

Lineage from Joseph Easton to Emily Cleland Maxham

The appended pages are taken from the book *Descendants of Joseph Easton, Hartford, Conn, 1636 – 1899*, by William Starr Easton, St. Paul, Minn., 1899. These pages trace the lineage from Joseph Easton, an English immigrant to America, through seven succeeding generations of his descendants to Emily Cleland, who married Otis Maxham.

The introductory Historical Section (Pages vi-xii) discusses the group of religious followers of Rev. Thomas Hooker in England and their emigration to America during the period 1632 – 1633, where they established “Hooker Colony” in Newtown, MA, which is currently known as Cambridge. The name of Joseph Easton first appears as a member of this group in Newtown on records dated March 4, 1634, when he took an oath as a Freeman within the group. After the arrival of Thomas Hooker in Newtown, it was decided that the entire group would relocate to an unsettled area that is now Hartford, CT. A small group went in advance to negotiate the purchase of the land in this area that was inhabited by the indigenous American Indians. On May 31, 1636 the remainder of the group then began the 100 mile journey to relocate in Hartford.

Joseph Easton became a Deacon in the church that the Hooker group established in Hartford, and he is listed in records as having held several offices as a public servant in the early years of Hartford. While no remains of a gravestone were found for the burial place of Joseph Easton in the original Hartford Cemetery, a large monument in that cemetery includes the name of Joseph Easton in the list of the “Founders of Hartford”. The rest of the Historical Section then discusses several possible links of Joseph Easton to early Easton and Eston Families in England, but none of these possible links are formally documented.

[Pages 1 – 4] outline the life of the immigrant Joseph Easton and gives a transcript of his will. He was born in England in about 1602 and emigrated to America about 1633 or 1634. After settling in Newtown, he relocated with the other followers of Rev. Thomas Hooker to establish Hartford, CT, where he died August 19, 1688 at age 86. No record is found for the name of his wife, but the couple is known to have had two daughters and two sons. Their second child was a son named Joseph (2) Easton. This notation is used since the name Joseph will appear a number of times in the lineage, and this is one way to keep the identities of the individuals separated.

Pages [6 -9] describe the life of Joseph (2) Easton and present a transcription of his will. He was probably born in Hartford about 1648, since he was listed as becoming a Freeman in October of 1669. Joseph (2) Easton married Hannah Ensign, the daughter of James and Sarah Ensign, who were original settlers of Hartford. He was chosen as a grand juror in March of 1674 to serve during the following year, he was chosen a Deacon of the church in April of 1691 and he died in Hartford on December 30, 1711. Joseph (2) and Hannah Ensign Easton had seven children, and the first-born child was a son named Joseph (3) Easton.

Pages [12 – 13] outline what was known about the life of Joseph (3) Easton and provide a transcription of his will. He was born in Hartford around 1669 and married Sarah Spencer in

1694. Sarah was the daughter of Samuel Spencer and Sarah Meakins, and she was the granddaughter of William and Agnes Spencer who were among the original settlers of Hartford. Joseph (3) Easton died in East Hartford in 1735. Joseph (3) and Sarah Spencer Easton had seven children, and their fifth child was a son named Elisha Easton.

Pages [192 – 193] provide information about the little that is known about Elisha Easton. He was baptized on March 11, 1705 and died in East Hartford probably between 1764 and 1774. The name of his wife is not known. The couple had at least two children and the older of the two was a son named Joseph (4) Easton.

Page 194 list the very limited information that is known about Joseph (4) Easton, who was born in East Hartford. The name of his wife is unknown and both apparently died young, with their surviving children being raised by other families. The couple had four children and the first-born was a daughter named Thankful Easton.

Pages [194 – 195] describe the life of Thankful Easton who was born in East Hartford on April 12, 1757. She married John Cleland on April 27, 1780. He was a farmer of Scottish descent who was born February 16, 1758 and was a soldier in the American Revolution. They moved to Chautauqua County, NY where John died on February 16, 1827 and Thankful died on January 19, 1847. John and Thankful Easton Cleland had eleven children, and their seventh child was a son named John Cleland, Jr.

Page 195 presents information on John Cleland, Jr. who was born February 1, 1792 and married Hannah Picket on April 12, 1812. He died in Chautauqua County, NY on August 26, 1876 and she died there in 1873. John and Hannah Picket Cleland had seven children. Their third child was a daughter named Emily Cleland who was born in August of 1818 and married Otis Maxham in 1848.

Pages [207 – 209] are from an appendix of the book that lists those people who were mentioned in the genealogy that served in the military, and John Cleland is shown to have been a soldier of the American Revolution. A family tree of the ancestors of Sarah Spencer, the wife of Joseph (3) Easton, is also given in the appendix on Page 209. However, this family tree is presented without any documentation and parts of it are questionable.

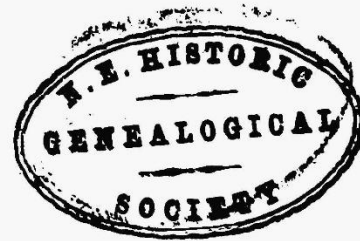
Todd Easton of Port Orchard, Washington developed a webpage that shows the lineage of the Easton Family from the Easton genealogy. Emily Cleland's branch of this extended family tree is summarized from that website on the final four pages that are appended.

William V. Gehrlein
Lewes, Delaware
September 2015

DESCENDANTS
OF
JOSEPH EASTON,

HARTFORD, CONN.,

1636-1899.



COMPILED BY

WILLIAM STARR EASTON.

*"He only deserves to be remembered by posterity who
treasures up and preserves the history of his ancestors."*

—BURKE.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

1899.

HISTORICAL.

The New England pilgrims were Puritans and Non-Conformists, who came to this country for the purpose of seeking religious liberty and freedom. They had endured hardships and persecution, owing to the severity of Laud, Archbishop of Canterbury, in his hatred of heretics.

The Colony of which our ancestor was a member came to this country as an organized body and was known as the Hooker colony, settling first at Newtown, (now Cambridge,) Mass., arriving there during the years 1632-3. It was composed of persons who had become attached to the religious principles as taught by the Rev. Thomas Hooker in England, who arrived in this country to become their pastor, Sept. 4, 1633, on the ship "Griffin," with some 200 other passengers, the names of these not obtainable; our ancestor may have been one of them. The first official record we find of him is in the Colonial Records of Massachusetts, which stated that March 4, 1634, he took the oath as a freeman.

On May 31, 1636, the colonists, after due consideration, started on their exodus to Connecticut, where the previous year a delegation had gone to procure a location and purchase land from the Indians. Our ancestor, as one of the original proprietors, owned shares in what might be called in this day a syndicate.

The journey was an arduous and perilous one of about one hundred miles through the wilderness, and about two week's duration from Cambridge to Hartford. Trumbull, in his history, says that it was a picturesque pilgrimage. Men and women of refinement and delicate breeding turned explorers of primitive forests in search of a wilderness home. The lowing of 160 head of cattle sounded through the forests; the bleating

of sheep and the squealing of swine summoned them to each morning's advance.

They came under the guidance of men of pure and fervent piety, of elevated social position and learning in their own country, of large estates and large hearts. They were all men of religious principles at a period when to hold religious opinions cost something, even banishment from home and imprisonment.

