

LIFE & TIMES of THOMAS GOBLE (1591-1657)

Free Tenant Farmer of Aldingbourne, West Sussex, England.



The peaceful countryside of ALDINGBOURNE, West Sussex, England.



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INTRODUCTION

- **THOMAS GOBLE** was born on January 2nd., 1591 in the VILLAGE of WESTERGATE, near Aldingbourne, a farming Community in West Sussex, England. THOMAS was the youngest son of Husbandman, WILLIAM GOBLE (1560 -1593) and his wife, ALICE GOBLE (born LEGARD) (1552-1593) who were married in 1589, probably at St. Mary-the-Virgin Church in Aldingbourne, Sussex, England.

A HUSBANDMAN in England in the Middle Ages and the early Modern Period was a Free Tenant farmer, or a small landowner. The social status of a Husbandman was below that of a Yeoman. The meaning of "husband" in this term is "Master of House" rather than "married man".

- His Father, **WILLIAM GOBLE** had been born in 1560 and died on May 1, 1593 at the age of 33-years in rural Aldingbourne, West Sussex, England. THOMAS GOBLE was only 2-Years old, so he would not have had much personal memory of his Father.
- THOMAS GOBLE (1591-1657) was born in Medieval England at a time when the influence of the NORMAN INVASION and the prior ROMAN OCCUPATION was still noticeable in the language and names of the English people. Both LATIN and FRENCH words were still in daily use, particularly by the “ruling classes”, the Nobles, the Catholic Church and those he were fortunate to obtain “education”, making them eligible to govern and to participate in the Legal System of England.

THOMAS GOBLE (1591-1657) himself was often referred to in official Court and Church records as “**THOMAS FILIUS WILLMI**” (**Thomas, son of William**). The following examples show the concurrent use of both Latin and French in our English community in the British Isles that was previously speaking Anglo-Saxon or “Old English” before the Norman invasion from France in 1066 AD.

- His Great-Great-Grandfather was RICHARD GOUPIL GOBLE (b. 1485) from Ille-et-Vilaine, Brittany, France.
- His Great-Grandfather was RICHARDUS ENOS GOBIL GOBLETTE (1515-1585).
- His Grandfather was JOHN JEAN GOBLE (1536-1609).
- His Father, WILLIAM GOBLE (1560-1593), was also called WILLMUS in official circles such as the Church and the Courts.

■ THOMAS GOBLE'S ANCESTORS may have been "GLASS BLOWERS" from Brittany, France.





THOMAS I GOBLE (1591-1657)
(Yeoman Farmer)



- On November 5, 1619, 28-year old Yeoman Farmer, THOMAS GOBLE married 30-year old ALICE MOUSALL BROOKMAN in Aldingbourne, West Sussex, England. ALICE was the daughter of Mr. BROOKMAN and his wife, GRACE BROOKMAN (born MOUSALL) of Aldingbourne, West Sussex, England.
- THOMAS continued working in Aldingbourne as a Yeoman Farmer as their Family grew and the young couple considered their future plans. It was apparent that Alice was already 6-months pregnant when they married in November 1619, as their first child, ALAN GOBLE was born on February 18, 1620 in Aldingbourne,
- THOMAS and ALICE had 7-Children (4-Sons and 3-Daughters):
 1. ALAN GOBLE (1620 - 1676) born in Aldingbourne, West Sussex; Unmarried, no children.
 2. JOHN GOBLE (1629-1676). Born in Charlestown, Middlesex, Massachusetts; Died in Shipley, West Sussex, England; Married Margery Bateman; No children; did not come to Charlestown to join siblings in disposing of land.
 3. THOMAS II GOBLE (1631-1690) Born in Aldingbourne and emigrated to New England in 1634 with his parents; Married Mary
 4. ELIZABETH GOBLE (1633-1682); Born in Charlestown, Middlesex, Mass; Married Mr. Carter;
 5. MARY GOBLE (1636-1725); Born in Charlestown, Boston, Mass.; Married Mr. Dean;
 6. SARAH SHEPARD (born GOBLE) (1638-1717); Born in Charlestown, Suffolk, Mass.;
 7. DANIEL GOBLE (1641-1676); Born in Charlestown, Suffolk, Mass.;

Executed in 1676 by Hanging for Murder of 3-Indian Squaws & 3-Indian Children in Hurtleberry Hill, Lancaster, Mass. His Nephew, Stephen Goble and 2-Soldiers were co-accused in this atrocity.

King Philip's War (1675-1676)

King Philip's War was a bloody war in eastern New England in which Native Americans resisted the sovereignty of King Charles I of England.

The Indians were led by METACOM, called King Philip by the Settlers, a Chief of the WAMPANOAGS, who tried to build an inter-tribal coalition.

The war was fought by a coalition of ALGONQUIAN Indians, especially the Wampanoag and Narragansett tribes, against the English Colonies of MASSACHUSETTS BAY, PLYMOUTH, RHODE ISLAND and CONNECTICUT.

It was the most devastating war, for both sides, in the history of the Northeast, and resulted in a decisive victory for the Settlers.

CAUSES

By 1675 some 75,000 colonists lived in four New England colonies of Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth, Rhode Island and Connecticut, outnumbering the Indian population by about five to one. The Settlers demanded that the Indians recognize the sovereignty of the Colonial Government. Indians could no longer be independent. In economic terms, they were not useful to the Colonists. Land was a minor issue (the Settlers lived on small farms and did not hunt for game, and so rarely entered Indian hunting grounds.)

On the other side, Wampanoag and Narragansett Indians wanted to remain autonomous, did not want to be subject to English Courts, and resented Christian missionary efforts. Their leader MASSASOIT had been friendly, but after his death in 1662, new Indian leaders challenged the Settlers. They ignored the fate of the PEQUOT in 1637, and looked about for alliances with various tribes.

The key leader was Massasoit's oldest living son, METACOM (1638-1676), called PHILIP by the Colonists, who became SACHEM (Chief of the Confederation of the Algonquian tribes of the North Atlantic coast) of the Wampanoag in the early 1660s. PHILIP renewed the Peace Covenant with Plymouth Colony, and sold more and more land to the Colonists; the Settlers established Towns closer to the Wampanoag Villages, including the nearby settlement of Swansea.

The Colonial Authorities decided to regulate Philip's real estate transactions by requiring him to obtain permission from the GRAND COURT before selling any more land; that is,

they asserted Colonial Sovereignty over the Wampanoags. Repeated reports of plots with the Narragansett, the French, and the Dutch (still based in New Amsterdam) led the Plymouth Colony in 1671 to call him to account. Philip haughtily protested peaceful intentions, and agreed to surrender firearms. Sullen peace followed, but the Wampanoag surrendered suspiciously few arms. Philip did not seem to take his agreements seriously and held the Colonial Authorities in utter contempt.

He once complained that the Plymouth Colony Magistrates were too lowly; if they wanted him to obey them, they should send their King to negotiate with him, not their Governors. "Your governor is but a subject," he said. "I shall treat only with my brother, KING CHARLES OF ENGLAND. When he comes, I am ready."

When three Wampanoag were tried in Court and executed for the murder of a Christian Indian informer, the warriors attacked and plundered nearby farms. Neither side was ready for war. Philip's alliances were not concluded, and the English were unprepared and widely scattered.

THE WAR

In June 1675, Wampanoag marauders threatened Swansea Settlers. who fired back. Swift, devastating raids on Swansea and neighbouring Towns threw the Colonists into panic, intensified when the militia found no Indians to fight—for the Indians never made a stand. The war was a series of Indian raids (lasting a few hours followed by sudden withdrawal), followed by retaliatory expeditions by the Settlers.

The counterattack was ill-planned and indecisive and antagonized other tribes. There was no unified command among the Colonies that joined in, cooperation was spotty, the soldiers were under-equipped and ignorant of Indian warfare, and the troops lacked scouts to track the enemy and refused at first to employ friendly Indians.

When combined Plymouth and Massachusetts forces drove Philip and his Wampanoag warriors into the swamps (June 30, 1675), he easily slipped away. In July 1675 additional Indian tribes joined Philip's uprising; MATTAPOISETT warriors destroyed most of DARTMOUTH in Plymouth Colony; NIPMUCK Indians assaulted MENDON in Massachusetts Bay Colony on July 14, 1675.

Suspicious of the NARRAGANSETT tribe, Colonial forces raided their country and compelled a few lingerers to sign a TREATY OF NEUTRALITY on July 15, 1675 but most Narragansett warriors, led by Canonchet, had allied with the Wampanoag Abnaki in the north joined the insurgency, along with Norwottock, Pocumtuck, and Agawam warriors;

even some Christian Indians were involved. The Indian tribes acted independently and were never under a unified command by Philip or anyone else.

The most effective Indian tactic was to raid a small settlement, besiege the garrison, burn abandoned farms and homes and then waylay relief parties. The men were killed, the women and children killed or kidnapped. At first the Indians set fires in patches of woods and ambushed detachments of troops sent to investigate. The Indians always refused a pitched battle, where the disciplined drilling and firepower of the Colonists would overwhelm their individualistic fighting tactics based on ambushes and hatchets, with limited firearms.

By late 1675, disaster overtook the Colonies on all sides. Numerous frontier towns (such as MENDON, BROOKFIELD, DEERFIELD, and NORTHFIELD), were devastated, abandoned, or both; two small Colonial Units were ambushed and destroyed (Sawmill Brook, September 3, 1675; Muddy Brook, September 18, 1675). Hundreds of miles away similar raids devastated some Colonial Villages in NEW HAMPSHIRE and MAINE.

MOBILIZATION

Colonial authorities officially declared war on the Wampanoag on September 9, 1675, and set about drafting a 1,000-man army. The militia system was a variation on the English militia, with more local control, and was not considered effective for offensive warfare. With real war at hand the Colony created new Companies of soldiers to fight the enemy, leaving the Town Militia Companies mostly intact for defence. The decision of which men would serve locally and which Colony-wide was made by the Town Militia Committees, comprised of civilian and military leaders from the community.

