

NICHOLAS UTTER
OF
WESTERLY, RHODE ISLAND
AND A
FEW OF HIS DESCENDANTS

By

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and

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THE ABRAM UTTER (1732-1813) HOMESTEAD AT HOPKINTON CITY, R. I.

A FOREWORD

This is a different book of genealogy. It contains the family tree more particularly for two lines, lines of ancestors which lead down through the brothers John and William Utter who left their home in Hopkinton City, R. I., about 1800.

Most of the original research has been done by Mrs. Lewis A. Waterman, (Katharine M. Utter), of North Scituate, R. I. She has followed the line down from John Utter, son of Abram, to her own immediate family and has told interesting things about the people in that line.

George B. and Wilfred B. Utter, a later generation, have developed the families of William Utter and have told more or less fully something of the lives of their grandparents, and great-grandparents.

Both John and William, sons of Abram Utter, left Hopkinton, R. I., for the Mohawk Valley. John settled in Adams Center, N. Y., to the north. William settled near Utica and his family was reared in nearby towns to the south.

Abram Utter is the fourth generation from Nicholas Utter, who may have been a soldier in the Army which came with the Swedes to the Delaware regions three hundred years ago. He turned up somewhere in southern Rhode Island as early as 1678. The children of John and William have spread throughout the nation. But the two branches in which Mrs. Waterman and the Utter brothers are interested returned to Rhode Island. Both families have some original material, and Mrs. Waterman's original research should not be lost. Without waiting to publish all that may be known of the Utters, and run the danger

of not publishing anything in the end, we have decided to make the Nicholas Utter book, incomplete as it is.

Material has been used that perhaps is more or less of a very personal nature, but as the book has a very limited distribution it has been used as a way to preserve it for future generations of the immediate families of the writers.

The following pages contain a more or less complete account of the first four generations of this family in New England with some items about later generations. One branch has been traced to the present day, and includes those of the name still living in Rhode Island.

For a more complete account of this branch see Vol. II of the Brown Gen. by the late Cyrus H. Brown of Westerly, 1915, who was the grandfather of George B. and Wilfred B. Utter.

Austin's Genealogical Dictionary (p. 211, 58, 125, 361) covers most of the first three generations in concise form, but omits much that Mrs. Waterman has found in the early public records of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut. Besides town records, tax and census lists, general court records, military papers, town and county histories, etc., have been consulted, but the work is by no means exhaustive, especially outside of Rhode Island.

The Utter family, though not numerous, has representatives in almost every section of the United States, and has included many professional men, notably clergymen and teachers.

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NICHOLAS UTTER AND DESCENDANTS CHART

Part One

By Katharine M. Utter Waterman

CHAPTER I

OF SWEDISH ORIGIN?

"The name Utter," writes Amandus Johnson, Swedish historian, "is distinctly a Swedish name, being the name of an animal (otter)—this spelling is found in no other language—The name is not common in Sweden, but is found occasionally, and two or three of the name have been prominent in Swedish history.—The famous Utter—who was really the founder and organizer of the Swedish archives and one of the first genealogists in the Scandinavian North—was not a nobleman but his family was later ennobled under the name of Utterhjaln—Several members of the noble families of Sweden have married women of the name of Utter."

And again, he said, "There was a Nils or Nicholas Utter in the New Sweden colony who came here in 1654 and served for some time as a soldier, his trade being a sword cutler and blacksmith. This man must have been born about 1630—or earlier. There is of course, a possibility that he migrated to Rhode Island and there went over to the Baptists, as he was a Lutheran when he arrived in America."

In Mr. Johnson's "The Swedish Settlement on the Delaware," 1911, Vol. 2, p 722, is a list of soldiers, sailors, etc., on which appears Nils Mat(t)son Utter, soldier, hired in Stockholm in 1653. The same book states that after the Swedish Governor, Rising, had arranged with the victorious Stuyvesant for the return of the Swedes to the Fatherland by way of New Amsterdam, many of them were persuaded by the Dutch to remain there. The rest sailed for Sweden 23 Oct. 1655. Perhaps Nils Utter was among those who remained.

In "Armorial General" par Riesstap II, 965, is a coat-of-arms designated as "Utter, Swede," with shield, crest and mantle in colors. On the shield, which is "party per fess," is a swimming otter with a fish in his mouth done in blue and silver above the fess, and below it, a spray of three green lime leaves on a gold ground. The mantle is in silver, red, gold and blue, and the crest is an arrangement of the otter and the lime leaves.

It is not certain, however, that the Nicholas Utter who first appeared in R. I. records in 1678 had a coat-of-arms, but he was not of the peasant class which at that time used only such surnames as Carlson, Johnson and the like, whereas Utter could be used only, I have been told, by members of the military caste. It is also not proved that he was identical with or a son of the Swedish soldier mentioned by Mr. Johnson, though it seems improbable that two unrelated persons of that unusual name and approximately the same age should have come to America at that early date.

Nicholas Utter of R. I. must have been born before 1640 and there is nothing on record to make 1630 an improbable birth date. According to his will he was a "first-day Baptist" when he died, but Rhode Island was full of Baptists and he lived there at least thirty-six years. The name Utter, however, was not probably confined to Sweden in the seventeenth century any more than it is now, and Nicholas Utter could have come to America from Germany, Holland, or even England, if he was not the soldier of New Sweden (Delaware) mentioned above, or, being that man, he could have migrated to New England during the period between 1655 and 1674, when the Dutch and English wrangled over the possession of the Swedish colony, the English finally winning out at the latter date.

Another puzzle is the connection, if any, of Nicholas Utter of R. I. with the Peter (Petter, Peeter) Uter who was paid by the town of Newbury, Mass., for his services

in King Philip's War, 24 Nov. 1676, and who later died in Newbury where an inventory of his estate was taken 14 Sept. 1683 by Nicholas Noyes. There is no record of his having owned land in Essex or Middlesex Counties but he is mentioned as a creditor in the settlement of another Newbury estate. He evidently sold goods or services, but had no farm of his own. There is no mention of a family. He must have been born in the sixteen-fifties or earlier and was, perhaps, a son or brother of Nicholas Utter.

Evidence that some of the Swedes settled in eastern New England is the Scituate, Mass., record of Nicholas Alberson, "the Swede," whose house was burned by the Indians for which he asked aid of the town in Mar. 1676. According to Savage, he baptized his own children, and Plymouth County records state that on 27 Oct. 1674, Nicholas Alberson was whipped for sundry offenses.

Some of the Utter family are on record as having lived in the vicinity of Scituate, Mass., about 50 years later. They may have been residents there for some time before "a mulatto child of Jabez (2) Utter" died in 1731. This was recorded by the pastor of the First Congregational Church of Hanover.

CHAPTER II

NICHOLAS UTTER APPEARS

Nicholas Alberson, the Swede, disappeared from Plymouth records about two years before Nicholas Utter, with three others, was fined by the Gen. Court at Newport, 6 May 1678, for opening Indian graves. Daniel Dawley pleaded guilty but the rest claimed they "knew nothing of it." It is not stated whether the fine was collected.

Nicholas Utter next appeared 6 Sept. 1687 on a tax list in Rochester (Kingstowne), R. I. This was during the Andros Regime when the English King, trying to settle the Massachusetts-Rhode Island-Connecticut claims to what is now Washington County, called the whole district King's Province and changed the names of the towns. Nicholas Utter had prospered enough to pay a property tax as well as a poll tax.

Meantime, William Utter, youngest son of Nicholas, had been born in 1679, presumably somewhere in southern Rhode Island. William is supposed to have been the son of the second wife of Nicholas, who, according to the William Utter family, "about 1670" married a widow Elizabeth with one daughter, Eleanor. Both of them survived him.

Just when Nicholas Utter settled in Westerly is unknown. He was made a freeman 13 June, 1698, but that is no proof that he was not on the ground much earlier. His name, with that of his son, Thomas, is on an undated list of the "freemen of Westerly town from the first settlement thereof." There are about one hundred and seventy names on the list. In 1699, he appeared before the Westerly town council in regard to the seizure of some of his property by the constable of Kingstowne for taxes

levied in Kingstowne. Boundary lines of both states and towns were so indefinite and variable in those days that one is uncertain whether Nicholas or the boundary line had moved. The line between Kingstowne and Westerly was adjusted in 1695.

The Westerly town fathers were very emphatic in their decision that he should resist the Kingstowne demands and promised to repay him for any damage he might suffer in consequence. From 1701 to 1714 when he moved to Stonington, Conn., his name appeared some thirteen times on the Westerly records not counting his routine signatures with the other Shannock purchasers. He was employed in making a list of the town estate and as a grand-juryman for a sitting of the General Court at Newport. He engaged in a number of land transactions.

(The "Shannock purchase" was a tract of land mostly in the present town of Richmond, sold by the colony agents to encourage the settlement of vacant lands.)

His exact residence is mentioned as near "Shanach Falls" when the town was laying out districts for the "malisha" in 1707. It seems likely that most of his Rhode Island sojourn was spent near the present village of Shannock. He is on record as having received 100 acres of land from the town of Westerly, and he bought two parcels from the Shannock purchasers. The larger, of 286 acres on the north bank of the Pawcatuck, he sold a few months later to his son, Nicholas Junior; the other, of 156 acres, his heirs sold after his death. Among the bounds of these tracts are mentioned numbers of marked trees and rocks, the Wood River, Frenk's Corner, the north line of the Shannock Purchase, and one tract is further said to be "in a place commonly called black plain," the northern part of the present town of Richmond. At the time of purchase it was bounded by highways on the north and west. Another piece of land was sold by his heirs of which the abutting owners' names are given.

It is recorded that on 8 Jan. 13 14 he bought land in Stonington, Conn., bounded south by the "Ashawage River" near "Glead" (Glade) Brook. Here he lived, presumably till he died between May 5 and Aug. 17 of the year 1722. This piece of land was sold by his heirs, except Nicholas, Jr., to Matthew Randall, husband of his step-daughter, Eleanor. In his will, "Mr. Nicholas Utter" mentioned his four sons, Jabez, Thomas, Nicholas Jr., and William; his daughter, Millicent Yeomans, and the children of his deceased daughter, Sarah Forman; his wife Elizabeth, who was to have ten pounds a year for life with bed, cows etc., in lieu of dowry; his step-daughter, Eleanor, who got 10 pounds, and his "dear friend, John Richmond," who got five pounds; also his "brethren of the first-day Baptist Church at Groton" (perhaps the old church at Old Mystic (Conn.), which is the first Baptist church in Connecticut), who were to have twenty pounds. His son, Thomas, was to have a double share "of dividable estate" for taking care of him in his old age.

This will is preserved in the Conn. State Library at Hartford. It is recorded with "Order accepting legacy in lieu of dower" at New London. The executors were Peter Crandall, John Maxson, and John Richmond. It seems safe to assume that this will mentions all the living children of Nicholas Utter and all the deceased children leaving heirs. If Peter Uter of Newbury was a deceased son, he had no heirs living at the time of the will.

CHAPTER III

JABEZ UTTER OF KILLINGLY, CONN.

Jabez (Jbish, Jabesh, Jabish) Utter, the oldest son, is called by Austin "Jabez of Canterbury" but this probably is a mistake. Connecticut land records show that "Jabez of Canterbury" was son of Jabez of Pomfret. Jabez of Pomfret, "tailor," who lived successively in Stow, Mass., Mortlake, Pomfret and Killingly, Conn., must have been the Jabez of the will, who was of Killingly when the land inherited from Nicholas was sold. Both Jabez of Pomfret and Jabez, son of Nicholas, mention "wife Mary" in their sales of land.

Austin's mistake doubtless arose from the fact that "Jabez of Canterbury," "horse jockey," was sued in Newport in March 1717 by Samuel Rogers of New London. He assumed that this man was the Jabez Utter of the will. Jabez Utter, senior, was granted land in Stow, Mass., in 1683 which would indicate a birth date of about 1660 or earlier. His name appears six times in Stow and Middlesex County records in regard to land, taxes, and the birth of two daughters; once in Plainfield Conn., land evidence; six times in Canterbury land evidence and three times in Killingly, besides in the sales of his father's land in Stonington, Conn., Westerly, R. I. and Richmond, R. I.

The Mass. and Conn. deeds continually mention a purchase of land on the Quinnebaug River 18 Jan. 1698|9, which proves the identity of Jabez and his wife Mary. The land lay "mostly in Canterbury" and he gave some of it to his sons Abraham and Jabez but he lived in 1706 in "a place called Mortlake" which later was called Pomfret.

Larned's History of Windham County gives an interesting account of the conditions in the Quinnebaug Coun-

try at the time and some of the doings of the Jabez Utter family, which may or may not be authentic. Seemingly the Quinnebaug country north of Norwich was the scene of much undignified land squabbling on the part of John Winthrop and Major James Fitch with their respective followers, who made haste to appropriate the choice bits of every tract that became available for white settlement. The grants were hurriedly marked by blazed trees and the like which could seldom be relocated.

To add to the confusion, the Indian owner, Owaneco, drunken son of Uncas the Mohecan, would sell for a red shirt or some brass buttons any piece of land to anybody and the same piece as many times as opportunity offered. The Winthrop and Fitch factions sold or leased to settlers parcels of land which the luckless buyers might have to repurchase three or four times from other settlers who thought they had bought the same land.

The towns of this region, as they were formed, quarrelled over their boundaries and the General Courts or Assemblies were evidently afraid to antagonize either Fitch or Winthrop by settling these boundaries when petitioned by the suffering inhabitants. Then one side would raid the other, destroy fences, carry off the hay, etc., and get raided in turn.

Jabez Utter seems to have been one of the Fitch party. With Major Fitch and Josiah Cleveland he bought a tract of land of Owaneco north of Norwich on the Quinnebaug River, about four by eight and one half miles, which touched Captain Blackwell's land on part of the north line. Captain Blackwell's land was called Mortlake after a place in England and was a large tract of wilderness which roughly corresponded with the present Pomfret. Jabez Utter's residence is said by Larned to have been in that tract between Canterbury and Mortlake which was later (1713) part of Pomfret, and that in 1705 he with

two or three neighbors, petitioned to be allowed to join Canterbury in establishing religious worship.

In another place Larned states that he was the first white settler in Mortlake Manor, which part of Mortlake was not annexed to Pomfret till 1752. In 1715 his wife Mary and her daughters were forcibly removed from their house in his absence by a son of their absentee Massachusetts landlord, Jonathan Belcher, who had bought of Capt. Blackwell. Young Belcher claimed that his father, after giving Jabez Utter a deed for about one hundred acres which Jabez had improved with fences and buildings, changed his mind and obtained a quitclaim. The son gathered a band of wild young men and a sheriff, and with drums and what not marched against the house where the doughty Mary had barricaded herself. He finally went down the chimney and literally threw the family out in the January wilderness and left them to their fate. Mary lodged a complaint with the authorities and the matter was taken up by the spring Assembly but nothing could be done because her assailants were out of the state. The Colonial records show that in May, 1715, a Committee of House considered the case of Jabez Utter and wife contra Sheriff of County of New London.

Larned further states that, at the time of this outrage, Jabez Utter was in jail for stealing a horse and that he was later sued for settling on town land in Canterbury. Larned had a very poor opinion of the Jabez Utter family, classing them with the "vagabond fellows" who traded in land, but didn't support the public enterprises. In a community where pillars of the church settled their differences with clubs and hatchets and the most public spirited citizens were the most shameless land grabbers, one dislikes to think what the "vagabond fellows" must have been like.

There is no doubt that most of our first families were a rough lot and the second generation may have been rougher than their fathers, having never known a gentler

environment, but they must have excelled in courage and industry. And, in word at least, they were very religious. In the case of the Jabez Utter family, Larned has probably not distinguished between father and son in the records and with incomplete evidence has misinterpreted what she found, for the land evidence makes much of it seem improbable.

Jabez Utter seems to have had six daughters: Rebecca and Mary born in Stow, Mass., in 1685 and 1686, Katharine, Beatrice and Elizabeth of unknown birthplace, and probably Mehitabel, born in Boston of "Jabez and Mary Uter" in 1705. Two sons, Abraham and Jabez, Jr., were given land in Canterbury in 1715.

Mary married James Hyde of Newtown, Mass., and Mortlake and Canterbury, Conn. Katherine married in Killingly Edward Russell of East Haven, Conn. Abraham married in East Haven Lydia Russell, sister of Edward above. Jabez Jr. is probably the Jabez Utter who married Sarah Mirick in Boston in 1719.

The family were probably Congregationalists as it was very uncomfortable for a resident of Connecticut to be anything else in those days. Several of them were members of the Canterbury church.

There was also in Killingly a Samuel Utter who, Larned says, came from Salem with other settlers in 1721. He married in Killingly 5 May 1721 Johannah Preston. He may have been another son of Jabez, as the latter's son, Abraham, named a son Samuel, and Samuel, after naming his first daughter Sarah (his wife's mother), called the next girl Mary (his own mother?).

Jabez Utter signed his last deed 25 May 1727. About a year later, his son Abraham gave a quitclaim to his interest in his father's land on the Quinnebaug, and the purchaser of Jabez Utter's land in Stow put the transaction on record after a delay of thirty years. Whether Jabez died about this time is not known, but Mary, his wife, died

13 Feb. 1729|30 in Canterbury where she was probably living with her daughter, Mary Hyde. Nothing further has been found about Jabez Jr., except a purchase of 400 acres of land in Canterbury from James Hyde, 15 Jan. 1719|20; Samuel's only son, Samuel, died early leaving one daughter; Abraham and his family of five sons and three daughters drifted across Connecticut and some, at least, into eastern New York. (Dutchess County)

CHAPTER IV

THOMAS, THE SECOND SON

The second son of Nicholas Utter of Westerly was Thomas of Stonington, Conn. Thomas Utter is not mentioned in the Andros census of 1687, probably because he was not yet of age. He appears to have lived in Westerly for a time and to have moved to Stonington, Conn., before 1718|9 where he died in 1726. The birth of his oldest son, John, is recorded both in Westerly and Stonington and three more sons and two daughters in Stonington only. As the recorded children are at two year intervals with a break of eight years between the fourth and fifth, there may easily have been two or three more whose records have not been found. This is the more probable in view of the fact that Rhode Island records mention the activities of three men of this generation with no clue as to parentage, namely,—Simeon, Samuel, and Josias. Or he may have been married twice, the second time before August 3, 1719, when he signed a paper "for his wife" after the death of her brother, Gershom Cottrell.

Thomas Utter's wife was Hannah Cottrell. She is probably the Hannah Utter who "hove herself" on the town of Westerly to be cared for in 1738. This may mean that she turned over her property to the town so as to be cared for rather than that she was destitute. She was boarded out in the family of one of the townsmen as was the custom and her funeral charges were paid by the town fathers in Apr. 1742.

Thomas Utter was probably born around 1675 for his two younger brothers were born by 1679 and he was likely under thirty when his oldest son was born 29 Jan. 1703. His wife was born after 1678. He was a Baptist

like his father and belonged to the same church in North Stonington, Conn.

Besides John, "oldest son and heir," Thomas and Hannah? Utter had Thomas, born in 1705 and probably identical with Thomas of Warwick who married Mary Capwell and died in 1773 leaving a will; Desire, born in 1707 of whom nothing further has been found; Benjamin, born 1709 who may be the Dr. Benjamin Utter of East Haven in 1735 who married Mabel Russell of East Haven (born 1706) sister of Lydia Russell, wife of Abraham, son of Jabez above; Thankful, born 1717 who married in Westerly Thomas Weeks or Wickes of Warwick in 1741; William, born 1719, may have gone to North Carolina 1743 as William Utley.

John married first Jemima Benjamin and second Elizabeth Pooler. Through Elizabeth's son, Abraham, he is the ancestor of the present Utter family in Rhode Island. For most of the descendants of Abraham see the Brown Gen. Vol. II. Little is known about the rest of John's family. Jemima's only child, John, married Hannah and was of Richmond in 1749. He may be the John Utter who was of Salem, N. Y., in 1757. Elizabeth had Isaac, Eleanor and Jemima besides Abraham, the oldest, above. Eleanor married Nathaniel Kenyon in 1754. Only the birth dates of the others have been found.

CHAPTER V

NICHOLAS UTTER, JUNIOR

Very little is known of Nicholas Utter Jr. Austin calls him "of Kingstown" and he had been living with his father in Westerly at the time of a deed dated Jan. 1709|10. In 1700 he, with fourteen others, was convicted of terrifying the people of Kingstown by rioting "namely at arms." The rioters were all "of the Narragansett Country" but the Colonial records give no details and the Assembly set aside the decision of the court because all the defendants were absent. There was to be a new trial when the rioters could be present but nothing further is on record. The men ranged in age from forty-five to twenty as may be found in the accounts of their families in Austin's Gen. Dict. One of them, Valentine Whitman, was very active later in the Baptist ministry in Kingstown, R. I., Groton, Conn., and New York City.

Nicholas Jr. was the only one of the family to sign himself "gentleman," which *may* have meant not working for a living, but he seems to have avoided public records so that his family is known only by chance references. Three sons are of record, Joseph, William, and Josiah.

On March 7, 1714|5, the Westerly Council apprenticed Joseph to John Hill who had notified it, 14 Oct. previous, that Nicholas Utter Jr. had left town and "his child is like to suffer unless care be taken." William Utter, son of Nicholas Utter, "desired Capt. Edward Greenman" as guardian 28 Apr. 1729. Josiah Utter of Westerly "son to Nicholas Utter" was made a ward of the same man 30 June 1729. Sept. 28, 1730, the Council granted to Capt. Edward Greenman administration on estate of "cousin

Joseph Utter late of Westerly deceased"—"it being for the use of William Utter of above town."

In view of the customs of that time in regard to indentures, guardianships, and inheritances, we may assume that Joseph was born around 1704, William, before April of 1715, and Josiah after June of the same year. If there had been a son between Joseph and William, he would have inherited Joseph's property instead of William. Joseph's birth may have been a little later, but as his father was probably about twenty-seven in 1704 and ten seems an age when he might still be called a "child" and yet be old enough to stay behind, that date seems most probable. Where his "estate" came from unless he was of age before 1730, is another reason for not putting his birth too late.

There was a Josiah Utter who bought land in Greenwich, Conn., in 1739 who may be the last of the above three sons of Nicholas Jr. Unless there was another Utter family in New England besides the descendants of Nicholas senior, this seems almost certain. The Conn. Josiah must have been born before 1718 and the simplest supposition is that he was identical with Josiah of R. I. born after 1715. This supposition is strengthened by the fact that Capt. Moriarty, in N. E. H. & G. Reg. Vol. 86, identifies Josiah Utter of Greenwich with the Josiah Utter who married Elizabeth Arnold in New Shoreham, 27 May 1736. He states that their daughter, Susannah Utter, married her first cousin, Joseph Dickens, at Salem, Westchester Co., N. Y., 17 Jan. 1760. As New Shoreham records show no resident named Utter, Josiah doubtless went over from Westerly to marry the New Shoreham girl.

Nothing further is known of William, heir of Joseph. As Nicholas Jr. is not on record as having sold his portions of his father's land, presumably William inherited it through Joseph's death, and as he put no such sale on record so far as known, presumably he remained on some portion of the land. The Richmond portion was in the pos-

session of John Knowles Jr. of South Kingstown by 1768. How he got it has not been determined.

There was a William Utter, wife Elizabeth, in the 2nd Baptist Church of Richmond in 1777. This man's age is not indicated and he may be too young to be William, heir of Joseph, above, but he is more likely to be the son or grandson of Nicholas Jr. than William, son of Thomas, above, who being the youngest, would have inherited no land and probably have drifted west unless he died young. The only evidence as to the mother of these boys is the statement of the Westerly Council that Joseph was "cousin" of Capt. Edward Greenman and the manuscript note in Austin that Nicholas married Deborah. "Cousin" at that time often meant nephew, but the relationship might come through marriage instead of by blood. Hence it is not proved that Nicholas married Deborah Greenman (none on record), but there was a Deborah Utter, a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Hopkinton in 1712 and not on the list in 1718. As Nicholas left Westerly about 1714 leaving Joseph behind, his wife may have died and the two younger boys may have been sons of a second wife.

At least the Westerly records mention no relationship to Edward Greenman and they were probably considerably younger than Joseph. Brown's reference in regard to Nicholas, "wife Margaret," is a mistake. (Brown Genealogy by Cyrus H. Brown, Vol. II, Page 355.) The reference mentions no wife. It is possible that the Hannah Utter cared for by the town of Westerly (see under Thomas Utter) was widow of Nicholas instead of Thomas. There is no real evidence as to the time or place of Nicholas Utter's death. The boys were not called sons of "Nicholas Utter deceased" nor is he ever referred to in that way. The nearest thing to such evidence is a reference in 1740 to a bond of his as a "desperate debt." The above

data raise many questions no matter what explanation is suggested for any of them.

A Nicholas Utter witnessed a will at Elizabethtown, N. J., Aug. 26, 1723. He must have been Nicholas Utter, Jr. (2) or an unrecorded son of Jabez (2), Nicholas (1), or a member of some entirely different Utter family. The first supposition seems most likely.

CHAPTER VI

WILLIAM UTTER OF WARWICK

With William Utter of Warwick we step out of uncertainty into fact. His family graveyard is still in fair condition, the stones still easily legible. His will and many articles of daily use in his family are in the possession of a descendant in Warwick, Miss Hettie Arnold of Tusketuck. When he sold his portions of his "honored father's" estate, there is something about the wording of the deeds that suggests a man of precise and businesslike habits, acting independently and at his own convenience. His children's births are in Arnold's Vital Records and he and his wife left wills. William Utter, the fifth child of Nicholas Utter the immigrant, was born 1679. He married a Warwick woman, Anne Stone, in 1705, but probably continued to live in Westerly till 1711 or 1712 when he bought land in Warwick and had his earmark recorded there. He was not made a freeman till 1 May 1716, but his children are all recorded in Warwick. He bought and sold land in Westerly and Warwick, was one of the Shannock purchasers, bought a Negro girl of Moses Lippitt, administered his son William's estate (receipt dated Feb. 14, 1746|7), and made his will one year before he died, his wife being named executrix. The land was divided equally between her and his only surviving son Zebulon, her share to go to Zebulon at her death.

Zebulon's notebook says he died in the "atty year of his age," but his gravestone says he died 7 Jan. 1761 at the age of eighty-two. This fixes his birth in 1679 c. His widow died 22 May 1762, at the age of eighty, and her will was also dated one year before it was probated. Amos Lockwood, husband of her oldest daughter, Sarah, was

executor and one paper is now in the possession of Dr. Henry E. Utter, a descendant of Thomas Utter of Stonington. Zebulon, a prominent man in Warwick in his day, was the last of the name in William's branch as he had only one child, Ruth, who married a young man from an adjoining farm, George Arnold.

Zebulon Utter was a sheriff and constable of Warwick and was also concerned in a manufacturing business later carried on by his Arnold descendants under the name of the "Utter Mfg Company." It was located on a pond about where the Willows Tavern recently stood in Spring Green. The old mill bell is still in possession of the Arnold family. (N. Y. Gen. and Biog. Reg. Vol. 49, Page 379.) An old Providence directory for 1824 has an entry which may refer to a Providence office—"Otter Manufacturing Co., 86 Westminster Street."

William Utter's children were — Sarah b. 1 Aug. 1707, William b. 5 Nov. 1713, Ruth b. 30 Dec. 1714, Zebulon and Anna b. 9 Aug. 1725, also Ailes (Alice) b. 27 Sept. 1711 according to Arnold's Vital Records but not mentioned in will. She probably died young. The others all married and all but Ruth are known to have had children.

William Jr. married first Barbara Burlingame and second Phebe Brown and had Barbara and Sarah; Ruth married John Dexter; Zebulon married Mary Ralph and had Ruth. Anna married first Benjamin Greene and second John Reynolds and had Catherine Greene and William and Anne Reynolds; Sarah Lockwood had twelve children—Amos, Sarah, Ann, Benoni, Alice, Mercy, Ruth, Wait, Phebe, Barbara, Abraham, Millicent.

CHAPTER VII

NICHOLAS UTTER'S DAUGHTERS

Millicent Utter

Of Nicholas Utter's daughters, Millicent married in Stonington, Conn., in 1693, John Yeomans, which is about the same time that her step-sister Eleanor is credited with marrying Matthew Randall of Westerly and Stonington. This suggests, but does not prove, that the two girls were about of an age and if anything, Millicent should have been the older as Yeomans was seven or eight years older than Randall, hence Millicent was probably a child of the first wife of Nicholas Utter, and probably born 1673 or earlier.

She had eleven or twelve children—Elisha, Elijah, Eleazer, Ebenezer, Thomas, John, Sarah, Elizabeth, Millicent, Mary, Mabel, according to her husband's will which was made in Tolland, Conn. Austin's Gen. Dict. puts in an extra Mabel and omits Eleazer besides putting Thomas and John at the head of the list and he gives dates of birth. John Yeomans Jr. was given his mother's share of the Nicholas Utter estate. He was a carpenter of Tolland, Conn., when he sold the Stonington property in 1723.

Sarah Utter

Sarah Utter married John Forman (Far, Fer, Fir, Fur, Fair, Fear), of Killingly, Conn., in 1712. His father, John Ferman of Enfield, Conn., who went there with other settlers from Salem, Mass., had five children born from 1674 to 1683, John being next to the youngest according to a book on the Enfield Formans. If Sarah Forman was younger than her husband as was usual she was born around 1683 or 4, that is, she was the youngest child of Nicholas Utter and her mother was the second wife, if the William Utter family tradition is correct that William's mother was Elizabeth.

