he married Betsy Stratton in Belpre. We find no posterity descending from him.

FAMILY NO. 27.

JOSEPH (John, JOSEPH, etc.) m. Betsy Stratton : d. near Belpre  
Sept. 13 1814.

Their children,

Elizabeth, b. : d. Oct. 22 1822, aged 20 years  
Katherine, b. : m. John Smithers: d. at Cape Girardeau Mo.  
Matilda, b. : m. John Smithers as 2nd wife; no child.

John (John, JOSEPH) was not born until two years after the close of the War. Of course he accompanied in the exodus of his father's family to the "North-West Territory." There he married, and there he died in early manhood, leaving two daughters. There is further reference in the Ohio story.

FAMILY NO. 28.

JOHN LEAVENS (John, Joseph, etc.) m. Patience Warner in Putnam,  
now Zanesville O. d 1815.  
PATIENCE, b. Dec. 2 1782: d. at Clinton Ill. Oct. 23 1874.

Their children at Putnam,

Catharine B. b. 1807: d. Oct. 5 1893.  
Mary W. m. A. B. Lewis, June 2 1836.

Jedidiah (Benjamin, BENJAMIN) was twenty years old at the out-break of the War. He rendered service in 1776, which is noticed in the proper connection. He then passed some time in the new settlements of Vermont. He was elected the first town-clerk of Reading, March 1780, and continued in office till June, 1781. He was engaged in a lively affair in Hartland when the controversy about the New York authority was raging. But he returned to Connecticut, where he married at an age somewhat mature. His body rests in the ancient grave-yard of Killingly. We insert here the families bearing the Leavens name descending from him.

## FAMILY NO. 29.

JEDIDIAH LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Patience Whittaker, Oct. 6 1793: d. May 1 1833.

PATIENCE, b. Mar. 27 1770: d. May 31 1833.

Their children, the first b. at Stafford Conn.; the others at Becket Mass.,

Mira, b. Aug. 7 1794: m. Geo. A. Richmond, 1814.

Dolly, b. Aug. 11 1796: m. Sprague Aldrich, 1817.

Betsy, b. July 29 1798: m. Lot Mitchell, 1830.

Lucy, b. May 18 1800: m. Stukley Smith.

Jedidiah, b. Mar. 27 1803:

Marcia, Gay, b. Jan. 20 1806: m. Stephen Smith, 1832.

JEDIDIAH LEAVENS (Jedidiah, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Frances J. Hammond Jan. 15 1833 at Hampton Conn.: d. at Norwich July 9 1867.

FRANCES J., b. Apr. 17 1812: d. Oct. 27 1895.

Their children, the two first named b. at Killingly; the others at Norwich.

Kirke Hammond, b. Sept. 24 1834:

Josephine Maria, b. Dec. 24 1836:

Benjamin, b. Sept. 9 1841: d. Sept. 19 1841.

Lucy Griffin, b. March 26 1843:

Francis Jedidiah, b. June 25 1845:

The two sons are manufacturers in the Quinebaug valley and honored residents of Norwich, Conn.

KIRKE HAMMOND LEAVENS (Jedediah, Jedediah, etc.) m. Martha M. Gleason, Oct. 1863:

MARTHA M., b. July 1833:

Their child,

Sarah Hall, b. at Plainfield Conn. July 11 1868:

Sarah Hall Leavens received the degree B. A. at Smith College in the Class of 1887.

FRANCIS JEDEDIAH LEAVENS (Jedediah, Jedediah, etc.) m. Frances D. Dickson, Feb. 19 1874:

FRANCES D.

Their children at Norwich,

Faith Robinson, b. Apr. 10 1878:

Delia Dickson, b. Sept. 14 1879:

Dickson Hammond, b. Mar. 16 1887:

Francis J. Leavens received the degree Ph. B. in the Class of 1865, Yale College.

Faith Robinson, the degree of B. L. in the Class of 1900, Smith College.

Delia Dickson, the degree of B. A. in the Class of 1901, Smith College.  
Dickson Hammond enters Yale University.

ROLAND LEAVENS (Benjamin, BENJAMIN) was seventeen at the beginning of the Revolution and married near its close. He succeeded his father on the Benjamin Leavens farm. The Leavens families proceeding from him are few and are here inserted.

FAMILY NO. 30.

ROLAND LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Hannah Waldo of Pomfret, 1784: d. March 18 1844.

HANNAH, b. 1759: d. Oct. 18 1840. "She was an exemplary member of the First Congregational Church of Killingly for more than half a century".

Their children, b. at Killingly,

William, b. Nov. 4 1784:

Mary, b. Dec. 24 1785: d. July 10 1846.

Lyman, b. Dec. 16 1788: d. May 24 1850. No children.

Marcia, b. Mar. 9 1790: m. Silas Richmond: d. Apr. 1842.

Lucy, b. Mar. 9 1790: m. Asa White.

Laura, b. Apr. 28 1798: m. Silas Richmond, second wife.

Sarah, bapt. June 24 1802: probably d. young.

WILLIAM LEAVENS (Roland, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m.

Ann Burritt, Feb. 13 1822: d. Feb. 22 1862.

ANN,

Their children in New York City,

Lewis, b. May 5 1823:

William, b. May 27 1826:

William Leavens retired from business in New York City in the year 1835 and removed to Peekskill, where his descendants have been among the most respected people of the community.

LEWIS LEAVENS (William, Roland, etc.) m. Elmira Dyckman, Nov. 1844:

ELMIRA, d. March 22 1854.

Their children,

Mary M., b. at Hopkington R. I. Jan. 14 1847:

Anna Amelia, b. at Peekskill, Feb. 2 1850: m. Wm. E. Haight.

Harriet Maria, b. at Verplanck's, March 13 1854: d. in infancy.

WILLIAM LEAVENS (William, Roland, etc.) m. Catherine M. Rider

May 19 1851: d. Jan 31 1902.

CATHERINE M., b. Dec. 1 1829: d. Apr. 6 1900.

Their children,

William, b. at Hopkinton R. I. Apr. 29 1853: d. Sept. 26 1869.

Eleanor Osgood, b. at Peekskill, Mar. 19 1860:

Hezekiah (Benjamin, BENJAMIN) was fifteen at the outbreak of the Revolution and married two years after the conclusion of the War. He is to be traced in the "migrations" and we here insert only his immediate family.

#### FAMILY NO. 31.

HEZEKIAH LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Susan

Bayley Oct. 30 1785: d. Nov. 13 1833.

SUSAN, b. ?: d. ?.

Their children,

Royal, b. at Killingly, Dec. 12 1786:

Benjamin, b. at Reading Vt. Oct. 19 1790:

Joshua Bayley, b. at Reading, Dec. 23 1793:

Susan, b. at Granville N. Y. Oct. 10 1797: m. Lewis Hunt, 1847.

Emily, b. at Granville N. Y. Jan 17 1804: d. 1805.

Benjamin (Benjamin, BENJAMIN), third in series of the name, was twelve when the first note of the Revolution was sounded. Neither he nor his posterity joined the movement to distant parts, yet were they numerous and disposed to scatter widely. We therefore enter here the family of this head and reserve the rest for a later page.

#### FAMILY NO. 32.

BENJAMIN LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Sybil

Learned, Sept. 25 1788: d. May 20 1851.

SYBIL (SIBBELL ?) b. 1763: d. 1843.

Their children, b. in Killingly, except the last, who saw the light in Charlton, Mass.

Lucretia, b. Aug. 25 1791: d. May 28 1793.

Loring, b. Aug. 17 1794:

George Learned, b. Apr. 30 1796:

Benjamin, b. Aug. 4 1798:

Perrin, b. Dec. 25 1803: d. Sept. 30 1841 ?

Oliver (Benjamin, Benjamin) was a lad from nine to seventeen while the War of the Revolution dragged along. He began active life in Killingly, but removed to Providence, R. I., soon after the dawn of the century. He died at an age comparatively early. We place here the brief and yet complete record of the name in his line.

There is an Oliver Leavens on record, doing duty as a "musician in the War of 1812.

FAMILY NO. 33.

OLIVER LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Rosamond Asbold: d. Nov. 19 1819.

ROSAMOND, b. in Rhode Island about 1773: d. June 30 1848.

Their children, six at Killingly, three at Providence R. I.

Malora, b. Oct. 16 1796: d. 1816.

Mary Ann, b. Aug. 17 1799: d. 1800.

George Lewis, b. Oct. 7 1800:

Erastus W., b. Jan. 2 1802: d. 1802.

Benjamin A., b. Dec. 26 1803: d. 1804.

Elisha, b. March 2 1805: d. 1805.

Jesse Smith, b. May 14 1806: a sailor in U. S. service; d. at sea

John, b. May 12 1809: d. 1813.

Keziah A., b. Sept. 28 1814: m. Brown Richardson, 1834.

Rosamond Leavens m. (2) Joseph Richardson of Uxbridge, Mass., who died Jan. 13, 1835. Her daughter Keziah A. Leavens m. Brown Richardson, a grand-son of Joseph, and after a life-time spent on the Richardson homestead died May 15, 1873. A son, Dexter Richardson, belonged to Co. K, 15th Reg. Mass. Vol., and died of disease contracted in burying the dead after the battle of Antietam.

GEORGE LEWIS LEAVENS (Oliver, Benjamin, etc.) m. Barbara Pettis, Jan. 4 1826: d. Aug. 14 1876.

BARBARA, b. Aug. 18 1799: d. March 7 1874.

Their children at Providence,

John, b. Feb. 21 1827: d. Sept. 18 1827.

Maria A., b. Feb. 23 1828:

Melora A., b. Oct. 6 1829:

Henry Clay, b. Dec. 8 1835: d. Sept. 27 1837.

Rosamond R., b. May 30 1837:

Eden Leavens (Benjamin, BENJAMIN) had three sons in his Killingly home. His body reposes in the ancient graveyard with the Leavens patriarchs. The dispersion of his posterity can be observed in the records on a subsequent page. His immediate family is here given.

## FAMILY NO. 34.

EDEN LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Eleanor Nichols:  
d. May 29 1849.

Their children at Killingly,  
John Nichols, b. Sept. 25 1799:  
Erastus Howe, b. Oct. 23 1801:  
Mary Ann, b. July 16 1804: d. Apr. 1 1857.  
Marvin M., b. Oct. 10 1807:  
Lucretia, b. Oct. 5 1814: d. Jan. 17 1850.  
Lucia, b. Sept. 23 1816: m. James Allen.

James Leavens (Benjamin, BENJAMIN) seems to have begun his family in Pomfret, but to have removed to Ontario, N. Y., about the year 1810. He left sons and daughters, but the name is likely to become extinct in his line.

We give here his family, and his descendants, so far as we know them.

## FAMILY NO. 35.

JAMES LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Lydia Inman  
1805: was drowned in Genesee river at Rochester N. Y. Nov. 12  
1827:

LYDIA, d. May 23 1828.

Their children at Pomfret Conn.  
Harriet, b. Apr. 19 1806: m. Joseph W. Gates 1826: d. 1831.  
Loana, b. July 3 1807: d. 1812.  
Lucy, b. Jan. 2 1809: m. Joseph W. Gates 1832: d. 1895.

at Ontario N. Y.  
Henry, b. Jan. 15 1811: d. Apr. 6 1883, unmarried.  
Lewis, b. Feb. 18 1812:  
James, b. Oct. 6 1814:  
George, b. Oct. 6 1814:

LEWIS LEAVENS (James, Benjamin, etc.) m. Clarissa Mack Feb 10  
1844: d. at Fowlerville Mich., Oct. 30 1887.  
CLARISSA, b. Sept. 14 1822: d. June 1 1856.

Their children at Ontario,  
Lydia Loana, b. March 27 1846: m. Wm. M. Horton, Sept. 10 1873 at  
Coruma Mich.  
Lewis Leroy, b. March 22 1848: d. March 28 1850.  
Sarah Emoroy, b. July 29 1854:

He m. (2) Anna Mack, Apr. 11 1860.

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ANNA, b. Feb. 21 1838: d. at Fowlerville, June 28 1886.

Their child at Ontario,

Clara G., b. Jan. 25 1865: m. Louis Fexer, July 17 1890 at Cheboygan Mich.

JAMES LEAVENS (James, Benjamin, etc.) m. Hannah Simmons, May 27 1855 and d. Apr. 1 1856 leaving no child.

GEORGE LEAVENS (James, Benjamin, etc.) m. Nancy Clarinda Stedman, Dec. 17 1839: d. Dec. 8 1879.

CLARINDA, b. Aug. 30 1819: d. Sept. 27 1898.

Their children at Ontario, Wayne Co. N. Y.,

James Ashley, b. Apr. 31 1841: d. March 20 1850.

George Mahlon, b. Dec. 11 1844: d. March 2 1863.

Harriet Louisa, b. May 24 1851: d. Apr. 3 1863.

Emily Adelia, b. Sept. 11 1852: m. Chauncey N. Emery: d. Jan. 8 1892.

at Webster, Monroe Co. N. Y.

James Walker, b. Feb. 8 1858: m. Sabra Ann Hendee.

Ella Abigail, b. Sept. 15 1860: m. Edward T. Craft, Dec. 21 1880.

George Mahlon Leavens enlisted, June, 1862, in Co. A., 108th N. Y. Inft.  
He was in the battle of Antietam and was discharged, 1863.

## X.

### MIGRATIONS.

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After the Revolution there set in a stream of emigration from the old towns of Windham County. It was inevitable, for the land could not sustain a population so multiplied. Some went to the cities and founded families that acquired great wealth. Some young men proceeded to the colleges and entered the learned professions. More by far were attracted to the frontiers to undertake the settlement of new regions. At first it was northern New England, and New York from the Hudson to the lakes. Later the lands beyond the Alleghenies became accessible. The Leavens people joined the column of pioneers and took to the countries clothed with the untouched forests. Few of them drifted to the towns or cities; and few remained to till the ancient farms or wait for the manufactures that were to spring up and enliven the Quinebaug valley.

In tracing these migrations we follow the order of the family as it descends from the four brothers once together in old Killingly.

#### To Nine Partners, N. Y., and Thence to Canada.

We have already related how Peter Leavens, son of PETER, left Killingly about the year 1731, and how he re-appeared in Dutchess County, New York, where he became the head of a large family. The record of his children, Fam. No. 7, is taken from the Bible of Hannah Leavens Thorne, still preserved in Millbrook, N. Y. The daughters married into prominent families, and their descendants are now to be met in Dutchess County. The sons had families, as we have before explained, and their records appear among those of the fifth generation, Fams. Nos. 14, 15 and 16. The Leavens people of this branch affiliated with the Society of Friends or Quakers.

Toward the end of the century and the beginning of the nineteenth, those Leavens households removed to Canada and settled in Prince Edward County, within what is now the Province of Ontario. If we would account for such a movement we must remember that before the Great West was opened up there was a period when the fertile lands of "Upper Canada" were highly attractive to settlers. The Leavens posterity from this origin is numerous and is widely scattered in Ontario. It includes the almost entire first of the four divisions emanating from Killingly, that is to say, nearly all the posterity of the first PETER. And yet not all in Ontario who bear the name are from this source; there are



representatives of other branches also. We place here such families as we have, grouped under the headship of the three brothers who emigrated from Dutchess County. Not a few of the later generations have re-settled in the United States.

We are to trace the descendants of the Dutchess County founder in three branches, following his three sons, Peter, Joseph and Benjamin. But before we take the road to Canada, let us record the posterity of the son who remained in Dutchess County and gave rise to the LEVINGS name there. See Family No. 14.

## I.

## (1)

RICHARD LEVINGS (Peter, Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Prudence Bartlett: d ?

Their children in Dutchess County,

Bartlett Robert, b. Feb. 4 1808:

Peter Rensalaer, b. Jan. 22 1809:

Alonzo, b. Jan. 21 1811:

Harriet Prudence, b. Dec. 1 1822: m. Adoniram J. Woodworth.

We have also the following names, and we simply question whether they may not be the children of the brother, Robert Leavens:—

Ncah, b. ?

Mary, b. ?

Jane, b. ? : m. Sweet, and lived in Canada.

Laura, b. ? : m. and lived in Canada.

## a.

BARTLETT ROBERT LEVINGS m. Sophronia Hungerford March 15 1829: d.

SOPHRONIA, b. Sept. 7 1807:

Their children,

Edwin, b. July 23 1831:

Sarah S., b. Oct. 22 1833: m. Murray A. Griffin, and has four daughters.

The home is Wing's Station, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

EDWIN LEVINGS m. Carrie Patchin, Sept. 9 1860:

Sept. 9 1860:

CARRIE,

Their child,

Robert, b. May 9 1877: m. Annie Wing, Oct. 14 1902.

The home is Webatuck, Dutchess Co., N. Y.

b.

ALONZO LEVINGS m. Ruth Gillaudett, Mar. 18 1835: d. Sept. 19 1887:  
RUTH, b. June 29 1812. d. June 19 1879.

Their child at North-East N. Y.  
Mary J., b. Feb. 10 1837:

c.

PETER RENSALAER LEVINGS m. Anna Nunn, May 7 1834 in New  
York City: d. Apr. 18 1891 in Rockford Ill.  
ANNA, b. in Liverpool Eng. 1801: d. May 10 1878 in Rockford.

Their children,  
Harriet E., b. Apr. 1 1836: m. Apr. 2 1875 Benj. F. Pease.  
George W., b. June 25 1839:  
Thomas G., b. Apr. 10 1842:  
Margaret A., b. Feb. 14 1845: unmarried.  
Alfred H., b. Aug. 15 1848:

Peter R. Levings early found his way from Dutchess County to New York City. He kept a general merchandise store at the corner of Greenwich and Veasey streets. There three of his children were born. In the autumn of 1842 the family removed to the West and settled on a farm in Winnebago, Ill. There two other children were born. He became one of the first tradesmen in the town of Rockford, which since then has grown to a city of 45,000 people.

The son, George W., after the War became a farmer and now owns an eligible estate contiguous to the city of Rockford.

GEORGE W. LEVINGS (Peter R., etc.) m. Nellie Kimball, June 29 1869:  
NELLIE, b. July 4 1840:

Their children at Rockford,  
Frank M., b. Aug. 11 1870:  
Annie E., b. Dec. 28 1875:  
Nellie F., b. Sept. 4 1877:  
Ralph S., b. Oct. 4 1881:  
Golden W., b. June 9 1884:

THOMAS G. LEVINGS (Peter R., etc.) m. Luella Fuller, Jan. 1 1871:  
who was born at Rockford Feb. 3 1849.

ALFRED H. LEVINGS (Peter R., etc.) m. Annie Beverage: their child  
Ralph died at an early age.

Dr. Alfred H. Levings was graduated from the Medical Department of the North-Western University, Chicago, in the year 1872. He is in practice at Milwaukee, Wis., making a specialty of Surgery.

George W. and Thomas G. Levings enlisted in the 11th Ill cavalry in 1863 and continued in the service until mustered out in 1865. One of them says: "Our regiment was at the battle of Shiloh and siege of Vicksburg: went up on the Red river expedition; chased Kirby Smith and N. B. Forest's cavalry through Arkansas, Tennessee, Texas, Mississippi and Louisiana."

Harriet E. Levings served in the U. S. Christian Commission from 1863 to 1866.