Once here, each seemed to find his appropriate sphere of usefulness, and all conspired together with one mind and one heart to convert the wilderness into the happy home of civilized man, and as the crowning glory of such homes there were among them women of education, prudence and piety, fit to be the wives of such men and mothers of a noble race.

We find in the records of Hartford, that Deacon Joseph Easton was chosen chimney viewer in 1649, surveyor of highways 1652 and 1656, and constable in 1658.

THE CEMETERY.

In the old cemetery in Hartford, Conn., located in the rear of the First Congregational Church, on Main street, repose together most of the first settlers of Hartford. Our ancestor must have been buried there; but although careful search has been made, we have been unable to find any single stone to his memory. Although it was the only burial place at the time of his death, thereby depriving us of obtaining any information from that quarter. The tombstones of that time were many of them of a poor quality of stone, and owing to dampness in the cemetery have disintegrated and fallen to pieces. In the center of the cemetery is a venerable granite monument, erected about sixty-three years ago to the memory

of the "Founders of Hartford," and bearing the following names:

John Haynes,	William Andrews,	Joseph Easton,
Thomas Hooker,	Samuel Wakeman,	Richard Olmsted,
George Wyllys,	Jeremy Adams,	Richard Risley,
Edward Hopkins,	Richard Lyman,	Robert Bartlett,
Matthew Allyn,	William Butler,	Thomas Root,
Thomas Welles,	Thomas Lord,	John Wilcox,
John Webster,	Matthew Marvin,	Richard Seymour,
William Whiting,	Gregory Wolterton,	Benjamin Burr,
John Talcott,	Andrew Bacon,	John Bidwell,
Andrew Warner,	John Barnard,	Nathaniel Ely,
William Pantrey,	Richard Goodman,	Thomas Judd,
William Westwood,	Nathaniel Richards,	Richard Lord,
James Olmsted,	John Pratt,	William Kelsey,
Thomas Hosmer,	Thomas Birchwood,	Richard Butler,
Nathaniel Ward,	George Graves,	Robert Day,
William Wadsworth,	William Gibbons,	Seth Grant,
John White,	Edward Stebbing,	Thomas Spencer,
John Steele,	George Steele,	John Baysey,
Thomas Scott,	George Stocking,	William Pratt,
William Goodwin,	Joseph Mygatt,	Thomas Bull,
Thomas Stanley,	William Bloomfield,	William Holton,
Samuel Stone,	William Hill,	Francis Andrews,
John Clark,	William Hyde,	James Cole,
John Crow,	John Arnold,	John Skinner,
James Ensign,	Arthur Smith,	Thomas Hale,
Stephen Post,	John Maynard,	Samuel Hale,
Stephen Hart,	William Hayden,	Thomas Olcott,
William Spencer,	Thomas Stanton,	Thomas Selden,
John Moody,	John Hopkins,	William Parker,
William Lewis,	Nicholas Clark,	Samuel Greenhill,
William Rusco,	John Marsh,	Ozias Goodwin,
Timothy Stanley,	Edward Elmer,	Thomas Bunce,
Richard Webb,	Richard Church,	Clement Chaplin,
	Zachariah Field,	

FAMILY CONNECTION ABROAD.

It is natural for a person of common intelligence to have a desire to know something of his ancestry. An honorable ancestry is a source of honorable pride.

It is evident from various English records that the Easton family was one of considerable prominence and standing in the old country. From what part of England our ancestor came we have been unable to ascertain. With this in our possession, we might have been able to trace back his ancestry across the ocean without much trouble. Failing, therefore, in this, we must look for a clue in the parish registers of England. This is a task beyond our limited resources to undertake, requiring the employment of a professional genealogist there, at a large expenditure of money; and this is not always attended with satisfactory results.

We have to a limited extent, by correspondence with the rectors of several churches, endeavored to ascertain the locality from which he came, but have been unsuccessful.

We have also made a careful research of the English histories and genealogical publications, to obtain information respecting the Easton family.

The name Easton or Eston (as it was sometimes written) appears in several of the counties of England, and we will give some quotations from English records of what we have found; not that we can make any connection with any of them, but we give them for the consideration of our readers.

In the "General Armory of England and Ireland," by Sir Bernard Burke, is given the arms and crest of the Easton family as follows, viz:

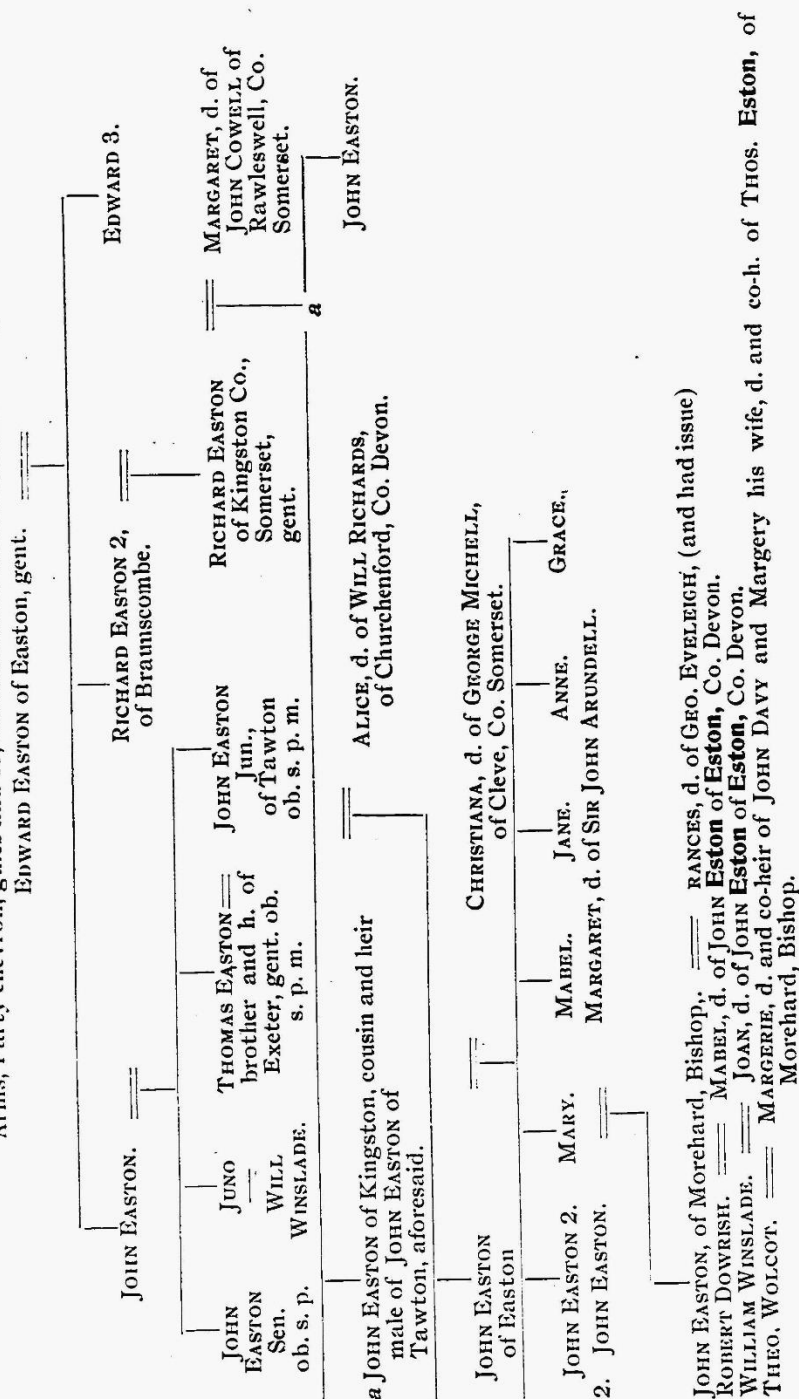
"Easton of Easton, County Devon, Per chev. gu. and or, three sea dragons ducally crowned, counterchanged. (Another as dragons sans wings.) Crest, a yew tree, ppr."

