

THE MEEKER FAMILY

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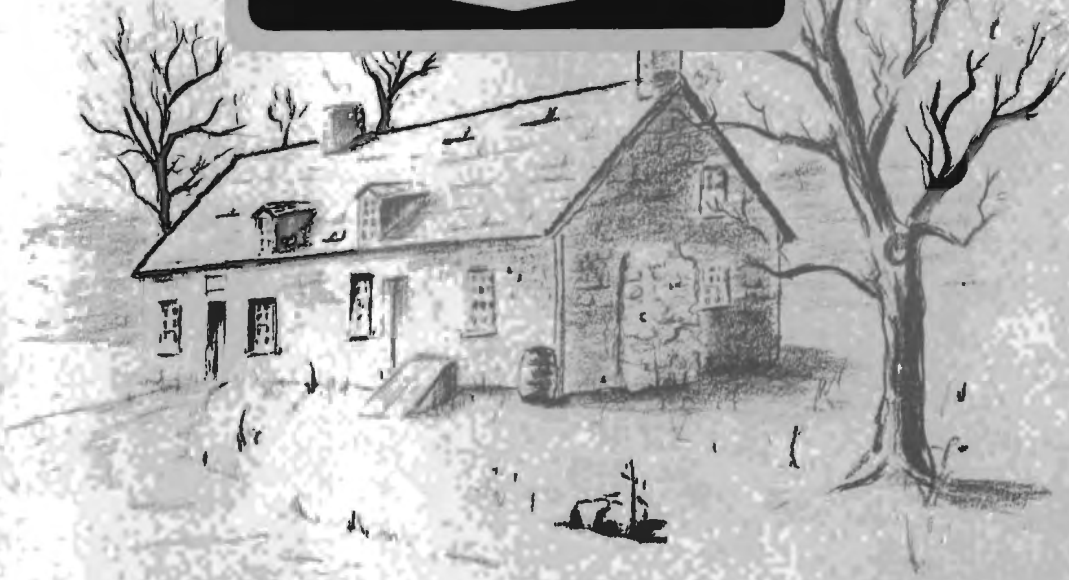
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No. 306

of early New Jersey

Coat of Arms



Meeker

9: 272

No. 306

THE MEEKER FAMILY
of
early New Jersey as revealed in the correspondence
of Charles H. Meeker, Junior.

By Leroy J. Meeker
Instructor in Mathematics
Southwood College
Salemburg, North Carolina

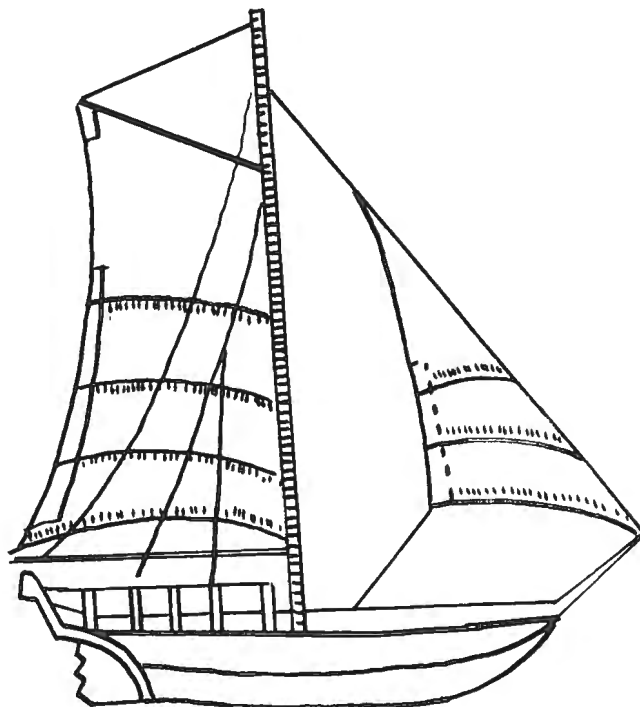
Leroy J. Meeker

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T I _

“Old William (Meeker) was a godly man, but he didn’t like the way the blue laws made his ships stop sailing on Sundays so he came to Elizabethtown across the sound from Staten Island”.

William Grummon, 1813



The Snow

John D. Meeker (1822) – “He belonged to a family whose identification with New Jersey covers a number of years and whose name is an honored one”.