Mrs. G. W. Levings (then Miss Kimball) was teaching in Memphis at the time of Forest's raid, and, with her fellow teachers, was obliged to flee to Fort Pickering for safety. She was at Vicksburg and Mobile in the U. S. Freedmen's Bureau Work.

Frank M. Levings served in the Spanish American War. He enlisted, July 31, 1898, as a private in the 2nd U. S. Eng. at Fort Sheridan, and was mustered out as 2nd Lieut. in May, 1899.

(2)

PETER E. LEAVENS (Peter, Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Elisabeth Lounsberry:

ELISABETH, b. Mar. 30 1790, daughter of a Quaker minister.

Their children (1) born in Dutchess Co.

Smith P., b. Jan. 6 1808:

Maria, b. Aug. 9 1809: m. Job Ellsworth.

Hannah b. Sept. 3 1811: m. Rev. Rowland Haight.

Elisabeth, b. Sept. 13 1814: m. Amos Smith.

Phoebe, b. March 24 1816: m. Daniel Dorland.

Sarah, b. March 1 1818: m. Col. H. Bleecker.

Children (2) born in Prince Edward Co.

Catharine, b. Sept. 8 1820: d. in Michigan unmarried.

Jane, b. Sept. 15 1822: m. Samuel Bonesteel.

Abigail, b. Apr. 25 1824: m. Adam H. Garrett.

John R., b. Feb. 16 1826.

Charles, b. Nov. 15 1828:

Peter E. Leavens served in the war of 1812 on the American side; then removed to Canada about 1816 and lived in Bloomfield, Ont.

"Father said that grand-father Leavens died when he was four years old and that he never visited Canada. My father's brothers were Richard Leavens, the oldest, who left home and changed his name to Richard Levings; Robert Leavens who died in 1830 in Prince Edward Co. Canada. His sister was Mary Leavens Harrass who died in 1855. She had four sons; and three daughters".

John R. Leavens, of Kalamazoo.

"My great-uncles, Joseph Leavens and Benjamin Leavens came after my father with sleighs and moved him to Canada about the year 1816. He settled close to the old Quaker meeting-house which was built over a hundred years ago in Bloomfield, Prince Edward Co".

J. R. L.

SMITH P. LEAVENS (Peter E., Peter, Peter, Peter, John, John) m.

Abigail Bowman:

ABIGAIL,

Their children,

Dorland, b. June 4 1835:

Sarah Elisabeth, b. Nov. 30 1844:

JOHN R. LEAVENS (Peter E., Peter, Peter, Peter, John, John) m.

Sarah M. Hill May 18 1858:

SARAH M.,

Their child, b. at Galesburg Mich.,

Frances, b. 1870:

John R. Leavens says:—"On the 15th day of Aug. 1861 I went out in the late war, Co. E, 16th Iowa; through such battles as Shiloh, Corinth, Holly Springs, Champion Hill, Iuka the 19th day of Sept. '62, the second battle of Corinth 3rd and 4th of Oct. '62, the siege of Vicksburg which lasted 47 days'. "In '64 I returned home nearly exhausted weighing about 100 pounds".

CHARLES LEAVENS (Peter E., Peter, Peter, Peter, John, John) m.

Margaret Foster:

Their children, b. at Bloomfield Ont.

Smith, b. 1852:

Margaret, b. 1854:

## II.

### (1)

PETER LEAVENS (Joseph, Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Delinda Burlingham, July 24 1809 in Prince Edward Co.: d. Apr. 11 1843.

DELINDA, b. ? : d. Oct. 19 1846.

Their children b. in Prince Edward Co.,

Elisabeth B., b. Apr. 8 1810: m. Henry Cooper: d. Feb. 12 1899.

Phoebe, b. Oct. 8 1811: m. George Bull: d. June 9 1901.

Joseph, b. July 9 1813: d. Aug. 12 1813.

Mary, b. Apr. 1 1815: m. Geo. W. Saunders: d. Nov. 29 1885.

Joseph, b. May 21 1817:

Rennsalaer B., b. May 20 1820:

Roxa, b. July 17 1822: m. Joseph Baker: d. June 13 1849.

William Burton, b. Jan 13 1826:

(a)

JOSEPH LEAVENS (Peter, Joseph, etc.) m. ————: d. Nov. 15 1857.

His children,

Elmira, b. : m. Thomas Jerow.

Peter, b. : m. and went to California.

Seth, b. : to California and died.

(b)

RENNSLEAR B. LEAVENS (Peter, Joseph, Peter, Peter, John, John) m.

Fanny A. Cunningham, 22nd 1st mo. 1840.

FANNY A., b. 16th. 10th mo. 1820:

Their children, the first b. at Hallowell, the others at St. Vincent Ont.

William Henry, b. 6th of 12th mo. 1840: d. 1841.

Mary S., b. 3rd of 2nd mo. 1843: m. William Laycock 1863.

Esther B., b. 7th of 12th mo. 1844: Daniel Cameron, 1864.

Reuben, b. 17th of 5th mo. 1847: m. Elisa Gilson 1878.

Sarah, b. 1st of 7th mo. 1849: m. W. F. Cain, 1868.

Elisa, b. 30th of 6th mo. 1851: m. James Pearson, 1877.

John F., b. 3rd of 2nd mo. 1854: m. Mary S. Rogers, 1881.

Hannah F., b. 27th of 1st mo. 1856: m. David L. Seaman 1879.

Charles L., b. 10th of 2nd mo. 1858: m. Mary Grier 1881.

Minnie b. 20th of 1st mo. 1861: m. James Lipsett, 1883.

(c)

WILLIAM BURTON LEAVENS (Peter, Joseph, Peter, Peter, John,

John) m. Susan Aldrich, Apr. 23 1845 in Prince Edward Co.: d.

Apr. 23 1897.

SUSAN, d. Feb. 27 1897.

Their son,

Merritt, b. Aug. 7 1846.

This family removed in 1847 to Grey Co., Canada.

MERRITT LEAVENS (William Burton, Peter, Joseph, Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Mary Melissa Cain July 19 1866:

Their children, b. at Meaford Ont.

Susan Mary, b. 19th of 8th mo. 1867:

Bertha J., b. 19th of 1st mo. 1870: m. James F. Morris.

Will Burton, b. 1st of 10th mo. 1876:

Walton David, b. 5th of 4th mo 1879:

Laurence Ashley, b. 4th of 5th mo. 1884:

This family removed in 1898 to Foxwarren, Manitoba.

(2)

ELIPHALET LEAVENS (Joseph, Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Deborah Rogers, Feb. 22 1815: d. Nov. 1 1880.

DEBORAH, b. at Nine Partners N. Y., Mar. 25 1797: d. July 14 1860.

Their children at Hallowell township, Ont.

Julia Ann., b. Dec. 8 1815: m. Moses Walters, Oct. 22 1833: d. June 18 1876.

Gilbert, b. Nov. 9 1817: d. June 22 1828.

Nancy, b. Dec. 19 1819: m. William H. Southard, Oct. 9 1849.

Eliza Ann, b. Sept. 23 1822: m. John Lovell, Mar. 27 1843: d Sept. 20 1857.

Lewis T., b. May 6 1827:

"Eliphalet Leavens was a veteran of the war of 1812. He received for his reward a grant of 100 acres of land in Prince Edward County and also an annual pension from the Federal Government of Canada until he died."

LEWIS T. LEAVENS (Eliphalet, Joseph, Peter, etc.) m. Phoebe J. Garrat July 1 1852: d. Mar. 16 1899.

PHOEBE J., b. in Hallowell Dec. 17 1831:

Their children,

Mary C., b. Jan. 3 1854: d. Jan. 8 1854.

Walter R., b. Apr. 26 1857:

Emma D., b. Nov. 4 1864: d. July 16 1871.

Lewis T. Leavens inherited the estate that had been the home of his father and his grandfather, and transmitted the same to his son. "The family of Garratts came to Canada from Dutchess County N. Y., and previously from Ireland; and have long been and yet remain staunch adherents of the Society of Friends", 'old orthodox Quakers.'"

WALTER R. LEAVENS (Lewis T., Eliphalet, Joseph, etc.) m. Mary E. Sills, March 19 1879:

MARY E., b. at Adolphstown Ont. May 2 1853:

    Their children at Bloomfield,  
Ralph G., b. Sept. 1 1881:  
Harry D., b. June 22 1890:

(3)

WILLIAM LEAVENS (Joseph, Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Margaret Hummiston.

    Their children were Gilbert; Susan; Robert; Deborah; Louis, and Phoebe; but there is no further record.  
    It is said that the family removed to Michigan.

(4)

JAMES W. LEAVENS (Joseph, Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Elisabeth Gunter:

    Their children at Bloomfield Ont.  
Nancy, m. Solomon Crosby:  
James B., m. Sarah J. Minnie and raised a family in North Hastings Co. Ont., but there is no record.  
John H., b. Nov. 30 1829:  
Titus, there is no record.  
Elias, m. Rebecca Wilson, but there is no record.  
Youngs, d. unmarried.  
Clarke, "left home and was never heard of"  
Austin, b. Jan. 4 1843:

JOHN H. LEAVENS (James W., Joseph, Peter, etc.) m. Eliza Graves:  
    d. near Pictou, Ont., Apr. 23 1901.

    Their children in Prince Edward Co., Ont.  
Lewis T., b. May 6 1872:  
Cornelius B., b. May 6 1872: d. May 6 1872.

LEWIS T. LEAVENS (John H., James W., Joseph, Peter, etc.) m. Phoebe Roblin, Nov. 23 1896:

    Their children,  
Philip J., b. Feb. 18 1898: d. Dec. 4 1901.  
Walter R., b. Aug. 30 1901:

AUSTIN LEAVENS (James W., Joseph, Peter, etc.) m. Eustatia McDonnell, Jan. 28 1867: d. Aug. 29 1898 at Rochester, N. Y.

    Their children at Bloomfield Ont.  
Harry C., b. May 12 1868:

Sherman, Y., b. Sept. 6 1871: m. Anna Evans, Apr. 14 1899: d. at Rochester N. Y. Apr. 24 1903, leaving no children.

HARRY C. LEAVENS (Austin, James W., Joseph, etc.) m. Hattie Bown, May 9 1889:

Their children,

George B., b. at Fairport N. Y., Aug. 11 1891:

Harold H., b. at Rochester N. Y., Nov. 14 1894:

### III.

#### (1)

DANIEL LEAVENS (Benjamin, Peter, Peter, John, John) m. Jane Blount 1809: d. in P. Ed. Co. Aug. 24 1879.

JANE, b. Aug. 9 1792: d. May 15 1868.

Their children,

Lydia, b. March 24 1810: m. : d. Apr. 7 1867.

Samuel, b. Sept. 24 1811: m. : d. Sept. 17 1869.

Cornelius, b. Apr. 29 1814: d. Apr. 7 1821.

Benjamin, b. Jan. 16 1816: m. : d. Apr. 22 1843.

Stephen, b. Nov. 20 1818: d. Nov. 9 1822.

William B., b. Oct. 25 1820: d. Sept. 10 1821.

Sarah, b. Jan. 18 1823:

Cornelius, b. Sept. 1 1825: d. May 26 1827.

Daniel, b. Aug. 1 1830: m.

Caroline, b. Feb. 26 1834: m.

We have an intimation that Samuel, son of Daniel, left a son, Samuel D.

Also that Benjamin, son of Daniel, had sons, Paul C. and Stephen B., of Hillies, Ont., but we regret that we cannot give the families in full.

Also that Daniel, son of Daniel, had a daughter married in Pictou, Ont.

#### (2)

We have an intimation that WILLIAM B. LEAVENS, son of Benjamin, had a son SAMUEL THORN, who married and had a son, reproducing the name William B.



**To Albany and to Chestertown, N. Y.**

At the head of the remarkable family of Samuel (John, JAMES) in Killingly stands a Joseph Leavens beside his twin sister Mary. He participated in the Revolution; but probably did not make Killingly his home thereafter. He re-appears in Albany, N. Y. At the mature age of forty he married Apphia Bowen and nine children were born. The family home was afterward in Chestertown, Warren Co., New York.

**JOSEPH LEAVENS** (Samuel, John, James, John, John) m. Apphia Bowen Feb. 27 1797: d. May 9 1840.

**APPHIA**, b. July 14 1773 at Havrehill N. H.: d. Apr. 5 1832.

Their children were born at Albany and Chestertown, we suppose. To the best of our judgment six should be assigned to Albany and three to Chestertown.

Joseph Bowen, b. July 7 1798.

Apphia Delia, b. March 28 1800: d. Jan. 24 1805.

Elisabeth Johnson, b. May 18 1802: d. Feb. 25 1839.

Samuel Smith, b. Aug. 3 1804: d. Sept. 24 1805.

Maria Bowen, b. Feb. 26 1806: d. Feb. 27 1869.

Malissa, b. March 20 1808: d. Sept. 1 1872.

John James, b. Nov. 10 1810: d. May 26 1832.

Valeria Ann, b. June 9 1813: d. March 6 1903.

Leander, b. May 1 1816: never married; d. Nov. 6 1862.

**JOSEPH BOWEN LEAVENS** (Joseph, Samuel, John, James, John, John) m. Hannah Moon, Jan. 19 1819: d. Jan. 5 1889 (or Jan. 9 1887 ?)

**HANNAH**, b. Aug. 20 1799: d. May 17 1874.

Their children,

John Moon, b. June 6 1820:

Apphia Delia, b. Oct. 18 1823: m. Patterson.

Julia Ann Maria, b. Feb. 26 1825: m.

Samuel Bowen, b. Aug. 12 1828:

Hannah Elisabeth, b. Apr. 17 1830: m. Daniel Dickinson, 1853.

Joseph, b. Apr. 14 1833: m. at Albion N. Y.

Sarah Agnes, b. Dec. 12 1835: m. Charles W. Stocking.

Mary Etta, b. Dec. 14 1838: m. (1) Geo. Sheldon, Jan 3 1881. (2) Richard Pitman, Aug. 25 1884. (3) Alpheus A. Fenton Jan. 23 1892.

**JOHN MOON LEAVENS** (Joseph Bowen, Joseph, Samuel, John, James, John, John) m. Celinda S. Paine, Jan. 15 1845: d. Sept. 29 1897.

Their children,

Albert Miner, b. July 8 1849:

Joseph Amasa, b. May 1 1860:

ALBERT MINER LEAVENS (John M., Joseph B., Joseph, etc.) m.

Sarah Jane Merritt, Barre Centre N. Y., Jan 1 1886:

Their children, two at Goodland, Mich., the third at Albion N. Y.

Grace Evelyn, b. Dec. 26 1886:

Albert Martin, b. May 25 1891:

Florence Rose, b. Sept. 19 1901:

JOSEPH AMASA LEAVENS (John M., Joseph B., Joseph, etc.) m. (1)

Lepha M. Harrington, Dec. 25 1888:

LEPHA M., b. at St. Clair Mich., Aug. 12 1855: d. —

Their children at Imlay City Mich.

Harold, b. Aug. 12 1890:

Lepha, b. Feb. 19 1893:

He m. (2) Ellen Owen, b. Aug. 4 1869.

SAMUEL BOWEN LEAVENS (Joseph B., Joseph, Samuel, John, James,

John, John) m. (1) Mary Crandel

MARY, b. Oct. 12 1839: d. Oct. 15 1880.

Their children,

Lewis C., b. Oct. 16 1855:

Nathan Eugene, b. Sept. 10 1858:

Charles Franklin, b. July 2 1861:

He m. (2) P. A. Keeler.

P. A., b. May 28 1860:

Their children,

Mattie E., b. Dec. 15 1889:

Emma Etta, b. March 28 1891:

Tressie Elizabeth, b. June 4 1894:

Samuel B. Leavens was a member of the 17 N. Y. Battery and took part in the campaign of 1864 in Virginia. He was present at the surrender at Appomattox and participated in the memorable events connected with it.

**To Stillwater, Saratoga Co., New York: and Thence to Canada.**

Another son of Samuel (John, JAMES) in Killingly was a second Samuel. We presume it is he who is on the roster as serving in the Revolution. To be sure, he would have been very young, but it was a common thing that mere youths entered the army. We think we see him again at Stillwater, Saratoga Co., New York, where a report says that Eli, a son of Samuel and Hannah Leavens, was born in 1794. We are told that this youth moved with his parents to Hallowell, Prince Edward Co., Ontario. The family of Eli then becomes clear. That of Samuel the father is still obscure to us. With but slight sense of uncertainty do we connect through to the Killingly stock.

**SAMUEL LEAVENS** (Samuel, John, James, John, John) m. Hannah —

    Their child at Stillwater,  
Eli, b. Sept. 14 1794:

**ELI LEAVENS** (Samuel, Samuel, John, James, John, John) m. Clara  
    Werden in Hallowell Ont. June 16 1819: d. at Pickering Ont. Dec.  
    17 1865.

**CLARA**, b. at Hallowell Ont. Oct. 16 1802: d. at Pickering Ont. Feb.  
    18 1878.

    Their children, four b. at Hallowell and four at Pickering,  
Daniel, b. Jan. 23 1820: d. at Pickering.  
Horatio Sprague, b. Aug. 11 1821: d. at Darlington.  
William Wiltshire, b. March 2 1823:  
Dorinda, b. Dec. 12 1824: d.  
Byron Werden, b. Sept. 23 1826: d.  
Louisa Villars, b. July 25 1828:  
Hiram Kenyon, b. Sept. 28 1830: d.  
Elizabeth Werden, b. Feb. 14 1842: m. W. J. Shaw.

**WILLIAM WILTSHIRE LEAVENS** (Eli, Samuel, Samuel, John, James,  
    John, John) m. Lucy McCutcheon at Pickering Ont. May 24 1859: d.  
    at Kansas City Mo. Jan. 13 1880.

**LUCY**, b. in Upper Canada, June 18 1840: d. at Kansas City Mo. June  
    13 1893.

    Their children,  
Hiram, b. May 26 1860: d. June 9 1860 at Whitby Ont.  
    at St. Aubert, Osage Co., Mo.,  
Maud St. Aubert, b. Jan. 17 1862: m. Thos. W. Johnston Jr. at San  
    Diego, Cal., March 15 1897, now at Kansas City.  
Kenyon Grant, b. Aug. 26 1864:

KENYON GRANT LEAVENS (William W., Eli, Samuel, etc.) m. Lovisa Hortense Picherau, Sept. 19 1889 at Kansas City:

LOVISA HORTENSE, b. Oct. 6 1870 at Lacon Ill.:

Their children at Kansas City,

Kenyon, b. May 25 1891:

Arcene William, b. March 26 1893:

Theodore, b. July 9 1900:

K. G. Leavens is a Broker in Kansas City.

### An Erratic Career.

We have noticed a Peter Leavens, sergeant under Putnam in the French and Indian War as early as 1755. He must surely have been the son of John (JAMES). He played an active and gallant part throughout that eventful war. A few years later there appears a Peter Leavens at Windsor, Vermont. He was taking a lively part in the resistance to the New York authorities in the memorable struggle of the "New Hampshire Grants." This was in May, 1770; and he was buying lands in 1772; but his name does not appear afterward. Again, upon the pay-rolls of Jason Wait's Company of New Hampshire troops in the Revolutionary War, at the date Feb., 1776, stands the name, Peter Leavins (Capt. Wait was from Alstead and many of his men were from Walpole).