Fairbairn, in his "Crests of Great Britain," gives two crests of the family: "Easton, of Devon (Eng.), a yew tree ppr. Easton (Scotch), a demi chevalier in armour brandishing a sword, ppr."

In the visitation of the County of Devon, England, in the year 1564, by the Harleian Society, for obtaining a list of the gentry of that county, we find the arms of the family given and the pedigree of Edward Easton, which we give.

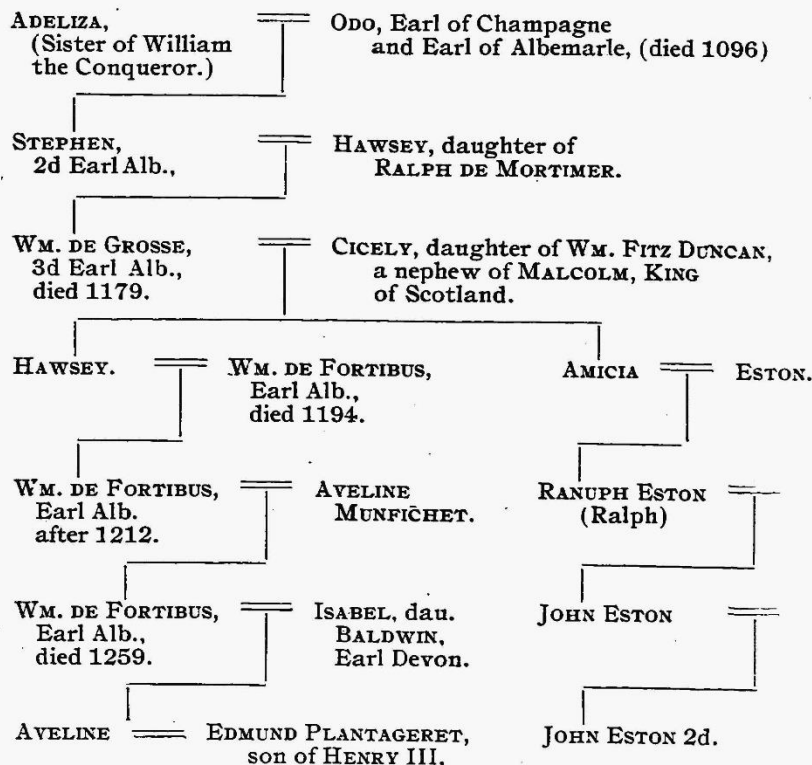
Arms Party chevron, gules and or, three sea lions crowned, counterchanged.

Arms Party chevron, gules and or, three sea lions crowned, counterchanged.



In vol. 3, page 314, of the "Genealogist:" "Charles Wren, of Feltwell in Norfolk, and also of Ely, (son of Rt. Rev. Matthew Wren, first Bishop of Hereford, afterwards of Norwich and last of Ely), married Dorothy, daughter of — Easton. in Norfolk."

We are informed by a member of the Easton family that there is a tradition that the family was at an early day very closely connected with the royal family, and we are in receipt of the following pedigree, which we will give just as we received it, which appears to confirm the tradition.



Aveline was the only surviving child of Wm. de Fortibus. She died soon after her marriage, and left no children. She was heiress to the earldoms of Albermarle and Devon.

After the death of this last Aveline, John Eston 2d claimed the title of Earl Albermarle. This was about the year 1270. He was bought off by land in Thornton.

Whether there is any connection between these Estons and the family of Edward Easton in the Devon visitation, we do not know. Neither do we know that there is any proof of our connection with this family, but it is the earliest mention of an Easton family that we have found.

NUMBERING EXPLAINED.

In this work the object has been to make the system of numbering as simple as possible. Each person who is mentioned more than once has his own particular number. The index gives the page on which a name first appears.

As an example we will take the name of Agis Easton. On turning to Index No. 1, we find that it refers to page 39, where we find his name, and at the left of it is the number 69, which is his family number and is afterwards indicated by large figures placed in the center of a page. By turning the leaves forward until we find this number 69, in the center of the page (which is on page 56), we there find his family record. It states that his eldest child was Elizabeth, and the number 142 appears at the left of her name. Now turn forward again until you find this number in the center of the page (which is on page 94), and there you will find her family record, which states that she was the daughter of Agis (69), thus referring back to her father's number. Now by turning back to this number (in center of the page), we find that Agis was the son Daniel (43), who was the son of Silas (30), the son of Timothy (18), etc. By using the numbers in brackets the ancestry is traced easily.

The small exponent figures above and at the right of names in italics indicate the generation and line of descent.

Abbreviations used:

- b. for born.
- m. for married.
- d. for died.
- ch. for child or children.

DESCENDANTS OF JOSEPH EASTON.

Joseph Easton, the emigrant, was born in England about 1602, and came to New England probably in 1633 or '34. He settled first at Newtowne, afterwards called Cambridge, Mass. We find in the Proprietors' Record of that town, page 33, an entry of land owned by him, of which we give a copy:

"Joseph Easton, in Westend aboute two Ackers, John Barnard fouth east, Robt. Day north east, James Auftin north west, the highway to Watertowne fouth & west "

Also that on March 4, 1634, he was listed as a freeman, having taken the oath entitling him to vote.

In the spring of 1636 he was one of the colony under the leadership of Rev. Thomas Hooker, that removed from Cambridge and founded the present city of Hartford, Conn., and was one of the original proprietors of that town. His home lot in 1639 was on the south side of the highway (now Elm street) near the west end.

He held the office of deacon of the first church, that office in those days being one of great dignity and honor.

He d. in Hartford, August 19, 1688, aged 86.

His children were—

1 JOHN.

2 JOSEPH, d. Dec. 30, 1711; m. Hannah Ensign.

3 MARY.

SARAH, m. Richard Shirley; he d. in 1711.

Memoranda.

After diligent search we have been unable to ascertain who was the wife of Joseph Easton. Historians have given it that it was Hannah Ensign, the daughter of James Ensign, but we must disagree with them in this matter. It

will be seen by an examination of the land, probate and church records, from which we give extracts, under the family record of his son Joseph, that it was the son who married Hannah Ensign, and not the father. Also that Joseph Easton Sr. and James Ensign appear from the best information we can obtain to have been persons of about the same age, and further, their children appear to have been of about the same ages.