Biog. and Genealogical Hist.
of the City of Newark and
Essex County, published 1898.

“The name Meeker is derived from ‘Le Marque’, which means ‘The Thin Man’. The original one of this name came south with Rolf the Viking, who was the ancestor of William the Conqueror. A Le Marque invaded England with William and his troops, seized the Battle Field of Hastings, which has since been called Le Marque’s Field. It was given to Le Marque”. (From the genealogy of Miss Elizabeth Dullager Meeker (9), Hanover, New Hampshire.)

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SECTION ONE

WILLIAM MEEKER AND HIS THREE SONS

1. This is a study or a thesis rather than a genealogy of the Meeker family. Even though considerable research must have been made little material is on the New Jersey library shelves, probably because of the incompleteness of those studies. In view of the complexity of the various problems involved it doesn't seem possible that anyone before the time of Charles H. Meeker, Jr. could have done much, or can do much today without his assistance.

2. This present day authority, Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. (4/8/1885), formerly of New York City, now of Stamford, New York, began his study over forty-five years ago and has accumulated a massive amount of information. Although recognizing the limiting scope of a set of miscellaneous letters the study here presented is based almost exclusively on his correspondence. The reliability of his statements and the validity of his data are here accepted without question, and his opinions receive the highest respect.

3. William (1) Meeker (or Meaker) (c1620/5-1790/1) in his will stated that he was born at Leamington, Warwickshire, England, a place not far from the physical center of England. It isn't known at what time he and his brother, Robert, came to America; but they did appear in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, some say as early as 1630/35. Both were in New Haven, Connecticut by the first of July, 1644, as they took the oath of fidelity there at that time. Two years later according to the Hatfield's History of Elizabeth, William was employed for a twelve month period as a "loader to mill" indicating that he was in some manner concerned with the handling of grain in the probable water powered mill of that town. About then or perhaps a little later around 1646/7 he married Sarah Preston, and was occupied for the next eighteen years in some type of work in or near New Haven. A third Meeker (tradition says a brother) is believed by some to have existed in or around Massachusetts, but whether he was a brother, father, or otherwise, nobody knows. At least no male issue seems to have existed to cloud this or any other study.

4. The brother, Robert (d. 1683/5), had married Susan Tubarfield on September 16, 1654 and by 1668 was living near Fairfield, Connecticut, where he had or was to acquire a rather large estate of three hundred and eighty-eight acres. In his will made November 12, 1683, proved March 10, 1684/5, he named a daughter, Mary, and two sons, Daniel and John. Daniel (2) (c1659/3) first married Elizabeth Ogden about 1683, a daughter of Richard Ogden, the close relative of Jasper Crane of "ancient and Honorable" lineage and the brother of John Ogden, noted settler of Elizabethtowne, New Jersey. Daniel's second marriage occurring about 1697 was to an Elizabeth Smith and from both wives had

five children each. His son, Daniel (3) and daughter, Hannah, children of Elizabeth Ogden are believed by Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. to have removed to New Jersey and to have lived there among their second cousins, the Meekers and Ogdens.

5. Sarah Preston, the first wife of William and the mother of his children was baptised on July 18, 1626 at Chesham, Buckinghamshire, England. She was the daughter of William Preston (c1590-1647) and his first wife, Elizabeth Sale, who seemed to have been residents of Yorkshire, England. Her father with a family of six children and second wife, Mary Seabrook, came to Massachusetts in the good ship "Truelove" in 1635 and eventually settled in the New Haven Colony. Four more children were later born in America and the eldest son, Edward, is said by one writer to have become a lawyer there. At the time of his death, eleven years later, William Preston still owned property back in England inherited from his father. Elizabeth (Sale) Preston (d.1633/4), the mother of Sarah (Preston) Meeker, was the daughter of an Edward Sale (d.1620) and his wife, Elizabeth Gifford, of Buckinghamshire, England. Her paternal grandparents were John (d.1576/7) and Agnes Sales, also of Buckinghamshire. Although her husband and sons may have gone on earlier to Elizabeth Point, Sarah did not arrive there until after September 7, 1666, as her youngest child, John, was born in New Haven on that date. She must have died some time on or before 1690 as her husband named a second wife, Hannah, in his will that year.