If these notices are of one and the same man, as we think they must be, we get glimpses of the erratic career of a typical soldier in the olden time; but there is no visible trace of posterity springing from him.

To Easton, Washington Co., New York.

Isaac Leavens (John, JAMES) married in Connecticut. The family record which we have already given was supplied by Noah Leavens Remington of Middle Falls, New York. After the Revolution he settled in Easton, Washington Co., New York. Of his four sons, John died without children. Noah is said to have died in Western New York without family. There is a tradition that Roswell settled in "Upper Canada". Descendants are to be traced by us only in the line of the son Joseph. He lived in Schaticoke, N. Y., and left one son.

JOSEPH LEAVENS (Isaac, John, James, John, John) m. Waitstill Peck:  
d. at Lansingburgh N. Y. in 1835.

WAITSTILL, b. in Connecticut.

Their children at Schaticoke, N. Y.

Harriet, b. Nov. 27 1802: m. Moses Manlin, Sept. 27 1820: d. Apr. 20 1830.

Julia Ann, b. Oct. 12 1805: m. Jared G. Bacon, Sept. 20 1830.

Jane Ann, b. May 12 1812: m. Robert H. Hyde, Dec. 23 1830: d. Apr. 25 1843.

Josephus Peck, b. Aug. 11 1815:

JOSEPHUS PECK LEAVENS (Joseph, Isaac, John, James, John, John)  
m. Rebekah Jane Germond, Feb. 14 1837: d. at Lansingburgh Apr. 2 1872.

REBEKAH J., b. June 17 1817: d. Oct. 9 1885.

Their children,

Josephus Peck, b. Dec. 16 1837:

Smith Germond, b. Dec. 11 1839:

Jane Waitstill, b. May 6 1844: m. Charles Q. Eldridge Sept. 9 1873.

Thomas Jefferson, b. Sept. 29 1846:

Julia Augusta, b. June 6 1853: m. Milford L. Osborn Dec. 21 1875.

JOSEPHUS P. LEAVENS (Josephus Peck, Joseph, etc.) m. Mary Lizzie  
Wheeler, March 5 1868:

MARY L., b. Sept. 14 1845: d. June 28 1883.

Their children,

Joseph Germond, b. Oct. 21 1870:

Mary Elisabeth, b. Nov. 14 1872: m. Theo. P. Douglass, Sept. 14 1897.

Jennie Louise, b. Jan. 8 1875: m. Rev. A. E. Johnson, May 20 1897.

John Manning, b. Aug. 27 1878:

He m. (2) Evaline Brewster, Jan. 6 1885.

EVALINE, b. May 28 1849: d. Oct. 22 1895.

Their child,

Clara Rebecca, b. July 13 1887:

JOSEPH GERMOND LEAVENS (Josephus P., etc.) m. Mary I. Phelps,  
June 17 1896:

Their children,  
Paul J., b. May 4 1897:  
Ruth Phelps, b. June 23 1901:

JOHN MANNING LEAVENS (Josephus P., etc.) m. Maud M. Clark, Oct.  
4 1899:

Their children,  
John Clark, b. Aug. 1 1900:  
a son, b. Apr. 1 1903:

SMITH GERMOND LEAVENS (Josephus P., Joseph, Isaac, etc.) m.  
Annie Moore at Moore's Mills, N. Y., Feb. 18 1862:  
ANNIE, b. Aug. 7 1836:

Their children at Melrose, N. Y.  
Edwin M., b. March 5 1863:  
Philip J., b. June 14 1865:  
Annie M., b. Oct. 11 1868: m. H. F. Sherman at Vineland, N. J. Dec. 6  
1892.  
Jane C., b. March 29 1872:

EDWIN M. LEAVENS (Smith G., Josephus P., etc.) m. Elizabeth C.  
Jordan at Philadelphia, Apr. 28 1886:  
ELIZABETH C., b.

Their child,  
Edwin J., b. Dec. 15 1888: d. July 5 1889.

PHILIP J. LEAVENS (Smith G., Josephus P., etc.) m. Irene Sharp, at  
Vineland, June 5 1899:  
IRENE, b.

Their children at Vineland,  
Helene S., b. Jan. 5 1901: d. Apr. 7 1901.  
Philip Smith, b. Jan. 15 1902:

THOMAS JEFFERSON LEAVENS (Josephus P., Joseph, etc.) m. Helen  
M. Adams, Lansingburgh, N. Y. Nov. 24 1874:  
HELEN M., b. at Lansingburgh, Aug. 26 1850:

Their children there:  
Thomas Josephus, b. Dec. 9 1875:  
Florence Jane, b. Feb. 12 1878: d. Apr. 12 1879.  
Austin Millis, b. Jan. 19 1880:  
Elizabeth Jane, b. Oct. 1 1884:  
Helen Lansing, b. Oct. 1 1890:  
Annie Lansing, b. Nov. 30 1896: d. Aug. 11 1897.

### At Home and Near By (Not a Migration).

Records show that in the year 1806 Andrew and Elisabeth Leavens were received to the Church of Killingly, and Dec. 19 of that year they presented the four children, Simon Davis, Jacob, Elisabeth and Sarah, for baptism. He is on the roll as a "private" doing service July, 1813. We have noted the fact that Andrew, great-grandson of Justice JOSEPH, built the house which is now the residence on the old place. He was succeeded in the occupancy by his son Elisha. From him the place went to Mr. Gilbert A. Tracy, who had married his daughter Mary. The house is now the home of the Tracy family.

Andrew Leavens had four sons, whose families may be noted in connection with his own

ANDREW LEAVENS (Jacob, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Elisabeth Davis at Killingly Apr. 9 1797: d. June 28 1847.  
ELISABETH, d. Jan. 21 1857:

Their children at Killingly,  
Elisha, b. Feb. 28 1798:  
Simon Davis, b. Aug. 12 1799:  
Jacob, b. June 3 1802:  
Elisabeth, b. Jan. 9 1804: m. John Chollar March 27 1823: d. Sept. 13 1880.  
Sarah, b. Sept. 23 1805: m. George G. Hood, Oct. 31 1852: d. Sept. 15 1874.  
Rachel, b. Oct. 13 1809: d. Feb. 6 1886, unmarried.  
Andrew Knight, b. July 16 1819:

ELISHA LEAVENS (Andrew, Jacob, Joseph, etc.) m. Huldah Howe, at Killingly, Nov. 30 1820: d. Nov. 10 1871.  
HULDAH, b. Feb. 20 1801: d. July 19 1866.

Their children at Killingly,  
Twins, b. Nov. 19 1821: d. in infancy.  
Eliza Howe, b. Aug. 8 1823: m. M. B. H. Bishop, May 1 1853: d. Nov. 5 1896.  
Harriet Frances, b. Aug. 24 1825: m. Prescott May, Jan. 31 1847.  
George, b. Dec. 3 1829:  
Mary, b. March 22 1836: m. Gilbert A. Tracy, Nov. 17 1864.  
Maria Howe, b. Feb. 8 1838: m. Edgar Amesbury, March 25 1856.

GEORGE LEAVENS (Elisha, Andrew, etc.) m. Fanny Adelaide Stone Sept. 3 1854.  
FANNY A., b. July 1 1835:

Their children at Danielson,  
 Fred Davis, b. Sept. 30 1855: d. Jan. 4 1859.  
 Mary Alice, b. Dec. 13 1859: d. Dec. 1 1875.  
 Helen Howe, b. Apr. 27 1866:

George Leavens, son of Elisha, was for forty years a merchant in Danielson, a borough located within the spacious town of Killingly. There he has held many offices of honor and responsibility and there he still resides.

His daughter, Helen Howe, was educated at the New England Conservatory of Music, Boston, and under private instructors in New York.

Gilbert Avery Tracy (b. Sept. 6 1835) m. MARY LEAVENS:

Their children,  
 Ellen Hoyt, b. Jan. 28 1866:  
 Charles Sprague, b. Sept. 11 1867:  
 Mary Clemmer, b. Jan. 28 1871:  
 Ralph Hoyt, b. May 8 1873:

Mary Clemmer Tracy was graduated at Wellesley College in the Class of 1894:

(2)

SIMON DAVIS LEAVENS (Andrew, Jacob, Joseph, etc.) m. Helen Hall Curtis, Oct. 22 1832: d. 1849.

Their children in Boston,  
 Fitch Hall, b. Sept. 6 1833: d. March 9 1839.  
 Elisabeth D., b. Jan. 10 1839: d. in early infancy.

Simon Davis Leavens became a man of business in Boston, but died at a comparatively early age.

(3)

JACOB LEAVENS (Andrew, Jacob, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Antoinette Allen at Woodstock Conn. 1831: d. Apr. 30 1879.  
 ANTOINETTE, b. Oct. 30 1811: d. Apr. 17 1889.

Their child at Thompson Conn.  
 Albert, b. Oct. 25 1832:

Jacob Leavens was a manufacturer at Thompson. He resided for a time in the West, but returned and died at Arlington, Mass.

ALBERT LEAVENS (Jacob, Andrew, Jacob, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Emily French Oct. 1868 at North Sandwich N. H.:  
 EMILY, : d. at Arlington Mass. 1882.



Their children,

George A., b at Sandwich N. H. Aug. 8 1869: d. Sept. 25 1903.

Mary Agnes, b. at Concord N. H. Dec. 16 1873:

Robert French, b. at Arlington Mass. Dec. 20 1878:

Alice Emily, b. at Arlington Mass. July 25 1881:

Albert Leavens has long been a resident of Boston and is especially familiar with those places in Roxbury which were the original seat of emigrant John Leavens in 1632. He has taken the deepest interest in this family history, and has supplied valuable material. Each of his four children has received a College education. The family address is 49 Elmore St., Roxbury, Mass.

George A. took the degree B. S. at Dartmouth in the Class of 1890 and was in mercantile pursuits in Boston; Robert F. took the degree A. B. at Dartmouth in the Class of 1901, and is a student in the Divinity School of Harvard University; Mary A. took the degree A. B. at Wellesley College in the Class of 1901 and is a teacher; Alice E. took the degree A. B. at Smith College in the Class of 1903.

(4)

ANDREW KNIGHT LEAVENS (Andrew, Jacob, Joseph, etc.) m. H.

Lois Torrey at Killingly Oct. 15 1839:

LOIS, b. Nov. 1 1819: d. Sept. 1894.

Their children at Killingly,

William A., d. in infancy, Aug. 15 1842.

Andrew H., d. in infancy, Sept. 30 1844.

Andrew Knight Leavens has spent his life in Killingly, and still lives in the city of Putnam. He is the only man left of the fourth generation from Justice Joseph, through the second Joseph. He, Mr. George Leavens of Danielson, Mrs. Tracy on the Justice JOSEPH farm and Mr. Albert Leavens of Boston constitute the "old guard" that keep watch over the primitive sites in Roxbury, Woodstock and Killingly.

### To Oneida County, New York.

The first Jacob Leavens in Killingly (Joseph, JOSEPH) stood in line to hold the ancestral estate, as we have already said. He married Elisabeth Hascall in 1768, and in the next thirteen years eight children were born. He seems to have died early (1786 or 7). His children were left in their minority. The eldest son, Andrew, may have been 17 years old, while the youngest, another Jacob, was hardly more than four. Then there were six daughters. Precisely the course of this household is not clear; but the upshot of things was that Andrew settled on the historic homestead, as he ought, and the rest of the family first or last migrated to Trenton, Oneida County, New York. The record has been given on a former page.

It is understood that the second Jacob married in Connecticut, but made his home in New York state.

Sisters and daughters of Jacob Leavens were married into many families in Oneida county.

JACOB LEAVENS (Jacob, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Mary Orcutt  
at Stafford Conn.: d. at Trenton N. Y. Nov. 13 1833.  
MARY, b. Feb. 25 1785: d. at Trenton Falls N. Y.

Their children at Stafford,  
Caroline Orcutt, b. Jan. 3 1806: m. Willard Osgood, Verona N. Y.  
Mary Ann, b. 1807: m. William Eagleston, Trenton N. Y.  
Alexander Hamilton, b. Dec. 25 1809:  
Harriet Cushman, b. Feb. 24 1811: m. D. W. Bacon, Trenton N. Y.

ALEXANDER HAMILTON LEAVENS (Jacob, Joseph, etc.) m. Melissa Rust, at Trenton Falls N. Y. Sept. 30 1839: d.  
MELISSA, b. Nov. 4 1822: d. Aug. 7 1896.

Their children at Trenton Falls except the son who was born at Fulton N. Y.  
Caroline Osgood, b. Oct. 11 1840: m. W. D. F. Richards.  
Lucy Josephine, b. Apr. 7 1845: in N. Y. City, unmarried.  
Charles Case, b. Mar. 2 1848:  
Evangeline, b. May 4 1853: m. Frank Peckham, Utica, Oct. 4 1876.

CHARLES CASE LEAVENS (Alexander H., Jacob, Joseph, etc.) m. (1)  
Mary Durkee in Conn.

Their children at Bath N. Y.  
James Mc Q. b. Jan. 20 1877:  
Rachel H. b. Mar. 17 1883:

He m. (2) Josie Hallett and is at the "Riggs", Washington D. C.

**To Windsor, Vt.: thence to Northern Vermont and to the West.**

Charles Leavens, son of Joseph, and grand-son of the famous Justice Joseph, born in 1746 and married to Lydia Grover in 1773, having performed his part in the Revolution, took the three children born to him in old Killingly and went to Windsor, Vermont, about the year 1780, where he laid the foundation of a new home. There seven other children saw the light. Of the whole family, five sons and two daughters grew to maturity and married in or near Windsor. The father of this great household bore a creditable share in affairs. The earliest town meeting in Windsor of which a record is preserved was held Feb. 17, 1786. One of the select-men then chosen was "Lieutenant Charles Leavens." He was also one of the "surveyors of highways". The marriage alliances with the Bucks and Wardners indicate a family of character and standing. To this house came the mother, Alice Eaton Leavens, to spend her last days and to die. Other Leavens men—young men—were attracted to Windsor for either temporary or permanent sojourn. It seems pitiful that the migratory disposition should have borne the posterity away from the site under Ascutney mountain so fondly remembered by all who ever lived there, until no one of the Leavens name is left in Windsor.

We are to follow the paths of the families of the five sons of Charles Leavens of Windsor.

**1.**

**PENUEL LEAVENS** (Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Sally Cross at Windsor, Feb. 1800: d. at Berkshire July 17 1844.

**SALLY**, b. at Methuen Mass. Feb. 13 1776, daughter of a soldier in the Revolutionary War: d. at Berkshire Feb. 8 1869.

Their children, the three first named b. at Windsor, the others at Berkshire.

Linus, b. Oct. 12 1800:

Lydia, b. Aug. 30 1802: m. Horace Chandler, St. Armand, P. Q.

Paschal Paoli, b. Nov. 30 1804:

Oranzo, b. Sept. 22 1811:

Charles Avando, b. Aug. 6 1816:

Sally Paulina, b. March 3 1818: d. June 18 1840.

Penuel Leavens was a carpenter and joiner by trade, and he was a master of the craft as pursued in a land where lumber was felled in the forests and carried through all the processes into finished buildings. He began in Windsor, but removed with his young family about the year 1809 to the new town of Berkshire, on the northern frontier of Vermont, where he repeated the experience of hewing out a home in the rugged wilderness. He rendered service in the War of 1812, and was a stirring man

in the primitive community. He helped to order its town government, to organize its schools, to build its "meeting-house", and to make passable its roads over hills and across streams.

There is a numerous bevy of young men and boys sprung from grandfather Penuel of Berkshire, though most of them are far away from the old hearth-stone; and we would like to commend to them the rigorous honesty, the unflinching industry, and the bluff independence which strongly characterized their ancestors.

## (a)

LINUS LEAVENS (Penuel, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Betsy Deming at Berkshire Dec. 25 1822: d. Aug. 20 1879.

BETSY, b. d. Sept. 7 1881.

Their children in Berkshire,

J. Wyman, b. Aug. 22 1824:

Maryette, b. May 6 1826: d. Feb. 29 1887.

Linus Leavens followed the trade of his father and spent his life in Berkshire. He was town clerk for thirty-four years, and his daughter succeeded him in the office. He was a magistrate for a generation.

J. WYMAN LEAVENS (Linus, Penuel, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Maria Holmes Jan. 8 1859:

Their children at Berkshire,

Linus, b. Sept. 21 1859:

Burton Penuel, b. Apr. 9 1868: d. Sept. 4 1884.

LINUS LEAVENS (J. Wyman, Linus, Penuel, etc.) m. Carrie I. Gaines at Berkshire Vt. Dec. 25 1882:

CARRIE I., b. Oct. 30 1860 at Leverett Mass.

Their children, the first at Cowansville P. Q., the last at Cambridge Vt. and the others at Enosburgh Falls.

Linus Conroy, b. Oct. 31 1884:

Harlow Gaines, b. Aug. 26 1886:

John Burton, b. May 5 1890: d. Aug. 1 1891.

Donald, b. June 3 1892.

Dorothy C., b. July 30 1902:

## (b)

Horace Chandler, m. LYDIA LEAVENS.

He died at Brome P. Q., Apr. 25 1879: she d. there Aug. 19 1881.

Their children at St. Armand P. Q.,

Azro Horace, b. Dec. 23 1825: m. Nancy M. Holden.

Harlow, b. March 6 1828: m. Abigail E. Holden.

Edmund Leavens, b. Dec. 21 1829: m. A. Jane Darling.

George Warner, b. Aug. 27 1832:

Mary, b. March 31 1835: d. 1835.

Linus, b. May 8 1836: m. (1) Martha J. Holden. m. (2) Margaret O'Halloran.

Emily Paulina, b. June 7 1839: m. Edward A. Robinson.

Edmund Leavens Chandler at the time of his death was a member of the Dominion Parliament.

George Warner Chandler became a citizen of Chicago and went out as Major in the 88 Regt., Ill. Vols. He was promoted Lieut. Col. and was shot while in command of his regiment in the battle of Kenesaw Mountain, June 27 1864. He lies buried beside his parents at Brome P. Q.

(c)

PASCHAL PAOLI LEAVENS (Penuel, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Ann Eliza Bowen, Sept. 6 1829 in Berkshire: d. March 23 1874.

ANN ELIZA, b. at Clarendon Vt. Oct. 1 1807: d. Mar. 22 1861.

Their children born at Berkshire,

Celia Maria, b. Dec. 2 1830: m. Henry Ladd: d. May 30 1892.

Albert Harrison, b. Sept. 12 1833: d. June 4 1835.

Henry Paoli, b. June 4 1836:

Philo French, b. Nov. 19 1838:

Leander Cushman, b. March 29 1841:

Caroline Paulina, b. July 14 1843: d. May 25 1844.

Elizabeth Ann, b. March 22 1845: d. June 31 1847.

Rosetta Augusta, b. June 13 1848: d. May 30 1849.

Harrison Bowen, b. May 1 1853:

He m. (2) Mrs. Mary Susan Bowen, March 19 1863. She d. Nov. 18 1902.

Paschal P. Leavens succeeded his father in the Berkshire home. He was a man of such thrift that he could win a success out of the heart of a Vermont farm.

