

[Final version as it appears in *The Genealogist* 23(2009):131–73, with correction of the brief erratum reported in *The Genealogist* 24(2010):72.]

THE GENEALOGY OF EDWARD¹ RIGGS OF ROXBURY, MASSACHUSETTS, REVISITED

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The genealogy of Edward¹ Riggs of Roxbury was first presented briefly by Samuel H. Congar in 1866,¹ concentrating particularly on Edward's New Jersey descendants, and similarly by Samuel Orcutt and Ambrose Beardsley in 1880² on his Connecticut descendants. The first extensive treatment of the entire family was presented by John H. Wallace in book form in 1901.³ Portions of the early genealogy were subsequently refined by Charles Henry Cory in 1937⁴ and Donald Lines Jacobus in 1959,⁵ both relying to some extent on Wallace. There are enough genealogical errors and unsubstantiated relationships in the first three of these, particularly Wallace, and there is sufficient new information, to justify a corrective revisit to the early genealogy of this large and widespread American founding family.⁶

1 EDWARD¹ RIGGS might have been the unnamed son baptized in Roydon, Essex, England, on 30 March 1589 to Richard and Elizabeth (Chamberlin) Riggs,⁷ or he might have been one of two males named Edward "Rigge" baptized in Hawkshead, Lancashire (now Cumbria), England, on 6 May

¹ Samuel H. Congar, "Genealogical Notices of the First Settlers of Newark," *Collections of the New Jersey Historical Society*, Vol. VI.—*Supplement*, Part 4 (Newark, 1866), 118, 131.

² Samuel Orcutt and Ambrose Beardsley, *The History of the Old Town of Derby, Connecticut, 1642–1880* (Springfield, Mass.: Press of Springfield Printing Co., 1880), 753-56.

³ John H. Wallace, *Genealogy of the Riggs Family, with a Number of Cognate Branches Descended from the Original Edward through Female Lines and Many Biographical Outlines* (New York: J. H. Wallace, 1901).

⁴ Charles Henry Cory, [each volume has a different title], 4 vols. (n.p., 1937), vol. 2: *Lineal Ancestors of Rhoda (Axtell) Cory, mother of Captain James Cory: Genealogical, Historical and Biographical*, 2:251-70.

⁵ Nathan Grier Parke II, *The Ancestry of Rev. Nathan Grier & his Wife Ann Elizabeth Gildersleeve*, ed. by Donald Lines Jacobus (Woodstock, Vt.: N. G. Parke, 1959), 106-12.

⁶ Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620–1633*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1995), 3:1583-85, covers the immigrant and his children.

⁷ Roydon Parish Register, 1567–1706, Family History Library [FHL] microfilm 1472679, item 1, "the sonne of Richard Riggs was baptized the 30 of Marche 1589," Geoff Riggs, *RIGGS Surname Study*, <homepages.rootsweb.com/~riggs/USAEdw1.htm>, argues this circumstantial case, and further argues that Richard Riggs was son of Miles Riggs and his wife Agnes, which proposals are also circumstantial. Further evidence supporting this version is the legend extant in several branches of the family, and in several variations, that *Riggs* is not the real surname, rather that it is *Miles*. There are baptismal records in Roydon of children thought to belong to Miles Riggs recorded with his patronymic Miles, hence the source perhaps of the legend.

1593, son of Richard,⁸ or on 25 July 1594, son of James,⁹ respectively. We have argued the details elsewhere.¹⁰ Briefly, DNA tests have established that Thomas Riggs in Gloucester, Massachusetts, by 1658 was genetically related to Edward. Since Thomas Riggs was baptized as Thomas Rigge in Hawkshead, then Edward too might have been baptized there, or else his parents or grandparents might have been, before emigrating to Essex, and then to America in 1633.

Edward married first in All Saints Church, Nazeing (adjacent to Roydon), Essex, on 16 September 1618, ELIZABETH HOLMES,¹¹ who was baptized at All Saints, Nazeing, on 13 December 1590.¹² She would have been about 28 at marriage, lending weight to Edward's being the one baptized in Roydon in 1589. In a newly discovered relationship, Elizabeth was almost certainly the sister of George Holmes, who was baptized at All Saints, Nazeing, on 21 July 1594,¹³ both apparently children of George and Elizabeth Holmes.¹⁴ George (Jr.) died in Roxbury before 30 January 1651/2, when his will was proved.¹⁵

⁸Hawkshead, Lanc., Parish Register, FHL microfilm 1471762, item 29, "[1593] May vjth Edward Rigge fil : Richardi."

⁹Hawkshead Parish Register [*supra* note 8], "[1594] [July] xxjth Edward Rigge fil : Jacobi."

¹⁰Alvy Ray Smith and Robert Charles Anderson, "Proposed Hawkshead, Lancashire Origins of Edward Riggs of Roxbury and Thomas Riggs of Gloucester," *The American Genealogist* [TAG] 82 (2007): 120-29.

¹¹Parish records, All Saints Church, Nazeing, Essex, consulted by author Anderson at Essex Record Office, Chelmsford, "Edward Ryges and Elizabeth Holmes."

¹²Nazeing Parish Records [*supra* note 11], "[1590] Elizabeth Homes [*sic*] baptized the 13 of December."

¹³Nazeing Parish Records [*supra* note 11], "George Homes [*sic*] baptized the same day" [21 July 1594].

¹⁴Nazeing Parish Records [*supra* note 11], "[1637] George Homes [*sic*] buried Septem 8," and "[1627] Elyzabeth the wife of George Holmes buried Sept. 3." Although the Nazeing records do not show the parents of baptized children, the records admit of a simple interpretation as a single family born to George and Elizabeth Holmes/Homes, all in Nazeing: (1) Elizabeth as above; (2) George, bp. 5 Nov. 1592, bur. 28 April 1593; (3) George as above; (4) Samuel, bp. 24 Sept. 1598; (5) John, bp. 29 March 1601; and (6) Christopher, bp. 22 April 1604, bur. 1 April 1629. The only other Holmes records in Nazeing Parish are for a child of George (Jr.): "[1635] Lydia Holmes daughter to George Holmes & [*blank*] his wife bapt. July 26," and for an older woman, perhaps mother of the senior George: "[1582] Margaret Holmes ["vetula" [old woman] interlined above] widdow buried the xxixth of Augu[s]t." There were no Holmes marriages in Nazeing other than Elizabeth to Edward Riggs, suggesting that both George Holmes, father and son, married in other parishes. Also, the earlier generation, represented by the widow Margaret dying in 1582, probably moved to Nazeing from somewhere else.

¹⁵George Holmes of "Rocksbury" made his nuncupative will "yeare 1646 or thereabouts," according to John Eliot who witnessed it, and it was proved 30 Jan. 1651/2. The will mentions George's (unnamed) wife, son Joseph, other (unnamed) children, and "brethern Elder Heath, broth' Eliot & broth' Paules our Deakens & my broth' Ruggles & broth' Riggs" ("Abstracts of Early Wills," *New England Historical and Genealogical Register* [NEHGR] 7 [1853]: 30-31). The brother Riggs mentioned was surely Edward¹ Riggs. (This published abstract of the will of George Holmes was taken from the original will, stated to be among the loose papers of the Suffolk Probate Court, but not copied into the probate registers at the time of filing. Such documents were later copied into a separate set of probate registers called the New

The Riggs and the Holmes families came in the Great Migration to Massachusetts Bay as part of a group of Puritans known as the Nazeing Christians under Rev. John Eliot, settling in Roxbury.¹⁶ Edward Riggs and his family came in 1633; George Holmes and probably his wife (and possibly some children) came after the baptism of his daughter Lydia in Nazeing on 26 July 1635 and before the first recorded birth of a child of his, a son Nathaniel, on 1 (12) 1639 [1 February 1639].¹⁷ Edward Riggs was admitted to the Roxbury church in 1633, and George Holmes in 1638, so George probably immigrated in 1638.¹⁸ Edward was admitted freeman on 14 May 1634 and George on 22 May 1639.¹⁹

Elizabeth Riggs died and was buried, according to a transcribed record, in Roxbury in “(8) 1635” [October 1635]²⁰ (but revised in the following to perhaps October 1634). She and three of her five children died within one to two years of the family’s arrival in America. The recorded burial date of Elizabeth consists of only a month and a year, indicating that it was not a contemporaneous record. Since the early Massachusetts Bay town vital records were compiled in 1644, this burial had occurred at least nine years before it was entered on the records, so was probably done from memory. This is important because of the next fact resulting in two changes to the Riggs genealogy as usually presented.

Series, created in the nineteenth century. No copy of the will of George Holmes was found in these New Series volumes, although copies were found for all the other previously unrecorded documents for other individuals abstracted in the same volume of NEHGR. A search of the indexes to all documents in the Massachusetts Archives and the Court Files Suffolk also did not find this will. The present location of the original will of George Holmes remains unknown.)

¹⁶ *Roxbury Land and Church Records*, Sixth Report of the Boston Records Commissioners (Boston, 1881), under “The Rev. John Eliot’s Record of Church Members, Roxbury, Mass.,” 80, “Edward Riggs,” 83, “George Holmes,” and 85, “— Holmes the wife of George Holmes,” and from the same volume, under “Roxbury Land Records,” 28-32, 35, 37 (main entry), 43, 49, for Edward Riggs, and 26 (main entry), 29, 32, 35, for heirs of George Holmes. On p. 29 a partial land description has its location “upon widdow Holmes west, and upon Edward Riggs east, and three roodes bought of Edward Riggs, butting upon Ralph Hemmingway east, and upon Edward Riggs west, and upon the heires of George Holmes north.”

¹⁷ David Pulsifer, “Early Records of Boston,” NEHGR 5 (1851): 334, 6 (1852): 183-84, 377-78 (for Roxbury only), 6:183, “Nathaniel son of Georg Holms [*sic*] borne 1 (12) 1639. | Deborah the daughter of George Holms borne 31 (11) 1641 buried 5 (12) 1641. | Sarah the daughter of George Holms borne 7 (11) 1643.”

¹⁸ Patricia Law Hatcher, “Members of the First Church of Roxbury,” *The Great Migration Newsletter* 6 (1997): 19-25; *Roxbury Land and Church Records* [*supra* note 16], 80, 83. Page 85 records “— Holmes the wife of George Holmes” slightly later, say 1639.

¹⁹ Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, ed., *Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England*, 5 vols. in 6 (Boston: W. White, 1853-54), 1:368, 376.

²⁰ Pulsifer, “Early Records of Boston” [*supra* note 17], 6:377, “Elisabeth y^e wife of Edward Riggs bvried (8) 1635,” interpreted incorrectly as Aug. 1635 by Wallace and Cory.

Edward Riggs married second at Roxbury on 5 April 1635 ELIZABETH ROOSA,²¹ who died or was buried there on 2 September 1669.²² There were no children of the second marriage. Both the marriage date and Elizabeth's surname have been controversial. Another controversy is concerned with which Edward Riggs it was who married Elizabeth Roosa. Most previous authors (Trask excepted) have decided that it had to have been Edward², son of Edward¹. We proceed to discuss and settle these matters.

Author Anderson inspected the actual marriage record in the Boston city archives on 27 October 2003 and reported that there is no ambiguity about the date. The years are clearly divided and marked, and the Riggs marriage happened on 5 April 1635 despite the fact that it was listed after a December 1635 marriage. Secondly, the surname is definitely "Roosa," with the "s" being the old style resembling an "f" but not extending below the baseline.²³

With the marriage date of the second marriage definitely 5 April 1635, then the burial date of October 1635 for Edward's first wife appears to be an error. An alternative resolution has been argued by Jacobus and repeated by subsequent genealogists: The marriage by an Edward Riggs to Elizabeth Roosa predating the death of the first wife of Edward¹ implies that it was his son Edward² who married Elizabeth Roosa.²⁴ For this to be true, Edward² would have married at age 15 or 16, but this would have been highly unusual at that time. To support his theory, Jacobus estimated Edward²'s birth as 1614 for a marriage at age about 21, but if Jacobus had known of the 1619 baptismal record of Edward², he surely would not have suggested the 1614 birth year and hence not the marriage of Edward² to Elizabeth Roosa. Furthermore, it is now well-established that Edward¹ married the mother of Edward² on 16 September 1618, clearly supporting the son's baptism in October 1619.

The conclusion then, with the only remaining contradiction being the October 1635 burial date, is that this month-year date must be in error

²¹ William B. Trask, "The Rev. John Eliot's Record of Church Members, Roxbury, Mass.," NEHGR 35 (1881): 21-24, 241-47, footnote p. 244, "His [Edward Riggs] wife Elizabeth, who came with him, died, and he married April 5, 1635, Elizabeth Roosa, who died Sept 2, 1669," suggests that Trask had inspected the original marriage record.

²² *Roxbury Land and Church Records* [*supra* note 16], 179, "[1669] Moneth 7 day 2^d. Elizabeth, wife to Edward Riggs."

²³ And definitely not "Rooke" as reported in a 19th-century manuscript at NEHGS, "An Abstract of the Births Deaths and Marriages in Roxbury, Mass. Copied From the Manuscript of William Whiting, Esq., of Roxbury, who made the same from the Original Records of said town," which has "Edwd Riggs & Elisabeth Rooke April 5 ", the ditto mark ("") below a record dated "Decr. 1635."

²⁴ Jacobus, *Parke-Gildersleeve* [*supra* note 5], 107; Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [*supra* note 6], 3:1585, discusses Jacobus's argument.

having been recorded well after the fact. The correct burial date might be October 1634, assuming a single error only, in reading the year. If so, this was the same date that her son John was buried in Roxbury, the last of her three children to die in childhood. In any case, her burial preceded Edward's second marriage on 5 April 1635.

Edward "Riggs" signed his will in Massachusetts with a mark on 2 September 1670; it was proved on 6 March 1671/2 and an inventory of his estate was taken on 5 March 1671[1/2].²⁵ He died or was buried in Roxbury on 5 March 1671[1/2].²⁶

In his will, Edward mentioned his (unnamed) "Daughter in Law my Sonne Edward Rigges his wife," "my foure grand children my Sonne Edwards Children" (unnamed), "my Daughter Mary Twitchell" and her children, "my grand child Elizabeth Allen," "my grandchildren Joseph Twitchell and Hanp [sic] Twitchell" who had not come of age, "my Sonne Twitchell," "Joseph Twitchell and Hannah Twitchell," and "the rest of my grand children by my daughter Mary Twitchell" which grandchildren had not come of age.²⁷

Author Anderson viewed the originally recorded will at the Commonwealth Archives on 31 May 2007 and verified that the puzzling item clearly reads "Hanp" with a flourish on the bottom of the "p" meaning it is an abbreviation for "per." Taken literally then the name would be "Hanp[er]." As this does not make sense and since "Han" reads clearly, we believe that the clerk meant to record "Hann" with a flourish on the second "n" hence representing "Hannah." Supporting this interpretation is the fact that the later mention in the will of "Joseph Twitchell and Hannah Twitchell" does not (again) describe them as grandchildren or underage, presumably because this complete description already appears with the earlier mention of "Joseph Twitchell and Hanp Twitchell."

Children of Edward¹ and Elizabeth (Holmes) Riggs:

- 2 i EDWARD² RIGGS, bp. Nazeing, Essex, England, 17 Oct. 1619; m. ELIZABETH —.
- ii LYDIA RIGGS, bp. Nazeing 15 Sept. 1622 as "Lyddia Rygge,"²⁸ bur. Roxbury, Mass., Aug. 1633.²⁹

²⁵ Author Anderson inspected the original recorded will of Edward¹ Riggs at the Commonwealth Archives, Boston; Suffolk Co. (Mass.) Probates, 7:200-1, FHL microfilm 584128, does not contain the original but a later transcription (page numbers are given as, e.g., "Page 200 Original Volume").

²⁶ *Roxbury Land and Church Records* [*supra* note 16], 180, "[1671] Moneth 1 day 5. Edward Riggs." In some items the recorded date is clearly the death, but in others clearly the burial.

²⁷ Suffolk Co. Probates, 7:200-1, supported by author Anderson's viewing of the will.

²⁸ Nazeing Parish Records [*supra* note 11], no parent's name recorded.

²⁹ Pulsifer, "Early Records of Boston" [*supra* note 17], 6:377, "Lidia y^e daught^r of Edward Riggs bvrried (6) 1633." Roxbury, Mass., Deaths and Burials Index, FHL microfilm 838371, has for the first

- iii ELIZABETH RIGGS, bp. Nazeing 30 Dec. 1627,³⁰ bur. Roxbury, Mass., May 1634.³¹
- iv JOHN RIGGS, bp. Nazeing 17 Jan. 1629/[30],³² bur. Roxbury, Mass., Oct. 1634.³³
- v MARY RIGGS, bp. Nazeing 1 July 1632 as Mary “Rigge.”³⁴ She m. say 1650 BENJAMIN TWITCHELL, b. say 1625, d. Sherborn, Mass., 17 Dec. 1681,³⁵ probably son of Joseph Twitchell/Tuchel, immigrant to Dorchester, Mass., in 1633.³⁶ Mary Twitchell and her children were mentioned in her father Edward Riggs’s will of 2 Sept. 1670. Children Elizabeth, Joseph, and Hannah come from the will, all underage except possibly Elizabeth who was not explicitly described as such. The will also mentions other (“the rest of”) unnamed and underage children. Mary Twitchell, probably the widow, m2. Dedham or Medfield, Mass., 3 Feb. 1684/5 SAMUEL MILLS, a widower who had just lost his wife, Francis [Pi]mbrook, in Dedham.³⁷ Then Mary d. there 30 Oct. 1694, shortly before Samuel.³⁸
 Children of Benjamin and Mary² (Riggs) Twitchell:³⁹
 1 *Elizabeth Twitchell*, b. say 1651, m. Medfield, Mass., [15?] Feb. 1668/9,⁴⁰ William Allen/Allin, and had six children.⁴¹ She was the

four items under “R”: “Riggs Lidea d. of Edward bu. Aug. 1633 | Riggs Elizab. d. of Edward bu. May 1634 | Riggs John s. of Edward bu. Oct. 1634 | Riggs Elizab. w. of Edw^d bu. Oct. 1635.” These are four of the first six deaths recorded in Roxbury (Roxbury, Mass., Births, Marriages, Deaths, FHL microfilm 741320).

³⁰ Nazeing Parish Records [*supra* note 11], no parent’s name recorded.

³¹ Pulsifer, “Early Records of Boston” [*supra* note 17], 6:377, “Elizabeth daught^r of Edward Riggs bvried (3) 1634.”

³² Nazeing Parish Records [*supra* note 11], no parent’s name recorded.

³³ Pulsifer, “Early Records of Boston” [*supra* note 17], 6:377, “John y^e son of Edward Riggs bvried (8) 1634.”

³⁴ Nazeing Parish Records [*supra* note 11], no parent’s name recorded.

³⁵ Suffolk Co. Probates, 9:66, “An inventory taken the 23th day of December of the goods, debts & estate of Benjamin Twichell of Sherborn who deceased 17th December 1681.”

³⁶ With minor emendations, we generally follow the treatment of this family in Dean Crawford Smith, ed. Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *The Ancestry of Eva Belle Kempton, 1878-1908, Part III: The Ancestry of Henry Clay Bartlett, 1832-1892* (Boston: NEHGS, 2004), 34-38, 424-37, which has Joseph as probable father of Benjamin; Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [*supra* note 6], 3:1855-56, suggests that Joseph was probably Benjamin’s father, based on Benjamin’s estimated age at marriage to Mary and his testifying 26: 9^o 1657 [26 Nov. 1657] to the accuracy of an inventory of Joseph’s estate made 8: 8: 1657 [8 Oct. 1657] [Suffolk Co. Probates, 3:107].