RHODE ISLAND was politically controlled by QUAKERS, but they enthusiastically supported the war in alliance with their theological enemies the PURITANS. Many Quakers were in the Militia, and non-combatants helped out.

GREAT SWAMP FIGHT

Finally the Colonists overcame their weaknesses and devised a Common Strategy that worked. The Indians avoided pitched battles, but they had to defend their food stores or they would starve in the harsh winter. They could hide the stores but they could not easily move them, so the Colonies, using scouts from friendly tribes, discovered and destroyed the enemy food supplies in December–January, 1675–1676 and defeated the Indians who were forced into a pitched battle on European terms because to flee meant starvation.

The Colonists first pre-emptively destroyed the threat posed by the Narragansett in the GREAT SWAMP Fight on Dec. 19, 1675, (at the present site of SOUTH KINGSTOWN, Rhode Island). The combined forces of Massachusetts Bay, Plymouth, and Connecticut, over 1,000

soldiers under the command of GOVERNOR JOSIAH WINSLOW, with about 150 Indian allies, marched through the snow to the island in the Great Swamp, which had been fortified by the Narraganset to protect their food supplies.

The first assault by the COLONISTS early in the afternoon, was turned back with heavy losses; after three hours of desperate fighting the Fort was forced at the rear and the Indians routed. The Indian wigwams were set on fire, and many women and children died in the flames. The English lost six Captains and 120 men and the Narraganset losses were in the hundreds. This battle forever changed the power of the Narraganset and gave the Settlers confidence they had a winning strategy, with Unified Commands, Indian scouts, and a systematic attack on heavily guarded food stores. Several thousand Narraganset warriors who had not been in the swamp now joined the insurgency.

PHILIP and a small band wintered near ALBANY, NEW YORK, in hopes of gaining aid from the Mohawk Indians and the French. In early 1676 he attacked the Eastern Settlements in order to concentrate English forces there while they planted food crops in the Connecticut Valley.

On February 10, 1676, NARRAGANSETT and NIPMUCK Indians raided LANCASTER, Massachusetts. They burned most of the Town, killed more than 35 Villagers, and took 24 captives, including 41-year-old MARY ROWLANDSON and her three children; her 6-year-old daughter was killed for falling behind. Mary spent 12-weeks in captivity before she was freed for a ransom of £20. Indians threatened Plymouth, Providence, and towns within 10 miles of Boston.

The long run logistics advantage of the Colonists now came into play. Colonists had plenty of food but the disruption of Indian life made them unable to plant, fish, or harvest; they depended on stored supplies and began to run short of food. Indians started deserting to forage and plant crops.

Colonists captured and executed CANONCHET on April 3, 1676 ([Canonchet was a leader of the separatist Native community, or those who did not ally with English Colonialists and did not accept the authority of European Settlers.](#)). The MOHAWKS suddenly decided to attack the NARRAGANSETT from the west, thereby helping the Colonists.

Finally on May 18–19, 1676, [Captain WILLIAM TURNER](#) with 180 men surprised and massacred the Indians at DEERFIELD and broke their resistance in the Connecticut River Valley. By the end of May, the tide had turned in the west. The Colonials gained further victories in June and July, and bands of war-hungry Indians surrendered en masse.

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CHURCH, assisted by able Indian scouts, trapped KING PHILIP and his Wampanoag in swamps near Taunton and Bridgewater, killing PHILIP on August 12, 1676. PHILIP'S death marked the end of the main war, though hostilities continued in New Hampshire and Maine, where the Abnaki and others, supplied with French arms and encouragement, wreaked havoc on Settlement after Settlement.

RESULTS

On April 12, 1678, Articles of Peace were signed at CASCO, MAINE, with mutual restoration of captives and property. Since June 1675, 16-Towns in Massachusetts and 4 in Rhode Island had been destroyed, all Colonists had fled KENNEBEC COUNTY (MAINE), and all along NEW ENGLAND frontiers, expansion had been retarded. But the Indians no longer posed a threat to the Colonists in southern NEW ENGLAND. Thereafter their struggle was confined to the northeast and northwest, where it merged with the struggle between the COLONISTS and FRANCE for control of the Continent.

Estimates were that about 6,000 INDIAN MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WERE KILLED OR CAPTURED—about 33% of the Indian population. Many of those captured were sold into SLAVERY to allied Indians, or to the West Indies sugar plantations.

ABOUT 5% of the SETTLERS DIED—2,500 MEN, WOMEN and CHILDREN; 1,200 HOMES WERE BURNED, and 8,000 CATTLE WERE KILLED.

COLONIAL expenses during the war amounted to 100,000 Pounds Sterling, a huge amount for the time. The Frontier of Settlement had been pushed back 20 miles. The Towns of NORTHFIELD, DEERFIELD, BROOKFIELD, WORCESTER, LANCASTER, GROTON, MENDON, WRENTHAM, MIDDLEBOROUGH, WARWICK, WICKFORD AND SIMSBURY had been destroyed, and SPRINGFIELD, WESTFIELD, MARLBOROUGH, SCITUATE, REHOBOTH AND PROVIDENCE had been heavily damaged.

BOSTON was threatened but was never hit. The poor performance of Colonial Forces in KING PHILIP'S WAR and KING WILLIAM'S WAR (1689–1697) led to a greater reliance on British forces and Imperial Administrators. Furthermore, the war weakened the Colonial Economy for years, raised local taxes, and required infusions of British money while reducing dividends to London investors. Henceforth, the American settlers would feel an increasingly heavy hand of the Royal Government.

MEMORY AND MEMORIALS

KING PHILIP did not exercise any over-all operational control of events. With a tribal culture and tradition based upon de-centralization of political and military power, such control was probably impossible.

The Colonists, however, needed an ENEMY to personify and KING PHILIP fit the bill.

CAPTAIN BENJAMIN CHURCH ordered the "doleful, great, naked, dirty beast" to be beheaded and quartered. "Forasmuch as he has caused many an Englishman's body to lie unburied and rot above the ground, that not one of his bones should be buried." Philip's head was taken to Plymouth and mounted on a pole in the Town Square where it remained for 20 years.

Historians have often condemned the cruelty of both sides, but James D. Drake (1997 and 1999) argues it should not be compared to modern genocides and atrocities. He points out that a comparison with English military conduct in various Civil conflicts in Britain shows that the Colonists believed they were fighting a CIVIL WAR rather than a war between sovereign nations, and that their conduct followed accepted rules of war in a Civil conflict.

Having defeated an Indian alliance in the PEQUOT WAR in 1637, the Puritans considered Indians dependents inside their Colony, and not outsiders. The heavy-handed use of violence, enslavement, and harsh punishments inflicted on prisoners all had precedents in English Civil conflicts, Drake notes, and were justified under recognized rules of Civil war.

In contradiction to the modern perception of genocidal destruction of the "other," the Puritans employed violence in a calculating fashion, sometimes showing restraint when strategically valuable. There were atrocities committed on both sides, but there was punishment too, when soldiers violated the rights of Christian Indians.

On August 7, 1676, at HURTLEBERRY HILL near Concord, Massachusetts, Colonial soldiers killed six Christian Indians - three women and three children - while they gathered berries. Four soldiers were tried and convicted for the deed and sentenced to death; two were eventually pardoned and two were executed.

The two soldiers sentenced for murder and hanged were DANIEL I GOBLE (1641-1676) and his nephew, STEPHEN GOBLE (1654-1676) the SON and GRANDSON of THOMAS GOBLE (1590-1657). Luckily THOMAS had died 9-years earlier and did not suffer the anguish of such a heart-rending outcome. LIFE in NEW ENGLAND was tough...

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Tried, found Guilty and EXECUTED by Hanging for Murder of 3-Indian Squaws & 3-Indian Children in Hurtleberry Hill, Lancaster, Mass. His Nephew, STEPHEN GOBLE and 2-Soldiers were co-accused in this atrocity in 1676. STEPHEN was also hanged, but the other 2-Soldiers were pardoned by the Court.

In the 1600's religious tensions in England were mounting and the GREAT PURITAN MIGRATION from many English ports to the north-eastern seaboard of North America was about to dominate the political scene in Southern England and in British Colonial America, then ruled by King Charles 1st. of England.

- The GOBLE FAMILY of the Village of WESTERGATE was about to get embroiled in the rush by many Protestants to leave England and sail to "NEW ENGLAND" and set up their new "State" and the "Congregationalist Church". They found that the native Indians were not "friendly", and the Settlers were fighting a brutal war with a Chief of the Narragansett Tribe whom they called "KING PHILIP".



The INDIANS are upon us...!

- Several GOBLE FAMILY menfolk, including their wives and children, would lose their lives in this "war of attrition" with angry Indian tribes. Houses were burned to the ground by Indian raiding parties and many Colonists were killed.
- One particularly gruesome clash in August 1676 in Watertown, Massachusetts resulted in the murder of 3-Indian Squaws and 3-Indian children by 4-Colonist soldiers of whom the "ringleaders" were DANIEL GOBLE (1641-1676) and his nephew, STEPHEN GOBLE (1654-1676). They were tried for murder and both were hanged on September 26, 1676.

A trocities in King Philip's War, August 7, 1676

KING PHILIP'S WAR (1675-1676) was a bloody war in eastern New England in which Native Americans resisted European sovereignty. The Indians were led by METACOM, aka KING PHILIP, a chief of the WAMPANOAGS, who tried to build an inter-tribal coalition.

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Colonists captured and executed CANONCHET on April 3, 1676. Canonchet was a Narragansett Sachem and leader of the Native American troops during the Great Swamp Fight and King Philip's War. He was a son of Miantonomo. Canonchet was a leader of the separatist Native community, or those who did not ally with English Colonialists and did not accept the authority of European settlers.