Joseph Easton Sr. had two daughters, Sarah and Mary, and our conclusion is that the name of his wife was Sarah or Mary. The same coincidence occurs in the names of Sarah and Mary, daughters of his son John, who would be likely to name one after his mother. Again, Joseph Easton Jr. named his first daughter Hannah, and the church record states that Hannah, daughter of Hannah Easton, was baptized Sept. 9, 1673, also that Elizabeth was baptized May 12, 1676. These were children of Joseph Easton Jr., and show conclusively that the name of the wife of Joseph Easton Jr. was Hannah. For further confirmation see extracts from land records, memoranda Joseph Easton Jr.

We quote the following from the land records :

Hartford Land Records, February, 1639, page 228. (Distribution.)

"Several parcels of land in Hartford, upon the River Connecticut, belonging to Joseph Eason [Easton] and his heirs forever. [The name was sometimes written Eason.]

"Viz: One Parcell on which his dwelling house now standeth with other Outhouses, yards or gardens therein being; containning by estimation two acres (more or lesse) abutting on the highway lying on the south-side of the Little River on the North, and on the highway leading from Georg Steels to the south Meadow on the south, and on Jeremie Addams' land on the west.

"One Parcell of Land containning by estimation three acres one rood and eighteen Perches (more or less) abutting on the highway leading from Georg Steels to the Great Swamp on the east, and on land now common on the west and on William Holtons land on the South, and on Georg Steels land on the North.

"One Parcell lying in the little Meadow containning by estimation thirty Perches (more or less) abutting on Math. Marvens Land on the east, and on James Olmsteads Land on the west, and on the highway leading from the Town to the Great River on the North, and on Georg Stockings Land on the South."

Page 229.

"One Parcell lying in the south Meadow, containning by estimation three acres, and three roods more or less abutting upon Thomas Bulls Land on the North, and on Mr. Wells his Land on the south and on the Great Swamp on the East, and on the Oxpasture on the west.

"One Parcell of Swamp lying in the Great Swamp containning by estimation four acres (more or less) abutting upon Georg Grave, his land on the East, and on Willm. Gibbons his land on the west and on Thomas Bulls land on the North, and on Jeremie Addams his land on the south.

"One Parcell of Swamp lying on the east side of the Great River which he bought of Thomas Watts contain. by estima. four acres be it more or less

abutting on the Great River on the west, and on Thomas Olcotts land on the East, and William Clarks land on the south, and on Thomas Silldens land on the North.

"One Parcell of Woodland which he had of the Town contain. by estima. Twelve acres be it more or less, and lyeth in a Gretter Psell in which John Bayse, and Paul Peck have a Partt which Gretter Psell abutteth on "Rocke Hell" [Rocky Hill] on the west, and on a highway on the East.

One Parcell of Swamps lying on the East Side of the Grett River which he bought of Richard Olmstead Contain. by Estima. two acres be it more or less abutting on the Grett River on the west, and on Thomas Olcotts land on the East, and on land belonging to the sayd Joseph Eason on the South, and on Richard Church his land on the North."

Will of Joseph Easton, 1688.

"The twenth. day of January 1687 I Joseph Easton of Hartford Sounr. in his Maijst. Territory or Dominion of New England Being weak in body but of perfect memory & Remembrance praised be god do make and ordain this my Last Will and Testament, in manner and form as followeth.

"first I Bequeath my Soul into the hand of god my Maker hoping for acceptance of him only in and by Jesus christ my only Saviour, and as for my Body to be burried in Christian Burial at the discretion of my Executor hereafter to be named.

"My will is that all my just debts be truly paid to whom I am Indebted.

"Item. I give unto my son Joseph Easton, fourty Shillings Besides what Lands or other goods I have formerly given him.

"Item. I give unto my son in law John Skinner, fourty Shillings beside what he has already received of me.

"Item. I give unto my son in law Robert Sheirley, ten pounds, which with the other legacies above named is to be paid to the several Legatees above named within twelve months after my decease.

"Item. I give unto my four children to say John Easton, Joseph Easton, Mary Skinner, Sarah Sherley, all my houseall goods that do appear to be properly mine or belonging to me att my Decease to be equally divided among them. Excepting what I have particularly given to them in my Will & as to goods bought since my son John married are already his.

"Item. I do give to my son John Easton, my arms or that is to say three guns two swords & two belts also my Great Bible and Divinity book, of Mr. Thomas Goodwins works to him and to his heires for eaver.

"Also I do give unto my sd. son John Easton, all the rest of my Houses, Leases, Lands, Tenements, and goods what soever: all my Rights, titles, Properties, in or belonging (in) Hartford or else where to him my said son John Easton, and his heirs for eaver. I doe Ordain, and appoint that my Son John Easton, shall have the first choice of my Houseall goods, that is to be divided between my fouer children above mentioned.

"I do also appoint my son Joseph Easton, to pay his proportion of the charges of the pronouncing & approving of this my Will, and of the Inventory in proportion to what he has or will have from my estate.

"I do also make my son John Easton sole executor of this my last will and

Testament upon condition that he pay all my debts and legacies. I do also request and appoint my worthy friends the Hon'd John Allyn Esq. Lieut. Joseph Whiting & Ensign Nathaniel Stanley to be my overseers to ye performance of this my last will & Testament revokeing all other Wills & Testaments In witness whereof I have in the presence of these witnesses set to my hand and seal this day and year above written."

JOSEPH EASTON. [Seal.]

Signed and sealed in the Presence of us

THOMAS BUNCE.

JOHNATHAN BULL.

Proved 8 Dec. 1688

1

John Easton, son of Joseph the emigrant, was born in Hartford, Conn., about 1646 or '7. He was a deacon of the second or south church, owned the covenant Feb. 12, 1669, and admitted into the church Aug. 28, 1670; his wife Elizabeth was admitted into church June 23, 1678.

John Easton d. Nov. 2, 1716, and Elizabeth Easton d. June 10, 1711.

Their children were—

SARAH, b. July 18, 1670; d. young.

MARY, b. Dec. 26, 1672; d. young.

4 SARAH, b. Nov. 15, 1675.

JOHN, b. June 10, 1679; d. young.

5 MARY, b. Oct. 1, 1681.

6 MEHITABLE, b. Jany. 17, 1683.

7 ABIGAIL, b. Mar. 16, 1687.

8 JOHN, b. Oct. 22, 1689.

Memoranda.

Hartford Land Records, vol. 1, page 99.

"Land on Connecticut Belonging to John Easton, and his heirs forever given him by his Father Joseph Easton, by his Last Will & Testament, 1688.

"One parcell of Land wth. messuage or Tenement, Standing thereon, together with out house yards & Garden thereon containing by estimation two acres be it more or less & abutts on a highway lying on the south side the rivulet on the north & on Samuel Burr's Land on the west & Joseph Easton's Land on the south & on George Grave's & Joseph Easton's Land on the east.

"One parcell Lying in the south meadow containing by estimation Six acres & one rood be it more or less & abutts the Land of Nathaniel Standley, on the north & Beuel Water's Land on the South & on Mr. Richards his Land west & on Land of James Steel, on the east Sayd. Easton, is to mayntain six rod of fence for the Land.

my Land lying on the east side of the Great River, and all my Land at the west Division in Hartford, I do Hereby give him my Son John Easton all my Lands in Hartford and elsewhere that I now stand possessed of or may by lawfull right ever hereafter have right unto with all the profits privileges and appurtenances that do or may at any time hereafter belong to them or any part of them the butts and bounds of all my lands herein given may and will appear on record.