³⁷ *The Record of Births, Marriages and Deaths, and Intentions of Marriage, in the Town of Dedham*, 2 vols. (Dedham, Mass., 1886), ed. Don Gleason Hill, 1:20, “Samuell Miles [*sic*] & Mary Twitchell, was married February [*sic*] 3, 1684,” 1:126, “1645 Samuell Mills & Frances [Pi]mbrook, were married the 11 of the 1 m^o [11 Mar. 1644/[5?]],” 1:20, “1684 Francis, y^e wife of Samuell Mills, deceased y^e 14: 3: 84 [14 May 1684].” Samuel and Francis had at least five children in Dedham (1:3, 5–7); *Vital Records of Medfield, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: NEHGS, 1903), 179, “[Twitchell] Mary and Samuel Meuls [?], Feb. 3, 1684-5.”

³⁸ Dedham Vital Records [*supra* note 37], 1:25, “1694 Mary, the wife Samuell Mills, decesed October 30,” “[1694] Samuell Mills, decesed January 7, 1694-5.”

³⁹ Smith and Sanborn, *Eva Marie Kempton* [*supra* note 36], 433-37, see for further details.

⁴⁰ *Vital Records of Medfield* [*supra* note 37], 115, “[Allien [*sic*]] William and Elizbeth Twichell, Feb. 15 [?], 1668-9.” Wallace and Cory mistakenly take Elizabeth Allen to be daughter of an unlisted daughter of Edward¹ Riggs who married a Mr. Allen.

grandchild Elizabeth Allen of the 1670 will of Edward¹ Riggs. William was father to his sister-in-law Abiel's son, probably Benoni Twitchell.

2 *Joseph Twitchell*, eldest son,⁴² b. say 1653 (but after about 1649, since he was underage in 1670), and d. Sherborn, Mass., 24 Oct. 1710;⁴³ m. before 29 April 1679 Lydia Goard,⁴⁴ bp. Roxbury 27 February 1652/3,⁴⁵ who d. a widow at Sherborn on 27 April 1725,⁴⁶ and had seven children.⁴⁷

3 *Benjamin Twitchell*, b. say 1656, d. Sherborn 29 June 1730;⁴⁸ m. Medfield 5 April 1683, Mary White,⁴⁹ and had five children.⁵⁰ Benjamin appears in the first town records of Sherborn in 1675–1678/9.⁵¹ In 1679 Benjamin “Twitchel” signed with his mark the resolutions of the new town of “Shearborne,” and three signatures later is that of Joseph “Twitchel.” This and the fact that their Sherborn lands in 1683 were adjacent argues that they were brothers.⁵²

4 *Mary Twitchell*, b. Dorchester, Mass., 8 March 1658/9,⁵³ d. Medfield 15 Sept. [1699];⁵⁴ m. there 9 May 1677, Josiah Rockett,⁵⁵ eldest

⁴¹ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 17; George Homer Partridge, “John Partridge and his Descendants,” *NEHGR* 57 (1903): 52; Smith and Sanborn, *Eva Marie Kempton* [supra note 36], 34–38.

⁴² Suffolk Co. Probates, 9:66, 29 Dec. 1681, administration of the estate of “Benjamin Twitchell late of Sherborne dece^d intestate is granted unto Joseph Twitchell his eldest Son.”

⁴³ *Vital Records of Sherborn, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850* (Boston: n.p., 1911), 225, “[Twitchell] Joseph sr., Oct. 24, 1710.”

⁴⁴ *Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts, Volume XXX, Collections: Records of the Suffolk County Court, 1671–1680, Part II* (Boston, 1933), 1014, “[Session of 29 April 1679] Ioseph Twitchell and Lydia his now wife convict^d by their own confession in Court of committing Fornication before marriage, sentenc^d to pay three pounds in money fine to the County & fees of Court standing committ^d &c[”]; Middlesex Co. (Mass.) Probates, 13:39–56, division of the lands of Joseph Twitchell, deceased, among his widow and children, explicitly to “Lydia Twitchil y^e Widow & relict of the s^d dec^d for her Dowry” and six named children; Middlesex Co. Probates, 12A:258–62, will of Joseph Twitchell of Sherborn, signed 22 Dec. 1690, proved 4 Dec. 1710, mentions wife “Lidia.”

⁴⁵ Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England, 1634–1635*, 5 vols.(to date) (Boston: NEHGS, 1999–2007), 3:78–81.

⁴⁶ *Vital Records of Sherborn* [supra note 43], 225, “[Twitchell] Lydia, wid. of Joseph, Apr. 27, 1725.”

⁴⁷ *Vital Records of Sherborn* [supra note 43], 87–89.

⁴⁸ *Vital Records of Sherborn* [supra note 43], 225, “[Twitchell] Benjamin, June 29, 1730.”

⁴⁹ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 179, “[Twitchell] Benjamin [and] Marie White, Apr. 5, 1683.”

⁵⁰ *Vital Records of Sherborn* [supra note 43], 87–89.

⁵¹ Sherborn, Mass., Town Records, 2, FHL microfilm 872790, item 2, “[March 8 1675] B. Twitchel” was employed for the laying out of the Sherborn plantation, 8, “1677: 8 month, 26 day” [26 Oct. 1677] “Benja twitchell,” 11, “1678, 8 m^o 5 day” [5 Oct. 1678] “Benjm twitchell,” and 12, “1678 11 mo 1 day” [1 Jan. 1678/9] “Benjam twitchell.”

⁵² Sherborn, Mass., Town Records, 12–14, for the town resolutions, 40, for a description of highways to be layed out including one that “runs through Between Joseph Twitchels and Benjamin Twitchels Land.”

⁵³ *A Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston, Containing Dorchester Births, Marriages, and Deaths to the End of 1825* (Boston, 1890), 6, “Mary Tichel the Daughter of Benjamin Tichel was Born ye 8: 1: 1658/9”; but William B. Trask, “Abstracts from the Earliest Wills on Record in

son of Nicholas Rockett/Rockwood (and probably his wife Jone),⁵⁶ and had six children.⁵⁷

5 *Hannah Twitchell*, b. Dorchester 8 Oct. 1660,⁵⁸ consistent with her being underage in 1670; m. Medfield 4 Nov. 1679 Samuel Hill,⁵⁹ and had 10 children.⁶⁰

6 *Abiel Twitchell*, b. Medfield 1 Nov. 1663,⁶¹ d. Woodstock, Conn., 15 or 16 Apr. 1744.⁶² She had a child, probably Benoni ("son of my sorrows") Twitchell, b. just after Feb. 1681/2, out of wedlock with her brother-in-law William Allen.⁶³ Abiel m. say 1690 Robert Corbett,⁶⁴ d. Woodstock 18 Sept. 1695,⁶⁵ and had two children.⁶⁶ She m2. at Woodstock 10 July 1696 a neighbor, John Bugbee,⁶⁷ b. about 1666, d. Woodstock 6 Oct. 1744,⁶⁸ and had five children.⁶⁹

the County of Suffolk, Mass.," NEHGR 9 (1855): 344, "Mary, dau. of Benjamin Tuchel died 8: 1: 58-59."

⁵⁴ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 232, "[Rockett] Mary, w. Josiah, Sept. 15 [1699]."

⁵⁵ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 169, "[Rockett] Josiah and Marie Twichell, May 9, 1677."

⁵⁶ Suffolk Co. Probates, 9:37, 18 March 1680/1, Josiah Rockett, eldest son of Nicholas Rockett, late of Medfield, deceased, was granted administration of his father's estate. This is followed by a division which lists among the heirs of Nicholas an underage son, John (see child 7, Bethiah Twitchell). Nicholas m. Margaret Hollock/Holbrook in 1656 and Silence Duntling in 1675. Jone, wife of Nicolas Rockwood d. 15 Dec. 1654; he m. 16 July 1656 Margaret Hollock/Holbrook who d. 23 April 1670; he m. 25 May 1675 Silence Duntling who d. 9 Nov. 1677 (*Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 169, 232-33).

⁵⁷ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 87-88, 232.

⁵⁸ Dorchester Vital Records [supra note 53], 7, "Hannah Tuchel the Daughter of Benjamin Tuchel was Born the 8 (8) 1660."

⁵⁹ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 179, "[Twitchell] Hanna and Samuell Hill, Nov. 4, 1679."

⁶⁰ *Vital Records of Sherborn* [supra note 43], 46; *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 61-62.

⁶¹ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 99, "[Twichell] Abiell, d. Benjamin and Marie, Nov. 1, 1663."

⁶² Cemetery Transcriptions from the NEHGS Manuscript Collection, Woodstock Hill Cemetery, Woodstock, Windham County, Conn., "Here lies ye Body | of Mrs. Abiel | Bugbee wife to | Mr. John Bugbee | Decd April ye 15, 1744 | in ye 81 year | (broken)"; *Vital Records of Woodstock, 1686-1854* (Hartford: Case, Lockwood & Brainard Co., 1914), 83, give 16 Apr. 1744, 82nd year of her age.

⁶³ Smith and Sanborn, *Eva Marie Kempton* [supra note 36], 34-35.

⁶⁴ Smith and Sanborn, *Eva Marie Kempton* [supra note 36], 435.

⁶⁵ *Vital Records of Woodstock* [supra note 62], 4, "Robert Corbit Died Sept 18th 1695."

⁶⁶ *Vital Records of Woodstock* [supra note 62], 1, 3, "Febr: 15: 91/2 Damorous Corbitt Daugh[te]r of Robert Corbitt Borne," and "Daniell Corbitt son of Rob[e]rt Corbit & Abiel his wife born Decem[be]r 29: 1693."

⁶⁷ *Vital Records of Woodstock* [supra note 62], 2, "John Bugbee & Abigail [sic] Corbit July 10th 1696"; *The Early Records of the Town of Providence* (Providence: 1903), 17:152, in an undated document, found among other records dated 1693-1695, "Robert Corbett | Mortgage | his house & | 10 acre lott lieing in woodstock towne Joseph Bugbee on y^e North side, Joⁿ: Bugbee on y^e south."

⁶⁸ NEHGS Cemetery Transcriptions, Woodstock Hill Cemetery [supra note 62], "Here lies ye Body of | Mr. John Bugbee | Died oct ye 6, 1744 | in ye 79 year | of his age."

⁶⁹ *Vital Records of Woodstock* [supra note 62], 4, 6, 7, 11, 15.

Her probable son, Benoni Twitchell m. Hannah Allen/Allin and had nine children.⁷⁰

7 John Twitchell, b. say 1669,⁷¹ probably he who m. Derby 2[6] Jan. 1698/9 Sarah Pierson,⁷² d. there 14 Mar. 1738/9.⁷³ John and Sarah had seven children.⁷⁴

8 Bethiah Twitchell, b. say 1671,⁷⁵ d. Medfield 1 Jan. 1706/7;⁷⁶ m. there 19 July 1688 John Rockett,⁷⁷ b. there 12 Feb. 1662/3,⁷⁸ son of Nicholas and Margaret (Hollock/Holbrook) Rockett/Rockwood,⁷⁹ half-brother of Josiah Rockett who m. Bethiah's sister Mary. Bethiah and John had eight children.⁸⁰

2 EDWARD² RIGGS (Edward¹) was baptized at Nazeing, Essex, on 17 October 1619 as Edward "Rigges."⁸¹ He died at Newark, New Jersey, after 1 January 1669/70, when he was last mentioned in the Newark town records,⁸² and before 25 or 26 January 1669/70, when "Widow Elizabeth Riggs" was first mentioned.⁸³ This is consistent with Edward¹'s will of 2 September 1670, which refers to the wife and children of son Edward² but not to

⁷⁰ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 99-100, 179, 239, for the first six children; *Vital Records of Oxford, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Worcester, Mass.: F. P. Rice, 1905), 116, for the last three.

⁷¹ Smith and Sanborn, *Eva Marie Kempton* [supra note 36], 436.

⁷² Nancy O. Phillips, *Town Records of Derby, Connecticut, 1655-1710* (Derby: Sarah Riggs Humphreys Chapter, D.A.R., 1901), 291 (original page 2:25), "John twichel and Sarah Pearson was maryed the twenty sist or fift day of Janeuery 1698/9"; Derby Vital Records, 2:25, "[Twichel [sic]] John, m. Sarah Pearson [sic], Jan. 21 [sic], 1698/9." Connecticut vital records are taken from Lorraine Cook White, ed., *The Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Records*, 55 vols. (Baltimore: Genealogical Pub. Co., c1994-c2002) (cited as Derby Vital Records for 8:181-321, Lyme Vital Records for 24:1-266, Milford Vital Records for 28:1-205, and Stratford Vital Records for 41:61-261).

⁷³ Derby Vital Records [supra note 72], LR3:12, "[Twitchell] Sarah, w. Jno, d. Mar. 14, 1738/9."

⁷⁴ Derby Vital Records [supra note 72], 306-7.

⁷⁵ Smith and Sanborn, *Eva Marie Kempton* [supra note 36], 436-37; Suffolk Co. Probates, New Series, 3:8, guardianship bond made 25 Jan. 1683[4] "for Bethiah Twichel daughter of Benjamin Twichel late of Sherborn deceased."

⁷⁶ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 232, "[Rockett] Bethia, w. John, Jan. 1, 1706-7."

⁷⁷ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 179, "[Twitchell] Bethiah and John Rockett, July 19, 1688."

⁷⁸ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 88, "[Rockitt [sic]] John, s. Nicolas and Margarit, Feb. 12, 1662-3."

⁷⁹ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 169, "[Rockwood] Nicolas and Margreat [sic] Hollock, July 16, 1656."

⁸⁰ *Vital Records of Medfield* [supra note 37], 87-88.

⁸¹ Nazeing Parish Records [supra note 11], no parent's name recorded.

⁸² *Collections of the New Jersey Historical Society. Volume VI. Records of the Town of Newark, New Jersey, from Its Settlement in 1666, to Its Incorporation as a City in 1836* (Newark, 1864), 24. A principal set of records used as a source for this book is also transcribed as FHL microfilm 944853, item 2. We use the page numbers of the book rather than the film.

⁸³ *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 28. On p. 30 "Edw'd Riggs, Deac'd" is first mentioned 3 Feb. 1669/70.

Edward² himself. Edward² had married say 1641 ELIZABETH — (assuming she was his only wife) and definitely by about 1662.⁸⁴ John Winthrop made reference to Edward's (unnamed) wife, in Milford, on the first page of his medical journal on 10 March 1656/7,⁸⁵ the earliest reference to Elizabeth if, again, she was Edward's only wife. It was this Elizabeth whom several genealogists have mistakenly identified as Elizabeth Roosa. Edward's baptism in 1619, not known at the time of the earlier genealogies, makes his birth as early as 1614 untenable, and hence also Elizabeth Roosa as his spouse.

According to the second page of the Newark land records, a reward was given to Elizabeth and recorded on or shortly after 12 December 1670: "Elizabeth Rigs hath for her home lot six acres & one acre given her for service on y^e place by staying the first summer and added to y^e reare of her lot about halfe an acre."⁸⁶ Residents of Milford,⁸⁷ Guilford, and Branford in New Haven Colony decided on 21 May 1666, on board a ship in the Passaic River or on land "near to Elizabethtown," to settle Newark and chose a committee of 11 of their group, including Edward Riggs, "for the speedier and better expedition of things then emergent to be done; then also six or more, at the least five of the committee who might remain or be in the place, were mutually chosen and appointed to order and settle the concernments and people of the place."⁸⁸ By the reward, we know that Elizabeth was there with Edward, and was one of the few who stayed that first summer. We now know from reinterpretation of the data that their daughter Mary lost her betrothed, Daniel Munn, to death just prior to 13 June 1666 in Milford,⁸⁹ so we may reasonably assume that Edward returned to Milford to fetch Mary, leaving Elizabeth in difficult conditions at Newark, perhaps with her younger children. Edward was not singled out for having stayed the first summer as was, for example, John Baldwin Sr.⁹⁰ In any event, Mary did

⁸⁴ Anderson, *Great Migration Begins* [supra note 6], 3:1584, based on the 1670 will of Edward¹ which mentions "my daughter-in-law my son Edward Riggs his wife" and "my four grandchildren my son Edward's children." Strictly speaking, we do not know Elizabeth's name until she was already a widow.

⁸⁵ "Medical Records of John Winthrop," MS, Mass. Hist. Soc., Boston, 1, "Edward Rigs wife of Milford."

⁸⁶ Newark Record of Lands, FHL microfilm 944853, item 1, part 2, pp. 1-70 (as distinguished from the copy of these records, FHL microfilm 944854, item 2), 1; *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 32, 12 Dec. 1670, "It was agreed by Vote, that Mr. Robt. Treat shou'd Record and Enter the First and Second [divisions] of Land, into the Book of records."

⁸⁷ Including Paugassett, which was officially renamed Derby on 13 May 1675 (Orcutt, *History of Derby* [supra note 2], 45). We use the single name Derby for convenience.

⁸⁸ *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 1-2, document signed 24 May 1666.

⁸⁹ The date Mary Riggs was given administration of the estate of Daniel Munn. The full argument is presented in the sketch of Edward³.

⁹⁰ *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 32.

come to Newark and promptly married there, we believe, the next-door neighbor George Day, as argued in Mary's sketch.

The record for the home lot of Nathaniel Wheeler, neighboring Elizabeth Riggs, states that his lot abutted "George Day north widdow Elizabeth Rigs south." Consistent with the town record, the home lots were entered at a date later than 24 June 1667, when the first division was actually made and when in particular Edward² was still alive and drew the lot between Nathaniel Wheeler and George Day.⁹¹ This item was recorded after Edward²'s death in January 1669/70 and before Elizabeth, clearly Edward²'s widow, remarried.

Elizabeth married, second, Caleb Carwithie sometime after 20 March 1670/1, when she is again referred to as Widow "Rigs" in the town records,⁹² and before the home lot record (also recorded on or shortly after 12 December 1670) which states, "Joseph Rigs hath surrendered unto him from his father in law [stepfather] Caleb Carwithie with his mothers consent the one halfe of the home lot" abutting "his father Carwithies other part North."⁹³ This proves that Joseph³ was Edward²'s son.

Caleb Carwithie was probably the founder (one of 80 "Associates") of Elizabethtown, New Jersey, of that unusual name in 1665.⁹⁴ If so, he

⁹¹ *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 5, "the fourth [lot] to George Day, the Fifth to Nath [sic] Wheeler, the sixth to Edward Rigs [sic]," not counting Robert Treat's home lot which was granted first. The date is not explicitly given but presumably the first division occurred shortly after the final signing of the "Fundamental Agreements" establishing Newark on 24 June 1667.

⁹² *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 70. There is a reference to "Widow Rigs" at the meeting on 6 Feb. 1677/8 (p. 70), but it occurs in a paragraph that begins, "The Town having made an Act, March 20th, 1670, to have the Com'on fence divided, to every Man his just Proportion," and is followed by a table showing the fence division. The table does not list Joseph or Edward Riggs and appears to be an older list of inhabitants, probably that of 20 March 1670/1. The item is perhaps misplaced in the town record book. Regardless, it pushes the date for Elizabeth's marriage to Caleb to sometime after that date. Page 42 lists "Widow Rigs" on 21 Feb. 1670/1.

⁹³ Newark Record of Lands, 6, for home lot. On p. 28, Caleb Carwithie is granted his first divisions for upland and meadow, and on p. 29, Joseph "Rigs" is given half of Caleb's lands in these divisions. Thus these records were made at some time after the home lot record for (widow) Elizabeth Riggs.

