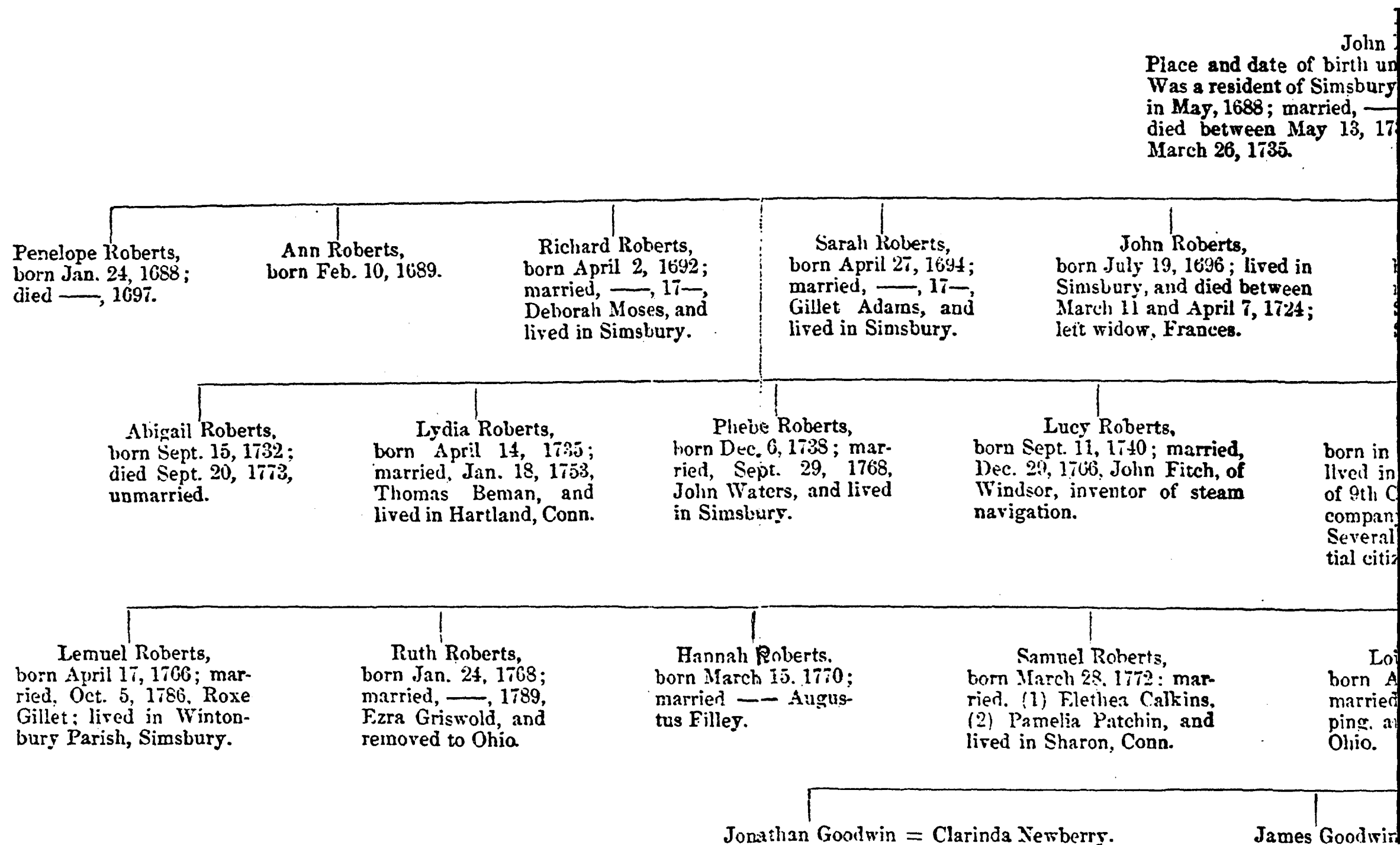
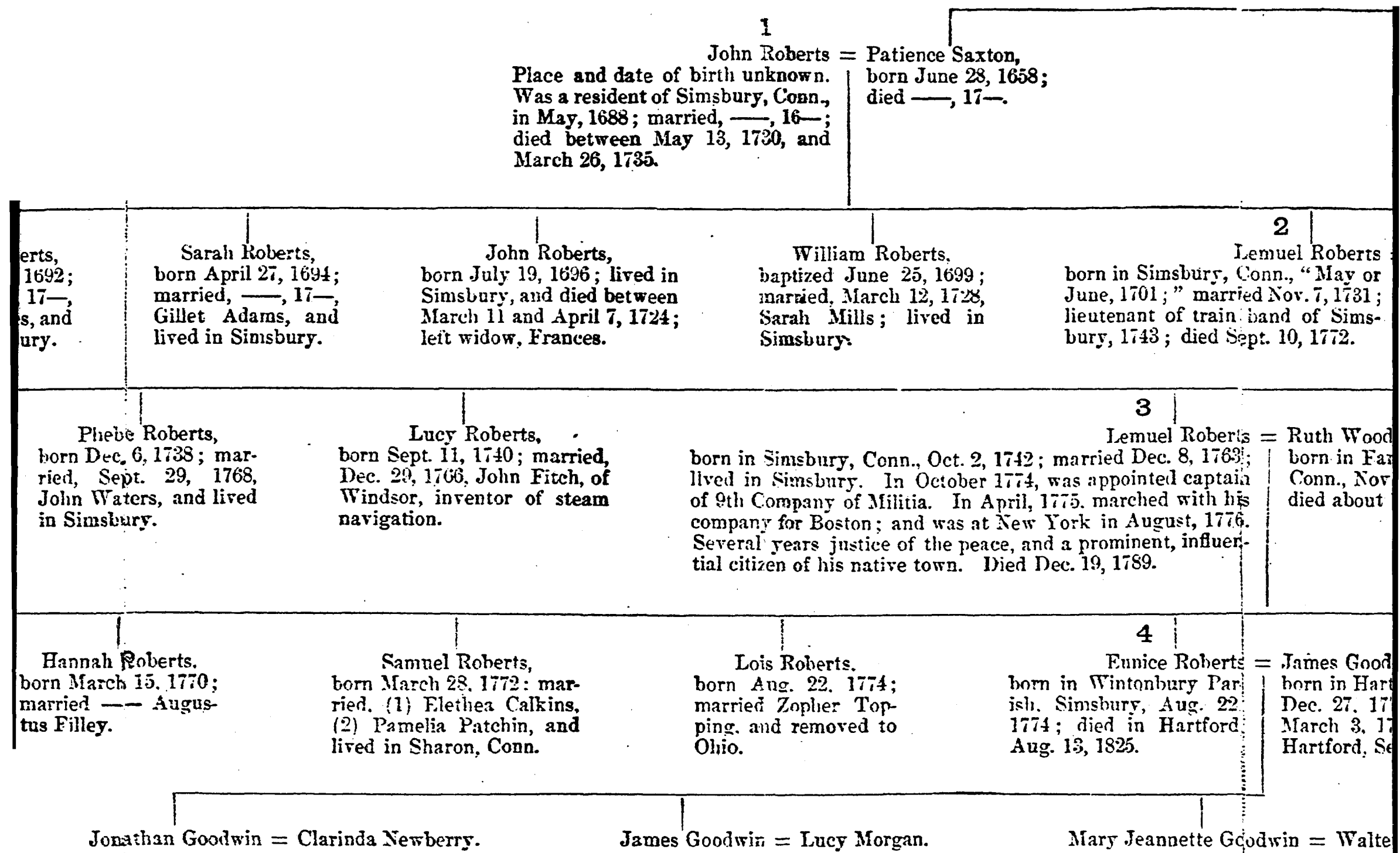


ROBERTS



ROBERTS PEDIGREE.



PEDIGREE.

Richard Saxton = Sarah Cook.

Roberts = Patience Saxton,
known. born June 28, 1658;
Conn., died —, 17—.
16—;
20, and

2

William Roberts,
baptized June 25, 1699;
married, March 12, 1728,
Sarah Mills; lived in
Simsbury.

Lemuel Roberts = Abigail Beaman,
born in Simsbury, Conn., "May or
June, 1701;" married Nov. 7, 1731;
lieutenant of train band of Sims-
bury, 1743; died Sept. 10, 1772.

daughter of Samuel, of
Simsbury. The dates
of her birth and death
are unknown.

Nathaniel Roberts,
born about 1704; graduated at Yale College in
1732; married, (1) Nov. 22, 1743, Margaret Marsh;
(2) Nov. 7, 1748, Esther Loomis. Was pastor of
Congregational church of Torrington, Conn.