"Further I give unto my son John Easton and his heirs forever all my moveable estate both without and within doors and within the House of whatever nature or kind in particular all my arms and ammunition and also my Great Bible and Divinity Book of Mr. Thomas Goodwins works. I say all my estate both Real and personal I give to my said son John Easton and his heirs forever he paying all the Legacies hereafter appointed and named in this my Last will.

"Item. I do hereby give and bequeath unto my four daughters

Sarah Goodwin (wife of Nathaniel Goodwin)

Mary Butler (wife of Johnathan Butler)

Mehetabel Merrell.

Abigail Easton, (wife of Richard Burnham)

to them that is to each of them ye heirs etc. the full sum of Fourty pounds in cy. as current money of the colony which sd. sums or legacies I do hereby appoint my son John Easton, to pay or see paid and completed and it is always hereby to be understood and I do appoint that whatsoever any of my daughters have already received shall be excepted, and counted as part of their portions, and John to make it up to them the Fourty pounds.

"Further I do as a token of my love to my daughters give to each of them beside their portions above named, the sum of four pounds as money, and do appoint my son John to pay the same unto each of them within the space of two years after my decease." (John Easton to be sole executor etc.)

(Signed) JOHN EASTON SEN.

Witness

CALEB BULL }

EDWD. ALLYN }

Page 109.

Inventory 28 Dec. 1716

£756 10-11.

2

Joseph² Easton, son of Joseph (1) the emigrant, was probably born in Hartford about 1648, as in October, 1669, he was recorded in the Town Records as a freeman. He was chosen March 5, 1674, as one of the grand jurors to serve for the ensuing year. Chosen April, 1691, one of the deacons of the First Church in Hartford. He married Hannah Ensign, dau. of James and Sarah Ensign, who were of the original proprietors of Hartford, Conn.

Dea. Joseph Easton d. Dec. 30, 1711.

Their children were—

- 9 JOSEPH, b. abt. 1669.
- 10 JAMES, b. March 10, 1671.
- 11 HANNAH, bap. Sept. 9, 1673.
- 12 ELIZABETH, bap. Mar. 12, 1676.
- 13 JONATHAN, bap. Mar. 14, 1680.
- TIMOTHY, bap. Dec. 6, 1685; probably d. young.
- 14 THANKFULL, bap. Dec. 4, 1687.

Memoranda.

We will give here abstracts from the will of James Ensign, father in law of Joseph Easton. Previous to his decease (which occurred Nov. 1670) Mr. Ensign had by deed of gift conveyed to Joseph Easton Jr., his son in law, several tracts of land. The will was admitted to Probate 1771, and after his bequest to his son David, it states:

"I do also give to my son Joseph Easton and to his heirs forever one acre and half of land in the Indian ground, which land I had of the widow Watts.

"I give to my son Joseph Easton the remainder of Goodman Phillips, his swamp lott on the east side of the Great River, with two thirds parts of the Barn standing thereon, he paying such legacies as I shall appoint to the value of Thirty pounds."

An abstract from the will of Sarah Ensign, widow of James Ensign, who d. May, 1676, states: "I give to my beloved daughter Sarah Smith," "I give to my dear daughter Hannah Easton," "To my Grand children, Ruth Rockwell, Sarah Rockwell, Lydia Rockwell,"

"I give to my son David's children, to Joseph Easton her grand child 20 pounds, to James Ensign, 5 pounds, if the estate will bear it."

While it appears that Joseph Easton Jr. was deacon of the First Church, it also appears that his wife Hannah had her children baptized in the South or Second Church, of which her father and mother were members.

Vol. 1 Hartford Land Records, page 44, 45. Date 1698.

"Land in Hartford upon the River Connecticut, belonging to Joseph Easton Jr. and his heirs forever.

"One Parcell of land which he received part by deed of Gift from his Father Joseph Easton Senior & part by purchase from Steven Hopkins together with his dwelling house & all other buildings standing thereon which said parcell of land contains by estimation about two acres & abutts on the highway leading from James Steels into the Sowth Meadow on the sowth on Thomas Bunce Jr. & Capt. Tho. Bulls, their land on the east, on Joseph Eastons Sen. land on the North & on Joseph Easton Sen. & Samuel Burrs, land on the west.

"One Parcell of Land lying on the East side of the Connecticut River which he received by deed of Gift from his Father James Ensign, as by his last Will & Testament may appear which said Parcell contains about fourteen acres & abutts on David Ensigns Land south the Great River west and Richard Goodmans Land on the North, and the Land of Nicholas Clark, or long lotts east.

"One Parcell of Upland which James Ensign, gave him by his last Will and Testament & was formerly Wm. Phillips & Lyeth in the cow Pasture & contains by estimation eleven acres & two rods be it more or less & abutts on the Little River on the west & on a highway on the east, on Land formerly Ralph Hectors land, on the Sowth & on Land now common North.

"One Parcell of land which James Ensign, gave him by his last will, and Testament & was formerly Wm. Phillips & contains by estimation fourteen acres one Rood & twenty Perches, be it more or less abutting on the Little River on the west on Richard Churches, Land on the south & on John Talcotts Land on the North & on a highway on the east.

"One Parcell of Land lying in the oxpasture which James Ensign, gave him & was Wm. Phillips, containing by estimation Fourteen acres be it more or less & abutts; a butting on the highway leading from the Town to the Little River on the North on Seth Graves Land on the east on Capt. Olmsteads Land on the west.

"One Parcell of land lying in the long lotts on the east side of the Great River Given him by his Father James Ensign & was Wm. Phillips & Wm. Calseys Land abutting on the swamp lotts on the west the common on the east & Nicholas Clarks Land on the North & John Maynards Land on the south.

"One Parcell of Land lying in the long lotts on the east side of the Great River given him by his Father James Ensign and was Wm. Phillips purchased of Nathaniel Kellogg and contains by estimation eighteen acres more or less & abutts on the swamp Lotts east the common west Serj. Goodmans Land North & Capt. Olmsteads Land on the South."

Here we have very convincing proof that not Joseph¹ Easton the emigrant but Joseph² Easton his son married Hannah Ensign, and that the writer of the Memorial Hist. of Hartford Co. was not correct.

The Last Will and Testament of Joseph² Easton late of Hartford, deceased. Hartford Probate Records, vol. 8, page 59.

"I Joseph Easton Seniou^r of Hartford being Sensible of my daily nearer approach to the end of my Days here on Earth and knowing it to be my duty to set my house in Order before I Dye for the disposing the estate that God hath graciously given me. I make and ordain this to be my last Will and Testament, hereby makeing void all former wills by me made or declared.

"Item. I give to my Son Joseph, and to his heirs forever the house in which he now Dwelleth with the lott on which it stands extending to the country highway on the East with all the priviledges and appurtenances thereto belonging.

"Item. half my meadow Lott to be divided by a line from east to west Item. half my two meadow lotts which I bought of Samuel Andrews. Item. half my boggy meadow all lying on the East Side of the Great River, these I give to my son Joseph and his heirs forever and he upon the division of said lotts to hive his first choice. Item. I give to my son James, the house in which he now Dwelleth with the house Lott on which it standeth extending from the highway on the west eastward the whole breadth of my lott till ten acres be fully made up with all the priviledges and appurtenances thereto belonging.