⁹⁴ Edwin F. Hatfield, *History of Elizabeth, New Jersey; including the Early History of Union County* (New York: Carlton & Lanahan, 1868), 72-73, "Caleb Carwithy [Carwithe, Corwith] was the son of David, a resident of Southold, L.I., where he died, November, 1665. Caleb was a mariner, and quite a rover. At Hartford, Ct., he was arraigned, Oct., 1646, for pursuing an absconding debtor on the Sabbath-day. Previous to 1654, he made trading voyages between New Haven and Boston. In 1661, he resided at Southampton, L.I. He was admitted, in 1664, a freeman at Huntington, L.I. The following year he came to this place. In the winter of 1668/9, he entered into an Association with John Ogden, Sen^r, Jacob Melvyen, William Johnson, Jeffry Jones and others of this town, for whaling purposes. His house-lot adjoined Charles Tucker on the West, and George Ross on the N. West. He sold thirty acres of land, Feb. 8, 1670/1, for £11, to William Piles. A year or two after, he removed to Southampton, L.I., where he was living in 1683, and where his descendants have been quite numerous and respectable." Hatfield cites, "Ct. Col. Records, I. 143, 423; II. 120. E. J. Records, I. 66; II. 22, 34; III. 22. Howell, pp. 48, 217. Bacon's N. Haven, p. 366. N.Y. Doc. History, II. 538" [see note 95].

returned to Southampton, Long Island, in about 1673,⁹⁵ so the marriage to Elizabeth would have occurred in about 1672.⁹⁶ It is not known whether Elizabeth accompanied him to Long Island, no record of her in Southampton having been found, but she also ceases to appear in the Newark records at this time.

Congar and Wallace claimed that Edward² was in Milford, Connecticut, by 1640, but Jacobus cautioned that he had found no record of Edward's presence there before 1646.⁹⁷ The earliest references to him in Milford we found are entries in the first town book for land divisions in 1646.⁹⁸ The first page of the book lists the "Free Planters" of Milford in 1639, and another list of land owners appears on the fourth page for 1643.⁹⁹ Neither list contains a Riggs. Judging by the large number of grants made in 1646, we surmise that a later group of settlers, including Edward² Riggs, entered Milford between 1643 and 1646, probably toward the end of that period.

The town of Derby (originally Paugassett) lies just a few miles from Milford, both near New Haven. The first page of the first book of Derby town records has Edward Riggs listed as one of 10 purchasers, all of Milford, of "a place called Paugasuck [sic],¹⁰⁰ and by these men above named put under New Haven jurisdiction in the year 1655."¹⁰¹ He is mentioned again on the third page, dated 1665, owing a debt, and Samuel

⁹⁵ James Savage, *A Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*, 4 vols. (Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1860-62), 1:344, "Carwithen, Corwithen, Curwithin, Kerwithy, or Carwithie, Caleb, Huntington, L.I. was rec. as freem. of Conn. 1664"; Charles Carroll Gardner, "When Newark Went Dutch (1673)," *The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey* [GMNJ] 12 (1937): 82-85, 16 Sept. 1673, the oath of allegiance to the States-General of Holland was administered in "New Worck," with name Caleb "Carwithy" apparently listed but deleted, followed by Edward "Rigs" and "Josep" Riggs; E. B. O'Callaghan, *The Documentary History of the State of New-York*, vol. 2 (Albany, 1849), 538, lists "Callob Carwithy" with one poll in a 1 Sept. 1683 "estimation" of Southampton; George Rogers Howell, *The Early History of Southampton, L.I., New York, with Genealogies* (Albany: Weed, Parsons and Co., 1887), 226, Corwith [sic] Family, "In 1665 he [Caleb Carwithy] removed to Elizabeth, N.J., but returned to Southampton about 1673"; *The Second Book of Records of Southampton, Long Island, N.Y., with other Ancient Documents of Historic Value* (Sag Harbor, 1877), 285, Caleb "Corwithye" registered an earmark in 1685; *The Fifth Volume of Records of the Town of Southampton comprising Ancient Loose Documents in the Town Clerk's Office, also Abstracts of the Red Book of Deeds* (Southampton, 1910), 214-15, Caleb "Corwithy" witnessed a deed 8 April 1684, the five volumes in this series contain many references to the Carwithie family (with diverse spellings).

⁹⁶ Cory, *Lineal Ancestors* [supra note 4], 262, dates the marriage "sometime previous to 1672."

⁹⁷ Jacobus, *Parke-Gildersleeve* [supra note 5], 107, "It is said that he settled in Milford in 1640, but the earliest record of him we have seen there is in the list of home lots, 28 Dec. 1646; he was also named in the 1646 list for the West Field (the Fence Shot) and a few other references."

⁹⁸ Milford Deeds, 1:80, 87, 98, 99. A summary of his Milford land grants as of 1649 appears on 1:109.

⁹⁹ Milford Deeds, 1:1, 4.

¹⁰⁰ One of many spelling variations of Paugassett.

¹⁰¹ *Town Records of Derby* [supra note 72], 3, and again on 9-10.

and Joseph Riggs, both proved here to be Edward's sons, are listed on the fifth page, performing work for the community in April 1666. Joseph Riggs is not mentioned again in the Derby town records, consistent with his having removed to Newark with his father soon afterwards.

Edward "Rigs" and Joseph Riggs were both planters of Newark, New Jersey, having both signed the Fundamental Agreements on 24 June 1667 founding the new town. They were part of a group of several dozen New Haven colony people who left to form Newark. Edward Riggs was first mentioned in the Newark town meeting records on 24 May 1666 and many times afterwards until his death.¹⁰²

We do not have birth or baptism dates for Edward's children, implying that he was not a church member in Roxbury, Milford, or Derby. That son Samuel Riggs was sufficiently on his own to decide to remain in Derby at the founding of Newark suggests he was the eldest. That Joseph had not so established himself and removed to Newark with his father but old enough to sign the Fundamental Agreements suggests that he was second oldest.¹⁰³ Edward Riggs (Jr.) was too young to sign the Fundamental Agreements. His first appearance in the Newark town records might have been that of 6 January 1670/1 as "Widow Rigs Her Son,"¹⁰⁴ but this probably refers to Joseph who would inherit some of the home lot and hence was probably living with his mother. Of course, Joseph's younger brother Edward would have been living with her too. Edward's first definite appearance was on 26 May 1673, when he drew a lot in a land division,¹⁰⁵ so clearly of age and perhaps just arrived at that state.

¹⁰² *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 1, 3, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 15, 19, 20, 24, 26. He was mentioned twice more (pp. 30, 42) as deceased.

¹⁰³ *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 3, Joseph Riggs apparently signed the Fundamental Agreements on 24 June 1667. The founding document of Newark, being organized like a typical New England town, might have been a living document, with names added in time. Joseph's name is second to last, so it is impossible to determine without seeing the original document whether he signed at the same time as the first signers. The last signer Stephen Bond's name appears on a 1667 list of ratables so he was of age, similarly for third to last signer, Samuel Lyon. Fourth to last signer was Azariah Crane whose name, like Joseph's, does not appear on the 1667 list of ratables and for whom the Charles Carroll Gardner Collection of Essex County, New Jersey Families, 1600–1900, Azariah Crane (FHL microfilm 848884), has an item showing he d. 5 Nov. 1730, age 83, so b. about 1648 and therefore about 19 years old in 1667.

¹⁰⁴ *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 34, "Ths. Richards and the Widow Riggs Her Son, are Chosen To Warn the Town Meetings, each of them his Part as they did the Last Year." Joseph was named explicitly at the same meeting, hired to floor half of the meeting house. An alternative is that the reference is to Elizabeth's son-in-law George Day, who held the town warner position the previous year (but Thomas Richards did not [p. 23], despite the wording).

¹⁰⁵ *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 49, Edward Riggs draws lot 37 in a division. We note that Caleb Carwithie removed to L.I. about 1673.

Samuel Riggs of Derby consented, as detailed in the sketch of Joseph³ Riggs, to the execution of the will of “my brother Joseph Riggs” of Newark, establishing their relationship.¹⁰⁶ Joseph Riggs of Newark sold to “my Brother Edward Riggs” of Newark part of his home lot on 9 December 1676, establishing their relationship.¹⁰⁷

Edward² had a daughter Mary as established by a deed signed on 20 February 1701/2 by his grandson Paul Day, who was described explicitly as son of Mary and grandchild of Edward Riggs, deceased.¹⁰⁸

Jacobus found evidence of another son, John Riggs,¹⁰⁹ absent from earlier genealogies of Edward Riggs, and claimed, “The existence of the son John, proved by New Haven County Court records, is revealed, we believe, for the first time.”¹¹⁰ Jacobus states that the inventory was presented by John’s brother Samuel, but clearly it was Samuel Eells, not Riggs, who presented the inventory. This weakens Jacobus’s argument that John was a member of the family,¹¹¹ but we retain John because he lived at the right time in the right place, because we know of no other Riggs family in the community at that time, and because he died young without progeny thus obviating any error in his inclusion.

For the birth order of these children, Wallace used Orcutt’s order. Wallace gave the children’s birthdates, all approximate, as: (1) Edward, 1636; (2) Samuel, 1640; (3) Joseph, 1642; and (4) Mary, 1644. Jacobus, who repeated these dates, but added John, 1646, cautioned, “[t]he assigned dates of birth of the first four children are apparently mere guesses made by previous writers and may be somewhat out of line. Joseph may have been considerably younger than indicated.”¹¹² The order and birth years we give below are based on our reanalysis of available data. They support the doubts of Jacobus, but not his supposition of Joseph’s “considerably” later birth.

¹⁰⁶ Unrecorded Wills of N.J., 5:148, FHL microfilm 545495.

¹⁰⁷ Newark Town Record, 1691–1741, FHL microfilm 944853, item 1, part 1 (not to be confused with *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82]), 11.

¹⁰⁸ Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 68.

¹⁰⁹ New Haven Probates, 1B:33 (1B is used to abbreviate Book 1, Part 2), “An Inventory of the estate of John Rigs of milford in the colony of conecticutt deceased taken this 24th of May 1670,” “Apprised by us Samuells Eells | the marke JB of | John Baldwin jun^r.”

¹¹⁰ Jacobus, *Parke-Gildersleeve* [*supra* note 5], 112. But cf. Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary* [*supra* note 95], 3:541.

¹¹¹ Jacobus explains in the “Editor’s Preface” to *Parke-Gildersleeve* [*supra* note 5] that the research for the book was that of his client Mr. Parke, thus explaining what would be an unusual error indeed for Jacobus.

¹¹² Jacobus, *Parke-Gildersleeve* [*supra* note 5], 112, note f. Writing in 1959, Jacobus might have been referring to Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [*supra* note 3], written in 1901, whom he cited for the Riggs family.

Children of Edward² Riggs prob. with his wife Elizabeth — (if she was his only wife):¹¹³

- 3 i SAMUEL³ RIGGS, b. say 1642; m. (1) SARAH BALDWIN, (2) SARAH WASHBURN.
- 4 ii JOSEPH RIGGS, b. say 1644; m. HANNAH BROWNE.
- iii MARY RIGGS, b. say 1646; m. (1) after 13 June 1666,¹¹⁴ say 1667, probably Newark, N.J.,¹¹⁵ GEORGE DAY, a founder of Newark¹¹⁶ who d. before [1?]7 March 1685[6?] when his heirs were assigned land,¹¹⁷ and by which date she had m. (2) ANTHONY OLIFF,¹¹⁸ b. ca. 1636 (gravestone), and d. 16 March 1723[4?], aged 87, his gravestone the oldest in the old burial ground of the First Presbyterian Church (the so-called Mountain Society), Orange, Essex Co., N.J.¹¹⁹ Mary d. sometime before 16 Dec. 1713 when Anthony's second wife, Abiah Lindsley, gave her consent for a deed of sale.¹²⁰
Children of George and Mary³ (Riggs) Day:¹²¹

¹¹³ Assuming our birth year estimates are accurate, the first two or three children would have been born in Mass. and the younger ones in Conn.

¹¹⁴ The date Mary Riggs was given administration of the estate of Daniel Munn, deceased, of Milford, presumably her betrothed. The full argument is presented in the sketch of Edward³.

¹¹⁵ A Milford marriage would obviate a need for Edward's return to fetch Mary, yet indications are that only Elizabeth stayed over the first summer.

¹¹⁶ *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 5, 24 June 1667 presumably or shortly thereafter, George Day drew home lot 4, not counting Robert Treat's home lot which was granted first.

¹¹⁷ Newark Record of Lands, 55, "Layd out [1?]7 March 1685 Paul Day, George Day, & Samuell Day heirs to George Day deceased hath surveyed to them by William Camp a parcell of land . . . in all sixty acres be it more or less lyeing for thirty acres bounded with y^e mountaine West, Matthew Williams South Wigwom brook East & y^e Common North, Joseph Riggs."

¹¹⁸ Newark Record of Lands, 55, just preceding record above, "Matthew Williams hath surveyed by William Camp a parcell of land . . . bounded with y^e mountaine West Anthony oliff South, wigwom brook East, & Mary Day, now Mary oliff North, belonging to Paul Day, George Day, & Samuell Day."

¹¹⁹ Stephen Wickes, *History of the Oranges, in Essex Co., N.J.: from 1666 to 1806* (Newark: New England Soc. of Orange, 1892), 21f, photograph captioned "Grave of Anthony Olef: 1723," "Here | Lies the body | of Anthony Ol[ui?]e | Who departed this | life march the 16 in the | year 1723 aged | 87 yeare."

¹²⁰ Gardner Essex Co. Collection [*supra* note 103], Anthony Oliff, FHL microfilm 848913, "Dec. 16, 1713. Deed. Anthony Olief [*sic*] of Newark, yeoman with consent of wife, Abiah, to Peleg Shores of same place weaver . . . next to Matthew Williams. Anthony Olef [*sic*], Abiah (her mark) Olief [*sic*]. Wit. John Lindsly, Matthew Williams. N.J.H.S. Mss. xxix #26" (this is the first of several examples of our use of transcriptions by Gardner of documents we have not inspected ourselves); *The Minutes of the Board of Proprietors of the Eastern Division of New Jersey* [vol. 1] from 1685 to 1705, [vol. 2] from 1722 to 1744, [vol. 3] from 1745 to 1764 (Perth Amboy, N.J.: vol. 1, 1949; vols. 2-3, 1960), 2:266, 276-77, 285 (corresponding, respectively, to original pp. 201, 209-10, 218), deposition of Abiah "Olive" (stated on p. 266 to be sister of "Ebenezar" Lindsley), 8 July 1743, "Abiah Olive now of Hannover in the County of Morris & late of Newark in the County of Essex . . . believes herself to be seventy nine or eighty years of age some time in October next, and that she came to live at Newark afores'd, when she was about four years of age and has lived in Newark ever since till within twelve years now last past," testified about early boundaries between Newark and Elizabethtown.

¹²¹ Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 62, George Day and Paul Day, both of Newark, divide lands "formerly our granfather [*sic*] Riggess Land," between themselves on 16 Dec. 1701, with Samuel Day one of the witnesses; New Jersey Quit Rents, 3:21, FHL microfilm 946001, item 7, "Paule Samell & George Day—D^l. | To 160 Ac: at 1/2^d pr:Ac:to Mar: 1696—£.6".9".2."

- 1 *Paul Day*, b. say 1668, d. Newark before 19 Nov. 1712, when his widow "Phebee" was bonded as administratrix of his estate;¹²² m. Phebe —. There was a daughter Phebe Brown of Thomas and Mary Brown of Newark who m. a Mr. Day before 4 Feb. 1709/10.¹²³ Therefore she m. either Paul Day or his brother George Day (next).
- 2 *George Day*, b. say 1670; m. Phebe —¹²⁴ after 4 May 1709, when no wife was mentioned in a land sale, and before 2 June 1711, when she was.¹²⁵ George d. before 24 Jan. 1720/1 when administrators of his estate were appointed in Newark.¹²⁶
- 3 *Samuel Day*, b. say 1672, signed his will in Newark 15 Feb. 1714/5, proved 17 Oct. 1715, which mentions his wife Abigail —. Anthony Oliff was a witness.¹²⁷ Both George and Samuel Day were last mentioned in the Newark town meeting records on 8 March 1714/5.¹²⁸
- iv JOHN RIGGS, b. say 1648, d. Milford before 24 May 1670, when his inventory was presented,¹²⁹ consistent with his grandfather Edward¹'s will of 2 Sept. 1670, which mentions his son Edward² as father of his four (only) grandchildren.
- 5 v EDWARD RIGGS, b. say 1652; m. MARY —.

CONNECTICUT BRANCH

3 SAMUEL³ RIGGS (*Edward*²⁻¹) was born say 1642, probably in Roxbury, Massachusetts. He signed his will in Derby on 13 November 1734, and it was proved on 2 May 173[8?].¹³⁰ He married first at Milford on 14 June 1667 SARAH BALDWIN,¹³¹ who was baptized there on 1 April 1649,¹³²

¹²² *Calendar of New Jersey Wills, Administrations, Etc.*, 13 vols., *Archives of the State of New Jersey, First Series, Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey* (1901–49), 1:130.

¹²³ *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 1:65, will of Thomas Brown Sr. of Newark, dated 4 Feb. 1709/10, proved 7 April 1711, mentions wife Mary and seven children including Phebe Day.

¹²⁴ Congar, "Genealogical Notices" [*supra* note 1], 11, states, "George [Day] had sec. wi. Phebe in 1711," but we do not know on what authority he claims her to be the second wife.

¹²⁵ Newark Record of Lands, 137, George Day, cooper, of Newark sold 4 May 1709 (acknowledged 23 [] 1714) six acres west of Newark to John Medlis, ship carpenter, of Newark; Newark Record of Lands, 132, George Day, cooper, and Phebe his wife of Newark sold 2 June 1711 ten acres in Newark to Jabez Harger, shoemaker, of Newark.

¹²⁶ *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 1:131, with John Day an administrator, perhaps a son.

¹²⁷ *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 1:131, mentions son David and an unborn child.

¹²⁸ *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 127.

¹²⁹ New Haven Probates, 1B:33; Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary* [*supra* note 95], 3:541, "[Riggs] Edward, Milford 1640, s. prob. of the preced. b. in Eng. had perhaps John and Samuel, and was one of the early sett. at Paugusset, after nam. Derby, but d. bef. his f. [Riggs] John, Milford, perhaps s. of the preced. d. a. 1670."

¹³⁰ New Haven Probates, 6:133-34.

¹³¹ Milford Vital Records, 1:8, "Samuel [Riggs], of Pagussie [*sic*], m. Sarah Baldwin, d. of wid. Elizabeth June 14, 1667, by Samuell Shearman, Magistrate," and OL:20, "Samuel [Riggs], of Pagosis [*sic*], m. Sarah Baldwin, d. Elizabeth (wid.), of Milford, June 14, 1667, by Samuel Sherman, Magestrate";

daughter of Richard and Elizabeth (Alsop) Baldwin.¹³³ Sarah died in Derby on 14 May 1712,¹³⁴ then Samuel married secondly there on 6 May 1713 SARAH WASHBURN,¹³⁵ who was born at Stratford in December 1661,¹³⁶ daughter of Hope and Mary (Stiles) Washburn.¹³⁷

In his last will and testament, "Samuell" Riggs of Derby mentioned "my beloved wife Sarah Riggs," "my loving Son John Riggs," "my three grand-daughters The Daughters of my Son Edward Riggs of Derby dec^d . . . namely Grace Smith, Abigail Durand and Hesther [*sic*] Riggs," "my Daughter Elissabeth Bassett," "my Daughter Sarah Lumm," "the Heirs of my Daughter Hannah Harger of Stratford deceas^d," "my Grand Son Samuel Riggs," "my two Grand Sons Sons of my Son Ebenezar [*sic*] Riggs of Derby deceas^d namely Ebenezar Riggs and John Riggs Jun^r," "my Grand Son Samuell Bassett," and "my Son Jonathan Lumm," and he appointed son John Riggs and "son" Jonathan Lum administrators. He signed with his

Town Records of Derby [*supra* note 72], 43, "Samuell Rigs was married the : 14th Day of june [] Baldwin." The missing pieces are due to tears.