This John Forman is probably the John Firman who was in Westerly in 1704. In 1705 John Forman sold some land in Enfield to his brother, James, and his wife, Sarah, signed the deed, showing that they were married before that. On 8 Feb. 1715, he married in Killingly Hannah Spaulding, showing that Sarah Utter died before that date. The children of the first marriage were Elizabeth, John, William, Sarah, and Abigail, all baptized in Killingly 10 June 1722. In a deed dated 31 Mar. 1743, the last named John Ferman Jr. mentioned his "honored grandfather Nicholas Utter late of Stonington dec." Elizabeth married John Moffett of South Killingly, John Jr. married Elizabeth Hughes, William married Abigail Gay, Sarah married John Russell (of Killingly in 1748). A Moffett family is said to have come from Salem to Killingly with Samuel Utter in 1721 or 2.

Eleanor, daughter of Nicholas Utter's second wife, Elizabeth, according to the Randall Gen. (1666-1879), married Matthew Randall about 1693 and died in Hopkinton, R. I., in 1763. Their children baptized in Stonington were Eleanor, Mercy, Mary, Benjamin, and Elizabeth. Someone has added in writing Thankful and Benjamin. All these names occur among the Westerly marriages from 1714 to 1735.

Stonington, Conn., Land Records prove:

Sons Matthew and Benjamin

Daughters and sons-in-law of Westerly:

Benjamin and Elinor Greene

Stephen and Mercy Wilcox

John and Patience Macoon

John and Thankful Maxson

Edward and Elizabeth Wells

Quitclaim is made to land now in possession of William Steward, son of Mary Wilkins of Stonington, to said William Steward.

CHAPTER VIII

MANY UNSOLVED PROBLEMS

Deborah Utter is one of the Utter family whose relationship is not proved. She was an original member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Westerly, later Hopkinton, and was on the list in 1712 but not in 1718. There is nothing but probability to prevent her being the first wife, sister, or daughter of Nicholas Utter, or the wife of Nicholas Jr. Unless we assume that Peter Uter of Newbury was the head of a family which spread to other parts of New England, it seems necessary to allocate Deborah and other unplaced Uters of that early time to the family of Nicholas. It seems most probable that she was the wife of Nicholas Jr. and either died at about the time he left Westerly or went with him.

Thomas Utter of Warwick

Thomas Utter of Warwick, by a similar course of reasoning, is adjudged the second son of Thomas of Stonington and the disposition of other unplaced persons will be suggested on the ground that it seems unnecessary to invent a second Utter family to receive persons who are easily fitted into the Nicholas Utter blank spaces. However, these relationships cannot be stated as proved without further evidence. Thomas Utter married Mary Capwell, daughter of Stephen and Mary Capwell, before 23 July 1740 for she is called Mary Utter in her father's first will made at that date on the eve of his expedition to the West Indies under Capt. William Hopkins.

In 1749, Thomas bought land of Stephen Capwell of Coventry and in 1750 his name was on a (voting?) list in that town. All these (voting?) lists are lists of those

who signed the oath against bribery and corruption which a man was required to do before he could vote. He was made freeman of Warwick in 1756. From 1753 to 1767 he bought and sold land in Warwick and Coventry and seems to have been called of whatever town the land lay in. In 1764, he gave part of his home farm to his son, Jeremiah. Part of his land was on the south side of the Pawtuxet River next to Peter LeValley, both of them having bought of Job Greene. It must have been in or near the present village of Phenix. His will was made in 1769 and proved in 1773 in Warwick. It mentioned wife Mary, sons "Sephan," Jeremiah and Thomas, and daughters, Merebah Bartholick and Mary Utter with Jeremiah executor.

In 1787, Thomas Utter, administrator on estate of Mary Utter, widow of Thomas, of Warwick late deceased, submitted an inventory. Besides the above children, "Mr." Thomas Utter had a daughter Sarah who died 1762 and so was not mentioned in the will. She married Philip Knight of Providence and there is evidence of four children, although none are mentioned in her father's will.

"Sephan" is probably the Stephen Utter who served in King George's War in 1746 under Capt. William Rice of Warwick who had the second company of Providence County (which then included (part of) Kent County), and whose diary states that on the voyage to Annapolis Stephen Utter "was sick but got better." As oldest son, Stephen was the logical executor of his father's will and the appointment of Jeremiah suggests that he was dead or too far away to serve.

Stephen of Saybrook

In 1760 there was a Stephen Utter of Saybrook, Conn., who bought land in Saybrook of Benoni Farnham of Springfield, Mass., and who continued in the Saybrook land records till 1805. His first wife was Ruth Kelsey and

his second was Naomi and his children were ? Bailey, James (he signed the Oath against Bribery and Corruption), Stephen, Jemima Platt and Mary Post. James lived in Durham, N. Y., called Freehold in 1790, and Stephen Jr. was made executor of his father's will dated 1803 but not probated till 1810. Among the militia volunteers "after Lexington" in Guilford, Conn., was a Stephen Utter in 1777. Probably all these records belong to the same man or to father and son.

Jeremiah married 27 Jan. 1763 Phebe Knight? daughter of Richard of Cranston, and his son Benjamin must have been born the same year if he was nineteen when he enlisted in 1782.

The 1774 census gives Jeremiah Utter of Cranston three boys and three girls under the age of sixteen and his will, made in 1781, proved 1782, names them as Benjamin, James, Sarah, "Barbari," Zebulon and Dinah. His second wife, Dinah, survived him. His name appears twice in Revolutionary records, once in regard to a horse impressed for artillery service for which he received twelve pounds, and again when he receipted for equipment in Capt. Thomas Rice's Company, Col. Tillinghast's Reg't. The land which he received from his father shortly after his marriage was part of the latter's home farm and was located on the north branch of the Pawtuxet River and adjoining land of Peter Levalley.

Of his children, Benjamin served in the Continental Line and otherwise at intervals from 1778 to 1782. He died in 1787 leaving everything to his "oldest brother," James, who with Richard Knight, was executor. A few days later, James Utter of Warwick bought land in Coventry which he sold the next year. Nothing further is known about this James Utter. He probably left Rhode Island and joined the family of some relative, for he does not appear in the 1790 census of any New England state or New York. His cousin, James of Freehold, later Durham,

above, is the only James Utter in that census. His oldest sister was probably Sarah Utter who married John Rice in Warwick in 1785.

Thomas Utter Jr. of Coventry

Thomas Utter, Jeremiah's younger brother, married Lucy, according to land records from 1779 to 1799. He lived in Coventry and in 1782 was mentioned in the records of the Maple Root Church of Coventry but the nature of the entry is not clear in Arnold's Vital Records. This church was set off from the Old Warwick (Baptist) Church in 1744 and is located on the Nooseneck Hill Road not far from the village of Washington. He was one of the executors of Jeremiah's will in 1782, and administered his mother's estate in 1788. He signed the Oath of Fidelity in 1776; in the military census of 1777 he was listed as "between sixteen and fifty, unable."

There is no clue as to the names of his children but the 1774 census gives him one boy and one girl under sixteen and one "female" over that age who was very likely his mother. His youngest sister, who was still Mary Utter when her father made his will in 1769, is not further accounted for unless she is the Mary Utter who married Jasper Greenell in Saybrook in May, 1773. As her presumed brother, Stephen, was already in Saybrook this is not unlikely and her father's death at about this time (will proved in June, 1773), would have left her mother alone.

By the next census in 1790, Thomas Utter's family has three males over sixteen, probably himself, the son of the 1774 census, and one other, who could be another son born late in 1774, or perhaps Zebulon, minor son of his dead brother Jeremiah. His family has further, three boys under sixteen and four white females. These women and girls must include his wife, daughter of the previous census, and maybe younger daughters or one or more of his unmarried nieces. His mother is already dead. The

inference from all this is that the younger Thomas had four or five sons and one to three daughters in his family in Coventry in 1790.

Simeon Utter

Simeon Utter, who served 505 days in Capt. Edward Cole's Company in 1746, and whose last appearance in Rhode Island records is in the 1774 census, was probably another grandson of Nicholas of Westerly and Stonington whose parentage can only be inferred. The family of William of Warwick is fixed by his will; that of Jabez is too early and tended to travel from the Quinnebaug country west rather than east, also they were of the Congregationalist persuasion; Thomas and Nicholas Jr. seem the only likely selections to father him. Except that Simeon didn't get a guardian appointed in 1729 along with William and Josiah, Nicholas Jr. would seem a more probable parent of a man not too old for enlistment in the Colonial forces in 1760 and 1762.

He and his wife brought to the Richmond Town Council in 1753, a certificate from South Kingstown, where he had been living, stating that he was a good citizen and could return whenever he wished, and in 1757 he bought land in Exeter near Roaring Brook (empties into Arcadia Pond), where he evidently lived for the next twenty years or more, buying and selling land. His wife, Elizabeth, signed some of the deeds and is probably the "Elizabeth Allen Utter, wife of Simon dis" quoted by Arnold from records of the second Baptist Church of Richmond under date of Dec. 18, 1777. This may indicate that Simeon, Simmeon, Simon died late in 1777 or that Elizabeth herself died or was "dis"missed. Simeon's name appears on some Exeter (voting?) lists (those who signed oath against bribery and corruption) dated 1764, 1766, 7, 8, and the fact that he was listed in the 1774 census and not in that of 1777 or subsequently would tend to confirm his death at

about that time. The only plausible alternative explanation of the census lists is that he was over sixty in 1777 and so would not appear in a purely military census. This would put his birth back to the period when there was the break in the list of Thomas of Stonington's children. According to the 1774 census, he had at home besides himself and wife one girl under sixteen and one woman or girl over that age, probably his daughters, and he may have had other children living elsewhere.

There were, in the above Richmond church list, another couple mentioned, William and Elizabeth Utter. This William may have been the son of any one of several people. There was a William Utter of Salem, N. Y., in 1771 whose present descendants claim that he was wounded at the battle of Bunker Hill and that there was a Simeon among his children. He is mentioned here only because the latter was of an age to be grandson of Simeon of Exeter. No other men of this name have so far come to light.

"Josiah" and "Josias" Utter

The intermingled records of Josiah and Josias Utter are confusing. After Josiah, son of Nicholas Jr., was made a ward of Capt. Edward Greenman in 1729 and the marriage of Josiah Utter and Elizabeth Arnold at Block Island in 1736, neither name appeared in Rhode Island records till 1766 when both Josias and Josiah of Charlestown bought land there on the same day. From that time till 1793 the local and state civil and military records refer to Josiah and Josias (Greek spelling of Hebrew Josiah) Utter frequently but never so as to prove whether they belong to one man or several. Only Josias is mentioned as freeman of a town or in any of the three census lists.

Josias Utter in 1774 had two boys and four girls under 16 in his family. In 1777 he was "16-50 able." By

1790 the boys had gone but the four girls were still at home. Josias Utter of Charlestown, husbandman, bought land in Charlestown in 1766 and was "propounded to be free of the town" at a council meeting in 1769.

A consideration of these entries suggests that he was born about 1740 in Charlestown (set off from Westerly 1738 and then including Richmond), son of William or Josiah, sons of Nicholas Jr., probably of William, as Josiah was probably in Connecticut. Westerly Council records show that a Josias Utter was paid for boarding one of the poor of the town in 1775. Charlestown records prove that though poor, Josias Utter was sufficiently respected to be considered as freeman. In 1778 he was drawn as both petit and grand juror. According to military records he was unable to provide his own equipment, did "not volunteer to cross North River" Dec 4, 1776, and received "wages from Peekskill to King's County" Jan. 18, 1777. A military return of Oct. 1778 reported him "a delinquent."

Josiah Utter of Charlestown, after buying a small piece of land, apparently contiguous to that bought by Josias on the same day of 1766, bought another in 1784 and sold all three pieces in 1793, his wife Hannah signing the deed. In 1778 he was paid by Charlestown for boarding one of the town poor and making shoes and petticoat for her. The 1784 deed had called him a cordwainer (shoemaker). In 1779 Westerly records show that he was an appraiser on a Westerly estate. Rhode Island military records name him as a private from Sept. 1, 1776, to Dec. 14, 1776, when he was discharged. The company and regiment were the same as those assigned to Josias above.

The U. S. Census of 1850 for Decatur, Otsego Co., N. Y., has a Joseph Utter, age 81, born in Rhode Island. Another authority states that his father, Josiah, was born in Rhode Island and died in Greene Co., N. Y. Among his children were Horace, Lewis, William and Caroline. It is my belief that Nicholas Jr.'s son William remained in

Rhode Island and had a son Josias, often carelessly referred to as Josiah, who, after 1793, followed his son Joseph to New York State where he died. But this is only conjecture.

Several D. A. R. members claim descent from a Josiah Utter, "born about 1755 on Long Island," who married in 1779 in Greenwich, Conn., Mary Ketcham, daughter of Joshua of Huntingdon, L. I. They claim for this Josiah the Rhode Island military records under the name Josiah Utter. Possibly they are right, but I have found no evidence that this man ever lived in Rhode Island and he is certainly not identical with Josias of Charlestown, for both men appear with their families in the U. S. 1790 census, one in Middletown, N. Y., and one in Charlestown, R. I. This Josiah Utter bought and sold property in Greenwich from 1778 to 1784 and three of his children were born there.

In 1783 Connecticut reimbursed him for damage to his house by the British in 1779. By Oct. 22, 1785, he had moved to township of Middletown, Ulster Co., N. Y. (now Delaware Co., near Greene Co.). The boards for the floor of his new house were carted from Kingston, N. Y., a great extravagance in those days. In 1809 he went to Friendship, Alleghany Co., N. Y., where he died in 1812 and is buried. He is credited with seven sons and two daughters. Some of the family still live in Friendship.

This man was known in Friendship as Capt. Josiah Utter. Among his sons were Henry, Josiah and Joshua. His daughters were Elizabeth and Caziaha. I believe he was a son of Josiah (of Nicholas Jr.) and his wife Elizabeth but have found no proof.

The older man may have been in Middletown, Orange Co., N. Y., in March 1786 and then in Ulster Co. with the younger Josiah, unless the mention of Orange Co. in Greenwich land evidence is an error, and all the deeds refer to Capt. Josiah.

Samuel Utter

Samuel Utter is on record on 29 June 1746, Capt. Joshua Sayer's Co. as having served 456 days "from this date"; he was "in the colony but did not appear," presumably for payment. Capt. Joshua Sayer had 1st Newport and 2nd Providence County companies. This man is also unidentified. He was probably young and unmarried judging from the length of service which was true of Samuel, son of Samuel of Killingly. He might have been an unrecorded son of Thomas or Nicholas Jr. or one of the East Haven family but the last is very unlikely.

Samuel of Killingly lived so near the Rhode Island border that he might easily have found his way into a Providence County Company. He was born in 1723 and married Susannah Curtis in 1748 in Thompson; had a daughter, Jemima, born 18 May 1754, at Dudley (Mass.?) and was "late of Killingly dec." 6 Feb. 1755. He must have died between the time he receipted for his share of his father's estate, apportioned 12 Dec. 1754, and the appointment of Steven Brown Jr. as guardian of his daughter, "Gemimy" 17 Jan. 1755. Steven Brown Jr. also administered Samuel's estate after the widow, Susannah, refused to serve.

This Samuel Utter Jr. was the son of Samuel and Johanna (Preston) Utter of Killingly who were married 5 May 1721 in Killingly. The older Samuel was doubtless a grandson of Nicholas but there is no evidence who his father was. Jabez seems most likely for several reasons: he, Samuel, was probably born too early for the families of Jabez's younger brothers; his family was of the Congregational Church; also, the name Samuel has been found only in the family of Jabez; the two men arrived in Killingly at about the same time (exact dates lacking); Jabez gave a quitclaim to three men, James Hyde (his son-in-law), Henry Cobb and Samuel Utter; there is nothing against this supposition except the lack of a statement of relationship and Larned's statement that he came direct

from Salem. If that is so, it shows nothing beyond the probability that, like so many boys of the time, he had been apprenticed to some acquaintance to learn a trade. He was twice paid by the Connecticut colony treasurer in 1736 and 9, but whether for goods or services is not stated.

The births of his seven daughters and one son are in the Killingly records. Two of the daughters failed to marry, but the marriages of the others and of Samuel Jr. are recorded as in Thompson. His daughter, Johannah, married Thomas Shapley, and in the 1790 census, Utter Shapley, Samuel and Amos Utter were heads of families in Granville, N. Y. The will of Joanna, widow of Samuel Sr. mentioned no grandson named Utter, so the N. Y. Samuel was not probably a descendant of Samuel of Killingly but of Abraham of East Haven, son of Jabez, in whose family the name Samuel also occurs. There can be no doubt of the ancestry of Utter Shapley.

Abraham Utter of East Haven

Abraham Utter (Auter) of East Haven, Conn., and Dutchess County, N. Y., son of Jabez, oldest son of Nicholas Sr., was born probably in eastern Mass. about 1688 or 1690; married Lydia Russell, of Capt. John, in East Haven in 1715, where his children, Abraham, Lydia, Samuel, John, and Isaac were born. was of Branford when his daughter Mary was born in 1727; of New Haven Mar. 1728|9 when he entailed to his children by Lydia the land given him and Lydia by her father seven years before; was in Waterbury by latter part of 1729 and there had Sarah and Jabez; called of the "Oblong or Woster Sheer, Dutchess Co., N. Y.," in 1737.

In Jan. 1715, his father, Jabez, gave him land in Canterbury, both being of Mortlake, but when he sold it in October of the same year, he was already living in East Haven. He was a party to several land transactions in East Haven and Waterbury but no New York records

have been as yet available. Lydia, daughter of Abraham Sr., married in Waterbury Feb. 1739/40 Thomas Welton and died there in 1750. Abraham Jr. died in Amenias, N. Y., 10 Feb. 1779 aged 62 years.

He was one of the Wyoming, Penn., settlers whose family was caught in the Indian massacre. His wife Sarah, and several of his nine children were killed and two taken prisoners, but later exchanged. Both these girls married and a descendant in Cleveland, O., is authority for above statement.

Jabez was of Phillipse Precinct, N. Y. (now Putnam County), when Mabel (Russell) Utter and other members of the Russell family signed a quitclaim to Abraham Hodges and Jabez Utter for the land John Russell gave to "Abram" and Lydia Utter. Probably Abram and Lydia were now dead (26 Aug. 1761). Nothing more has been found about this family but it is probable that the five sons of Abraham and Lydia were the progenitors of a large proportion of the seven or eight men of the name listed in the Revolutionary rolls of New York and the sixteen heads of families that appear in the 1790 N. Y. census lists. Perhaps the Abraham Utter of Fairhaven, Vermont, in 1790 was one of this family. There was also a John Utter in prison in the same locality, who repeatedly asked for release without success.

CHAPTER IX

JOHN UTTER

John Utter, "son and heir" of Thomas, second son of Nicholas Sr. was born 29 Jan. 1703. His birth was recorded in both Westerly and Stonington. He married 25 Mar. 1724|5 Jemima Benjamin of John of Preston, Conn., by whom he had one son, John, born in Preston in 1726. Jemima must have died before 26 May 1729, at which date John Pooler of Westerly was required to give bonds to "indemnify the town of any charge concerning John Utter's child." As the baby John was born in Preston, Westerly did not wish to become liable for his support.

About 1731 John Utter married one of John Pooler's daughters, Elizabeth, born 1 Feb. 1708 in Groton, Conn., and their children, born in Westerly, were Abraham in Nov. 1732 followed by Eleanor, Isaac and Jemima at the usual two year intervals. He must have died before 22 Feb. 1741 for his last appearance in Westerly records states that he owed the estate of Daniel Lewis a "desperate debt." Perhaps he died before Hannah Utter (his mother?) hove herself on the town of Westerly in June 1738, but as Elizabeth is not called a widow in the 1740 list of members of the Westerly Seventh Day Baptist Church, it seems more likely that he was still alive.

They lived in the part of Westerly now called Hopkinton and the family burial ground where her son Abram is buried contains an old home made stone marked E. U. 1815. If this stone marks her grave she lived to a great age; outside the Utter family, the initials are very unusual and all but one of the women that bore them are known to have married. Eunice Utter, granddaughter of Abraham, would have been about twenty-five at this time

and nothing is known about her except her father's bequest of one dollar and her grandfather's of fifty cents to "Eunice or Lois." Elizabeth Utter was called the "Widow Elizabeth Utter" on the 1768 church list and that is the last positive information we have.

The recorded activities of John Utter, above, are few. John Utter of Preston was granted administration on the estate of his father, Thomas, late of Stonington dec. in Oct. 1726; he was allowed a piece of land in Westerly in Dec. of the same year if he would pay the charges and give a bond; in 1731 he acknowledged in Westerly a Stonington deed relating to some of his father's land; his earmark was recorded in Westerly, Jan. 1736|7. There is no mention of his selling that part of the Nicholas Utter estate located in what is now Richmond.

Jabez is the only one of the six heirs who is on record as having sold his share before Westerly was divided, hence Thomas' two-sevenths should at his death belong to John, but John did not live on it because at the time of Abraham's marriage the latter was called "son of John late of Hopkinton dec." In Dec. 1741, Elizabeth Utter and her children were warned out of town "to her last place of residence" and Hubbard Burdick became her bondsman for one year. As she had been living in Westerly for some years, "residence" must have meant "legal residence" and that was birthplace till admitted a freeman of some other place. Perhaps John was actually born in Stonington or maybe one had to acquire a legal residence even in one's native place and he had not done so. Elizabeth was chosen guardian by her daughter, Jemima, Jan. 1751|2 and mentioned in her father's will in 1753, also by his executors in 1755.

John Utter, son of John, above, and Jemima, in Jan. 1744|5, being of Preston and a minor "over fourteen and under twenty-one" chose Daniel Morgan of Preston as guardian and 4 Nov. 1747, just a few days before he came

of age, he and his wife, Hannah, "formerly of Preston and now of Westerly" signed a quitclaim for land in Preston which had belonged to his late grandfather, John Benjamin. This was acknowledged in Richmond which had been separated from Westerly for almost ten years showing how inaccurate the people of that time were in the matter of names as well as boundaries.

About eighteen months later John Utter of Richmond sold some land in Richmond which was part of the Nicholas Utter tract. Whether it was one half or the whole of his grandfather Thomas' share has not been learned. Doubtless a further study of the land records would show this. Hannah did not sign this deed. In another month he was living in Westerly and this time it must have been really Westerly (at that time including Hopkinton), for in June, 1749, the Westerly council felt he should be examined as to his last place of legal residence. July, 1749, Westerly accepted a certificate from Preston that "we — do own one John Utter and his wife and children to be all inhabitants of this town and will receive them back as such when required by you." Rhode Island records have no further entry about him.

There was a John Utter of Salem, Westchester County, N. Y., whose wife was a member of a church which registered the baptisms of five children from 1757 to 1779. Their names are suggestive, Jemima, Ephraim, Betsey, Benjamin and Samuel. On a muster roll of Westchester Co. militia in March, 1760, was a John Utter, laborer, born in Rhode Island, age 33, height 5 ft. 6 in. From Salem church records, Hannah Utter died Aug. 3, 1768. Wife of John Utter died April 25, 1799. These entries may or may not refer to the same man.

CHAPTER X

ABRAM UTTER

Abram of Hopkinton was the second son of John, son of Thomas. He was born in Westerly 18 Nov. 1732; married first in Hopkinton in 1759, Hannah White daughter of Roger. Their three children, born in Stonington, were Sarah, Abram Jr., and Zebulon, in 1761, 1763, and 1765. Arnold has "dau" after the name Zebulon but as it is a man's name and nothing more has been found recorded about this child, Arnold may have misread "dec."

Abram Utter married second Hannah Burdick, of "Hubbard 2nd" of Hopkinton, 14 Oct. 1769, by whom he had two sons and seven daughters. He died Jan. 5, 1813, in Hopkinton where he is interred. His grave stone is in a field 200 feet west of the road which leads from Hopkinton City to Rockville and about 300 feet from the "Turnpike." His will mentions his wife Hannah, his sons John and William, and daughters Sarah Larkin dec., Hannah Tanner, Ruth Utter, Avis King, Eunice Wheeler, Keziah Covey, Esther Palmitter, Betsy Lewis, and grandchildren, Abram Larkin, and "Eunice" or "Lois" Utter, daughter of son Abram dec.

At the time of the latter's death in 1791 his will shows that Sarah Larkin was still living, that Keziah had not yet married, that Avis, Eunice, Esther and Elizabeth Utter were still under age (18), and that Sarah Larkin had children Robert and Hannah. For some reason, Ruth was not mentioned; possibly she was born after that date. John was born in 1779 and William in 1783. Both of them removed to New York State where they died.

The widow Hannah died in New York State, March 20, 1825, aged 80. She is interred at Unadilla Forks Cem-

etery. The Rhode Island land records show that she lived with her son, John. The families of her two sons are treated at length in the Brown Genealogy. The census lists of 1774, 1777, and 1790 mention Abraham Utter of Hopkinton, but the classifications of his family are puzzling in view of information in the two wills above.

In 1774 there are, in his family, two males over 16 and one under; three females over and four under. As he was not married until Nov. 1759, he couldn't possibly have had a son over sixteen in 1774. The boy under sixteen was probably Abram Jr. and Zebulon was perhaps dead. The other man or boy must have been a relative, apprentice or servant. Of the females listed there were his wife, perhaps his mother (living in 1768), and some other relative or a servant, also four young daughters, Sarah, Hannah, and perhaps Avis and Eunice (the order of children differs in the two wills). The 1790 census makes his family consist of two males over sixteen, three under, and four females, but five of his daughters were unmarried in 1791, his two unmarried sons were under sixteen, and his wife was still living. How account for the extra man and boy, and where was the fifth young daughter?

We can only surmise that the custom of loaning extra sons and daughters to neighbors in need of some, the habit of apprenticing young children to families where they might grow up in a desired trade, and the lack of public institutions to care for the aged and indigent would explain these peculiarities if we had all the facts. This case also shows that one cannot depend entirely on the old census lists to prove the number of children in a family.

Abram Utter of Hopkinton was one of those who marched to the relief of Fort William Henry in 1757; in 1768 his name was on a (voting?) list in Hopkinton; in 1777 he signed the "Oath of Affirmation" which was usually signed by Friends and others whose refusal to fight was on religious grounds. This has been interpreted by

one genealogist to show that Abram Utter "became a Friend in later life," but many persons not of that sect signed the Oath and not infrequently joined the colonial forces later. Either this man or his son, Abram, is on an undated list of the 2nd company of Hopkinton under Capt. George Thurston Jr.

(Military record of Abram Utter may be found in "R. I. Colonial Wars by Chapin, Page 143, French and Indian War Service, Aug. 1757, and Revolutionary Service on record at the R. I. State House. The Rhode Island Historical Society Hospital papers, No. 25-3, shows a pay receipt dated December 1778.)

The latter was a captain in Noyes Reg't., R. I. Militia in 1776. Another record states that he was Capt. 1775 to 1780. Abram Sr. was in his forties while young Abram was in his middle teens at this time, which is strong evidence that the record belonged to the older man. The young, unmarried men were seldom used in the militia. Besides his military activities, the Hopkinton records list several land transactions from 1766 when he was of Stonington to 1800, also a request for an inventory of the estate of his son, Abram, of which he was one of the executors. In religion he was doubtless a Seventh Day Baptist all his life. His mother was of that church and in 1791 he was one of the deacons. His will contained a bequest of one dollar to the minister who preached his funeral sermon. He and his son John were cabinet makers and their old "joiner's shop" has been only recently torn down. His oldest son, Abram, married first Sarah Peckham and had Eunice. His will speaks of land in Ballstown, N. Y. (now in Saratoga Co.), and I suspect that he and Sarah lived there and that he left Eunice behind when he returned to Hopkinton. He married second Nancy Crandall, daughter of Charles, who survived him. Charles Crandall was one of the executors of his will. She was probably the Nancy Utter who married in Stonington in 1794,

Oliver Palmer. Abraham's sister, Eleanor, married Nathaniel Kenyon Mar. 21, 1754, and had two children born in Hopkinton, Eleanor and Nathaniel Kenyon.

In 1789 Abram Utter was among those people of Hopkinton who lived near Hopkinton City, who petitioned the General Assembly for permission to conduct a lottery to raise money for building a church edifice to serve the needs of First Day and Seventh Day Baptist sects.

Isaac Utter

Abram Senior's younger brother, Isaac, was without doubt the one who served in Col. Babcock's Regiment in 1758. If he was one of the five hundred of that regiment who, in July of that year, marched against Ticonderoga with the British, he may never have returned to R. I. for no further records of him have been found. There was an Isaac Utter of New Milford, Conn., who served as a private at intervals from 1775 to 1780; also an Isaac and an Isaac Sr. in the Line from New York; also an Isaac Utter head of a family in Pawling, Dutchess Co., N. Y., in 1790. Whether these are all different men, and whether they are of the East Haven or the Hopkinton family or both is uncertain. Of Jemima Utter, nothing has been found beyond her date of birth.

This ends the account of all family groups and individuals of the name of Utter in regard to whom I have found any considerable amount of information prior to the Revolution. I have indicated in the text which groupings are based on circumstantial evidence only, and all such are based on the assumption that there was no other Utter family in New England at that time. This may be an unwarranted assumption of which the reader must judge for himself.

CHAPTER XI

JOHN, A SON OF ABRAM

Motoring from Providence to Westerly over the Nooseneck Hill Road, formerly known as the Turnpike, one might notice on the right, as he entered Hopkinton City, an old house, long and low. It is now the property of Mr. Ralph Sisson, whose antique shop stands hard by on a country road entering the main highway from Rockville and the north at this point.

This house dates back to the time when many houses consisted of a huge chimney and fireplace, usually forming the north wall of one large room with a low loft. It literally began in the middle and left off at both ends, as Mr. Sisson discovered when restoring the place. Successive owners added rooms as needed till there are now seven rooms and only the foundation of the original chimney under the floor.