In the course of his life he held well-nigh every office in the gift of his towns-men. He served repeated terms in each branch of the State Legislature and sat for some years as Assistant Judge of the County Court.

Henry Ladd, m. CELIA MARIA LEAVENS Dec. 20 1854:

Their children at Berkshire,

Albert Avery, b. Dec. 9 1856:

Pascal Paoli, b. Sept. 7 1858:

Anna Eliza, b. March 15 1861:

HENRY PAOLI LEAVENS (Paschal P., Penuel, etc.) m. L. Jane Scofield  
at St. Armand P. Q. Sept. 2 1861:

Their children b. at Neenah Wis.,  
Albert Fuller, b. March 28 1863:  
Frank Arthur, b. Jan. 20 1865:  
Fred Ernest, b. July 4 1868:  
Addie Dell, b. June 2 1871:

Henry P. Leavens and his sons are business men in the West.

ALBERT FULLER LEAVENS (Henry P., Paschal P., Penuel, etc.) m.  
Mary Wade at Chicago:

MARY, b. Jan. 28 1869:

Their children,  
Marie Bernice, b. Dec. 7 1890:  
Albert Wade, b. March 27 1892:

FRANK ARTHUR LEAVENS (Henry P., Paschal P., Penuel, etc.) m.  
at Neenah, Helen Mathews, June 12 1894:

Their children,  
Jeanette Lucille, b. May 2 1895:

FRED ERNEST LEAVENS (Henry P., Paschal P., Penuel, etc.) m.  
Charlotte Hills, Sept. 24 1896.

PHILO FRENCH LEAVENS (Paschal P., Penuel, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Helen J. Barry at Passaic N. J., Dec. 11 1873:  
HELEN J., b. at Boston Mass. Jan. 23 1846:

Their children b. at Passaic,  
Annie Bowen, b. Oct. 2 1874: m. Wilfrid A. Manchee.  
William Barry, b. Jan. 9 1876:  
Cromwell, Harrison, b. Apr. 29 1878: d. June 12 1879.  
Alice French, b. March 15 1880:

Philo French Leavens was graduated from the University of Vermont in the Class of 1861, and received the degree of D. D. in 1888. He was graduated from Union Theological Seminary in New York in 1866. He has been pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Passaic, N. J., since its organization in 1867. The situation is twelve miles from New York City and the community is composed largely of men whose business is in the city.

He has had the advantage of three trips to the countries of Europe. His daughter, Annie B., received the degree A. B. from the University of Vermont in the Class of 1896; and his son, William B., took his A. B. there in the Class of 1898. Alice F. was educated at Wheaton Seminary and by travel abroad.

Wilfrid Arthur Manchee, m. ANNIE BOWEN LEAVENS, Nov. 17 1898.

Their children at Newark N. J.,  
Arthur Leavens, b. Oct. 23 1899.  
Everett Habens, b. March 30 1901:  
Frederick Bowen, b. Feb. 11 1903.

WILLIAM BARRY LEAVENS (Philo F., Paschal P., Penuel, etc.) m.  
Annie M. MacDonald, at St. John's, Newfoundland, Dec. 28 1901.  
ANNIE MARY, b. at St. John's March 1 1877:

LEANDER CUSHMAN LEAVENS (Paschal P., Penuel, Charles, Joseph,  
Joseph, John, John) m. Julia L. Ladd, Dec. 31 1865:  
JULIA L., b. June 25 1843: d. Apr. 6 1901.

Their child, b. in Berkshire,  
Susie Cleone, b. May 5 1870: m. Dr. Rollin M. Pelton: d. July 29 1895.

Leander C. Leavens went out as a private in the 10th Vermont Infantry in 1862 and continued in the service until after the close of the War. He came home with the rank of Lieutenant. He has been in both houses of the state legislature, and has served on the staff of the Governor of Vermont with the rank of Colonel. He has been Collector of Customs at Richford, Vt., and is now Treasurer of the Richford Savings Bank and Trust Company.

HARRISON BOWEN LEAVENS (Paschal P., Penuel, etc.) m. Clara S.  
Craumer at Des Moines Ia. Sept. 16 1884:  
CLARA S., b. at Cincinnati O. Oct. 17 1855:

Their children at Kansas City Mo.  
Lewis Craumer, b. Feb. 12 1886:  
Arthur Bowen, b. Oct. 17 1890:

Harrison B. Leavens is a lawyer by profession and in business pursuits.

(d)

ORANZO LEAVENS (Penuel, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m.  
Mrs. Sarah Delano at Ottawa Ill. Jan. 27 1853: d. at Ottawa.

Their child at Ottawa,  
Carrie, b.

(e)

CHARLES AVANDO LEAVENS (Penuel, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John,  
John) m. Ruth Noble at Berkshire, May 7 1840: d. at Chicago 1898.  
RUTH, b. at Berkshire: d. at Chicago.

Their children,

C. Willis, b. at Berkshire, Jan. 27 1841:

Oranzo, b. at Berkshire, : d.

Julia Paulina, b. at Waukesha Wis. Dec. 27 1846:

Mary, b. at Neenah, Wis., Feb. 28 1856: d. at Chicago.

Eva K., b. at Neenah, Wis., Sept. 23 1859: m. Arthur Bowron.

Charles W., b. at Neenah, Wis.:

C. WILLIS LEAVENS (Charles A., Penuel, etc.) m. Irene Hussey at  
Neenah, : d. Oct. 29 1874.

IRENE, b.

Their children at Neenah,

Vinnie R., b. : m. Jefferson Connell of Clarksdale Miss.

Willis, b. :

Avando, b. : m. Cora Allison Searles at St. Paul Minn. July 14 1893.

CHARLES W. LEAVENS (Charles A., Penuel, etc.) m. Lillian Ernsp-  
ger at Cambria Wis., Sept. 13 1883: d. at Neenah, Oct. 28 1893.

LILLIAN, b. Feb. 20 1862:

Their children,

Charles Willis, b. at Cambria, Dec. 6 1884:

Benjamin Franklin, b. at Menominee Mich., Aug. 25 1888:

Ralph Noble, b. at Neenah Wis., Nov. 20 1892:

## 2.

IRA LEAVENS (Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Phalla Cobb  
: d. Jan. 18 1843.

PHALLA, b. Jan. 13 1783: d. at Morgan, July 17 1866.

Their children,

Marson, b. Nov. 28 1808:

Lucy, b. Dec. 25 1813: m. Dustin.

Phalla, b. Nov. 15 1818: d. May 13 1839.

Ira Leavens migrated from Windsor at an early day, tarried a while in Montgomery, and finally settled in Morgan, Orleans Co., Vt. He was succeeded by a son Marscn—and that name is a distant echo of Pastor Marston Cabot of Thompson parish, the highly esteemed minister of early generations in Connecticut. The family in Morgan seems not to have spread widely.

MARSON LEAVENS (Ira, Charles, Joseph, etc.) m. Eliza Morse: d.  
Feb. 16 1878.

ELIZA, b. Jan. 27 1810: d. Aug. 2 1876.



Their children at Morgan,

Charles, b. Sept. 12 1834:

Moses, b. March 30 1836:

Phalla, b. June 4 1838: m. Leman P. Brooks: d. Mar. 28 1899.

Alma H., b. Apr. 2 1840: d. Sept. 1 1878.

Elisabeth, b. Aug. 2 1843: d. May 19 1844.

(1)

CHARLES LEAVENS (Marson, Ira, Charles, etc.) m. Charlotte Allbee:  
d. March 12 1874.

CHARLOTTE, b. Feb. 23 1839: d. May 31 1883.

Their children,

Fred Ira, b. May 4 1865: d. July 1901.

Willie Parker, b. Jan. 4 1863:

Ina Eliza, b. Mar. 1 1870:

WILLIE PARKER LEAVENS (Charles, Marson, Ira, etc.) m. Margaret  
Eley, Dec. 3 1890:

MARGARET, b. Feb. 14 1872:

Their children,

Ruth Alma, b. Oct. 13 1892: d. Feb. 7 1894.

Arnold James, b. July 5 1895:

Charlotte Bell, b. Feb. 21 1897:

Julia Wilcox, b. June 6 1899:

Geneva Mae, b. July 21 1901:

(2)

MOSES LEAVENS (Marson, Ira, Charles, etc.) m. Flora Marsh:  
FLORA, b. Dec. 5 1835:

Their child,

Ora Eugene, b. Nov. 25 1862:

ORA EUGENE LEAVENS (Moses, Marson, Ira, etc.) m. Attie Magoon:  
d. Apr. 4 1896.

ATTIE, b. 1865.

Their children,

Harold Marson, b. June 27 1885:

Ervin Dean, b. Jan. 17 1887:

Merle Ora, b. June 9 1890:

## 3.

CHARLES LEAVENS (Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Polly  
Wardner at Windsor: d. there Sept. 12 1862.

POLLY, b. 1781: d. Jan. 8 1849.

Their children, b. at Windsor.

Frederick C., b. 1806: d. Mar. 16 1811.

Paulina, b. March 29 1807: m. John Adams: d. May 15 1876.

Mary, b. March 5 1811: m. Aretus Bailey May 16 1836: d. at Caldwell  
Wis. Sept. 30 1867.

Charles, b. Aug. 4 1816:

Charles Leavens, the second, passed his life in Vermont and was  
succeeded by a son, who removed to the West at an early day, as his  
family record shows.

CHARLES LEAVENS (Charles, Charles, Joseph, etc.) m. Caroline M.  
Holt at Felchville Vt. May 12 1839: d. at Albert Lea Minn. March  
24 1892.

Their children,

Charles Welstead, b. at Windsor, Feb. 7 1840:

Oliver Mervale, b. at Waterford Wis. Nov. 28 1845:

Hattie Antoinette, b. Caldwell Wis. June 4 1853: d. Sept. 17 1870.

Warburton Delano, b. Sept. 2 1855: d. Nov. 1879.

## (a)

CHARLES WELSTEAD LEVENS (Charles, Charles, Charles, Joseph,  
Joseph, John, John) m. Rebecca B. Teachout at Eagle Wis. Nov.  
25 1859: d. at Albert Lea Minn.

Their children,

Lora, b. at Waterford Wis., May 24 1863:

Belle, b. at Waterford Wis., Dec. 6 1866:

Charles, b. at Wabasha Minn. Apr. 15 1869:

Nellie, b. at Albert Lea Minn. Mar. 9 1873:

Wells, b. at Albert Lea Minn. Dec. 9 1875:

Hezie, b. at Albert Lea Minn. Dec. 9 1875: d. Aug. 13 1876.

Ruth, b. at Albert Lea Minn. May 16 1880:

CHARLES LEVENS (Charles W., Charles, Charles, Charles, Joseph, Jo-  
seph, John, John) m. Grace Hayden, Madison Minn. Aug. 31 1893:

Their child at Madison Minn.,

Marian, b. Dec. 26 1896:

(b)

OLIVER MERVALE LEVENS (Charles, Charles, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Ida May Cuff at Red Wood Falls Minn. 1887.

Their children at Red Wood Falls.

Mona, b. July 23 1888:

Abbie, b. June 16 1890:

Hattie, b. March 13 1892:

Jessie May, b. Sept. 4 1894:

Nettie, b. Aug. 30 1896:

4.

CALVIN LEAVENS (Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Lucy Woods at Reading 1807: d. at Rushford N. Y. May 5 1862.

LUCY, : d. at Rushford, Aug. 17 1860.

Their children, the first b. at Reading, the last at Rushford, the others at Windsor,

Calvin Galusha, b. Dec. 8 1808:

Grover, b. March 4 1811:

Laura, b. Nov. 23 1812: m. Edward B. Pratt, at Rushford, 1843: d. Apr. 24 1891.

Lyford, b. Feb. 26 1815:

Lucy Lorain, b. March 9 1817: m. Giles H. Chapin.

Daniel Woods, b. Feb. 13 1822:

Louisa, b. Jan. 2 1830: m. Cencleaire Dayton.

Calvin Leavens left Windsor about the year 1828, when his oldest son was a youth of twenty years, and settled in Rushford, Allegheny Co., N. Y. Three of his sons spent their lives in New York state; the fourth pushed on to the West.

(a)

CALVIN GALUSHA LEAVENS (Calvin, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Mary P. Richards Apr. 16 1834: d. Sept. 16 1888 in Michigan.

MARY P., d. Jan. 1 1871 in Michigan.

Their children,

Frances, b. 1835: d. 1839.

Ira M., b. 1837: d. 1840.

Pauline, d. at six months.

He m. (2) Mrs. Lucia Benjamin, who d. 1893.

## (b)

GROVER LEAVENS (Calvin, Charles, etc.) m. Mahitable Roberts of  
Warsaw N. Y. in 1833: d. Dec. 16 1865.  
MAHITABLE, d. Oct. 1 1865.

There were no children.

## (c)

LYFORD LEAVENS (Calvin, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m.  
Myra Gordon Sept. 17 1837: d. Dec. 20 1875.

Their children, at Rushford,  
Emily M., b. Aug. 18 1838: d. Nov. 15 1838.  
Eliza P., b. June 29 1840: d. Aug. 22 1898.  
Marion, b. July 2 1848: d. Oct. 10 1849.  
Willis Hamilton, b. Dec. 18 1854:

WILLIS HAMILTON LEAVENS (Lyford, Calvin, Charles, etc.) m. Ida  
Morrow at Rushford, Sept. 12 1876:  
IDA, b. Nov. 12 1855:

Their children at Rushford:  
Inez L., b. June 4 1877:  
Edward, b. Aug. 2 1879:  
Donald Walter, b. Aug. 22 1895:

## (d)

DANIEL WOODS LEAVENS (Calvin, Charles, etc.) m. Mary L. Burr  
Jan. 3 1845: d. Mar. 14 1893.  
MARY L., b. Jan. 15 1826: d. July 16 1900.

Their children,  
Charles Andrew, b. at Rushford, N. Y., Dec. 2 1848:  
Walter Calvin, b. at Rushford N. Y. May 29 1852: d. Mar. 20 1893.  
Edward, b. at Oramel N. Y. Dec. 21 1857: d. Feb. 12 1878.  
George Fox, b. Horseheads N. Y. Oct. 29 1865:

CHARLES ANDREW LEAVENS (Daniel W., Calvin, Charles, etc.) m.  
Mary Amelia Burr, March 1875:  
MARY AMELIA, b. Feb. 10 1849: d. June 7 1884.

He m. (2) Mabel Viola Richardson, June 11 1896.  
MABEL V., b. in Mass. May 13 1867:

Their child at Pasadena, Cal.  
Donna Richardson, b. May 19 1899:

GEORGE FOX LEAVENS (Daniel W., Calvin, Charles, etc.) m. Annie  
Sophia Harris June 25 1896:

ANNIE SOPHIA, b. in Mass. Sept. 27 1864:

Their children in Pasadena,  
Dorothy Harris, b. Nov. 14 1897: d. Sept. 4 1898.  
Phoebe Harris, b. May 11 1902:

## 5.

DARIUS LEAVENS (Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Clarissa  
Whiting at Windsor: d. there Apr. 14 1860.

Their children, b. at Windsor,  
Clarissa, b. Sept. 15 1812: m. John B. Benjamin: d. at Sheboygan Falls,  
Wis., Nov. 9 1885.  
Darius, b. Sept. 5 1814:  
Frederick C., b. Oct. 9 1822:

Darius Leavens, the son of Charles, spent his lifetime in Windsor.  
but his sons took up the march westward.

## (a)

DARIUS LEAVENS (Darius, Charles, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m.  
Huldah M. Bayley in W. Windsor May 18 1848: d. at Sheboygan  
Falls Wis. July 17 1868.

HULDAH M., b. at Hartland Vt. June 14 1816: d. Mar. 8 1899.

Their children at Sheboygan Falls,  
Fred Austin, b. Aug. 10 1849:  
Hannah Clara, b. Sept. 21 1852: m. B. B. Putnam, 1879.  
Almon Whiting, b. Sept. 29 1854:

FRED AUSTIN LEAVENS (Darius, Darius, Charles, Joseph, Joseph,  
John, John) m. Mary Dennison at Sheboygan Falls: d. there Oct.  
28 1875.

MARY D., b. at Sheb. Falls, Aug. 2 1847.

Their children at Sheb. Falls,  
Lottie Louise, b. Sept. 6 1873:  
Fred Darius, b. March 29 1875:

ALMON WHITING LEAVENS (Darius, Darius, Charles, Joseph, Jo-  
seph, John, John) m. Ida Lumsden July 28 1883:

IDA, b. at Sheboygan Falls, Aug. 10 1861:

Their children at Sheb. Falls,

Asher Lumsden, b. May 24 1884:

Alice Ida, b. April 6 1887:

Burton Almon, b. June 10 1897:

Herbert, b. May 29 1898: d. June 2 1898.

(b)

FREDERICK C. LEAVENS (Darius, Charles, Joseph, etc.) m. Sarah A.  
Mudge, Sept. 9 1857: d. Jan. 1902.

SARAH A., b. at Mount Holly Vt. 1838:

    Their children at Sheboygan Falls,

Clara, b. Aug. 1859: m. Benj. Davenport, 1878.

Ella, b. Aug. 1862: m. William Robbins, 1883.

Elmer, b. Feb. 1865:

Hattie M., b. June 1868: m. Charles Shultz 1892.

    Frederick C. Leavens served in the Artillery near Washington from  
Oct., 1864, till the close of the War.

ELMER LEAVENS (Frederick C., Darius, Charles, etc.) m. Mary Shaft-  
ner, 1894, at Port Washington Wis.

    Their child there,

Charles Frederick, b. Oct. 1898:

To Windsor, Vt. (additional) and thence to Luzerne, N. Y., and to the West.

In the Killingly circle there moved the first Darius Leavens, another grand-son of Justice Joseph. We have spoken of his family and of his services in the Revolution. An incident comes down illustrating the times. His boy had been "to the village" and had heard that the "continental money" had become worthless. Returning home, he found his father selling a yoke of oxen, fixing part of the price in money. The boy ventured to tell his father what he had heard and was curtly instructed to "mind his business". The sale went on—"and all father got for the oxen was one little mouldy old cow; and I was glad of it"—is the way the boy gave vent to his wounded feelings! Both this Darius and his wife had died when the oldest son of the numerous family was but sixteen. We are to trace the four boys.

### 1.

Rufus, the oldest, was sent to his uncle Charles in Windsor. There he acquired a home and lived to old age. One who remembers him gives this description—"He was a fine looking man with snow-white hair and the dark brilliant blue eyes which belonged to almost all the older ones of the family whom I have ever known".

RUFUS LEAVENS (Darius, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. (1) Adah Lee: d. March 23 1853 at West Windsor Vt. aged 84 years.

Their child was Sophia, who died Feb. 2, 1881, at the age of 86 years, 11 months.

He m. (2) Hannah Clark.

HANNAH, d. Nov. 1 1850 aged 78 years.

Their children,

A daughter who d. in infancy.

Orange, b. at West Windsor May 31 1801:

ORANGE LEAVENS (Rufus, Darius, etc.) m. Mehetabel E. Gale Jan. 1 1828: d. Sept. 4 1884.

MEHETABEL, d. Jan. 28 1881, aged 71 years 8 months.