¹³² Milford, Connecticut, First Congregational Church, Records of 1639–1926, 5 vols., FHL microfilm 1012263, items 2-6, 1:4, "[1649] [] 1st Sarah daughter of Richard Baldwin"; and Milford Vital Records [*supra* note 72], OL:103, "[Baldwin] Sarah, d. Richard, bp. [1649, by Rev. Peter Prudden]."

¹³³ Records of First Church of Milford [*supra* note 132], 1:2, "[1642] [] br 5 Elizabeth Alsop, since married to Rich Baldwin" (last item listed under 1642, hence dated probably 5 Feb. 1642/3); and Milford Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 1:111, "[Alsop] Elizabeth, m. Richard Baldwin, a first settler, [] See 1st Church Records," and OL:98, "[Alsop] Elizabeth, adm. Church Feb. 5, [1643]; Since m. Richard Baldwin []," and ES:238, "[Alsop] Eliza[beth], m. Richard Baldwin, []; d. Mar. [], 1664." Richard was a planter of Milford. Sarah is the "grandchild Sarah Rigs" mentioned in the will dated 9 Nov. 1669 of Mrs. Sarah Astwood, widow, of Milford [New Haven Probates, 1B:33-34], who was wife of Sylvester Baldwin, and then the third wife of John Astwood [Anderson, *The Great Migration* [*supra* note 45], 1:92-95, incorrectly transcribes Sarah "Rigs" as Sarah "Rigson"]; Charles Candee Baldwin, *Baldwin Genealogy*, as revised in Aubrey H. Baldwin Jr., *Revised Baldwin Genealogy*, 4 vols. (Philadelphia, 1989), 1:1, "Sgt. Richard Baldwin, of Milford, was son of Sylvester Baldwin (who died 21 June, 1638, on the passage over from England on the ship *Martin*); and his wife, Sarah (Bryan) Baldwin. As widow, she married John Atwood [*sic*], of Milford."

¹³⁴ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR3:6, "Sarah [Riggs], Mrs., d. May 14, 1712."

¹³⁵ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR3:9, "Sam[ue]ll [Riggs], Ens., m. Mrs. Sarah Wasbon [*sic*], May 6, 1713." Samuel³ Riggs is often called Ensign Riggs in the records. Sarah perhaps was called "Mrs." because of her maidenhood although this was not common practice at the time. She would have been 51 years old at marriage. Cory states incorrectly that she was a widow.

¹³⁶ Stratford Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR1:51, "[Washburn] Sarah, d. Hope, b. Dec. [], 1661."

¹³⁷ Donald Lines Jacobus, *History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield* (New Haven: Tuttle, Moorhouse & Taylor Co., 1930), 584-85, 648-49; New Haven Probates, 2A:183-84, "Mary Washburne, sometyme y^e wife & now y^e relict of Hope Washburne Deceased. W^m Washbourne & Samuell Washbourne Sarah Washbourne, & Jane Washbourne the Children of y^e above s^d Hope Washbourn" agree to a division of Hope's lands on 16 Nov. 1696. The document was signed by the relict Mary "Washbourn" with her mark, the oldest son W^m "Washbourn" with his mark, Sam^{ll} "Washbourn" with his mark, Sarah "Washbourn" with her mark, and by John Johnson who "subscribes on the behalf of his wife Mary Washbourn." Sarah was not married at this time, when she would have been almost 35 years old.

mark on 13 November 1734.¹³⁸ Some of Samuel's estate was unadministered in New Haven as of 2 October 1758, when both administrators had died, so administration was passed to his grandson Samuel⁵ Riggs (son of John⁴).¹³⁹

Children of Samuel³ and Sarah (Baldwin) Riggs:

- i ELIZABETH⁴ RIGGS, b. Derby, Conn., 13 June 1668,¹⁴⁰ bp. First Church, Milford, Conn., 28 Aug. 1670;¹⁴¹ perhaps m. ca. 1687 ROBERT BASSETT,¹⁴² son of Robert Bassett of Stamford, Conn. Elizabeth and Robert (Jr.) resided in Stratford, Conn., and Robert (Jr.) d. there 5 Aug. 1720.¹⁴³ They had six children.¹⁴⁴ Elizabeth had clearly died before 2 Oct. 1758 when her father's estate was assigned to her nephew Samuel⁵ Riggs.
- ii SAMUEL RIGGS, b. Derby, Conn., 8 or 9 Jan. 1670/1¹⁴⁵ and bp. First Church, Milford, 12 March 1670/1.¹⁴⁶ Neither he nor any children of his are mentioned in his father's will of 1734, so he probably died young.
- iii SARAH RIGGS, b. and d. at Derby 1672 or 1673.¹⁴⁷
- iv SARAH RIGGS (again), b. Derby 3 May [1674],¹⁴⁸ bp. First Church, Milford, 14 June 1674;¹⁴⁹ m. Derby 10 Oct. 1700 JONATHAN LUM of Derby.¹⁵⁰ Accord-

¹³⁸ New Haven Probates, 6:133-34, 161.

¹³⁹ New Haven Probates, 9:140, 236, 294, date is recorded as first Monday of Oct. 1758.

¹⁴⁰ Milford Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 1:9, "Elizabeth [Riggs], d. Samuel, of Pagusset, b. Jan. [sic] 13, 1668/9," and OL:21, "Elizabeth [Riggs], d. Samuel, of Pagaset, b. June 13, 1668"; *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 43, "Elezabeth Rigs Daughter of Sa^l Rigs was [] June: 1668."

¹⁴¹ Records of First Church of Milford [*supra* note 132], 1:11, "[1670] August 28 Elizabeth Daughter of Sister Sarah Rigges," implying that Samuel was not a member.

¹⁴² Baldwin, *Baldwin Genealogy* [*supra* note 133], 89, "Elizabeth [Riggs], m. Bassett, and at least a s. Samuel"; Samuel Orcutt, *A History of the Old Town of Stratford and the City of Bridgeport, Connecticut*, 2 vols. (New Haven: Tuttle, Morehouse and Taylor, 1886), 2:1121-22, states only that Sergt. Robert Bassett 2d married Elizabeth —. We take Orcutt's *History of Stratford* as newer and more accurate on the Bassett family than his *History of Derby*. In particular, Orcutt disproves in the Stratford history his suggestion in the earlier Derby publication (Orcutt, *History of Derby* [*supra* note 2], 695) that the mother of Robert (Jr.) might have been executed for witchcraft.

¹⁴³ Stratford Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR2:485a, "[Bassett] Robert, Sergt., d. Aug. 5, 1720."

¹⁴⁴ Stratford Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR2:482-84, LR2:483a.

¹⁴⁵ Milford Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 1:10, "Samuel [Riggs], s. Samuel, of Pagussa [sic], b. Jan. 9, 1670/1," and OL:23, "Samuel [Riggs], s. Samuel, of Pagaset, b. Jan. 9, 1670"; Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:1, "[Riggs] Samuell, s. Sa[muel], b. [] 8, 1670"; *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 43, "Samuell Rigs sun of Sa^l Rigs was Born the eight [] 1670." Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [*supra* note 3], 6, incorrectly has this birth 8 Oct. 1670.

¹⁴⁶ Records of First Church of Milford [*supra* note 132], 1:11, "[1671 March] 12 Samuell son of sister Sarah Rigges of Pagusset," listed just after a baptism of "[1670] february 19."

¹⁴⁷ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:1, "[Riggs] Sarah, d. Sam[ue], b. Jan. [], [16]72; d. Jan. [], [16]72." This is not an accurate transcription of the record as rendered in *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 44, "Sarah Rigs Daughter of Sa^l Rigs was Born t[] & Died in jeⁿ [sic] following: [] 72," even if "jeⁿ . . . 72" is taken to be Jan. 1672/3 rather than June 1672.

¹⁴⁸ *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 43, "Sarah Rigs Daughter of Sa^l Rigs was Born the: 3 of []." The item above (Samuel's birth) is dated 1670 and that below (John's birth) 1676. Orcutt, *History of*

ding to a Lum genealogy, Sarah was the first of Jonathan's three wives.¹⁵¹ Sarah and Jonathan had six children.¹⁵² Jonathan's will, dated 3 Dec. 1756, proved 2 Oct. 1758, mentions his (third) wife Ruth.¹⁵³

- v JOHN RIGGS, b. Derby ca. April 1676,¹⁵⁴ bp. First Church, Milford, 23 April 1676,¹⁵⁵ d. 24 Sept. 1755, aged 79, and bur. in the Old Colonial Cemetery (also known as the Uptown Burying Ground) of Derby.¹⁵⁶ John m. (1) Derby 23 Feb. 1699/1700 ELIZABETH TOMLINSON,¹⁵⁷ b. ca. 1676, d. 17 April 1747, aged 71, and also bur. in Derby.¹⁵⁸ They had five children,¹⁵⁹ including Samuel⁵ who assumed administration of Samuel³'s will in 1758. John m. (2)¹⁶⁰ at Lyme, Conn., after 30 June 1747 MARAH/MARY (LEE) (BECKWITH) STERLIN/STARLING,¹⁶¹ b. Lyme 23 April 1679,¹⁶² dau. of Thomas

Derby [*supra* note 2], 755, has her birth date 4 May 1674. Hollis A. Campbell, William C. Sharpe, and Frank G. Bassett, *Seymour, Past and Present* (Seymour, Conn.: W. D. Sharpe, 1902), 536, have her born 3 May 1674.

¹⁴⁹Records of First Church of Milford [*supra* note 132], 1:15, "[1674] June 14 Sarah daughter of sister Sarah Riggs."

¹⁵⁰Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:25, "[Riggs] Sarah, m. Jonathan Lum, Oct. 10, 1700"; *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 292, "Jonathan lum & Sarah riggs was maryed the tenth day of october 1700."

¹⁵¹Edward H. Lum, *Genealogy of the Lum Family* (Somerville, N.J.: Unionist-Gazette Association, 1927), 12, "He married three times, 1st, Oct. 10, 1700, Sarah Riggs, b. Feb. 24, 1683 [*sic*], the dau. of Ensign Samuel Riggs and his wife Sarah Baldwin, who were married June 14, 1680 [*sic*]." But the date given for Sarah's birth is that of [Hann]ah, and the marriage date of her parents is wrong, not surprising errors if Lum used only the (torn) Derby records for his source. He gives the second and third wives as Lydia (Warner) Bronson and Ruth Castle, respectively.

¹⁵²Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR3:2, 10, 2:12.

¹⁵³New Haven Probates, 9:146-47, sons John, Jonathan, and Joseph "Lumm" acknowledged the will before Samuel Riggs Esq., mentioning four sons and two daughters.

¹⁵⁴*Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 43, "John Rigs sun of Sa^l Rigs was born abo[] Aprell: 1676:"; Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:1, "[Riggs] John, s. Sam[ue], b. about Apr. [], 1676."

¹⁵⁵Records of First Church of Milford [*supra* note 132], 1:13, FHL microfilm 1012263, item 2, "1676 Apr 23 John (son of Sister Sarah Riggs)."

¹⁵⁶Orcutt, *History of Derby* [*supra* note 2], 812, "Here lyes buried | the body of | John Riggs Esq | who departed this life | Sept ye 24 1755 in ye 80th year of his age," but on p. 755 has his death 24 Sept. 1755, aged 78.

¹⁵⁷Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:25, "[Riggs] John, m. Elezabeth Tomlinson, Feb. 23, 1699/1700."

¹⁵⁸Orcutt, *History of Derby* [*supra* note 2], 812; Anne Elizabeth (Bryant) Bassett and the Sarah Riggs Humphreys Chapter, DAR, "Inscriptions from Gravestones in the Uptown Burying Ground, Derby, Conn.," NEHGR 84 (1930): 137, adds the following corrections to the Derby tombstones as recorded in Orcutt, *History of Derby* [*supra* note 2]: "Page 812, column 1. To Elizabeth, ye wife of John Rigs, Esq. [*not* John Rig Esqr.] died April ye 17, 1747, *should be added* aged 71 years."

¹⁵⁹Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:12-13, 160, LR3:1; New Haven Probates, 9:696-97, division by heirs on 3 Dec. 1755, mentions "to pay the Widow her Dowry."

¹⁶⁰This is a newly discovered relationship.

¹⁶¹Lyme Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 1:10, "[Starling] Daniel, Capt., m. Wid. Mary Beckwith, May 16, 1745," and "[Starling] Daniel, Capt., d. June 30, 1747"; Verne M. Hall and Elisebeth B. Plimpton, *Vital Records of Lyme, Connecticut, to the End of the Year 1850* (Lyme: American Revolution Bicentennial Comm., 1976), 6, cites vol. 1 of the Lyme Vital Records, "Capt. Daniel Starling was

and Marah (DeWolfe) Lee/Lees.¹⁶³ Marah had m. (1) at Lyme 18 May 1699 Joseph Beckwith,¹⁶⁴ and (2) “Deacon [Daniel] Sterlin.”¹⁶⁵ She must have been the widow mentioned in the division of John Riggs’s estate by his heirs on 3 Dec. 1755,¹⁶⁶ and she was alive, a widow, in Lyme on 10 April 1757 for kinsman Joshua Hempstead’s visit.

- vi EBENEZER RIGGS, b. Derby [15 Octo]ber 1678,¹⁶⁷ d. there 11 May 1712.¹⁶⁸ He m. by 1707¹⁶⁹ LOIS HAWKINS, b. Derby 6 Nov. 1681, dau. of Joseph and Abigail (Holbrook) Hawkins and twin of Agnes, and d. 11 Sept. 1767.¹⁷⁰ They had three children.¹⁷¹

Married to ye Widdow Mary Beckwith – the 16th Day of May: — A.D.: 1745,” and “Capt. Daniel Starling Died ye 30th Day of June — A.D.: 1747.”

¹⁶² Lyme Vital Records [*supra* note 72], L-1:10, “[Lee, Lees] Susan[n]ah, [d. Thomas & Marah], b. Apr. 25, 1679”; *Vital Records of Lyme* [*supra* note 161], 241, cites LLR1:10, “The Burth [sic] of Thomas Lees Children | . . . | [Marah] born April [23] 167[8].” The common volume:page numbers indicate that these are two different transcriptions of the same record. We inspected the original record on FHL microfilm 4678 and discovered that it is very dim and difficult to read, supporting both transcriptions. Marah is more likely since (1) her mother’s name was Marah, (2) she married Capt. Starling as Mary Beckwith, and (3) Joseph Beckwith married a Marah.

¹⁶³ Lyme Vital Records [*supra* note 72], L-1:10, “[Lee, Lees] Thomas, m. Marah DeWolfe, July 13, [1676(?)];” *Vital Records of Lyme* [*supra* note 161], 241, cites LLR1:10, “Thomas Lees was married unto Marah DeWolfe 13th July [1676?].”

¹⁶⁴ Lyme Vital Records [*supra* note 72], L-2:200, “[Beckwith] Joseph, Jr., m. Marah, May 18, 1699,” and there are 11 birth records for children attributed to Joseph and Marah Beckwith from 1700 to 1717/8; *Vital Records of Lyme* [*supra* note 161], 241, cites LLR2:200, “Joseph Beckwith Juner was married unto Marah his now wife this 18 day of May 1699 | [she is called Marah Lee dau. of Thomas],” and lists the births of the 11 children under them. Inspection of the original record on FHL microfilm 4678 yielded this reading on 2:200, “Joseph Beckwith, Juner: was mareed unto marah his now wife the 18 of maye 1699,” and there is no note there about Marah Lee, daughter of Thomas.

¹⁶⁵ *Diary of Joshua Hempstead of New London, Connecticut, Covering a Period of Forty-Seven Years from September, 1711, to November, 1758* (New London: New London Co. Hist. Soc., 1901), 684, “[April 1757] Sund 10 . . . I was out all Day & in the Eve att Colln [Colonel] Stephen Lees to visit Ms Riggs widow of Capt Riggs late of Derby. She is my Kinswoman & own sister to Colln Lee: her first Husband was Capt Joseph Beckwith & her 2d Deacon Sterlin of Lyme. She was the 3d Daughter of my uncle Lee who Lived & died in Lyme & was first of ys name there & came over a Child with my Grandmother in the first Settlement of this Country. He had 2 Sisters. One was mother of the family of Hides in Norwich & Lebanon &c”; Lyme Vital Records [*supra* note 72], L-1:145, “[Lee, Lees] Steven, [s. Thomas & Marah], b. Jan. 19, 1698”; *Vital Records of Lyme* [*supra* note 161], 241, cites LLR1:145, “[list of children ‘of Thomas Lee and Marah his wife’] Steven Lee was borne the 19 January 1698,” mentions “Captt Stephen Lee” (citing LLR7:345), and has daughter “[Marah]” the third born of Thomas Lee, thus establishing Thomas Lee as Hempstead’s “uncle Lee.”

¹⁶⁶ Division by heirs [*supra* note 159].

¹⁶⁷ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:1, “[Riggs] Ebenezer, s. Sa[mue]l, b. [], 1678”; *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 44, “Ebenezer Rigs sun of Sa^l Rigs was Born the []Ber: 1678”; Donald Lines Jacobus, “The Hawkins Family of Derby, Conn.,” TAG 39 (1963): 245, gives his birth as 15 Oct. 1678.

¹⁶⁸ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR3:6, “[Riggs] Ebenezer, d. May 11, 1712.”

¹⁶⁹ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:23, “[Riggs] Ebenezer, s. Ebenezer & Lois, b. Apr. 15, 1707.”

¹⁷⁰ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:1, “[Hawkins] Loes, [twin with Agnes], d. Jos[eph], b. []”; Jacobus, “Hawkins Family of Derby” [*supra* note 167], 245, Lois married three more times.

¹⁷¹ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:23, LR3:0, 1. See the will of Samuel³ Riggs for their names.

An inventory of Ebenezer's estate was exhibited in Derby 4 June 1712 by the administratrix, Lois Riggs, who was also appointed guardian of the three (named) children. Among the Derby freeholders appointed to make the division of Ebenezer's estate to the children was John Riggs, probably his brother.¹⁷²

- vii EDWARD RIGGS, b. Derby [2] Oct. 1680,¹⁷³ d. there 25 Nov. 1712.¹⁷⁴ Edward m. Derby 5 Jan. 1708[9] (but perhaps 170[7]/8, see first child reference), ABIGAIL NICHOLS,¹⁷⁵ dau. of Isaac Nichols.¹⁷⁶ They had three children, all daughters.¹⁷⁷ After Edward's death, Abigail m. Derby, 18 March 171[3]/4,¹⁷⁸ William Moss.¹⁷⁹
- viii HANNAH RIGGS, b. Derby 24 Feb. 1683[4?],¹⁸⁰ d. before (prob. well before) her father's will of 13 Nov. 1732. She m. Derby 19 May 1703 ABRAHAM HARGER,¹⁸¹ b. 1 April 1677, recorded in Stratford,¹⁸² son of Jabez and

¹⁷² New Haven Probates, 4:59.