3

Lemuel Roberts = Ruth Woodford,
Simsbury, Conn., Oct. 2, 1742; married Dec. 8, 1763;
Simsbury. In October 1774, was appointed captain
company of Militia. In April, 1775, marched with his
company for Boston; and was at New York in August, 1776.
years justice of the peace, and a prominent, influ-
ent of his native town. Died Dec. 19, 1789.

born in Farmington,
Conn., Nov. 4, 1744;
died about 1800.

Nathaniel Roberts,
baptized March 24, 1745; mar-
ried, Feb. 27, 1763, Rhoda
Woodford, and lived in Sims-
bury, Conn.

Margaret Roberts,
baptized May 28
1749; died Jan.
8, 1752.

4

s Roberts.
ng. 22, 1774;
Zopher Top-
nd removed to

Eunice Roberts = James Goodwin,
born in Wintonbury Par-
ish, Simsbury, Aug. 22,
1774; died in Hartford,
Aug. 13, 1825.

born in Hartford, Conn.,
Dec. 27, 1777; married
March 3, 1799; died in
Hartford, Sept. 13, 1844.

Hezekiah Roberts,
born June 5, 1776;
died June 6, 1776.

Hezekiah Roberts,
baptized Aug. 26, 1781; mar-
ried Harriet King, and lived
in Sharon, Conn., and Lyons,
New York.

= Lucy Morgan.

Mary Jeannette Goodwin = Walter Keney.

THE ROBERTS FAMILY

1742—1789

THE ROBERTS FAMILY

OF

SIMSBURY, CONNECTICUT

IN THE LINE OF

CAPTAIN LEMUEL ROBERTS

1742-1789

COMPILED BY

FRANK FARNSWORTH STARR

FOR

JAMES J. GOODWIN

HARTFORD, CONN.

1896

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JAMES JUNIUS GOODWIN.

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P R E F A C E.

THE following paper on THE ROBERTS FAMILY is the result of an investigation which was commenced more than twelve years ago. Careful search has been made among the Colonial records of Massachusetts and Connecticut, the eastern counties of Massachusetts, and various towns in both States. It is with regret that we are obliged to print without giving any information regarding the parentage or birthplace of John Roberts of Simsbury, but it is impossible to identify him with any of the six or more persons of the same name, who were in the New England colonies before 1687.

The results of the search which had been made up to that date were the basis of an article written by the late Lester A. Roberts, of Brooklyn, New York, and printed in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register for July, 1888.

To Charles J. Hoadly, LL. D., State Librarian of Connecticut, Hector W. Roberts, and Samuel Roberts, of Sharon, Conn., the Library Committee

of the Connecticut Historical Society, Mr. Albert C. Bates, and all others who have aided him in this long search, the compiler returns his sincere thanks.

FRANK FARNSWORTH STARR.

MIDDLETOWN, CONN.,
June, 1896.

THE ROBERTS FAMILY.

1.

AMONG the persons who had become residents of Simsbury, Conn., before 1690, were CHRISTOPHER and JOHN ROBERTS. It is suspected they may have been brothers, but nothing has been learned in regard to either of them prior to their appearance in Simsbury.

March 4, 1686-7, CHRISTOPHER ROBERTS, then a resident of Simsbury, purchased for thirty-six shillings, of John Filler of Windsor, three acres "at or near a place commonly [called] Scotland." He held this land until November 22, 1707, when he sold it to JOHN ROBERTS. (Simsbury Land Records, Vol. 2, pp. 180, 181.)

The earliest that we find concerning JOHN ROBERTS is the following entry on the first volume of Town Votes:—

"At a Generall Towne meting of the Inhabitants of simsbury, May 21, 1688 there was given to John roberts ten Accres of land on that Brook y^t runs by John Saxtons Alias ye Cap^{ts} Brook for A house lott also 20 accres of land at Samon Brook lyeing above Sam^l wilcoxsons Lott near about or on a litl Brooke that comes from betwen ye hils into ye main Brooke: ye s^d roberts grant is not to intrench on any former Grant. ye s^d roberts is also to live in the Town five years also he is to make Improvement of said land before he shall have any liberty to Alienate said land."

These lands, which were located in the westerly portion of the present town of Simsbury near the Granby line, he sold March 3, 1693-4, to John Saxton (supposed to be his brother-in-law), and received therefor a deed of "20 Acres at Samon Brooke 10 Acres on Capt Newburys brooke and 4 Acres more on s^d brook." (Simsbury Land Records, vol. 1, p. 217.)

February 5, 1696-7, he purchased for £30 of Samuel Allyn of Windsor,—

"My Meassuage or Tennament in Simsbury with the land on w^h it stands with all the rights members and appurtinances buildings Fences water courses thereunto belonging with all the trees thereon of what soever . . . which s^d land is situate within the precenct of the Township of Simsbury on the east side of the mountains towards Simsbury east bounds easterly of Mr Moores marsh the breadth is sixteen rodds the south-east cornner markt at a walnut tree in Length eighty rodds being eight acres be it more or Less the second parcell is Twenty acres which s^d land is scituate on the east syd the mountain and is southward of and adjoins too ensigne Tho. Barbur land by griswolds marsh the sd Land was forty foure Acres out of which John Matson is to have Tweenty Foure acres Twenty Acres I bought of James Miles which I do by these Presents sell and passe over to the afores^d John Roberts. The third parcell of Land is that parcell of land lying southwardly of Mr Moores marsh the sd parcell of land was given to James Miles and John Haile. the Moiety and one half of s^d parcell of land being mine by purchase." (Simsbury Land Records, vol. 1, p. 225.)

It is supposed that he removed to the eastern part of the town (now the town of Bloomfield) soon after this purchase, but owing to his many land transactions it is impossible to determine the precise date.

He held various offices in the town, being elected Fence-viewer "for the West side of the River," in December, 1692 and March, 1693-4; Inspector of the town list in January, 1702-3; Fenceviewer for the Eastern part of the town in December, 1707, 1714, 1716, and 1718; Hayward and Poundkeeper in December, 1724, 1725, 1727, and 1729.

He married, date unknown, **PATIENCE SAXTON**, probably daughter of Richard and Sarah (*Cook*) Saxton of Windsor, and therefore born June 28, 1658.

At different times he gave his sons Richard, John, and Nathaniel, tracts of land in various parts of the town, and in 1730 gave his son William as follows:—

"Know all men by these presents that I John Robarts of ye Town of Simsbury in ye County of Hartford and Colony of Conecticut in Newengland for and in Consideration of love good will and fatherly affection which I have and do bare unto my son william Robarts of ye Town County and Colony above said Have Therefore and doe by these presents for myself my heirs executors and administrators fully freely and absolutely Give grant make over Convay and Confirme unto him ye said william Robarts and to his heirs and assigns ye severall percels of land hereafter mentioned all of them lying and being in afore-said Simsbury (viz) all ye Land that I now have in my house lot with ye buildings and orcharding Standing thereon also all ye Land that I have Lying Southerly from my house Lot also ye one half of my Land Lying at bare Hill: To have and to hold ye above mentioned Tracts or percels of Land To Him ye said William Roberts and to his heirs and assigns to his and their only use benefit and behoof forever and I ye said John Roberts for myself my heirs executors and administrators doe Covenant promise and Grant to and with ye said William Roberts his heirs and assigns for ever that at ye ensealling and

delivery of these presents I am sole seized and possessed of ye above mentioned tracts of land in my own proper Right in fee simple and have in myself good Right to dispose of ye same in manner as above said and that it is free and clear of and from all Encumbrances whatsoever and that ye said William Roberts his heirs and assigns shall and may at all times for ever hereafter by force and vertue of these presents have hold use occupy possess and Injoy ye Same and every part thereof against ye lawful claims or demands of any person or persons whomesoever promising hereby for ever hereafter to warrant secure and defend In witnes whereof I have here unto set my hand and seal this Thirteenth day of May in ye year of our Lord one Thousand seven hundred and Thirty 1730

Signed Sealled and delivered

John Roberts (Seal)

in presence of

Benia. Addams

Rachel Addams

John Roberts ye signor and seallor to ye above named Instrument personally appeared in Simsbury this Thirteenth day of may 1730 and acknowlidged ye same to be his free and vollantary act and deed Before me Benia. Addams Justice of peace.

The above written Instrument

entred July ye 28th 1730

verbatim from ye originall

Test Nath^l Holcomb clerk.

Following the foregoing deed on the records we find this bond.