"Item. the other half of my meadow lott commonly called Phillips Lott with the other half of the two Lotts I bought of Samuel Andrews, and the remaining half of my boggy meadow all lying on the East Side of the Great River which I give to my Son James, and his heirs forever.

"Item. all the remainder of my upland lott on the East Side of the Great River, with all its priviledges, with all my rights of land there I give to my sons Joseph, and James, and their heirs forever to be equally divided between them. Item. I give to my Son Johnathan my house in which I now Dwell with the House lott on which it Standeth with the additions of land I have made to it with all its priviledges and appurtenances to him and to his heirs forever.

"Item. I give him those several parcells of Land Viz. my pasture lott commonly called Skinners lott and my lott lying in the old ox pasture adjoining to Edward Cadwells land also my lott at the blue Hills, with my lott at four Mile Hill with all my meadow lying in the south meadow as also my two pastures the one I bought of Mr. Blackleach the other given to me by my Father.

"Item. I give to him my two meadow lotts lying over the Great River, the one called Stedmans lott the other called Spencers lott which I bought of John Michell those several parcells of Land I give to my Son Johnathan, and to his heirs forever.

"Item. I give to my Son Jonathan, all my goods & chattels whattsoever. Item. I give to my Son Richard Miles, besides what I have already given him ten pounds Current Country pay.

"Item. I give to my two daughters Elizabeth and Thankfull Six pounds to each of them in Current Country pay.

"Item. I do appoint my Son Johnathan, to be sole executor to this my last Will and appoint him out of what of my estate I have given him to pay all my Just debts and funerall charges with the legacies I have given to my Son in law Richard Miles, and my daughters Elizabeth, and Thankfull, and I allow him the full term of one year after my decease to pay the legacies.

"For confirmation of all the above written I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this Eight day of February in the year of our Lord the One Thousand seven hundred Animo."

JOSEPH EASTON [Seal.]

Scaled and declared in

Presence of

TIMOTHY WOODBRIDGE SEN.

TIMOTHY WOODBRIDGE JUN.

Will exhibited in Court March 3, 1712, by Johnathan Easton, executor.

3

Mary² Easton, dau. of Joseph¹ Easton, b. ——— m. John Skinner of Hartford (son of John Skinner, one of the Hooker party and one of the original proprietors of that place).

John Skinner d. Sept. 15, 1690. Mary Skinner d. June 18, 1695.

8

John³ Easton (*John², Joseph¹*), son of John (1) and Elizabeth Easton, was b. in Hartford, Conn., October 22, 1689, and d. March 10, 1725. He m. December 11, 1712, Sarah Butler, who d. in Stratford, Conn., March 10, 1750, in the 59th year of her age.

Their children were—

15 SARAH, b. May 27, 1714.

16 JOHN, b. April 15, 1717.

ELIAS, b. July 16, 1719; d. June 1, 1742.

17 MARY, b. Aug. 21, 1721.

A monument in the cemetery at East Hartford, erected in memory of John and Elias, is a stone table supported by five pillars, inscribed 1725-1742.

9

Joseph³ Easton (*Joseph², Joseph¹*), son of Joseph (2) and Hannah (Ensign) Easton, and grandson of Joseph, one of the first settlers, was b. in Hartford about 1669, and d. in East Hartford in 1735. He m. in 1694, Sarah Spencer, dau. of Samuel Spencer and Sarah Meakins, his wife. Samuel Spencer was the son of William and Agnes Spencer, one of the first settlers in Hartford from Cambridge, Mass., where in 1634-38, he was a representative to the General Court of Massachusetts, lieutenant of militia and one of the founders of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company. In 1639 was deputy to the General Court in Connecticut, and was appointed with Mr. Wyllis and Mr. Webster to prepare the first revision of the laws for that year. Residence East Hartford, Conn.

Their children were—

18 TIMOTHY, bap. August 11, 1695.

19 JOSEPH, bap. October 16, 1697.

20 SARAH, bap. January 2, 1700.

21 SAMUEL, bap. February 14, 1702.

ELISHA, bap. March 11, 1705.

22 ELIJAH.

LEMUEL, b. June 13, 1710; died young.

Sarah Spencer, wife of Joseph Easton, was a descendant of the Spencer's of Southampton, Bedfordshire, England. (See Appendix for her ancestry.)

Hartford Land Records, vol. 4, page 125, also abstract of Deeds of Joseph Easton.

"Know all men by these Presents that Joseph Easton of Hartford *** for divers good causes *** especially Love and Affection which I bear to my Son Joseph Easton Jr. of the same Hartford Have given & granted *** unto him my son Joseph Easton one half part of a certain parcel of land 6½ acres more or less which half part is on the north part of Sd. Lands etc. Also ½ of my House Lott containing in whole 4 acres more or less Lying on the north side thereof *** Together with one half of my Dwelling house half of Barn Standing on Home Lott Half of Orchard etc. *** 7 Sept. 1727."

JOSEPH EASTON [Seal.]

On 29 of April 1734 Joseph Easton gave to Elisha Easton of Hartford and Elijah (sons of Joseph Easton of Suffield, the other half of his House and House lott.

May 1st 1735 Joseph Easton gave his Son Elijah Easton some land held in Partnership with his Brother James Easton.

"Know all Men by these presents that I Joseph Easton, of Hartford, in the County of Hartford, in the Colony of Connecticut & in New England, for and in Consideration of Love good Will and Affection, which I have and bear Towards my Son Timothy Easton, of the Same Town County, and Colony. Aforesd. HAVE Given and Granted and by these presents Do freely Clearly and Absolutely give and grant unto ye Said Timothy Easton, his heirs Executors or Admins. One piece of Land being in Hartford, on the East Side of Connecticutt River containing by Estimation three Acres butted and bounded North on a Highway South on Land belonging to Deacon Olmstead, and Nehemiah Olmstead West on my own Land and East on James Eastons Land To HAVE and to Hold and that the said Timothy Easton, his heirs and assigns Shall and may from time to time and all times forever Hereafter by force and Virtue of these presents Lawfully peaceably and Quietly HAVE HOLD use Occupee and Enjoy ye Above sd. three Acres of Land with ye Appurtenances free and Clear, and freely, and Clearly Acquitted exonerated, and Discharged, of from, and all manner of former and other gifts, grants bargains, Sales, Leases, Mortgages, Wills, Entails, Joyntuts, Dowries, Judgements, Executions, and extents.

"FURTHERMORE I the Said Jos. Easton, for myself my heirs executors Admins. Do Covenant and Engage ye Above Demised premises to him ye Said Timothy Easton, his heirs, and Assigns Against ye Lawfull Claims or Demands of any persons whatsoever forever Hereafter to Warrant and Defend. In Witness Whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and Seal this tenth of December, In the Sixth year of his Majesties Reign Anno ye Dom. 1720.

JOSEPH EASTON [Seal.]

ARON COOK. JOHN COOK.

10

James³ Easton (*Joseph*,² *Joseph*¹), son of Joseph (2) and Hannah (Ensign) Easton, was b. in Hartford, Conn., March

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS.