The Mohawks suddenly decided to attack the Narragansett from the west, thereby helping the Colonists. Finally on May 18th to 19th, 1676, CAPT. WILLIAM TURNER with 180 men surprised and massacred the Indians at Deerfield and broke their resistance in the Connecticut River valley. By the end of May 1676 the tide had turned in the west.

The Colonials gained further victories in June and July, and bands of war-hungry Indians surrendered en masse. Capt. Benjamin Church, assisted by able Indian scouts, trapped King Philip and his Wampanoag in swamps near Taunton and Bridgewater, killing Philip on August 12, 1676.

Philip's death marked the end of the main war, though hostilities continued in New Hampshire and Maine, where the Abnaki and others, supplied with French arms and encouragement, wreaked havoc on settlement after settlement.

■ There were many atrocities on both sides during KING PHILIP'S WAR. The following Memoirs are tributes to only a few of the COLONIST FAMILIES who lost a Father or Mother, a Husband or Wife, a Brother or Sister, a Son or a Daughter and sometimes many of the above. We have no detailed record of the NATIVE INDIANS who lost loved-ones to the fighting and the killing or the earlier or subsequent epidemics of disease brought into their midst by the foreign COLONIST IMMIGRANTS, who did not immigrate to NEW ENGLAND to be a victim of or perpetrator of the "hell on Earth" that became the GREAT PURITAN MIGRATION.

A Brief History of the “Warr” with the Indians in New-England

(By INCREASE MATHER, Boston, 1676)

- INCREASE MATHER was a New England Puritan clergyman in the Massachusetts Bay Colony and President of Harvard College for twenty years. He was influential in the administration of the Colony during a time that coincided with the notorious Salem witch trials. He also kept a daily Diary that chronicled the sad events that befell the PURITANS in the period around 1676.

The following pages represent a new edition of INCREASE MATHER’S influential contemporary account of KING PHILIP’S WAR, between the English Colonists in New England (and their Native allies) and the Wampanoag, Narragansett, and other Indian nations of the region, beginning in 1675. Mather’s account runs through August of 1676, when hostilities in southern, central, and western New England ended; fighting continued in the region of Maine until 1678.

The war was disastrous for both sides, but particularly for the hostile Native Americans, who were brought very close to extermination.

MATHER describes his history as “brief ” (but it runs to 89-pages) and “impartial”, a claim that may ring false to modern ears. Mather was not a direct participant, but was an associate of most of the Colonial Leadership and a spiritual advisor to the war effort. His “report” has the advantage of being freshly written during the conflict, and reflects the alternating hopes and disappointments that accompanied each bit of news that arrived in Boston.

He argues that the United Colonies (Massachusetts, Plymouth, and Connecticut) waged a defensive war against a treacherous enemy who assaulted their settlements and plantations without provocation. He does, however, blame the English Colonists for their neglect of religion (including efforts to Christianize the natives) and for the sins of apostasy, (inordinate pride of apparel and hair) drunkenness, and swearing—all of which gave God adequate cause to raise enemies against them as a “Scourge” to punish them and motivate them to repentance and reformation.

This BRIEF HISTORY does deliver many telling truths about the conflict: that the English conducted search-and-destroy campaigns against both persons and provisions, slaughtered (Mather’s word) large numbers of women and children as well as men, executed captured leaders by firing squad (on Boston Common and at Stonington, Ct.); and that their “armies” were on several occasions routed or entirely wiped out by Native fighters. This online electronic text edition is based on the first printed edition published at Boston in 1676, and it retains the spelling, punctuation, and orthography of the original.

■ Here are some of MATHER'S entries that were presented to the MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL SOCIETY in January , 1900:

MARCH 19, 1675:

I heard that in Virginia there is a great want of Provision. Men and beasts alike are perishing, and now they say thus,"New England, come and supply us and you shall be custom-free. This is very observable in the first year that an Act against New England was put in execution it should be so that they should be forced to desire help from New England.

Wheat is scarce among people in Boston. There is a design at New York to hinder supplies from coming hither so that the trade of Boston may be diminished and their own increased.

APRIL 14, 1675:

Cattle die at Rhode Island for want of food. The famine likely to rage in Virginia.

'Tis reported that at Nosset an Indian Squaw being with child, the child was heard crying 3-days before it was born.

JULY 12, 1675:

We hear that the Indians have destroyed several Plantations in Plymouth Colony. In Middlebury all but one house burned down and at Dartmouth all but 8 houses, and most of the houses at Swansey, and the Ninicraft and other Sachems join with Philip.

This week Captain Edward Hutchinson died by the wounds he received of the Indians. It seems to be an observable Providence yet so many of that Family die by the hand of the uncircumcised. His Mother (long ago) and Sister. And now himself.

'Tis the saddest time in NEW ENGLAND ever was known.

OCTOBER 19, 1675:

This day we hear that yet another wounded Captain is dead, viz. Sealy of Connecticut. He died on the Sabbath! It may be it was not pleasing to God that the English should engage the Enemy on the Sabbath Day!

NOVEMBER 11, 1675:

This day I hear that God has shot another arrow into the midst of this Town. The SMALLPOX is in an ordinary sign of the Swan, the ordinary Keeper's name is Windsor. His daughter is sick of the disease. It is observable that this disease began at an Ale House, to testify God's displeasure against the sin of drunkenness and of multiplying Ale Houses!

NOVEMBER 12, 1675:

The maid that was sick of the **SMALLPOX** is dead.

JANUARY 13, 1676:

This day the Indians set upon Groton, Massachusetts; In the pursuit after the Indians, Captain Turner, the **ANABAPTIST**, had likely been drowned. This seems to me an observable Providence that he who had “dipped” others and has been the principle cause of the trouble raised by the Indians in that place.

ANABAPTISTS believe that baptism is valid only when candidates freely confess their faith in Christ and request to be baptized. This believer's baptism is opposed to baptism of infants, who are not able to make a conscious decision to be baptized. Anabaptists trace their heritage to the Radical Reformation of the 16th century. Other Christian groups with different roots also practice believer's baptism, such as Baptists, but these groups are not Anabaptist. The Amish, Hutterites, and Mennonites are direct descendants of the early Anabaptist movement. Schwarzenau Brethren, River Brethren, Bruderhof, and the Apostolic Christian Church are Anabaptist denominations that developed well after the Radical Reformation. Though all Anabaptists share the same core theological beliefs, there are differences in the way of life between them; Old Order Anabaptist groups include the Old Order Amish, the Old Order Mennonites, Old Order River Brethren, the Hutterites and the Old German Baptist Brethren

JANUARY 12, 1676:

This Sabbath Day, **William Clarke's house of PLYMOUTH COLONY** was assaulted by the Indians. 11-Persons were killed. He said to me about a month ago when I told him he should not so condemn all the Indians as he did, wishing them hanged etc. that their innocent blood would cry. He replied that he would say as the Jews did, their blood be upon me and my Children, which was a dreadful expression and made me fear what would come upon his Children. This week one that was taken captive at Groton made an escape out of the enemy's hands. His name is Blood, a troublesome Man in that place! I wish that return of such a Man to us may not be ominous of a return of Blood...!

JUNE 10, 1676:

A ship arrived from ENGLAND wherein there came one Randolph who brought a letter from the KING (Charles II) about complaints made against this Government by reason of Georges (**Germans?**) and their Patent & Interest in the Eastern Parts. Discussing with Mr. John Oliver, he told me that when he was in the straits and at Venice, there were 40-Protestant Ministers brought out of Germany condemned to be “galley slaves” all their days! **Lord, pour out a Vial upon the House of Austria!**

AUGUST 7, 1676:

Some of those Indians (women and children) who lately submitted themselves to the English as they were gathering huckleberries in Concord were murdered by 4-Englishmen. A sad thing. It may be it will occasion the Indians to seek to revenge their blood which has been shed and new troubles to arise. And if Justice be not done upon the Murderers, God will take Vengeance...

In the latter end of August many sick with fever & fluxes (especially in Boston) which proved mortal. Above 50 died in August in this Town. In the last week of August I hear of 11 died in 2-days.

SEPTEMBER 7, 1676

In the first week in September, 19-Persons indicted and tried for their lives in BOSTON.

SEPTEMBER 13, 1676:

There were 8-Indians shot to death in BOSTON of those that were brought in from the Eastward. There were 3-Indians hanged and an Englishman hanged also for murdering the Indians not far from Concord. Also another Englishman that was condemned, should this day have been hanged but he died in prison. The like is not known that a Man should die or be sick on the day appointed for his execution. A sad thing that the English and Indians should be executed together.

We hear that 40-Indians have submitted themselves to the English at the Eastward, because afraid of the Mohawks who have killed several.

SEPTEMBER 22, 1676:

This day SAGAMORE SAM was hanged at BOSTON, and the sick Englishman who should have been executed last week (whose name was DANIEL GOBLE) was hanged with him. It seems a mad woman got away with the rope that should have hanged the English Man, wherefore he was hanged with the very same rope which had hanged the Indian just before.

The same day 3-other Indians hanged, viz the Sagamore of Quahog, One-Eyed John and Jethro. They were betrayed into the hands of the English by Indians.

NOVEMBER 25, 1676:

A Vessel from Ireland laden with provisions arrived here being sent by the QUAKERS in DUBLIN for those that were impoverished by the KING PHILIP'S WAR here.

NOVEMBER 27, 1676:

A dismal day; Near my dwelling a fire broke out about 5:00 AM and consumed many HOUSES and many goods. Among others my HOUSE and the House solemnized for the Public Worship of GOD were consumed. Yea there was a great mixture of Mercy with Judgement, for tho' the wind was high it rained much which prevented the houses from taking fire as soon as else would have been. Also divers houses being blown up and suddenly fallen through this end of the Town was in extreme danger the wind being southeast many habitations are yet spared.