Know all men by these presents that I William Robarts of Simsbury in Hartford County in Newengland am holden and firmly bound unto my Honoured father John Roberts of ye s^d Simsbury in ye full and just sum of Three Hundred pounds currant money of Newengland to be payd unto ye s^d John

Roberts his Certain Attourney Heirs executors administrators
&c to ye which payment well and truly to be made I bind my
self heirs executors & administrators by these presents Sealed
with my seal this Thirteenth day of may Ano Dom 1730

The condition of ye above written obligation is such that
whereas ye above named John Roberts hath by a deed of Gift
Bareing date with these presents convayed to ye above bounden
William Roberts severall percels of Land (viz) his home Lot
with ye orchard & buildings Standing thereon with other per-
cels of Land as by s^d deed Relating Hereunto will appear
Therefore If ye s^d William Robarts shall Give unto ye s^d John
Roberts his quiet improvement of all ye new house half ye
cellar and half ye barne standing on s^d land Dureing ye naturall
Life of ye s^d John Roberts and also annually Render to ye said
John Roberts ye one half of all ye product of ye Lands men-
tioned in s^d deed — and also if afterward ye s^d John Roberts
should mary and by dying Leave a widdow If ye s^d William
Roberts shall give unto her ye one third of ye product of ye
lands as above mentioned so long as she Liveth John Robartses
widdow then ye above written obligation shall be void other-
wise stand in full force and vertue

William Roberts (seal)

Signed sealed and
delivered in presence of
William mitchelson
Mary mitchelson

The above Entered on Record July 28th 1730
p^r Nath^l Holcomb Clerk

(Simsbury, Conn., Land Records, vol. 5, pp. 280 and 281.)

From the foregoing deed and bond it will be seen that
Patience wife of John Roberts was not living; but as her
death is not on record, nor any gravestone to her memory
in existence, we are unable to learn when it took place. He
died some time prior to March 26, 1735, at which time ad-

ministration on his estate was granted to his son Nathaniel. (Hartford, Conn., Probate Records, vol. 12, p. 23.) The inventory of the estate (which was all personal) amounted to £34-16s. There does not appear any further action regarding the settlement of the estate.

CHILDREN OF JOHN AND PATIENCE (SAXTON) ROBERTS.

- I. PENELOPE, b. Jan. 24, 1688; died 1697.
- II. ANN, " Feb. 10, 1689.
- III. RICHARD, " Apr. 2, 1692; m. Deborah Moses
and lived in Simsbury.
- IV. SARAH, " Apr. 27, 1694; m. Gillit Adams of
Simsbury.
- V. JOHN, " July 19, 1696; bap. July 3, 1698; m. Frances
and lived in Simsbury.
- VI. WILLIAM, " June 25, 1699; m. Mar. 12, 1728, Sarah Mills
and lived in Simsbury.
2. VII. LEMUEL, " May or June, 1701; bap. Sep. 7, 1701; m. Nov. 7, 1731, Abigail Bea-
man.
- VIII. NATHANIEL, " 1704; m. 1, Nov. 22, 1743, Margaret Marsh. 2, Nov. 7, 1748, Esther Loomis,
and was pastor of Cong. Church in Torrington, Conn.

2.

LEMUEL ROBERTS, seventh child and fourth son of John and Patience (Saxton) Roberts, was born in Simsbury, Conn., in " May or June 1701," and was baptized Septem-

ber 7 the same year. He married November 7, 1731, ABIGAIL BEAMAN, daughter of Samuel ¹ of Simsbury.

He was frequently honored by his fellow townsmen with public offices. He was elected Hayward and Poundkeeper in December, 1730, Fenceviewer December, 1738, '49, '51 and '52, Surveyor of Highways in 1742 and 1765, Grand Juror in 1735, '43, '47, '50, and 1761.

In the records of the General Assembly for the October session of 1743, we find "This Assembly do establish & confirm Mr. Lemuel Roberts to be Lieutenant of the 1st company or train band in the town of Symsbury, and do order that he be commissioned accordingly." Colonial Records of Conn., Vol. 8, p. 577.

The Simsbury records show that he dealt extensively in real estate, buying and selling lands in different sections of the original town of Simsbury.

He died September 10, 1772, and was buried in the graveyard in Bloomfield, a few rods North of the Congregational Church. The stone marking his grave is still in existence and bears the following inscription : —

Here
lies the body
of Lieu^t Lemuel Roberts
who departed this Life
Septm^{br} the 10th 1772
in the 72^d year of his age.
As you are now so once was I,
As I am now so you must be,
Prepare for death and follow me.

¹ On Simsbury Land Records, vol. 7, p. 135, is a deed dated December 19, 1744, from Caleb Moses and wife Hannah, Jonathan Case and wife Mary, Lemuel Roberts and wife Abigail, all of Simsbury, conveying their interest in land of their father Samuel Beaman, deceased, of Simsbury.

We have been unable to learn the date of the death of his wife Abigail, but it is inferred that she outlived her son, who died December 19, 1789, because in the account filed by the Administrators on the Estate of Lemuel Roberts, Esq., (3) which was presented to the Probate Court for the District of Simsbury, Sep^r 24, 1791 or 1797, appears this item, "Moveables overcharged belonging to Wid Abigail Roberts and Mary Barber."¹

In the name of God Amen. I Lemuel Roberts of Simsbury in the County of Hartford and Colony of Connecticut in New England, being advanced in years & calling to mind my Frailty and Mortality and that it is appointed for all Men to Die, do make this my last Will and testament as followeth. First I recommend my immortal Soul into the Hand of God that gave it, and my Body to y^e Dust to be buried in a Christian Manner by my Executors. And as touching the worldly Estate wherewith it hath pleased God in his Providence to bless me, I dispose of the Same in the following Manner viz;

First I give to my well beloved Wife Abigail Roberts one Third Part of all my Moveable Estate; after my Funeral Expences & just Debts are paid. I give to my Wife Abigail the Use of one Third Part of my dwelling House and Barn during her Natural Life. I give to my Wife Abigail y^e Use of one Third Part of all my Land improved and Unimproved during her natural Life, and my Will is that the Remainder of my Moveable Estate (after my just Debts and Funeral Expences are paid) be divided equally between my Three Daughters Lydia Bemon, Phebe Waters, and Lucy.

I give my Sons Lemuel Roberts and Nathaniel Roberts all my Land in the Town of Simsbury to be divided in the Following Manner, My Home Lot in Duncaster in Simsbury I give

¹ Simsbury Probate Records, vol.3, p. 196.

the South Part thereof to my Son Lemuel with the House and Barn Standing thereon, and the North Part I give to my Son Nathaniel Roberts each Part to lie y^e whole Length of the Lot and to be divided equally according to Quantity and Quality.

I give to my Son Nathaniel Roberts my House and Barn that Stands on the North Side of my Home Lot. My will is also that my Son Nathaniel Shall have a Road Three Rods Wide from his Land lying by the East Side, of the Orchard at the West End my Home Lot to y^e Well in y^e old House Lot. Also I give to my Sons Lemuel Roberts and Nathaniel Roberts, all my Land on the East Side of the Highway in Duncaster to be equally divided between them according to Quantity & Quality, and further my Will is that Lemuels Part Shall be Set out to him on the South Side of the Lot the whole Length of y^e Lot, and that Nathaniel have his Part on y^e North Side of the Lot y^e whole Length. I give to my Sons Lemuel Roberts and Nathaniel Roberts my Land on y^e East Mountains in Simsbury by Benjamin Parkers to be equally divided to them according to Quantity and Quality. I give to my Son Lemuel my Land in Hartford West-Division, which I bought of James Cadwell & his Wife.

I give to my Daughters Lydia Bemon Phebe Waters and Lucy my Land in Simsbury that lies North of Deborah Roberts East of the Highway to be divided as followeth; Phebe Waters Shall have the one half thereof and the other Half I give to my Daughters Lydia Bemon & Lucy to be divided according to Quantity and Quality. And whereas it hath pleased God in his Righteous Providence to withhold the Exercise of Reason from my eldest Daughter Abigail whereby Shee is rendered altogether unable to do any Thing for her own Support my Will therefore is that Shee Shall be Supported out of y^e Use of my Estate that I have given to my Children according to their Several Proportions during her Natural Life. I give to my Sons Lemuel & Nathaniel all

my undivided Land in the Town of Simsbury to be equally divided to them. And I do by these presents appoint and constitute Hezekiah Humphry Esq^r Francis Barnard, Thomas Adams Jn^r to be y^e Executors of this my last Will and Testament in witnesses Whereof and to Signify that this is my Last Will and Testament I have hereunto Set my Hand and Seal this 9th Day of April A. D. 1770 (the Several Words interlined above were before Signing and Sealing) Signed Sealed published and declared in

Presence of

Francis Barnard Jn^r

Lemuel Roberts and Seal.