Their children at West Windsor,

Lestina, who died in infancy.

Mary Ann, b. July 13 1836: m. John W. Cady.

Orange Leavens was a citizen of Windsor all his days, and in his turn had a seat in the Legislature of Vermont.

His daughter, Mrs. Cady, has preserved lively reminiscences of her Leavens ancestry.

Her son, Daniel Leavens Cady, received the degree Ph. B. in the Class of 1886, University of Vermont, and is a lawyer in New York City.

Leavens Harlow Cady is a child of her other son, Frederick W. Cady, a lawyer of Indianapolis.

Before our attention is withdrawn from Windsor, it will be well to note the intimate relation between the Leavens families and the Bucks. Ellen Leavens, sister of Rufus, was married to Benjamin Buck Nov. 25, 1790. She d. Feb. 23, 1851: he d. Oct. 22, 1857. Their children were: Benjamin, b. Nov. 10 1791: d. June 29 1880.

Martha, b. July 16 1794: d. Feb. 9 1845.

Hannah, b. Dec. 15 1796: d. Apr. 8 1858.

Ellen, b. Nov. 6 1802: d. Feb. 24 1865.

Rufus, b. June 2 1805: d. Oct. 22 1891.

Dexter, b. May 26 1810: d. Aug. 9 1896.

Caroline, b. May 22 1812: d. June 12 1851.

Mary Leavens, daughter of Charles, therefore cousin of Ellen, was married to Benoni Buck, Dec. 5, 1794. He had been b. at Killingly Nov. 23, 1769, and d. at South Reading, Vt., Nov. 13, 1821. (After his death the widow m. (2) Capt. Aaron Townsend of Reading Nov. 17, 1824, and d. June 26, 1826:)

The children of Benoni and Mary Buck b. at So. Reading,

Elisha, b. May 18 1796.

Charles, b. Sept. 6 1797:

Benoni, b. Oct. 24 1799:

John Leavens, b. Jan. 1 1802:

Joseph Warren, b. July 4 1807:

John Leavens Buck, a lawyer, received the honorary degree A. M. from the University of Vermont in the year 1850, when his son, John Hildreth Buck took his A. B. in course.

## 2.

Willard Leavens, the second son of soldier Darius, handed down the tradition of the early death of his father and the scattering of the children. How he was cared for we know not. It is probable that he followed in the footsteps of his brother, for at the age of 23 he married in Whitingham, Vt. In the year 1799 he bought a farm at Fairfield, on the banks of the Hudson, now Luzerne, N. Y. Here he dwelt till his death, often expressing the wish to re-visit Killingly, but never doing so.

WILLARD LEAVENS (Darius, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Deborah Ransom Sept. 14 1794: d. at Luzerne, Apr. 18 1832.



DEBORAH, b. Sept. 1774: d. at Luzerne, Oct. 1 1861.

Their children, the last four said to have been born at Luzerne,  
Elizabeth, b. July 15 1795: m. Zina Cowles: d. Nov. 20 1875.

Thurlow, b. Apr. 29 1797:

Mary, b. June 17 1799: m. Hiram Wilson Mar. 17 1829: d. May 25 1842.

Darius, b. Feb. 28 1802: d. by lightning stroke, Aug. 1 1826.

Harriet, b. Apr. 13 1804: m. Henry Rogers: d. Feb. 4 1874.

Katherine, b. Mar. 23 1807: m. Reuben Wells Jan. 1 1828: d. Jan. 8 1877.

THURLOW LEAVENS (Willard, Darius, Joseph, Joseph, John, John)  
m. Selina Rockwell, June 4 1831: d. Dec. 11 1882.

SELINA, b. Feb. 12 1812: d. Aug. 13 1877.

Their children at Luzerne,

Charlotte Rockwell, b. Mar. 20 1832: d. Dec. 2 1847.

Darius Willard, b. Aug. 4 1833:

Jeremy Rockwell, b. Jan. 16 1835:

Harmon Rockwell, b. Dec. 31 1837:

Deborah E., b. May 19 1840: d. Aug. 18 1897.

William Wallace, b. Aug. 10 1842:

Henry Rogers, b. Aug. 12 1844:

Elizabeth Louise, b. Dec. 17 1846: m. W. W. D. Jeffers, Sept. 25 1866:

their sons, W. W. Jr. and Henry Leavens Jeffers.

Thurlow Charles, b. Sept. 30 1848.

Daniel Sweet, b. July 22 1851:

DARIUS WILLARD LEAVENS (Thurlow, Willard, Darius, etc.) m.  
Sarah Kenyon Apr. 7 1862: d. Dec. 15 1864:

Their daughter m. J. J. Dayton.

JEREMY ROCKWELL LEAVENS (Thurlow, Willard, Darius, etc.) m.  
Alida Kip, Dec. 3 1868: d. Apr. 13 1875.

Their child, at Glens Falls,

Walter Price, b. May 30 1871:

HARMON ROCKWELL LEAVENS (Thurlow, Willard, Darius, etc.) m.  
Jane Aldrich, May 30 1864: d. Dec. 9 1900.

JANE, b. Dec. 26 1839: d. Nov. 21 1901.

Their children at Glens Falls,

Jessie Aldrich, b. Sept. 14 1871:

Louise Rockwell, b. Dec. 13 1874:

WILLIAM WALLACE LEAVENS (Thurlow, Willard, Darius, etc.) m.  
Jessie Decker, Oct. 5 1868.

Their children at Glens Falls,

William Wallace, b. March 10 1871:

Gertrude, b. Feb. 15 1881:

THURLOW CHARLES LEAVENS (Thurlow, Willard, Darius, etc.) m.

(1) Mary Conery June 6 1873:

Their child, at Glens Falls,

Lena, b. May 6 1877:

He m. (2) Fannie Waldron, Feb. 12, 1884.

WALTER PRICE LEAVENS (Jeremy R., Thurlow, Willard, Darius, etc., m. Beatrice Rosecrans Cheney Sept. 14 1899.

### 3.

Thurlow, the third son of soldier Darius in Killingly, is still more obscure than his brothers in respect to his childhood. But he evidently followed their lead, for he found a wife "either in western Vermont or eastern New York". He set up a home on the banks of the Hudson near his brother at Luzerne. There apparently the children were born. But the family removed about the year 1815 to Pittsford in western New York. Again, after the death of the father and the son Oren, the family drifted to Michigan. We suppose the name Leavens is practically extinct upon this line; and we are indebted to Mr. Thurlow Leavens Pierce for the data which we compress into a single record.

THURLOW LEAVENS (Darius, Joseph, Joseph, John, John) m. Susannah Whitney, Feb. 18 1802: d. Oct. 9 1827 in Pittsford N. Y.

SUSANNAH, b. 1771: d. July 20 1848 in Attica Mich.

Their children,

Polly, b. Jan. 10 1803: m. Sumner Pierce in Pittsford July 25 1828: d. June 22 1874.

Oren, b. May 8 1804: d. in Pittsford, Oct. 15 1826.

Darius, b. Apr. 21 1811: d. Feb. 6 1875, leaving daughters but no sons.

Charlotte, b. Sept. 4 1813: m. Hedges: d. Jan. 18 1881.

### 4.

There is a shred of evidence that Abel, fourth son of soldier Darius, was in Windsor in the year 1799; but he disappeared under the phrase "went West" and nothing more can be said of him.

**To Walpole, N. H., and Thence in Many Directions.**

We have observed how Noah Leavens (son of JOSEPH) at his premature decease on Killingly Hill, 1751, left young children; and we have traced his son Abel to Oxford, Mass., and thence in 1772 to Walpole, N. H. There was he living during the Revolution. His son Noah served, first in the independent forces of the Colony and afterward in the "Continental Army". The soldier's name is conspicuous in the Revolutionary rolls of New Hampshire, where it is sometimes written LEVINGS. Perhaps this is the fact which led the entire stock descending from the Walpole home to adopt that spelling.

The father died in 1793; the commission for appraising his estate was issued Oct. 17 of that year. His life-work was ended at the early age of fifty-two. The public records show that the little property was distributed to the four children, Noah, Rebecca, Abel and Elijah. The share of Elijah was sold by him to Constantine Gilman in 1795 for £18. Rebecca, who had married Ebenezer Wellington of Sturbridge, Mass., sold her share to her brother Abel. in Feb., 1795, for £17 5s; and next month he re-sold it with his own share, making 17 acres, to S. Weir for £36. This would seem to end the Walpole home. We are to follow these three sons and their posterity as closely as we are able.

Noah (Abel) appears in Westmoreland, which is adjacent to Walpole. There some of his children were born, and all of them for aught we know. It is clear that he removed to Troy, N. Y., early in the nineteenth century. But there was still another move later in life, which took him to Western New York to die. We trace the course of two sons, but two others are lost to our sight.

I.

NOAH LEAVENS or LEVINGS (Abel, Noah, Joseph, John, John) m.

Mitis ———: d. at Lockport N. Y. Nov. 17 1841.

MITIS, b. ? : d. 1837.

Their children, bearing the name LEVINGS. The two first named were born at Westmoreland N. H.; of the others we can say nothing.

Charles, b. Sept. 8 1793:

Noah, b. Sept. 29 1796:

Royal, b.

Elhanan, b.

Laura, b. : m. Downing.

Lucy, b. : m. Dunlap.

## (1.)

CHARLES LEVINGS (Noah, Abel, Joseph, John, John) m. Gertrude Hoatling: d. at New Richmond Wis. May 19 1879.

GERTRUDE, b. in N. Y. state Sept. 19 1799: d. at Fordham Wis. May 26 1863.

Their children,

Noah, b. in Yates Co. N. Y. May 30 1824:

Mary Ann, b. : m. Robert Corbin.

NOAH LEVINGS (Charles, Noah, Abel, Noah, Joseph, John, John) m. Amarilla Rosebush, at Alfred N. Y. Oct. 1 1844: d. at New Richmond Wis. Dec. 20 1870.

AMARILLA, b. in Sydney Ont. Feb. 15 1828:

Their children, five in Andover, N. Y.; three in Amity, N. Y.; one in Pendleton, N. Y.; and two in Friendship, Wis.

Charles Chester, b. Aug. 10 1845: d. July 9 1861.

Ellen Ada, b. Jan. 29 1846: d. 1846.

George Sydney, b. May 18 1848: d. Aug. 31 1861.

Erwin Noah, b. July 7 1850:

Oliver Franklin, b. July 21 1852:

Elida A., b. Nov. 28 1854: d. Jan. 6 1864.

Chloe F., b. Dec. 4 1856: m. William F. Courtright.

Nathanael Asbury, b. July 12 1858:

John Calvin, b. March 12 1861:

Rosetta A., b. Dec. 26 1868:

William Arthur, b. July 16 1869:

Noah Levings served in the Union army from 1864, incurring the loss of his health, so that he died five years after the close of the War.

ERWIN NOAH LEVINGS (Noah, Charles, Noah, Abel, etc.) m. Mary Levine Phillips, at Boardman Wis., July 1 1884:

MARY LEVINE, b. May 4 1850 at Hillsdale Mich:

Their child in New Richmond,

Martha Levina, b. Sept. 9 1886:

OLIVER FRANKLIN LEVINGS (Noah, Charles, etc.) m. Sarah Matilda Hanson, Sept. 12 1880:

SARAH MATILDA, b. in Norway, Jan. 7 1865:

Their children at New Richmond,

James Arthur, b. Dec. 3 1881:

Bertha A., b. Aug. 27 1883:

Erwin Frank, b. July 6 1889:

NATHANAEL ASBURY LEVINGS (Noah, Charles, etc.) m. Annie Castleman at Boardman, Dec. 30 1885:

ANNIE, b. in Ontario, June 20 1861:

Their child in Hulburt Dak.

John Erwin, b. Nov. 29 1885:

JOHN CALVIN LEVINGS (Noah, Charles, etc.) m. Henrietta M. Hanson, Mar. 16 1886 at New Richmond:

HENRIETTA M., b. in Norway, Mar. 15 1867:

Their child in Dak.,

Charles Sydney, b. Apr. 12 1887:

NOAH LEVINGS (Noah, Abel, Noah, Joseph, John, John) m. Sarah Clark

At Amsterdam N. Y. Dec. 11 1820: d. at Cincinnati O. Jan. 9 1849.

SARAH, b. at Amsterdam Sept. 5 1797: d. at New York City, Dec. 4 1863.

Their children,

Noah Clark, b. at Middlebury Vt. Dec. 9 1822: d. 1823.

Noah Clark, b. at Burlington Vt. March 4 1824:

Francis Asbury, b. at Monkton Vt. June 17 1826: d. 1826.

George Suckley, b. at N. Y. City, Feb. 27 1828: d. 1865 unmarried.

Charles Wesley, b. at Brooklyn July 18 1829: d. 1829.

Wilbur Fisk, b. at N. Haven Conn. Apr. 23 1832: d. 1833.

Martha Ann, b. at Troy N. Y. Apr. 7 1835: d. 1840.

Sarah, b. at Troy N. Y. Apr. 7 1835: d. 1836.

NOAH CLARK LEVINGS (Noah, Noah, Abel, Noah, Joseph, John, John)

m. Louise L. Allen, N. Y. City Nov. 11 1857.

Their children, b. at N. Y. City.

Clara Sherwood, b. Sept. 13 1858: m. Alvan H. Warren, 1883.

Allen, b. Jan. 4 1863: d. 1894.

#### NOAH LEVINGS, D. D.

He was a son of the soldier Noah, born in Westmoreland, N. H. According to the published memoir he was sent from home to earn his livelihood at the age of eight or nine years. At 16 he was apprenticed to a blacksmith in Troy, N. Y., whither his parents had removed. His biographer in relating his religious experience credits the parents for having trained their children to a strict observance of the Sabbath, so that the son had a tender conscience in that regard. Determining to become a regular attendant upon the House of God, "all Churches were alike to him". He therefore resolved to make "a circuit of visitations of all the Churches of the city". His fifth visit brought him to a Methodist Episco-

pal place of worship. Here he fixed his choice, yet "he remained for a long time in most distressing (religious) uncertainty". He joined the Methodist Society as a probationer in 1813. "It was not till the fifth of June 1815 that he was enabled to rejoice in his long sought blessing. On that day—a day ever memorable in his history—as he was returning from private devotions, where he had been wrestling with God for the witness of the Spirit, light broke in upon his soul and he could exclaim 'Abba Father' with an unwavering tongue". His doubts were all gone". "A divine assurance—the gift of the Holy Spirit—reigned in his soul and filled him with unspeakable joy".

He was licensed as a local preacher when a little more than twenty-one years old; and was received to the New York Conference, Mar., 1818. He was immediately appointed to what was called the Leyden circuit, embracing a large section of southern Vermont and northern Massachusetts.

Next year he had the Pownal circuit; Montgomery (N. Y.) in 1820, when he married; and Saratoga in 1821. He accepted it as a hardship when he was sent to northern Vermont the next year. His circuits were Middlebury, 1822; Burlington, 1823 4; Charlotte, 1825 6, and he traveled extensively from these centres. Then his ministry was transferred to the city; New York, 1827 8; Brooklyn, 1829 30; New Haven, 1831 2. Next he returned to the scenes of his conversion, Albany, 1833; Troy, 1834 5; and Schenectady, 1836 7. Here he enjoyed the friendship of the distinguished Dr. Nott, President of Union College and received the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He was settled in Troy and Albany from 1838 to 1842, and transferred to New York City in 1843. The next year he was elected financial Secretary of the American Bible Society, and continued till his death in 1849.

His life was thus crowded with intense activity. His biographer says, "Few men have been more generally beloved within the sphere of their labors, and few have been more sincerely lamented in their death than Dr. Levings. His manner was affable and winning; his heart was warm and generous; his mind naturally fertile and lively, and stored with an inexhaustible fund of anecdote, coupled with a ready and retentive memory, a brilliant imagination, a striking aptness at comparison and fine colloquial powers, made him a most delightful companion in social life. His tongue was like the pen of a ready writer; and he was never at a loss for the appropriate language to give utterance to his thoughts."

Some one said of him, "Brother Levings was born with words on his tongue".

He was on an extensive tour in the south-west in the interests of the Bible Society, and subject to extraordinary exposures, when his health







gave out. He turned his face homeward, longing only to reach his family. But he was obliged to stop in Cincinnati, where in the house of faithful friends he died Jan. 9, 1849.

## II.

ABEL LEAVENS or LEVINGS (Abel, Noah, Joseph, John, John) m. at Walpole N. H. July 10 1791, Hannah, daughter of Henry (or, Samuel) Marshall and his wife Mary Weir: died (it is said at Sackett's Harbor N. Y.) June 1 1845.

HANNAH, b. in Swansea N. H., Apr. 10 1773: d. July 29 1853.

Their children,

Calvin D., b. Aug. 13 1792: d. June 1813.

Sylvia E., b. July 11 1794: d. single.

Fanny, b. May 15 1796: m. Heber Blanchard (at Lancaster N. H.).

Abel, b. Aug. 24 1797:

Chester Weir, b. June 5 1799: (others say 1800)

John M., b. May 2 1802: d. Jan. 25 1836: without children.

Hannah, b. Apr. 9 1804: m. Clark Flint: d. at Attica N. Y.

Esther Rebecca, b. March 27 1807: m. Levi Willard, Oct. 20 1824.

Tryphenia D., b. Jan. 5 1810:

Harriet S., b. May 27 1811: d. Apr. 1812.

Obadiah Kendall, b. Nov. 25 1812: (others say Oliver Kendall)

Louisa, b. Aug. 13 1814: m. Love (at Sacketts Harbor); d. Nov. 20 1864.

An infant d. at 4 days, Oct. 1815:

Mary E., b. Jan. 6 1817: d. single

An infant, died, Apr. 1819:

The birth-days in this table are given from a memorandum supplied by Mr. Charles Levings of Chicago, having been given to him by his father. The marriage of Abel Leavins and Hannah Marshall appears on the records of the Congregational Church of Walpole in the handwriting of the Rev. Fessenden, the pastor at that date. There have been romantic legends afloat concerning the ancestor of the Marshall family; but they disagree so wildly that it is impossible to reconcile them. A nephew of Hannah was living in Walpole until recent years and he had personal recollections of the Leavens relations.

The Abel, head of this family, appears to have been living in Johnson's Gore, Vt., in 1795. He then bought his sister's share of the father's estate in Walpole, and re-sold it with his own. A tradition has it that the son Abel was born in Westmoreland and the son Chester Weir in Acton, N. H. The man was taxed in Westmoreland, N. H., from 1811 to 1818. But there appears to have been a removal, for the memorandum referred to above says that "the original records were burned in the dwelling at Lancaster".

There is a tradition that the Oliver Kendall (or Obadiah) went to California in 1849 and was living there as late as 1890. In that connection a note on the "memorandum" is suggestive. It says, "Taken down at Gold Run, Placer Co. California, July 13 1879. C. W. Levings". As for the rest, the scattering of the family may be inferred from the notes added to the dates of birth. The items have been gathered here and there and are not guaranteed. We follow the family in the two branches, Abel, third of the name; and Chester Weir.

## (1.)

Copy from the fly-leaf of the Family Bible of Abel Levings.

In the possession of Frederick Willard Hamilton Batavia, N. Y.