DECEMBER 9, 1676:

This Sabbath Day our MEETING HOUSE and all the neighbouring houses were burnt to the ground.

DECEMBER 11, 1676:

The NATICK INDIANS killed and took 50 of the ENEMY, viz POMHAM'S INDIANS.

MARCH 11, 1676: (LATE DIARY ENTRY)

Soldiers returned from Eastward; they brought with them the bones of CAPTAIN LAKE and as much of the body as remained unconsumed, which was honourably interred in BOSTON March 13, 1676, being 66-months after he was killed. He was found in the place where the Indians killed him. Lord be known by avenging the blood of thy Saints!

Sitting in Copp's Hill Cemetery is the memorial to CAPTAIN THOMAS LAKE. He was considered to be an early Settler, and large proprietor in Maine, "an eminently faithful servant of God," and was slain by the Indians at Kennebec on 14 Aug 1670.

THOMAS GOBLE, (1591-1657), Yeoman Farmer

by Evelyn Goble Steen

THOMAS GOBLE was born January 2, 1591 in the VILLAGE OF WESTERGATE, near ALDINGBOURNE, WEST SUSSEX, ENGLAND and migrated to America in 1634 at the age of 43-years.

■ In 1633 or early 1634, the 43-year old THOMAS GOBLE, with his wife ALICE, and son JOHN, who was about 3 or 4 years old at the time, paid for passage on one of the many ships headed for "the Colonies" (probably the Abigail, Hopewell or Lion), and migrated to America, settling in Charlestown, Massachusetts.

Either in route or shortly after arriving in the Colonies, ALICE gave birth to their second child and first daughter, ELIZABETH, in 1634.

Previous genealogical studies have suggested that Alice was ALICE MOUSALL, the daughter of Ralph and Alice Mousall. However, according to newly discovered marriage records it is believed Alice's surname was BROOKMAN.

THOMAS GOBLE and ALICE BROOKMAN were married at St. Mary the Virgin Church, Aldingbourne, West Sussex on 5 November 1619.



ST MARY-the-Virgin CHURCH is a Grade 1 listed building which has served over 900 years of Christian worship. There is evidence of mediaeval wall paintings and post-Reformation texts in the nave and the pre-Reformation altar slab lies broken below the present high altar. St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church, Aldingbourne, Sussex, England.

THOMAS I GOBLE and **ALICE GOBLE (born BROOKMAN)** were admitted as Members of the first CHURCH OF CHARLESTOWN on August 30, 1634. Thomas received his papers as a FREEMAN September 3, 1634 (at the General Court) and was granted 4-acres "planting ground on Newton Line" the same year. To become a Freeman meant to be granted Citizenship and freedom to live in a City or Borough.



Old Oil Painting—The First Church, Charlestown, Mass. Panel (24 $\frac{3}{4}$ x18 $\frac{3}{4}$) cracked, but could be easily drawn together. A fine and interesting old view. From the Whitmore Collection. \$50.00.

By 1638 THOMAS I GOBLE owned, in or near CHARLESTOWN, 5 lots:

- House and 1/2 acre at the West end of Common,
- 4-acres Line-field Southwest Cambridge line,
- 2 & 3/4 (acres) Cow Commons (3/4 sold to W. Baker in 1654),
- 15-acres Woods, and
- 50-acres Water Field."

By 1638 THOMAS I GOBLE had not only amassed sizeable land holdings, but had increased his FAMILY to 6- Children:

1. ALAN GOBLE, born 1620 in Aldingbourne;
2. JOHN GOBLE, born 1629 in Coldwaltham, Sussex, England;
3. ELIZABETH, born 1633 in Charlestown, Suffolk, MA;
4. THOMAS II GOBLE, born about 1635 in Charlestown, Suffolk, MA;
5. MARY GOBLE born February 27, 1636 in Charlestown, Suffolk, MA; and
6. SARAH GOBLE, born in May of 1638 in Concord, Middlesex, MA.

■ On October 1, 1640 THOMAS I GOBLE served on what is believed to have been the first JURY ever to convene in Boston. It found HUGH BUETS guilty of HERESY and that "his person and errors are dangerous for infection of others." The defendant was ordered "out of the jurisdiction by the 24th present, upon paine of DEATH and not to returne, upon paine of being HANGED."

■ The Jury was granted 12s. (shillings) for their services (presumably 1 shilling each).

■ On December 13, 1653 "GOODMAN GOBELL" paid £1 (pound), 16s. (shillings) "in Indian" (i.e. corn) for tuition and fees to HARVARD COLLEGE. This was followed by a similar payment on January 15, 1654 of £1 in "wheatt and Indian"; and a payment on December 8, 1655 by "old Gobell" of £1, 14s. 6d (pence), plus 17s. "in wheatt" and 7s, 6d. "by Indian."

■ The index of the RECORDS OF COURT OF ASSISTANTS of the Colony of Massachusetts Bay, Volume 2, identifies "Goodman Gobell" and "Old Gobell" as THOMAS I GOBLE.

THOMAS I GOBLE had become a respected Citizen of CHARLESTOWN. He was a very wealthy man by the standards of the time and place, and consequently was probably important in Local Government. Land was at a premium at the height of the GREAT MIGRATION, and the Settlement pushed out in all directions.

Before moving his family to CONCORD, Middlesex, USA they had another child, DANIEL I GOBLE, born July 18, 1641. (This DANIEL I GOBLE was hanged for MURDER in 1676.)

THOMAS I GOBLE acquired a large farm near CONCORD, which upon his death on December 29, 1657 in Concord, Massachusetts, went to his son, THOMAS II GOBLE, his third child. The farm remained in the Goble family for many years, as it was described in several Deeds as "the land known as GOBLE'S FARM." The old house was still standing as late as 1904, and the farm could be located at the edge of "Walden Woods" on the road leading west from Lincoln Village near Concord, "the land known as GOBLE'S FARM."



FARMHOUSE OF THOMAS GOBLE

This photograph of the farmhouse of THOMAS GOBLE is copied from "Concord, a Climate for Freedom", by Ruth R. Wheeler, 1967. This book contained photographs of many of the homes of early Concord residences. She says of this house - "GOBLE FARM HOUSE, later owned by Farrar, near the old Sudbury bound, on Wayland Road, Lincoln."

THOMAS GOBLE became one of the major investors and landholders of Concord. The old house and the farm could be located on the road leading west from Lincoln Village near Concord.

THOMAS GOBLE'S will was signed by him "the 30th day of the 9th month, 1657" (November 30, 1657) and probated December 29, 1657. ALICE GOBLE was still living at the time of Thomas' death, as she was mentioned in his will - "I give and bequeath to Alice my wife fair profit of all my stock so long as she liveth a widow...". The inventory taken of Thomas' estate listed some items which were only owned by the very wealthy, i.e.: "one featherbed, two feather pillows, & wool blankets, one small featherbed, two bolsters, two blankets, and one trundle bed, 40 pounds of paraffin, two iron pots."

Bedding and linens were a mark of wealth, most people didn't have them. Paraffin would have been for candles of the highest quality, a real luxury item. Iron pots were manufactured items imported from England. Additionally, the mere fact that Thomas Goble could write his own inventory to the Will and sign his name put him in a special class. Literacy was higher in New England than elsewhere because of the Puritan emphasis on reading the Bible, but those who could both read and write were still a minority.

SOURCES:

- Banks Topographical Dictionary of 2,885 English Emigrants to New England 1620-1650-GPC 1963.
- Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England, Vol. 1, 1628-1641; pages 117, 312, 369.
- History of Charlestown, page 411.
- Wyman's Estates of Charlestown, Mass Vol. II page 411.
- Records of Court of Assistants of the Colony of Mass Bay, 1630-1692, Vol. 2, 1904, page 101.
- History of the Town of Concord, by Lemuel Shattuck, 1835, page 372.
- Concord, a Climate for Freedom", by Ruth R. Wheeler, 1967.
- Thomas I Goble's Will, dated Nov 30, 1657.
- Thomas II Goble's Will.
- Terence T. Quirke, Jr. Ph.D. CG. who is a member of the GOBLE FAMILY ASSOCIATION is descended from the Hawhurst, England branch of the Goble family. Their progenitor was John Goble, born before 1638 in Etchingham, Sussex, England. Dr. Quirke has provided us with two interesting discoveries.
- While searching for records on Thomas, prior to immigration, a search of the Sussex Marriage Index revealed that THOMAS GOBLE married Alice BROOKMAN at Aldingbourne, West Sussex on November 5, 1619.
- Dr. Quirke also researched the Aldingbourne, Baptismal Parish record transcripts in West Sussex and found Thomas and identified his father. "2 Jan 1590 (1591) Thomas filius Willmi GOBLE de Westergate."

■ [GOBLE NEWS@aol.com](mailto:GOBLE_NEWS@aol.com)

THOMAS GOBLE born January 2, 1591 in the Village of Westergate, near Aldingbourne, West Sussex, England. Thomas emigrated to America in 1634. He was among the first settlers of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

D

DESCENDANTS OF THOMAS I GOBLE (1591-1657)

From GENI Genealogy Platform

- **THOMAS I GOBLE** was born January 02, 1591 in Aldingbourne, West Sussex, England, and died December 29, 1657 in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts. THOMAS I GOBLE was the son of Husbandman, **WILLIAM GOBLE** (1560-1593) and his wife, **ALICE MOUSALL BROOKMAN** (1600-1657).