Lydia Moses

Aaron Barnard

Simsbury, Conn., Probate Records, Vol. 1, pp. 54, 55.

The inventory of the estate amounted to £885-12-01 of which £790-06-06 was in real estate.

CHILDREN OF LEMUEL AND ABIGAIL (BEAMAN) ROBERTS.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| I. ABIGAIL | b. Sep. 15, 1732; d. Sep. 20, 1773 unm. |
| II. LYDIA, | " Apr. 14, 1735; m. Jan. 18, 1753, Thomas Beman, and removed to Hartland Conn. |
| III. PHEBE, | " Dec. 6, 1738; m. Sep. 29, 1768, John Waters, |
| IV. LUCY, | " Sep. 11, 1740; m. Dec. 29, 1766, John Fitch, inventor of steam navigation. |
| 3. V. LEMUEL, | " Oct. 2, 1742; bap. Oct. 17, 1742; m. Dec. 8, 1763, Ruth Woodford. |
| VI. NATHANIEL, | " Mar. 24, 1745; m. Feb. 27, 1763, Rhoda Woodford. |
| VII. MARGARET, | " May 28, 1749; d. Jan. 8, 1752 |

3.

LEMUEL ROBERTS (*Lemuel 2, John 1*), born in Wintonbury parish, Simsbury, Conn. (now the town of Bloomfield), October 2, 1742, married December 8, 1763, RUTH WOODFORD, born November 4, 1744, daughter of Samuel and Mary (*Thompson*) Woodford, of Northington Society in the town of Farmington, since set off as the town of Avon.

He dealt largely in real estate, and at one time owned land at Nod, in Northington Society, Farmington, which later became a part of the Wadsworth Tower property.

Like his father, Lemuel was entrusted with public office by his townsmen, only to a much greater extent. Tithingman, December, 1765 and 1773. Collector of the town rate for the east side of the mountain and Wintonbury, 1767, 1768, and 1769. Surveyor of Highways, 1769. Grand Juror, 1770 and 1780. One of the Committee of Inspection in December, 1774; and Selectman for three years from December, 1777.

In June, 1780, he was appointed one of a committee to supervise the bounty given by the town to the soldiers enlisting from Simsbury, and in November of the same year, he was appointed one of the committee to class the inhabitants in order to raise the quota of Continental soldiers according to an Act of the General Assembly. In Vol 14, page 338, of the Colonial Records we find, under date of October, 1774, "This Assembly do establish and confirm Lemuel Roberts to be Captain of the ninth company or train band in the town of Symsbury."

There is in the possession of his descendants at Sharon, Conn., a commission dated 14 June, 1779, bearing the

Connecticut State seal, and signed by Jonth Trumbull, countersigned by George Wyllys, Sec., appointing him "Captain of the 9th Company or Train band in the town of Simsbury, in the 18th Regiment in this State as by your former Commission, dated October 18th 1774 appears."

At the news of the Lexington Alarm in April 1775, he marched for Boston with a portion of his company, and was paid for three days service. At the request of General Washington for troops from Connecticut to reinforce the Continental army, he went with his company to New York City, where he arrived August 24, 1776, and was discharged the 7th of the following month.¹

By the courtesy of the Library Committee of the Connecticut Historical Society we print a copy of a document found among its treasures.

Know all men by these Presents that whereas Jeremiah Wadsworth Deputy Quarter Master General of the State of Connecticut, hath appointed Jonathan Humphry Jun^r of Simsbury in Said State, a Conductor to Raise Ten Teams to Consist of Six Good Cattle, and a good Cart well found and Strong and ye undertakers to keep their Cattle Shod, and their Carts &c. in good repair, and Perform their Duty, for which they will be allowed Twelve Shillings Lawfull Money pr Day, from the Day they are in actual Service, they are to Draw their Provisions, and one Man allowed as Cook for the whole. &c.

Therefore we the Subscribers Promise, Bind and Oblige, our Selves Severally & Respectively to Raise and Equip one good Teem for Each of us and to Enter into the above mentioned Service and perform the Same, unto him the said Jonⁿ Humphry, or Some other person that may be apointed in

¹ "Record of Connecticut Men in the War of the Revolution," pp. 21, 472.

Said business for the Service of the State aforesaid for the Term of Six months unless Sooner Discharged. In witness whereof we have hereunto set our hands this 24th Day of May Anno Domini, 1777.

In Presence of {

Agift Hills.

Lemuel Roberts.

John Hawley.

Sam^l Hawley.

Isaac Willcox.

Sam Humphry Jnr and }
Jared Mills one Team. }

James Hills.

Benjamin Dyar.

Jesse Russell.

Conn. Historical Society, Revolutionary Rolls, Document 80.

He was appointed one of the Justices of the Peace for Hartford County at the May session, 1782, of the General Assembly, which appointment was renewed in 1783, 1784, 1785, and 1786.

In 1787 opposition to his continuance in office had developed, and as the petitions to the General Assembly on this subject present such a delineation of his character, we print them in full.

To the honorable the general assembly of the State of Connecticut to be convened att hartford on the Second thursday of may A. D 1787 — The prayer of the inhabitants of the town of granby the well wishers to peace and good order. whereas it was Subtlety and craft of Some Evil minded person some years past, to instance a few persons to Sign a petition that Lemuel Roberts might be justice of the peace by which means the general assembly Saw fit to honour him with that Commission as the Representitives ware not acquainted with his Carrector. but as soon as it was noised abroad the inhabi-

tants blamed the Representatives, for so doing. so they agreed they would advise him not to take the oath but, before they had opportunity, he had taken it, not only this but his general Character is that he is not a man of Reputation that he Lives in the neglect of family Duty. he is the Cause of great Contention and Difficulty, and further it is observed that he Doth injustice to many of the inhabitants and that there is Suspicion of his Swearing false from time to time, and when he hath been charged with it, he prosecuting the accuser. Recovered the Sum of five pound. and the jury that tried the Case, have since viewed the place and Circumstances about which he Swore and find that it is impossible that he could see as he testified. and further the jury will testify that had they had the same idea before, as they now have they never would give him any Damages in that case. and many other things which are not commendable for a justice of the peace, instances two innumerable to mention which is a great grief to many of the inhabitants, and two great and insupportable a burden altho the town is Divided yet many of us the inhabitants of the town afore^{sd} have Dealings with the people of the old town and are in some measure connected and are liable to be Sued before him whereof we the ^{sd} inhabitants most humbly pray your honors consideration of our most singular case and circumstance, and we the ^{sd} inhabitants most humbly pray your honors that ^{sd} Roberts be Removed that people may enjoy peace liberty and freedom and be freed from vexatious lawsuits which they must expect if ^{sd} Roberts sustain that post. for which we the undersigners insert our names.

Elisha Enos

Joseph Alderman

Timothy Alderman

Silas Davis

Elnathan Alderman

Joseph Griswold

Elijah Alderman

David Clark Jen

Simeon Lewis

Dan Winchell

Joseph Cornish

Roswell Phelps

Samuel Forward

Caleb Holcomb

Eber Phelps	Micah Moor
Joseph Mun	Joel Phelps
Benja ^m Cook	Reuben Phelps
Elijah Hill	Job Moor
Jonah Moor	Jesse Holcomb
Elisha Winchel, Jr.	Stephen Griffen 2 nd
David Clark	

To the Honorable the general assembly of the state of Connecticut to be convened at Hartford on the second thursday of may anno domini 1787

the prayer of the Inhabitance of the town of Symsbury — whereas some years past Lemuel Robburts was Recommended to the General assembly by a few persons that did sign a petition that he might be Justice of the piece who were unacquainted with his Character and not belonging to this town the Representitives being not acquainted with his Character did not hinder it — as soon as it was known the Inhabitance blaimed the Representitives so that they agreed to advise s^d Robbirts not to take the Oath but before they had Opportunity to see him he had taken the Oath — and it still Continues to Give Great uneasiness on account of the Great injustice done to many of the Inhabitance — and the Great Complaint of his swearing false from time to time — and further s^d Robbirts doth Depute persons to serve writs on Obligations they have Bought and when persons are sued Before him if the plantif doth not appear he will produce a person to answer in the plantifs Behalf and further he is a man that lives in Neglect of famely Duty and further his General Character is that he is a man of no Reputation and is the Means of Great Difficilty in the town —

these and such like Instances two innumerable to mention which are two Great and Insupportable a Burden for which we pray your Honours consideration of Our Very singular Case and Circomstance and further we pray your Honours that s^d