¹⁷³ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:1, "[Riggs] Edward, s. Sa[mue]l, b. Oct. [2], 1680"; *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 44, "Edward Rigs sun of Sa^l Rigs was Born the se[] october: 1680." Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [*supra* note 3], 6, interpreted the date alternatively as 7 Oct. 1680.

¹⁷⁴ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR3:6, "[Riggs] Edward, d. Nov. 25, 1712."

¹⁷⁵ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:24, "[Riggs] Edward, m. Abigail Nickolls, Jan. 5, 1708, by Rev. Charles (Cheney?)" *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 290, "Edward Rigs and Abigail Nickolls were married the 5th of January 1708 by the Reverend m^r Charles (Cheney?)." The minister must be Rev. Charles Chauncy, who was minister at Stratfield (a parish straddling the Stratford/Fairfield town line) from 1695 to 1714.

¹⁷⁶ Derby, Conn., Deeds, 4:61, 13 March 1733/4, William Moss and "Abigal" Moss, his wife, of Derby sell 50 acres in Derby in "Consideration of Parental Love and affection which we have and Do Bare towards our Children, viz. Noah Durand and Abigal Durand" to Noah and Abigail, the land being part of the land granted to William and Abigail's "Father Isaac Nikols Late of Derby Deceas^d."

¹⁷⁷ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:160, LR3:0, 2. See the will of Samuel³ Riggs for their names.

¹⁷⁸ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR3:9, "[Riggs] Abigail, m. William Moss, Mar. 18, 1714."

¹⁷⁹ New Haven Probates, 4:288-89, on 4 Oct. 1714 "Will^m Moss in Right of his wife Abigaill ad^r: of the Estate of Edward Riggs late of Derb Dec^d" exhibited charges to the estate for raising the three daughters, Derby freeholders including John Riggs were appointed to divide a share of the estate for the legatees, and William Moss was appointed guardian of the three minor children. The bond on Abigail was discharged 5 Dec. 1715 (*ibid.*, 4:378).

¹⁸⁰ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:2, "[Riggs] —ah, d. Samuell, b. Feb. 24, 1683"; *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 44, "[]ah Riggs Daughter of Samuell Riggs was Born the 24:[] of ffeb: 1683."

¹⁸¹ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:13, "[Riggs] Hannah, m. Abraham Hardyyear [*sic*], May 19, 1703"; *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 275, "Abraham Hardyyear & Hannah Riggs were married May y^e 19 1703. Entred May y^e 27 1703 per Jn^o: James Recorder"; Orcutt, *History of Derby* [*supra* note 2], 725, has marriage incorrectly on 1 May 1703.

¹⁸² Stratford Land Records, 1:30, "Abraham Hardger [*sic*] ye sonne of Jabez Hardger was born ye first of Aprill 1677," written sideways in left margin of page also containing birth records of three siblings born 1663–1665, and 1:38, birth record of sibling Ebenezer "Hardger," b. 1674; Stratford Vital Records [*supra* note 72] records all these children of Jabez and Margaret except Abraham, who is also not listed in the Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72]. Orcutt, *History of Derby* [*supra* note 2], 724, has Abraham b. 1 April 1677, Derby, son of Jabez and Margaret (Tomlinson) Harger, and states that Jabez "settled in Derby in 1669, on Sentinel Hill east of Edward Riggs's residence." Stratford, Conn., Land

Margaret (Tomlinson) Harger.¹⁸³ Abraham (and probably Hannah too) d. Stratford before 8 Nov. 1720, when inventory of his estate was made, and 28 Feb. 1720/1, when his daughter Abigail selected as guardian her uncle “Lieut. John Riggs of Darbee.”¹⁸⁴ Hannah and Abraham had five children.¹⁸⁵

- ix JOSEPH RIGGS, b. ca. 1687, prob. Derby,¹⁸⁶ d. there 22 Oct. 1707, aged 20,¹⁸⁷ presumably unmarried.

NEW JERSEY BRANCH

The original colonies of Connecticut and New Haven were forced to merge after the restoration of Charles II. The merger and its softening of requirements for citizenship displeased many of the early families of New Haven, so they left and founded Newark to restore the religious principles lost in the merger with Connecticut.¹⁸⁸

The colony of New Haven included the towns of New Haven, Milford, Derby, Branford, and Guilford, with Milford and Branford contributing most of the founding families of Newark. The “Fundamental Agreements” defining Newark were signed at Branford in October 1666 by 23 persons and at Newark on 24 June 1667 by 41 more, from Milford and Derby, who had already arrived. Among these “planters” of Newark were Edward² Riggs and his oldest son Joseph³ Riggs, George Day who married Edward’s daughter Mary³ Riggs, and John Browne whose daughter Hannah married Joseph³ Riggs.

The Watchung mountain ridge lies a few miles to the west of Newark proper in Newark Township and is referred to as “the mountain” or “the first mountain.” The area between Newark and the mountain is the current location of the towns of Orange, East, West, and South Orange, Bloomfield,

Records, 1:231, Jabez “Hardyear” sold his home lot, swamp lands, and woodlands in Stratford on 12:12 [“Mch” [sic] interlined] 1673 (12 Feb. or 12 March 1673[4]).

¹⁸³ Stratford Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR1:484, “[Harger] Jabez, m. Margaret Tomlynson, d. Henery, Nov. 5, 1662.”

¹⁸⁴ Fairfield Co. (Conn.) Probates, 6:110, as abstracted by Spencer P. Mead, FHL microfilm 4197, items 5-6, Hannah is not mentioned.

¹⁸⁵ Stratford Vital Records [*supra* note 72], LR2:481, 482a, 484a; Fairfield Co. Probates, 6:109a, 110, 110a, 7:37, 98.

¹⁸⁶ Orcutt, *History of Derby* [*supra* note 2], 755, has it 22 Feb. 1686/7.

¹⁸⁷ Derby Vital Records [*supra* note 72], 2:27, “[Riggs] Joseph, d. Oct. 22, 1707, in the 21st y. of his age”; *Town Records of Derby* [*supra* note 72], 294, “Joseph Riggs deceased on the 22^d of October 1707 in the 21 year of his age.”

¹⁸⁸ The summary in these paragraphs is based on James Hoyt, *The Mountain Society: A History of the First Presbyterian Church, Orange, N.J.* (New York: C. M. Saxton, Barker, 1860), 2-22; Henry Whittemore, *The Founders and Builders of the Oranges . . . 1666-1896* (Newark: L. J. Hardham, 1896), 11-17; and Wickes, *History of the Oranges* [*supra* note 119], 1-8, 31-35.

and others, collectively known as the Oranges. When a sufficient number of people had moved out of Newark into this area, a new church was created and called the Mountain Society.

The Riggsses spread west from Newark, first into the Oranges of Essex County, New Jersey, and then west. A swath directly west of Essex County (then containing what is now Union County, including Elizabethtown) intersects southern Morris County, including Mendham, and the northern tip of Somerset County, including Basking Ridge. The moves west distinguish, we believe, subgroups of the Riggs family.¹⁸⁹

4 JOSEPH³ RIGGS (*Edward*²⁻¹) was born say 1644, probably in Roxbury, and died at Newark after 1 January 1688/9, when he signed his will in Newark, and before 27 November 1689, when it was proved by three witnesses of the will to be that of “Joseph Riggs of Newark latly [sic] deceased.”¹⁹⁰ He married say 1678 HANNAH BROWNE,¹⁹¹ who was born probably in Milford and baptized in New Haven on 3 May 1658,¹⁹² daughter of John and Mary (Burwell) Browne.¹⁹³ Joseph’s and Hannah’s fathers were both of Derby and then of Newark, of which they were both planters. Hannah married second, say 1690 and definitely before 4 February 1694/5, Aaron Thompson of Elizabethtown, who signed his will on that date mentioning his wife Hannah.¹⁹⁴

¹⁸⁹ Essex Co. was established 1675; Hunterdon Co. and Somerset Co. in 1714; Morris Co. from Hunterdon in 1739; Union Co. from Essex in 1857. Basking Ridge was in Essex Co. until 1741 when Somerset Co. gained from Essex.

¹⁹⁰ Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 13.

¹⁹¹ Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 20, will of John Browne of Newark, dated 17 Dec. 1689, proved 4 Dec. 1690, mentions his daughter Hannah Riggs. Congar, “Genealogical Notices” [*supra* note 1], 131, states, “Joseph m. a Carwithier [sic], had sec. w. Hannah Brown,” thus incorrectly interpreting “father-in-law” Caleb Carwithie’s relationship by using the modern meaning of the word.

¹⁹² Jacobus, *Parke-Gildersleeve* [*supra* note 5], 61; Henry White, “Baptisms in New Haven, Conn.,” NEHGR 9 (1855): 363, “1658, May 3, Hannah, daughter of John Browne, a member of the church of Milford”; Records of First Church of Milford [*supra* note 132], 1:3, membership, “[1649] Decemb. 9. John Browne | [Decemb.] 23 Mary his wife.”

¹⁹³ Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 20, the will of John Browne of Newark, mentions “Brother Ephraim Burwell”; Jacobus, *Parke-Gildersleeve* [*supra* note 5], 64-67, presents the argument that John Browne’s wife was Mary Burwell, daughter of John Burwell.

¹⁹⁴ Unrecorded Wills of N.J., 4:329, FHL microfilm 545495 (abstracted in *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 2:566), proved 2 Oct. 1695, mentions his sons Thomas, Joseph, and Aaron, and daughter Hannah, administration granted to his wife Hannah 29 April 1696; Gardner Essex Co. Collection [*supra* note 103], Aaron Thompson, FHL microfilm 849582, “Jan. 17, 1695/6. Copy or draft of deed, not executed. Anthony Oliff, of Newark, to Hannah Thomson of Eliz. Town, now relique of Aaron Thomson of Eliz Town, formerly relique of Joseph Riggs of Newark. 40 acres near the Mountain, which Oliff had by exchange with said Riggs. Bounded N. unsurveyed. E. Jasper Crane. S. Grantee W. Grantor. (N.J.H.S. Mss. xxxix #28).” He was probably the Aaron Thompson who was early in Elizabethtown, son

As noted above, Joseph was last mentioned in the Derby town records in April 1666. The Newark town records mention him often between 24 June 1667 and 9 January 1687/8.¹⁹⁵

The Newark town record of 27 September 1680 states, “Nathaniel Wheeler, Edward Riggs, and Joseph Riggs, have a Grant to take up Land upon the upper Chesnut [*sic*] hill by Raway [*sic*] River near the Stone House; provided they exceed not above fifty Acres a piece.”¹⁹⁶ By 9 December 1676, Nathaniel, Edward, and Joseph were all neighbors in Newark, Edward³ and Joseph³ owning portions of the original town lot of Edward² next door to the original town lot of Nathaniel Wheeler.¹⁹⁷ The only other known Edward and Joseph Riggses in this area were Edward⁴ and Joseph⁴, sons of Edward³ (q.v.), but they were only say 6 and about 4 years old in 1680. A map of South Orange Township (now Maplewood) west of Newark shows the “E. Branch Rahway River” intersecting the “Stone House Brook A.D. 1686” next to Watchung Mountain.¹⁹⁸

On 13 December 1688, Joseph Riggs and (his brother-in-law) Anthony Oliff exchanged “lands laide out to us at or neare the mountaine,” witnessed by John Browne, Edward Riggs (his mark), and Nathaniel Wheeler.¹⁹⁹ The fence separating the two parcels was to be maintained by both men. Edward Riggs had to have been Edward³ Riggs, Joseph’s brother, since Edward²

of Associate Thomas Thompson. Hatfield, *History of Elizabeth* [*supra* note 94], 95, states, “His [Thomas Thompson’s] three sons, also, were among the original Associates,” and lists the sons, Moses, Aaron, and Hur; *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 2:566, will of Thomas “Tomson” of Elizabethtown, dated 20 Nov. 1675, recorded 9 Sept. 1676, lists children Aaron, Moses, Hur, Hannah, and Elizabeth, executor, Aaron, inventory submitted April 1676 by Aaron.

¹⁹⁵ *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 3, 34, 49, 78, 80, 83-85, 87-88, 90, 93-94, 96, 102.

¹⁹⁶ *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 80.

¹⁹⁷ An 1806 lot map of Newark shows Joseph “Biggs” next to Nathaniel Wheeler (*Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], frontispiece); Charles T. McGrath, *Newark Mountain: Third Division of Land circa 1696 A.D.* (Rockaway, N.J.: C. T. McGrath, 2005), 11, a plot map carefully constructed by McGrath from public land records shows the plot of Nathaniel Wheeler abutting that of Thomas Luddington and of Ezekial Johnson, on Chestnut Hill, east of the Rahway, and north of Stone House Creek, and the Luddington property was formerly laid out to Edward Riggs and then surveyed to Thomas Luddington on 21 April 1686 (p. 38).

¹⁹⁸ William H. Shaw, *History of Essex and Hudson Counties, New Jersey*, 2 vols. (Philadelphia: Everts & Peck, 1884), 2:780f, 782f, 784f, maps. The map on p. 2:784f is a copy made in 1884 by Lewis P. Taylor, South Orange, N.J., of an original map dated 28 June 1802 in a note written on the map. The map on p. 2:780f shows “Milburn” Twp. abutting South Orange Twp. on the west, also drawn by Lewis P. Taylor. For his Riggs genealogy (pp. 780-82), Shaw follows Congar.

¹⁹⁹ Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 6.

died in January 1669/70, and since Edward's mark matches that on an East Jersey deed known to be that of Edward³ Riggs.²⁰⁰

On 1 January 1688/9, Joseph Riggs of Newark signed his will, which mentions his (unnamed) wife and four children, the sons John, Samuel, and Zophar, all being under the age of 20, and daughter Elizabeth, being under the age of 18. A witness to the will was "brother John Browne."²⁰¹ Samuel Riggs, of Derby, New Haven County, Connecticut, consented on 30 November 1692 to the execution of the will of "my brother Joseph Riggs," and final probate occurred on 16 May 1711.²⁰²

In his will, Joseph³ left his son John "my whole accomodation which I now possess in the Towne (except my wheelers poynt medows & the boggs at Tompkins poynt)." He left his sons Samuel and Zophar "all my land at the Mountaine equally to be divided" and similarly to them the Wheelers Point meadows and Tompkins Point bogs. Thus we deduce that Joseph³ took land at the mountain (Watchung), probably the part of Newark which became South Orange Township, but did not reside there, remaining in Newark proper.

Children of Joseph³ and Hannah (Browne) Riggs:

- i JOHN⁴ RIGGS, b. Newark, N.J., say 1679.²⁰³ He was the first son listed in his father's will. On 20 Feb. 1701/2, he and Paul Day, both described as grandchildren of Edward Riggs, deceased, and John as son of Joseph, divided a land parcel in Newark inherited from Edward,²⁰⁴ suggesting that John had come of age. The will gave John possession of his father's Newark home lot when he turned 20, say 1699, should Hannah "change her condition," which she had done by marrying Aaron Thompson.

John Riggs is not mentioned in the Newark town meeting records, but we have secondhand evidence that he was in Newark in 1702, about 1705, and 1716.²⁰⁵ A John Riggs appears in records of Somerset Co. in 1735,²⁰⁶ but

²⁰⁰ East Jersey Deeds, C2:396, Edward Riggs and his wife Mary to Thomas Davis. Edward³ Riggs also signed with a mark two deeds found in Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 1, 6 (although the marks differ from one another and from the matching ones mentioned here).

²⁰¹ Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 13.

²⁰² Unrecorded Wills of N.J., 5:147-48, FHL microfilm 545495, another transcription of Joseph's will (in poor condition), but with Samuel's agreement to it.

²⁰³ Cory, *Lineal Ancestors* [*supra* note 4], 2:269, has his wife as Mary, but we do not know on what authority.

²⁰⁴ Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 68, dated "one thousand seven hundred & one or two."

²⁰⁵ Gardner Essex Co. Collection [*supra* note 103], John³ Treat, FHL microfilm 849584, "Newark Land Records, Reverse Side p. 75. May 20, 1702. Deed. Mr. John Treat Esq.r wife Abigail to John Plume, marchant [*sic*], all of Newark . . . wit. Thomas Browne, John Riggs" and "N. J. H. S. Isaac Pierson Papers - C. 22. no date. Deed. John Treat of Newark, to Abraham Pierson of same . . . [wit.] Thomas Browne, John Riggs, ack. Before Theophilus Peirson [*sic*] Feb. 1. 1705"; Gardner Essex Co. Collection [*supra* note 103], James Tompkins, FHL microfilm 849584, "N.J. Hist. Soc. Mss. J36, Ap. 22. 1716. John Lyon of Newark

the circumstantial case we shall argue in the sketch of Edward⁴ (*Edward*³⁻¹) suggests that John of Somerset County was in that family, as John⁵, and is not this John⁴.

- ii ELIZABETH RIGGS, b. Newark say 1681; m. Guilford, Conn., 17 June 1702 DANIEL DOD,²⁰⁷ b. there ca. 1679, son of Stephen and Sarah (Stevens) Dod.²⁰⁸ Daniel's aunt, Mary (Dod) Blachly, was married to Newark planter Aaron Blachly,²⁰⁹ and Daniel's uncles, Daniel and Samuel Dod, were early in Newark although not original planters.²¹⁰ Daniel himself was probably in Newark by 3 Sept. 1701, when Daniel Dod Jr. (and Daniel and Samuel Dod also) signed an intent-to-purchase agreement for the Indian lands "all or part of that upland Westward or Northwest of the Town Bounds of Newark within ye Compass of Pasayack River and So Southward unto ye Monusing [Minisink] Path (viz) all Land as yet unpurchased of the heathen."²¹¹ He was definitely in Newark by 23 March 1711[/2?] when George Willocks of Elizabethtown sold "Daniell Dode" of Newark 50 acres to be taken up in the Eastern Division of New Jersey.²¹² Daniel d. after 21 Oct. 1748, possibly as late as 1757.²¹³ He and Elizabeth had at least three and probably four children, at least one of whom moved west into Mendham, Morris Co.²¹⁴

assigns to James Tompkins all interest in an attached deed . . . wit. John Frist, John [*his mark*] Riggs" and "N J Hist Soc Mss. J37, Sep. 28.1716. Deed. James Tompkins of Newark."

²⁰⁶ Jacob Janeway, General Store Accounts, FHL microfilm 888830, 479, 480, 513, 537, 539, 544, 561.

²⁰⁷ Guilford Records of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, FHL microfilm 1428110, item 3, 1:8, "Daniell Dod of gilford Elezabeth Riggs of Newworke in East Jassy weare marryed the 17 day of June in the yeare 1702 By m^r wakeman minester."

²⁰⁸ R. D. Smyth, "Descendants of John Stephens," NEHR 56 (1902): 357, has "Sarah [Stevens], b. Jan. 25, 1656-7; . . . m. Stephen Dodd of Guilford, May 18, 1678. He d. Oct. 26, 1691"; New Haven Probates, 2A:101, will of "Steeven" Dod of Guildford, deceased 26 Oct. 1691, mentions his eldest son "Daniell" and others; Guilford, New Haven Co., Conn., Deeds, 2:91-92, quitclaim 2 May 1707 by Daniel Dod of Newark, Essex Co., N.J., of all right and title to the lands and tenements in Guilford left him by his father Stephen Dod, deceased, to "my Loving Brother Samuel Dod of Guilford."