- THOMAS I GOBLE and ALICE BROOKMAN had 7-Children, 4-Sons and 3-Daughters:

1. ALAN GOBLE (Feb 18, 1620 - Sept 26, 1676) born in Aldingbourne, Sussex, England;
2. JOHN GOBLE (1629-1676) born in Coldwaltham, Sussex, England;
3. ELIZABETH GOBLE (1633-1669) born in Charlestown, Massachusetts Bay; [Married John White.](#)
4. THOMAS II GOBLE (1634-1690) born in Charlestown, Massachusetts Bay;
5. MARY DEAN GOBLE (1636-1725) born in Charlestown, Massachusetts Bay;
6. SARAH SHEPARD GOBLE (1638-1717) born in Malden, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay; [Married John Shepard.](#)
7. **DANIEL I GOBLE** (1641-1676) born in (1641-1676) born in Charlestown, Massachusetts Bay; [Married Hannah Brewer;](#)

- On February 25, 1664, 23-year old **DANIEL I GOBLE** (1641-1676) married 19-year old **HANNAH BREWER** (1645-1697) in Charlestown, Suffolk, Massachusetts. HANNAH was born January 18, 1645 in Cambridge, Middlesex, Massachusetts.
She was killed by INDIANS September 11, 1697 in Lancaster, Worcester, Massachusetts.

- **HANNAH BREWER** was the Daughter of **JOHN BREWER** (1621-1690) and **HANNA (ANN) LOKER BREWER** of Sudbury, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay.

- **DANIEL I GOBLE (1641-1676) and HANNAH BREWER (1645-1697)** had 3-Children, 2-Sons and 1-Daughter:

1. DANIEL II DAVID GOBLE (1669-1730) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony; [Married SARAH ABIGAIL HOUGHTON \(1672-1716\) on June 23, 1698 in Lancaster, Worcester, Massachusetts.](#)
2. JOHN GOBLE (1671-1723) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony;
3. ALICE GOBLE (1673-1718) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony; [Died in GROTON, Massachusetts Bay Colony;](#)

- **DANIEL I GOBLE (1641-1676) son of Thomas Goble was hung in BOSTON, Suffolk, Massachusetts on September 26, 1676 for the Murder of 6-Indians.**

- In 1676, 14-months after the EXECUTION of her previous husband, DANIEL I GOBLE, 32-year old HANNAH BREWER GOBLE married 33-year old Farmer, EPHRAIM I ROPER (1644-1697) on November 20, 1677 in Cambridge, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony.

- EPHRAIM I ROPER and HANNAH BREWER GOBLE ROPER had 5-Children (1-Son and 4-Daughters):

1. PRISCILLA ROPER (1679-1697) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony; Killed by Indians in the Lancaster Massacre;
2. RUTH ROPER (1681-xxxx) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony;
3. ELIZABETH ROPER (1682-1697) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony; Killed by Indians in the Lancaster Massacre;
4. BATHSHEBA ROPER (1685-1697) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony;
5. EPHRAIM II ROPER (1687-1730) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony;

On September 11, 1697, EPHRAIM I ROPER was killed by Indians with his Wife (HANNAH BREWER GOBLE ROPER) and 14-year old Daughter (ELISABETH ROPER) and 19-year old Daughter (PRISCILLA ROPER).

- On June 23, 1698, 29-year old DANIEL II DAVID GOBLE (1669-1730) married 27-year old SARAH ABIGAIL HOUGHTON (1672-1714) in Morristown, Morris County, New Jersey.

- DANIEL II DAVID GOBLE and SARAH ABIGAIL HOUGHTON had 9-Children (6-Sons & 5-Daughters):

1. JONATHAN SAWYER GOBLE (1690-1746) born in Massachusetts Bay Colony;
2. THOMAS GOBLE (1697-1734) born in Lancaster, Worcester, Massachusetts Bay;
3. DANIEL III DAVID GOBLE (1698-1750) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony, BCA: Married Abigail Goble circa 1721;
4. Judge ROBERT GOBLE (1700-1783) born in Concord, Middlesex, Massachusetts Bay Colony, BCA: Married Mary Malatiah Goble circa 1724; They had 18-Children (not proven);
5. Deacon JONAS GOBLE (1707-1791) born in Berkeley, South Carolina, BCA;
6. EPHRAIM GOBLE (1709-1734) born in Berkeley, South Carolina, BCA; Died Young @ 25-Years Old;
7. JEMIMA GOBLE (1712-1762) born in Orangeburg, Berkeley, South Carolina, BCA; Married Thomas IV Wiggins;
8. ALICE ELEANOR GOBLE (1715-1809) born in Morristown, Morris, New Jersey;

9. HENRY HARRIS GOBLE (1715-1734) born in Morristown, Morris, New Jersey;
Died Young @ 19-Years Old;
10. SARAH GOBLE (1716-1762) born in Morristown, Morris, New Jersey; **Married**
Reverend Reuben Winget;
11. MARY MELITIAH GOBLE (1706-1734) born in Berkeley, South Carolina, United
States British Colonial America;

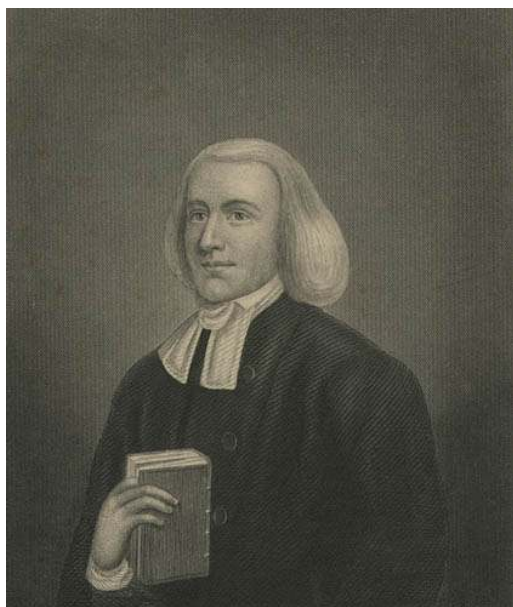
■ In 1699, when DANIEL III DAVID GOBLE was about one year old, his FATHER decided to move away from Massachusetts where the family had endured so much heartache due to his Grandfather's hanging, and furthermore just one year earlier, his Grandmother, HANNAH BREWER, and 2-Cousins, ELISABETH ROPER and PRISCILLA ROPER, had also been killed by Indians.

The family moved to **SOUTH CAROLINA**. Later, in 1717, Daniel's Father, Daniel II David Goble (1669-1730) decided to establish a Baptist Church in Morristown, New Jersey. Although they were not as yet a recognized Congregation they procured the assistance of itinerant Baptist Preachers to come assist them when they could. When no Preachers were available they prayed, sang hymns and read Scriptures in their home.

It appears they had few conversions to the faith during those years and eventually they joined themselves to the Baptist Church in Piscataqua.

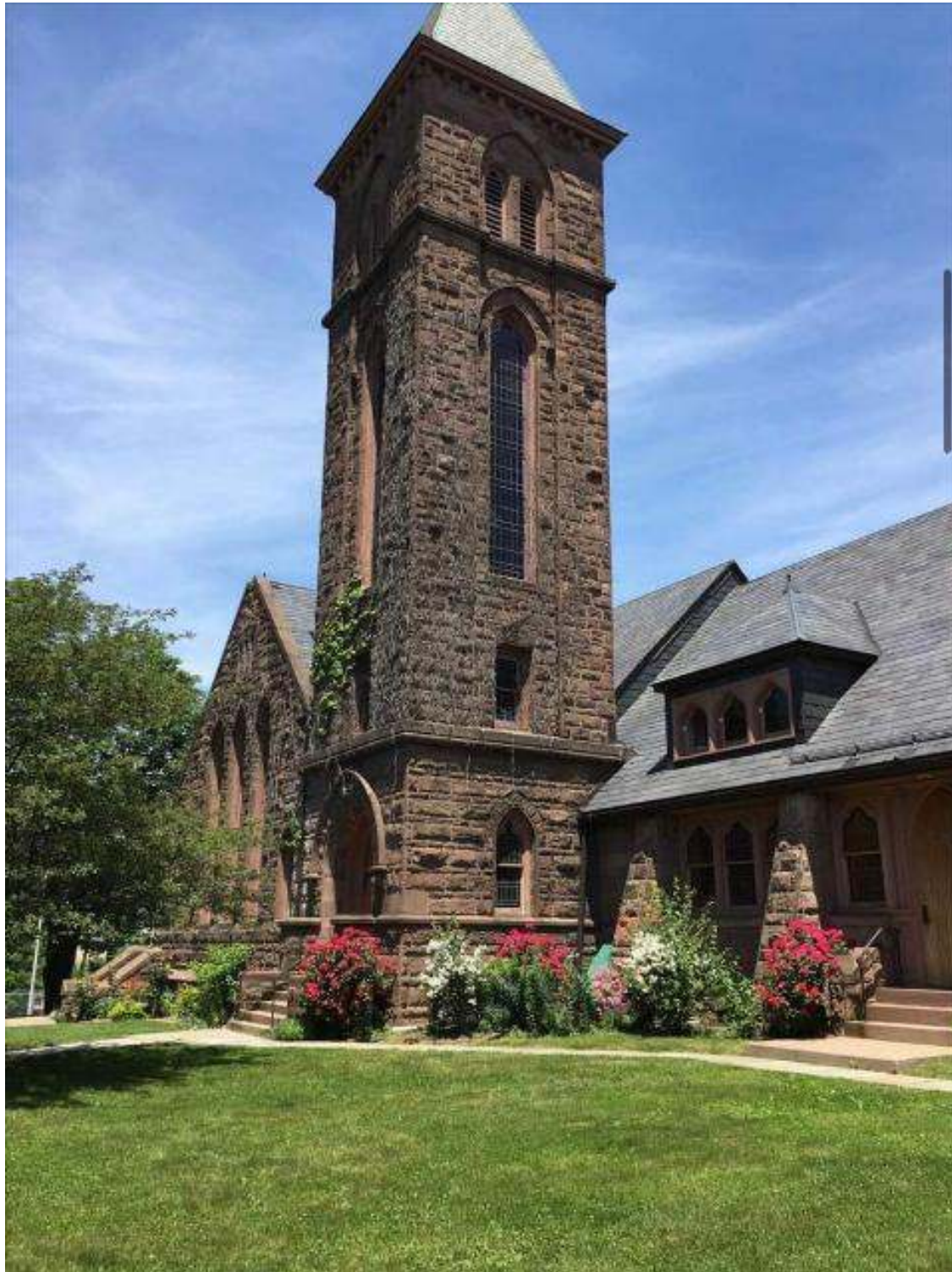
After the deaths of Daniel's Father and Grandfather the GOBLE FAMILY donated land for the building of a new BAPTIST CHURCH in MORRISTOWN.