Robbirts may Be moved from that post— as we In Duty Bound
shall Ever pray for which we the undersigners Ensert our
Names

Viz

Sam ^l Lawrence	Joseph Hinkton
Soloman Thomas	Isaac Eno
Josiah Case	Moses Kilburn
Benjamin Root	Charles Case, Jun ^r
Silas Case	
Amos Case	
Abel Case	
Silvanus Case	
Darius Hill	
Ezekiel Thrall	
John Hill .	
Benoni Humphrey	
Noah Humphrey	
John G. Terrey	
Charles Case	
John Eno	
Abel Eno	

To the Honourable General Assembly of the State of Connecticut now sitting in Hartford. The Prayer of us the Subscribers inhabitants of the Parish of Wintonbury, Humbly Sheweth, to your Honours, — that it has been Represented to us that a remonstrance has been preferd and brought before your Honours to remove & displace Lem^l Roberts Esq^r of Simsbury Living in said Parish of Wintonbury, from the office of Justice of the peace, on account of his firstly, being recommended to your Honours by a Petition of a few persons not belonging to s^d Town of Simsbury and not acquainted with his Character, for him to be a Justice of the Peace, and that the Members, Did not know his Character and were blam'd, on account of his appointment, also that it Gives Great uneasiness

to the Inhabitants on account of the Injustice done to many of them by him; — and that Great Complaints are made of his Swearing false from time to time, and Sundry other matters alleg'd against him, viz. his Living in Neglect of family Duties and that his General Characters is that he is a man of no reputation, and is the means of Great Difficulty in the Town; and that in Consequence of said remonstrance, your Honours have not appointed the said Lem^l Roberts Esqr. to be a Justice of the Peace. We your Honour's Memorialists, in Justice to the publick and Town & to his the said Roberts Character, Cannot, in Conscience omit Laying Before your Honours the true Circumstances of the above Complaints and his Character &c. Said Roberts was born in this Society, and was brought up in the same, and has ever Sustained a Good Character; his General Character that of a man of Truth & Integrity a Supporter of Religion; was Early in Life put into Publick Business & offices in the Town & Society; as well as in the Military office, has Ever discharged his Duty in his several offices, before mentioned, to very General Satisfaction; and has been Intrusted with the most Important offices in this Society; and has been faithful, Stable & unshaken has also been and taken a very active part in Defence of his Country in the Late unnatural & cruel War; in which Service he has brought upon him an Infirmary & Lameness in one of his Limbs, that much Threatens his Life; & has Caused him Great Cost & the most Exquisite pains, at times, — Respecting his being appointed as a Justice of the Peace, and the Petition Refer'd too by a few people not knowing his Character and having him appointed a Justice of the Peace, is a Misrepresentation, for they are all in this Society brought up within two miles of him at the furthest; — and well knew his Character, and the Representatives of s^d Town of Simsbury, Where he Lives knew him well, and nominated him to said office; as to Giving uneasiness on account of the Injustice Done by him to the Inhabitants, is not a fact, for his administration in his said office is Greatly approved of and

applauded by the Inhabitants of the Society in General ; and as to his Swearing false from time to time, it Originated from his supporting the publick Worship of God, and of Suppressing Disorders done upon the Sabbath in opposing that part of worship Singing — which he zealously Supported and upon some difficulty that arose from thence he was accused of swearing false. he prosecuted the accusers and Recovered Damages upon a candid & fair tryal, — as to his Neglect in family Duty we cannot say, but thus far we can say & assert that we have been some of us to Sundry Weddings, and have been both Eye & Ear witness to his performance in that part at Solemn Worship caled prayer, and that he is a Supporter of Gods Worship ; and perhaps we can say with propriety that he has Done as much as any one man in the Society for the support of the Gospel ; —

Concerning his Character, we beg Leave to say that he Sustains a Good fair Character, perhaps none in the parish better. We never heard that he was accused of making difficulty in Town or Society, but much to the Contrary ; — This Society has Improv'd him as a Society Clerk & Treasurer for a Long time & would not Excuse him until he utterly refused to serve any Longer, and that he has been one of the Committee to Supply the pulpit, when Distitute of Preaching and has done more that way than any other person in s^d parish beside — his Judgment in almost all matters is sought for & concluded to be good by the Generallity of people. We Can further say that he has used his influence much to Prevent Lawsuits among the People. Having Stated Some of the principles on which we are informed that your Honours have acted in not appointing him as a Justice of the Peace and viewing the remonstrance & cause of the same to arise Rather from prejudice and Envy by some evil minded Persons than from a Regard to Good Order We and Every one who knows him, knows him to be a Supporter of good order and of the Laws of this State, A Suppressor of Vice & Immorality, a firm & unshaken friend to

Government We your Honours Memoriallists Humbly Pray that your Honours will not see the Character of so good a man as Esq^r Roberts injured and Destroyed by some Evil minded persons that have Remonstrated against him; Which if they succeed in their plan & their Prayer Granted by Your Honours Will not only Lay a mark of infamy upon him but also upon his numerous and respectable family to the Latest Generation — Therefore We Your Honours Memoriallists humbly pray Your Honours to take the matter into your wise consideration & Reappoint him to the office of a Justice of the Peace, in So Doing we conceive You will do honour to us, Honour to the Society & Justice to him and We conceive will Give very General Satisfaction to the people.

Your Honours Memoriallists as in Duty Bound Shall Ever pray
Dated Wintonbury May 15th 1787.

Simeon Griswold	Joseph Fitch
Joel Cooch	Phinehas Elmer
Samuel Brown	Abiel Wilson
Charles Phelps	Stephen Barnes
Darius Pinney	Alexander Hoskins
Samuel Cotton	Hezekiah Parsons
Aaron Phelps 2 ^d	Hezekiah Parsons Junr
Timothy King	Peletiah Parsons
Joseph Goodwin	Timothy Hoskins
Hezekiah Latimer	Elihu Mather
Theodr Cadwell	Hezekiah Latimer Jr.
Jonathan Filley	Oliver Woodward
Jonathan Filley Jr.	Stephen Loomis Jr.
James Parsons	Isaac Egelston
Joseph Brown	Levi Gillet
William Manley	Jonah Gillet
Aaron Phelps 3 ^d	Jonah Gillet Jur
Robert Sanford	Jonath ⁿ Gillet
Nathl Steele	Aaron Gillet
Roger Clark	Timothy Wadsworth

Elijah Loomis	Beavil Waters
Abijah Loomis	Thomas Newbern
Jonathan Allyn	Abel Gillet Jr
Amos Gillet	Grove Foot
George Clark	Elisha Foot
Abel Gillet	Eben ^r Brown
Joseph Drake	John Smith
Sam ^t Marshall	William Barton
Sam ^u Marshall Jnr	Solomon Woodford
Joel Willson	Salmon Burr
Samuel James	Theodore Burr
Increase Haskins	Elisha Lord
Samuel Willson	Jedidiah Olcott
Abel Nearing	Joseph Webster
John Forsbury	Hezekiah Webster
Joel Griswold	Timothy Webster
Joal Willson	John Cadwell
Ashbil Case	Matthew Cadwell
Caleb Case	James Cadwell
George Case	Peletiah Cadwell
Joseph Willson	Joseph Goodwin Jur
	Zenas Case

To the Honorable, General Assembly of the State of Connecticut, now Sitting in Hartford, —

The Prayer of us the Subscribers Inhabitants in the Town of Simsbury, Humbly Sheweth, to your Honours, — That we have Received Information, that a Remonstrance hath been brought forward, before Your Honours, Signed by Sundry Inhabitants of the Town of Simsbury, in Hartford County, Praying; that Your Honours would displace & Remove Lem^u Roberts Esq^r of Said Simsbury, from Remaining & being a Justice of the Peace; and the Reasons they assign in their s^d Prayer, or Remonstrance: is, that s^d Lem^u Roberts Esq^r did obtain his s^d office of a Justice of the peace, in a Clandestine manner; and

also that he Does Great Injustice to maney of the Inhabitants, of Said Town, — and further that he has been accused of false Swearing from time to time, also they say in their Remonstrance that his General Character is that he is a person of no Reputation, & Causes Great Difficulty, & uneasiness among the people &c &c. and that in Consequence of Said Remonstrance Your Honours have omitted, appointing s^d Lem^l Roberts from being a Justice of the Peace; We Your Honours Petitioners; in duty to ourselves, in Honour to the Town, and in Justice to him, the said Lem^l Roberts Esqr; beg Leave to Represent, to Your Honours — That said Lem^l Roberts Esqr has Ever been firm & unshaken In the Cause of his Country; been very officious at all times in Suppressing of and Searching after the Common Enemies of our Country from time to time, as oppertunity has offered, — and that in Consequence of his being So firm in & friendly to the American Cause it has caused many Disaffected person to our Cause to rise up against him, and vent their malice at him in Such a manner as will Tend to Destroy his Reputation and honour; We Your honours Petitioners beg Leave further to observe, that Said Lem^l Roberts Esqr, has been much Honourd & applauded, by most people in this & Towns adjacent, for his Skill & Judgment in matters of Law, & his Impartial administrations in his Said office of Justice of the Peace and further that his Character is Esteem'd Good, & unimpeached, among all the principle men & Inhabitants of s^d Town and that he is Chosen to Judge of most of the Causes of a Difficult Nature in s^d Town, Either as a Judge at Law or as an Arbitrator in matters at Eiquity; —

also, that he is much improved, & approved of, in Drawing of Draughts, of a Difficult Nature in s^d Town and places adjacent; and We Can further Say, that he is & Ever has been Esteem'd a person, in his Several Honourable offices which he has Sustain'd, a Suppressor of Vice & Immorallity; —

We Your Honours Petitioners Pray that Said Lem^l Roberts Esqr may be Reinstated & appointed as a Justice of the Peace.