370

Elisha⁴ Easton (*Joseph³, Joseph², Joseph¹*), son of Joseph (9) and Sarah (Spencer) Easton, was bap. March 11, 1705. He probably died between the years 1764 and 1774. We have been unable to find any records of his marriage, although there is collateral evidence that he had a wife and children, as will be shown from the land and probate record, extracts from which we will give. He was a resident of East Hartford, in that part known as Oxford Parish, the records of which Parish are not in existence, which has made it very difficult to obtain his family record.

First, to establish the fact that he was a householder, we will give copy of a deed from vol. 10, page 436, Hartford Land Records, to John Grant, Jr.

Vol. 10, page 436.

"Elisha Easton, for £36.00.00 Conveys to John Grant Jr. of Windsor, One certain Piece of Land lying in Hartford, in the five miles so called, in the second tier from Bolton line, is on the south side of the Lott **on which I the said Easton, now Dwell;** containing 18 acres, and is bounded as follows Viz east & west on a highway; south on land laid out to John Dix, now in the improvement of Simon Gains, and is to extend North twelve Rods in breadth from Simon Gains North Line and is the South side of the Lott laid out to Thomas Cadwell."

25 April 1764.

ELISHA EASTON, [Seal]

Second, to establish the fact that Elisha Easton had a daughter that married John Grant Jr., we will give copy of a deed from John Grant, in which he states that Elisha Easton was his father-in-law.

Vol. 13, page 199, Hartford Land Records.

"I John Grant of East Windsor in the County of Hartford and Colony of Conn. in New England, In consideration of Thirty pounds money Received to

my full Satisfaction of Joseph Keeney, Lemuel Easton, & Abel Easton, all of Hartford in the County of Hartford, Do give grant, Bargain, Sell, and Confirm unto the said Joseph Keeney Lemuel Easton, & Abel Easton, All my Right Title and Interest in and to A Certain Piece of Land That I have by Virtue of a **Deed from my Father in law Elisha Easton**, Said Piece of Land lyeth in Said Hartford in Oxford Parish, and is bounded South on Land belonging to Simon Gains and as otherwise bounded by Said Deed Reference thereto being had and Twelve Rods wide North and South Containing eighteen acres To Have and to Hold, etc."

Witness

JOHN GRANT. [Seal]

JOHN PITKIN

NEHEMIAH ABBE.

Dated 3 February 1774.

We find also a Hannah Easton, b. April 25, 1761, in Manchester, Conn., who married Cephas Mills. She was brought up in the family of her uncle, John Grant, and that the name of his wife was Mary. We also find from the record of baptisms in the First Congregational church in East Hartford, that Thankful Easton, a dau. of Joseph, was baptized Jan. 4, 1758, and a son, Justin, Oct. 14, 1763. Now to show who this Joseph Easton was, and that he was also the father of Hannah, we have the statement of Albert P. Cleland, a resident at this time (1898) in Minneapolis, Minn., about seventy years of age, and a great grandson of Thankful Easton, (who married John Cleland), who states that in the year 1836 he was a resident of Niles, Mich., and that at that time a Cephas Mills, a son of Hannah and Cephas Mills, was a resident of Niles and well acquainted with him, and knows the fact that Hannah, the mother of Cephas, was a sister of his great grandmother, Thankful. This also shows that Joseph, the father of Hannah and Thankful, was a son of Elisha.

The foregoing shows very conclusively that Mary, the wife of John Grant, was a daughter of Elisha Easton, and the aunt of Hannah. Also that Hannah was the granddaughter of Elisha; and Hannah being a sister of Thankful establishes the fact that Joseph, their father, was a son of Elisha. We will therefore give as the children of Elisha—

371 JOSEPH, b. ———

MARY, b. ———; she d. April 4, 1799, was buried in the cemetery at Wapping, Conn.; she m. John Grant Jr., who was b. Jan. 1, 1720. son of John and Mary (Chapman) Grant; he d. Dec. 12, 1802.

371

Joseph⁵ Easton (*Elisha⁴, Joseph³, Joseph², Joseph¹*), son of Elisha (370) Easton, was b. in East Hartford, Conn., and m. ——— unknown.

It is a tradition in the family that Joseph and his wife both died young, leaving a young family, and it will be shown by the following from the Probate Court, of East Windsor, vol. 1, page 79, at a court of Probate holden Nov. 28, 1786, Joel Easton, a minor aged seventeen years, son of Joseph Easton, late of East Hartford, deceased, made choice of Elisha Buckland to be his guardian. Bond, £100.

Their children were—

372 **THANKFUL**, bap. June 4, 1758; b. April 12, 1757.

373 **HANNAH**, b. April 25, 1761.

374 **JUSTIN**, bap. Oct. 14, 1763.

375 **JOEL**, b. about 1769.

372

Thankful⁶ Easton (*Joseph⁵, Elisha⁴, Joseph³, Joseph², Joseph¹*), dau. of Joseph (371) Easton, was b. April 12, 1757, in East Hartford, Conn.; bap. June 4, 1758, in First Congregational church, in East Hartford, Conn.; she d. in Stockton, Chautauqua Co., N. Y., Jan. 19, 1847, in the ninetieth year of her age; she m. April 27, 1780, John Cleland, b. Feb. 16, 1758, who d. Feb. 16, 1827, on his sixty-ninth birthday, in Charlotte, Chautauqua Co., N. Y.

John Cleland was a farmer of Scotch descent, a soldier in the army of the American Revolution; he enlisted Feb. 28, 1778, for the war, in Capt. Thomas Abbe's Company, of Enfield, in 3d Regiment, Connecticut line; discharged Feb. 23, 1780.

Their children were—

BERIAH CLELAND, b. March 15, 1781; d. July 15, 1853.

EDNA CLELAND, b. June 23, 1782; d. Aug. 8, 1870; she m. Elisha Page, Jackson, Mich.

SAMUEL CLELAND, b. Sept. 1, 1784; d. July 4, 1787.

JAMES CLELAND, b. Sept. 26, 1786; d. July 8, 1787.

SAMUEL CLELAND, b. May 14, 1788; d. June 20, 1879; he m. Lizzie Holdridge.

THANKFUL CLELAND, b. April 22, 1790; m. Smith Jenks, lived in Upper Lyle, Broome Co., N. Y.

JOHN CLELAND JR., b. Feb. 1, 1792; d. Aug. 26, 1876; he m. Hannah Picket April 12, 1812, who d. in 1873. Their ch. were: (1) Darius, b. July, 1813; (2) Augustus, b. May, 1816; d. Oct. 1895; he m. Lavinia Jones, in 1841; (3) Emily, b. Aug. 1818; m. Otis Maxham, in 1848; (4) Marilla, b. Nov., 1820; d. April, 1895; m. Hosea Todd, in 1848; (5) John Wilder, b. April, 1823; d. in 1894; m. Sylvia Brost, in 1847; (6) Hannah, b. May, 1825; m. Perry Louck, in 1853; (7) Bryon, b. Oct., 1830; m. Lucinda Hill, in 1856, who d. Aug., 1894.

JAMES CLELAND, b. Feb. 19, 1792; d. April 16, 1792.

OLIVER CLELAND, b. Oct. 25, 1793; d. — 1878; m. Betsey Marsh.