²⁰⁹ Allison Dodd and Joseph Fulford Folsom, *Genealogy and History of the Daniel Dod Family in America* (Bloomfield, N.J.: Printed by the Independent Press, 1940), 2; *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 3, Aaron "Blachly."

²¹⁰ Dodd and Folsom, *Dod Family* [*supra* note 209], 4-5, 6-7; Newark Record of Lands, 50, 53, outer lots for both "Daniell" and "Samuell" Dod; *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 8, 86; *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 1:139, for Samuel Dod of Newark, 3 Feb. 1712/3, proved 18 May 1714, mentions his cousin Daniel Dod as overseer, probably the uncle Samuel Dod and his nephew Daniel.

²¹¹ C. T. Berry, *An Historical Survey of the First Presbyterian Church, Caldwell, N.J.* (Newark: Daily Advertiser Office, 1871), 51-52, Appendix A, a transcription of the agreement. Other familiar names subscribed include Paul Day and "Atonie Olive." This area was called variously Horseneck Purchase, Van Giesen's Purchase, and eventually Caldwell.

²¹² East Jersey Deeds, A2:303-6.

²¹³ Dodd and Folsom, *Dod Family* [*supra* note 209], 12-13, cites the account book of Israel Baldwin, which ceased mentioning him after 21 Oct. 1748, but continued to use "Daniel, junior" for his cousin Daniel until 1750; *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 142, refers to "Daniel Dod, Jun'r" on 9 March 1756[/7], but not afterwards.

²¹⁴ Cory, *Lineal Ancestors* [*supra* note 4], 2:152-53; Dodd and Folsom, *Dod Family* [*supra* note 209], 13, 36-38, refers (p. 36) to son Samuel⁵ Dod as "father of the Mendham branch"; *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 2:477, 3:94, 4:86-87, 118; Helen Martha Wright, *The First Presbyterian Congregation*

- iii SAMUEL RIGGS, b. Newark say 1683; m. say 1708 REBECCA —, and had only one child, Sarah⁵ Riggs, b. say 1709, before he died (see will details following). Samuel was the second son listed in his father's will and given first choice over his brother Zophar in an equal division of his father's lands.

Samuel Riggs is not mentioned in the Newark town meeting records, but we have secondhand evidence that he bought a plot of 19 acres in Newark from Samuel Roberts on 4 May 1707, perhaps just before his marriage.²¹⁵ The same evidence informs us that Jotham Clark and his wife Sarah,²¹⁶ "sole dau. & heir of Samuel Riggs, dec'd," sold the plot to Joseph Foster of Newark in June 1734.

Samuel, a cordwainer²¹⁷ of Newark, signed his will on 31 Jan. 1709/10. It mentions "my dearly beloved Wife Rebecca by Name," "my s^d daughter [sic] Sarah Riggs by Name," and "My Loveing brother in Law Daniel Dod."²¹⁸ It was proved 16 May 1711 at which probate appeared "Rebecca Riggs E^{xtr} of the within will new wife of Joseph Bunnell."²¹⁹ Daniel Dod and Elizabeth Dod his wife were made administrators of Samuel's estate on 16 May 1712.²²⁰

- iv ZOPHER/ZOPHAR RIGGS, b. Newark say 1685. We do not follow Cory who identified this Zopher with the Zopher Riggs of Morris Co., N.J., who d.

Mendham, Morris County, New Jersey: History and Records 1738–1938 (Jersey City, N.J.: The author, 1939), 221; William Cherry, *Register of all the Deaths in the Presbyterian and Baptist Congregations of Morris-Town, New-Jersey, for the Thirty-eight Years Past: Containing (with but few exceptions) the Cause of every Decease* (Morristown: J. Mann, 1806), year 1768.

²¹⁵Gardner Essex Co. Collection [*supra* note 103], Samuel Riggs, FHL microfilm 848918, "Orig. Deed exhibited Ap 1929 by Russel Rankin June — 1734. Deed. Jotham Clark & w. Sarah late Sarah Riggs, sole dau. & heir of Samuel Riggs, dec'd, of Eliz. Town to Joseph Foster of Newark, for £45. N.J. 19A. in Newark bdd N. land fam[ily] of Thomas Lyon & other land. E. land formerly Robert Cammel's, James Clizbe, Steven Brown ← [sic, purchased from?] Samuel Riggs. S. Levy. W. land formerly of Samuel Roberts, 8ch hoad? & in length from said Levy. running the whole breadth of said Samuel Roberts land, being tract bo't by Samuel Riggs from Samuel Roberts by deed of 4 May 1707 . . ."

²¹⁶*Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 5:94, will of Jotham Clark of the Borough of Elizabeth, Essex Co., 1 April 1772, proved 7 April 1772, mentions his wife Sarah, and several children.

²¹⁷Two other Riggses are known to have been cordwainers (shoemakers): (1) Simeon Riggs, cordwainer, signed his will 23 Feb. 1798, Newark Twp., Essex Co., N.J., proved 15 April 1799, Newark (*Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 9:299); and (2) Zebulon Riggs, a "cordwinder," purchased 21 June 1773 about 32 acres from William Liddle, both of Mendham Twp., Morris Co. (Morris Co., N.J., Deeds, M:217). Both Simeon and Zebulon are claimed traditionally to be in the descent from Edward³ Riggs, consistent with Samuel⁴'s having "daughters out," and they are traditionally not brothers, so none of the three cordwainers is a direct son, brother, or father of the others, or so it is said.

²¹⁸N.J. Wills, 1:313, FHL microfilm 522714 (abstracted in *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 1:386), preceded on p. 312 with a transcription of the will of Samuel's father Joseph, dated 1 Jan. 1688/9.

²¹⁹Unrecorded Wills of N.J., 4:321-22, FHL microfilm 545495, dated "one thousand seven Hundered [sic] & nine alias ten."

²²⁰Gardner Essex Co. Collection [*supra* note 103], Samuel Riggs, "in SHC's [Congar's] Note Book p. 79 & 127. Another entry is that Daniel Dod & Elizabeth Dod his wife were made admrs of Samuel Riggs Est 1712 May 16."

intestate before 18 Oct. 1773.²²¹ It is possible, we admit, but the latter was probably too young to be Zopher⁴, as argued next.

A Zopher Riggs of Morris Co. appears in the Mendham Twp. strays records of that county in 1761 first, then in 1764 and 1770.²²² If he had just come of age in 1761, then he might have been born say 1740.²²³ He is a candidate for the Zopher who d. intestate in Morris Co. before 18 Oct. 1773. The Zopher Riggs who appears in the 1793 military records of Mendham Twp., Morris Co.,²²⁴ would necessarily have to be a second Zopher there, perhaps son of the first one. The military record suggests a 1772 birth year for the second one, about the date of death of the other Zopher (Sr.) and consistent with the older Zopher's estimated birth. Zophar (Jr.) m. (1) Morris Co. 16 April 1796 Anna Dell,²²⁵ both of Succassuna, Mendham (later Roxbury) Twp., Morris Co., then m. (2) Morris Co. 7 April 1799 Nilly Harris,²²⁶ with both Zophar and Nilly of Mendham Twp. This suggests a 1770 birth year for the younger Zophar, supporting the estimate based on his military record. Although the argument here is circumstantial at best, it suggests that Zopher of the 1773 probate is possibly, if related at all, a grandson of Zopher⁴. Finally, we have no record that Zopher⁴ ever moved to Morris County.

However, Zopher⁴ was surely the Zopher Riggs who witnessed, with (his uncle) Anthony "Olef," on 7 Dec. 1709 a deed in Newark of John Gardner and his wife Abigail to Matthew Williams.²²⁷

5 EDWARD³ RIGGS (*Edward*²⁻¹) was born say 1652, probably in Milford, the date based on his receiving his home lot in Newark on 26 May 1673.²²⁸

²²¹ Cory, *Lineal Ancestors* [*supra* note 4], 2:270; New Jersey Wills, K:553, FHL microfilm 522739, item 2 (abstracted in *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 5:424), letters of administration on the estate of Zopher Riggs of Morris Co., deceased, granted 18 Oct. 1773 to "Phebe Riggs Widow," inventory taken 19 March 1772.

²²² Helen Martha Wright, "Early Records of Mendham Township, Morris County, New Jersey, Transcribed from County and Township Minute Books" (photocopy of typescript in Morristown and Morris Twp. Public Library, 1964), 73, 77, 82, records of strays.

²²³ Congar, "Genealogical Notices" [*supra* note 1], 131, attributes a son Zopher to James Riggs "in Eliz. Town 1739," but we have found no record of him unless he was this Zopher Riggs of Morris Co. (but see sketch of James⁴ (?*Edward*³⁻¹)).

²²⁴ N.J. 1793 Militia Enrollment, FHL microfilm 531035, Mendham Twp., Morris Co., name easily mistranscribed as "Hopher"; N.J. Tax Ratables, Mendham Twp., Morris Co., Zophar/Zopher Riggs/Rigs for all years 1794–1797, with no land or 5 or fewer acres.

²²⁵ Morris Co., N.J., Marriages, FHL microfilm 1314453, item 2, A:7, "Zophar Riggs and Anna Dell both of Succasoney [*sic*] in the Township of Mendham were married on the evening of the sixteenth day of April AD 1796 by me Isaac Price Minister of the Gospel in Mendham."

²²⁶ Morris Co., N.J., Marriages, A:68, "on the 7th April AD 1799 I married Zophar Riggs to Nilly Harris both of Mendham Township, Morris County and State of New Jersey. Joshua Jennings Justice of the Peace." She is "Nilly" Harris in the margin note also, but "Nelly" in the index, FHL microfilm 1314453, item 1, the form usually used.

²²⁷ Newark Deeds, 1:108, FHL microfilm 949853, item 1, acknowledged 25 Dec. 1710.

He came to Newark with his father but was too young to have signed the Fundamental Agreements in 1666 or 1667. Edward married say 1673 MARY —,²²⁹ who was born say 1655. She died after 6 August 1700, when she was mentioned as Edward's wife in a deed, and Edward died after 7 February 1705[/6?], when he acknowledged the deed.²³⁰ "Edw^d Riggs Jun^r" was appointed as a constable for Newark on 9 February 1713/4,²³¹ and Edward "Riggs Jun^r" served on a jury on 28 April 1715 for the Essex County Court of Common Pleas,²³² implying that Edward³ was alive then (and of course suggests a son Edward⁴). A Newark town meeting record of 8 March 1714/5 supports this date.²³³ Another jury was called in Newark on 11 August 1715,²³⁴ including some of the same jurors as before but with Edward "Riggs" (not Jr.), suggesting that Edward³ might have died in the interval between 28 April and 11 August 1715.

As regards Mary's surname, Jacobus states only that Edward "married Mary, whose family name is elsewhere given as Munn, without record reference," and supplies a footnote: "A Mary Riggs was given his property by Daniel Munn of Milford in 1666, but not called wife of Edward, and perhaps more likely his sister."²³⁵ We agree.

Author Anderson recognized the wording of the Daniel Munn will as that of someone caring for his intended bride. So rather than establishing the surname of Edward's wife, the will instead suggests that Edward's sister, Mary³ Riggs, was intended to be Daniel Munn's wife when he unexpectedly died. Daniel's probate therefore establishes that Mary could not have married George Day until after 13 June 1666, and of course that it was not Mary Munn who married Edward³ as has often been claimed.

Listed in a book of quit rents for the Province of East New Jersey for the town of "New work" is a £4 quit rent paid by Edward Riggs for 15 years on a patent, dated from the "year: of Patents Last day of" 1670, 128 acres. A note on the cover page questions, "Qua[re]: if these are not reckoned from

²²⁸ Newark Record of Lands, 6; *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 49, for the date. We would push the birth year estimate back to 1650 if the "Widow Rigs Her Son" mention of 6 Jan. 1670/1 refers to Edward rather than Joseph.

²²⁹ Her name from sale of his Newark home lot in 1691 (Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 1). Strictly speaking, we do not know of Mary until this 1691 record.

²³⁰ East Jersey Deeds, C2:396, FHL microfilm 460033.

²³¹ Essex Co., N.J., Court Records, A:42, FHL microfilm 1310991, item 2.

²³² Essex Co., N.J., Court Records, A:53.

²³³ *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 127, a list of fence maintainers including Edward Riggs.

²³⁴ Essex Co., N.J., Court Records, A:57.

²³⁵ Jacobus, *Parke-Gildersleeve* [*supra* note 5], 109, 112; New Haven Probates, 1B:6, 13 June 1666, "Daniell Munne of Milford deceased" left his estate to Mary "Rigs," administration was "graunted" to her, inventory presented 12 (4) 1666 [12 June 1666].

the date of the Patent supposed 25^d March 1670 to ditto 85 (& other Later years),”²³⁶ meaning perhaps that the period covered was the 15 years from 25 March 1670 to 25 March 1685 (or perhaps 1669 to 1684). The rate works out to ½ pence per acre per year.

Edward Riggs of Newark sold “a tract of upland and fresh meadow, lying Northwest from the Town,” to John Johnson of Newark on 19 December 1679, and signed with his mark.²³⁷

In Joseph³’s sketch, we show that Edward Riggs and Joseph Riggs were granted lands on 27 September 1680 in what became South Orange Township. Shaw claims the following: “The land thus taken up by Edward Riggs, was afterward surveyed to Thomas Luddington, in 1686, on Stone House Brook. Our road history, 1705 [sic], shows that Edward Riggs’s plantation was somewhere near Millburn. It also locates a Joseph Riggs immediately in South Orange; this Joseph Riggs the writer conjectures to have been the elder son of Edward Riggs mentioned.”²³⁸ We concur that this Joseph must indeed be Joseph⁴ who came of age say 1695, but we believe that Shaw conflates two properties belonging to Edward³.

An Essex County road record for an Elizabethtown highway mentions the “Edward Riggs Plantation” in August of say 1700 (not 1705). A careful analysis of the road description²³⁹ verifies the claim in Shaw that Edward

²³⁶ New Jersey Quit Rents, 1:4, FHL microfilm 946001, item 5, “[years] 15 [year of patent last day of] 1670 Edward Riggs [acres] 128 [quit rent] 4.00.0.”

²³⁷ Newark Record of Lands, 1705–1735, 2:27, FHL microfilm 944854, item 3.

²³⁸ Shaw, *Essex and Hudson* [supra note 198], 2:780, 2:784f, 1802 map of South Orange Twp., showing a Luddington Brook flowing into the Rahway, near where the Joseph Riggs 1705 label appears in the 1802 map. The map also has a plot labeled “Thomas Luddington 1686.” On p. 2:787, Shaw gives this description: “A record of a survey bearing date 21 April, 1686, is made for Thomas Luddington for forty-five acres (by Town Surveyor, formerly laid out to Edward Riggs). The land was bounded with Nathaniel Wheeler south, one hundred and twenty rods, common north, one hundred and twenty rods, common west, seventy-two rods, common east, fifty-two rods. Also . . . Seventeen acres adjoining the above one hundred and thirty-six by twenty rods. Nathaniel Wheeler and his own land east, Common north, on the backside of the hill towards Rahway River, west common south, on Upper Chestnut hill.”

²³⁹ Essex Co., N.J., Road Records, AB:1, FHL microfilm 913955, “Highways and Roads laid out by [blank] for Elizabethtown in the County of Essex Aug [blank] One Public, General and Common High Way beginning at the Northeast corner of Richard Bakers House Lots running north over Crane’s Brook, as the old road runs to Mr. Willocks lines. Thence a long between the land of Mr Willocks and Jacob Mitchell taking four rods in breadth out of the south end of Mr. Willocks orchard and at the north east corner of the s^d orchard four rod [interlined “out”] of the land of Jacob Mitchell. Thence along the new bridge to the old road. Thence along the old road till it comes to a line of marked trees, thence as the mark’d trees run till it comes to the Old Road, thence along the Old Road till it comes to the South Branch of the Town River. Thence along the North side of Benjamin Wade’s dwelling house, thence along the South side of Benjamine Wade Jun^s House, thence along by a line of mark’d trees over Raway River, thence along by a line of mark’d trees till it comes to Minisink at the rear of Edwards Riggs Plantation.” The preceding record (no. 1) is dated 3 Dec. 1698, and record no. 5 (p. 3) is dated 8 Oct. 1705.

Riggs was located about 1705 [sic] in what is now Millburn Township on the western branch of the Rahway.²⁴⁰ This cannot be the Luddington property in what is now Maplewood, which lies near the eastern branch of the Rahway. It appears that Edward³ first removed from Newark to where the Luddington property later was, sold it to Luddington in 1686, then took the “plantation” further west into what is now Millburn Township sometime before say 1700. That is, he moved from Newark city to Newark Township (the part that became South Orange Township) and then to Elizabethtown Township (the part that became Millburn Township).

On 29 June 1686, Edward “Rigg,” a “planter” of Newark, Essex County, sold to Enock Macheelson of Bergen, Bergen County, 60 acres of upland located in Newark on the “Pissaik” River and 8 acres of meadow located on the bay, “the same were granted to me by Pattent from S^r George Carterett.”²⁴¹ “Edward Riggs, & Mary his wife” of Newark sold his Newark home lot to John Browne of Newark on 8 April 1691.²⁴² This is the first we know of Mary.

In a book of New Jersey quit rents charged up to 25 March 1696 and received in London by July 1697, is a record for a charge to Edward Riggs for 68 acres at ½ pence per acre in Newark. The total quit rent paid of £3.5.1 works out to be rent for about 23 years, so 25 March 1673 to 25 March 1696 (or perhaps 1672 to 1695). A clerical note appended below the entry, in a different handwriting, states, “his son Edward lives upon the home lott the father lives in Elizabeth Town.”²⁴³ This proves the existence of son Edward⁴ and that he had taken the home lot in Newark, with Edward³ moving to Elizabethtown. We have shown that this probably refers to Elizabethtown Township, not the city itself, and that Edward³ moved there sometime before say 1700, according to the road record.

The Newark town records mention Edward seven times in the interval from 26 May 1673 to 9 January 1687/8.²⁴⁴ Edward Riggs is not mentioned

So this record, no. 2, is dated Aug. say 1700. Records no. 3 and no. 4 are not dated. An old Indian path from Navisink to Minisink ran through Essex Co. and is noted on several old maps as the Minisink Trail. It is depicted on a 1682 map of East Jersey (McGrath, *Newark Mountain* [*supra* note 197], 125) running roughly north, just west of the upper reaches of the Rahway River, crossing the south branch of the Rahway near the mountain west of Elizabethtown. Thus Edward Riggs’s plantation would have been located in Elizabethtown Twp. in what is now Millburn Twp.

²⁴⁰ Shaw, *Essex and Hudson* [*supra* note 198], 2:780.

²⁴¹ East Jersey Deeds, F:101-2, FHL microfilm 460030.

²⁴² Newark Town Book [*supra* note 107], 1.

²⁴³ New Jersey Quit Rents, 3:21, FHL microfilm 946001, item 7, “Edward Riggs—D^t. | To 68 Ac: at 1/2^d pr:Ac:to Mar: 1696—£.3".5".1.”

²⁴⁴ *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 49, 77, 80, 87, 93, 98, 102.

there again for over 27 years, until his probable mention on 8 March 1714/5.²⁴⁵ From the following records it is clear that Edward³ had moved west of Newark to the mountain (and as we have shown, subsequently westward to Millburn Township).

At a council of the proprietors of East New Jersey held at Perth Amboy on 10 April 1696, it was agreed to grant land to “old settlers,” including a grant to “Edward Riggs and Hanna Thompson 100 acres at 6 pence per annum quit rent, in the right of their father, Edward Riggs.”²⁴⁶ These two were Edward³ Riggs and Hannah (Browne) (Riggs) Thompson, the wife of Joseph³ Riggs, deceased.