There is no way of knowing what the house was like when Abram Utter bought the land of Charles Deake in 1766. Here he brought his second wife, Hannah Burdick, and reared his second family of two sons and seven daughters and here he died in 1813.

The oldest son of this second marriage was John, born Oct. 18, 1779, in Hopkinton. Just before his twenty-first birthday, July 22, 1800, John received from his father a gift of land from the southeast corner of the latter's home farm. The plot was very small, only 18 by 28 feet, and faced east on a highway with land of Robert Peckham on the south and his father's farm on the north and west.

About a year later, Sept. 5, 1801, he married in Hopkinton Esther Saunders, daughter of Lieutenant Stephen

Saunders of Westerly, who was born April 26, 1778. She died in Westerly May 15, 1810, and is buried in Hopkinton on the old farm near Abraham.

Her four children born at Hopkinton were: 1. James Noyes Utter, born October 10, 1802, who married (1) Mary Ann Ailman, and (2) Mrs. Celina Chace. 2. Esther, born June 2, 1804; died Sept. 15, 1875; married Charles West. 3. John Jr., born Sept. 20, 1806; married Anna Colgrove Bloodgood at Unadilla Forks, N. Y. 4. Abram, born May 6, 1810; married Sarah Louise Foggin.

After the death of his first wife, John Utter married Prudence Lewis April 22, 1811, by whom he had Edwin, an infant who was born and died in 1815, probably in Hopkinton. The stone marked "E. U. 1815" near Abram and Esther is probably his. The child died in December and the following spring, January and April of 1816, his parents and grandmother signed deeds of sale of the last few acres of Abram's farm, the house and shop, reserving a privilege in the burying ground.

The family must have moved to New York State shortly after that, for the next son, Albert, was born Nov. 25, 1818, at Unadilla Forks, N. Y. The third child of John and Prudence was Benjamin Courtland, born Sept. 16, 1826. He died March 6, 1847, and was not married.

John died March 31, 1863, and Prudence Feb. 23, 1863. Both are interred at Adams Centre, N. Y., where marble stones under perpetual care mark their last resting place.

Abram Utter, during his lifetime, sold about $3\frac{5}{8}$ acres of his original 63 acres, including the piece given John in 1800. In his will he gave John "40 feet square adjacent to road and lot on which John's joiner's shop now stands." The rest of the land was left to John and William equally.

William and Dolly (Wlicox) Utter, then of Plainfield, N. Y., sold their "undivided third of legacy," about

60 acres, "with dwelling and other buildings," for \$400 and later sold John a quitclaim for his share for \$100. John sold off the property in five parcels, including house and joiner's shop. The joiner's shop stood till quite recently in the angle of road from Rockville and the Turnpike, when it was torn down. There are old foundation stones nearby which prove the earlier existence of another unidentified building. This was "a family of cabinet makers." John is so called in the deeds, also his father called him his "trusty and wel-beloved son" in his will. Many fine pieces of furniture still are to be found near Westerly, some of them "signed" with the name of John.

When John Utter moved to New York with his brother William, his oldest son, James Noyes, my grandfather, stayed in Rhode Island with his mother's family, the Saunders, and learned the trade of ship carpentry. He was fourteen or fifteen years old and probably was considered grown up.

Though his birth was recorded in Hopkinton, I have understood that he was born at Noyes Beach. Perhaps that accounts for the Noyes in his name. He probably went to Newport looking for business and there married Nov. 28, 1833, Mary Ann Ailman, daughter of John and Sarah (Holt) Ailman, who was born Aug. 26, 1809. Their children were: John Utter, born Aug. 28, 1836, and Esther Ann, born July 18, 1840, both in Newport.

Mary (Ailman) Utter died July 27, 1842, and was interred in the family lot in the Old Cemetery, Newport. I have understood that her death was caused by the lodging of a fish bone in her throat, also that she gave her baby, Esther, to one of her three unmarried sisters, Ruth, Catherine and Rebecca Ailman. Both of the children subsequently lived with their aunts.

The father boarded with a Mrs. Celina Chace, daughter of Capt. Nathaniel Littlefield of Block Island, a widow, whom he eventually married. He died at the home of his

step-son, Thomas Chace, May 26, 1883, in East Greenwich. He is interred in Moshassuck Cemetery, Central Falls, with the family of his son, John Utter.

James N. Utter, ship's carpenter, appears in Providence directories for several years beginning 1856. I know little about him except hearsay, having seen him only once after I was of an age to remember.

He is said to have been a very agreeable man but like many "good fellows," inclined at times to overindulgence in the line of liquid refreshment. Perhaps that is why his son was a total abstainer.

CHAPTER XII

JOHN UTTER OF NEWPORT

By Mrs. Katharine U. Waterman

John Utter, son of James N. and Mary A. (Ailman) Utter, was a man of few words, especially in personal matters. His early years were spent with his maternal aunts after the death of his mother. He attended the Newport schools and later assisted in Hammett's bookstore where he was much liked.

Probably before his majority, he with a young friend, shipped on a whaler which proved a very disagreeable experience. However, he must have liked the sea for, by Oct. 4, 1858, he had enlisted at Boston on the U. S. store-ship, Falmouth, for three years. Among his papers at his death was found his "Honorable Discharge," a "testimonial of Fidelity and Obedience," from the Falmouth at Aspinwall, Oct. 3, 1861.

The paper states that, at enlistment, he was twenty-two years old, six and one-twelfth feet tall, blue eyes, light hair, sallow complexion. He is designated as number twelve, Carpenter's Mate. If he re-enlists within three months, he will receive full pay for interim. He enlisted again Dec. 6, 1861, for an indefinite period and his final discharge, dated Feb. 14, 1866, "with the thanks of the Department" to "Acting (i. e. Volunteer service) Master, John Utter, U. S. Navy, Newport, R. I.," is signed by Gideon Wells, Secretary of the Navy.

A letter from Capt. Charles D. Sigsbee, captain of the ill fated Maine, to Admiral Melville, Oct. 25, 1900, says in part—"Mr. John Utter served with me during the Civil War on board the U. S. S. Brooklyn as Acting En-

sign. After the battle of Mobile Bay, he was promoted to Acting Master for gallantry and received orders to some other vessel. He was in the navy seven years altogether. His record was highly honorable."

The "Official Record of Union and Confederate Navies in War of Rebellion"—1904—Series I mentions him in volumes 18 and 21—five times in all. Vol. 21, p. 446 has—"The powder division under Acting Ensign Utter could not have been conducted better," and p. 447, describing an incident on the U. S. S. Brooklyn, says, "Acting Ensign Utter - - - every other man wounded or killed - - -." On pages 783 and 784, an account of action at Mobile Aug. 5, mentions the Brooklyn at 6:50 a. m., "leading ship of the line - - - heading up channel, followed by rest of fleet - - - first shot fired at this ship - - - rebel ram, Tennessee, attacking - - - ship struck forty times—hulled twenty-five times - - - eleven killed and forty-three wounded." The last report, turned in at 8 p. m., is signed by John Utter. He probably never knew that the Confederate Navy had a Nicholas Utter among its seamen. See above Official Record, series II, vol. I.

John Utter served on the U. S. S. Owasco, Massasoit, Brooklyn and Aroostook and made models of at least two of them. The one still in existence is in the possession of his grandson, Lewis A. Waterman. One was destroyed in a fire which took also his sword—a beautifully engraved blade with highly ornamented hilt and brass-bound scabbard and sword belt. This lost model of the Brooklyn was under a foot long, a half ship set in relief against a carved and painted background of rippling sea and cloud flecked sky, the whole in a protecting box frame of walnut and gold with glass front, for hanging. It was perfect even to the tiny cannon at the portholes.

His marine glasses were sent to Washington by his widow when Franklin Roosevelt appealed for "eyes for the Navy" during the last war. They were later returned,

suitably engraved, and are in the possession of the Rhode Island Historical Society.

The Navy was the great passion of John Utter's life. He left it after the war, only because his wife-to-be demanded it. If Heaven had vouchsafed him his wished for son, he would have made a sailor of him if he could. The only memorial after death for which he expressed a desire was the flag over his grave.

He was a Free Mason, a member of St. John's Lodge, No. 1, of Newport, and of Prescott Post, G. A. R., of Providence, also a member for many years of the Central Baptist Church of the latter city. He came of a line of fine woodworkers and kept the tradition when, after the war, he shortly took up pattern-making, a business calling for exact calculation and nice workmanship, which he carried on sometimes for himself and sometimes for other establishments such as the Corliss Steam Engine Company in Providence.

In politics, he was mostly Republican, but enough of a visionary to vote occasionally with the Prohibitionists or Farmer Laborites. He was a great admirer of Theodore Roosevelt. He was a voracious reader of the best literature and his library was stocked with reference works and standard novelists, English and American. In his old age he was sometimes taken for a minister. His eyes had the drooping lids that are said to show the artist, but to me they suggested steadfast purpose and loyalty.

His wife, Anna Whitmarsh Spencer, was less of the artist and dreamer and quite definitely a natural student and teacher. After leaving school, she studied Greek with her pastor in Newport and the organ with harmony and counterpoint, under a man in Providence. There being no colleges for women in her day, she went vicariously through her daughters. They pleased her by winning the Phi Beta Kappa, but instead of using their education to become notables in the field of letters, both married and

reared families. She lived to guide and coach several of her grandchildren—a woman of unusual firmness and clarity of mind to her last days.

Her youngest daughter, Harriet (Utter) Gnuse of Memphis, Tenn., a graduate of Pembroke College in Brown University, Phi Beta Kappa, taught a few years in Providence High School. She has been prominent in church and school activities in Memphis, where her husband, "Professor Gnuse," is principal of one of the high schools. Her two daughters are married and living in Memphis. Her son, Harmon, Jr., is a graduate of the University of Tennessee, has worked for the T. V. A. and is now employed by some private concern in South Carolina. He has recently married.

Katharine (Utter) Waterman, after graduating from Vassar in 1894, taught mathematics in the Providence High School, and married while still teaching, Lewis A. Waterman, Brown 1894, and Boston University Law School. Both received the Phi Beta Kappa membership, he at Junior election, and she, later when Vassar students were made eligible. He was prominent in state politics, twice Democratic nominee for governor of Rhode Island, and said to be "one of the greatest trial lawyers Rhode Island ever produced." See "Who's Who in America," vols. IX to XII. At his early death, he left six children, ranging in age from twenty-four to ten.

The oldest, Lewis A. Waterman, Jr., born on his father's birthday, was a graduate of Harvard University, 1920, and in his last year at Harvard Law School.

Katharine (Waterman) O'Leary, graduated from Vassar and married in 1920.

Anna Waterman, Vassar 1922, was studying at the Cambridge School of Domestic Architecture.

John Franklin was in his freshman year at Harvard, from which he later graduated and where he completed his

education with a year in law school and a year in business school.

Margaret was still at a preparatory school, from which she went to Pembroke College (Brown University), graduating "cum laude" four years later. The youngest child, Nicholas Utter Waterman, attended Moses Brown School, Suffield School, Conn., and Brown University one year, when he left school to go into practical business.

CHAPTER XIII

MILITARY RECORDS

I believe that all family military records in R. I. have already been noted with the exception of one Jacob Uller mentioned in the Hospital Papers. The "ll" could easily be due to a clerical error. A Jacob Utter was born 29 Aug. 1759, in Killingly, Conn., of John and Anne Utter.

Connecticut records have been less thoroughly searched than those of Rhode Island and almost nothing has been done in New York and other eastern states. Following are the rather meager results, for French and Indian Wars:

French and Indian Wars Period

Conn.—Benajah Utter—Capt. Foot of Branford—Mar. 28-Dec. 4, 1764.

John Utter—Col. Wooster of New Haven—Apr. 4-Nov. 13, 1758.

—Capt. Hawley of Stratford—1756.
of Wallingford—Capt. Hart—Apr. 15, 1761—deserted.

N. Y.—Benjamin Utter—Capt. Peter Van Denbergh's Co. of Foot Mustered at Poughkeepsie, 11 July, 1755.

John Utter of Westchester Co.—from Capt. Lobdel's Co. to Capt. Joshua Bloomer's Co., May 13, 1760, age 33, born in R. I., height 5 ft. 6 in.

John Uter of Westchester Co.—from Capt. Holmes' Co. to Capt. Bloomer's Co., May 14, 1760, age 37, born "Conn't, a doctur," height 5 ft. 7 in.

Revolutionary War

- Conn.—Daniel Utter of New Milford—May 17, 1781.
Isaac Utter of New Milford—Aug. 18-Dec. 4, 1779.
Isaac Utter of New Milford—private 1775 and 1780.
James Utter—McClellan's Regt. private in 1776, 1777, 1778, 1779.
He marched "in the Larrum as far as New Haven" on 27 Apr. 1777—"Sarvis 5 Days."
Jesse Utter, fifer, Conn. and N. Y.
- N. Y.—Amos, Ebenezer, Gilbert, Isaac Sr., Isaac, John, Joseph, Nathan, "Nathl," Solomon, William, Samuel Uttey?
- Penn.—James, D. A. R. claim Abraham, born in or near Boston, Mass.
- N. J.—Benjamin, David, Solomon.

Note—Military Records of that time are no more complete than any other kind.

The 1790 census for New York lists sixteen and for Pennsylvania two heads of families named Utter; for Vermont, one; Connecticut one; Rhode Island four. New Jersey and Delaware lists, if any now exist, are not generally available.

Many people now living in various parts of these United States can trace their lines back to the men recorded in the above military and census lists but few have been able so far to fill in the one to three generations necessary to reach the known descendants of Nicholas Utter of Westerly, Rhode Island.

Katharine U. Waterman.

CHAPTER XVI

THE FAMILY TREE

- I. NICHOLAS UTTER, born about 1630-1637, probably in Sweden. Died May 5-Aug. 17 of 1722, in Stonington, Conn., near the Ashawog River. Married twice. (1) —; (2) Elizabeth, a widow, who died after 1722. He is believed to have lived while a resident of Westerly at Shannock. There were six children, Jabez, Thomas, Nicholas, Jr., William, Millicent and Sarah.
2. Jabez, born probably 1660 or earlier, married Mary. They lived in eastern Massachusetts and Connecticut. Last place of record was Killingly, Conn., on deed dated May 25, 1727. Mary died Feb. 13, 1729-30. His eight children were probably all born in Massachusetts from 1685 to 1705.
3. Rebecca, Mary, Abraham, Jabez, Jr., Katherine, Beatrice, Elizabeth and Mehitabel. Order not proved. Perhaps also Samuel of Killingly.
2. Thomas, see II. Thomas of Stonington, below.
2. Nicholas Jr. married probably a sister of Capt. Edward Greenman. He may have married twice, one of his wives being Deborah, but nothing is certainly known about date or place of his birth, marriage or death, or exact name of his wife. He had at least three children.
3. Joseph, William, Josiah.
2. William of Warwick was born 1679, probably in Rhode Island, son of Nicholas Utter's second wife, Elizabeth. He died Jan. 7, 1761, at age of eighty-two and is interred in Warwick, R. I. He married Anne Stone of Hugh of Warwick in 1705. She died May 22, 1762, and is interred near her husband. There were six children.
3. Sarah, William, Ruth, Zebulon and Anna, twins. Arnold also records Ailes (Alice) but she is not mentioned in family records.
2. Millicent, born probably before 1673 (a descendant says c. 1671), married John Yeomans in Stonington, Conn., in 1693. She survived her husband whose property was inventoried in Tolland, Conn., March 10, 1728-9. Eleven children were mentioned in his will.

3. Elisha, Elijah, Eleazer, Ebenezer, Thomas, John, Sarah Knap, Elizabeth, Millicent, Mary and Mabel Yeomans.
 2. Sarah was probably born about 1683, and a daughter of Nicholas Utter's second wife. She married before 1705, John Forman of Killingly, Conn. She died before his second marriage in 1715. They had five children.
 3. Elizabeth, John, William, Sarah, Abigail.
 2. Eleanor, step-daughter of Nicholas Utter, and daughter of his second wife, Elizabeth, by a former marriage, married Matthew Randall of Stonington, Conn., about 1693. She died in Hopkinton, R. I., in 1763. According to her husband's will, they had seven children named and a possible eighth child referred to.
 3. Matthew, Benjamin, Elinor, Mercy, Patience, Thankful, Elizabeth. There is also some evidence for another daughter, Mary.
- II. THOMAS of Stonington was born probably about 1674 or 1675. He lived at first in Westerly. He married, maybe second, Hannah Cottrell before August 3, 1719, and died in 1726. He had six children recorded in Stonington, Conn., and the first one also in Westerly, R. I.
3. John, Thomas, Desire, Benjamin, Thankful, William.
- III. JOHN was probably born in Westerly (though recorded also in Stonington), Jan. 29, 1703. He married first, in Preston, Conn., Jemima Benjamin, March 24, 1724-5. She died before May 26, 1729, leaving one son.
4. John born November 23, 1726.
John (3) married second, Elizabeth Pooler. He died before December 28, 1741, and she after 1768. John and Elizabeth had four children.
 4. Abram, Eleanor, Isaac, Jemima.
- IV. ABRAM, born Nov. 18, 1732, married first Hannah White, and second Hannah Burdick, daughter of Hubbard Burdick. He died in Hopkinton, Jan. 5, 1819. Hannah Burdick died at Unadilla Forks, N. Y., March 20, 1825. Children of Abram and Hannah White.

5. Sarah, born 1761, who married David Larkin, Jr.
 6. Abram, Robert and Hannah.
5. Abram, Jr., born 1763, died 1791. Married first Sarah Peckham. Married second Nancy Crandall.
 6. Lois, of Sarah Peckham.
5. Zebulon, born 1765.

Children of Abram and Hannah Burdick, who were married Oct. 14, 1769.
5. John, born Oct. 18, 1779, in Hopkinton, R. I., died March 31, 1863, at Adams Center, N. Y.
5. William, born June 21, 1783, in Hopkinton, R. I., died Sept. 1, 1868, at Unadilla Forks, N. Y.
5. Other daughters named in his will: Hannah Tanner, Ruth, Avis King, Eunice Wheeler, Keziah Covey, Esther Palmitter, Betsy Lewis.

- V. JOHN UTTER (5), born Oct. 18, 1779, in Hopkinton, Rhode Island, died March 31, 1863, at Adams Center, New York. He lived at Hopkinton, R. I.; Unadilla Forks, Otsego Co., N. Y.; Brookfield, Madison Co., N. Y.; probably also at Adams Center, Jefferson Co., N. Y., where he is interred. He married first in Hopkinton, September 5, 1801, Esther Saunders, daughter of Lieutenant Stephen Saunders of Westerly. She was born April 26, 1778, in Westerly, Rhode Island, and died May 15, 1810, in Hopkinton, where she is interred in an open meadow. Her stone reads "In memory of Esther Utter, wife of John Utter, who died May 15, 1810, aged 31 years." They had four children.
6. James Noyes Utter, born October 10, 1802, at Noyes Beach, recorded in Hopkinton, died May 26, 1883, at East Greenwich, Rhode Island. He married first Mary Ann Allman, second, Mrs. Celina Chase nee Littlefield. Two children.
 6. Esther Utter, born June 2, 1804, probably in Hopkinton, died September 25, 1875, maybe in Shiloh, New Jersey, where her husband died and is interred. She married, probably in Brookfield, N. Y., Nov. 13, 1828, Charles West. They had one son.
 6. John Utter, Jr., born September 20, 1806, probably in Hopkinton, died May 3, 1872, in Adams Center, New York. He married at Unadilla Forks, N. Y., April 8, 1834, Anna Colgrove Bloodgood. They had five children, born in Brookfield and Haunsfield, N. Y. Both are interred in Union Cemetery, Adams Center.

6. Abram Utter, born May 6, 1810, probably in Hopkinton, died March 23, 1872, in New York City. He married in New York City, August 12, 1844, Sarah Louise Foggin. They had two sons, born in New York City. He is interred at Cypress Hills Cemetery, Long Island, N. Y.

JOHN UTTER (5) born Oct. 18, 1779, married second, probably in Hopkinton, April 22, 1811, Prudence Lewis. She was born Feb. 5, 1789 and died Feb. 23, 1863 in Adams Center, where she is interred with her husband in Union Cemetery, Adams Center, New York. Their graves are marked by marble stones. There were three children.

6. Edwin Utter, born March 30, 1815, probably in Hopkinton, died Dec. 3, 1815, probably same place, where a small, home made stone, marked "E. U. 1815," stands in the family burial plot.
6. Albert Utter, born Nov. 25, 1818 at Unadilla Forks, New York, died Oct. 15, 1894 at Plainfield, Essex County, New Jersey. Married Julia Emma Westcote. There were two daughters.
6. Benjamin Courtland Utter, born Sept. 6, 1826, probably in Brookfield, N. Y., died March 6, 1847, unmarried. He is interred in Unadilla Forks Cemetery, Plainfield, Otsego County, New York.

VI. JAMES NOYES UTTER, born October 10, 1802 at Noyes Beach, recorded in Hopkinton, died May 26, 1883 at East Greenwich, Rhode Island. He lived in Hopkinton, Newport, Providence and East Greenwich. He married first in Newport, November 28, 1833, Mary Ann Ailman, daughter of John C. Ailman of Newport. She was born Aug. 26, 1809, in Newport where she died July 29, 1842, and was interred in the Old Cemetery. They had two children.

7. John Utter, born Aug. 28, 1836, in Newport, died July 9, 1915, at Long Meadow, (Warwick) Rhode Island. He married in Newport, July 11, 1867, Anna Whitmarsh Spencer. They had three daughters.
7. Esther Ann Utter, born July 18, 1840, at Newport, died Dec. 9, 1923 at Newport. She married in Newport, Sept. 15, 1864, John Marshall Hall. They had two children. Both are interred in Newport, where he was moved from Moshassuck Cemetery, Central Falls, R. I.

He married second, probably in Newport, Aug. 1850, Mrs. Isaac W. Chace nee Celina Littlefield. They had no children.

- VII. JOHN UTTER, born Aug. 28, 1836, in Newport, died July 9, 1915, at Longmeadow, (in town of Warwick) Rhode Island. He lived in Newport, Central Falls, and Providence, Rhode Island. He married in Newport, July 11, 1867, Anna Whitmarsh Spencer, daughter of Thomas A. Spencer. She was born Oct. 13, 1842, in Boston, and died Feb. 2, 1922, in Providence. Both are interred in Moshassuck Cemetery, Central Falls.

Anna Whitmarsh Spencer, wife of John Utter, son of James Noyes Utter, was a daughter of Thomas Aldrich Spencer of East Greenwich and Matilda Ann Read of Johnston. Thomas A. Spencer was a descendant of John Spencer, a founder of East Greenwich, as follows: John Spencer married Susanna, probably Griffin, Peleg Spencer married Elizabeth Coggeshall, Jeremiah Spencer married Alice Aldrich, Seneca Spencer married Roby Carr, Thomas A. Spencer married Mary Whitmarsh, Thomas A. Spencer married Matilda A. Read, Anna W. Spencer married John Utter. Through the Spencer intermarriages Anna W. Spencer was also a descendant of Roger Williams, William Arnold and Stukely Westcott, founders of Providence; John Coggeshall, Governor Benedict Arnold, Attorney-General Joseph Sheffield and Governor Caleb Carr of Newport; Kenelm Winslow, brother of Governor Winslow of Plymouth, and Samuel Wilbur of Boston, Portsmouth and Taunton, and many other early settlers of Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Her great-grandfather, Micah Whitmarsh, was colonel of the Kentish Guards, a member of George Washington's military family and a charter member of the Order of the Cincinnati.

Her maternal (Read) line follows: William Read married Lucy Henage, John Read married Sarah Lessie, Daniel Read married Hannah Peck, Daniel Read married Elizabeth Ide, Benjamin Read married Elizabeth Randall, George Read married second Catherine Perkins, nee Woodworth, Matilda A. Read married Thomas A. Spencer.

John Read, above, was a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery of Boston and came with Elder Newman as one of the original founders of Rehoboth. He is buried in the old cemetery opposite the "White Church" in Rumford. The Read family stayed in what was then Massachusetts until Benjamin, above, moved to Rhode Island and married Elizabeth Randall, a descendant of Roger Williams, through his son Joseph, and of Thomas Olney, a founder of Providence.

Both Benjamin and George Read were Revolutionary soldiers, making Matilda Read what is called "a real daughter of the Revolution." Mrs. Waterman has the silver spoon presented her by the D. A. R. in recognition of that fact. She was one of a band of school children who took part in exercises welcoming the Marquis de Lafayette on his visit to Providence. She was born in Cranston in 1812 and died at the age of 97 in Central Falls. She retained her mental and physical soundness to a remarkable degree up to the sudden illness that caused her death. The Read connections were largely of Massachusetts, Fowler, Hearndon, Cooper, Peck, etc.

The Woodworth line was of New London County, Connecticut, coming originally from Scituate, Mass.

The three children of John Utter and Anna Whitmarsh Spencer were:

8. Matilda Read Utter, born June 29, 1868, in Newport, died March 29, 1873, Central Falls.
8. Katharine Minerva Utter, born Oct. 4, 1872, in Central Falls. She married in Providence, Aug. 24, 1896, Lewis A. Waterman. They had six children.
8. Harriet Barrows Utter, born June 27, 1877, in Central Falls. She married at Longmeadow, (Warwick) June 17, 1909, Harmon Henry Gnuse. Three children.

VII. ESTHER ANN UTTER, born July 18, 1840, at Newport. died Dec. 9, 1923, Newport. She married in Newport, Sept. 15, 1864, John Marshall Hall, son of Abiather Hall of Fall River, Mass. He was born Nov. 18, 1835, and died Dec. 3, 1875. Both are interred in Newport.

8. Marshall Wheeler Hall, born July 13, 1865, in Newport, died Dec. 26, 1924, in Newport. He married Rose Andrews and had one daughter. He is interred in Newport. He was connected with the "Newport Daily News" and the Naval Reserves.
8. Carrie Ailman Hall, born July 18, 1869, in Newport, married in Newport, April 30, 1906, Frederick Weir, his second wife. Their only child is
9. Lieut. Frederick Utter Weir, U. S. N., born March 2, 1908, in Newport. He is a graduate of the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis.

- VIII. Katharine M. Utter, born October 4, 1872, in Central Falls, Rhode Island. She married in Providence, Aug. 24, 1896, Lewis Anthony Waterman, son of Franklin A. Waterman of Providence. He was born March 24, 1871, in Providence and died Jan. 12, 1923, in Providence. He is interred in the Swan Point Cemetery, Providence, R. I.

Lewis A. Waterman, (March 24, 1871, Jan. 12, 1923) of Providence was ninth in descent from Richard Waterman, an associate of Roger Williams in the founding of Providence who was banished from Massachusetts for his "erroneous and obstinate" views. His monument is in Swan Point Cemetery, where it was moved from the vicinity of the family homestead (now the University Club) by a descendant of the fourth generation. He was one of the purchasers of Warwick but never lived there.

(1) Richard Waterman married Bethia, (2) Resolved Waterman married Mercy Williams, (3) Ensign Resolved Waterman married Anne Harris, (4) Resolved Waterman, Esq. married Lydia Mathewson, (5) Capt. ("Paper Mill") John Waterman married Mary Olney, (6) John Olney Waterman married Sally Franklin, (7) George Waterman married second Britannia Franklin Baxter, (8) Franklin A. Waterman married Hannah W. Eddy, (9) Lewis A. Waterman married Katharine M. Utter.

These men took part in the military and civil activities of their day, but were identified especially with the beginnings of Rhode Island manufacturing. Captain John Waterman was a sea captain as well as a mill owner. He also had a Revolutionary record and was reputed the richest man in the state. His son, John Olney, "inherited and spent" his father's money. He married Sally Franklin, daughter of Asa Franklin, who was an Ensign in the Providence Light Infantry Company.

George Waterman, son of John O. and Sally F., left his Rhode Island manufacturing business to become a "forty-niner" and died in California.

Franklin Alonzo Waterman left high school to enlist in the army during the Civil War, where he distinguished himself as a sharp-shooter. After the war he conducted a fine arts business on Westminster Street, Providence.

Through the female lines, Lewis A. Waterman was a descendant of many of the founders of Providence, Roger Williams, William Harris, Thomas Olney, Thomas Angell, Chad Brown, Edward Hart; of early settlers of Newport County, Richard Tew, Gover-

nors John and Samuel Cranston, Jeremiah Clarke, Governor Caleb Carr; of several Mayflower passengers, John and Elizabeth Tilley, John Howland; of the French Huguenots, Gabriel Beron and Abraham Tourtellotte. A memorial tablet to the former is in St. John's Episcopal Church (on North Main Street, Providence) which he was instrumental in founding along with Trinity Church, Newport and the old Narragansett Church, now at Wickford.

The six children of Katharine M. Utter and Lewis A. Waterman were:

9. Lewis Anthony Waterman (Jr.), born March 24, 1898, in Providence. He married in Providence, Jan. 21, 1928, Katherine Tillinghast, daughter of John A. Tillinghast of Providence. She was born Dec. 15, 1904, in Providence. Their three children are
 10. Lewis A. Waterman, Jr., born Aug. 6, 1929, in Providence.
 10. Gail Waterman, born June 14, 1934, in Providence.
 10. Avery Tillinghast Waterman, born Feb. 24, 1936.
9. Katharine Waterman, born June 2, 1899, in Providence. She married in Providence, June 12, 1920, Arthur Charles O'Leary, son of Arthur E. O'Leary of Providence. He was born Aug. 29, 1897, in Providence.
 10. Arthur Charles O'Leary, Jr., born March 6, 1921, in Providence.
 10. Donald Wallace O'Leary, born Aug. 30, 1923, in Providence.
 10. Robert Waterman O'Leary, born May, 18, 1926, in Providence.
9. Anna Waterman, born September 24, 1901 in Warwick. She married in Providence, June 23, 1928, Haskins Bishop Canfield, son of Arthur L. Canfield of Somerville, New Jersey. He was born July 10, 1900, in Chicago, Illinois.
 10. Frederick Weber Canfield, born Feb. 1, 1930, in Cambridge, Massachusetts.
 10. Ann Canfield, born Feb. 4, 1935, Boston, Massachusetts.
 10. David Waterman Canfield, born Nov. 21, 1937, in Boston, Massachusetts.
9. John Franklin Waterman, born November 30, 1903, in Providence. He married in Providence, Aug. 27, 1932, Dorothy Ryter Vanderburgh, daughter of Sheldon D. Vanderburg. She was born May 30, 1903, in Hastings-on-Hudson, N. Y.