Trusting that it will do Honour to us, Honour to the Town,
do Justice to himself, & Give General Satisfaction To the In-
habitants, of this Town &c— and We as in Duty Bound
Shall Ever pray. Dated Simsbury 15th May Anno Domini
1787 —

Abr^a Case
Ezra Willcocks
Israel Willcocks
Giles Lattemore
Jonathan Lattemore

John Willson
Josiah Case
William Willcocks
George Willson

Subscribers names in fav^r of Esqr Roberts in Sims
bury.

Coll Jonathan Humphry
Coll Amasa Mills
Majr Jon Humphry
Oliver Humphry
Daniel Humphry
Elisha Graham
Dudley Pettibone
Capt. Ezekiel Humphry
C^t Abel Pettibone
C^t Jon^a Pettibone
Dudley Case
Ct Aaron Piney
Jesse Case
Reuben Humphry
George Humphry
Levy Piney
C^t Jacob Pettibone
Michael Moses
Jo^s Humphry
Barthⁿ Case
Ozias Humphry
C^t Roger Case

Samⁿ Barber
Amasa Humphry
Joel Cornish
C^t David Phelps
C^t Moses Case
Theod^r Hillyer
Noah A. Phelps
John Butler
Elisha Cornish
Jared Mills
Samuel Humphry Jr.
Samⁿ Humphry
Benaj^a Case
Tho^s Diar
Jon^a Montem
Zeleck Willcox
Ebeneze^r Cones
Reuben Case
Elisha Humphry
George Cornish
Asa Humphry
Ezekiel Mills
Abel Clark

Abijah Read	Azriah Willcox
Joel Barber Jr	C ^t John Foot
Aaron Willcox	Tho ^s Barber
Jesse Rusel	Elijah Barber
Elisha Willcox	David Phelps Jr.
D ^r Solomon Case	Dan ⁿ Graham
C ^t Eliph ^t Curtis	Doc ^t Jeremiah Willcox
Eliph ^t Curtis Jr.	C ^t Jon ^s Eno
C ^t Elisha Case	Joseph Pettibone
Benaja Humphry	C ^t Jona Case Jr.
Joel Tuller	Darius Piney Jr
Elijah Tuller	Phineas Noble
Charles Humphry	Tho ^s Barber 2 nd
C ^t Uriah Case	Freman Graham
Nath ⁿ Alford	Tho ^s Barber 3 rd
Israel Wells	John Burdwell
Simeon Willcox	Dec ⁿ Abr ^m Case
Amaziah Humphry	Ezra Willcox
Charles Seward	Isaac Willcox
C ^t James Cornish	Giles Lattemore
Elisha Cornish Jr.	Jon ^s Lattemore
John Pettibone	John Wilson
Giles Case	Josiah Case
Will ^m Willcox	Peter Holcomb
Geo Wilson	Daniel Holcomb
Judah Holcomb Esqr	Roger Moor
Judah Holc ^m Jr T. C.	
C ^t James Hillyer	

To the Hon^l General Assembly of the State of Connecticut
Now Sitting at Hartford —

The memorial of us the Subscribers Inhabitants in the Town
of Simsbury in Hartford County, that, we being informed that
a remonstrance hath been prefered by some of the Inhabit-
ance of s^d Town of Simsbury to s^d Hon^l Gen^l Assembly pray-

ing Your Hon^s to remove Lemuel Roberts Esq^r a Justice of the peace within s^d Town & for Hartford County from his s^d office of Justice of the peace; on account of Grate Injustice don to many of the Inhabitants, & Grate Complaints of his swearing false from Time to Time, and further his General Character is that he is a man of no reputation & is the means of making Great difficulty in the Town & many other Injustices by him to numerous to mention &c — and that in Consequence of s^d remonstrance before mentioned Your Honours have neglected to appoint s^d Lemuel Roberts Esqr as a Justice of the Peace for the present Year we beg leave to Inform Your Honours that s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r is a man of a Good Character & reputation, in this Town & a person of Ability & Integrity & a Good Judge of Law & his Judgment & administration in his s^d office of Justice of the peace is Generally approved off and applauded by the Inhabitants of s^d Town & that y^e s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r is a supporter of the Law & Good Government of this State; & a suppressor of Vice and Immorality & much approved of in drawing draughts Equal to any man in s^d Town & is Intrusted with the most Important & material business in s^d Town & we being sensible that Leving out s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r from being a Justice of the peace would not be an advantage to the public, but would be very Injurious to his Character since he has Supported so Good a one in s^d Office & that we apprehend that the Complaints originated from people disaffected to him on account of his being Supporter of the Law of Good order in the state —

And further Your Petitioners beg leave to represent to Your Honours that s^d Lem^l Roberts Esq^r has become disenabled from Supporting himself and family by Labour by reason of a Lamness & Infirmary which came upon him while in the service of the United States in defence of his Country. Therefore we pray Your Honours in Justice to himself & for the Good and Honour of the s^d Town of simsbury to reappoint him y^e sd Lem^l

Roberts Esq^r to be a Justice of the Peace — as Your Petitioners in duty bound shall Every Pray —

Dated at Simsbury y^e 14th day of May 1787.

Jeremiah Willcox

Phineas Noble

Jonathan Enos

Tho^s Barbar 2nd

Joseph Pettibone

Freeman Graham

Jonathan Case J^{nr}

Tho^s Barber 3rd

Darius Pinney J^{nr}

John Burdell

To the Hon^l Gen^l Assembly of the State of Connecticut now sitting at Hartford The memorial of us the Subscribers Inhabitants in the Town of Simsbury in Hartford County within said State Humbly Sheweth, to your Honours; that we being informed that a remonstrance hath been preferred by some of the Inhabitants of s^d Town of Simsbury to s^d Gen^l Assembly — praying your Honours to remove Lemuel Roberts Esqr a Justice of the peace within s^d Town & for Hartford County from his s^d office of Jus^t Peace on account of great Injustice done to maney of the Inhabitents Great complaints of his swearing false from time to time; & further his General Character is, that he is a man of no reputation, and is the means of making great difficulty in the Town — & many other Injustices done by him, too numerous to mention &c — & that in consequence of s^d remonstrance before mentioned, your honours have neglected to appoint said Lemuel Roberts Esq^r a Justice of the peace for the present year. we beg leave to Inform your Honours, that, s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r is a man of Good Character & reputation in this Town a person of ability & Integrity & a Good Judge of Law, & his Judgments & Administrations in his s^d Office of Justice of the peace generally approved of & applauded, by the Inhabitants of s^d Town, & that s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r is a supporter of the Laws & good government of this State; a suppresser of vice & Immorality; & much approved of in drawing draughts, equal to any man in s^d Town, & is intrusted with the most important & material business in

s^d Town, & We being sensible, that, leaveing out s^d Lem^l Roberts Esq^r from being a Justice of the Peace, would not be an advantage to the public would be very Injurious to his Character, since he has supported, so good a Character in s^d Office & that we apprehend that s^d Complaints, originate from people disaffected to him, on account of his being a supporter of Law & Good order in this State, & further Your Pettitioners beg leave to represent to your Honours, that said Lem^l Roberts Esq^r has become, disenabled from supporting himself & family by labour by reason of a Lameness & Infirmary, which fell upon him, in the service of the united States, in defence of his Country — Therefore we pray your honours in Justice to him, & for the Good & Honour of s^d Town of Simsbury, to reappoint him the s^d Lem Roberts Esqr to be a Justice of the peace as your Petitioners in duty bound shall ever pray —

Dated at Simsbury y^e 14th of May 1787.