At a proprietors meeting held on 24 March 1762, Daniel Riggs requested that the 100 acres, “adjoining the mountains” and occupied continuously for 65 years by Edward³, “his son” Joseph⁴, and the said Daniel (thus heir and son of Joseph⁴), be officially recognized as the 100 acres granted in 1696.²⁴⁷ The problem was analyzed by a committee who reported these details:

They also find that in Book O, Fol: 153, a warrant issued to the Surveyor General to lay out for Hannah Thomson and Edward Riggs, one hundred acres within the bounds of Newark in pursuance of the said order, but the records being searched, no Surveyor patent was to be found thereon for the said one hundred acres to them or either of them.²⁴⁸

The problem came to a head because the 100 acres upon which Edward³ and Joseph⁴ had lived was surveyed to John Rothead (Book S:76), who then tried unsuccessfully in 1730 to evict Joseph Riggs from the land.²⁴⁹ The proprietors agreed on 25 March 1762 to let Daniel⁵ Riggs, as representative of Hannah and Edward and current occupant of the land, have the 100 acres in question for backpayment of all quit rents due and for Thomas Bartow, representing John Rothead, to be given 100 acres elsewhere.²⁵⁰

Edward Riggs of Newark “with the consent of Mary my wife” sold 12 acres of Newark meadow upland to Thomas Davis of Newark on 6 August

²⁴⁵ *Town Records of Newark* [supra note 82], 102-27. No Riggs is mentioned in the interval.

²⁴⁶ *Board of Proprietors, Eastern Division, N.J.* [supra note 120], 1:222-23.

²⁴⁷ *Board of Proprietors, Eastern Division, N.J.* [supra note 120], 3:366-67.

²⁴⁸ *Board of Proprietors, Eastern Division, N.J.* [supra note 120], 3:368-69.

²⁴⁹ N.J. Supreme Court Files, case 32993, *John Smith and John Rothead vs. John Miles and Joseph Riggs*, note by “your friend” John Miles dated 3 Nov. 1730 warns Joseph Riggs, tenant in possession of the premises in question “or Some part thereof” that Joseph is to be turned out of the premises, described as 120 acres of arable land, 120 acres of woodland, 120 acres of meadow, and 120 acres of pasture lying “between the Top a [sic] Ridge of the Mountain commonly called the North Mountain & the Eastren [sic] Branch of Raway [sic] River in the County of Essex.” The 1802 map of Shaw, *Essex and Hudson* [supra note 198], 2:784f, shows a parcel in approximately this location labeled “Joseph Riggs 1705.”

²⁵⁰ *Board of Proprietors, Eastern Division, N.J.* [supra note 120], 3:370-71.

1700. The land, called Pine Meadows, lay between the Second and Third Rivers in what is now the Belleville/Bloomfield/Montclair area of the Oranges.²⁵¹ Since Edward was still alive on 7 February 1705[/6?], when he acknowledged this deed, it might have been he who witnessed on 21 January 1708/9 the will of William Brant of Elizabethtown, proved 13 May 1725,²⁵² supported by both Edward's deed of 1700 and Brant's will being signed by Edward with the same mark.²⁵³

We introduce at this juncture an underappreciated possible source for the Edward³ branch mentioned in the Charles Carroll Gardner Collection in his transcription of a 1928 letter from Miss Edith Tuller Riggs. She transcribed (in turn) into this letter old manuscript genealogies held by her family.²⁵⁴ We shall refer collectively to these old genealogies, apparently held by some member of the Riggs family in 1928 but as yet undiscovered by us, as source X. Comparison of otherwise unattested family members in Congar, Wallace, and Miss Riggs's manuscript suggests that all had access to source X, although the discrepancies among the three suggest they each came at the materials separately. Our problems with this source are detailed in several paragraphs below. A summary is that either (1) we have not been able to find the persons mentioned in it, or (2) if we have found them, we have been unsuccessful in proving their relationships to the Riggs family. This of course does not apply to the names and relationships we have proved here, which are not contradicted by the unseen source.

²⁵¹ East Jersey Deeds, C2:396, FHL microfilm 460033; Shaw, *Essex and Hudson* [*supra* note 198], 858f, Bloomfield Twp. map.

²⁵² Essex Co., N.J., Probate Records, 313-314G, FHL microfilm 545455; abstracted in *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 1:58.

²⁵³ See comments [*supra* note 200].

²⁵⁴ Gardner N.J. Families Collection, Riggs, FHL microfilm 849569. The pages labeled by Gardner, "Copied from Original Manuscript by Edith Tuller Riggs, February 1928, Elmira, N.Y. [the 'original manuscript' was a chart prepared by her father [*sic*] Rev. Joseph L. Riggs]." From Miss Riggs's 2-page cover letter, "Each separate sheet was in a different style of script and they differed radically in the style & character of script & printing on the Bible record of my great grandfather & great grandmother Rev. Elias Riggs & Margaret Congar Hudson married June 14, 1808." Thus many hands were involved in the lists she transcribed (none of which, curiously, had dates, as she states), the hands all differing from the one used in the Bible of her ancestor Rev. Elias Riggs. Gardner's label is given above with the bracketed extension about Rev. Joseph L. Riggs obtained from the portion of the Edith Tuller Riggs manuscript that Gardner filed under the "Daniel & Mary (Riggs) Morris" family in this collection, FHL microfilm 849567. Joseph L. Riggs (1809–1875) was son of Elias, so Joseph was Edith's grandfather, not father.

Children of Edward³ Riggs, prob. with wife Mary —, two proved, two possible (James and Samuel).²⁵⁵

- i EDWARD⁴ RIGGS, b. Newark, N.J., say 1674.²⁵⁶ We list him as first child because he inherited the Newark home lot. His birth year estimate comes then from his brother Joseph's birth year. Wallace states that in 1708 Edward settled near Basking Ridge, Somerset Co., N.J., and that the "only record extant concerning him and his family is that of a road record, which located him at the end of the mountain and near the village of Milburn."²⁵⁷ But this is surely the August, say 1700, road record mentioned earlier, which refers to Edward³, not Edward⁴. We have found no record of Edward Riggs in Somerset Co. in 1708 (or in Middlesex Co., a portion of which was added to Somerset Co. in 1710).

The Newark town meeting record of 8 March 1714/5 listing Edward Riggs, probably Edward³, has been previously mentioned. The next mention of an Edward Riggs in the Newark town meeting records is 15 years later, on 16 March 1729/30,²⁵⁸ possibly of Edward⁴. An Edward Riggs is mentioned in the Janeway account book of Somerset Co. from April 1736 to Jan. 1744[5],²⁵⁹ consistent with the Newark town records, suggesting a

²⁵⁵ Congar, "Genealogical Notices" [*supra* note 1], 131, states, "*trad.* says he had Joseph, Edward, James, Samuel John [*sic*], Anna Gage, Mary Lindsley, Martha Freeman, Elizabeth Lyon, and Charity" (emphasis added and 'Samuel John' presumably being 'Samuel[,] John'). We have found no evidence of the last six. Wallace lists the putative children in this order (also Jacobus, citing Wallace), with no evidence: Anna, James, Mary, Edward, John, Joseph, Martha, Elizabeth, Samuel, Charity, but expands only James, Edward, John, Joseph, and Samuel. Wallace has John married 19 May 1705 to Frances Colburn, "license at Trenton." We found a record of this license in New York City (Kenneth Scott, "New York Marriage Licenses, 1639–1706," *New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* [NYGBR] 98 (1967): 90; also John S. Gautier, "New York Marriage Licenses," NYGBR 2 [1871]: 27) but have no reason to associate this John with the Newark-based Riggs family. The Edith Tuller Riggs manuscript [*supra* note 254] transcription of the old family genealogies lists these children for Edward: Joseph, Edward, James, Samuel, John, Anna (married J. Gage), Mary (married Jos. Lindsly), Martha (married S. Freeman), Elizabeth (married Jon Lyon), and Charity (married John Bowers). This is remarkably the same list, in the same order, as that of Congar, "Genealogical Notices" [*supra* note 1], except Congar omits Charity's married surname *Bowers* and has no first names for the husbands of the daughters. Wallace has exactly the same list as Miss Riggs, with exactly the same full husband names, but in different order, and he supplies full names for the wives of the sons, completely missing from Miss Riggs's manuscript (and hence presumably the old family genealogies) and from Congar.

²⁵⁶ Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [*supra* note 3], 7, claims that Edward⁴ married about 1692 an Aphia Stoughton, but we have found no record of her or the marriage, and the Edith Tuller Riggs manuscript [*supra* note 254] does not mention it.

²⁵⁷ Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [*supra* note 3], 7. Basking Ridge is next to Bernardsville in Somerset Co., about 5 and 4 miles, respectively, from Mendham, Morris Co. Modern Millburn is in Essex Co., about a mile and a half west of Maplewood, and 13 miles from Basking Ridge.

²⁵⁸ *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 127, 130.

²⁵⁹ Janeway Accounts [*supra* note 206], 600, 5 April 1736, Edward Riggs, 679, 16 Oct. 1736, Edward "Rigs," 849, 12 Jan. 1744/5, Edward Riggs (with David Riggs). The Janeway records for David Riggs are 484, 27 June 1735, David "Rigs," 677, 11 Oct. 1736, David "Rigs," 849, Jan. 1744/5, David Riggs (with Edward Riggs), and David "Rigg's." The Janeway accounts for the Riggses are abstracted in Kenn Stryker-Rodda, "The Janeway Account Books, 1735–1746," GMNJ 33 (1958): 84.

move to Somerset Co. about 1730, much later than the 1708 given by Wallace. The will of Rev. John Cross of Basking Ridge, Somerset Co., dated 23 May 1739, mentions a “yong mare colt that now runs at Edward Riggs’s.”²⁶⁰ But another possibility is that Edward Riggs of Somerset Co. was Edward⁵, son of Edward⁴, the father remaining in Essex Co. We have no proof that Edward⁴ had a son Edward⁵, however.

Edward Riggs and David Riggs (perhaps Edward⁴’s son, or perhaps both were his sons) appear separately in a list of persons, filed 9 Oct. 1750, owing funds to the estate of Ann Haines of Morris Co., deceased, for purchases made at the sale of her moveable estate. The inventory of Ann’s estate was recorded in Morris Co. on 6 Dec. 1742.²⁶¹ Both Edward and David Riggs appear in the same record in the Janeway account book of Somerset Co., 12 Jan. 1744/5.²⁶² Additionally Thomas Riggs and John Riggs were also listed in the Janeway account book at about the same time.²⁶³ Nothing definitively proves any of these to have been Edward⁴’s children or siblings of one another, although a record of 1737 or 1738 associates David Riggs with Basking Ridge, supposedly Edward⁴’s home.²⁶⁴

Congar gives Edward “traditionally” three sons, and Wallace and Miss Riggs give him a daughter.²⁶⁵ None of them lists John Riggs of Somerset Co. as a son.²⁶⁶ We have found evidence of the four putative children and their spouses,²⁶⁷ but are unable to establish a connection to Edward⁴ for any of them. This is the second of several instances in this paper where we report that we have been unable to corroborate the information, apparently from source X, in Congar, Wallace, and the Edith Tuller Riggs manuscript.

²⁶⁰ N.J. Wills, E:227-29, quotation on p. 228.

²⁶¹ Morris Co., N.J., Wills, 35N, abstracted in *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 2:209.

²⁶² Janeway Accounts [*supra* note 206], 849, “David Riggs D’ To Edward Riggs [?] assignment y^e 12th Jan[uar]y,” a delivery of David Riggs to Edward Riggs, probably a neighbor.

²⁶³ Janeway Accounts [*supra* note 206], 549, 4 Dec. 1735, Thomas “Rigs,” 679, 16 Oct. 1736, Thomas “Rigs,” 681, 19 Oct. 1736, Thomas “Rigs,” and 827, 11 Jan. 1737/8, Thomas “Rigs.” Those records for John Riggs are 479, 16 June 1735, John “Rigs,” 480, 18 June 1735, John “Rigs,” 513, 12 Sept. 1735, John “Rigs,” 537, 15 Nov. 1735, John “Rigs,” 539, 19 Nov. 1735, “Jn^o Rigs,” 544, 25 Nov. 1735, John “Rigs,” and 561, 29 Dec. 1735, “Jn^o Rigs.” It is possible that this John Riggs was John⁴ (Joseph³), who disappears from the Newark records in 1716, but the circumstances argue that he was a son of Edward⁴.

²⁶⁴ Gardner N.J. Families Collection, David Riggs, FHL microfilm 849569, “June 24 1737 [1738?] Letter from John Doty, Baskingridge, to James Alexander Esq., complaining that David Riggs claims to have lot from E. T. [Elizabethtown] part of the land the writer lives on—& asks protection from J. A. (NYHSM – Alex’r mss. 2:136. NYHSM = New York Historical Society manuscript).”

²⁶⁵ Congar, “Genealogical Notices” [*supra* note 1], 131, states, “Edward, jr., living in 1715, *trad.* fath. of Thomas, Joseph, and David” (emphasis added). Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [*supra* note 3], 7, adds a daughter Mary who married Daniel Morris; the Edith Tuller Riggs manuscript [*supra* note 254] has exactly the same information as Wallace.

²⁶⁶ See Janeway Accounts [*supra* note 206], details at [*supra* note 263].

²⁶⁷ *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 2:118, 5:282, 399, 424, 6:99-100, 9:299; N.J. Supreme Court Files, case 1122, 1738, David Riggs of Basking Ridge; Gardner Essex Co. Collection [*supra* note 103], Thomas Riggs, FHL microfilm 848918, “An all but illegible entry in Rev. John Prudden’s almanac seems to show that in May 1711 or 1712 his scholars included Tho Riggs & possibly Joseph.”

We are comfortable with the notion that Edward, Thomas, David, and John of Somerset were brothers, since their records there are simultaneous, but we have no proof.

- ii JOSEPH RIGGS, b. Newark ca. 1676, d. 11 Sept. 1744, aged 68, and bur. in the Old Burying Ground, Orange, Essex Co., N.J.²⁶⁸ He m. SARAH —, b. ca. 1684, d. 17 June 1735, aged 51, and bur. next to her husband.²⁶⁹

An East Jersey deed to Jasper “Craine” of Newark on 6 Jan. 1697/8 mentions that one of the lots was bounded on the south by the Second River and Joseph Riggs,²⁷⁰ so Joseph had land which was part of or near the land in the same area, between the Second and Third Rivers, described in the deed executed by Edward³ Riggs and Mary his wife on 6 Aug. 1700.

The Newark town meeting record has nine entries prob. corresponding to Joseph⁴, from 8 March 1714/5 to 14 March 1737/8.²⁷¹ A doctor’s bill, dated 11 April 1742, for one visit by Dr. Ichabod Burnet to Joseph “Rigds” might apply to Joseph⁴ Riggs as he neared death.²⁷²

William H. Shaw mentions Joseph’s 1744 account book:

Daniel Riggs, the fourth son of Joseph, was apparently appointed to settle the estate after the death of his father, and although only twenty-years old, his book of accounts shows that his education had not been neglected, and that he possessed a method or capacity for transacting business.

The first entry in the book is as follows: “September ye 28th, 1744. Then, in consideration of eighteen pence per pound, I am to settle accmpts with people and receive what is due” [followed by a long list of residents of the area, including Joseph Riggs and Sarah Riggs (who cannot be Joseph⁴’s wife, who died in 1735)].²⁷³

A deed dated 4 June 1796 in which Joseph, Parmenas, and Benjamin Riggs sold about a quarter of their inherited “Land on the Mountain” to Jeremiah Baker, explains that the land was located in “Roxberry in the County of Morris.”²⁷⁴ Daniel⁵ Riggs of Newark, by his will of 31 Oct. 1786, left lands in Mendham and Roxbury Twps., Morris Co., to his sons

²⁶⁸ Warren Patten Coon, “Gravestone Records from Old Burying Ground, Orange, Essex County,” GMNJ 4 (1928): 159, “Riggs, Joseph, d. Sept. 11, 1744, in 69th year; wife Sarah, d. June 17, 1735, in 52nd year.”

²⁶⁹ She is probably the Sarah “Rigs” who witnessed the will of James Browne of Newark on 15 June 1719 (*Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 1:66), in which case perhaps there was a family connection.

²⁷⁰ East Jersey Deeds, F:517-18, “A tract on the North side of the Second River, . . . bounded South by the sayd Second River, & Joseph Riggs, west by the Wigwam brooke.”

²⁷¹ *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 127, 129-33.

²⁷² Gardner N.J. Families Collection, Joseph Riggs, FHL microfilm 849569, “April 11, 1742, in a bill of Dr. Ichabod Burnet to Amos Williams for medical services, three of the items are for visits to A. W.’s son, at 7 sh., and one is for one visit to Joseph Rigds [*sic*], at 6 sh. No details as to the latter, except the date (NJHSM-EJ:42. NJHSM = N.J. Historical Society manuscript).”

²⁷³ Shaw, *Essex and Hudson* [*supra* note 198], 2:781.

²⁷⁴ Morris Co., N.J., Ancient Deeds, 1:254-56, FHL microfilm 961297. Supported by Daniel Riggs’s will.

“Permenas”⁶ and Benjamin⁶.²⁷⁵ So the “Mountain” in the 1796 deed is not Watchung Mountain near the Oranges, but rather a mountain in Morris Co.

The Joseph Riggs of the 4 June 1796 deed with Parmenas and Benjamin must be another heir of Joseph⁴, who d. in 1744, since a family Bible establishing the children of Daniel⁵ does not list a Joseph.²⁷⁶ This implies that Joseph⁵ Riggs was son of Joseph⁴.

Joseph⁵ Riggs (c1720–1799)²⁷⁷ of Orange advertised in the *New Jersey Journal*, Elizabethtown, 5 March 1783, several tracts for sale including: (1) 148 well-timbered acres in Morris Co.; (2) “25 acres on the first mountain above Daniel Riggs’s”; (3) 7.5 acres of salt meadow at Plumb’s Point in Newark; and (4) 3 acres of salt meadow in Elizabethtown.²⁷⁸ These land transactions demonstrate that at some time the Joseph⁴ Riggs family obtained land in Morris Co., although there is no evidence that Joseph⁴ himself ever lived there.

On 1 Jan. 1754 in Newark, widow Elizabeth Riggs of Newark renounced administration of the estate of her late husband Miles of Newark, who had died intestate, in favor of “Joseph Riggs Jun^r Brother of said Miles Riggs,” in the presence of Sarah Riggs. This Joseph is referred to as “Jr.” because of Joseph Riggs of Newark, b. say 1703, d. 1776–1779,²⁷⁹ who is claimed to be son of Edward⁴. Joseph Riggs Jr. was appointed administrator with fellow bondsman Daniel Riggs of Newark. Joseph presented an inventory of the estate on 14 Jan. 1754, witnessed by Gideon Riggs.²⁸⁰ So Miles⁵ Riggs was another son of Joseph⁴, and it is possible that Gideon was another and Sarah was their sister.

An 1802 plat map of the part of the Oranges next to Watchung Mountain now called Maplewood has a parcel labeled “Joseph Riggs 1705” and a nearby parcel labeled “Jos. Riggs, Jr. 1756.” Another plat map of the area has a parcel labeled “Phebe Terrill by will from her father Daniel Riggs 1744” and nearby adjacent parcels labeled “Joseph Riggs 1782” and

²⁷⁵ N.J. Probates, Essex Co., 6418G-6419G, abstracted in *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 7:189, signed 31 Oct. 1786, Newark, proved 13 Dec. 1786, leaves lands in Mendham Twp. and Roxbury Twp., Morris Co., to his sons “Perminas” and Benjamin. The will also left land in Daniel’s “home stet” between “the Mountain” and the “Rawway river,” hence in the Oranges and probably South Orange Twp., to Permenas and Benjamin.