10. John Franklin Waterman, Jr., born December 5, 1936, in Providence.
10. Sarah Sheldon Waterman, born Aug. 30, 1939, in Rochester, N. Y.
9. Margaret Waterman, born July 24, 1905, in Providence. She married in Providence, July 16, 1932, Harry Leslie Devoe, son of Louis E. Devoe of Pawtucket, Rhode Island. He was born June 9, 1904, in Pawtucket.
10. Harry Leslie Devoe, Jr., born Dec. 6, 1933, in Providence.
10. Margaret Ann Devoe, born Dec. 6, 1933, in Providence.
9. Nicholas Utter Waterman, born November 7, 1912, in Providence. He married June 24, 1939, Thelma Mildred Tracy, daughter of Thomas J. Tracy, born Apr. 1, 1914, Newark Valley, N. Y.
10. Peter Tracy Waterman, born Providence June 30, 1940.

VIII. Harriet B. Utter, born June 27, 1877, in Central Falls, Rhode Island. She married in Warwick, June 17, 1909, Harmon Henry Gnuse, son of H. H. Gnuse of LaGrange, Missouri. He was born April 28, 1877, in LaGrange.

9. Harriet Spencer Gnuse, born March 25, 1910, in Memphis, Tennessee. She married Murry Clifton Sanders and has one daughter, Harriet Elizabeth Sanders.
9. Harmon Henry Gnuse, Jr., born Sept. 7, 1911, in Memphis, Tennessee. He married Donna Davis and has one son, Harmon Thomas Gnuse, born Jan. 12, 1938.
9. Ruth Elizabeth Gnuse, born Sept. 28, 1917, in Memphis, Tennessee. She married David Simms.

VI. DR. ALBERT UTTER, was born at Unadilla Forks, N. Y., Nov. 25, 1818, and died at Plainfield, N. J., Oct. 15, 1894. He was a son of the second wife of John Utter (5), Prudence Lewis, and the half brother of James Noyes Utter. Dr. Albert Utter married Julia Emma Westcote, May 4, 1847. He was born at Unadilla Forks, N. Y., Nov. 25, 1818, and died at Plainfield, N. J., Oct. 15, 1894. His wife, Julia Emma Westcote, was born in Waterford, Conn., Dec. 19, 1825, and died at Plainfield, N. J., Dec. 12, 1903. She was the daughter of Rev. Benedict Westcote and Julia Ann Maxson. Both are buried at River Bend Cemetery, Westerly, R. I. See The First Hundred

Years, published at Westerly, R. I., 1940. To them were born two children:

7. Emma Albertine, who was born at New London, Conn., Jan. 7, 1851, and died in Westerly. She married at Plainfield, N. J., Charles Clarence Maxson, March 20, 1877. She died Aug. 17, 1917. Their children are:
 8. Harry Westcote Maxson, born at Plainfield, N. J., Jan. 30, 1878. He married Mary Tarney Hargraves of Ottawa, Ontario, July 18, 1918. They are living in Westerly, 1941.
 8. Charles Clarence Maxson, Jr., born at Westerly, R. I., Jan. 18, 1888. He married Coris Shands Bray of Green Cove Springs, Fla., Dec. 3, 1922, and their home in 1941 was 608 Kensington Drive, Lakeland, Fla. Their children are:
 9. Joanne Westcote, born Aug. 17, 1924, at Lakeland, Fla.
 9. Harry Westcote, born April 27, 1936, at Lakeland, Fla.
7. Jessie Marion, born in Brooklyn, N. Y., Dec. 22, 1858. Organist of Plainfield, N. J., Seventh Day Baptist Church for 30 years. She lived in Westerly for 18 years. She now lives in the Theodore Presser Foundation for Retired Musicians in Philadelphia.

- V. WILLIAM, son of Abram and brother of John. Known as "Colonel" and "Deacon." Born at Hopkinton, R. I., June 23, 1783, died at Unadilla Forks, N. Y., Sept. 7, 1868. He married March 5, 1810, Dolly Wilcox, who had come with her parents, Reuben Wilcox and Hannah Johnson, from Middletown, Conn. Dolly Wilcox was born March 24, 1792, and died Aug. 28, 1873. Both are buried at Whitesborough, N. Y. There were ten children.
- 6 Francis Abram, born at Plainfield, N. Y., March 5, 1813, died at Whitesborough, N. Y., April 4, 1891. Married Aug. 2, 1842, Eliza Ann Babcock of Whitesborough.
7. Annie Eliza Utter, born May 31, 1844, died at Bridgewater, N. Y., July 28, 1902. Miss Utter's early life was spent at Poughkeepsie, N. Y., and in 1867 the family removed to Bridgewater. She leaves many friends, who will remember her for her most beautiful Christian submission. She is buried in Whitesborough.
7. Frances Amelia, born Sept. 27, 1856, daughter of Francis Abram and Eliza Ann (Babcock) Utter. Born at Pough-

- keepsie, N. Y. Married (1) in 1881, Nathaniel Douglass Dodge, of Knoxboro, Oneida Co., N. Y., who died Nov. 1908, son of George W. Dodge. Mrs. Dodge, nee Utter, married (2) at Bloomfield, N. J., Sept. 27, 1909, Ammi Giles Pelton of Washington Mills, N. Y. Mr. Pelton was a school teacher for a number of years; afterwards was a farmer. He died in Frankfort, N. Y., in 1917. Mrs. Pelton lived with her daughter at Brooklyn, N. Y. She died April 28, 1941. Burial was at Whitesborough, N. Y.
8. Grace Geraldine Dodge, born at Knoxboro, town of Augusta, N. Y., married at Ilion, N. Y., Sept. 27, 1904, Robert Guy Harry, born near Loveland, Larmer Co., Col., Sept. 22, 1882, son of Rev. Madison and Sarah (Davis) Harry. They live at Brooklyn, N. Y. Three children were born to them.
 9. Robert Vincent Harry, born at Ilion, N. Y., May 29, 1906. Studied at Juilliard School of Music and Columbia University, New York City. Married Elenore Montague of Riverside, Conn., Nov. 6, 1937. He lives at New Canaan, Conn. To them was born:
 10. Diane Chandler Harry, born Sept. 7, 1939, in Norwalk, Conn.
 9. Jean Lucille Harry, born at Middletown, N. Y., Sept. 30, 1912. Residence, Brooklyn, N. Y. Graduated Vassar College 1933, studied at University of Strasbourg, France, 1933-34. M. A. degree at Vassar College, June, 1940. Private school teacher, Santa Fe, N. M., Dongan Hills, Staten Island, N. Y.
 9. Vernon Dodge Harry, born at Westfield, New Jersey, July 12, 1920. Graduated Erasmus Hall High School, Brooklyn, N. Y., June 1939. Now working at New York with the Curb Exchange. He lives in Brooklyn, N. Y.
 6. Reuben Wilcox, born July 11, 1814, at Plainfield, N. Y., and died May 9, 1853. He married Mary Esther Clark at Waterbury, Conn., Aug. 28, 1814. She was the daughter of Wait Clark. She married again, in 1861, John Avery Langworthy of Little Genesee, N. Y. She died April 21, 1897.
 7. George Livingston, who was born at Hounsfield, N. Y., March 26, 1840. He was a veteran of the Civil War.

NICHOLAS UTTER

8. Charles Reuben Utter, born at Cincinnati, June 29, 1867.
7. Emma, who was born at Nile, N. Y., April 15, 1847, and died at Alfred, N. Y., April 27, 1859.
- 6 William Morris, born Oct. 21, 1815, at Plainfield, N. Y., and died June 7, 1900, at Bridgewater, N. Y. He lived there 56 years. He married Sarah Emiline Bassett of Brooklyn, N. Y. She was born July 29, 1817, and died Oct. 20, 1898. Both were buried in Fairview Cemetery, Bridgewater, N. Y. There were five children.
7. Charles M., born 1844, lived in Worcester, Mass, and died after 1912.
7. George L., born March 4, 1849.
7. William Henry, born March 4, 1849, twin of George, died at Leonardsville, N. Y. He married Helen V. Crumb, July 2, 1874 in Leonardsville, and had one child.
8. Frank Bradley, born April 4, 1876, married Nellie Baker. They had four children.
7. Frederick C., born 1846, married Cornelia Beals. There was one child.
8. Annie, married — Coughlin, is dead.
7. Mary E., born April 6, 1840, and died April 28, 1913. She married Theodore Stoddard. He was born Jan. 22, 1824, and died Aug. 7, 1901. Both are buried at Fairview Cemetery, Bridgewater, N. Y.
- 6 Jacob Sherrill, born at Plainfield, N. Y., July 17, 1817, and died at Utica, N. Y., Mar. 23, 1885. He married Catherine Thomas Moore of Albany, N. Y., May 19, 1818. She died in 1872. She was the daughter of Israel Moore and Catherine Van Wie. A civil engineer, he was employed on the construction of the Black River Canal and later the Hudson River Railroad.
7. Ellen M., born at West Winfield, N. Y., Feb. 22, 1844, and died May 19, 1915. She is buried at Fairview Cemetery. She married John Bliven, May 31, 1877. He died Jan. 14, 1920. There were three children.
8. Lee B., died Dec. 10, 1881.
8. Fred, born March 20, 1878, and lives at Beaver Creek, Brookfield, N. Y. He married Bertha Clevens, June 4, 1899. There are five children.

9. Ruth, born June 21, 1900, married Arthur Washburn, July 27, 1918. They have four children: Mary, born April 29, 1920; Charles, born Oct. 15, 1931; Reba, born Aug. 7, 1936; Betty, born Oct. 23, 1938.
9. Reba, born Sept. 3, 1902, and died Jan. 5, 1912.
9. Lee, born May 9, 1905, married Marion Scott, Sept. 30, 1930.
9. Edna, born Nov. 28, 1911, married Melleron Marsh, March 16, 1931. He died Aug. 24 1935.
9. Hazel, born Dec. 31, 1917. Married William Kennedy, Sept. 26, 1934.
7. Sarah B., born Feb. 21, 1845, who lived at Utica, N. Y.
7. DeWitt M., born Oct. 23, 1847. He lived at Vernon, N. Y.
7. Frank Herbert, born Jan. 22, 1849. He married Sarah J. Topper.
7. Julia B., born April 22, 1850. She married W. D. Jones at Rome, N. Y., Dec. 17, 1869. To them were born 15 children.
7. Ida M., born June, 1852, and died Feb. 21, 1915. For years she was secretary of the Travellers Aid Association at Utica, N. Y. She was spoken of as "the good angel of the Central Station." At the time of her death it was said, "No woman was more widely known in Utica or more highly honored for services rendered."
7. Flora Addison, born at Trenton, N. Y., Oct. 16, 1854. She married Seymour H. Dopp. They moved to Nebraska in 1885. They had two children, born at Carmichael Hill, Neb.
8. Avis Dopp, born Nov. 20, 1876.
8. Ida, born March 17, 1878.
7. Edgar Buckingham, born Feb. 25, 1859, at Trenton, N. Y. He married Lillian Jane Foote of Morristown, N. Y., June 30, 1887. They had four children.
8. Hattie May Utter, born at Morristown, June 19, 1888.
8. Kathryn Elizabeth, born at Ogdensburg, N. Y., Oct. 17, 1890, and died Oct. 5, 1903.
8. Mildred Ida, born Jan. 8, 1893.
8. Helen Janet, born Jan. 1, 1897.

- VI. **GEORGE BENJAMIN UTTER**, son of William and Dolly (Wilcox) Utter, was born in Plainfield, N. Y., Feb. 4, 1819. He died at Westerly, R. I., Aug. 28, 1892. He was married three times. (1) at New York City, N. Y., May 27, 1845, Catherine Clark Stillman, who was born at Unadilla Forks, N. Y., the daughter of Abel and Content (Maxson) Stillman. She died January, 1846. (2) He married at DeRuyter, N. Y., May 26, 1847, Mary Starr Maxson, who was born at Homer, N. Y., Nov. 25, 1825, the daughter of John and Mary (Starr) Maxson. She died at Westerly, R. I., March 24, 1868. The marriage to Mary Starr Maxson was a triple one, her two sisters, Cornelia Peck married Jason B. Wells and Caroline Beal married Dr. J. D. B. Stillman at the same time in one ceremony. (3) He married at Westerly, Aug. 16, 1871, Harriet Wells Stillman, widow of Welcome Stillman, one of the founders of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Church. She died May 9, 1900. All were buried in River Bend Cemetery at Westerly, R. I.
- VII. **GEORGE HERBERT UTTER** was born at Plainfield, N. J., July 24, 1854. He married Elizabeth Lovina Brown, daughter of Cyrus Henry and Sarah Catherine (Maxson) Brown, at Allston, Mass., May 19, 1880. He died at Westerly, Nov. 3, 1912 aged 58. Mrs. Utter was born in Brighton, Mass., June 15, 1853. She died Sept. 2, 1939, aged 81. Both are buried at River Bend Cemetery. There were four children.
8. **George Benjamin Utter** of Westerly, R. I., was born at Westerly, R. I., April 11, 1881. He attended Riverview Military Academy and Amherst College, class of 1905. He is a publisher of The Westerly Sun. He married Jan. 17, 1916, Katherine Wilbar of Bridgewater, Mass. She was the daughter of Charles A. and Mary L. Snell of Bridgewater. She graduated from Smith College, 1911. There are three children, all born at Westerly.
9. **Charles Wilbar**, born Dec. 6, 1917. Attended Deerfield Academy, University of Vermont, and in 1941 a Lieutenant in 14th Infantry, Canal Zone.
9. **George Herbert**, born June 3, 1922, Deerfield Academy, and a student of Amherst College, 1945.
9. **Jean Chilton**, born Sept. 28, 1926, student at Lincoln School, Providence.

8. Henry E. Utter, M. D., of Providence, R. I., was born at Westerly April 9, 1883. He attended Riverview Military Academy and graduated from Amherst College, 1906, and College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. He is practicing in Providence. He married (1) Josephine Siggins of West Hickory, Pa., June 23, 1915. She died May 18, 1918. He married (2) Mildred Fiske of West Medford, Mass. She was born Dec. 23, 1893, the daughter of Wilson Fiske and Annie Trescott Southard.
There are two children, born at Providence.
9. Wilson Fiske, born Nov. 23, 1927.
9. Sarah Elizabeth, born June 10, 1929.
8. Mary Starr Maxson of Westerly, R. I., was born at Westerly, R. I., Feb. 21, 1890. She attended Lasell Seminary, Auburn-dale, Mass. She married Edgar Potter Maxson of Westerly, Sept. 11, 1916. He was born Jan. 3, 1889, in Westerly, and died Dec. 30, 1930. He graduated at Amherst College, 1911. There are four children, all born in Westerly.
9. William Edgar, born May 1, 1918. Graduate Westerly High School, attended The Choate School and graduated Amherst College, 1940. Student at Yale Divinity School.
9. Henry U., born Dec. 6, 1922. Attended Choate School and Wilbraham Academy, and is a student at William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va.
9. Mary Starr, born May 29, 1928.
9. Edgar Potter, born May 29, 1928.
8. Wilfred Brown Utter, of Westerly, R. I., was born in Westerly, R. I., Sept. 13, 1894. He attended Riverview Military Academy, Montclair Academy, and Amherst College, class of 1919. He is a publisher of The Westerly Sun. He married Ruth Hubbard May of Yalesville, Conn. She was born at Yalesville, Conn., June 6, 1891, the daughter of Edwin Selden and Hattie Durrie May. She graduated from the University of Syracuse in 1918.
There is one child.
9. Margaret Hubbard, born at Westerly, R. I., Aug. 15, 1926, student at Lincoln School, Providence.
6. Dolly Maria was born Sept. 22, 1821. She was unmarried and the only girl in a family of eight children who grew to maturity. She died May 19, 1905.

Dolly Maria Utter made her home with her brother, George B. Utter, at Westerly, and after his death lived with the family of her nephew, George H. Utter. His children were her care and delight as they grew up. At the time of her death they were in school and college. She and they looked forward to the home comings at vacation. As a girl raised with seven brothers, she was well cared for.

Then in her late years another generation of children helped to keep her young in spirit, interested in the affairs of the family and community. She died at the age of 84 and was buried in River Bend Cemetery, Westerly. C. H. Brown in the Brown Genealogy says "She was a woman of fine abilities and good understanding."

6. Peter R. Livingston was born at Plainfield, N. Y., Sept. 3, 1823, and died March 22, 1831.

6. Ira Wilcox was born at Plainfield, N. Y., Oct. 31, 1825, and died at Seattle, Washington, March 12, 1875. He was never married. He went West as a young man and settled on farms located where today is the heart of Seattle. An account of his experiences will be found elsewhere in the book. He is buried at Whitesborough, N. Y.

6. Hannah Eliza was born Sept., 1829, and died July, 1830.

6. John Herbert was born at Plainfield, N. Y., Sept. 1, 1831, and died at Westerly, R. I., Oct. 27, 1886. He married at Pittsfield, Mass., July 24, 1861, Caroline Melissa Murray. She was born at Plainfield, N. Y., Nov. 31, 1831, and died in Westerly, Nov. 7, 1896. There were no children. Both are buried at River Bend Cemetery, at Westerly. Two years after his older brother, George B. Utter, had established the Sabbath Recorder in New York City, John Herbert entered his employ as a printer's apprentice. That was in 1847.

John Herbert Utter remained in the New York office at 9 Spruce Street for 10 years. He then purchased an interest in the printing office at Westerly, R. I., where the Literary Echo was published. That paper was discontinued in 1858 and the Narragansett Weekly took its place. The Weekly appeared for twenty-eight years. It was in 1861 that George B. Utter moved his printing office from New York and joined in a partnership with his brother, under the firm name of G. B. and J. H. Utter, Printers. Elder Utter brought with him the Sabbath Recorder which they published as a private enterprise until it was sold and moved to Alfred, N. Y., in 1872. He was active in the partnership until his death in 1886.

Charles J. Norris, who entered the employ of the Utters while J. Herbert Utter was alive and active, wrote in *The Westerly Sun*, May 17, 1940, how the office of the *Literary Echo* was moved from the corner of Mechanic and West Broad Streets in Westerly, in 1852 "to a building in the rear of the store of F. W. Segar and Co., on Broad Street, Westerly, upstairs, about where McCormick's store is today. George Babcock sold an interest in the paper to E. G. Champlin, who at that period or later was a member of the drug firm of Potter and Champlin.

"In 1853, Mr. Hoyt took title and published the 'Echo.' He had worked on the paper most of the time since 1831. The panic of 1857 depressed the prosperity of Westerly, and Dr. H. H. Farnham published the weekly newspaper for four months previous to March, 1858. During the closing weeks of its life its issue or emission was irregular and uncertain.

"Early in the spring of 1858, John Herbert Utter, who had learned to set type on the *Sabbath Recorder* in New York City, came to Westerly and looked over the printing plant. James Hoyt conveyed to the original owners his interest as it appeared.

"April 26, 1858, appeared the first issue of the 'Narragansett Weekly.' At the masthead was displayed 'J. H. Utter & Co.' The new firm had taken over the good will and assets of the old 'Literary Echo,' defunct.

"The new paper was six columns wide and four pages per issue. Well printed in 'Bristol fashion.' With interesting general and local news, and numerous correspondents.

"John Herbert Utter was a good printer and diligent, worked long hours to make a success of the venture. During 1859, the closing months of that year, he considered that he would dispose of his equity and return to New York City from whence he came. Family tradition sets forth that he offered to assign his interest on receipt of cash sufficient to pay his expenses back to New York.

"It was at this juncture 'Hub' Utter contacted his brother, Rev. George B. Utter, and presented his dilemma for advisement and aid in the solving of the same.

"George B. Utter looked over the situation and gave heed to the possibilities for the development of a publishing house in Westerly. His decision was favorable, and in 1859, he came to Westerly, and the firm of G. B. & J. H. Utter was formed. Rev. George B. Utter, the senior partner, was editor and business manager, and J. Herbert Utter attended to mechanical department, type setting, etc."



Grave of Abram Utter (1732-1813) great-grandson of Nicholas Utter, the Immigrant. Located in an open field at Hopkinton City, R. I. Also the grave of Esther (Saunders) Utter (1778-1810) first wife of John Utter, son of Abram, and an unidentified grave marked "E. U."

Part Two

By George Benjamin Utter

CHAPTER XV

WILLIAM UTTER, A SON OF ABRAM

William Utter, son of Abram, was born in Hopkinton June 21, 1783. As a young man he went west into New York State. He said that if he remained in Hopkinton he would not live the sort of life he desired to live. He left Hopkinton on the day he became of age, June 21, 1804. He rode horseback across Connecticut to Albany, where he followed the trails through the almost virgin forests, and settled at New Hartford, Oneida County, New York.

By the spring of 1810 he had met, courted and wed Dolly Wilcox, who was the first white child born in the new township of Whitestown. Her parents had moved into the area in 1792. William and Dolly resided in adjoining towns. They went to live at Unadilla Forks, some 20 miles south of Whitestown.

William was 27 years of age when they joined hands. She was nine years younger and not out of her teens.

William had left several brothers and sisters back in Rhode Island. Such a glowing picture of the opportunities in the Mohawk Valley was painted by William in a visit back home, that John was persuaded that he too should "go west." John was four years older than William. He had been detained in Rhode Island by family ties. He married Esther Saunders September 5, 1801. She died May 15, 1810, and was buried at Hopkinton City beside her father-in-law, Abram, in an open field some seventy-five yards from the highway, and a northwesterly direction from the junction of the Long Bridge Road and the Turnpike. Today, 1941, these stones with a third badly marked "E. U." are there unprotected in the open. The

Abram Utter homestead still stands on the Turnpike, not far distant from his grave. The house recently has been renovated, and the old lines followed and uncovered as much as possible. A picture of the house appears in the front of this book .

The records show that within the year John was married again, this time to Prudence Lewis. He had gone to join William in the new land of opportunity. William and Dolly remained in the neighborhood of Utica, while John and Prudence went north up along the shores of Lake Ontario at what is now Adams Center.

Family tradition says they with other early settlers followed blazed trees through the wilderness when they opened up that section of the country near the Thousand Islands.

William and John left behind them several brothers and sisters. There are many pieces of fine furniture made by some of the Utters, who were cabinet and coffin makers. Their shop was pointed out to the writer by his father, George H. Utter, as it stood at the Y of the Turnpike and the Long Bridge road to Rockville. The present home built on the site has some of the old timbers. The Abram Utter house is across the street, on the west side, and recently (1935) has been reconstructed. Land to the South, on which the old Spicer Tavern was built, was purchased from Abram Utter.

William became a man of influence and standing in the community of Whitestown, and later Unadilla Forks, N. Y., to the south, where he went in late life to live. In 1806 he united by baptism with the First Brookfield Baptist Church. And at the age of 24 was chosen a Deacon and "invited to improve his gifts in public prayer, exhortation or preaching," as his obituary in the Sabbath Recorder of September 10, 1868, says. The writer of that tribute says:

"He took a deep interest in the upbuilding of the cause of Christ, at home and abroad. He was very liberal with the means he had in general charities and in sustaining the church of which he was a member. In an uninterrupted membership of nearly sixty-two years, he has endeared himself to his fellow Christians, and won the respect and esteem of all around him. He will be greatly missed. He viewed death with the utmost composure. He expressed himself as feeling prepared and willing to die. He suffered much during the last few months of his life from a dropsical affection, but his death was peaceful."

Deacon William it was to many. To others he was known as "Colonel." According to the minutes of the Council of Appointment of the state of New York, 1783-1821, it would appear that in 1817 he was captain of the 135th Regiment Infantry, 1819 promoted to Major, and in 1821 he was appointed Lieutenant Colonel.

William Utter died at his residence in Unadilla Forks, Otsego County, New York, September 1, 1868, in the 86th year of his age.

According to records of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination, Deacon William was a participant in the early activities of the denomination. At a meeting of the Directors of Missions of the Seventh Day Baptists in the United States of America September 25, 1820, held at Piscataway, N. J., he was one of three named to a committee to revise the constitution to be presented to Conference. In 1823 he was elected President of the Missionary Board. At that same time he was named to audit the accounts and in 1824 he was appointed with one other on a committee of publication of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Magazine "to manage its pecuniary concerns." In 1827 he served as Vice-President and later was elected to the Executive Committee.

William Utter married Dolly Wilcox March 5, 1810.

Her parents went to Whitestown from Middletown, Conn. She was born March 21, 1792, the year her father, Reuben Wilcox, moved to Whitestown. She died August 29, 1873, at the age of 81 years and five months and five days. She was visiting at the home of her son, Rev. George B. Utter, in Westerly, R. I. She was buried by the side of her husband at Whitesboro, who had died five years previously. The graves are marked by a granite monument, quarried and cut at Westerly, R. I. The lot has "perpetual care."

Others buried in this plot are Ira W. Utter (1825-1875), Francis Abram Utter (1813-1891), and his wife, Eliza Ann Babcock (1817-1882), and his daughters, Annie Eliza Utter (1844-1902), and Frances Amelia Utter (Dodge) Pelton (1856-1941).

Dolly Wilcox was the daughter of Reuben Wilcox and Hannah Johnson. Hannah Johnson was born in 1761 at Middletown, Conn., and died November 24, 1837. They "lived together 51 years." They were married October 26, 1786. Her father was John Johnson of Middletown, Conn., Lower Houses.

The ancestors of Reuben Wilcox were Francis Wilcox (born October 9, 1717, died December 17, 1741) and Rachel, who died at Chester, Mass., aged 95 years; Francis Wilcox, who married Abigail Graves of Hatfield, Mass.; Samuel Wilcox, born November 9, 1658; John Wilcox of Middletown, Conn., died May 24, 1676, who married January 18, 1650, Catherine Stoughton of Windsor; John Wilcox died 1651 and in 1640 was a settler of Hartford, Conn.

CHAPTER XVI

REUBEN WILCOX, FATHER OF DOLLY UTTER

Reuben Wilcox, the father of Dolly Wilcox, wife of William Utter, was born in Middletown, Conn., in 1762. He died in Whitestown, Oneida County, New York, December 10, 1853, of paralysis in the 92nd year of his age. During the Revolutionary War, he was called into service a short time, for which he received a pension.

In 1792 he moved from Middletown to Whitestown, N. Y. Passing through the present city of Utica, which had then only one frame house, he found his way by the aid of marked trees to the place, where he spent the last sixty-one years of his life and where he died.

He married Hannah Johnson, who was born in Middletown, Conn., in 1761 and died Nov. 24, 1837.

As a religious man, Mr. Wilcox was distinguished for conscientiousness and tenacity of what he considered to be Bible truth. During a revival among the Congregationalists at Middletown, in 1779, he became a subject of Divine Grace, though he did not at that time make a public profession of religion. Soon after his removal to Whitestown, he became a Baptist in principle, and a few years later a Sabbath-keeper. About 1830 he was baptized and joined the First Seventh Day Baptist Church in Brookfield, N. Y., of which he remained a member until his death. He received baptism at the hands of Elder William B. Maxson, by whom his funeral sermon was preached.

The town of Whitestown was the first one permanently settled in Oneida County, or in the state of New York, west of the Dutch settlement in the valley of the Mohawk. The attention of New Englanders was called to it soon

after the close of the Revolutionary War by soldiers who had been engaged in that contest.

In 1784, Mr. Hugh White went from Middletown, Conn., to the Whitestown region, which was for a long time afterward known as the "Whitestown country," a name given then to a large section of Central New York. As a means of inducing his friends in New England to follow him, Mr. White used to send them selected stalks of wheat, corn, oats, etc., which so far excelled anything of the kind they were accustomed to see, that an emigrating fever took possession of them. The result was, that in a few years Whitesboro became a flourishing village. Among the early settlers was Reuben Wilcox.

Reuben Wilcox and wife became Sabbath-keepers at an early period of their residence in Whitestown, and continued such with great strictness and consistency, to the end of life.

In a visit to the cemetery, located on the high ground west of Whitesboro village, overlooking the beautiful valley in which lie Utica, New York Mills, Yorkville, one finds that Mr. Wilcox died in 1853, at the ripe age of 91 years. His wife died some fifteen years previous, at the age of seventy-six years.

The Sabbath Recorder for January 15, 1871, says, "They were members of the First Brookfield Church, with which their descendants were intimately connected, one of the daughters having married Ethan Clark, a son of Elder Henry Clark, the first pastor of that church, and author of the History of the Seventh Day Baptists; another having married Dr. Henry Clark, author of the 662d hymn in Christian Psalmody, and once associate editor of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Magazine; another having married William Utter, who was for nearly sixty years a deacon in the church. One of the sons, Francis Wilcox, was well known at De Ruyter, where he had occasion often

to visit, while his daughter Caroline was Preceptress of De Ruyter Institute. Two other sons are residents of Whites-town."