Dudley Pettibone	David Phelps
Jon ^a Humphry	Moses Case
Jonathan Pettibone	Theo ^d Hillyer
Ezekel Humphry	Noah A. Phelps
Dudly Case	Jno Butler
Aron Pinney	Elisha Cornish
Jesse Case	Jared Mills
Reuben Humphry	Sam ^{el} Humphry Sr
George Humphry Constable	Sam ^{el} Humphry
Levi Piney	Benajah Case
Sam Barber	Oliver Humphry
Jacob Pettibone	Tho ^s Dyar
Jona th Humphry	Daniel Humphry
Amasa Humphry	Jonathan Montigue
Abel Pettibone	Giles Wilcox
Joel Conish	Ebenezer Comees

To the Hon^l General Assembly of the State of Connecticutt
now sitting at Hartford —

The memorial of us the Subscribers Inhabitants in the Town of Simsbury in Hartford County within s^d State humbly sheweth, to your Honours, that, we being informed that a remonstrance hath been preferred by some of the Inhabitants of s^d Town of Simsbury to s^d Hon^l Gen Assembly — praying your Hon^s to remove Lem^l Roberts Esq^r a Justice of the peace within s^d Town & for Hartford County — from his s^d Office of Justice of the peace; on Account of Great Injustice done to many of the Inhabitants, and great complaints of his swearing false from time to time; & further his general Charracter is that he is a man of no reputation, & is the means of making great difficulty in the Town. — & many other Injustices done by him, too numerous to mention &c — And that in Consequence of s^d remonstrance before mentioned, your Honours have neglected to appoint s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r as a Justice of the Peace for the present year — we beg leave to inform your Honours that s^d Lem^l Roberts Esq^r is a man of a good Charracter & reputation, in this Town, & a person of Ability & Integrity & a good Judge of Law, & his Judgments & administrations in his s^d Office of Justice of the Peace, is generally approved off & applauded, by the Inhabitants of s^d Town & that s^d Lem^l Roberts Esq^r is a Supporter of the Laws & Good government of this State, & a suppressor of vice & Immorality & much approved of in drawing draughts, equal to any man in s^d Town, & is Intrusted with the most Important & material business in s^d Town & we being sensible, that, leaving out s^d Lem^l Roberts Esq^r from being a Justice of the peace, would not be an advantage to the public, but would be very Injurious to his Charracter since he has supported so good a one in s^d Office, & that, we apprehend, that, the complaints originated from people disaffected to him on account of his being a supporter of Law & good order in this State — And further your Petitioners beg leave to represent to your honours, that s^d Lem^l Roberts Esq^r has become disenabled from supporting himself & family by Labour by reason of a lameness & Infirmary,

which fell upon him, while in the service of the united States, in defence of his Country. — Therefore we pray your honours in Justice to himself & for the Good & Honour of the s^d Town of Simsbury, to reappoint him the s^d Lem^l Roberts Esq^r to be a Justice of the Peace — as your Petitioners in duty bound shall ever pray —

Dated at Simsbury y^e 14th day of May 1787.

Reuben Case	Solomon Case
Michael Moses	Eliphlet Curtiss
Joseph Humphry	Eliphlet Curtiss Jr.
Bartholomew Case	Elisha Case
Ozias Humphry	Benajah Humphry
Roger Case	Joel Tuller
Abijah Read	Elijah Tuller
Joel Barber Ju	Charles Humphry
Aaron Willcock	Uriah Case
Jesse Russell	Nathaniel Alford
Elisha Graham	Israel Wells
Elisha Willcocks	Simeon Willcox

To the Honourable Gen^l assembly of the State of Connecticut, now Sitting in Hartford, —

The Memorial of us the Subscribers Inhabitants of the Town of Simsbury in Hartford County, within Said State, Humbly Sheweth to Your Honours; — That we being Informed, that a Remonstrance hath been Preferd by Some of the Inhabitants of s^d Town of Simsbury to Said Honourable Gen^l assembly; — Praying Your Honours to Remove Lemuel Roberts Esq^r of s^d Town from being a Justice of the Peace within Said Town & Hartford County; from his Said office of Justice of the peace, — on account of Great Injustice done by him to many Inhabitants of the Town Grate Complaints of his swearing fals from Time to Time & further his General Charactor is; that he is a man of no reputation and is the Means of Making Grate dificalty in the Town — & many other Injustices done by him,

to Numerous to mention &c and that in Consequence of s^d remonstrance before Mentioned Your Honours have Neglected to Appoint said Lemuel Roberts Esq^r a Justice of the peace for the present Year.

We beg leave to Inform Your Honours, that s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r is a man of Good Character & reputation in this Town & a Parson of ability & Integrity & a good Judge of Law — and his Judgments & Administrations in his s^d office of Justice of the peace Generally approved of & applauded by the Inhabitants of s^d Town and that s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r is a Supporter of the Laws & Good Government of this state, a suppresser of Vice & Imorality; & much approved of in drawing Draughts Equal to any man in s^d Town & we being sensible that Living out s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r from being a Justice of the peace would not be an advantage to the Public but would be very Injurious to his Charractor sence he has supported so good a one in s^d office; & that, we apprehend, that, the Complaints originated from people disaffected to him on account of his being a Supporter of Law & Good order in this state and further Your Petitioners beg leave to represent to Your Honours; that s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r has become disenabled from supporting himself & family by Labour by reason of a Lameness & Infermity which befell him while in the Service of the United States in defence of his Country therefore we pray Your Honours in Justice to himself & for the Good & Honour of the s^d Town of Simsbury; to reappoint him the s^d Lemuel Roberts Esq^r to be a Justice of the peace; as Your Petitions in duty bound shall Every Pray; — Dated at Simsbury y^e 14th day of May 1787

Amaziah Humphry

Charles Seward

James Cornish

Elisha Cornish Jur

John Pettibone

Giles Case

Ezekiel Mills

Abel Clark

Azariah Willcox

John Foot

Thomas Barber

Amasa Mills

Elisha Humphry

George Cornish

Asa Humphry

Elijah Barber

David Phelps Jur

Daniel Graham.

GRANBY MAY 22nd 1787

The Affidavit of Amos Hays of Granby County of Hartford being of Lawful Age Deposeth and Says That sometime in the month of March he was sued before Lemuel Roberts Esq^r Justice of Peace for Hartford County, to answer on the third Day of April, being in the year 1786. And that he was then at the Time, and Place sued to, waited two Hours more than the Usual Time, and there was no Writt return'd, and that he then went about his Business, and that it was not long before that Lemuel Roberts aforsaid Isued an Execution out against him on that same Action, —

And further the Deponent sayth not

Amos Hays.

May 22nd 1787 this day personally appead the above named Deponent and made Solemn Oath to the Truth of the Above Deposition before me

Ozias Pettibone Just peace

This may Certify that the above Deponent by Relapses of a Bilous Disorder, he is totally Unable to attend Court; And furthermore that he does not Live 20 miles from Court, and that I am informed the s^d Roberts was not notified

O.P. Just Peac

The Testimony of John Wilson of Simsbury in Hartford County — of Lawful age Testifies & says — That I Lived with Lem^l Roberts Esq^r for about three Years, in Which time he was very Careful to attend upon family Duties, and if it happened when he had been out, abroad, and made it Late before he returned if not more than one of the family were up in the House he never faild to attend Duties before he Went to bead, he was

very Constant in attending upon publick Worship of God's House upon the Sabath, and at other time When oppertunity offerd, & further the Deponent Saith Not John Willson
Dated Simsbury May 21st 1787

The Testimony of John Smith of Farmington in Hartford County, of Lawful age Testifies & Says —

That I have Lived with Lem^l Roberts Esq^r for almost two Years Last Past, in which time he was very attentive to the Duties of his family, When the Situation of his house would admit, of it, — he Keeping a Large Tavern, having a Great Deal of Company, and other people Crouding in to Do business with him, has been obliged to omit at a Number of times, I have Lived in Great many families in Different parts in this State & never Lived in one house So Strict to keep up Good order peace & Regularity in his house as Lem^l Roberts Esq^r and is very Constant in Rebuking profane Swearers and of withholding the Cup from the Intemperate and further the Deponant Saith not. John Smith

Dated Simsbury 21st May 1787

Hartford County ss Simsbury May 21st 1787

Personally appeared the within named John Wilson & John Smith & made Solem Oath to the truths of the within written Depositions before me —