"Abel Leavens was born Aug. the 24th A. D. 1797

Sophronia Leavens was born May the 10th A. D. 1796 (1794)

Calvin W. Leavins was born June 24th 1822.

Willard P. Leavens was born Jan. the 7th A. D. 1824.

Harriet S. Leavens was born March the 7th 1826 and died March 15th.

Emily P. Leavens was born Feb. 16 1827 and died Jan. the 24th 1832  
aged 5 years lacking 16 days.

Laura A. Leavens born June 5th 1829.

Lucia Ann Reed Leavings born May the 3rd 1832.

George Edward Levings born June 27 1834.

Jared Williams born April 30th 1840 in Alexander Genesee Co. N. Y."

We give this family again in the exact language of Mrs. Hamilton, one of its members, written in 1887.

"Father's name was Abel Levings born Aug. 24th 1797 in Westmoreland N. H. He died Nov. 9th 1867 in Bethany Genesee Co.; buried at the Bethany Centre cemetery. He was named after his father and grand-father: Westmoreland was their home. He was married in Lancaster, Coos Co (N. H.) to Sophronia Willard Nov. 29 1820. She died Oct. 17th 1872 and was buried beside father. She was born May 10th 1796 in Mass.

Calvin Weir Levings born June 24th 1822.

Willard Pinckney Levings born Jan. 7th 1824. Died in Dardanelle Ark. Nov. 13th 1846. Aged 23 years.

Harriet S. Levings, born March 7th, died 15th 1826.

Emily Parke Levings, born Feb. 16th 1827. Died Jan. 24th 1832.

Laura A. Levings, born June 4th 1829. Married to William L. Hamilton May 2nd 1849.

Lucia Ann Reed Levings, born May 3rd 1832. Married Feb. 1853 to Dwight Hatch.

George Edward Levings born June 27th 1834.

Jared Williams Levings born in Alexander Genesee Co. N. Y. April 30 1840. Married to Maria A. Bostwick April 23rd 1863."

CALVIN WEIR LEVINGS (Abel, Abel, Abel, Noah, Joseph, John, John)  
m. Esther Susannah Davis at Mount Morris N. Y., Feb. 5 1845:  
d. at Chicago Jan. 12 1892.

ESTHER, S. b. at Newbury Eng. Nov. 30 1826:

Their children, two at Mount Morris, one at Rochester, and three  
at Rockville Ind.

Esther Henrietta, b. May 28 1846: m. Albert E. Williams Nov. 15 1866.

Frederick Weir, b. Dec. 11 1847:

Charles, b. Dec. 2 1852:

George Edward, b. Jan. 10 1856:

William Hamilton, b. Sept. 15 1859:

Calvin Weir, b. Oct. 5 1864: d. Dec. 23 1869.

Calvin Weir Levings after obtaining a good education began the study of law with Scott Lord of Mount Morris, N. Y., and was admitted to the bar in 1843. In 1845 he formed a connection with a banking house in Cleveland, O. Afterward he removed to Rockville, Ind., and established the Bank of Rockville. About two years later he established the Parke County Bank, in which he officiated eight years until it was changed to the First National. Meanwhile he had established the Edgar Co. Bank at Paris, Ill., where he located in 1865. He operated this Bank until 1874, when he resigned the presidency, though maintaining a connection with the institution. He subsequently removed his family and business interests to Chicago.

The family record is supplied by Mr. William Hamilton Levings of Minneapolis.

FREDERICK WEIR LEVINGS (Calvin Weir, Abel, Abel, etc.) m.  
Julia A. Ross, at Chicago, Mar. 12 1874: d. at Paris Ill. Oct. 7 1877.

Their children at Paris Ill.,

Frederick Ross, b. Feb. 22 1875:

Harold Weir, b. Apr. 10 1876: d. March 8 1879.

Stella, b. Nov. 8 1875:

FREDERICK ROSS LEVINGS (Frederick Weir, Charles Weir, Abel,  
etc.) m. Maude T. Cosad, Oct. 25 1899:

MAUDE T. b. in Huron N. Y. Aug. 7 1881:

Their child at Chicago,

Frederick Ross, b. Jan. 24 1903:

CHARLES LEVINGS (Calvin W., Abel, Abel, etc.) m. Agnes McCall  
at Canton Ill. Nov. 20 1877:

Their children at Canton,  
Mark McCall, b. Feb. 19 1881:  
Louis Raymond, b. Oct. 26 1884:

Charles Levings, Civil and Consulting Engineer in Chicago, is a  
graduate of Cornell University in the Class of 1873; his sons are students  
in the Armour Institute of Technology.

GEORGE EDWARD LEVINGS (Calvin W., Abel, etc.) m. Mary E.  
Reed at Chicago Sept. 7 1882: d. at El Paso Texas March 20 1897.

Their child at Chicago,  
Sherburne Davis, b. July 30 1883:

WILLIAM HAMILTON LEVINGS (Calvin W., Abel, Abel, etc.) m.  
Eleanor Y. Van Deusen, at Paris Ill. Sept. 15 1881:

Their children at Paris (the third at Minneapolis)  
Mary Read, b. June 26 1882:  
William Seymour, b. Jan. 26 1885:  
Margaret Esther, b. Apr. 10 1888:

GEORGE EDWARD LEVINGS (Abel, Abel, Abel, Noah, Joseph, John,  
John) m. Sarah Sandford at Paris Ill. June 18 1858:

SARAH, b. June 18 1837 at "the old farm" near Vermillion Ill.:

Their children at Paris,  
Calvin Sandford, b. May 27 1859: d. Aug. 30 1860.  
Willard Foster, b. Dec. 17 1860:  
Sarah, b. May 12 1864: m. John W. Clark, June 18 1890.  
Esther Eleanor, b. June 8 1867: d. May 15 1895.  
Edward, b. March 4 1871:  
John Algernon, b. Dec. 11 1872:  
Charles Sanford, b. July 10 1876:  
Franklin Smith, b. Oct. 17 1878: d. March 6 1886.

The home of this family still remains at Paris, Ill. Mr. Levings  
says, "I am informed that my name was the first in my father's family  
to be spelled "Levings". I was born in Lancaster, N. H., June 27, 1834.  
My father's name was Abel Levings as he spelled it in later life or  
after I knew about it. My mother's name was Sophronia Willard, a  
descendant of Maj. Simon Willard of Horsmonden, England, who arrived  
in Boston, May 1634."

George Levings Clark is a grand-child, b. Nov. 26, 1892.

WILLARD FOSTER LEVINGS (George E., Abel, etc.) m. Ella Gardner  
Hammond, Apr. 29 1891:

ELLA G., b. Apr. 29 1866 in N. Y. City.

Their children at Paris,  
Doris Hammond, b. Feb. 26 1895:  
Marcia, b. Aug. 25 1903:  
Lucia, b. Aug. 25 1903:

EDWARD LEVINGS (George, E., Abel, etc.) m. Norah Burnett, Nov.  
22 1899:

NORAH, b. June 6 1874 near Redmon Ill.

JOHN ALGERNON LEVINGS (George E., Abel, etc.) m. Clara Dale  
Pieratt June 12 1901:

CLARA D., b. Nov. 1 1873 at Ezel, Ky.

Their child at Paris,  
Nelson Trimble, b. July 27 1903:

JARED WILLIAMS LEVINGS (Abel, Abel, Abel, Noah, Joseph, John  
John) m. Maria Aletta Bostwick at Bethany N. Y. Apr. 23 1863:

Their children, the first at Cincinnati, the others at Washington, Ind.  
Jennie, b. Jan. 20 1866: d. 1870.  
Frank Austin, b. July 7 1871:  
William Abel, b. Apr. 6 1875:  
Walter Bostwick, b. Oct. 25 1881:

(2.)

CHESTER WEIR LEVINGS (Abel, Abel, Noah, Joseph, John, John)  
m. Maria Reed at Brookfield Vt. Dec. 10 1829: d. at Randolph Vt.  
June 5 1868.

MARIA, b. at Brookfield Oct. 5 1804: d. at Williamstown Vt. Feb. 22  
1876.

Their children,  
Charles Wesley, b. at Surry, N. H., June 10 1832:  
Julia Ellen, b. at Grantham N. H., May 25 1837: m. Alonzo G. Tuell,  
Jan 28 1868.  
Wilbur Fisk, b. at Sandwich N. H., Jan. 18 1844:

Chester Weir Levings was an itinerant Methodist minister, of whom  
pleasant memories lingered long in the minds of those who had known  
and heard him. Some of the places where he served in the states of  
New Hampshire and Vermont are indicated in the family record here  
presented, but they are a few only, since the good woman, his wife,  
used to say that in her married life she had "moved" thirty-two times.

CHARLES WESLEY LEVINGS (Chester Weir, Abel, etc.) m. Margaret B. Headington at Jacksonville Ill. Aug. 2 1859: d. at Oshkosh Wis., Nov. 3 1899.

MARGARET, B., b. July 30 1837:

Their children at Jacksonville,  
 Florence M., b. Sept. 27 1860:  
 Luna, b. Apr. 5 1862: d. Aug. 1863.  
 Leroy L., b. Jan. 11 1865:  
 Nellie W., b. Nov. 27 1869:  
 Charlotte M., b. May 12 1871:  
 William Headington, b. Aug. 29 1873:  
 Dollie J., b. May 27 1875:

Charles Wesley Levings was a teacher in the schools of Ohio and Illinois for thirty-four years. His children are said to be now living on the Pacific coast.

WILBUR FISK LEVINGS (Chester Weir, Abel, etc.) m. Zelma A. Perrin at Williamstown Vt. Dec. 7 1870:

ZELMA A., b. at Williamstown, Jan. 25 1843:

Their children at Williamstown,  
 Luna Flora, b. Mar. 29 1873: in Cincinnati.  
 Emma Perrin, b. Feb. 29 1876: m. Gilbert A. Comstock, June 27 1900.  
 Harriet Maria, b. May 2 1877: m. Curtis A. Comstock, Sept. 1 1902.

The present residence of this family is Oshkosh, Wis.

### III.

ELIJAH LEVINGS (Abel, Noah, Joseph, John, John) m. Lucy Hall at South Hero Vt. by Rev. Asa Lyon: d. at Madrid N. Y. Jan 16 1853.  
 LUCY, b. At Castleton Vt. Nov. 13 1781: d. at Madrid N. Y. Aug. 1 1883, aged nearly 102 years.

Their children at Fairfax Vt.  
 Edwin, b. Dec. 24 1803:  
 Alpheus Hall, b. Jan. 19 1806:  
 Mary, b. Aug. 17 1807: m. Benedict R. Burnett, 1830. d Aug. 29 1874.  
 Amanda, b. Sept. 10 1809: m. Daniel Packard.  
 John Denison, b. Oct. 12 1811:  
 Elijah, b. Aug. 22 1814: d. Oct. 3 1814.  
 Daniel Hall, b. Apr. 8 1816:  
 Israel Hall, b. June 13 1818: d. July 20 1871. unmarried  
 Myron Winslow, b. Sept. 30 1820:

Elijah Levings sold a piece of land in Walpole, N. H., (no doubt his share in his father's estate) to Constantine Gilman, March 14, 1795,

for £18. He next appears at South Hero in Grand Isle Co., Vt., where he married into an excellent family. But the young couple crossed to the main land and settled in Fairfax, Vt. There the children were born. After their birth the entire family removed to Madrid in St. Lawrence Co., N. Y.

(1.)

EDWIN LEVINGS (Elijah, Abel, etc.) m. Lucinda Stone: d. at Madrid Sept. 22, 1831, without children.

(2.)

ALPHEUS HALL LEVINGS (Elijah, Abel, etc.) m. Rhoda Powell at Madrid, Dec. 27 1837: d. at Hamilton Ill. Apr. 17 1863.

RHODA, d. June 10 1865.

Their children at Hamilton Ill.

Lucy Louisa, b. July 24 1840: m. David H. Ferguson.

Emma Eliza, b. Nov. 14 1842:

Charlotte Amelia, b. June 9 1845: m. Phineas C. Flint.

Harriet Lucinda, b. Nov. 26 1849:

The present home of the Misses Levings is at River Falls, Wis. We are indebted to Miss H. L. Levings for all the data of the posterity of her grand-father Elijah.

(3.)

JOHN DENISON LEVINGS (Elijah, Abel, etc.) m. Minerva Gates, Nov. 11 1841: d. June 4 1891.

Their children,

Myron Elbert, b. Sept. 4 1843:

Harriet Celestia, b. Sept. 6 1845: d. Feb. 2 1847.

Lorenzo Elijah, b. Oct. 6 1847: d. Jan. 8 1876, unmarried.

Frances Finette, b. Apr. 20 1850: m. Isaac F. Landis.

Seth Gates, b. Jan. 2 1852:

Rosabell, b. Sept. 22 1855: d. Feb. 16 1860.

Lois Norah, b. July 8 1858: d. Jan. 2 1859.

Minnie Ella, b. Oct. 22 1860: m. Tobias Head.

MYRON ELBERT LEVINGS (John D., Elijah, etc.) m. Nancy Fidelia Charter, May 1 1864: d. at La Harpe Ill. Sept. 5 1897.

Their children,

Ada Celestia, b. March 2 1865: m. W. C. Martin.

Alice Rosalie, b. June 6 1867: m. Robert Brown: d. Aug. 13 1893.

Frances Ella, b. Feb. 12 1870: m. Mexico Sperry.

Fred Lester, b. Nov. 28 1875:

FRED LESTER LEVINGS (Myron E., John D., Elijah,) m. Millie Butler, July 12 1894.

SETH GATES LEVINGS (John D., Elijah, etc.) m. Dorathy F. Wright, March 13 1873:

Their children,

John N., b. Aug. 20 1875:

Celia J., b. Oct. 30 1877: m. John Yowell.

Clide, b. May 5 1880:

Herbert J., b. Sept. 13 1887:

Homer E., b. Feb. 14 1890:

The family lives at Goss, Mo.

JOHN N. LEVINGS (Seth G., John D., Elijah, etc.) m. Lurena Shortridge Dec. 19 1897:

They have a son, b. Apr. 2 1899.

(4.)

DANIEL HALL LEVINGS (Elijah, Abel, etc.) m. Rebecca Loomis at Madrid, Apr. 2 1840:

Their children at Madrid,

Edwin Daniel, b. Jan. 3 1841:

Homer Winslow, b. Aug. 22 1843:

Henry Hiram, b. Sept. 7 1848: d. Sept. 21 1849.

Daniel Hall Levings is still living at River Falls, Wis., the only survivor of the fourth generation from Justice Joseph Leavens of Killingly, through the line of his son Noah, and the grand-son Abel mentioned in his Will.

EDWIN DANIEL LEVINGS (Daniel H., Elijah, etc.) m. Mary E. Dickinson at Moille Ill. Oct. 22 1867:

MARY E., d. at Mendota Ill., Apr. 18 1870.

He m. (2) Lucy May Clack Sept. 19 1888:

Their children,

Willis, b. Jan. 9 1890:

Mary, b. July 27 1891:

HOMER WINSLOW LEVINGS (Daniel H., Elijah, etc.) m. Katherine Miller.

Edwin Daniel and Homer Winslow Levings "were mustered into service at Madison, Wis., Nov. 5, 1861, re-enlisted as veterans at Natchez,



Miss., Jan. 5, 1864, and were discharged at the close of the War at Louisville, Ky., July 16, 1865. They were in fourteen battles; took part in the siege of Vicksburg, and went with Sherman on his 'march to the sea'. They were in Co. A. 12th Wis. Vols."

"Myron Packard, son of Amanda Levings, was mustered in at Madison, Wis., Oct. 18, 1862, and was discharged at Louisville Sept. 20, 1865. He was Q. M. Serg. in the 30th Wis. Vols."

"Ellsworth Burnett, son of Mary Levings, enlisted in the 12th Wis. Vols., Oct. 18, 1862; was promoted to Capt. of Co. F., 37th Wis., Apr. 19, 1864; and brevetted Major for gallantry at the siege of Petersburg, Apr. 2 1865". "d. at Santa Rosa, Cal., 1895".

## (5.)

ISRAEL HALL LEVINGS was graduated at the University of Vermont in the Class of 1848. Among his classmates were Robert D. Benedict, a prominent lawyer of New York City, and Dorman B. Eaton, an eminent writer on questions of public economy. He studied theology at Andover Seminary and was ordained to the ministry. Defective health stood in the way of the highest success, but he was known as an accomplished scholar and a finished writer of pure English. His discourses are remembered by many who heard him in life.

The General Catalogue of the University of Vermont contains a note concerning Israel Hall, a student who was born at South Hero and died there July 16, 1819. He is described as a "son of Col. Alpheus and Mercy (Blinn) Hall." He had "fitted for College under Rev. Asa Lyon", but died in the midst of his course. This doubtless shows the intelligent family into which Elijah Levings married; and it shows the source of the intellectual fervor which characterized it. The Rev. Asa Lyon was a distinguished citizen of Vermont, and he left a lasting influence in Grand Isle County. The name of the scholar Israel Hall was conferred upon the son of Lucy Hall and Elijah Levings, born shortly before the young collegian died.

Elijah Levings Burnett was graduated from the University of Vermont in the Class of 1862, and from Union Theo. Sem. in 1865. He was ordained to the ministry by the Presbytery of Philadelphia and has served in the East and the West.

## (6.)

MYRON WINSLOW LEVINGS (Elijah, Abel, etc.) m. (1) Anna Maria Stebbins at Madrid, Jan. 12 1847: d. —  
ANNA M., d. Sept. 17 1857.

Their children at Madrid,

Frederick William, b. Oct. 30 1847: d. at Potsdam, March 25 1870.

Charlotte Augusta, b. June 20 1853: m. Henry E. Phelps at Racine Wis.,  
June 11 1883.

(Henry Levings Phelps, b. Aug. 23 1892)

Myron W. m. (2) Betsy Mills Van Buren, Oct. 23 1859.

Their child,

Glenn Van Buren, b. Oct. 19 1873.

At our latest information Glenn V. B. Levings was an assayer on the gold mines of Chihuahua, Mexico.

Myron Winslow Levings is said to have been in the 116th N. Y. Vols. in service nine months in 1862, 3.

So numerous and so vigorous the posterity of the first Abel Leavens, or Levings, they may be glad to "hark back" to a mid-September day, 1751, on the vertex of Killingly Hill, and read the Will of a young farmer about to die at the age of 31 and leave behind a group of children, the oldest not yet eleven years of age.

IN THE NAME OF GOD, AMEN; this seventeenth day of September Anno Domini, 1751. I, Noah Leavens, of Killingly in the County of Windham and Colony of Connecticut, in New England, yeoman, being sick in body but of perfect mind and memory (thanks be given to God therefor) and calling to mind ye mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed unto man once to die, do make and ordain this my last Will and Testament, that is to say, principally and first of all, I give and recommend my soul into the hands of God Who gave it and my body I recommend to the earth to be buried in decent Christian burial at the discretion of my executors, nothing doubting but that at the general resurrection I shall receive ye same again by ye mighty power of God: and as touching such worldly estate wherewith it hath pleased God to bless me in this life, I give, demise and dispose of ye same in ye following manner and form.