Descendants of Francis live in Clinton, Iowa. G. L. Curtis married Frances Wilcox, a granddaughter. She died in 1924. Three daughters were born to them. Other intermarriages were through a sister of F. P. Wilcox, Caroline E. Stanley of Chicago, who wrote often to her cousin, Dolly Maria Utter. Letters of hers and Francis Wilcox and his wife, Sophia E. Buckley, as well as their photographs, are still at Westerly in possession of the writer.

CHAPTER XVII

GEORGE B. UTTER, SON OF WILLIAM

George B. Utter, the son of William Utter, and son-in-law of John Maxson, was the seventh of ten children of William Utter and Dolly Wilcox. He was spoken of as "The Elder." He was born at Unadilla Forks, N. Y., February 4, 1819. As a young man he learned the trade of a printer, when he labored for one who was to be his father-in-law, John Maxson. He was the seventh son. His parents, as was the custom in those days, set him aside to be educated as a physician. With that in mind at 12 years of age he was sent to school at Whitesboro Academy. A year later he hired out as an apprentice, going with John Maxson as he moved his printing office from Homer to Schenectady, N. Y. Mr. Maxson was the editor of the Protestant Sentinel, the first paper of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination. He was at both places two years each. He became acquainted with students of Union College. Working days, he studied nights at the apprentice Library Association. It is said that he printed and bound many of the books to be found there. He took part in literary exercises and was foremost in debates, as he was in later years of maturity in town meetings of Westerly.

He decided to follow a classical course of study, and in 1836 he entered Oneida Institute at Whitesboro, where his parents had come to live. After graduating from there in 1840 as the valedictorian of his class, he further sought to equip himself in matters of the church, and entered Union Theological Seminary, New York City. He graduated there in June 1843. Three weeks before graduation, he was sought by the Seventh Day Baptist denomination as

one to go to England for the purpose of renewing acquaintance with the churches of that country.

Especially was he anxious to search in the libraries of England for books which had to do with the Sabbath question, in which he had become so much interested. He was ordained to the ministry before graduation, and after graduation he undertook the journey to the Old Country. He went there as a minister of the Seventh Day Baptists of America. Records show that in London he was called upon many times to speak and preach. He studied in the libraries of the British Museum in London and Bodleian Library at Oxford. He made a thorough search there.

Returning to the States in the spring of 1844, he brought with him many old books, most of which were deposited in the library at Alfred University, and formed the nucleus of a library on the Sabbath. He continued his literary work for the denomination, never accepting a pastorate. He established as a private enterprise the Sabbath Recorder after his return from England. For twenty-five years he edited this publication, when he sold it to the denomination. That was in 1870. The Recorder went to Alfred, N. Y. It is now published in Plainfield, N. J. He had taken over the active management of the Narragansett Weekly, which had been established by his brother, John Herbert Utter. He came to live in Westerly in 1861, bringing his New York printing plant from 9 Spruce Street with him aboard a sloop, which docked at Main Street wharf, nearly opposite the present site of the plant of The Utter Company, where The Westerly Daily Sun is published. His first printing office was on Broad Street on the second floor over what is now Barbour's Drug Store.

He was a member of the Westerly Town Council from 1868 to 1873, a member of the Tax Assessors from 1876 to 1883, and was a trustee of the Westerly School District Number One for five years, to whom was entrusted the

building of the Elm Street School. It was during his term that graded schools were introduced. The building was completed in 1874 after many arguments in District meetings. Opponents to the modern school said that the building would never be filled. He had trouble persuading the taxpayers that they should buy sufficient land, as he saw it, for the construction of the school. The upshot of the matter was that he purchased for himself the land in front of the school on Elm Street, and sold it to the district when they came to see that the land was needed. The district refused to buy a half of the lot on the north side. That was later sold to Morton Hiscox. It is now owned, in 1941, by Frank A. Sullivan.

His literary efforts were not limited to *The Recorder* and the *Narragansett Weekly*. For more than twenty years he edited a Sabbath School paper. Three volumes of the biographical and historical *Seventh Day Baptist Memorial* were edited by him. Then there was one hymn book with words only, a hymn and tune book besides a *Seventh Day Baptist Manual*.

In town meeting he was often heard in wordy debate. And in those days, as in 1941, there were those who liked to cross swords on the floor of the town meeting. Under the heckling he sometimes quit the floor to his adversary. At one time it is said he addressed the Moderator and turning on his opponent said "My father once told me never to argue with a drunken man or a fool." At that last shot, he sat down.

The writer, his oldest grandson, remembers him as a kindly gentleman who expected consideration from his grandchildren and conduct that was particularly becoming—more than was necessary it seemed at times. The backyard of his home, opposite the junction of Grove Avenue and High Street, in Westerly, was always the gathering place of the neighborhood boys as it is now for a third gen-

eration of youngsters. In those days the shed, the barn and hay mow were not always in order when "the Elder" arrived home after a day's labor at the office.

There he had a way of sharpening his quill pen, spattering the ink over the front of the desk, reading the proof produced by "the blacksmiths" in the back office. And he did not hesitate to use that term in addressing certain employees. But of these men, four of them at least were in the employ of all three generations for more than fifty years.

He had come to own property in different sections of Westerly. There was the lot at the corner of Pleasant Street and High Street, sold by his grandchildren to the town of Westerly for school purposes, the tenement on West Street just to the south of the Pleasant Street School, and land for a garden on Elm Street, that backed up and went around the Stanton home, to John Street, on which is now located the George C. Moore recreational hall.

Grandfather had trouble at the Pleasant Street lot with boys playing baseball where he thought they should not play. He posted the land against trespassing. The writer went with other boys to play ball on the forbidden ground, which is now the playground of the High Street School. Grandfather happened to drive by. Seeing the boys, he stopped, and everyone ran to the rear of the lot, climbed the fence and was away—all but the writer. He could not climb the fence, and he alone was caught by Grandfather, who said, "Georgie, you ought to know better than trespass on other men's property."

He was three times married. First there was Catherine C. Stillman, whom he married at De Ruyter, N. Y., at a triple wedding in 1845. Secondly there was Mary Starr Maxson, daughter of John Maxson, printer and editor under whom he had served his apprenticeship as a printer. That was in 1847. Mary Starr Maxson died when her

son, George Herbert Utter, was a young boy. Later, again, after George B. had become well established in Westerly, he married in 1871 the widow of Welcome Stillman, Harriet M. Wells. He built his new home at 106 High Street and took his last bride from her home on Elm Street, which later became the home of C. B. Cottrell, and is now the home of Miss Harriet Cottrell.

George B. Utter at the age of 24 was ordained to the ministry May 28, 1843, at the Piscataway Church at New Market, N. J., at a session of the Eastern Association. He preached his sermon from Romans III, 31, "Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid; yea, we establish the law." The ordination sermon was preached by Elder John Green. The text was Acts XI, 24, "For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith, and much people was added unto the Lord." The request for the ordination had come from the Plainfield, N. J., church, although he was a member of the New York church, a membership he clung to most of his lifetime. It was not until October 9, 1891, that he joined the Pawcatuck church, less than a year before his death. He joined the Pawcatuck church at the same time that Rev. W. C. Daland was also given the hand of fellowship.

Elder Utter had his expenses paid for the mission to Europe. Upon his return he had several calls as pastor of a church, among them the New York and Pawcatuck churches. He was clerk of the New York church in 1845, and held that office until he moved to Westerly. He was in constant demand as a preacher, not only in churches of his denomination, but as supply in other churches of the town. In 1872 he was elected treasurer of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society.

He was one of the organizers of the Seventh Day Baptist Missionary Society, and all his subsequent life was a member of the Board of Managers, having served as the

recording secretary (the position now in 1941 filled by his grandson and namesake) for twelve years, and treasurer for twenty-one years, a position years later held by his son, George H. Utter. The father of "Elder" George B. Utter, William Utter, was president of the Missionary Board of 1820.

He died at Westerly August 28, 1892, at the age of 73.

Observations By William E. Maxson, A Great-Grandson

George B. Utter, The Elder, has left behind him a diary of his observations abroad in which he tells an interesting story of his travels and experiences, and, unwittingly or not, as the case may be, leaves many cues to his way of thinking. It is the character portrayal of the man which may be gleaned from the pages of the diary that is the primary interest of this chapter.

In June 1843, The Elder, as he was later called, completed his course in theological study at Union Theological Seminary. On May 28 at the age of 24, three weeks before graduation, he was ordained to the Christian Ministry by the Seventh Day Baptist Church in America, which had chosen him as its representative to a General Conference of the churches of its faith, to be held in London that summer. The Elder packed his traveling bags and left Union after graduation to make the journey, which took him away from home for five months.

Unfortunately, the first of the three volumes of the young minister's diary has been lost. Consequently, therefore, there is no recourse to the records of the trip from the time he embarked at New York for Liverpool in June 1843 until August 23 when he had been in England about a month.

From the accounts of his diary, his stay in London was not an idle one. He did much speaking and preaching, mostly at the Mill-Yard Church, and made an intensive study of the History of the Sabbath, ferreting out of the musty corners and shelves of the London libraries all the old manuscripts, documents, books, and information he could find to study and examine. His study took him to the libraries of Oxford University.

Regarding his study of the History of the Sabbath, he writes on September 20:

"I have been 'struck' with the results of my investigation . . . and am settling my own mind upon the subject. I think, too, it has led me to desire to know the simple truth in the matter."

In his preaching he tells us that his practical-mindedness is giving him some trouble:

"I have a growing pleasure in hearing a Gospel sermon, if it have spirituality, though it may not be eloquent. It is so easy to speculate and theorize in regard to religion, and so difficult to bring it home to one's heart as a practical thing . . . One of the most difficult things for me to do is to maintain a constant feeling that the things of religion are real—not imaginary, and to speak upon them as real. How often am I ready to commence a sermon which is fully laid out before my mind, without inquiring of God and thinking of the bearing of this upon His character and will and of my own relation to Him." (Entered Sept. 23, 1843)

Obviously the experience of the General Conference impressed the young man deeply, for he writes on September 3:

"It was an occasion of great joy to me, so far from home, to be permitted to unite in a concert of prayer for my brethren who this day assemble."

He observes that religion abroad is treated in a matter-of-fact way and taken more or less for granted.

Busy as he was with all his work, his preaching, and his appointments, The Elder found time to see the points of interest about London and vicinity. Many times he visited the British Museum and the many art galleries. Westminster Abbey's awful solemnity and magnitude impressed him tremendously. One day while strolling in the neighborhood of Buckingham Palace, he saw Queen Victoria and the royal party pass through the palace gates. The three carriages and many horses in the procession and the general regal pomp and splendor of the scene aroused in him the following observation:

"The objections so often raised against kings, in the history of God's peculiar people, have . . . come home to me with a freshness and a power which they never before had. How does it promote idolatry and set men in the place which should be given alone to God. The able man, he who *can*, the king, will always awaken reverence and be looked to with something of a worshipful feeling. It is right to reverence that which is great, with which God has blessed us. But when without reference to ability a thing is clothed with the robes of greatness and declared to be therefore worthy of reverence, the worship given in such cases is idolatry—it is worship of mere symbols—which perish with using." (Entered August 23)

From this may be seen the sentiments of a true democrat and Christian. The Elder firmly believed in equal rights and privileges for all men as did the forefathers of his country. His utter distaste for the caste system is recorded in his diary:

"Dined with one who is full to overflowing of the spirit of caste and aristocracy, and yet is intimately connected with prison discipline efforts. Strange that those who labor in such work should not learn to judge by mor-

al worth, rather than by the artificial circumstances of birth. Yet I have met great numbers, claiming piety, intelligence and benevolence, who talk surprisingly of the poor being educated above their condition and unfitted for this condition thereby." (Entered Sept. 30)

The youth's compassion for the poor was not mere theory. There can be no question that the charitable Christian sympathy and interest in people which he expresses so much in his comments was sincere and put to practical use. He tells of one time encountering, in the vicinity of the Royal Palace, a poor comb-maker. Out of work for the past two months, the miserable comb-maker was selling small personal belongings to passers-by for enough money to buy a few meals for his wife and daughter. The Elder talked with the man, and then entered the following in his diary:

"There must be something wrong in a system of which this is a necessary condition. It is not the arrangement of the Universal Father. I wish some of those who are rioting in their luxuries could see the tear which filled the eye, and hear the choked expressions of thankfulness which fell from the lips of this man when a piece of money was placed in his hand with expressions of Christian sympathy. They could not after such sight deny that 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" (Entered August 23)

Again later, on the same theme, he remarks:

"... when it's so cheap to be kind and gentlemanly, why will men so neglect to cherish this spirit?" (Entered October 25)

In 1843 traveling time made the British Isles much farther away from this country than they are today, and one might possibly expect the young clergyman to be lonely so far away from home in a strange country. Such was not the case, quite to the contrary in fact. For George loved people, was a good mixer, and made many friends during

his visit abroad. Often he refers to the sad fact that in the not too distant future he must leave his newly-acquired friends when he goes back to the States, never, probably, to meet with them again. However, although he was not lonely, it is natural that he should miss his home and all attached to it. But he speaks for himself:

"Was refreshed at breakfast with a letter from New York. How vividly does a letter bring before me all its scenes. I could almost see and hear the friend whose letter I read. The effect of absence to raise one's estimation of the things of home is not to be overlooked. Yet there is, after all, such a striking likeness of man in one place to man in another, that I think I could make a home of almost any place where there were human beings. Perhaps the consideration of a common Father overlooking us all contributes something to this." (Entered Sept. 21)

Before leaving the British Isles for New York Elder Utter journeyed to Scotland where he visited Glasgow and Edinburgh. He particularly liked the hospitality of the Scottish people he met who did much to make his stay with them a pleasant one to recall. The Elder noted that although the messages preached by the Scottish clergy were good, the speakers were not, on the whole, "elocutionists" and their delivery had very little effect on him.

Returning from Scotland to Liverpool, after a rough sail, he prepared for his voyage home. He boarded ship on the morning of November 9, 1843, and his ship set sail for New York almost at once. Ardentlly devoted to God, it was natural that his heart should be raised to Him at this hour of leaving, after the completion of his mission in England:

"Once on board, with a prospect of sailing, I could not but lift up my heart in thanksgiving to God for the care which had preserved me through a stay of more than three months in England, and succeeded me in all I had under-

taken. It is a consolation to reflect in such a position upon God as the guide in all. When we commence a work for Him, to promote the interests of His kingdom, we may expect this. But when we look back upon the way by which He has led us, there is added to gratitude the influence which this evidence of His approval affords. O that I might always make Him supreme and seek alone to glorify Him. This shall give me joy and success always. That His will is done, what higher success. It is all that can be asked."

In those days the trip from Liverpool to New York was aboard a sailing vessel and took at least a month and one is inclined to wonder what the traveler did with so much time on his hands. The Elder had no trouble finding things to do to keep him busy. The passengers formed a "Literary and Social Association" which met in the evening after supper to discuss topics of common interest, to read literary selections and debate the merits of them, and to do a little creative work along literary lines themselves. This took care of the evenings. During the day the Elder wrote entries in his diary, read church reports, and became acquainted with the passengers on board. He writes on December 7:

"We have not been wanting in incidents . . . to interest. Indeed, we have created a little world of our own here. We have all the elements of one—good men and bad men—black and white—temperate and intemperate—," and here perhaps, he smiled, "one young Irishman has been drunk for three days in honor of his birthday."

A philosopher, he sometimes enjoyed walking the decks, alone with his thoughts, watching the sea and the progress of the ship. Often he watched the sailors at work and his observation on them is interesting:

"I have been struck with the hardened condition of some of the sailors. One came near being killed last night but is about today, and swears as bad as ever. There is no

class of men who seem to me to sacrifice more of the present life . . ." (Entered Dec. 8)

On board were a Catholic bishop and his party. Young George, tolerant of others' points of view and eager to learn, struck up an acquaintance with the bishop, and many discussions between the two on religious matters took place throughout the voyage. Writing on Sabbath Day, December 2, he says:

"In the forenoon was led into a long talk with the Bishop on points at issue between Protestants and Catholics, Baptismal Regeneration, etc. Our discussions were friendly, and elicited information, I think on both sides. . . He has become interested in some of my Sabbath books. They shall be furnished him."

On the first Sunday out of Liverpool, the Catholics and Protestants held separate religious services. Besides The Elder, there was a Methodist minister on board, and it may be presumed that these two, between them, conducted the Protestant service. At a later date, he tells us that the two groups joined in worship. Commenting on the service, he again reveals his tolerance of others—a religious tolerance quite surprising for those days:

"It was agreed among passengers that the Bishop should hold his service in the cabin for the benefit of all. At eleven o'clock we assembled for the purpose of worship. The exercises were opened with an appropriate prayer, and the declaration of belief. This was followed by reading and prayer, after which came a discourse on prayer to which no one could object. It urged the necessity of spirituality, and the uselessness of forms most earnestly. With the views which many have of Catholics, this would be regarded as almost impossible. For one, I can not doubt that good men may be found among them, and *very* good men, too." (Entered Nov. 19)

The daily routine of the travelers was several times

broken up by heavy storms and at such times any feeling of boredom they might have entertained while biding their time on the high sea, was quickly transformed into excitement. On November 21 we find in the diary:

"Just at evening we had a heavy squall. In the steerage a number were engaged in playing cards. So suddenly and violent was the blow that they thought they were 'gone for it' and fell upon their knees and commenced praying. How natural to speak to God of our wants, when danger comes—even with wicked men. In this we may see that prayer is not a mere arbitrary thing. If men would obey the Scriptures injunction to pray always, such circumstances would affect them very differently."

The young man writes a vivid and picturesque description of one of these storms at sea, and as he saw God in the other marvels of nature, here he did also:

"We have had a gale of wind—almost a hurricane—blowing all day. It commenced about 4 o'clock a. m. and continued with increasing strength for more than twelve hours. I have heard much, and read much, of storms at sea; of a wind that would take everything before it; and of waves mountain high. But I never had obtained from these accounts the most distant idea of the reality. Indeed no description can enable one, without a sight, to take just views of the majesty and awfulness of the scene. After blowing for eight hours, the sea seemed completely enraged. At that time, to stand on deck, and look and listen was electrifying. The wind was blowing so as to create a roar, like a waterfall, among the few remaining sails, and naked masts and yards. The vessel was dashing through the water at the rate of 13 miles an hour, rising and falling, at one time diving into and again rising above the water, now upon one side and then upon the other. The waves were high, short and angry-looking. In one direction might be seen what appeared like a ledge with water

pouring and foaming over it. In another a deep hollow, deep enough to conceal and swallow up the ship, was seen. In another still the waves seemed to converge from different directions and sent up large jets of foaming water. Indeed every variety of waves might be seen at a single glance, while the whole sea presented such a white, foaming, fierce look as to make the scene as terrific as it was grand. My feelings were indescribable—a mixture of awe and admiration.” (Entered Nov. 23)

And a little later:

“It is a source of deep joy to me to reflect that God holds the winds in His hands and rides upon the storm.”
(Entered Nov. 25)

Again a reference to religion and nature:

“The sea seems more and more a wonder to me. What vastness, and how different from our own native element. Yet it is overcome by the skill and perseverance of man. God hath made him a little lower than the angels. What responsibility does this lay upon him!” (Entered Nov. 20)

Elder Utter arrived in New York on December 10, having been on the water for four weeks and three days, and on this day he closes his diary of his travels with the following passage which discloses his love and human understanding of people and his reverence for the Almighty:

“At half past two a. m. we stepped on shore, delighted, almost overjoyed, with the privilege of once more standing and moving upon the firm earth. How like children did we jump about, and give way to our excited and joyful feelings! One might have supposed we were prisoners just set free from confinement, or that having been removed from our native element for a long time, we were just now restored to it.

“After the first burst of feeling was over, my heart rose to the Author of All Good, who had preserved me in all my journeyings, with thanksgiving and gratitude.”

What sort of a man does the Elder's diary show him to be? Much may be inferred from the tone of his writings as well as from the text. Certainly he was a man of his times. His pride and dignity, his austerity, were typically Victorian. There was much about him which suggested the period in which he lived. Doubtless, he lived very much according to the proprieties of his day. Proud, yes, perhaps a bit vain and boastful. One might be prone to think that some of the grandiose passages in his diary were written in the expectation that others would read them. However, it must be remembered, also, that the literary style of those days tended toward the grandiose.

He was proud before men, but no man could have been of a humbler spirit before God. In his religion he was intensely sincere and about his religion he held to his convictions. Unquestioning in his faith in God, his extreme sensitivity to the world about him led him to see the Creator in the elements and beauties of nature and in the ordinary instances of daily existence. His religion was a living one, for he led his life in strict adherence to the Christian ethics. Aside from his human vanity his moral beliefs and practices did not waver from this code.

He studied, understood, and loved people. He sympathized with them and smiled at their human weaknesses. His compassion for the poor was sincere. He believed people are created equal and should be granted equal rights and privileges.

He was a thoughtful man and very much of a philosopher, but this trait did not interfere with his practical qualities, for he was a red-blooded, hard-headed young Yankee, and as an older man he remained unchanged in this regard.

One characteristic running through his diary is his ardent belief in education for all classes. Evidence of his devotion to education appears in his will, where his last be-

quest is an attempt to provide for the education of his descendants:

"The fee of my real estate I wish to devote to the Cause of Education, after providing for my wife's dower therein, and for a convenient and permanent home for my son George H. Utter and his family: and judging that the income from it will do most good to the cause of education in that way. I give to my son George H. Utter the use and income of all my real estate during his natural life, subject to the charge of one-third of the same in favor of my wife, Harriet M. Utter, during her natural life, assuming that he will use what may be necessary of said income for the education of his own children (my grandchildren) and after his decease the fee of said real estate shall vest in my said grandchildren and their heirs share and share alike, to be used by them so far as it may be needed in giving to each of their respective descendants a good education to fit them for useful and honorable lives."

In concluding this chapter there is a hope that it has been a fair appraisal of the man, for if any man deserved fair treatment at the hands of his descendants, it is Elder George B. Utter.

CHAPTER XVIII

MRS. MARY STARR MAXSON, WIFE OF GEORGE B. UTTER

Mary Starr Maxson, wife of Deacon John Maxson of De Ruyter, was born in Stonington Borough, Conn., in 1792. She died at De Ruyter, N. Y., July 27, 1859. She was a daughter of Jesse Starr and Mary Dewey of Groton, Conn.

In early life she became a member of the Congregational Church at Stonington. In 1816 she married John Maxson and soon after they settled at Schenectady, N. Y., where they resided until 1820. With other Seventh Day Baptists they joined in Sabbath services in private homes of the community. She secured a letter of dismission from the Congregational Church in Stonington and was baptized in the Mohawk River where it skirts the northeastern side of the city.

The writer of her obituary that appeared in the Sabbath Recorder August 4, 1859, says of that event "It seemed to us that the very heavens were opened, and that the spirit descended upon us while we were thus obeying the Savior's command." They became members of the first Hopkinton Church.

They removed to Homer, N. Y., in 1820 and attended service at Scott, a few miles away. Deacon and Mrs. Maxson were members of the congregation which organized the church at Scott. He was the first deacon. They continued to reside at Homer while the Protestant Sentinel was published there. It was the first weekly publication of the denomination. They returned to Schenectady for a few

years for the easier publishing of the paper, and then went to De Ruyter. They joined the De Ruyter church.

The writer of the Recorder tribute says "She had become extensively loved for her amiable disposition and kindheartedness to all without respect to persons."

She was buried at De Ruyter in the burial ground near the church. Near her rests her mother, Mary Starr, wife of Jesse Starr of Groton, Conn.

George B. Utter and his son, Charles W. Utter, visited the church and burial place in 1932. There near the graves of Deacon John Maxson and Mary Starr Maxson was the grave of Caleb Maxson, father of John Maxson, who in his late years had come to live with son John. There was the grave and monument of Westerly granite for Charles H. Maxson, grandfather of Mrs. Albert H. Spicer and Julian W. Maxson and the late Charles D. Maxson of Westerly. Then there was the final resting place of Jason B. Wells, whose wife, Cornelia, was a daughter of Deacon John Maxson, grandfather of Mrs. Helen Wells Rogers.

Deacon D. DeLoss Wells, who died November 2, 1864, was buried there, as was Matthew Wells, his father. D. DeLoss Wells was the father of Julia A. Wells, wife of Charles B. Maxson, and grandfather of the late Charles D. and Julian W. Maxson of Westerly, and also father of Ada Wells, wife of Henry Doty Maxson, and grandfather of Mrs. Julia Maxson Spicer, all of Westerly.

There were found the last resting places of the great and great-great-grandparents of so many friends and distant cousins residing today in 1941 in Westerly.

On the same marble shaft that marks the burial place of Deacon John Maxson was the record of his father, Caleb Maxson, who died "In full hope of a glorious resurrection April 16, 1841, in the 89th year of his age," and Mary Bliss, wife of Caleb Maxson, 1770-1852.

It was the father of Mary Starr Maxson, Jesse Starr,

who was a soldier of the Revolution and was present at the massacre by Benedict Arnold in Fort Griswold, Groton, Conn.

Mary Starr, the wife of John Maxson, the daughter of Jesse Starr (1753-1799) and Mary Dewey (1761-1849) of Groton Conn. Jesse was the son of Vine Starr (1716-1799) and Mary Street (1716-1789). Vine Starr was the son of Capt. Jonathan Starr (1673-1747) and Elizabeth Morgan (1678-1763). Capt. Jonathan Starr was the son of Samuel Starr, "Founder of New London," (1640-) and Hannah Brewster (1643-). Samuel Starr was son of Dr. Thomas Starr, a surgeon with Connecticut forces in the Pequot War (-1658). Dr. Thomas Starr was the son of Dr. Comfort Starr, who came from Cranbrook, England, in 1635 and settled in Cambridge, where he was one of the founders of Harvard College (-1659).

Hannah Brewster was the daughter of Jonathan Brewster (-1661) and Lucreta Oldham. Jonathan Brewster was a son of Elder Brewster of the Mayflower and minister of the Plymouth Colony. He was also a writer, publisher and printer.

Jesse Starr enlisted in Continental Army June 1, 1775, at Groton. Served at Boston. May 30, 1782, sailed from Stonington. June 7 captured by the British ship Belisarius and impressed into British service until August 2, 1783, when he was released. While she lived his widow drew a corporal's and sergeant's pension.

CHAPTER XIX

JOHN MAXSON

FATHER OF MARY STARR MAXSON UTTER

(Sabbath Recorder, June 1, 1876)

Deacon John Maxson died in De Ruyter, Madison County, New York, at the residence of his son-in-law, Deacon Jason B. Wells, May 19, 1876, at 5:30 p. m., very suddenly, of heart disease, aged about 84 years.

He had his reason until the last and passed into and through the valley of the shadow of death, accompanied by the precious Jesus, and fearing no evil. As calmly as closes the day, with the evening's quietly setting sun, so peacefully closed this long and useful life.

The subject of this notice was born in Newport, R. I., June 25, 1792. He was the youngest son of Caleb Maxson and (his first wife) Mary Bliss Maxson. His grandfather, on his father's side, was the Rev. John Maxson, the fourth pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Newport, and during 24 years, from 1754 to 1778.

His grandfather on his mother's side was the Rev. William Bliss, fifth pastor of the same church, and whose second wife was Elizabeth Ward, daughter of Governor Richard Ward of Rhode Island. Brother Maxson was one of a family of nine children, five sons and four daughters. (Four of whom were children of Caleb's second wife, Mary Bliss, daughter of Henry Bliss.)

Five of these, two brothers, the late Rev. W. B. Maxson of cherished precious memory, and Joshua B. of Stephentown, and a half brother, J. Lucas, who died quite young, and two sisters, passed the chilling tide before him.

Two half sisters, Mrs. Mary B. Greenman of Milton, Wis., Mrs. Tacy W. Lewis, wife of Datus E. Lewis of Berlin, Wis., and a half brother, Hon. Charles H. Maxson of De Ruyter, N. Y., still survive him. His own family consisting of a good wife and five children, one of whom, a son, died young; the four daughters grew to womanhood, and were well settled in life; all passed before him except Mrs. Jason B. Wells who remains to mourn the loss of a good father.

Deacon Maxson made a profession of religion April 6, 1806, in the ordinance of Christian Baptism administered by Elder Arnold Bliss, and united with the Seventh Day Baptist Church at Newport, R. I., and although he subsequently resided in Schenectady, N. Y., his next church relation appears to have been with the church at Scott. He moved to Homer, Cortland County, New York, in 1820. In July of that year the Seventh Day Baptist Church of Scott was organized, he becoming one of its constituent members. During this year he with Holly Maxson was chosen deacon, in which office he served faithfully until the close of his life, fifty-six years.

In 1824 he secured the organization of a Sabbath School in the Scott church, perhaps the first among our people, in which he was an earnest and efficient worker. In 1830 he commenced the publication of our denominational weekly paper, the Protestant Sentinel. In 1834 he removed to Schenectady, hoping to enlarge the patronage of the paper, where he continued its publication until the autumn of 1836. In September 1836 he moved to De Ruyter where he spent the balance of his life, nearly 40 years. He early became a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church of that place, of which he remained a faithful member until released for membership in the church above.

Deacon Maxson possessed more than the ordinary

measure of intellectual power and was an active and clear thinker; and being an earnest Bible student, consequently intelligent in the Scriptures, and sound in the faith, his literary productions were not only readable but instructive and wholesome in their influence.

For more than 70 years he has been a way mark, not only pointing toward heaven but like Enoch he has walked with God wielding an influence for good and setting an example worthy of imitation. Every reformatory enterprise found in him a true friend and advocate. He was an ardent lover of the church, and earnest in all his endeavors to promote its purity and interest. He had a nice sense of covenant obligations to the church, which he not only taught by precept, but exemplified by his constant and faithful observance of all the order and institution of the house of God.