An official CONGREGATION was finally started in 1752.



The first Pastor was named JOHN GANO (**originally GEMEAUX**), whose Great-Grandfather was a French Huguenot (Protestant) who had fled from France due to religious persecution. He died in 1750 leaving a Will awarding his goods to his children. There was no mention of his Wife in the Will so the assumption is that she died before him. Together they had raised 11-Children during their marriage. Always a friend to educational institutions, Gano helped found Rhode Island's Brown University and served as a regent of the University of the State of New York and as a trustee of King's College (Columbia). In 1788, he left New York and went to Kentucky to preach.

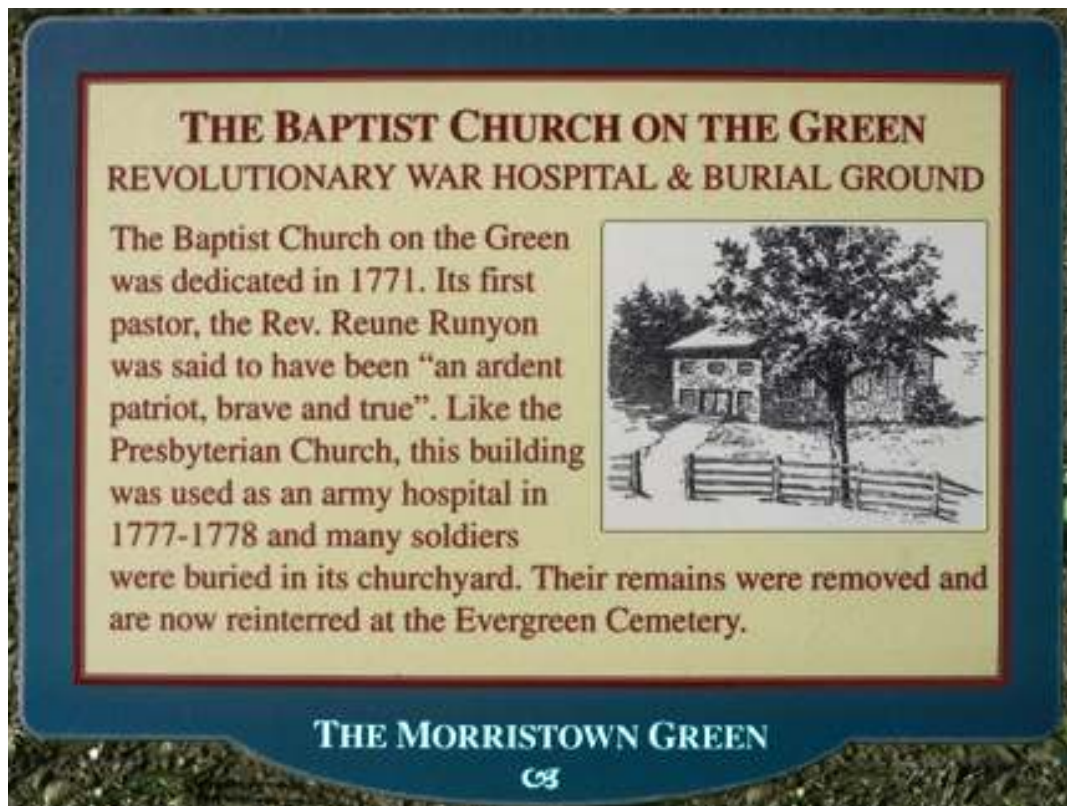
The First Baptist Church, Morristown,
Morris County, New Jersey



The First Baptist Church of Morristown. Photo courtesy of the Church.

The FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH celebrated its 270th anniversary on Sunday, Aug. 28, 2022, and shares a lot of Revolutionary War history with Morristown.

It was established in 1752 by the REVEREND JOHN GANO, who later served as personal Chaplain to GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON. The Church doubled as a hospital for wounded soldiers of the Continental Army.



Over the years, the First Baptist Church of Morristown (FBC) has continued as a safe haven and healing presence in the Community. That's something of a miracle.

In 2000, the church burned to its foundation, a suspected arson case that remains unsolved.

Rising from the ashes, this House of Worship reopened its doors three years later.

■ On July 12, 1700, **ROBERT GOBLE** was born the 4th. Son to DANIEL II DAVID GOBLE and SARAH ABIGAIL HOUGHTON in Berkeley, South Carolina, British Colonial America. ROBERT was destined to become a FARMER, a JUSTICE OF THE PEACE and a JUDGE in the Baptist Community of New Jersey.

■ He and his Wife, MALATIAH are reported to have had up to 18-Children, 9-Sons and 9-Daughters. **This fact is still "under investigation"!**

Life Story of ROBERT GOBLE and MARY MALATIAH

From Family Search

ROBERT GOBLE was born July 12, 1700 in Berkeley County, South Carolina. His parents were **Daniel II David Goble** (1669-1730) and **Sarah Abigail Goble** (born Houghton) (1672-1716). They had moved from CONCORD, Massachusetts to South Carolina in 1699 to take out land grants along with other Settlers from nearby Dorchester County, Massachusetts.

Eventually Robert's Father owned over 1,000 acres of land. He made a good living from the fertile land but was continually having to defend it. He was a member of the Militia and was called many times to battle Indians, French and Spanish soldiers trying to retake the Colonies and pirates trying to seize their ships and goods.

The family became interested in the BAPTIST RELIGION in South Carolina. Robert's last brother, HENRY HARRIS GOBLE, was born and his Mother died in February 1716. His Father was able to sell at least some of his land and sailed north with his family to find a safer place to raise his 10-children. He bought land in Hanover, New Jersey (later made part of MORRISTOWN) and married SARAH ABIGAIL GOBLE about 1719. ROBERT married MARY MALITIAH April 26, 1724 in Morristown. She was born Dec. 23, 1709 (No information has been found about her parents.)

They attended the nearest Baptist Church which was in Piscataway, about ten miles south of them. Baptist preachers taught in their home often. They had four daughters and two sons born to them in the next ten years in Morristown. On Sept 20, 1734 Robert's Mother's Will was probated and he and his Brothers and Sisters inherited land in Lancaster, Massachusetts. ROBERT must have sold the land he inherited, because he is listed on Morris County Deeds in the 1740s and his brand was recorded April 18, 1741 in the Freeholders Minute Books. (Freeholder means he was a landowner.)

He was on the Township BOARD OF SELECTMEN and was the Township Assessor in 1742, then again from 1747-1752. On March 28, 1749 the governor of New Jersey appointed Robert as JUSTICE OF THE PEACE and JUDGE for Morris County, a position he held off and on for over seven years. He built a home in Morristown in the 1740's. (Now in the Historic District, known as the John S. Green home). He was appointed to be the Township Tax Collector in 1758. In Deeds and County Records he is referred to as JUDGE ROBERT GOBLE.

Between 1734 and 1755 eight more children were born to Robert and Mary. They and their children were some of the original members of the Baptist Church of Morristown organized August 11, 1752 and Robert was the first Clerk.

In 1757, Robert, Jonas and Ezekiel Goble, and John Hinds were appointed Trustees to build a new BAPTIST CHURCH in Morristown. It took years to raise enough funds and to build the Church.

Some records say MARY MALITIAH died Sept 24, 1768 and that two years later he married another Mary. (No children are listed for the second wife.) Other records show that Mary Malitiah died after Robert and is the Mary listed in the will. Most of their older children were married by 1768 but at least four were still at home.

As taxes increased, hostilities increased with the British leading up to the Revolutionary War.

In 1775 Robert was appointed to register friendly Indians in New Jersey. Reading history we don't know how Robert and his family reacted to Thomas Paine's article "These are the times that try men's souls" published in December 1776 urging soldiers to re-enlist and strengthen the diminishing army. Nor do we know if they were among the 2,400 troops that surprised the British by slipping across the Delaware River on Christmas Eve surprising the British and German troops celebrating in Trenton.

We do know that they continued their support of the war effort in spite of family losses. In 1776, the MORTALITY BILLS OF MORRIS COUNTY listed among the many dead, a Goble/Reeves family in Morristown losing 4 children and a servant to dysentery, followed by the Mother and two more Sons dying the next year as war raged around them. (This could have been his daughter Ruth, but since she died before his will was made out and no other information has been found, there is a question.)

In 1777, GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON established his Headquarters and Winter Camp on the farms of Robert and Jonas Goble and other farmers in Morristown (named on a map of the Winter Campground).

When SMALL POX broke out in New Jersey and among the troops of the Revolutionary Army, the Morristown Baptist Church was used as a Hospital for the troops. Many of the soldiers and families in Morristown lost their lives to the disease. Robert's son, JONAS GOBLE, a soldier throughout the war died of small pox in May 1782, leaving a widow and 3 young children.

Judge ROBERT GOBLE made out his Will March 17, 1782 but he amended it after his son's death making Jonas's wife, Ruth Fairchild, an Executrix of his Will along with his daughter and Abigail's son, Stephen Fairchild. His wife, Mary, all his living children and the grandchildren who had lost fathers were cared for in the Will. Robert died a year later on March 27, 1783 and the Will was probated April 3rd. His wife died Feb 20, 1786.