Imprimis. I give and bequeath unto Mary, my well-beloved wife the use, command and improvement of so much of ye room in my new dwelling house and cellar, in Killingly aforesaid, as she shall need and the use of one half of my barn and also the profit and income of all my improvements in said Killingly until my son Abell shall arrive at ye age of twenty one years if she shall remain my widow so long, and after that time to have the profit and income of one third part of my improvements so long as she shall remain my widow. And further my will is that she shall have ye profit and income of one third part of my quick stock and ye free liberty of use (but not dispose) of ye household goods within doors so long as she shall remain my widow. And in case my beloved wife shall marry again my will is that she shall have out of my stock and moveable estate the sum of Two Hundred Pounds old tenor valued to her by judicious indifferent men appointed thereto by ye Court of Probates, she acquitting ye rest of my estate real and personal and this to be her Dower out of my estate.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved son Abel Leavens my dwelling house and barn in Killingly aforesaid and all ye lands I am now lawfully seized and possessed of in said Killingly lying and being on the westerly side of ye county road leading from Plainfield to Thompson, he to come into the possession thereof at ye age of twenty one years (except the privilege I have reserved for my beloved wife aforesaid during her widowhood, and upon her marriage or decease my said son Abel shall have the possession of ye whole both buildings and lands as above described; and also my will is that my said son Abel shall have all my husbandry tools and utensils without doors he paying the legacies hereafter mentioned and ordered for him to pay) and this to be to him, his heirs and forever free and clear as his portion out of my estate.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved son Elijah Leavens, ye one moiety or half part (quantity for quality) of all the land I am seized and possessed of in Killingly aforesaid lying and being on ye easterly side of ye county road above mentioned, he to have his half bounding northerly upon Mr. Hows land and westerly fronting upon said county road and easterly bounding upon land belonging to the heirs of William Moffitt deceased, and so to extend southerly in a regular form as to comprehend the quantity of land before expressed. He to come into the possession thereof when he shall arrive at the age of twenty one years (he paying the legacies hereafter mentioned and ordered for him to pay) then this shall be to him, his heirs and assigns forever free and clear as his portion out of my estate.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved son Joseph Leavens the one moiety or half part, quantity for quality, of all ye lands I am seized and possessed of in Killingly aforesaid, lying and being on ye easterly side of ye county road above mentioned. He to have the southerly part of said lands, he to come into the possession thereof when he shall arrive to the age of twenty one years (He paying the legacies hereafter ordered and mentioned for him to pay) then this shall be to him, his heirs and assigns forever free and clear as his portion out of my estate; nevertheless my will is that there be a convenient road left and reserved for public use from the Middle meeting-house in said Killingly through my lands east of said county road to ye eastermost boundary of said land and that said road be excluded in ye division of said land as above expressed.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved daughter Rebecca Leavens the one half (in value) of all my Quick stock and all my household goods that shall be left after the marriage or decease of my beloved wife aforesaid, she to come into ye possession thereof at ye age of eighteen years or upon ye day of her marriage in case her said mother should marry or decease before that time, and also I give unto my said daughter Rebecca the sum of Two Hundred pounds according to old Tenor bills of credit to be paid her out of my estate in ye following manner and form, that is to say, one hundred pounds to be paid to her by my son Abel when she shall arrive at ye age of twenty one years, and one hundred pounds more to be paid to her by my son Elijah when ye said Elijah shall arrive at ye age of twenty three years, this to be to her my said daughter Rebecca and to her heirs and assigns forever free and clear as her portion out of my estate.

Item. I give and bequeath unto my beloved daughter, Zerviah Leavens, the one half part (in value) of all my Quick stock and all my household goods that shall be left after the marriage or decease of my beloved

wife aforesaid; she to come into possession thereof at ye age of eighteen years, or upon the day of her marriage in case her said mother should marry or decease before that time, and also I give unto my said daughter Zerviah ye sum of Two Hundred pounds according to old Tenor bills of Credit to be paid to her out of my estate in ye following manner and form, that is to say, fifty pounds to be paid to her by my son Abel when she shall arrive at ye age of Twenty one years; and fifty more to be paid to her when she shall arrive at ye age of Twenty two years: And One hundred pounds more to be paid to her by my son Joseph when ye said Joseph shall arrive at ye age of Twenty three years, this to be to her my said daughter Zerviah and to her heirs and assigns forever free and clear as her portion out of my estate.

And further my will is that my debts and funeral charges should be first paid out of my credits, stock and moveable estate before any distribution be made of ye same.

And I do hereby constitute, appoint and ordain, Mary, my well-beloved wife aforesaid, and my well-beloved friend John Leavens, of Killingly aforesaid, my sole executors of this my last Will and Testament. And I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke and disannull all other and former Testaments, Will, Legacies and Bequests and Executors by me in any wise before willed, named and bequeathed, ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament.

In witness whereof, I the said Noah Leavens have hereunto set my hand and seal the day and year first above written.

Signed, sealed, published, pronounced and declared by ye said Noah Leavens, as his last Will and Testament, in presence of us ye subscribers.

NOAH LEAVENS seal

Samuel Winter Jr.  
David Robarts Jr.  
Perley Howe.

Windham S. S.  
Killingly.

November ye 14 1751.

Then ye Rev. Perley How and David Robarts Jr. personally appeared and made solemn oath that they saw Mr. Noah Leavens, late of Killingly deceased, sign seal publish pronounce and declare ye foregoing instrument as his last Will and Testament and that they together with Samuel Winter Jr. set to their hands as witnesses at ye same time, in presence of ye testator.

Sworn before me

Joseph Levens.

Justice of ye Peace.

The above and foregoing is a true copy of the last Will of Noah Leavens.

Waldo Tillinghast, Judge of Probate.

Plainfield Ct.  
July 28 1897.

### To Ohio.

One of the most interesting households in Killingly at the date of the Revolution was that of Capt. John Leavens, the last-born child of Justice JOSEPH. It has already been mentioned (Family No. 11).

Happily the very door of the house is once opened to us. Young Mr. Williams of Woodstock, school-master, sets it ajar, and it is in his diary, after this wise:—

“Jan. 15 1787. Mr. John Leavens called at the school-house.

31. After school walked a mile to Mr. John Leavens with his son Joseph. There tarried all night. Supped on fresh cod fish &c: ate apples and drank flip.

Feb. 1. Breakfasted on pan-cakes and haddock. Saw Chester Converse and lady going with Mr. Joseph Leavens to Killingly in a sly.

6. After school walked with my senior pupil, Joseph Leavens, two miles to singing meeting at Mr. Hutchinson's school-house and sang an hour or two.

9. Dea. Torrey here; also Jacob Leavens, with whom went to singing meeting at our school-house.

10. Fanny Leavens came to school. Her brother Joseph began to study surveying.”

Here is a mine of suggestion about the old times in New England—the winter school; the occasional visitor therein; the sleighing outside; the long walk in the snow roads; the singing-school in the evening; then the “boarding 'round,” with its bounteous good living and unceremonious cheer. But what does the school-master see in the face of Fanny Leavens, seventeen years old, that causes him to write her in his diary as his new scholar one day? And why is Joseph Leavens, “senior pupil,” at the sound age of twenty-four beginning to study surveying?

The fact is there is lively talk going on in the house of Capt. John, which will have such effect that in the very next year the comfortable domicile will be broken up and the family gone on an heroic migration to a land where “surveying” will have a limitless field.

The Ohio Company, having for its object to settle the territory northwest of the Ohio River, was organized in 1786. The Rev. Dr. Manasseh Cutler was a master-spirit in it. The first detachment of settlers left Danvers, Mass., Dec. 3, 1787; the second went from Hartford, Conn., Jan. 1, 1788. Ephraim Cutler, son of Dr. Manasseh, then living with his aged grandfather in Killingly, acted as agent of the Company and interested Windham County people. As soon as spring opened another party followed, in which were Capt. John Leavens, and Benjamin Converse, a grandson of the first Benjamin Leavens. Theophilus Knight, whose mother was Justice JOSEPH'S daughter Rachel, was of this

party and he left a racy journal of his adventures. It was forty days from Killingly to the landing at Marietta, Ohio, May 18, 1788. The route appears to have been straight across Connecticut, New York, northern New Jersey; up the Lehigh valley of Pennsylvania, passing the Moravian settlements, and over the Alleghenies to the headwaters of the Ohio, which led to the destination. Theophilus Knight says, "There was eight of us young men that fixt out, and had four horses & wagons & put our clothes, farming tools, provisions &c into it, and off we set & had a very merry journey thro the country. \* \* \* Sometimes we met with disagreeable things, bad luck, bad travelling, &c &c. But upon the whole we did pretty well." Theophilus was a good deal of a philosopher and fond of the soft side of things, so he concludes:—"But upon the whole I looked on every side, and I thought that the country was not so much better than any other that it would pay a man for carrying a large family to such a wild wilderness country as that, and inhabited with savages and wild beasts of the forest."

Capt. John Leavens came to the opposite conclusion, and somehow, in that year 1788, transported his well-grown household, including four daughters and two sons, over that fearful journey. He settled at Belpre. The name is an abbreviation of Belle-prairie and was applied to a beautiful meadow tract on the Ohio, near the entrance of the Little Hockhocking. The company to settle here was composed of about forty associates. They passed the winter of 1788-9 in Marietta and then drew their lots in the proposed town. They went to their farms in April, 1789. They built log huts along the river and began clearing. They were not able to plant their corn among the girdled trees until June. Unhappily there was an early frost in the autumn and the corn was struck before it was mature. The community was put to terrible straits and reduced to the point of starvation before another crop could be raised.

Says a reliable historian, "The larger portion of individuals who formed this association had served as officers in the late war, and when the army disbanded retired with a brevet of promotion." "No settlement ever formed west of the mountains contained so many men of real merit, sound practical sense and refined manners." "They had been in the school of Washington, and were nearly or quite all of them acquainted with that great and good man." \*

But the privations were extreme. Here is a date and a hint;—In the autumn of 1789 Jervis Cutler joined a party of land surveyors of the Ohio Company, out of a desire to see the country. And he saw it, for he got lost in the woods. After several days of wandering and peril, he reached a point on the Hockhocking where he recognized the situation and was able to choose a course. One of his options, as he says, was to

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\*Pioneer History, by S. P. Hildreth, p. 350 61.

go "down stream to the cabin of John Levins, seven miles below." \* A "cabin" in the wilderness and not so much as corn meal in the larder was a startling contrast to the bountiful home left behind in old Killingly!

The work of these brave settlers was of the highest importance. They opened a valuable region and planted towns and institutions that have been eminent. They were the first makers of the State of Ohio, and through that state of the vast North-West, in whose population their posterity ranks among the best.

Hardly had the pioneers escaped the terrors of famine when violent troubles with the Indians broke out. The Belpre people were obliged to collect for safety in a cluster of block houses, which they fortified. They called the place "Farmers' Castle". Here were assembled at one time as many as "220 souls—28 heads of families". In the year 1792 house No. 10 contained two families, and one of them is designated as "Capt. John Levins, wife and six children from Killingly Connecticut, viz., Joseph, a young man; and John, a boy of ten years, Nancy (?), Fanny, Esther and Matilda". †

The head of this family did not long survive the trials of the pioneer, but his widow lived to see her children established. The daughter Judith had married before the removal from Killingly and the home of her posterity was North Adams, Mass.

The school-master's Fanny comes to sight in the following extract:—"Major Joseph Lincoln came to Marietta, April 7 1788. He was born in Massachusetts in 1760, and had served in the Revolutionary army. While in garrison at Farmers' Castle, Belpre, he married Fanny, daughter of Capt. John Leavens, from Killingly Connecticut. After the war (with the Indians) he removed to Marietta, where he established himself in business". He was an extensive owner of real-estate and a builder. "He soon became one of the most successful merchants in Marietta. He was a most excellent man. Tradition says that his daughter Susan Lincoln, educated at the celebrated Moravian school at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, was one of the most attractive and accomplished girls of her time." ‡ Major Lincoln died in the midst of his enterprise and success.

The daughter Hannah was married to Jonathan Plummer, who died

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\*Pioneer History, p. 481.

†Pioneer History, p. 384.

‡The Founders of Ohio; brief sketches; p. 22. The general catalogue of the Moravian Seminary for Young Ladies at Bethlehem, Pa., contains the name of Susan Lincoln as a student in the year 1802. It represents her as a daughter of Maj. Joseph Lincoln of Marietta, O.; b. Aug. 11, 1791; m. 1. Mervig, 2. Nathanael Cushing, 3. Pomeroy; d. Gallipolis O. 1851. There were other students from prominent families of Marietta.

in Marietta. Afterward she became the wife of Stephen Pierce and died in Salem, Ind.

The daughter Betsy was married at Marietta in March, 1803, to Dr. Increase Mathews as his second wife.

Increase Mathews was a nephew of Gen. Rufus Putnam, who was leader of the first band of pioneers and superintendent of the settlement in the North West Territory. Born Dec. 22, 1772, and reared in New Braintree, Mass., he studied medicine under Dr. Spencer Field of Oakham and received his certificate of proficiency Jan. 7, 1799. He visited Marietta, O., in 1798. In 1801 he settled in Zanesville, locating the next year in the newly surveyed section then called Putnam, where he spent his days. He married Betsy Leavens at the home of her sister Fanny, wife of Major Lincoln.

At a somewhat early age Dr. Mathews retired from practice and devoted himself to agricultural and other interests. As an indication of his enterprise it may be noted that he first, at great pains, introduced the breed of Merino sheep in Ohio. He established the first drug store in Zanesville. Bringing his credentials from the Congregational Church of New Braintree, dated Aug. 27, 1800, he was one of the five original members of the first Church organized in Muskingum County.

Concerning Betsy Leavens Mathews her grand-child, Mrs. Margaret D. Fulton, writes,

"She was fourteen years old when her father with his family came to Ohio. So she was born and almost brought up at Killingly. I was nearly eleven years old when she died and I adore her memory, for she was as lovely and as intellectual as she was beautiful. She knew all of Watts' hymns by heart and could repeat the "Westminster Catechism" question and answer, from beginning to end. She used to read and afterward repeat Thompson's "Seasons" and Cowper's "Task", Pope's works and many books of that kind. She was benevolent and beloved and looked up to by all who had need of her assistance. \*\*\* Our home was just across the street from the old homestead, so that she was like a mother to me, my own mother having died when I was an infant. I think you will agree with me in thinking that we have reason to be proud of her."

The daughter Esther was married to Thomas Sandford in 1804. She had a large family and died in Alexandria, Va., where her descendants still live.

The daughter Matilda was married in 1803 at Marietta to John White and died in Indiana.

The son Joseph married Betsy Stratton in Belpre and died early leaving daughters.

The son John married Patience Warner in Putnam, now Zanesville, O. He died in 1815 at the age of thirty-four.







He left two daughters. One became Mrs. Lewis; the other, Miss Catherine B. Leavens, never married. These two removed in 1845 to Clinton, Ill., where they were active and influential people. They were among the thirteen charter members of the Presbyterian Church of Clinton. After the death of her sister the home of Miss Leavens was with her niece, Mrs. Bishop. She lived to a great age and was regarded with singular affection. "Almost to the last she kept her heart fresh and young by mingling with the world and leaving the impress of her lovable nature on everybody with whom she came in contact. An earnest, devoted Christian woman, she was a blessing to those who sorrowed, and the world is the better for her having lived in it." From the home of another niece, Mrs. Potwin, of Chicago, in September, 1893, she visited and greatly enjoyed the Columbian Exposition, of which she wrote an account in a fair, clear hand and lively style. Shortly afterward she fell sick and died Oct. 4, 1893, at the age of eighty-six. With her departure the name Leavens expires in the posterity of Capt. John Leavens, but his descendants are numerous in the lines of his daughters, and he deserves to be held in high regard for a courageous part among the very first settlers of the Great West.

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We have alluded to Benjamin Converse, another emigrant with large family. His mother was Mary Leavens, sister of the eminent Benjamin. Mr. Converse settled at Waterford and soon died. His widow and eight children spent the winter of 1792 in "Fort Frye," a hastily constructed defense against the Indians. Among her children were James, a young man, and Daniel, a lad of fifteen years. The next spring this Daniel Converse went out one day with two men into the forest. The men had guns, but he had none. While they were cutting down a tree a party of Indians fired on them. Fortunately neither of the three was wounded. "What shall we do?" exclaimed one of the men. "Why, tree and fire," said the boy, meaning, of course, 'jump behind a tree and shoot at the savages before they can re-load.' Instead of doing so, the men seized their guns and ran. That left Dan to be captured. The Indians led him bare-foot an almost endless journey through the forests of what are now Ohio, Indiana and Michigan. At last they brought up near Detroit. There the boy managed to escape by the friendly aid of some Frenchmen, and he was by them forwarded down the route of the lakes, past Niagara and down the St. Lawrence to St. John's in Canada. From there British officers furnished him a passage to Castleton, Vt.; and thence he reached his relatives in Killingly. There was a bevy of Leavens cousins, among the rest, to listen with eager ears to the marvellous adventures of this youth, before he returned to Ohio in 1794.

**To Reading, Vt., and Thence to Granville, N. Y.**

The brothers Jedidiah and Hezekiah Leavens (Benjamin, BENJAMIN) went, unmarried, to Reading, Vt., as early as the year 1779. They must have returned to Killingly, for there Hezekiah was married in 1785; and there his first child was born the next year. Then he took his family to Reading. But apparently he was not satisfied, for he removed to Granville, Washington County, New York. There other children were born and it was his home till death. He left three sons.

(1.)

Royal Leavens lived at Glens Falls. We understand that he was twice married. The record is incomplete.

ROYAL LEAVENS (Hezekiah, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m.(1)  
Maria Folsom March 8 1814: d. Oct. 5 1841.

Their children at Glens Falls,  
John, b. Apr. 1815: m. at Mobile Ala., but left no children.  
Addison, b. May 1817:  
Eugene, b. : d. young.  
Maria Susan, b. : m. Dr. Joseph L. Stoddard Aug. 25 1841 at  
Glens Falls.

He m. (2) Mary Baldwin.

Their children, also at Glens Falls,  
Mary, b. : d. young.  
Eugene, b. N. Y. Aug. 26 1829:  
Helen, b. : d. young.  
Edric, b.  
Emily, b.

(a)

ADDISON LEAVENS (Royal, Hezekiah, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Harriot B. MacPherson of Albany N. Y., Oct. 1845; d. in New York City Nov. 1867.

HARRIOT B., b. : d. in N. Y. City, Oct. 10 1897.

Their children in Mobile Ala.,  
Addison, b. Feb. 10 1847:  
Helen Belle, b. Oct. 24 1848: East Point Ga.  
George MacPherson, b. Feb. 24 1851: in Wyoming.  
Joshua Bayley, b. March 25 1853: d. 1863.  
Erastus St. John, b. : d. at 14 months.  
Harriet, b. : d. at 7 months.  
Grace, b. July 11 1863: m. B. Walker Martin of Atlanta Ga. June 1895.

Addison Leavens, Jr., was acting-sergeant in 1st. Batt. Ala. Cadets (Pelham Cadets) C. S. Army. His present address is East Point (near Atlanta) Ga.