He was an earnest and conscientious observer and defender of the Sabbath, and many will remember that it was an item of his suffering for this truth that led to the effort that succeeded in giving us protection in the observance of the Sabbath in this state (New York).

But his long and useful life is ended. He came down to death as the shock of corn fully ripe, for the garner, and is gathered to the home of his kindred and the loved ones with whom for three generations he toiled, suffered and rejoiced.

CHAPTER XX

CALEB MAXSON

Caleb Maxson, the father of Deacon John Maxson, was born in Newport, Nov. 2, 1752, the youngest son of Rev. John Maxson (1713-1778) and Tacy Rogers of New London, a direct descendant of Rogers the Martyr. His first wife, Mary Bliss, was the fourth child of Rev. William Bliss, who remained as pastor of the Seventh Day Baptist Church in Newport during the War of the Revolution, although the city was occupied by the British. He was first married Oct. 20, 1782, and lived in Newport where he worked at his trade as a weaver of sail cloth. By his first marriage there were five children—Elizabeth Ward, William Bliss, Joshua Babcock, John and Content, who married Abel Stillman. John Maxson was the ancestor of the Utters of the generation of 1941. Mary Bliss, the first wife, died March 1798, and she was buried in Newport.

Being immune from smallpox and having enlisted in the American army, he was assigned to the smallpox hospital on Coasters Island, and there during the war is said to have cared for all smallpox cases in both the American and British armies.

In 1796 Caleb Maxson left weaving and again moved to the Coasters Island Harbor, a small island on which today, 1941, is located the Newport Naval Training Station. Here was the town and marine hospital, and Caleb Maxson took charge. Those who had contagious diseases such as smallpox and yellow fever, whether in Newport or arriving on some ship, were taken there. They were under his

care. The whole duty of nurse and Sexton fell upon him, who was aided by two of his sons.

After the war, in 1813 or 1814, he moved to Hopkinton, taking with him his second wife, Mary Bliss, a daughter of Henry Bliss, and two or three children, Mary, John Lucus and Tacy. He married her in 1807. John L. died in 1815. Mary went to live with her half brother, Joshua, before 1816, when Charles Henry was born. A few years later Tacy went to live with her half sister, Content.

The second wife was also a Mary Bliss. She was the daughter of Judge Henry Bliss "of New York State," a brother of Rev. William Bliss of Newport. The two Mary Blisses were therefore cousins. This is the Mary who is buried at DeRuyter. There were three or four children by this marriage. Charles B. Maxson, who lived in Westerly up to the time of his death in 1939, was a grandson of Caleb Maxson through the second and younger wife. Charles B. Maxson and Henry Doty Maxson were children of the youngest child, Charles H. Maxson.

It was in 1825 that Caleb Maxson and his wife went to live in Scott, N. Y., Schenectady, and later with his son, John, in DeRuyter. Caleb was a weaver by trade. Those who were able to pay for the cloth did so, others gave wool in return for the weaving. With this wool Caleb helped to clothe his own family and had some cloth to sell. He died April 6, 1841.

In his late years, about 1903, Charles H. Maxson, the youngest son of Caleb, was in Westerly and wrote "Memoirs" of his father, Caleb Maxson. He said of his father Caleb:

"He was represented as a stalwart young man, and at the time of the Revolutionary War was placed in charge of the hospital at Newport where the soldiers were sick with smallpox, he having had the dreaded disease during

his boyhood. I remember that in his after-life he was a devoted Christian man, consistent in his daily life and work. In regard to his religious convictions, notwithstanding his staunch religious character, he seemed to be tinctured with heresy which has to a more or less extent cropped out in the family. It appears by the records of the Newport Church that on July 18, 1795, Caleb Maxson was baptized and on the 25th of the same month 'passed under hands' and was admitted a member of that church, being then 43 years of age.

"About 1813 Caleb Maxson went from Newport, R. I., to Hopkinton in the same state, where he continued to apply himself as a weaver. He brought from his looms goods of varying designs, from flowered carpeting, figured coverlets and fine linen for domestic use to coarse goods as sacking. While in Newport he carried on a trade with Block Island for some years in addition to other business.

"About 1825 it was thought best that I (Charles H. Maxson) should go to live with my half brother, John, at Little York, N. Y., and my father and mother moved to Scott, Cortland Co., N. Y., a few miles from Little York. I was employed in a machine shop in which cloth shearing machines were built by my brother John.

"In 1831 I went with my brother John to Homer, N. Y., and became an apprentice at the printing business and had as fellow apprentices the late 'Elder' George B. Utter and Alonzo H. Burdick, my brother having started the Protestant Sentinel . . . which he continued there for two or three years. This paper was then removed to Schenectady . . . and in 1836 to DeRuyter, and I purchased of my brother a one-half interest in the establishment. At the end of two years or so, finding that the paper was not able to sustain itself, it was discontinued and I sold my interest to my brother at a sacrifice."

CHAPTER XXI

GEORGE H. UTTER, SON OF GEORGE B. UTTER AND GOVERNOR

George H. Utter, the only son of George B. Utter and Mary Starr Maxson, came to Westerly in 1861 at the age of seven. He was born in Plainfield, N. J., July 24, 1854. He lived with his parents at the northeast corner of School Street and Maple Avenue, Westerly, and it was there that his mother died March 24, 1868, when he was fourteen years of age.

He was educated at a private school, the Pawcatuck Academy, on Cooky Hill, and entered the first class of the Westerly High School, the class of 1874. Previously he took two years' work at Alfred Academy, and then entered the Westerly High School in 1870. He did not graduate, but in his junior year did special tutoring and entered Amherst College with the class of 1877.

During the school and college years, he learned the printer's trade with his father and uncle, J. Herbert Utter, in the office of the Narragansett Weekly. After the college years, he became a news gatherer for the Narragansett Weekly and gradually took over the responsibility of publisher, relieving his father of too confining duties in the printing office. His uncle died in 1886, and George H. became a member of the firm of G. B. & G. H. Utter. He became the sole proprietor when his father died in 1892.

In 1893 he established The Westerly Daily Sun, and continued to publish the Narragansett Weekly for several months. But it was no longer a paying venture. The Westerly Daily Sun from the beginning has been printed on

Sunday evenings, and is the only Sunday evening paper in the country. There is no Saturday paper.

At Amherst he had taken honors in prize speaking and debate. After graduation his voice began to be heard in public, in town meeting, prayer meeting, as teacher of a men's class, and as superintendent of the Pawcatuck Seventh Day Baptist Sabbath School. He often said in later years that it was speaking in that church school that did more for his development as a public speaker than anything that had happened in his early career.

He became a member of the School Committee of District Number One of Westerly. Those politically minded began to look to him as having certain political possibilities. Among his early friends were Samuel H. Cross, town clerk of Westerly, State Auditor from 1882 to 1887, and Secretary of State (1888-1890), and the two U. S. Senators Nathan F. Dixons. He was a member of the staff of Governor August O. Bourne of Bristol from 1883 to 1885.

He had made many friends in the Republican party when Westerly sent him as its Representative to the Rhode Island General Assembly. He found Democrats in control and he became a leader in the minority party. Later, with the Republicans in control, he was elected Speaker of the House. In May 1889 he was sent to the Senate and remained there for two terms. He became chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the Senate, and it was then that he first became at odds over some measure that General Brayton, the head of the Republican party, wanted.

Again the Republicans had lost complete control of the General Offices. A Democrat was in the Secretary of State's office, and Mr. Utter accepted the nomination for that office, and was elected along with the Republican landslide. Charles P. Bennett had left Westerly to enter the Auditor's office when Samuel H. Cross became State

Auditor from 1882 to 1887. It was during Mr. Utter's term of office as Secretary of State that he engaged Charles P. Bennett as the one assistant in the Secretary of State's office. In the second term he also employed Richard S. Jennings. These three men became life long friends, and years later Mr. Jennings became secretary to Mr. Utter when he became Governor. He was Secretary of State for two years. The office was in the old State House. He refused a third nomination in 1894, saying that a young and growing family of children down in Westerly and the young Westerly Sun needed his undivided attention.

In 1897 Warren O. Arnold of Glocester, a Westerly manufacturer, had declined the renomination to Congress. George H. Utter was pressed to be a candidate. So was Adin B. Capron. The two men who had become warm friends in the General Assembly talked the situation over, and it was decided that Capron should go to Washington. If at the conclusion of his term Mr. Utter then desired to be a candidate, Capron arranged to support his friend. That agreement was kept.

But in the meantime the Republicans again turned to Mr. Utter to run as Lieutenant Governor with Samuel P. Colt as Governor. That was in 1903. Mr. Colt was defeated by Lucius F. C. Garvin, a Democrat, and Mr. Utter as Lieutenant Governor found himself the ranking Republican and the nominal head of the party. Both Utter and Garvin were graduates of Amherst College and belonged to the same chapter of Delta Kappa Epsilon.

In the Fall of 1904, Lieutenant Governor Utter was nominated for Governor against Governor Garvin. It was a close and bitter pre-election fight. Not until the official tabulation of the entire state had been counted was it determined that Utter had been elected by only 856 votes.

In his inaugural speech Governor Utter said "Public office, however humble or however exalted that office

may be popularly considered, is simply a public trust, and the person who enters upon its responsibilities in any other spirit or with any other thought, is false not to his State alone, but to himself as well." The new Governor was in constant demand as a speaker. His first address was made to the Knights of Columbus, then the Rhode Island Business Men's Association, the Eagles, R. I. Baptist Social Union, and he presided at a Brown-Dartmouth debate. That was the way it went for two years, nights away from home and family. He was called out of the state to speak before the Middlesex Club of Boston, the student body at Mount Holyoke, Lake Mohonk Conference on Arbitration, Y. M. C. A., the Lewis Institute of Chicago.

When a Newport clergyman said in his pulpit that "bribery is rampant in the halls of the State House" February 1, 1905, Governor Utter's ire was aroused. He said "That man when he spoke those words either did not know what he was talking about or he wilfully lied." He constantly arose to defend the charges of wide corruption in the state.

After a dinner of the Irish-American Republican Club of Woonsocket, he was twitted by the Evening Telegram for saying there that he had a "blue eyed Irish" grandmother. (As a matter of fact there was such a person, a joy to the family, but a second wife of one of the Maxsons. And she had no children. as later searchers found, but mothered a brood not her own. They loved her as if she had been their mother.)

Because he would not appoint a certain man as one of the city Police Commissioners, according to a Providence paper, "the gambling element is out for blood" against the Governor.

The New York Tribune May 15, 1905, said, "Governor George H. Utter of Rhode Island is a Seventh Day Baptist, and therefore on the last day of the week the Ex-

ecutive Department of the State does no business. Strangers who come from a distance to see the Governor often choose the week-end to travel in, and great is their distress when, on arriving at the capitol, they learn that Governor Utter is conducting his Sabbath School in Westerly and cannot discuss temporal affairs until after sunset. Rhode Islanders, therefore, who are acquainted with his scruples, make their calls upon him before sundown on Friday."

In the fall of 1905, Governor Garvin was again nominated by the Democrats, and Governor Utter again became the standard bearer for the Republicans. He increased his plurality over the year before, and was elected for his second term by 5495. The vote was Utter, Republican, 31,311, and Garvin, Democrat, 25,815. He carried all the cities but Woonsocket and Central Falls.

It was in the last days of this campaign that the family of Governor Utter had hours of worry that were very real to them. In June 1905 there had been "rough work" at a Block Island town meeting. The town was badly divided, and at three previous times had refused to authorize a bond issue. There had been trouble before and one faction on this fourth attempt brought in a score or more of deputy sheriffs from the mainland. They were met at the entrance to the Town Hall by 200 voters of one faction. Things began to happen.

They were assailed with blackjacks, clubs, slingshots, chairs and rocks. They retreated but not until after the Town Hall was wrecked, half a dozen officers retired with "broken heads." The police authority of the state was put to rout. That was in June. The atmosphere was well charged for any sort of trouble at the fall election.

Members of one faction asked Governor Utter to call out a company of militia on election day. Another asked for sufficient numbers of deputy sheriffs to force the Islanders to conduct a fair election. There had been all sorts

of threats before election day. Men had gone through the streets shooting off firearms. Houses of Assembly candidates had been stoned. Things looked in a bad way.

Having in mind what happened early in the summer when other deputy sheriffs were sent to the Island, the Governor took things into his own hands and decided to go to the Island himself. The sheriff of Newport County made arrangements for a launch to leave early in the morning. The Governor sent word that he would be at the Island in the morning and would like to meet the voters of the Island at the Town Hall. It was the day before election.

He left Newport at 6 o'clock in the morning in a 50 foot open launch. The skipper, a boy, and Governor Utter were aboard. The sheriff sent word at the last minute that he would not go along. It was rough that day. The Governor was a good sailor and when he reached the dock in the old harbor at 10:30, all the town folks were there.

They accompanied him up to the Town Hall. Then, as he later said, "I talked to them like a father. They seemed to like it too." The Town Hall was packed. He made it plain that he was there solely in the interest of good government, and would take no sides in the factional fight. He urged them for the sake of the state, town and families to behave themselves.

Then toward noon the inhabitants accompanied him again to the dock. Leaders were anxious for his own good and warned him that he better be on his way. The breeze was stiffening and there was a chop from out of the south-east. The trip to the Island had been rough, and the one back to Newport threatened to be rougher. "Better be going if you want to vote tomorrow, Governor," was the suggestion of one of the Islanders. By the middle of the afternoon, the launch pulled into Newport with a weather-

worn Governor—and a family back in Westerly well relieved after a telephone message.

The Governor told newspaper men that he believed the voyage had been well worth while, and that both factions would behave themselves and conduct a fair election on the next day.

After the votes had been counted, Block Island reported there had been peace and harmony, and that George H. Utter for Governor had 334 votes and Lucius F. C. Garvin 48.

At his second inauguration January 3, 1906, he said to the General Assembly in his inaugural speech, "When the founder of our colony declared that it was the purpose of himself and the little body of men who met with him to hold forth, 'a lively experiment,' he had in view a thought that was dear to him, but which probably he could not even have dared to think that at this time it would have become the thought of the whole world.

"Whatever may be the result of that declaration at that time, to us it meant that, in this commonwealth, a man was to have real, full liberty in religious concerns, and that fact stands today that that is the central thought of all civilized countries of the world. And yet a free government, of the people, by the people, for the people, is always and will to the end of time be a lively experiment." In closing he said, "There is no nobler motto, there is no greater wish than that we each one can take to ourselves today than this, and this only, 'I serve.' "

It was Governor Utter who inaugurated the custom of having the Lieutenant Governor preside over the Senate. From colonial days up to that time the Governor had presided. But Governor Utter felt that the presiding by the Lieutenant Governor magnified that office and gave him more time to study the problems confronting the Chief Executive. But he complained that the result had been

that the time he would save had been taken up by visitors. He continuously advocated the veto power for the Governor. He claimed the Governor should have more influence in shaping legislation.

In an interview with a reporter he was once asked how he endured the long hours that were required for night speaking assignments all over the state. "I am used to long hours," he replied. "I have always worked nights. I do not feel comfortable if I do not go down to The Sun office every evening for some part of the evening at least. Mrs. Utter does not like it, of course, but I tell her I cannot get out of the habit. I am accustomed to work—work is a good thing for any man."

In his annual message to the General Assembly in 1906, he advocated a constitutional convention. He said, "I am convinced it would be wise for us to effect a speedy change in our constitution in certain particulars, and that the time to make such changes is before the necessity is so forced upon us as to endanger conservative action in making them."

Again and again he warned sheriffs to stop gambling in the state. The Narragansett Breeders Association was told that "pool selling" would not be permitted at any race track in the state. He opposed state appointed police commissions in any city of the state.

The election of 1906 found that the Mayor of Pawtucket, James H. Higgins, was the Democratic candidate for Governor. George H. Utter was the candidate for a third term. There was a third party in the field headed by Col. Robert H. I. Goddard, who was a candidate for the United States Senate.

The issue raised against the Republican party was Bossism and Braytonism. General Brayton, the "blind boss," had not always found that Governor Utter was willing to go along with him. But Brayton and Utter were

tolerant one toward the other, Brayton realizing that Utter was a vote getter. And Governor Utter did not believe in shouting about something unless there was a chance of doing something about it. The Providence Journal said on this issue "Governor Utter has always shown himself independent in his conduct in office, though he has been content to express his independence in action rather than words."

Governor Utter said to the Republican party in that campaign, "I promise now, as I have promised before, if your choice is approved at the polls, to be ready to listen to advice from every person who has advice to give, but to act as my own judgment and as my own conscience dictates and in no other way, and with that promise I accept your renomination."

"Braytonism" became the issue, made so by the Democratic candidate for Governor and the independent candidate for Senator. Both endorsed the other. Higgins wanted Brayton ousted from the committee rooms of the General Assembly. Governor Utter said that if Higgins was elected Governor he would be unable to oust the boss. He had no power to do it.

Then, pounded by the Democrats and Independents on the bossism issue, Governor Utter said in Central Falls on the last day of October, "I detest bossism in any party and I believe the time has come to turn out that thing which sacrifices the state's honor." Then he spoke of Braytonism as "a menace to the state."

From then until election the Central Falls speech was the football on the campaign gridiron. It injected an unknown factor into the campaign. Even Candidate Higgins was taken by surprise. Friends of Governor Utter were shocked. Others cooled in their enthusiasm. General Brayton was hurt.

Higgins won the election by 1318 votes. The Demo-

cratic candidate had 33,195 votes and the Republican 31,877. The General Assembly and the other general officers were all Republican. Governor Utter wired his congratulations to Governor-elect Higgins. The latter replied, "Accept my hearty thanks for your kind congratulations and also my deep appreciation for your clean and manly campaign."

It was generally admitted that the eleventh hour speech of Governor Utter had proved his undoing. He ran 2826 votes behind Lieut. Governor Jackson and 7045 behind Secretary of State Charles P. Bennett. Both were Republicans.

Retired to private life again, Mr. Utter seemed to have as little time for his home affairs as during the strenuous years as Governor. He was constantly in demand as a public speaker, whether it was a State Sunday School Convention in New York State, a State Teachers' Convention in New Jersey, or the dedication of a new Y. M. C. A. building. He was still a member of the Executive Committee of the Mass.-R. I. Y. M. C. A. and was at the same time treasurer of the Missionary Society of the Seventh Day Baptist denomination, a director of the Washington Trust Company, a trustee of the Westerly Public Library and Memorial Association, and deacon of his church.

But he was not to be allowed to lose himself in a rest from public service. Congressman Adin B. Capron, he who had been such a close friend years ago in the General Assembly, had on October 14, 1910, announced to Republicans of the state that he was not a candidate for reelection from the Second Rhode Island District. "I am glad there is no dearth of capable and honest men in our party to take up the work," he said.

Mr. Utter was immediately in demand from all corners of the state. He was besieged to announce his candidacy. But he refused to do anything to help himself. The

snow ball had started. But it was without direction, and as a result the Westerly delegation to the Republican Congressional convention took things in hand. Richard W. Jennings, the former secretary of Mr. Utter when Governor, felt the quickening pulse in the north end of the state.

The delegation without taking the Governor into their confidence announced they were going to nominate him on the floor of the convention. That is all that was needed. Samuel H. Davis, as spokesman for the delegation, aroused the friends of the candidate from Westerly. John W. Sweeney (later a justice of the Rhode Island Supreme Court) was the Westerly member of the State Central Committee. Action there was stopped. A majority of the committee was not for Utter.

Warwick was back of Walter R. Stiness of Warwick, and Coventry brought out E. E. Arnold of that town. Before going into the convention the Westerly delegation had 61 votes. On the first vote in the triangular contest Utter received 91, Stiness 51 and Arnold 24. The Westerly man had a margin of 16 over the combined vote of the other two candidates.

In his nomination speech, Mr. Davis said, "He is a Republican of Republicans, was born at the birth of the Republican party, trained in Republican institutions, served the Republican party, and has served the people of the state in three of the five elective offices of his state, a service rendered by no other man in the history of Rhode Island; and not because he sought these honors or forced himself on the leaders of the party, but because his party needed him and the people demanded his services."

Aram J. Pothier of Woonsocket had been named the Republican candidate for Governor and Zenas W. Bliss, Lieutenant Governor. The campaign was on. In the end, after the votes had been counted it was found that Utter had defeated Thomas F. Cooney of Cranston by 5240.

In the district Utter ran ahead of Governor Pothier by 701.

Near the close of his term of office, Mr. Utter spoke in Denver, Col., Atlanta, Ga., and was in constant demand, as he was able to give of his time. In the split of the National Republican party in 1912 which had occurred between Ex-President Theodore Roosevelt and President William Howard Taft Congressman Utter went on speaking tours in the pre-convention campaign in behalf of Taft. On one tour in the middle west he spoke ahead of the Republican candidate, Taft. The plan was to send him ahead on another train, so that he would speak and hold the audience for the President while the latter was speaking elsewhere.

In Toledo, O., as he was about to go to the platform, he was told there had been a train delay and Mr. Taft would be at least an hour and a half late. Mr. Utter spoke and held the audience until President Taft arrived.

The campaign had taxed his strength. He was a tired man when he returned to his home that summer. His condition did not improve. He was again nominated for Congress. His last speech was at Kingston Fair, the middle of September. He was operated on a few weeks before the election. The conditions for recovery were found to be very unfavorable. An attempt was made to keep the seriousness of his condition from the public. He died Sunday afternoon, two days before election.

An attempt was made by the Republican State Central Committee to substitute another candidate, but the time was not sufficient. Peter G. Gerry of Newport, although not a resident of the district, was elected. He was the first Democrat ever to sit in the National House of Representatives from the Second District. Ever since then, 1912, he has been a member of Congress. He is now, in 1941, the Senior Senator from Rhode Island.

William Tyler Page, who had been secretary of Con-

gressman Capron and other Rhode Islanders before him, was the secretary of Congressman Utter. Mr. Page made an excellent tutor for the new man. He had been, since as a boy page on the floor of the National House, in some way connected with Congress. Today, in 1941, sixty years since he first went to the Capitol, he is still at a post of responsibility. He is the clerk of the minority (Republican) in the House. Mr. Page is the author of the America's Creed.

In adding his memories of his days with Mr. Utter in Congress, he wrote recently: "Governor Utter became a minority member of the 62d Congress which covered the last half of the Taft administration. It was not an auspicious time to enter Congress for a man zealous to render constructive service to his country. A Democratic House had been called into extra session by a Republican President for the purpose of enacting a reciprocity treaty with Canada. This became a bone of contention and still further split the Republican party which already had been sorely harassed by the wool schedule of the Payne-Aldrich tariff act.

"And in the offing was the threatened organization of the Bull Moose Party under the leadership of Colonel Theodore Roosevelt. It was on the issue of the tariff and so-called 'Cannonism' that the Democrats had won the House in the election of 1910. Some 18 Republicans were elected who organized a 'Progressive Bloc,' which gave aid and comfort to the Democrats and were the vanguard of the Bull Moosers.

"So, altogether, the lot of a new and orthodox Republican was not a happy one. Being in the minority foreclosed opportunity for effective display of talent. Nevertheless, Governor Utter, in characteristic fashion and with indefatigable devotion to duty, so well known to the people of Rhode Island, hewed closely to the line, and it was not

long before he left a favorable impress upon the House. The members recognized in him a man not only of forensic ability, but one of strong and uncompromising convictions. They also appraised him as fearless, frank and sincere in the expression of opinion.

"Governor Utter, unlike most new members, quickly came to be regarded as one of the most forceful debaters and an eloquent and convincing orator. He had these gifts wonderfully developed, doubtless due to the background of his experience in public life and his studious habits. It was said by the reporters of debates that Governor Utter's diction was perfect, and that, although a very rapid speaker, his enunciation was clear and distinct. It was freely said that in Governor Utter his party had a potential leader whose forceful and forthright methods would become a valuable asset.

"During the exciting and crucial preliminary and general campaigns for the Presidency in 1912 Governor Utter was in constant demand as a speaker at important meetings. He spoke in many states, practically covering all of the principal cities in Ohio in behalf of the candidacy of President Taft. He was an ardent admirer of Mr. Taft who was his embodiment of our Constitutional form of government. It was the incessant demand during that campaign upon Governor Utter's physical resources that resulted in his breakdown and hastened his death. He was a vicarious sacrifice in a cause which he espoused with all his vigor and fine mental resources and through it all he smiled while suffering intense bodily pain.

"Governor Utter was deeply religious. This was recognized and respected. He was a member of the Seventh Day Baptist Church. His religious convictions were so strong and sincere that he would not transact any business on Saturdays, not even going to his office nor to the sessions of the House. On one occasion an important vote

came up late one Saturday afternoon after six o'clock. His secretary telephoned him and pointed out that the vote would come after that hour. But Governor Utter said that while that might be true, nevertheless it would still be the day he observed as the Sabbath, that it was a matter of principle with him and not of hours, and that he would have to miss the vote regardless of what the political consequences might be. This was characteristic. Principle, and not expediency always motivated him."

CHAPTER XXII

INTER FAMILY LINES

Sometime ago the writer undertook to find out something about all his ancestors. His family has lived in the same region around about Westerly, R. I., and North Stonington, Conn., from early Colonial days. The only diversion was when William Utter, his great-grandfather, went from Hopkinton, R. I., to live in central New York State. But his son, George B. Utter, and grandfather of the writer, returned to Westerly after some 60 years. His son, George H. Utter, lived in Westerly and his grandchildren are still in Westerly and Providence.

We have limited the attempt to find as many as possible of the ancestors of George H. Utter and his wife, Elizabeth Lavina Brown, whose father and grandparents lived in North Stonington, Conn. The eighth generation has possibly 1024 ancestors. Mrs. Katharine M. Utter Waterman and George H. Utter were the eighth generation from the emigrant Nicholas Utter.

George H. Utter's wife was the eighth generation from Thomas Brown, who came from Grawton, England. The emigrant ancestors or their ancestors in the old country thus far known are: Nicholas Utter (1637?-1722); Elizabeth Pooler (1717-1768); Robert Burdick (-1692); Samuel Hubbard; Tacy Cooper; John Wilcox (-1651), settled in Hartford, Conn.; Catharine Stoughton of Windsor, Conn.; John Johnson of Guilford, Conn.; John and Hannah Parmlee were married in Guilford, Conn., 1651; Richard Maxson of Newport (-1636); Hugh Mosher of England; Rebecca Horndell of New Haven; James Rogers (1616-1687), owned the Old Mill in New London, and

descended from Sir John Fitz Roger of Shuttlebrook (1415-1441); Samuel Rowland of New London; Robert Burdick of Westerly.

Thomas Bliss (1550-1635) of Devonshire, England; Benedict Arnold (1615-1678), first colonial governor of Rhode Island; Stukeley Westcott (1592-1611); Arnold Collins of Newport, before 1690, who was related to Roger Williams and Governor Richard Ward, but not in a direct line of descent; Michael Phillips (-1689), who was in Newport before 1668; Dr. Comfort Starr (-1659), who came from Cranbrook, England, in 1635, a founder of Harvard College; Elder William Brewster, who came in the Mayflower; James Morgan (1607-1685); Mary Vine (1641-1689) of "Old England" lived in New London; Richard Starr of Somerset, England, died 1591; Richard Miles (1593-1667), of Milford, Conn.

Thomas Dewey of Windsor, Conn.; John Drake from England, "Windsor's most eminent and wealthiest man," descends from Queen Elizabeth's famous commander, Sir Bernard Drake; Henry Wolcott (1578-1655) of Tolland, England, who settled in Dorchester; and Elizabeth Sanders (1589-1655).

The ancestors of Mrs. George H. Utter (Elizabeth L. Brown) number among them: Thomas Brown (1628-1683) of England; Thomas Newall; Henry Miner, who died in England in 1359; Christopher Avery (1590-1670); Robert Holmes of Stonington in 1670; William Chesebrough (1594-1667); Capt. George Denison (-1694); Ann Borodell (1615-1712); Amos Richardson (1623-); Robert Williams (1598-1693); Elizabeth Stalham; John Gorham; Thomas Wheeler of Plymouth; Thomas Park; Dorothy Thompson; Capt. John Gallup, killed in the Great Swamp fight; Hannah Lake, sister-in-law of Governor Winthrop, Jr.; John Randall (-1685); Robert Holmes appears in

Stonington, Conn., 1670; Philip Stugis of Northampton, England.

Valentine Prentice, who came over in 1631 with Rev. John Eliott, the apostle to the Indians; Robert Latimer of New London; George Griggs (1593-1660); Henry Collins (1606-1687); Allen Breed (1601-1691); Walter Palmer came from England in 1628 and settled in Stonington 1653; Rebecca Short came to America in 1632; James Babcock (-1679); George Lawton (-1693); Thomas Vose; William Billings (1629-1712); Roger Sterry (1630-1680); Thomas Hazard (1610-1680); Joseph Clarke (1618-), brother of Dr. John Clarke, who secured the King Charles charter for Rhode Island; Joseph Crandall; Andrew Langworthy (-1680); John Lewis appears in Westerly in 1661.

Rev. John Crandall (1636-1704) came from Wales; Samuel Gorton, a friend of Roger Williams and one of those who established religious freedom in Rhode Island; Samuel Langworthy (-1737); Thomas Potter (1663-1778); George Lanphear (-1731) was in Westerly in 1669; John Greenman of Newport in 1640; John Peckham (1681-1681), descended from John de Peckham, who appears as early as 1191; Mary Clarke (1607-); James Weeden of Boston (-1773); Rose Paine (1670-); William Ross (-1712); John Clarke (-1559); Catherine Cook (1541-1598); George Stillman (1654-1728) of Wethersfield, Conn., who came from England in 1695.