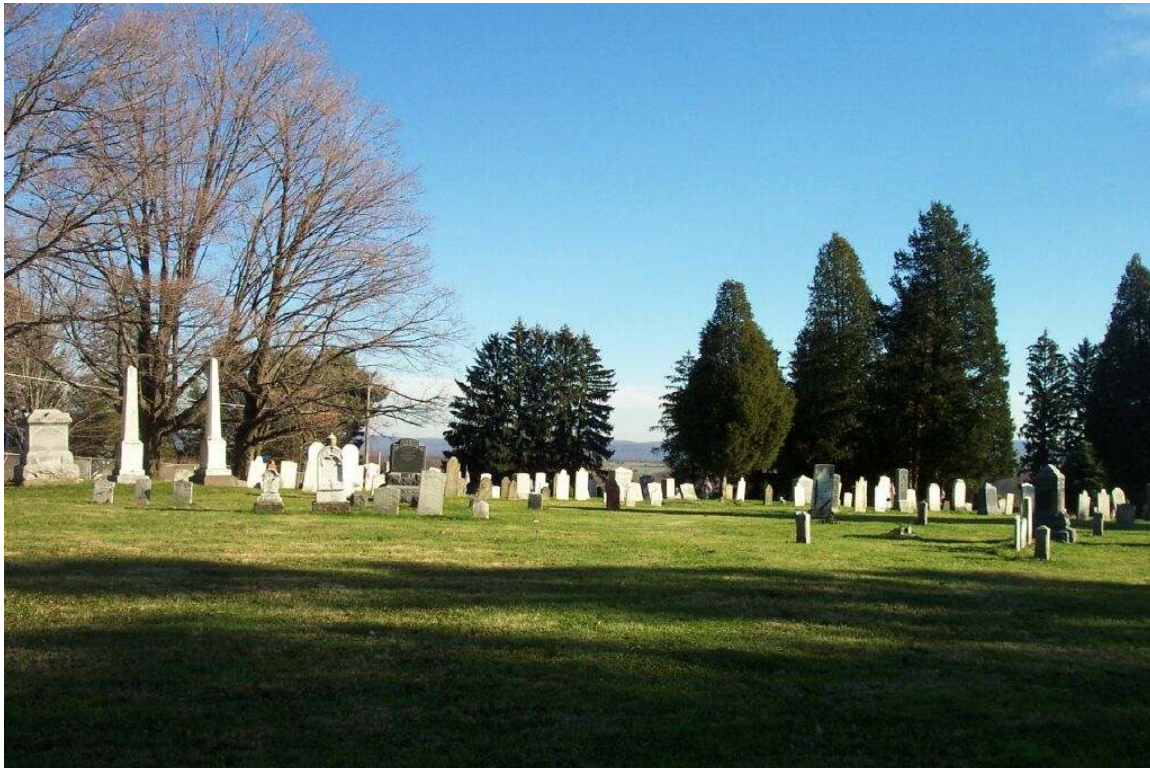
There are three BURYING GROUNDS on Robert Goble's land on Mount Kemble Road; no engravings are visible on the remaining tombstones, but he and his first wife and small children are believed to be buried behind the house. (The address of their home is #434 Mount Kemble Road about a mile south of Morristown Green. It is between Morristown and Basking Ridge.)

The children of ROBERT GOBLE & MARY MALITIAH, all born in Morristown are:

1. SIMEON born 11 Mar 1725, married Abigail Conger 23 Feb 1747, died on 8 Aug 1777 at age 51;
2. ANNA born about 1726. She died after 1783 in Morristown.
3. HANNAH born 1 Apr 1727, married Ichabod Tompkins 24 Dec 1746. She died 7 Feb 1799. (8 children) wrong on Family Search which says she married Amos Stark in 1730-not possible;
4. ABIGAIL born 18 Jan 1729, Morristown, married Joseph Fairchild abt 1744. She died 2 Jul 1806 (2 children);
5. SALOME born 13 Apr 1730, married Ebenezer Fairchild in Aug 1750. She died in 1790. (3 children);
6. GERSHOM born 29 Mar 1733, married Ann (Goble) Roy abt 1753. died about 1808, Sussex County; buried in the **Yellow Frame Church**, Fredon, New Jersey;
7. MARTHA? born about 1738 (not mentioned in Will) would have died before 1782 (date of Will);
8. PHOEBE born 12 May 1743 married Joseph La Follett, widower 1 May 1771, died 1834;
9. JONAS born 4 Apr 1745, married Ruth Fairchild 10 Dec 1765, died 1 May 1782. (2 children listed in Will) Jacob born 22 Jan 1747, married Ann Fairchild abt 1765, died after 1782 (listed in will) ?Ruth, born 1748, married Nathan Reeve 18 Feb 1768 died 3 Oct 1777. (large family; most died as children);
10. Jacob George born 26 May 1750, married Juliana Wisner 18 Feb 1779, died 22 Aug 1831 Minisink, Orange New York;
11. Rachel born 23 Nov 1751 married Isaac Southard 12 Apr 1769, died after 1782 (listed in Will);
12. Theodocia born about 1753 died about 1805 (listed in Will);
13. Matthias born about 1755 died after 1782 (listed in Will).



The **YELLOW FRAME** Presbyterian Church, Fredon, New Jersey.



Early Records of Lancaster, Massachusetts (1643-1725)

Edited by Henry S. Nourse

REPORT by Major Simon Willard, Military Commander, Middlesex County

When I came ther (Concord) I inquired how it was with Lancaster. the answer was they weare in distresse. I psently sent 40 horse theiyr to fetch away corne. * * * the 27 of this instant I went from Chellmsfoord to Concord agayne. when I came ther, the troopers that I sent to Lancaster last had broght awaye all the people ther but had left about 50 bushells of wheat and Indian corne. * * * Concord & Chellmsfoord looke every daye to be fiered and wold have more men but know not how to keepe them nor paye them."

It will be observed that the "volintiers" were from Charlestown and Watertown, the places where John Roper was so well known years before. It is not unlikely that his old friends were exerting themselves in behalf of him who was soon to pass beyond the need of human help, but whose hapless family would require every care that compassion could suggest. As stated in the petition, the Indians were lurking not only "above but on both sides." A soldier from Watertown was killed by them not far from the two garrison houses a few days after the massacre, and John Roper, upon March 26, the very day upon which the town was abandoned. Nourse says of him: "He was a man respected of his neighbors, and of good standing in the church for he was chosen one of the selectmen in 1664."

There is nothing to show what disposition was made of his body. It is most likely that a hasty burial was made upon the spot. The great difficulty of procuring carts for the transportation of the living, with the corn to be taken along for their food as well as to put it out of the reach of the savages, must have precluded all possibility of carrying their dead with them. And so two Roper widows joined the melancholy procession that

filed away into the forest under the protection of soldiers, March 26, 1676. One after another of the heavily laden carts takes its slow way across the desolate clearing, where but a few days before had been a busy, thriving community. The last one disappears into the woods and Lancaster is wiped out. How appalling must the future have looked to these two widows and to many another like them, as they crawled along the weary way to Concord! Find if you can a more grievous sight!

On page 119 Nourse says: "Few of the refugees but had relatives or friends in the lower towns, and in their banishment they become widely scattered." Alice, the widow of John, probably did not return to Lancaster at its rebuilding. On April 14, 1681, she was married in Charlestown to John Dickinson, who died in Salisbury December 30, 1683. In his will he mentions her with her son-in-law and grandson, Samuel Adams, son of Alice, the eldest daughter, born in England. In the year 1684 she was married to William Allen. Her death occurred in 1687, aged 73. Ephraim Roper presented the account at the settlement of the estate. In her will she mentions her daughter, Ruth "hains" (of whom no mention is found previous to this time), her granddaughter, Sary Adhams, wife of Thomas Adhams, and Samuel Adhams, and some heirs of three deceased children. The will was witnessed by Benjamin and Rachel Allen.

Until her marriage with Mr. Dickinson, Alice may have lived in Charlestown, her former home, and the aged mother was doubtless her care until her death, which could not be long delayed after their terrible experience. Ruth also would naturally be with her until her own marriage to Dea. John Haynes of Sudbury,

June 19, 1683. Ephraim seems to have remained in Concord, perhaps through the influence of his soldier comrades. There, on August 7, 1676, in the popular frenzy against all Indians, an atrocious murder had been committed in the woods near "Hurtleberry Hill," wherein three squaws and three children had perished. The perpetrators—four soldiers—confessed either to the crime or to having been present. The even-handed justice of the Court appears in the outcome. Daniel Goble, the ringleader, and Stephen, possibly a brother, were executed September 26, 1676, on the same scaffold, with "One-Eyed-John," the chief, who had been foremost in the attacks upon Lancaster and the neighboring towns. The other two soldiers, having taken no active part in the crime, had their sentences commuted. On November 20, 1677, Ephraim Roper married Hannah, the widow of Stephen Goble, and the vital statistics of Concord show the births of the following children to Ephraim and Hannah (Goble) Roper:

Priscilla, b. February 5, 1679.

Ruth, b. January 7, 1681.

Elizabeth, b. January 17, 1683; killed, with her parents, by Indians, September 11, 1697.

Bathsheba, b. — no date.

Ephraim, b. — no date; carried away captive, September 11, 1697.

As soon as peace was made with the Indians, the inhabitants of the devastated towns desired to begin their rebuilding. The petition for permission to return to Lancaster is as follows:

"To the honored County Cort sitting at Cambridge, October 7, 1679:

"Ye humble petition of those whose names are here underwritten ye Inhabitants of Lancaster before or

removall from thence by reason of ye late warres in or owne and others behalfe, ye pprietors of ye said place as followeth:

"Whereas there was an order made the Last honord generall Cort yt places deserted should not be agayne Inhabited till the people first make application to the Govnor & Council or to the County Cort, within whose jurisdiction they be, for a committee to order matters concerning ye place as in the said Law is expressed, wee yor petitioners wth divers others purposing (if ye Lord please) to returne to Lancaster from whence wee have been scattered doe humbly request this Cort that they will be pleased to nominate & appoint an able & discreet Committee for that end, who may with all convenient speed attend the same Business, that soe wee may pceed to settle the place with comfort & encouragement & yor petitioners shall pray for the Lord's gracious psence with you in all yor administrations."