NATHAN CLELAND, b. March 5, 1795; d. Sept. 10, 1887; he m. Electa Bachellor, Nov., 1820.

MARTIN CLELAND, b. April 10, 1797; d. Aug. 17, 1872.

373

Hannah⁶ Easton (*Joseph⁵, Elisha⁴, Joseph³, Joseph², Joseph¹*), dau. of Joseph (371) Easton, was b. April 25, 1761, in Manchester, Conn., and d. Aug. 21, 1850, in Tolland, Mass.; she m. March 21, 1778, Cephas Mills.

Their children b. in East Windsor, Conn. —

ELIZABETH,
CHAUNCY,
NANCY,
CHARLES,

Their children b. in Ellington, Conn. —

LUCY,
ACHSAH,

Their children b. in Tolland, Mass. —

HANNAH,
CEPHAS; was a resident of Niles, Mich., in 1836; d. in Buffalo, N. Y., about 1840. It is reported his family went to Montreal.
CHESTER,
JOHN,
AMELIA,
POLLY,
PHILO,

374

Justin⁶ Easton (*Joseph⁵, Elisha⁴, Joseph³, Joseph², Joseph¹*), son of Joseph (371) Easton, was b. in East Hartford, Conn.;

MILITARY RECORD.

Names of those of the name of Easton, also those who married an Easton, that served in the various wars of this country, or rendered important services entitling their descendants to join the various patriotic organizations.

There were probably others whose names have not been reported.

French War.

Timothy Easton (28), page 26, served in the Crown Point expedition, 1755.

Joseph Easton (40), page 37, was a private soldier in the company from Suffield and Windsor, in the regiment of Gen. Phineas Lyman in camp at Montreal, Sept. 4, 1760, and who were engaged in its capture from the French by the Colonial and British troops. Those Colonial troops who served in this war and remained loyal to the British crown during the American Revolution received grants of land in Canada for their services. Joseph Easton received a grant of land near Woodford, now Easton Corners, Ontario, Canada.

War of the American Revolution.

Silas Easton (30), page 27.

Col. James Easton (31), page 28.

Lieut. James Easton (31), page 28.

Calvin Easton (31), page 28.

Eliphalet Easton (32), page 30

Julian Easton (32), page 30.

Elijah Easton (37), page 34.

Ahimaz Easton (39), page 36.

Joseph Easton (45), page 41.

Normand Easton (46), page 41.

Dr. Timothy Childs (47), page 42.
Ashbel Easton (49), page 43.
Samuel Easton (51), page 44.
Giles Easton (52), page 45.
Elijah Easton (53), page 46.
Simeon Crane (54), page 47.
Ahimaz Easton (58), page 50.
John Cleland (372) page 194.
Solomon G. Easton (392), page 203.
Chauncy C. Easton (393), page 204.
Daniel Easton, war of 1812, page 39.

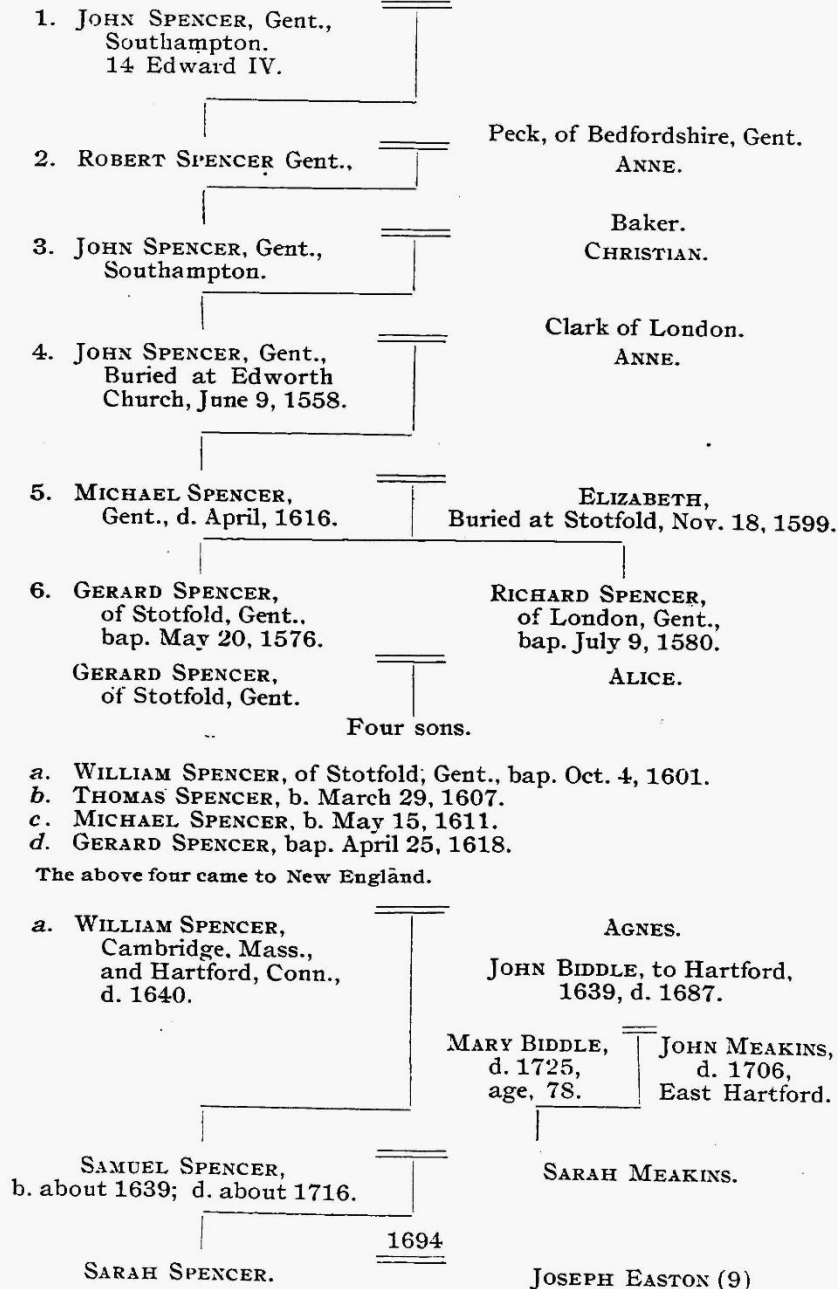
The Rebellion or Civil War of 1861.

Col. Alton R. Easton (129), page 87.
Gen. Langdon C. Easton (132), page 89.
Luman Easton (232), page 136.
Levi W. Easton (233¼), page 137.
John H. Easton (233½), page 137.
Wilder M. Easton (238), page 140.
Major Charles Morton (261). page 151.
Charles H. Easton (280), page 160.
Adin R. Easton (115), page 80.
Oliver Easton Jr. (165), page 104.

War with Spain, 1898.

Major Charles Morton, page 151.
2d Lieut. Charles Easton Morton, page 151.
2d Lieut. Easton Rutledge Gibson, page 147.

By request we give the ancestry of Sarah Spencer, the wife of Joseph Easton (9).



March 17, 1645, Richard Spencer, Gent., of London, leaves by his will £50 apiece to his nephews and the children of William Spencer, another nephew.

Descendants of William Spencer are admitted to the Society of Colonial Wars.