There are more than 150 different emigrant ancestors and 22 of them are ancestors more than once. One ancestor, Samuel Hubbard, is found eight times. Robert Burdick, Richard Maxson, Thomas Hazard, Thomas Brown and others are ancestors on several lines.

CHAPTER XXIII

THE IN-LAWS

KATHERINE TILLINGHAST

Wife of Lewis A. Waterman

Katherine Tillinghast, wife of Lewis A. Waterman, was born Dec. 15, 1904, the daughter of John Avery Tillinghast and Grace Hurd Bardeen. She is ninth in descent from Pardon Elisha Tillinghast, who was born in Sussex Co., England, and is first recorded in Providence Jan. 19, 1646. He was a prominent merchant, held many important offices, and was Elder of the First Baptist Church for forty years. He refused pay for his services and further gave the church a meeting house with the land on which it stood for so long as it remained a "six-principle" society. He is interred in a plot on Benefit Street, near Transit Street.

He was twice married and had twelve children. His devotion to family, church and fellow citizens has been inherited by his descendants in succeeding generations. The line follows:

1. Elder Pardon E. Tillinghast married 2nd Lydia Taber.
2. Pardon Tillinghast married 1st Mary Keech.
3. John Tillinghast married 2nd Phebe Greene.
4. Charles Tillinghast married Abigail Allen. He was killed during the Rev. War.
5. Deacon Pardon Tillinghast married Mary Sweet.
6. Rev. John Tillinghast married Susan C. Avery.
7. Judge Pardon Elisha Tillinghast married Ellen F. Paine.

8. John Avery Tillinghast married Grace Hurd Bardeen.
9. Katherine Tillinghast married Lewis A. Waterman.

Katherine Tillinghast Waterman is also ninth in descent from Thomas Barnes, who came from England on the Speedwell at the age of twenty, May, 1656. He married a fellow passenger and settled in Marlborough, Mass. The Barnes family data is from the History of Henneker (Cogswell 1880) as follows:

1. Thomas Barnes married Abigail Goodenow.
2. John Barnes married Hannah.
3. Jonathan Barnes married Rachel.
4. Paul Barnes married 2nd Abigail French.
5. Lucinda Barnes married Major Benjamin Ring.
6. Sarah Ann Ring married Lorenzo J. Patton.
7. Ella Frances Patton married 1st Bernard Bardeen.
8. Grace Hurd Bardeen married John A. Tillinghast.
9. Katherine Tillinghast

ARTHUR CHARLES O'LEARY

Husband of Katharine Waterman

Arthur Charles O'Leary, husband of Katharine Waterman, was born in Providence Aug. 29, 1897, the son of Arthur Eduard and Emma (Young) O'Leary.

He was a quartermaster of Naval Aviation in the last war, stationed at Hampton Roads, Va.

His father was born in Paris, France, son of Dr. Charles Wallace O'Leary and Louise Dietrich of an Alsatian family living in Cincinnati, Ohio, New York and Bal-

timore, Md. Emma Young (DeJong) was of Dutch and German extraction and born in Providence, R. I.

Dr. Charles Wallace O'Leary was son of Dennis and Catherine (Cantel) O'Leary, born in Kinsdale, Ireland and educated at Trinity College, Dublin. His grandmother belonged to the Wallace family of Barony of Ardagh, County Cork, a Scotch-Irish Presbyterian house. She was never forgiven for marrying out of her social class and religion.

Doctor Charles W. O'Leary came to Baltimore, Md., to teach Greek, later deciding to take up medicine. In the Civil War he was medical director of the 6th corps of the Army of the Potomac with title of Major. He was sent to Rhode Island to manage the military hospital in Newport and spent the rest of his life in Providence.

HASKINS BISHOP CANFIELD

Husband of Anne Waterman

Haskins Bishop Canfield, husband of Anne (Anna) Waterman, was born in Chicago July 10, 1900, the son of Arthur Lake Canfield and Louise Weber Haskins. His line of descent is as follows:

1. Phineas Canfield married Anne Eliza Lake.
2. Eli Lake Canfield married Sarah Maria Bishop. He died in Chicago, Ill., in 1891. She was born in Pontiac, Mich., and died in 1917 in Ann Arbor.
3. Arthur Lake Canfield married Louise Weber Haskins (née Emma Louise Weber). He was born at Lake Forest, Ill., and she in Brooklyn, N. Y. They were married in Rockport, Mass.
4. Haskins Bishop Canfield married Anne (Anna) Waterman.

The Canfield allied lines are of English extraction—early pioneer settlers of Massachusetts and Connecticut, many of them continuing by way of New York State to

Michigan and Illinois. Among the most prominent of the Colonial ancestors were Thomas Stanton, friend and confidante of Gov. John Winthrop of Massachusetts, and Capt. George Denison of Stonington, Connecticut. Several responded to the "Call to Arms" at Lexington in April 1775.

The descent of the Weber family is as follows:

1. Frederick Weber was born on Feb. 22, 1770, in Düsseldorf, Germany. He came to New York and married Caroline Cecilia Fawcitt (Fawcett, Faucitt) on May 1, 1836. He died in New York in 1850, Feb. 1.
2. William Theodore Weber was born Jan. 21, 1845, in Rockport, Mass., and died Oct. 10, 1881. He married Jane (Jennie) Tufts Tarr, daughter of Benjamin and Rhoda (Tufts) Tarr, of Rockport.
3. Emma Louise Weber, adopted by Leander and Gertrude (Davis) Haskins in 1890.

The descent of the Faucitt Line is as follows:

1. John Fawcett married Catherine
2. William Fawcitt born Yorkshire, England, 1771, married Oct. 12, 1797, Ann Wilkinson (daughter of John and Ann Wilkinson) born London, 1775. They came to America in 1806. Children were born in England and New York. Youngest were William and Caroline above. William was Robert Fulton's machinist and on maiden trip of Claremont on Hudson River.
3. Caroline Fawcett was born July 25, 1818, New York. Caroline (Fawcitt) Weber died in New York, Sept. 24, 1898. She married second, May 18, 1852, in Rockport, Mass., Daniel Staniford and had several children born in Rockport.

DOROTHY RUYTER VANDERBURGH

Wife of John Franklin Waterman

Dorothy Ruyter Vanderburgh, wife of John Franklin Waterman, was born May 30, 1903, daughter of Sheldon D. Vanderburgh and Thyra M. V. Ruyter, and is eighth in descent from Lucas Vanderburgh, who came to New York from Holland in 1650. The family lived in or near Poughkeepsie, N. Y., for a number of generations.

Dirch, son of Lucas, had Hendrick, born in 1707.

3. Hendrick or Henry Vanderburgh married Magdalena Knight.
4. Captain Henry Vanderburgh married Sarah Van Kleeck.
5. Henry Hester Vanderburgh married 2nd Sarah Miller.
6. Alexander Vanderburgh married Sylvina P. Davis.
7. Sheldon Davis Vanderburgh married Thyra M. V. Ruyter.
8. Dorothy R. Vanderburgh married John F. Waterman.

Captain Henry Vanderburgh was commissioner of deeds in Dutchess County and wrote soldiers' commissions during the Revolution. An arithmetic in his beautiful handwriting with fancy scroll work is in the Library of Dutchess County Court House in Poughkeepsie. His brother, Col. James D. Vanderburgh, was a member of Washington's staff and a member of the first Continental Congress.

HARRY LESLIE DEVOE

Husband of Margaret Waterman

Harry Leslie Devoe, husband of Margaret Waterman, was born June 9, 1904, son of Louis Elmer Devoe, at

Pawtucket, R. I. His great-grandfather, John Devoe, was born in France. He was captain of a vessel lost at sea. His wife died in the same disaster. Joseph F. Devoe, son of John above, was born in Boston, Mass., and died in North Attleboro, Mass., on August 8, 1923, aged 87 years, 7 months and 14 days. His gravestone has "U. S. N." cut under his name. He was in the Union navy during the Civil War. He married first, Louise Edwards of Cambridge, Mass.

The line of descent is as follows:

1. John Devoe.
2. Joseph F. Devoe married first Louise Edwards.
3. Louis Elmer Devoe married Ada Bateson.
4. Harry Leslie Devoe married Margaret Waterman.

Ada Bateson was born in Rushden, England, daughter of Robert Carr and Mary Ann (Powers) Bateson.

Robert Carr Bateson was son of Wilson Carr Bateson and Minnie (Taylor) Bateson.

Mary Ann Powers was daughter of George Powers and Emma Fawcett.

THELMA M. TRACY

Wife of Nicholas Utter Waterman

Thelma Mildred Tracy, wife of Nicholas U. Waterman was born April 1, 1914, daughter of Thomas J. Tracy of Newark Valley, N. Y. She is tenth in descent from Thomas Clarke (1599-1697) of Plymouth, Boston and Harwich, Mass. He is buried on the summit of Burying Hill at Plymouth and is reputed by family tradition and certain early historians to have been the mate on the May-

flower, and the first person from that ship to set foot on Clarke's Island.

It is supposed that he returned to England with his ship and rejoined the settlers at Plymouth a few years later. He was deacon of Plymouth Church forty-three years.

The line of descent is as follows:

1. Thomas Clarke married 1st Susanna, daughter of Mary Ring.
2. Andrew Clarke married Mehitable Scotto.
3. Scotto Clark married Mary.
4. Scotto Clark 2nd married Thankful Crosby.
5. James Clark married Desire Howes.
6. John Clark married 1st Eleanor Handy.
7. Betsey B. Clark married John Webber.
8. Ellen Webber married William M. Smith.
9. Marion Clark Smith married Thomas James Tracy.
10. Thelma M. Tracy married Nicholas Utter Waterman.

Mrs. Tracy was named for the town of Marion, where some of the family lived.

The Tracy line of descent follows:

1. Thomas Tracy, born May 4, 1802 at Smyrna, N. Y., is earliest ancestor mentioned in family papers. He married Semantha S. Briggs, born June 20, 1804 at Smyrna. He died 1843 and she 1882.
2. Edward P. Tracy married Harriet Brown. He was in the 44th Infantry of New York Sharpshooters in the Civil War and his name is on Little Roundtop at Gettysburg. One of his brothers died of starvation in a Richmond, Va., prison and another in a New Orleans hospital.

3. Thomas James Tracy married Marion Clark Smith.
 4. Thelma M. Tracy married Nicholas U. Waterman.
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KATHERINE LATHAM WILBAR

Wife of George B. Utter

Katherine Latham Wilbar Utter, wife of George B. Utter, was born in Bridgewater, Mass., January 16, 1889, daughter of Charles Allen Wilbar and Mary Tucker Snell. The children of Katherine Latham Wilbar and George B. Utter are Charles Wilbar, George Herbert and Jean Chilton.

Mr. Wilbar was a direct descendant of Samuel Wildbore and Ann Bradford, who came to Boston from England and were recorded as church members in 1633.

Samuel Wildbore was banished from Massachusetts Bay because he "embraced the dangerous doctrines of Cotton and Wheelright" and with eighteen others bought the island of Aquidnick in Rhode Island on the advice of Roger Williams and settled there. He and his descendants later acquired land in Taunton, Mass., and settled there. Katherine Utter's descent from Samuel Wildbore follows:

Shadrach married Mary Dean. His son, Shadrach II, born 1672, married Joanna Neal. Their son, Mechach Wilbor, married Elizabeth Leonard.

George Wilbar married Lydia Shelley.

Gideon Wilbar married Hulda Gardner.

Gardner Wilbar married Hannah Shaw.

Theodore Calvin Wilbar married Mary Chilton Latham of East Bridgewater, Mass.

On her mother's side Katherine Utter is descended from Thomas Snell, one of the original proprietors of Bridgewater, Mass. His wife was Martha Harris. The descent follows:

His son Joseph married Hannah Williams.

Joseph Snell II married Anna Williams.

Joseph Snell III married Hannah Cook.

Joseph Doane Snell married Jean Calder.

William Snell married Charlotte Johnston Lemist.

Through other lines Katherine Utter is descended from Mary Chilton, first female to land on Plymouth Rock, wife of John Winslow, who was brother to Governor Edward Winslow; Governor William Bradford, and Rev. James Keith of Scotland, first minister of Bridgewater, Mass.

MILDRED FISKE

Wife of Henry E. Utter

Mildred Fiske, who married Dr. Henry E. Utter, was born in Plainfield, N. J., December 23, 1893, the daughter of Wilson Fiske and Annie Trescott Southard. The children of Mildred Fiske and Dr. Henry E. Utter are Wilson and Sarah Elizabeth.

Wilson Fiske was descended from Nathan Fiske, who emigrated from England about 1630 with Wnithrop's Puritan band and was one of the original founders of Watertown, Mass. His son, Nathan, was father of Nathan III, who married Sarah Coolidge. Their son Henry married Mary Stone; another son, Daniel, married Deliverance Brown. This line gives Mildred Fiske as ancestors seven of the founders of Watertown, Mass., which was one of the first settlements of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay in New England, founded 1630, a decade after the Pilgrim Colony in Plymouth.

Through her mother, Annie Trescott Southard, she is a direct descendant of John Winslow and Mary Chilton, John Winslow being a brother of Governor Winslow of the Plymouth Colony.

On her father's side the line of descent is Nathan Fiske, who was born in England and died in Watertown, 1676, Nathan (1642-1694) who married Elizabeth Try, Nathan (1672-1740) who married Sarah Coolidge, Henry (1706-1790) who married Mary Stone, Henry (1745-1815) who married Sarah Brown, Joshua (1778-1835) who married Betsy Cheever, Samuel Cheever (1804-1874), Frederick Bothan (1830-1902) who married Mary Wilson, Wilson who married Annie Trescott Southard, Mildred who married Henry E. Utter.

On her mother's side the descent is Edward Southworth, born and died in England (1590-1621), who married Alice Carpenter, who later became the wife of William Bradford, Constant, born in Leyden, England, and died in Duxbury, Mass., 1678-9, who married Elizabeth Collier, Nathaniel (1641-1711) who married Desire Gray, a granddaughter of John Winslow, and Mary Chilton, Edward (1688-1748), Constant 1712-1775, Nathaniel (1737-1778), Nathaniel 1769-1840) (one of these Nathaniels changed the name to Southard), Zibeon (1809-1867) who married Helen Maria Trescott, Annie Trescott Southard, the mother of Mildred Fiske, who married Henry E. Utter.

EDGAR POTTER MAXSON

Husband of Mary Starr Utter

Mary Starr Utter, only daughter of Elizabeth Lovina Brown and George H. Utter, married Edgar Potter Maxson of Westerly September 11, 1916. He was born in Westerly January 3, 1889. His parents were William Edgar Maxson and Margaret Ann Niblock.

The children of Edgar P. Maxson and Mary Starr Utter Maxson are William Edgar, Henry Utter, Mary Starr and Edgar Potter. They descend from Richard Maxson, who was in Boston in 1634, was killed about 1642 by the Indians near Throggs Neck, which is now in the western end of Long Island Sound near Bridgeport, Conn.

His son John (1636-1720) was the first white child born on the island of Rhode Island. John, an elder of the Westerly Seventh Day Baptist Church, is buried near the Ministers' Monument in the Hopkinton Cemetery. He is believed to have gone to Westerly to live in 1661, together with several other settlers from Newport.

He married Mary Mosher, a granddaughter of Stephen Mosher, who left France in 1580 and settled in Manchester, England. Hugh Mosher, the father of Mary, was a cousin of another Hugh Mosher, who went to India in 1600 when the East India Company was formed in England. He amassed a fortune, said in those days to be valued at 32,000,000 pounds. He died without heirs, and the money was never distributed to the nearest of kin. As late as 1888 the money was waiting to be distributed—if all the heirs could be located.

The line descends through Jonathan Maxson (1680-1732) who married Content Rogers, John Maxson (1714-1778) who married Tacy Rogers, Jonathan Maxson (1737-1823) who married Mary Millard, Jonathan Maxson (1782-1852) who married Nancy Potter, William Maxson (1811-1900) who married Sara Rogers, William Edgar Maxson (1840-1893) a soldier in the Civil War who married Margaret Ann Niblock, who was born in Kilwinning, Scotland, and Edgar Potter Maxson (1889-1930) who married Mary Starr Utter Sept. 11, 1916, daughter of George Herbert Utter and Elizabeth Lovina Brown. He died December 30, 1930.

RUTH HUBBARD MAY

Wife of Wilfred B. Utter

Ruth Hubbard May, wife of Wilfred Brown Utter, was born in Yalesville, Conn., June 6, 1891, the daughter of Edwin Selden May and Hattie Durrie Tarbell. Ruth Hubbard May and Wilfred B. Utter have a daughter, Margaret Hubbard.

Mrs. Utter descends from the first John May who came from Mayfield, Sussex, England, and settled at Roxbury, Mass., in 1640.

The line of descent is from this John May (1590-1670), wife not known; John (1631-1671) married Sarah Brewer Bruce; John (1663-1730) married Prudence Bridge (1664-1723); Hezekiah (1696-1783) who moved to Wethersfield, Conn., in 1720, married Anna Stillman (1698-1767); Eleazer (1733-1803) married Sibyl Huntington (1734-1798); John (1758-1811) married Dorothy Arnold; John (1792-1859) married Emma Elliott (1809-1853); Henry Edwin (1839-1913) married Sophia A. Brainard (1840-1915); Edwin Selden (1865-) married Hattie Durrie Tarbell (1861-); Ruth Hubbard May (1891-) married Wilfred Brown Utter (1894-).

Mrs. Utter is also descended from Rev. John Eliot of Roxbury, Mass., "the apostle to the Indians," (1604-1690) and Joseph Eliot (1638-1694) who married Mary Wylls, daughter of Samuel Wylls, third governor of the Connecticut Colony, and granddaughter of John Haynes, governor of the Massachusetts Bay Colony (1636) and first governor of the Connecticut Colony (1639). Emma Eliot (1809-1853) married John May (1792-1859).

She is also descended from Governor William Bradford of the Plymouth Colony. His granddaughter, Mercy Bradford, married Samuel Steele (1652-1710) who resided in Hartford, Conn., Lemuel Steele (1749-1815)

married Mary Clapp, who was the 23rd generation from Walter de Raleigh, who was slain in the battle of Hastings, 1066. Mary Steele (1767-1846) married John Durrie (1760-1833). His daughter, Margaret, (1807-1893) married Norris Tarbell. Their daughter, Hattie Durrie, married Edwin Selden May (1865-) father of Mrs. Ruth May Utter.

Mrs. Utter is the twenty-eighth generation from Walter de Raleigh of 1066.

CHAPTER XXIV

LANDS AND RESIDENCE OF NICHOLAS UTTER

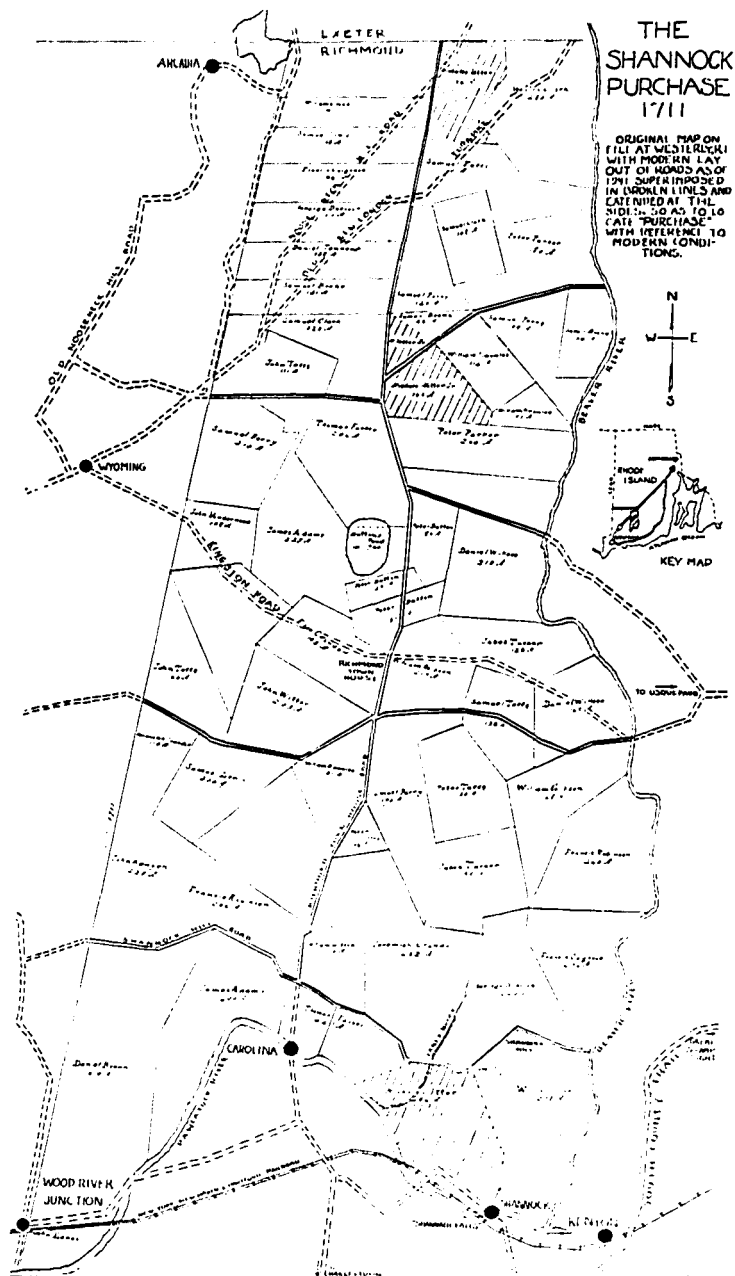
By Katharine U. Waterman

Nicholas Utter is first on record in Rhode Island in 1678, in connection with a case tried by the General Court at Newport. As this court served the whole state and no residence was mentioned, the entry proves merely that he was then in the Colony. He died in 1722 in Stonington, Connecticut, somewhere near present Clark's Falls, to the northwest of Ashaway, R. I.

His heirs sold three tracts of land and one had been sold during his lifetime. Entries in regard to two other transactions may refer to one or more of the same areas or to some other unidentified locations. Just where he lived during the above forty-four years cannot be definitely proved but there is no doubt that it was always near the Pawcatuck River or one of its tributaries, the Beaver, Wood, or Ashaway (Ashawage) Rivers.

A Westerly record of 1704 has him living near "Shanach Falls," which must be near the confluence of the Beaver and Pawcatuck Rivers, at or near Shannock. It is my guess that he settled here shortly after King Philip's War on a disputed tract near the Kingstowne-Westerly line which, in the final settlement of boundary in 1699, fell to Westerly. This would explain why he was taxed in Rochester (Kingstowne) in 1687, was made a freeman of Westerly in 1689 and with Jeremiah Crandall was claimed by both towns in 1699. It is of course possible that he lived first in Kingstown and then in Westerly.

This so-called "Narragansett Country" was practically



Nicholas Utter (1650-1722) and his son, Nicholas, Jr. Located and lived in the Shannock Purchase. Their holdings are shaded. Nicholas, Senior, lived in or near what is now Shannock, R. I.

abandoned during King Philip's War and all houses were destroyed by the Indians. People drifted back after 1675 and probably settled where they chose in the case of newcomers. In 1680, Westerly passed a statute that no one could further appropriate land without permission. No record of a first grant to Nicholas Utter is on the books and yet he was made a Freeman by 1689. As that privilege was conferred only after a man had proved himself financially and otherwise acceptable, he had probably been there some years, long enough to have acquired land and other property.

In 1701 he was paid for helping make a "list of the town estate," so it's quite evident that he had an established standing in the town before 1704 when his residence was first mentioned. In 1709 the Town Council definitely granted him one hundred acres of the vacant town land. But that was probably only a belated confirmation of his ownership of land originally granted in 1704 or earlier. See Field's History of Rhode Island, Vol. III, Page 48. This land is not located or bounded and no further mention of it has been found, but it seems reasonable to suppose it is the place referred to in 1704 as near Shanach Falls.

In 1709 the State fostered a plan to settle some of the vacant lands in Narragansett by selling a tract called the "Shannock Purchase" to some twenty-odd men, each of whom was to have one hundred acres of "improved" land and to buy additional portions under certain conditions. Nicholas Utter and three of his sons signed the Articles of Agreement, but the plat made by Daniel Brown, one of the signatories, shows only Nicholas and Nicholas Jr. as purchasers. Nicholas, senior, bought two parcels, one of 156 acres at the north border, which is now the border line between Richmond and Exeter, and which his heirs sold in part after his death. He also bought a 286 acre

piece at the south border on the north bank of the Pawcatuck River and not far west of Shannock.

Taney Brook runs across it to the Pawcatuck, having formed part of the bounding line between the parcels of George Babcock on the east bank and Jeremiah Crandall on the west bank. Between these two neighbors and Nicholas Utter, south of them, ran a road, called on later maps the Shannock Hill Road. This road is of gravel and runs from the South County Trail, north of Kenyon, where it skirts the Great Swamp, westward, with a number of sharp turns or corners and under various names, till it reaches the tar road from Wood River Junction to Woodville. From there it is a state highway to Hopkinton City and continues over into North Stonington, Connecticut. In Hopkinton City it is to the south of land owned by Abram Utter, where he lived. Just how much of this was a travelled road in Nicholas Utter's time I don't know, but it is shown as crossing the Shannock Purchase on the old plat in the Westerly town clerk's office. It's an interesting fact that three of his proved holdings were near that road.

Nicholas Utter sold this 286 acre plat near Shannock to his son, Nicholas, junior, about a year after its purchase and the latter sold it in two parcels, 186 acres to Stephen Wilcox and 100 acres to John Hill by March, 1713/14. Nicholas, senior, had, perhaps, a mortgage on the Wilcox portion which was cleared up in December, 1715. Nicholas Utter was then of Stonington, Conn. John Hill had already, in October, sold his piece to George Babcock. These details are given because of their possible connection with sale by the two Utters of part of their home farm to George Babcock about a year before their Shanach purchases.

In January of 1709/10, they sold twenty acres of land "where we now dwell" to George Babcock, bounded north

by land they had previously sold the same man (no record of this sale has been found) and bounded west by Jeremiah Crandall. On the south was a combination of a brook by a highway and the highway as it went up a hill from a fork in the brook to Frenk's Corner. The line then ran north to Babcock's land.

As above stated, the north bound of Utter's 286 acre purchase shows a brook crossing a road that runs up a hill and has three distinct bends or corners. Whether one of these is "Frenk's Corner" is unknown, but a piece of land north of this road could easily fulfill all the other conditions and no neighboring spot could do so, according to Brown's plat on which Babcock's land runs down in a sort of neck to the road. Babcock later extended it toward the river by purchase from John Hill, above. He had also bought forty acres from Francis Colegrove on his east border.

His original Shannock purchase was in February, 1709, one of the earliest on Brown's plat. My theory, for it is nothing else, is that the original one hundred acres on which the Utter family lived was in part at least on the north side of the Shannock Hill road along the east side of Taney Brook and so within the bounds of the Shannock Purchase as finally laid out. There were grist mills in this vicinity very early and evidently other "improved" property to be apportioned among the Shannock purchasers. George Babcock had his plans for an estate on the south side of Shannock Hill with a frontage on the river and a well travelled road running through it.

The Utter land was desirable for his purpose so he bought what he could and later got twenty acres more, which gave him a more promising frontage on the road as it neared the river. Eventually, he reached the latter by his purchase from Hill. This Hill notified the Town Council, in October, 1714, that Nicholas junior had left

Westerly, leaving behind his son, Joseph (the oldest so far as Westerly records go), and got the town to agree to an indenture of the lad to him till Joseph's majority. Hill had bought this Utter land the previous March and the boy had perhaps preferred to stay near home.

His grandfather, Nicholas senior, had bought land in what is now North Stonington, Conn., on "the Plains" near Clark's Falls, in January, and probably was already living there with Thomas Utter. (North Stonington separated from Stonington in 1807.)

Nicholas Utter seems to have lived with Nicholas junior till some unknown circumstance caused the latter to leave Westerly. Thomas Utter was living in Stonington and a bargain to look after his father in his old age in return for an extra share in his estate must have been made at this time, which accounts for the move to Stonington. This last home of Nicholas Utter bordered the Ashawage River, the land of Jonathan Burch from whom it was purchased, and also land belonging to the Randall family, into which his step-daughter, Eleanor, had married. It was probably near Clark's Falls on Glade Brook, which flows into the Ashawage southeast of that place, and south of the road from Clark's Falls to Hopkinton City.

After his death, Matthew Randall, husband of Eleanor, bought it, and in a few years passed it on by will to his two sons, Matthew and Benjamin, with his other land. Enough descriptive details are given at the time of sales to Randall, so that it can be reasonably identified with the western part of the share inherited by the younger Matthew. The shares of the two brothers are divided by a line marked by several stones marked M. R. on the north side and B. R. on the south. I understand that some are still standing.

Another piece of land was sold by the Utter heirs which must have contained about 200 acres. This had the

Wood River on the east and a highway on the west and must have been in the Maxson Purchase. Henry Tew owned a large tract on the south which bordered both the Wood and the Pawcatuck Rivers and which he eventually sold to George Babcock. This two hundred acres must have been a little south of the long road mentioned above, known as Shannock Hill road, in the vicinity of Woodville. No earlier mention of this tract has been found unless one of the records I have identified with the Shannock locality really refers to this, but it hardly seems possible in view of the names of abutting owners.

William Wanton and Samuel Browning are on the north boundary and the four sevenths on the west end were sold in 1723 to James Kenyon. 100 acres of this land seems to have passed through Peter Kenyon and Joseph Lewis to George Babcock by 1729. William Utter's one-seventh went to George Babcock in 1728/9. The rest of it went mostly to John Lewis and a small piece, $14\frac{1}{2}$ acres, to John Enos. Jedediah Irish had another small bit which he sold to George Babcock. George Babcock is the only connecting link with the Shannock lands. If Nicholas Utter ever lived here, he had a third residence halfway between the other two.