Dudley Pettibone Justice Peace

The Testimony of Seth Sage of Granby of Lawful age testifieth & Saith that Since the Rev^d Mr Bissell of Wintonbury Parish hath been taken of from his Public Labors I have been with them in the Capacy of a Preacher at turns about the Term of Twelve months in the whole, and dur^s the time except abt four Sabbaths have made Lem^l Robarts Esq^r my Quarters & occasionally have Lodged there a Variety of other Times, & dur^s the whole he the s^d Roberts appeard disposd to keep up & Attend Religious Orders in his family and also Shewed a great

zeal for Keep^s up public Worship in the Soc^y us^s much Pains himself in Look^s up a Supply and Seemed freely to Disburse of his own property for the Maintainance thereof. & so far as I have had oppertunity to observe s^d Roberts conduct in Family & Office Truth Constrains me to Say He appeared Strenuous to maintain good orders in his House, — & do Justice in Office, & untill the Unhappy controversy in the Socy his Reputaⁿ as a Justice was perhaps equal to any Whatever: Since that time Particular Persons have spared no Pains to bring him into disrepute & to my knowledge have rode various distances for the Purpose, & all this notwithstanding am^s the Steady His Reputaⁿ Stands Fair & Further the Deponent Saith not

Seth Sage

Simsbury May 21 1787

Hartford County ss Simsbury May 21st 1787

Personally appeared the above named Rev^d Seth Sage & made Solem Oath to the Truth of the above writen Deposition before me —

Dudley Pettibone Juste peace

N. B. S^d M^r Sage lives
more than twenty Miles from
Hartford Court house —

D. Pettibone Just peac^s

The Testimony of Abijah Read of Lawful Age is as follows — that Just before the Gen^l Election at Hartford both last Year & this Year Nodiah Burr Jun^r came to me & Desired me to Sign a writing to hinder Lemuel Roberts Esq^r from being appointed a Justice of the peace, & tolde me the Last time, he had been out all Night on the Buisness, & had got a grate number of Signers he Said & was very urgent to have me Sign it, which I refused to do & further the Deponant Saith not —

Abijah Read

Hartford County ss Simsbury May 21 1787

Personally appeared the above named Abijah Read & made
Solem Oath to the Truth of the above writen Deposition before
me
Dudley Pettibone Jus^t peace

The Testimony of Sam^l Stebbins of Simsbury is as follows
that having had an Intimate Acquaintance with Lem^l Robarts
Esq for Ten Years Last Past & so far as I am acquainted with
him his Character is Good & Reputable & equal to others of his
profession in office & having Lodged frequently at his house
have observed him very careful in calling his family together to
attend family worship & truth constrains me to add that he has
ever manifested a becom^s Zeal for keeping up & supporting
Public Worship in Soc^y: & hath been at great Pains & Expence
in furnishing Supplies for the Pulpit in the Parish where he be-
longs, when Destitute & that he has ever manifested a peculiar
Benevolence & Hospitality towards the Ministry & the Gos-
pel: and a becom^s Regard for Religion & untill the Late
unhappy Controversy in s^d Soc^y I never heard any thing unfav-
orable of s^d Robarts Character in any respect Whatever &
further the Depon^t Saith not

Sam^l Stebbins

Conn. State Library, Miscellaneous, vol. 3, Doc. 328-341.

It is sufficient to say that justice prevailed and he was
continued in office, by a special act of the General Assem-
bly at the May session, 1787.

We take the account of the death of Lemuel Roberts
from a letter dated January 30, 1879, written by his grand-
daughter, Mrs. Melissa (Roberts) Batterson of Hartford,
to Lester A. Roberts of Brooklyn, New York: —

“He was a Justice of the Peace, and held Court in the
North room of the house now occupied by William Latimer
(about a mile North of Bloomfield Center). A door opened at

the N. E. corner, from which were stone steps without rails. One evening he rendered judgement against one Burr, who was heard to say, he would get even with Judge Roberts. There was quite a crowd, and as my Grandfather was lame, he was one of the last to leave. One of his near neighbors Michael Seger awoke his wife next morning saying, ' Judge Roberts is dead. That ugly Burr pushed him off the steps ~~at Griswold's~~ last night, and he lies there now. I have seen it in a dream three times this night.' Before they were through breakfast, Seger was called to the inquest. In those days of superstition and witchcraft this story made a great sensation. I have heard it spoken of by many, although it happened before I was born. Burr fell dead in the road not long after, and this I have heard spoken of by very old people in Wintonbury as in their opinion a just judgement. Grandfather lay there all night. His cane went through his hat, and entered his temple. I have often seen the hat which my Aunt Hannah always kept."

He was buried in the old graveyard in Bloomfield, where his gravemark of Connecticut freestone is still to be seen bearing this inscription: —

In memory of
 LEMUEL ROBERTS
 Esq^r
 who departed this life
 Dec^r 19th A D, 1789 in the 47th year
 of his age.

No cordial to revive his heart
 No one to hold his head
 No friend to close his dying eyes
 The ground was his deathbed.

Among the files of the Simsbury Probate Court is a bond for £5000, dated December 29, 1789, and signed by Jona-

than Pettibone, Nathaniel Roberts, and Lemuel Roberts, "all of Simsbury now appointed Administrators on the Estate of Lemuel Roberts Esq^r late of Simsbury deceased." The inventory of the estate is not on record, nor is the original document among the probate files. On page 196 of Vol. 3, of the Simsbury Probate Records is a copy of the account filed by the administrators of his estate.

The decree of the judge accepting said account is dated September 24, 1791, but as in the account there are items of expense as late as March 4, 1797, it would seem as if the date 1791 should read 1797. The original account is not on file. Among the items is a charge for necessities set out to the widow, May 2, 1791.

On page 435 of volume 32 of the Land Records of Farmington, Conn., is a deed dated June 6, 1798, whereby Jonathan Pettibone, of Simsbury, by authority from the Simsbury Probate Court, conveyed land in Farmington belonging to the estate of Lemuel Roberts, Esquire, deceased. This order cannot be found on the records of the Simsbury Probate Court.

February 25, 1792, Ruth Roberts quitclaimed to Roger Newberry, of Windsor, her right of dower in ten acres of land in Simsbury, called the McLean lot, part of the estate of Lemuel Roberts, Esq., deceased.

After her husband's death, Ruth (Woodford) Roberts resided for a few years with her son Samuel, in Sharon, Conn., but later returned to Bloomfield, where she died about 1800. We have been unable to ascertain the precise date.

CHILDREN OF LEMUEL AND RUTH (WOODFORD) ROBERTS.

- I. LEMUEL, b. Apr. 17, 1766; bap. June 4, 1766; m. Oct. 5, 1786, Roxe Gillett, and lived in Bloomfield.
- II. RUTH, " Jan. 24, 1768; " Mar. 27, 1768; m. 1789, Ezra Griswold, and removed to Ohio.
- III. HANNAH, " Mar. 15, 1770; " May 20, 1770; m. Augustus Filley, lived in Bloomfield and Torrington.
- IV. SAMUEL, " Mar. 28, 1772; " May 3, 1772; m. 1. Elethea Calkins, 2. Pamela Patchin, and lived in Sharon, Conn.
- V. LOIS, " Aug. 22, 1774; " Oct. 2, 1774; m. Zopher Topping, removed to Ohio.
4. VI. EUNICE, " Aug. 22, 1774; " Oct. 2, 1774; m. Mar. 3, 1799, James Goodwin.
- VII. HEZEKIAH, " June 5, 1776; " June 5, 1776; d. June 6, 1776.
- VIII. HEZEKIAH, " " Aug. 26, 1781; m. Harriet King.

4.

EUNICE ROBERTS (*Lemuel 3, Lemuel 2, John 1*) was born in Wintonbury parish, town of Simsbury, Conn., August 22, 1774, and was baptized the second of October following. March 3, 1799, she was married by Rev. William F. Miller to JAMES GOODWIN, of Hartford, Connecticut. He was the only son of Jonathan and Eunice (*Olcott*) Goodwin, of Hartford, and was born in that town December 27, 1777. Mr. Goodwin resided on the Albany road in his native town on property inherited from his father.

James Goodwin died September 13, 1844.

Eunice Roberts Goodwin died August 13, 1825.

CHILDREN OF JAMES AND EUNICE (ROBERTS) GOODWIN.

- I. JONATHAN, b. Dec. 23, 1799; m. June 7, 1826, Clarinda
Newberry.
- II. JAMES, " Mar. 2, 1803; " July 30, 1832, Lucy
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- III. MARY JEANNETTE, " Dec. 6, 1813; " June 3, 1840, Walter
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