²⁷⁶ Gardner N.J. Families Collection, Riggs, FHL microfilm 849569, transcription from a Bible dated 1769 and owned in 1937 by R. Judson Riggs, 310 Market St., Philadelphia, Pa., with Gardner’s note, “Bible marked ‘Benjamin Riggs his Book’ and the entries are nearly all in the same hand and apparently written at the same time.” Among the five sons listed for Daniel Riggs are “Permenas” and Benjamin.

²⁷⁷ *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 9:298-99, will of Joseph Riggs, Newark, 31 Jan. 1798, proved 29 Aug. 1799, names his wife and children; Congar, “Genealogical Notices” [*supra* note 1], 131, states that he died 25 June 1799, aged 79.

²⁷⁸ Thomas B. Wilson, *Notices from New Jersey Newspapers, 1781–1790, Records of New Jersey, Volume 1* (Lambertville, N.J.: Hunterdon House, 1998), 158.

²⁷⁹ *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 5:424, will dated 13 Dec. 1776, Newark, proved 14 April 1779.

²⁸⁰ N.J. Probates, Essex Co., 2139G-2146G; N.J. Probates, F:229; *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 3:268.

“Cyrenus Riggs 1782.”²⁸¹ Phebe⁶ (Riggs) Terrill was daughter of Daniel⁵, and Cyrenus⁶ Riggs was son of Joseph⁵.²⁸²

Joseph is “traditionally” given six sons by Congar and eleven children by Wallace (repeated by Jacobus).²⁸³ We have evidence of at least five of these putative children and their spouses at the right times and places,²⁸⁴ and of them have proved Miles⁵, Joseph, and Daniel to be Joseph’s children (with evidence that Gideon and Sarah were probably two others). However, we have been unable to prove that all eleven were Joseph’s children, nor even all six claimed by Congar. This is surprising considering how definitely Zebulon of Mendham, Morris Co., is said to have been a son of Joseph⁴.²⁸⁵

- iii (possibly) JAMES RIGGS, b. say 1679; m. say 1710 a granddaughter of William Oliver. Genealogist David Kendall Martin has argued that James Riggs perhaps m. a daughter of William and Mary (Ackerly) Oliver b. say 1670, m. by 1710 to James, but his argument was based on Wallace’s estimate of 1664

²⁸¹ Shaw, *Essex and Hudson* [supra note 198], 2:780, 782, 784, maps. The map on p. 784 is a copy made in 1884 by Lewis P. Taylor, South Orange, N.J., of an original map dated 28 June 1802 in a note written on the map. “Milburn” Twp. abuts South Orange Twp. (location of modern Maplewood) in the map on p. 780 also drawn by Lewis P. Taylor.

²⁸² *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [supra note 122], 7:189, 9:298-99.

²⁸³ Congar, “Genealogical Notices” [supra note 1], 131, “Joseph Riggs bur. at Orange, d. 11th Sep. 1744, a. 69; trad. fath. of Gideon, Zebulon, Joseph, Daniel, Josiah, and Miles” (emphasis added); Jacobus, *Parke-Gildersleeve* [supra note 5], 109, cites Wallace; Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [supra note 3], 9, list of 11 children, including Sarah, is introduced with these not very comforting words, “Mr. Conger [sic], by tradition, gives him six sons, but from one of his descendants we have a list embracing seven sons and four daughters. This list contains evident marks of authenticity, and we do not hesitate to adopt it in preference to that of Mr. Conger.” We have found evidence for five (possibly six) of them. Jacobus (citing Wallace) contains these two suspiciously identical entries: “Josiah, b. abt. 1703; d. 1798 (will 31 Jan., pvd. 29 Aug., 1798); m. abt. 1745, Abigail —,” and “Joseph, b. abt. 1720; d. 1798 (will 21 Jan., pvd. 29 Aug., 1798); m. abt. 1745, Abigail —,” which we take to be just one person, Joseph. The Edith Tuller Riggs manuscript [supra note 254] has the same list as Wallace, but in different order and with slight differences in husbands’ names for the four daughters (Hadden for Hedden, Jos. Roberts for Thomas Roberts, a husband Ed Hadden for Dinah where Wallace has none).

²⁸⁴ S. Whitney Phoenix, *The Whitney Family of Connecticut* (New York: Bradford Press, 1878), 23-24, 48-49; *History of the First Presbyterian Church, Morristown, N.J., Part II, The Combined Registers From 1742 to 1885* (Morristown, 1885), FHL fiche 6052174; Cherry, *Register of all Deaths, Morristown* [supra note 214], 57; Henry W. Pilch, “Morris County,” GMNJ 16 (1941): 60-61, “List of Freeholders of Morris County, Augt 31 1752”; Helen Martha Wright, “Mendham Cemeteries, Old and New, Morris County, New Jersey with Inscriptions from the First Presbyterian Churchyard and the Mendham Cemetery Association, 1747/8 through 1946” (photocopy of typescript in Morristown Public Library, 1952), 129; *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [supra note 122], 4:64, 5:67-68, 9:298-99; Daniel Riggs Bible [supra note 276]; “Records of Marriages, Baptisms, and Deaths in East Hampton, L.I., from 1696 to 1747,” NYGBR 24 (1893): 193.

²⁸⁵ The earliest reference to this relationship we have found is John Littell, *Family Records, or Genealogies of the First Settlers of Passaic Valley (and Vicinity) above Chatham* (Feltville, N.J.: D. Felt, 1851), 341, “Three brothers by the name of Riggs lived in Massachusetts, and removed from there to Connecticut. Edward Riggs, one of the three, removed from Connecticut to Newark, N.J. and had a son Joseph Riggs, who lived and died in Orange, and he was the father of Zebulon Riggs.” We believe that two of the Riggs brothers lived in Mass. but the third did not, namely Edward, and that two of the brothers removed from Conn. to N.J., not one.

for James's birth. We argue that James was younger, which meshes with Martin's further argument: "If James Riggs were a younger man, born say in the 1680s, I would consider his wife a granddaughter rather than a daughter of William and Jane (Ackerly) Oliver."²⁸⁶ We have no proof that James⁴ was a son of Edward³, but James's association with Elizabethtown (as shown in some of the following paragraphs) is consistent at least with Edward's known presence there.

There is a 16 Aug. 1710 mention of James Riggs in the Essex County Court of Common Pleas records, the case of *William Luker vs. James Riggs*.²⁸⁷ There are six further references to James Riggs in the Essex Co. court records during the period 16 Sept. 1726 and 11 Jan. 1736/7.²⁸⁸

An inventory, dated 29 April 1730, of the estate of John Blanchard, who wrote his will in Elizabethtown 6 April 1730, lists bonds due from many persons, including James "Rigs."²⁸⁹ On 14 July 1732, an inventory of the personal estate of Joseph Meeker of Elizabethtown lists a bill of James Riggs, among many others. Meeker wrote his will 28 Feb. 1731.²⁹⁰

On 1 May 1738, James "Rig" was listed as an heir in an agreement between the heirs of Sarah Coddington, a widow who wrote her will in Elizabethtown 4 May 1738. The agreement listed James "Rig" among the many heirs. In the account of the administrators of an estate auction for Sarah, many of the heirs names again appear, including James Riggs.²⁹¹

Congar states, "James, in Eliz. town 1739; had John, Simeon, Zopher, Prudence Osborn, Eunice Lambert, and Eliz. Pierson."²⁹² Congar noticeably omits the word "traditionally" that he normally uses for this generation of the family. Wallace and the Edith Tuller Riggs manuscript have essentially the same list but augmented with spouse names and, in the case of Wallace, dates.²⁹³ Nevertheless, we have found no corroborating evidence for the existence of Prudence or Eunice, or their putative spouses. We have evidence of the three putative sons and the putative daughter Elizabeth and of

²⁸⁶ David Kendall Martin, "The Oliver Connection," *GMNJ* 56 (1981): 1-10, at 8.

²⁸⁷ Essex Co., N.J., Court Records, A:9.

²⁸⁸ Essex Co., N.J., Court Records, B:42, 16 Sept. 1726, "*Rood*" *Winans vs. Jam: Riggs*, which was continued to, B:45, 10 Dec. 1726, *Conrad Winans vs. James Riggs*, B:122, 15 April 1730, *James Riggs vs. John Stites*, B:352, 11 Jan. 1736/7, Newark, *James Riggs vs. Lambert van Camp*, B:371, jury trial preliminaries, *James Riggs vs. Lambert Decamp*, B:373, *James Riggs vs. Lambert Decamp*, jury finds for the plaintiff.

²⁸⁹ *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 2:48.

²⁹⁰ *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 2:330.

²⁹¹ *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 2:102. David Kendall Martin's paper [*supra* note 286] is based on a careful analysis of this will.

²⁹² Congar, "Genealogical Notices" [*supra* note 1], 131. Note the mention of a second Zopher.

²⁹³ Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [*supra* note 3], 9, credits Congar for his list of children but inexplicably drops Simeon. The Edith Tuller Riggs manuscript [*supra* note 254] genealogy transcription matches exactly that of Wallace except that her list contains Simeon, and she spells his brother's name Zophar; both supply full husband names for the daughters, and both have one of them without a first name, Mr. Lambert, again implying they had a common source.

some of their spouses,²⁹⁴ but again nothing which definitively proves they were indeed children of James. We have no proof, in fact, that James had children.

- iv (possibly) SAMUEL RIGGS, b. near Newark say 1681. He is said to have been the father of four sons, three of whom moved to N.C.²⁹⁵ This branch is the most weakly presented in all of Wallace, “Nothing of record has come to my knowledge concerning this member of the family.” He lists Samuel’s children as Edward, Timothy, Reuben, and Samuel, stating, “Tradition has assigned to this Samuel the following four sons, but I will not attempt to approximate their dates.”²⁹⁶ We have found evidence of the four putative sons and some of their spouses, and have associated three of the men with Morris Co. and N.C.²⁹⁷ But again we have been unable to prove that the putative sons were indeed sons of Samuel, nor indeed that Samuel was the father’s name. Furthermore, we have no proof that Samuel⁴ was a son of Edward³. However, there is evidence that a Samuel Riggs did exist at about the right time and place, as explained next.

The Essex Co. court records contain four cases against Samuel Riggs between 17 Sept. 1725 and 19 June 1729: (1) Essex County Court of Common Pleas, Newark, 17 Sept. 1725, *Gov^r John Siett [sic] vs. Samuel Riggs*; (2) same court, 10 Dec. 1725, *Gov. John Schiett vs. Sam^l Riggs*; (3) Essex County Court of General Sessions, 22 Feb. 1727/8, *Tho^s Snider vs. Sam^l Riggs*; and (4) 19 June 1729, *W^m: Williamson vs. Sam^l: Riggs*.²⁹⁸

²⁹⁴ Helen Martha Wright, “Early Records of Mendham Township, Morris County, New Jersey, Transcribed from County and Township Minute Books” (photocopy of typescript in Morristown Public Library, 1964), 29, 43, 44, 73, 77, 82, 87; Helen Martha Wright, “All of the Names of Those Receiving Ear Marks Recorded in Book I, Copied by Helen M. Wright 1932,” in Helen Martha Wright, ed., *Mendham and Neighboring Townships, Morris County, New Jersey* (Jersey City, N.J.: Bergen Chapter, D.A.R., 1935), 13 (transcript of p. 1:5); *Calendar of N.J. Wills* [*supra* note 122], 5:424, 8:285, 9:299; Lizzie B. Pierson, *Pierson Genealogical Records* (Albany, N.Y., 1878), 36, 77; Whittemore, *Founders of the Oranges* [*supra* note 188], 101; Wickes, *History of the Oranges* [*supra* note 119], 142, 306.

²⁹⁵ The Edith Tuller Riggs manuscript [*supra* note 254] lists the children of Samuel as Edward, Samuel, Timothy, and Reuben. A bracket surrounds the first three, with “N. Carolina” as its label. A bracket around the Reuben alone is labeled “Morris.” There are no dates. In her cover letter, Miss Riggs states, “That clears Mr Wallace’s supposition about Timothy – Genealogy of the Riggs Family Samuel Riggs 15 page 10.”

²⁹⁶ Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [*supra* note 3], 10, “I have fixed upon him [Samuel] as the altogether probable father of Timothy that went to North Carolina.”

²⁹⁷ *Morristown Combined Register* [*supra* note 284]; Dorothee Hughes Carousso, “Records of the Hanover Presbyterian Church,” *GMNJ* 44 (1969): 21; 45 (1970): 79-80; Zenas Riggs Revolutionary War pension file S32593; Pilch, “Morris Co. 1752 Freeholders” [*supra* note 284]; *Extracts from American Newspapers, relating to New Jersey*, 11 vols., *Archives of the State of New Jersey, First Series, Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New Jersey* (1894-1923), 3:430; Morris Co., N.J., Court of Common Pleas, vol. 1, 1740-1754, FHL microfilm 961259, 516, 525, 529, 531, 534, 553-54, 562; Morris Co., N.J., Court of Common Pleas, vols. 2-3, 1754-1766, FHL microfilm 961299, and vols. 4-6, 1766-1778, FHL microfilm 961249, 38, 49, 62, 69, 76, 108, 129, 238, 245.

²⁹⁸ Essex Co., N.J., Court Records, B:19, 26, 65, 99. *Town Records of Newark* [*supra* note 82], 141, 11 March 1755, records William Williamson appointed as one of 19 overseers of the highways.

There is abundant evidence that several Riggs men in N.C. were born in Morris Co., N.J.,²⁹⁹ and Y-chromosome DNA analysis of living persons believed to be their descendants has shown them to be descendants of Edward¹ Riggs with high probability. However, the definitive proof of the descents from specific “Edwardians” known to have been in New Jersey continues to elude us.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

We have sought to establish a firm foundation for the genealogy of Edward¹ Riggs of Roxbury. In so doing, we have made numerous corrections to the published literature on this family, and we have had to strip away years of accumulated “information” about the family that resisted corroboration when we looked closely.

A summary of the general status of the Riggs genealogy is this: The first three generations are firmly established. The Connecticut branch, the descendants of Samuel³ Riggs, is firm through the fourth generation, and we have provided pointers to the evidence for the fifth generation. The results for the New Jersey branch, the descendants of Joseph³ and Edward³ Riggs, are spottier.

The fourth generation via Joseph³ Riggs is well established. The fifth generation via two of his children, Elizabeth and Samuel, is known: Elizabeth married into the Dod family, and Samuel had only a single child, a daughter. But Joseph’s son John disappears from the Essex County records after 1716, and son Zopher disappears after the mention of him in Joseph’s will of 1688/9. There is a possible connection of John to a John Riggs in Somerset County in 1735, but circumstances argue against it. There is only a tenuous connection of Zopher to a Zopher Riggs in Morris County in the later 1760s, a possibility suggested principally by the unusual name. In short, we do not know of any male Riggs descendants of Joseph³ but cannot rule them out. In particular, we have no evidence that any of Joseph³’s male children moved to Morris County.

Our reassessment of the family via Edward³ Riggs has yielded dire results. Only two persons in the fourth generation are firmly established, and much of the fifth generation is problematic. We dare to draw a conclusion nevertheless, although it is a tentative one: It appears that it was principally, if not only, the children of Edward³ who moved west into Morris and Som-

²⁹⁹ Virgil D. White, *Genealogical Abstracts of Revolutionary War Pension Files*, 4 vols. (Waynesboro, Tenn.: National Historical Pub. Co., 1990–92), 3:2889, Bethuel Riggs S17046, Reuben Riggs S45880, Samuel Riggs S4095, all born in Morris Co., N.J., and moved to N.C.

erset Counties. It has not escaped our notice that the Revolutionary War upset this part of New Jersey at about the time when the local records give out.³⁰⁰ Unfortunately many living Riggs families who claim descent from Edward¹ of Roxbury, but cannot prove it, trace their lineage to Morris County, and hence possibly to Edward³.

Previously accepted “truths” about the Edward³ branch are apparently due to an unknown and unproved family source (or sources), source X, represented by the Edith Tuller¹⁰ Riggs manuscript and reflected in Congar and Wallace. Miss Riggs’s manuscript mentions explicitly a family chart prepared by her grandfather Rev. Joseph L.⁸ Riggs (*Elias*⁷, *Preserve*⁶, *Zebulon*⁵, *?Joseph*⁴) who lived 1809–1875, placing him within three or four generations of the problematic generations in New Jersey. This is sufficiently far removed that it does not inspire confidence, but the manuscript also mentions the family Bible of Rev. Elias⁷ Riggs (*Preserve*⁶, *Zebulon*⁵, *?Joseph*⁴), which does, to some extent. Unfortunately we do not know which parts of source X come from the Elias⁷ family Bible, nor have we been able to find the Bible or a reputable transcription of it.

An indication that this Bible may not have figured heavily in source X is a comment by Elias’s kinsman Rev. Stephen Return⁸ Riggs (*Stephen*⁷, *Joseph*⁶, *Gideon*⁵, *?Joseph*⁴) who stated in his autobiography, “Heretofore, we have supposed the first progenitor of the Riggs Family in America was Miles; but the investigations of Mr. J. H. Wallace of New York show that it was Edward, who settled in Roxbury, Mass.”³⁰¹ The father, Stephen⁷ Riggs, was born in Morristown, Morris County, New Jersey, on 4 March 1771,³⁰² and Elias⁷ Riggs was born in Mendham, Morris County, on 1 April 1770.³⁰³ The first Miles Riggs in the family was Miles⁵ (*Joseph*⁴), putative brother of Zebulon⁵ and Gideon⁵ Riggs, so this family had an inaccurate picture of its own New Jersey genealogy.

Taking a conservative approach, we have rejected information from source X pending its rediscovery and analysis (and queries have failed to locate it thus far). Although full details are outside the scope of this paper, we have made exploratory searches in the public record for the information

³⁰⁰ Hoyt, *Mountain Society* [*supra* note 188], 47–48, “The records of the Newark church, and those of this church also (it is said), perished or were lost in the time of the Revolution.” Hoyt was seventh minister of the Mountain Society, assuming the position in 1856.

³⁰¹ Stephen Return Riggs, *Mary and I: Forty Years with the Sioux* (Boston: Congregational Sunday-School and Pub. Soc., 1888), 24, footnote. J. H. Wallace is, of course, author of Wallace, *Riggs Genealogy* [*supra* note 3].

³⁰² *History of the First Presbyterian Church . . . Part II* [*supra* note 284], 205, “[Riggs] Stephen; b. 4 March 1771; B. 5 May 1771,” son of Joseph Riggs.

³⁰³ Jacobus, *Parke-Gildersleeve* [*supra* note 5], 111.

listed in source X, and have generally not met with success. Either we did not find the named persons in the record or we did not find their stated relationships to the Riggs family. This does not disestablish source X, but while its authority is in abeyance the burden of proof is on the genealogist.

Our final contribution to the Edward¹ Riggs genealogy is sadly this negative one about the poor state of the Edward³ branch. We hope it does not overshadow the many positive results reported for the early generations and the Connecticut branch of the Riggs family, and we challenge the genealogical community to step forward to establish (or reestablish) the New Jersey branch. We trust that our study has more carefully delineated the problems to be solved.

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