(b)

EUGENE LEAVENS (Royal, Hezekiah, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Charlotte Davis Nov. 22 1851:

Their children at Portville N. Y.,

Helen Emily, m. William B. Mersebau, Apr. 15 1879.

Edith Rebecca, m. Dr. Roderick McLennan, Syracuse N. Y., Nov. 1 1887:  
d. Mar. 13 1892.

Myrtie, d. young.

Kate M., d. young.

Frederick R., d. by accident at 16 years of age.

Eugene Leavens has been for nearly forty years a member of a lumber-manufacturing concern, now styled Mersebau & Co.

Eugene Leavens Mersebau is a student in Yale University.

(2)

BENJAMIN LEAVENS (Hezekiah, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m.

Sally White, Feb. 13 1813: d. at Mobile Ala., 1851.

SALLY, d. at Mobile 1839.

Their children at Granville N. Y.

Emily White, b. Aug. 10 1815: m. S. H. St. John, 1840: d. Oct. 18 1878.

Benjamin Franklin, b. July 11 1817:

James Bayley, b. Nov. 9 1819: d. 1821.

James Bayley, b. June 1 1823: d. 1823.

Edward, b. Apr. 25 1825: d. in New Orleans about 1853.

Frederick, b. March 2 1830:

Jeshua Bayley, b. Sept. 1 1835: d. 1836.

He m. (2) Mrs. Emily Maria Brogdon.

EMILY M., b. at East Haddam Conn., Jan. 18 1815: now living at Houston, Texas.

Their children at Mobile,

Henry St. John, b. Oct. 21 1845: d. Feb. 28 1883.

William Converse, b. Aug. 27 1847: d. 1847.

Sally White, b. Oct. 13 1849: m. Price Clarkson, now at Houston Texas.

(a)

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN LEAVENS (Benjamin, Hezekiah, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John). m. at Mobile Ala.: d. about 1848.

His child at Mobile, :  
 Susan Emily, b. May 1846: m. Dr. Wharton of Miss.

(b)

FREDERICK LEAVENS (Benjamin, Hezekiah, etc.) m. Euphemia A.  
 Wenman, Aug. 22 1850:  
 EUPHEMIA A., b. Apr. 2 1822: d. Nov. 19 1901.

Their children at New York City,  
 Frederick Franklin, b. Dec. 11 1851:  
 Henry Wenman, b. Feb. 23 1852:  
 Emily St. John, b. March 25 1855:  
 George St. John, b. July 18 1857:  
 Addison, b. Nov. 8 1864:  
 Percy, b. 1859: d. March 27 1865.

FREDERICK FRANKLIN LEAVENS (Frederick, Benjamin, Hezekiah,  
 etc.) m. Eveline Louise Robinson, March 3 1886:  
 EVELINE, b. Nov. 8 1856:

Their child,  
 Frederick Franklin, b. March 21 1892:

HENRY WENMAN LEAVENS is a graduate of the School of Mines,  
 Columbia College. He lives in Australia, where he married, in  
 1899, Sabina Harrison.

ADDISON LEAVENS (Frederick, Benjamin, Hezekiah, etc.) m. Carrie  
 Irene Patterson in Brooklyn, Apr. 4 1894:

Their children,  
 Mildred, b. Feb. 1 1895:  
 Irene, b. Sept. 19 1897:  
 Eleanor, b. May 19 1900:

(3.)

JOSHUA BAYLEY LEAVENS (Hezekiah, Benjamin, etc.) m. Naomi  
 Rogers 1820: d. 1835.

He left one daughter, Helen Naomi, b. June 29, 1821. She was  
 brought up by her aunt, Susan Leavens Hunt. She married Thomas Butler  
 of Mobile, Ala., and left children, of whom are Pierre C. and Helen N.  
 Butler, now of Mobile.

### To Dudley, Mass., and Elsewhere.

Benjamin Leavens, the third in direct line of that name, made his home in Killingly and there his children were born; but it was over the line in Dudley, Mass., that his three sons reared their families.

#### (1.)

LORING LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m.  
Dolly Larned, Feb. 12 1816: d. 1869.  
DOLLY, b. 1797: d. 1883.

Their children—the two named first were born in Killingly, the last in Webster Mass., the others in Dudley Mass.

William Larned, b. Apr. 26 1819: m. Caroline H. Wallis: d. 1850 leaving no children.

Sibbell Louisa, b. Aug. 12 1820: m. Andrew Wiggin.

Benjamin Morris, b. May 6 1822:

Hannah Ann, b. Aug. 27 1823: m. (1) Harlow M. Guild, 1840. m. (2) Leander W. Warren, 1858.

Dolly Jane, b. Jan. 1 1825: d. 1839.

Mary Augusta, b. Nov. 27 1826: m. Reuben P. Taft, 1848.

Elisabeth Amelia, b. June 16 1828: m. Lemuel Parkhurst, 1850.

James Loring, b. Sept. 11 1829:

Ruth Maria, b. June 3 1834: d. 1872, unmarried.

Loring Leavens is on record as a "private" doing duty in July 1813.

BENJAMIN MORRIS LEAVENS (Loring, Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Martha M. Morgan Jan. 1 1845: d. 1873.

Their child, at Norwich Conn.

Jane Larned, b. Dec. 18 1847: m. Alfred Hough 1880.

Benjamin M. Leavens was one of the "'49ers" but returned from California in broken health, from which he never recovered.

JAMES LORING LEAVENS (Loring, Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Sarah Jane Forbes May 5 1850.

Their child at Dudley,

George William, b. Aug. 11 1855:

#### (2.)

GEORGE LEARNED LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Elizabeth Learned, Oct. 18 1820: d. July 21 1869.

ELIZABETH, d. Mar. 29 1840.

Their children, at Dudley Mass.

Erastus Wilkinson, b. Aug. 22 1821:

George Merrill, b. June 22 1825:

Elizabeth Learned, b. Jan. 18 1832: d. 1832 (at Boston).

He m. (2) Emeline Burnett, who d. 1876.

ERASTUS WILKINSON LEAVENS (George Lewis, Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Helen N. F. Whiting, Sept. 30 1840: d. June 20 1888.

HELEN N. F., b. Jan. 8 1823: d. Feb. 17 1897.

Their children at Boston,

Erastus, b. July 29 1842: d. about 1889, without children.

George Henry, b. June 1 1844: m. 1877; without children.

Helen Amelia, b. Sept. 30 1849: unmarried.

GEORGE MERRILL LEAVENS (George L., Benjamin, etc.) m. Caroline A. Cops Sept. 29 1850: d. Feb. 3 1897.

Their children at Charlestown Mass.,

Harry, b. Apr. 10 1851: d. Feb. 27 1853.

Frank, b. Mar. 30 1853: d. Sept. 29 1863.

William, b. Jan. 9 1855:

George Adams, b. June 27 1860:

at Medford Mass.,

Eddie, b. Aug. 1865: d. in infancy.

Henry, b. Nov. 5 1871:

WILLIAM LEAVENS (George M., George L., Benjamin, etc.) m. Emma D. White, Dec. 6 1880:

Their child at Malden, Mass.,

Edith Elizabeth, b. Nov. 3 1881:

GEORGE ADAMS LEAVENS (George M., George L., Benjamin, etc.) m. Annie Perkins, Aug. 1881.

HENRY LEAVENS (George M., George L., Benjamin, etc.) m. Emma Florence Kimball, Nov. 16 1898:

Their children,

Harold Wesley, b. at Medford, Mass., May 9 1899:

Merrill Webber, b. at Melrose, Mass., May 2 1901:

Bertha Mildred, b. at Melrose, Mass., Apr. 13 1903:

(3.)

The course of Benjamin, the fourth Leavens of that name in direct descent, may be traced in the record of his family.







BENJAMIN (Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Sylvia Healy, May 13 1819:

Their children,

Lucretia Learned, b. at Pomfret Conn., Feb. 20 1820: m. D. L. Giddings 1849.

Benjamin Franklin, b. at Dudley Mass. Oct. 12 1822:

Henry Newton, b. at Willington Conn. Feb. 17 1825:

Sylvia Conant, b. at Willington Conn. Feb. 2 1827: d. 1849.

Lucy Aurelia, b. at Dudley Mass. Aug. 6 1830: d. 1859.

Ellen Louisa b. at Dudley Mass. Oct. 29 1839: m. F. P. Burnham.

Benjamin Franklin Leavens early developed a musical taste, and at the age of eighteen was organist at Christ Church, Boston. He afterward went to St. Paul's Church on Tremont St., where he organized the first boy choir of Boston. In 1857 he removed to Burlington, N. J., and took charge of the music at St. Mary's and at Burlington College under the patronage of his friend, Bishop Doane, of the diocese of New Jersey. Here he remained until the death of Bishop Doane, and in 1863 he removed to Hartford, Conn. During the remainder of his life he was connected with St. John's, Trinity and other Churches, serving also as professor of music in Trinity College until 1870—making an uninterrupted service with the Episcopal Church of over thirty years. He was an ardent admirer of a high order of Church music, and in the course of his life had collected an extensive library of Church and classical music. Besides the organ, he gave instruction on other instruments. So much time was devoted to instruction that he did not progress in composition, though possessing talent in that direction.

Prof. Leavens became interested and active in Freemasonry while in New Jersey and was Past E. C. of Helena Commandery, Knights Templar. At Hartford, Conn., he became one of the charter members of Lafayette Lodge, F. and A. M. in 1867. He affiliated with Washington Commandery, K. T., No. 1, and Connecticut Consistory 32nd degree and directed the music in these bodies until his death.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN LEAVENS (Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Charlotte M. Cunningham May 11 1845: d. Aug. 5 1881 at Hartford Conn.

CHARLOTTE M., b. May 1 1822 at Groton Mass.

Their children at Boston, save the three last named, who were born at Burlington N. J.

Grace Helena, b. June 27 1846: d. Apr. 1 1850.

Frank William, b. March 26 1848: d. Apr. 4 1850

Grace Cunningham, b. Apr. 17 1852: m. Joseph G. Birch May 28 1885: d. Mar. 25 1887.

Henry Purcell, b. May 22 1853: d. Sept. 11 1855.

Edith, b. Nov. 24 1854: d. Aug. 26 1878.

Thomas Cunningham, b. Dec. 4 1857:

Claude Lorraine, b. Aug. 17 1859: d. Oct. 21 1860.

Reginald Heber, b. Feb. 12 1863:

THOMAS CUNNINGHAM LEAVENS (Benjamin F., Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Fanny J. Birch Oct. 12 1882:

FANNY J., b. June 1 1856 at Mercer Me.

    Their children,

Edith, b. at Brooklyn N. Y., Nov. 15 1883:

Kenneth, b. at Providence R. I.

Charlotte, b.       "       "       July 30 1894: d. Mar. 17 1895.

Elizabeth, b       "       "       "

REGINALD HEBER LEAVENS (Benjamin F., Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. Alice M. Washburne June 23 1891:

ALICE M., b. March 26 1869 at Worcester Mass.

    Their child, at Providence R. I.

Doris Lorne, b. Sept. 23 1893:

## In Divers Directions.

Eden Leavens (Benjamin, BENJAMIN) had three sons in his Killingly home. His body reposes in the ancient grave-yard with the Leavens patriarchs. The dispersion of his family can be observed in the records.

(1.)

JOHN NICHOLS LEAVENS (Eden, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m.

Eliza Morse, Apr. 6 1822: d. Dec. 19 1868.

ELIZA, b. June 7 1803: d. Feb. 2 1891.

Their children, three at Pomfret Conn., four at Webster Mass.

Mary Adeline, b. Jan. 29 1823: m. Lucius D. Negus: d. Dec. 15 1875.

Eden Nichols, b. Aug. 3 1825:

John Curtis, b. Apr. 12 1827: d. Jan. 1 1830.

Samuel James, b. Oct. 29 1831:

Ellen Augusta, b. Mar. 18 1834: m. Charles L. Mowry, Dec. 23 1855.

John Newton, b. Oct. 26 1838: d. Nov. 27 1845.

William Nelson, b. Mar. 19 1841:

(a)

EDEN NICHOLS LEAVENS (John Nichols, Eden, etc.) m. (1) Eunice

Darling, Jan. 1 1850: m. (2) Jennie A. Upton Sept. 2 1859: m. (3)

Mary Winter, Apr. 24 1866.

Child of Eden N. and Jennie A., at Faribault, Minn.,

Frank N., b. May 25 1860:

FRANK N. LEAVENS (Eden Nichols, John Nichols, Eden, etc.) m. Ida

M. Fairlee, Apr. 23 1889:

Residence, Tacoma, Wash.

(b)

SAMUEL JAMES LEAVENS (John Nichols, Eden, etc.) m. (1) Ellen M.

Hinchliffe, Jan. 2 1853: m. (2) Ellen P. Williams, June 28 1893: d.

Jan. 24 1903.

The home was at Webster, Mass., and there were no children.

(c)

WILLIAM NELSON LEAVENS (John Nichols, Eden, Benjamin, Benja-

min, John, John) m. Addie P. Miller, Aug. 14 1862:

Their children at Webster Mass.,  
 Charles M., b. March 4 1864:  
 William Nelson, b. Sept. 18 1867:  
 Bessie A., b. July 2 1874:

CHARLES M. LEAVENS (William N., John N., Eden, etc.) m. Etta H.  
 Fairfield, at Thompson Conn., Sept. 21 1889:  
 ETTA H., b. at Douglass, Jan. 27 1867:

Their children at Webster,  
 Blanche F., b. March 17 1890:  
 Ruth E., b. Oct. 9 1891:  
 Grace M., b. Dec. 28 1892:  
 John Henry, b. Apr. 15 1899:  
 Olive May, b. Jan. 30 1900: d. July 14 1900.  
 Charles Nelson, b. Nov. 5 1901:  
 George William, b. Apr. 29 1903:

WILLIAM NELSON LEAVENS (William Nelson, John N., Eden, etc.)  
 m. Gertrude Boynton at Worcester Mass., May 9 1899:

Their children,  
 William Boynton, b. June 15 1900:  
 Frank Barton, b. May 21 1903:

(2.)

ERASTUS HOWE LEAVENS (Eden, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John)  
 m. Almira Reynolds, 1832: d. 1843.  
 ALMIRA, (m. James B. Scott in 1856): d. 1885.

Their children at New Bedford,  
 Mary Elisabeth, b. July 12 1834: m. Charles Slater, Aug. 18 1858.  
 Sarah Jane, b. Feb. 12 1837: m. Sisson.  
 James Howe, b. Feb. 19 1839:  
 Fanny Ashley, b. Jan. 2 1841: m. Gifford: d. May 5 1893.  
 Alvin Franklin, b. June 1843: d. Sept. 1843.

Sergeant James H. Leavens enlisted in Aug. 1861 in the 18th Mass.  
 Vols. and was killed in the Battle of Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.

MARVIN M. LEAVENS (Eden, Benjamin, Benjamin, John, John) m. (1)  
 Mary Ann Whitman, Sept. 10 1828: d. March 8 1863.

Their children at Coventry Conn.  
 James, b. Oct. 10 1829: d. 1830.  
 Edwin, b. Nov. 18 1835: d. unmarried.  
 Ellen, b. June 16 1837: d.

m. (2) Maria Wilbur.

Their children,

George Howe, b. at Scituate Mass., Oct. 22 1840: unmarried.

Owen E., b. at Scituate Mass., Mar. 28 1842: d. Feb. 20 1899.

Marvin Henry, b. at Bellingham Mass., Nov. 12 1849:

James, b. at Webster Mass., Jan. 11 1852: d. Aug. 15 1899.

Shirley O. Leavens is a son of Owen E., and is in business in Providence, R. I.

MARVIN HENRY LEAVENS (Marvin M., Eden, etc.) m. Julia E. Davison, Nov. 23 1871:

Their son in Providence R. I.

George D., b. July 5 1875:

GEORGE D. LEAVENS (Marvin H., Marvin M., Eden, etc.) m. Jenny S. Briggs, Oct. 24 1899:

Their child at Grafton Mass.,

Dorothy, b. Sept. 28 1900:







# INDEX OF NAMES

This Index includes all the first names of both LEAVENS and LEVINGS men and women. The entire posterity of ABEL, the first name on the list, adopt the orthography LEVINGS, and they are indicated by a single star (\*).

There is a less numerous branch of the family springing from a son of the third Peter Leavens, in Dutchess County, who also writes LEVINGS, and these are indicated by the double stars (\*\*).

The Index of women show marriages—on one side, the women whom Leavens or Levings men have married; on the other side, the men to whom Leavens or Levings women have been married.

The final Index of surnames is intended as a help to genealogists consulting this book.

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Allen 4	Castleman	Delano
Amesbury	Caston	Deming
Andrews	Chamberlain	Dennison
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Aspinwall	Chapin	Dickson
Atwill	Charter	Dorland
	Chase	Douglass
	Cheney	Downing
Bacon 2	Chollar 2	Dunlap
Bailey 2	Church	Durkee
Baker	Clack	Dustin
Baldwin	Clark 4	Dyckman
Barker	Clarkson	
Barry	Cobb	
Bartlet	Comstock 2	Eagleston
Bayley	Conery	Eaton
Benjamin 2	Conley	Eldridge
Beverage	Connell	Eley
Birch 2	Converse	Ellsworth
Bishop	Cooper	Emery 2
Blanchard	Copps	Emsperger
Bleecker	Corbin	Evans
Bliss	Cosad	
Blount	Courtright	
Bonsteel	Cowles	
Bostwick	Craft	Fairbanks 2
Bowen 3	Crandel	Fairfield
Bowman	Craumer	Fairlee
Bown	Cronk	Fenton
Bowron	Crosby	Ferguson
Boynton	Cross	Fexer
Brewster	Cuff	Flint 2
Briggs	Cunningham 3	Folsom
Brogdon	Curtice	Forbes
Brooks 2	Curtis	Foster
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Buck 2	Cutler	Fuller
Bull		
Burlingham		
Burnett 3		
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Burr 2	Darling	Gale
Burritt	Davenport	Garratt
Burton	Davis 2	Gates 2
Butler 2	Davison	Gay

Germond	Hyatt 3	Mastin
Giddings	Hyde 2	Mathews
Gifford		Matthews
Gillaudet		May 2
Gilson	Inman	Merrick
Gleason		Merrill
Gordon		Merritt
Graves		Mersebau
Green	Jeffers	Miller 2
Griffin	Jerow	Minnie
Grier	Johnson 2	Mitchell
Grover	Johnston	Moon
Guild	Jordan	Moore 2
Gunter		Morgan
		Morris
		Morrow
	Kenyon	Morse 2
Haight 2	Kimball 2	Mowry
Hall	Kingsbury	Mudge
Hallett	Kip	Munsell
Hamilton	Knight	
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Harrass	Ladd 2	Nichols
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Healey	Lipsett	Owen
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Hedges	Lounsberry	
Hendee	Love	
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Hills	Lumsden	Paine
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Hoatling		Parkhurst
Holmes		Patchin
Holt	McCall	Patterson 2
Hood	McCutcheon	Peake
Horsmor	Mac Donald	Pearson
Horton	Mc Donnell	Pease
Hough	Mack 2	Peck
Howe 2	McLennan	Peckham
Hummiston	McPherson	Pelton
Hungerford	Magoon	Perkins
Hunt 2	Manchee	Perrin 2
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