To this portion of the petition nine names are signed, after which is added, in a different handwriting:

"And the persones wee under (writ) doe nomenat, if this honored Court se cause to aprove of them, is Decon Ward of Marlborough, leutenant haines of Sutbery and cornit Woodes of Concord."

The "honored court" did not "se cause to aprove" these persons, but granted leave to rebuild their homes, and the town has records of births in 1679 and 1680. Ephraim Roper probably moved his family thither from Concord early in 1684, as the absentee list of that year has no name belonging to our family but that of Archelaus Courser, the husband of Rachel. This seems to show that the heirs still held property in Lancaster.

The struggle for existence in the first years of re-settlement is set forth in a petition for release from taxes, dated February, 1681:

Morristown Winter Encampment

Morris County, New Jersey



While considerably less well-known than Valley Forge, the encampment in **MORRISTOWN** significantly contributed to American victory.

While the Continental Army's encampment at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-1778 is one of the most well-remembered events in American history, Washington's winter encampment in Morristown, New Jersey in the winter of 1779-1780 marked another major milestone of the Revolutionary War.

The Continental Army camped at Morristown for a roughly six-month span from December 1, 1779, to June 8, 1780, though some troops and baggage remained behind until late in the month.

Located between New York and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Morristown, New Jersey provided a strategic location for Washington's army to make camp. Astride a network of roads, Morristown was the centre for local farming to provide available foodstuffs and timber, which would later provide Washington's army with necessary resources for a winter encampment.

The Watchung Mountains also provided cover between the Americans and the British in New York City.

As Washington wrote to Congress, a camp near Morristown provided a location “compatible with our security which could also supply water and wood for covering and fuel.” This was not the first time Washington and his men camped in the Morristown area. Washington had selected Morristown for the Continental Army’s camp in the winter of 1776-1777, following the Patriot victories at Trenton and Princeton. During that winter, Washington went to work inoculating the army and many of the civilians living in and around the town in order to combat the threat of a **SMALLPOX** epidemic.

While encamped at Morristown in 1779, GEORGE WASHINGTON had his headquarters in the home of the late COLONEL JACOB FORD, JR. and his wife, Theodosia. During his time at the **FORD MANSION**, Washington chronicled the intense cold to which he and his troops were exposed, describing the winter as “intensely cold and freezing.”



Etching of the **FORD MANSION** (Washington’s Morristown headquarters)

Martha Washington joined her husband at Morristown on New Year’s Eve. While the residence was larger than the Potts House in which Washington had his headquarters at Valley Forge several years before, the Washingtons’ shared the home with Mrs. Ford and her children, as well as both families’ servants, Washington’s aides de camp, and any visitors, making for a crowded space. It was from the FORD’S HOME that Gen. George Washington worked to overcome the many challenges his army faced during the winter of 1779-1780.

After marching into MORRISTOWN in December of 1779, Washington's troops settled in a few miles from Town in an area called **JOCKEY HOLLOW** and the mostly wooded 1,400-acre farm that belonged to the **WICK FAMILY**.



Approximately 600-acres of wood from the Wick property would be utilized by the army that winter. The army also used land belonging to Peter Kemble, Joshua Gurein, and Dr. Leddel. Altogether, Washington's men cut down over 2,000-acres of timber to construct a "Log House City" of more than 1,000-wooden log huts which accommodated about 12-men each.

The site also included parade grounds and officers' quarters, storehouses, and guardhouses. An estimated 10,000 - 12,000 soldiers camped at MORRISTOWN, although desertions and deaths reduced the number to only about 8,000. In total 96 men died, 1,062 deserted, 140 were captured, and 2,735 were discharged, whereas others were sent out on outpost duty. The end of 3-year enlistments caused the greatest losses in the army.

Lastly, the number at Morristown was reduced further in April, when the Maryland Line was ordered south and the New York Brigade left for the Mohawk Valley and Washington claimed that as many as one-third of these troops were unfit for duty. In spite of the factors working in the site's favour, the conditions at Morristown, the harsh winter and shortages of food and clothing, would make the winter encampment of 1779-1780 the harshest of the war.

The extreme cold proved to be one of the army's greatest trials during the winter at Morristown. Though Valley Forge is remembered for its harsh conditions, that winter in Morristown, Washington's troops faced even more-bitter cold than they had witnessed in Pennsylvania a few years before. Known as "the hard winter," the season bridging the end of 1779 and early 1780 proved to be one of the coldest on record.

Morristown received over 20-snowfalls during the Continental Army's residence there, adding to the miserable conditions the troops faced in the wake of the shortages of food and supplies. In early January, there was a blizzard that lasted for two days, leaving 4 feet of snow in its wake. The temperature often remained below freezing, and snowdrifts piled up as soldiers struggled to keep warm with their scanty clothes and blankets. The challenges the freezing temperatures presented were only aggravated by the army's serious lack of food and supplies. Shoes, shirts, and blankets were scarce, making conditions even more bleak as soldiers sought to fend off hunger and cold.

Shortages of food and other provisions also posed a constant challenge for the army at Morristown. Fresh meat was usually unavailable, and shortages of flour often made bread scarce. Washington noted that the soldiers sometimes went "5 or Six days together without bread, at other times as many days without meat, and once or twice two or three days without either." According to some sources, soldiers were so desperate for food that they ate tree bark, leather from old shoes, or even dogs, a situation made worse by the fact that Morristown was located amidst numerous local farms.

Despite their proximity to the farmland, however, drought had created shortages in the harvest seasons before, and farmers were often unwilling to give up their crops to feed soldiers. Farmers produced what they needed and if there was a surplus, traded to obtain other goods needed, thus making any excess crops valuable for the survival of the farmstead as well.

The poor prices the Continental Army offered for goods did not help either. The inclement weather added to the difficulty in transporting available supplies to the army. Community members' reticence to offer their support to the Continental Army provided a constant source of frustration for the Commander-In-Chief. Though Washington was loathe to anger locals by allowing his troops to pillage their farms and fields, but in January 1780 he put a quota on every county in New Jersey to provide flour and meat.

For all of February and early March, the army was well fed. But then food ran low again and New Jersey did not have any more food to spare. Food had to come from other States. During the Revolution, the Continental Congress delegated the responsibility of supplying the army with materials and provisions to the thirteen States, which oftentimes resulted in empty commissaries.

In a Circular Letter to the States, written on December 16, 1779, Washington recounted that "The situation of the Army with respect to supplies is beyond description alarming, it has been five or six Weeks past on half allowance, and we have not three days Bread or a third allowance on hand nor anywhere within reach." Washington voiced his concerns regarding the shortages of food, supplies, and pay for the army, detailing the absence of adequate rations and funds for acquiring necessary provisions.

According to Washington, the Army had "never experienced a like extremity at any period of the War," signifying his distress over the conditions his troops faced. He expressed his fears that without relief, "the Army will infallibly disband in a fortnight." Some historians suggest that this experience with the thirteen States during the Revolution influenced Washington's as well as many other former soldiers, officers, and politicians to advocate for a more centralized Federal Government during the CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTIONS of the late 1780s.

Financial problems presented another source of difficulty for the Continental Army during the winter encampment at Morristown. Following a significant depreciation of Continental currency, the Continental Army struggled to find the funds to transport supplies, send messages, or even buy local provisions, whose sellers were hesitant to accept the Continental currency that frequently fluctuated in value.

Many soldiers had not been paid for months, adding to their frustrations and increasing the risk that they would desert or choose not to continue supporting the war effort. Soldiers' wages were often five to six months late, making it difficult to attract new recruits, secure reenlistments, or retain officers who were unable to support their families at home on minimal pay. This only added to Washington's concerns about the fate of his army.

Worries about mutinies, desertion, and a British attack against the vulnerable Continental Army plagued Washington throughout the encampment at Morristown. In the spring, Regiments from the Connecticut Line staged a mutiny in the camp, retaliating against the delayed wages and shortages of basic supplies, with the chief complaint being the shortage of beef. Though the small insurrection was quickly put down, it provided a stark reminder of the army's dissatisfaction and demoralized state.

The Continental Army also saw several important personal and political developments while encamped at Morristown.

On December 23, 1779, **BENEDICT ARNOLD**, who would later become the most notorious traitor of the American Revolution, was court-martialled in Morristown, where he was tried for abusing his power as an Army Officer for financial gain.

In May of 1780, the **MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE** returned to the United States and was reunited with Washington at the Morristown encampment. After spending the previous year persuading France's King LOUIS XVI to support the American Revolution, the Marquis rejoined the Continental Army bearing good news – the French would send a **THIRD FLEET OF SHIPS**; the first being sent to NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND in 1778 and the second to SAVANNAH, GEORGIA in 1779—across the Atlantic to assist the Patriot forces.

The encampment at **MORRISTOWN** also proved significant for Washington's right-hand man, ALEXANDER HAMILTON, who met Elizabeth Schuyler, his future wife, that winter. Besides finding love, Hamilton also wrote a paper suggesting improvements to the financial system of the United States, including the idea of a **NATIONAL BANK**. Although not implemented at the time, these suggestions of 1780 became portions of the reforms he advocated for as Secretary of the Treasury in the 1790s.

Much like VALLEY FORGE, the winter encampment at MORRISTOWN, NEW JERSEY became an important symbol of patriotism and persistence in the American Revolution. In the most severe winter encampment of the war, weather-wise at least, Patriot forces held together, despite all the conditions that threatened to tear the army apart.



Washington, Hamilton, and Lafayette statues located in Morristown, New Jersey.

In the crippling cold of winter of 1779-1780, the Continental Army's perseverance and determination to overcome the challenges they faced prepared them for the campaigns that would eventually secure AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.