CHAPTER XXV

IRA THE ADVENTURER

By George B. Utter

Of all the eight children of William Utter and Dolly Wilcox who grew into maturity, it was Ira Wilcox Utter who had the adventurous life of a frontiersman. Like his father and "Uncle John," who left the old family home in Hopkinton and went into the frontier of Mohawk Valley in New York State, he went west as a young man, acquired land on the Pacific coast at Seattle, contended with the Indians, grew up with the country for half his life, and then returned to the home of his father to die in his fiftieth year. He was never married.

How Uncle Ira went west we do not know. He probably went on a New England clipper around the Horn. He arrived at "San Francisco" in 1851 or 1852. He may have been aroused by the call of the gold hunters of '49. But we know from claims made in 1857 against the United States that he had acquired property direct from the government, and was "an actual and legal settler" in Kings County in Washington Territory, "along the Bay" at Seattle.

He lost his home and considerable property "on or about the 26th day of January, A. D. 1856." He was then thirty years old. How much earlier it was that he staked out a claim along Puget Sound we do not know. In a letter to his brother Abram he says "my land was all from the government in the first right, my titles are the oldest and all others must be bounded by mine for that reason."

It must have been some years before 1856 that he

settled there, for it is known that he had become a fast friend of the Indians. At one time he was warned by friendly Indians that there was to be an attack made on the settlers. He forced the Indians to paddle him in a canoe to Seattle. The settlement was saved. That may have been before the Indian War of 1856 when the hostiles were on the rampage.

Isaac Stephens, who was Governor and Superintendent of Indian Affairs in Washington Territory at that time, told Congress of the "perturbed state of the country." He reported that the "entire territory of Walla Walla and Skamania Counties, and nearly the whole of King and Price Counties were at one time actually in the possession of the Hostils." In regard to the claims, he said many of them were "considerably less than the actual loss sustained." He went on to explain that most of the cases "are those of men who with their families were driven from their farms and compelled to seek safety in block houses and towns."

The inventory of the property lost by Uncle Ira shows that his place was located "on the north side of Salmon Bay, in the County of King and territory of Washington, commencing at the southwest corner of the claim formerly known as F. W. Watts, running north 32 chains; east 40 chains; north 26 chains, west 50 chains; south to Salmon Bay; then along the bay to the place of beginning; containing 160 acres." In the inventory of property lost in the Indian war was a dwelling, 16x20 feet, \$300.00; 200 bushels of potatoes, \$200.00. Then were inventoried potatoes, onions, turnips, shovels, axes, cooking utensils, and "public documents." There was a canoe worth \$10.00 and household furniture was listed as high as \$8.00. Apparently he lost no valuable old family heirlooms. The total claim against the government was \$637.25.

For more than 20 years he proceeded to develop his

holdings. Family letters frequently make mention of this younger brother on the Pacific coast. Apparently there was greater affection between Ira and the oldest brother, Francis Abram Utter, for he writes to him in a friendly strain. Both refer to George B. Utter as "The Elder" and usually it is with some mention of finances. Most of the brothers had a way of seeing to it that their only sister, Dolly Maria, was well provided for. She lived with The Elder in Westerly after the death of Mary Starr Maxson, the mother of George H. Utter, when this "Georgie" was fourteen years of age.

There is a letter of August 28, 1870, from Ira to Abram, written from Seattle, in which he describes how things are on his claims. "It being summer and my busy season," he apologizes for not writing more. But in the beginning he asked "how much is needed in the future annually for mother and Maria," and asks "how much each of us should make our arrangements to pay to meet those demands." The father, William, had died two years previous. Uncle Ira says he has tried in vain to get a "statement from any of the Westerly people," where "mother" had died during a visit and "Sister Maria" was residing. October and November are the months when he sells his cattle and crops, and the time for him to make his "arrangements."

Early in 1870 he tells of the growing city with 1500 inhabitants. To Abram on March 1st, 1870, he says: "For the past year on account of the prospective railroad and coal mines, Seattle has made quite a growth. It now has about fifteen hundred inhabitants and property has doubled in value within the past year in this county, while that within four or five miles of Seattle has not any established price as they have bought it for the purpose of waiting the development of the future. Town lots sell at from ten dollars to one thousand, as they are located. The

city charter is four miles square and all within those bounds think that they may be in the streets of a city in a few years, should things continue as the present bids fair for. At least we have the best show and grow the fastest of any town on the sound.

"Two steamers a week run upon the sound—one down Monday and one Thursday from Olympia to Victoria (Vancouver Island) while a half dozen small steamers run from Seattle to different points on the sound to carry passengers, freight and towing rafts of logs to the different mills. Can't say when the bubble will burst and care as little, as all I expected from it is a little while I live. When one is gone little thanks he gets for what he leaves.

"Now about my own matters I will say a word, but upon only the condition that what I may say may remain with you, and you are not to trust anyone, even your dear wife, to help keep the secret. I have had to stop writing Mother and Maria on account of their telling what I have said of myself and exposed me to the begging of a lazy set of growing relatives, and I shall have to do so by all if I get any more such treatment. I thought as you may also think, one may not live to accomplish all that they design to do and my object has been and is to make my means meet my expenses so that when I am through with my work here I may not leave anything in the property kind for others to quarrel over.

"As I may not do as well as that, I will state to you how I am now situated. If no changes are made it won't pay my friends at home to look after matters. I have not any money worth mentioning. Now for property I have six hundred acres of land which is my own and situated on Shilshole Bay, as known in the land office at Olympia (or Salmon Bay as they call it in this county) which is from four to five miles north of Seattle and connects with the sound, so they can come along in front of my farm with

steamers. I have 56 acres of land within the city limits of Seattle, about one and one-half miles north of the now city, and one-half mile from the bay upon which Seattle stands. This is high land and I can look from it all over the bay and city of Seattle when the woods are removed. Of course, in the future it will be valuable.

"The papers in the land office at Olympia will show how all of this is. Now I have 168 acres of land adjoining my farm that I have bought on time—was to pay \$800 for it. Have paid three hundred—five hundred to pay as follows: One hundred Dec. 1st, 1870; one hundred Dec. 1st, 1871; one hundred Dec. 1st, 1872; two hundred Dec. 1st, 1873. This land is now worth three or four times what I have to pay for it, and if anything should happen to me would pay my friends to pay the mortgage as I have a deed to the land.

"All told you will see I have eight hundred and eighteen or twenty acres of land. To pay this five hundred dollars I have spoken of in the coming three and a half years, I have 65 head of cattle or had at last accounts. All of my other debts do not amount to \$100. I have on this land from one hundred and fifty to two hundred acres of improved land, the rest being woods and timber land which I use as pasture, and my cattle get good living off from it. The body of my land I can't put any price upon, but would not take twenty dollars an acre. Much of it is worth more—yet if any forced sale was made it would go very low, as at such times land goes low. If the coal and railroad prove what is talked about them within five years, all of this land will be worth one hundred dollars an acre. I am told that a business man in Seattle says if the coal and railroad prove good, my property will be worth a \$1,000,000. I would be glad to sell it at less than half that any time.

"The government at Washington has sent men here,

and they have surveyed from the sound up the bay I live on for the purpose of cutting a canal into some fresh water lakes just above me, to run their ironclad steamer war vessels into and have reported in favor of it. If they cut the canal off not over five miles, all the coal will come out that way and in front of my farm. You will see in such a case what must be the value of the place when all the shipping has to make the bay in front of my place a harbor.

"I write these things that you may not be deceived in case of any representations which might be made to you. I don't know that I need to make any will as I want to spend this property for myself, but if I should not, mother's and Maria's claims must be first attended to by all my relatives before any division of the same. I would rather it should never be sold and may make such an arrangement yet.

"I did not send any money to Mother and Maria this fall as had to use more than expected. I think I will let the Elder manage a year or so with what they got from sales. Guess they will get along. Let me know how things are working in that line.

"Write soon and tell me for what amount a box and book of the Homeopathic Medicines can be sent me here. We have none of the kind about here. Have had a lame hand or should have written before. It is not well yet but doing well."

Again Ira writes from Seattle on August 28th, 1870. He says to Abram:

"You appear to be growing in the railroad line with you, while with us they are doing the wind work in that line. There are two or three companies of surveyors sent out by the North Pacific Railroad Co. now in the Cascade Mountains, looking out the best pass to Puget Sound, and one company from the Columbia River to the sound. All the little towns on the sound are expecting the terminus,

and Seattle not the least. We have the Snognalimmi Pass in this county, which Stevens called the best in the range, and they are now making their surveys through it and will be able to make their reports this fall.

"They are trying to get the largest bids of land and other property from individuals they can at and near any of these little towns, and have succeeded very well this far. General Sprague from Ohio is one of their head men in feeling of the public pulse. There have been large bodies of land bought upon the sound the past year. We have some twenty or thirty miles back from Seattle some of the best stone coal on the coast and in any quantity.

"They cross two lakes to go to it, one a mile and a half from Seattle, two miles across, then a portage of one-fourth mile to the other which extends to within three or four miles of the coal. Now they are building a railroad from Seattle to the small lake and across the Portage and are to have steamers on each lake to tow scows with cars on which will take this coal from the mines to Seattle, which will make a large business in time. And one of the big places will be Seattle, railroad or no railroad.

"I wait the workings of things thinking (of course) we have the best show of all the towns. Seattle is growing quite fast at present. As my land was all from the government in the first right, my titles are the oldest and all others must be bounded by mine for that reason."

Within a year's time, 1871, Ira had come out of the west and was visiting his relatives at Bridgewater, N. Y. He wrote his nephew, George H. Utter, at Westerly in which he mentioned that his mother, Dolly Wilcox, was going to visit in Westerly. In a humorous vein he told the young nephew how he should care for his grandmother. He was born Oct. 31, 1825, and died March 12, 1875, and was buried at Whitesboro, N. Y., in the lot of his father, William Utter.

In 1878 Francis Abram Utter wrote to his sister in such manner that it was evident that there was no money in the Seattle estate, and that payments on land purchased from the estate had been defaulted. Extensions of time had been asked from time to time, which were consented to. The Surrogate at Seattle had intimated that claims against the estate were larger than the proceeds from it. It was felt that "the security on the property is ample."

These letters written by Ira W. Utter to his brother, F. Abram Utter, from Seattle, Wash., may explain the reason why many of the family felt that there was a great estate there on the Pacific coast that should have come to Ira's brothers and sister, most of whom lived in New York State.

His brother, George B. Utter, made the trip to Seattle to help settle up the estate after Ira's death. There was hardly enough left in the estate to pay the expenses of the trip across the United States and back. There were many who believed that "the Elder," as George B. Utter was known, being the only minister in the family, felt that he had not told all. This is what we remember from a conversation with our father, George H. Utter, the son of George B. Apparently members of the family were in the habit of borrowing from brother George B.

Henry E. Utter, grandson of George B. Utter, when visiting in Seattle in 1930, found that apparently the holdings of Ira, as described in this letter, were in the heart of Seattle and today the most valuable land in that city.

Part of the land was on the south side of the canal, and the greater part on the north side which is now the residential section. The canal was dug through as Ira predicted. Boats from Puget Sound go through this canal to Lake Washington, where Washington University is located. The 820 acres owned by him at that time were in what is now the most valuable section of the city.

CHAPTER XXVI

STRAY BITS

Correspondence

AMERICAN-SWEDISH HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Nineteenth Street and Pattison Avenue

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Dr. Amandus Johnson, Librarian

December 21st, 1936.

Mr. George B. Utter,
The Sun,
Westerly, Rhode Island.

Dear Mr. Utter:

I think there is no doubt about the tradition that Nicholas or Nils Utter was a Swede. I have come across the name Utter and I had a few notes about him, but they burned up with the rest of my papers many years ago. During the next year or so, however, I am going through the old documents, of which I have made new copies, and I will send you any I may find on Nils or Nicholas Utter.

Have you any idea of how many people with your name are still alive in various parts of the country?

With very best wishes for the Holiday season, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Amandus Johnson.

Correspondence

ROBERT PALFREY UTTER
2440 Hillside Avenue
Berkeley, California

24 July, 1932.

My dear Mrs. Woodbridge,

Please excuse my delay in answering your interesting letter of a month ago. I have been away on my vacation.

All that I know about the Utter family you will find on record in *The Brown Genealogy*, Volume II, Boston, The Everett Press, 1915, compiled by Cyrus Henry Brown of Westerly, Rhode Island. The late Governor Utter of Rhode Island married into the Brown family, which led Mr. Brown to include as much as he does of the Utter genealogy. I do not find in it, however, the names you mention.

Some thirty years ago while browsing in the Boston Public Library, I came upon a scrap of Utter genealogy which told me that Nicholas Utter came to Rhode Island in the last decade of the seventeenth century from Holland, that he or his forbears doubtless went to Holland from Sweden, and that there is in Sweden a coat of arms belonging to a or the family of the name. The shield is "party per fess," above the fess is an otter with a fish in his mouth, below three lime leaves, and both charges appear in the crest. The name is current in Sweden; I have known of families recently come from Sweden who bear it. It means *otter*, and is obviously of the class of the very old names that come from the tribal totem—as you see, I use it on my letterhead as the badge of our tribe. I believe myself that it is the same as the name of the doughty Scandinavian sailor who interested King Alfred so that he had him to

court and had a scribe take down his story which begins, "Ohtere told his Lord, Alfred the King, that of all Northmen he dwelt farthest north." The tradition in the Brown family seems to be that Nicholas Utter came from England. I don't know that anyone has ever tried to trace the family in England, Holland or Sweden—I wish someone would.

Our family has assumed that it comes down from Nicholas, but as a matter of fact we have never traced back farther than a Benjamin Utter who married in New Jersey in 1790. From there down you will find the line in the *Brown Genealogy*.

So, although you and I may have faith that we have a common ancestor, it is at present an "act of faith," and whether he lived under King Alfred, King James, or Queen Anne we can only guess until we accumulate energy enough to go to Europe and check over the records—if any!

Sincerely yours,

Robert P. Utter.

W I L L
of
NICHOLAS UTTER

(from the record at Hartford, Conn.)

Stonington, Aug. 17th, 1722.

Robart Burdick & Peter Tift & Elizabeth Tift all of Stonington personally appeared & made oath that they saw Mr. Nicholas Utter signe and seal the within written will & heard him declare it to be his last will & testament & that he at said time of his signing & sealing and sealing of it was in perfect mind & memory to the best of their understanding & they all of them at ye same time signed to it as witnesses in ye presence of ye testator.

Daniell Palmer Justice of ye peace.

Recorded in the 9th book of wills September ye 14th, 1722
by Rosewell Saltonstall Clerk

* * * *

Will Stonington ye 5th day of May 1722

I, Nicolas Utter of sd. Stoningtown in the county of New London & Colony of Conettcut being of perfect mind & memory do make & ordaine this my last will and testament that is to say first of all I recommend my sould unto god that gave it and my body unto the earth to be buried in decent Christian burial secondly my will is that all those debts that I owe in right to any person whatsoever be well and truly paid by my executors hereafter named. Item I give & bequeath unto Elizabeth my well beloved wife one bed and bedding belonging to it which she shall chuse and small iron kettell two small iron potts three putter platters and two cows to be att her own disposall and ten pounds

a year yearly during her naturall life which legacy I give instead of her right of dower and power of thirds.

Item I give and bequeath unto my brethren the first day bapteis at Grotton or belonging unto that meeting that meeting twenty pounds for the use of that meeting. Item I give and bequeath unto my daughter-in-law Ellinor Randall wife of Matthew Randall ten pounds. Item I give & bequeath unto my well beloved friend John Richmond one of my Executors five pounds. Item I give and bequeath unto my well beloved children and grandchildren born of my daughter Sarah forman all the remainder of my estate both raill and personall to be divided amongst them as followeth that is to say unto my well beloved eldest son Jabez Utter one seventh part of of that of that part of my estate which is to be divided amongst my children and grandchildren. Item I give and bequeath unto my well beloved second son Thomas Utter two sevenths of that part of my estate that is to be divided between my children and grandchildren. Item I give and bequeath to my well beloved son Nicolas Utter one seventh part of my dividable estate.

Item I give and bequeath unto my well beloved son William Utter one seventh part of my dividable estate. Item I give and bequeath unto my well beloved daughter Millesent Yeomans one seventh part of my dividable estate to be at her disposall to give to one of her children which she shall see cause and her receipt shall be a sofisent discharge to either of my executors. Item I give and bequeath unto my grandchildren born of my daughter Sarah forman one seventh part of my dividable estate to be equally divided amongst them and the reason wherefore Thomas my second son is to have a double share is because of his care and trouble in looking after me in my old age. It is to be understood that what I have given unto my children and grandchildren is to them, their heirs and assigns forever excepting what I have given to my daughter Millesent and

that to be as is excepted in this will. I also constitute make and ordaine Petter Crandall, John Maxson and John Richmond to be my executors unto this my last will and testament or either of them that shall see cause to serve it shall fullfill this my last will and testament and I do hereby pronounce and declare and rattifi and confirm this and no other to be my last will and testament in witness here of and confirmation hereof I have here unto sett my hand and seal the date above said.

Niclise Utter.

Signed sealed pronounced & declared by the said Niclase Utter to be his last will and testament in presence of

Robert Burdick
Peter Tiff
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NICHOLAS UTTER AND DESCENDANTS FOR FOUR GENERATIONS CHART

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|------------------|---|--------------------------------|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| I | | NICHOLAS UTTER b. 1630—1637 in ? | | d. 1722 in STONINGTON, CONN. m. 1st | | m. 2nd ELIZABETH | | , widow with daughter, ELEANOR | | | | | | |
| II | JABEZ UTTER ¹ b. c. 1660 ? m. c. 1684 Sarah— | | MILLICENT UTTER ² b. c. 1672 ? m. 1693 John Yeomans b. c. 1664 | | THOMAS UTTER ³ b. c. 1674 m. c. 1702 maybe a first wife; ante Aug. 1719 Hannah Cottrell | | NICHOLAS UTTER JR. ⁴ b. c. 1677 ? m. Sister ? of Capt. Edward Greenman | | WILLIAM UTTER ⁵ b. 1679 in R. I. ? m. 1705 Anna Stone | | SARAH UTTER ⁶ b. c. 1783 m ante 1705 John Forman | | ELEANOR ⁷ — b. c. 1673 m. 1693 Matthew Randall b. 1671 | |
| III | born 1685 Rebecca married born 1686 Mary c 1708 James Hyde 1688 Abraham 1715 Lydia Russell 1692 Jabez Jr. 1719 ? Sarah Mirick c 1697 Katherine 1723 Edward Russell 1698 bp adult [Elizabeth 1722 (Beatrice 1705 Mehitable Perhaps Samuel Utter is another son He married 1721 Jonannah Preston b. 1702[3 | | born (Austin) married c 1695 Thomas Yeomans 1696 John " 1698 Mabel " 1700 Sarah " 1702 Elisha " 1704 Elizabeth " 1707 Millicent " 1710 Elijah " 1711 Mary " 1714 Ebenezer " 1719 Mabel " Also will has Eleazer between Elijah and Ebenezer c 1729 Mary— c 1734 Abigail Cooke 1738 Beriah Garnsee | | born 1703 John married 1705 Thomas [1724[5] Jemima Benjamin [1731 Elizabeth Pooler c 1730 Mary Capwell 1707 DeWise 1709 Benjamin Perhaps Simeon Utter belongs here 1717 Thankful 1719 William Benjamin of East Haven, Conn. who m. Mabel Russell b. 1706 1741 Thomas Weekes of Warwick 1710 | | born c 1705 ? Joseph married died s. p. 1730 1708-1715 William heir of Joseph 1716-1729 Josiah ? Josiah of Greenwich, Conn. or here. He married Elizabeth Allen. 1736 Elizabeth Arnold | | born 1707 Sarah married 1711 Alice 1725 Amos Lockwood 1713 William 1737 Barbara Burlingame 1714 Ruth ? Phebe Brown 1725 Zebulon 1735[6] John Dexter and 1745 Mary Ralph Anna 1743[4] Benjamin Greene ante June 1761 John Reynolds | | born Elizabeth Forman married John 1729 John Moffett William " Jr. 1737 Elizabeth Hughes Sarah " 1744 Abigail Gay Abigail " ante 1748 John Russell All bap. June 1722 | | born 1694[5] Eleanor Randall Mercy Matthew " Mary " Benjamin " Patience " Thankful " Elizabeth " Randall Gen. and Stonington Land Records | |
| IV | of MARY HYDE of ABRAHAM UTTER 1709 James Hyde 1716 Abraham m. Sarah Jonathan " 1718 Lydia m. Thos. Welton 1713 Abraham " 1720 Samuel Jabez " 1722 John Ebenezer " 1724[5] Isaac 1721 Mary " 1727 Mary Dorothy " 1730 Sarah Joseph " 1733 Jabez Hyde Genealogy of KATHERINE RUSSELL of ELIZABETH UTTER 1724 Catherine Russell 1729[30] Daniel Herrington Hannah " Edward " Mary " Benjamin " m. Mary Utter of Dr. Benjamin Utter and Mabel Russell of SAMUEL UTTER 1722 Sarah m 1740 Thomas Buffington 1723 Samuel Jr. 1748 Susannah Curtis 1725 Mary " Spinster in 1760 1727 Johannah 1749 Thomas Shapley 1729 Zerviah 1748 John Short 1732 Lydia 1733 Bathsheba 1752 William Mory 1735 Ruth 1753 Uriah Lee Rhoda | | of ELISHA YEOMANS of ELIJAH YEOMANS born ante May 1736 All under ago in 1749 Daniel Yeomans Elijah Yeomans Jonathan " Elisha " Jerusha " Oliver " Mary " Abigail " Eunice " of MABEL GARNSEE Mary Garnsee m. Ebenezer Simmons | | of JOHN UTTER 1726 John ante Nov. 1747 Hannah— 1732 Abraham 1757 Hannah White 1733[4] Eleanor 1759 Hannah Burdick c 1745 1736[7] Isaac 1739 Jemima 1754 Nathaniel Kenyon of THOMAS UTTER of WARWICK and Mary Capwell c 1730 Stephen ? Stephen of Saybrook, Conn. m. 1st Ruth Kelsey 2nd Naomi— Jeremiah 1763 Phebe Knight ? Dinah— Thomas ante 1770 Lucy— Sarah 1754 Philip Knight Merebah 1761 Thomas Bartholick Mary ? Mary Utter, who m. Jasper Greenell in 1773 of DR. BENJAMIN UTTER of East Haven, Conn. and Mabel Russell b 1757 Mary 1758 Benjamin Russell b. 1735[6] b 1765 Mabel of Edward and Katherine (Utter) of THANKFUL WEEKES or WICKES 1742 Hannah Wickes 1744 Mary died 1750 Wickes | | Josiah & or Perhaps "Josiah Utter of Charlestown" belong here. b. c. 1740 ? He may be the Josiah Utter whose wife was Hannah in 1793 Perhaps Josiah Utter of Greenwich in 1779 belong here. He married Mary Ketcham 1779 and died in Friendship, N. Y. He was called Capt. Josiah | | of SARAH LOCKWOOD 1727 Amos 1728 Sarah — Arnold 1730 Ann 1733 Benoni 1735 Alice 1737 Mercy or Mary c 1739 Ruth 1742 Walt 1744 Phebe 1747 Barbara 1748 Abraham 1750 Millicent of WILLIAM UTTER JR. 1741 Barbara 1st 1762 Arnold Wells 2nd 1767 Nathaniel Frothingham c 1745 Sarah 1762 John Carpenter of ZEBULON UTTER c 1746 Ruth 1773 George Arnold of ANNA GREENE later ANNA REYNOLDS Catherine Greene William Reynolds Anna Reynolds | | MISCELLANEOUS UNIDENTIFIED and 1790 Census for New York Generation I or II Peter Uter of Newbury, Mass. I or II Deborah Utter of Westerly, R. I. III Simeon Utter of South Kingstown, Richmond and Exeter, R. I., and wife, Elizabeth Allen IV or later John Utter and wife, Anne, of Killingly, Conn. Jacob born 1756 John Utter of Stamford, Conn., 1752 & 3 of Greenwich, Conn., 1754 & 5 John Utter, minor of Greenwich, Conn. June 27, 1768, son of John Utter, dec. chose as gdn uncle, Denham Palmer John Utter, married Mary Rusco, 1755 Jan. 2, New Caanan (Stamford) Ch. Mary, Jerusha, John born 1761 John Utter, ch. bap. Salem, Westchester Co., N. Y. Jemima, Ephraim, Benjamin, Betsey, Samuel from 1757 to 1779 John Utter, 7th Connecticut, 1756 John Utter, 8th Connecticut, 1758 1790 Census John Utter Sr. Salem, Westchester Co. for John Utter, Jr. Salem, Westchester Co. New York John Utter Westfield, Washington Co. John Utter Watervliet, Albany Co. also William Frederickstown Dutchess Co. Gilbert Frederickstown " William South East Town " Isaac Pawling " Caleb Salem Westchester Co. Samuel Granville Washington Co. Amos " Ebenezer Westfield " Joseph Hillsdale " Josiah Middletown Ulster Co. Solomon Newburgh " James Freehold Albany Co. *Palmer Utter, among early settlers at Coeyman's, Albany Co. 1771 William Utter m. Jane Russel, Salem, N. Y. Ch. Joseph, Abijah, Silas, John, Simeon Rebecca and Ruth This line is being developed by Mrs. Elsie Utter McKellips of Berkeley, Cal. | | | |
| V | of SAMUEL UTTER JR. 1734 Jemima of MARY UTTER 1751 Abigail Walder of RHODA UTTER ante Sept. 1756 Jedidiah of ABRAHAM UTTER and Sarah Moses Lydia 1763 Joseph Adams Mariam " Titus Husted Abraham James c 1753 Sarah Sunderland Patterson Thomas Joanna 1785 Martin Sleezer Doris | | of MARY SIMMONS David Simmons m. Mary Knapp | | of ABRAHAM UTTER 1761 Sarah David Larkin Jr. 1763 Abraham Jr. 1st Sarah Peckham 2nd Nancy Crandall 1765 Zebulon 1779 John 1st 1801 Esther Saunders 1779 2nd 1811 Prudence Lewis 1789 1783 William 1810 Dolly Wilcox 1792 Hannah 1794 William Tannah Jr. 1760 Ruth Avis King Eunice Peleg Wheeler b. 1775 Keziah Covey Esther Palmiter Betsey Lewis of ELEANOR KENYON 1761 Eleanor 1764 Nathaniel of STEPHEN UTTER of Saybrook Daughter ? — Bailey 1759 James of New Durham 1779 Hannah Spencer Stephen Jr. ? Hester Doane Jemima ? — Platt Mary ? — Post of JEREMIAH UTTER c 1763 Benjamin died s. p. James Sarah ? Sarah Utter m. 1783 John Rice Barbara Zebulon Dinah | | of JOSIAH UTTER and Mary Ketcham 1779 Henry of Joshua 1781 Josiah, maybe d. young Rachael Hendricks 1783 Elizabeth 5 sons Joshua b. 1749 or 51 ? a second Josiah b. 1796 m. Lavinia Francisco ? a John ? 1801 Caziah 1818 William Niver Note: Joshua, above, m. Lany Rindress of Allegheny Co., N. Y. in 1820. Her name was Helena | | of SARAH CARPENTER 1766 William Utter Carpenter of RUTH ARNOLD 1776 James Utter Arnold Mehitable Carpenter 1776 Sally Arnold Capt. James Rhodes c 1779 Mary Arnold died inf. 1783 George R. Arnold | | | | | |
| VI | of SARAH PATTERSON 1788 Margaret Patterson m. Smith Hopkins *This line carried to Charles J. Reilly (1876-1927) | | of DAVID SIMMONS Lena Simmons m. Arby Proudfoot Straight b. 1840 *This line brought down by Maude (Straight) Carman of Urbana, Ill. in 1934 | | of ABRAHAM UTTER JR. Eunice of JOHN UTTER and ESTHER 1802 James Noyes 1804 Esther See text for full account of families of 1806 John Jr. John and William Utter. 1810 Abram and Prudence 1815 Edwin 1818 Albert 1826 Benjamin Courtland of WILLIAM UTTER 1813 Francis A. 1814 Reuben Wilcox 1815 William Morris 1817 Jacob Sherrill 1819 George Benjamin 1821 Dolly Maria 1823 Peter R. Livingstone 1825 Ira Wilcox 1829 Hannah Eliza 1831 John Herbert of JAMES OF NEW JERSEY James, Hannah, Dan, Stephen, Bani and Ruth of — BAILEY James *Several of this family still living in Greene Co., N. Y. | | of JOSHUA UTTER 1823 Lany Ann Utter m. John A. Simmons *This line brought down to L. D. Van Antwerp M. D., b. 1900 *Descendants of Josiah and Lavinia still live in Friendship, N. Y. *D. A. R. Lineage books show several lines from Capt. Josiah and Mary Ketchum through Henry, Josiah, Joshua and Keziah of JAMES UTTER ARNOLD 1800 William Utter Arnold Phebe Ann Low 1803 George Carpenter Arnold Phebe Rhodes of CAPT. JAMES RHODES c 1801 Henry Utter Rhodes 1803 Mary Elizabeth Rhodes 1805 Sally A. Rhodes *Many descendants of Ruth (Utter) Arnold still liv- ing in Rhode Island *Also of Sarah and Amos Lockwood | | | | | | | |

Note—c (circum) indicates slightly conflicting or estimated dates.
? indicates circumstantial evidence but no proof.
* lines brought down present time by various correspondents.
b denotes baptismal date.