6. In the fall of 1664 or perhaps some time later, William along with several of his neighbors joined a group of settlers from Long Island in establishing the first English settlement in New Jersey. According to an item in the *Biography and General History of the City of Newark* a tradition had come down that he transported those neighbors in his own sloop. This might have been true as the oldest son, Joseph, age seventeen in 1664, did later own a sloop, the "Snow", which by 1704 was seemingly described by him as being old. In Elizabethtowne, William acquired a six acre town lot on the east side of the road running north and had other farm plots scattered about.

7. The name of William appears no less than eighteen times in Pomfret's history, *The Providence of East New Jersey*, published in 1962. He had the honor of being on the first jury of New Jersey, sitting in 1771. That same year he became involved in the political struggle between the associates and their governor, Philip Carteret, as the leading actor in the so called "Meaker Riot". Carteret, as governor had somewhat grudgingly recognized the rights of the associates to the ownership of the undivided land in the Elizabeth Area based upon the purchase they had made from the Indians prior to the change of government, then bought into their association. Once in, he proceeded to rule the organiza-

tion, at least in some particulars, as his own. When he made the second donation of land to an indentured servant of his, without consulting his partners, they, the colonists, instructed or encouraged William Meeker and seven other members to "goe the next morning and pull up the said Michel's fence" which had been built upon the newly acquired land. The rioters were arrested, tried in a court of the governor's choosing with an imported jury and fined. With the town folk backing, the defendants walked out of the room before it was over and never did pay their fines. Later that year, October 13, 1671, either to appease a vigorous opponent or because the associates demanded it, the governor appointed William constable of the Elizabeth Township. Acting in that capacity but supporting the settlers in their attempt to oust their obnoxious governor, he not only arrested William Parden, the governor's man Friday, but along with several deputies served papers on him and in his absence forcibly entered his home and confiscated property in and on the premises. The governor had in the meantime been forced to flee the township. A year or two later when the governor's party got back in power, Constable Meeker was fined an unknown sum for his part, the deputies ten pounds each. His entire estate, real and personal, was awarded to Parden to compensate for the alledged damage done to him. Possibly because the fine was too great or the inventory too small, William was forced to appeal to his neighbors for help. It is known from the town records that by November 11, 1676 contributions had been collected in Newark which at least in part repaid him for his loss. Presumably the same had been done in Elizabeth and possibly in some of the other five districts as well. According to William H. Shaw in his *History of Essex and Hudson Counties of New Jersey*, land was donated by the people of both Newark and Elizabeth for his new home. The citizens of both localities did own the undivided land in both places and the home was built close to Bound Creek, then the boundary between the townships, with possibly the farm lapping over both sides. It was built likely in 1676/7, a brick structure covered with clapboards and stood for about two hundred and thirty-seven years, to become by 1913/14 the oldest house in New Jersey.

8. Although his birth was not listed in the vital statistical record of the New Haven Colony, Joseph (2) was born there, so he said, in the year 1648. He was enrolled along with his younger brother, Benjamin, as an original associate of Elizabethtowne and acquired a town lot adjoining that of his father on the south. He was one of the eight involved in the "Meaker riot" of 1671 and throughout his life must have continued that conflict in whatever manner found feasible. In the *History* text entitled *Livingston, the Story of a Community*, the writers state that when Governor Cornbury was recalled in 1707, that "among the witnesses who had (had) their say about the despot's avarice were Benjamin

and Joseph Meeker". Joseph's name appeared on a petition in which the crown was asked to appoint a competent governor. He was one of the eight, representing the associates who in 1684, accompanied by an Indian, attempted to establish (to their notion) the exact western boundary of the land bought October 28, 1664 by the associates from the Indians, a purchase long the center of contention between the associates and their wealthier over lords.

9. On June 18, 1673, Joseph, age twenty-five, was married to Comfort Marsh (8/22/1652), the same day and at the same place, Perth Amboy, as was his brother, Benjamin, and by a Justice of the Peace. Why the brothers journeyed down there, nine or ten miles distant by water or land when there was a preacher assigned to their church at Elizabeth is not known. Comfort was the daughter of Samuel Marsh, Sr. (d.9/1783) known as "Old Mash", a member of the crew involved in the "Meaker Riot". Along with the Meeker family, he had come from New Haven to Elizabeth Point and was credited by Hatfield with owning two hundred and eight acres. Comfort was dead by 1702 as a second wife, Martha, signed the deed or gift made by Joseph to his son that year.

10. From a list of church contributions made during the year of 1694, only four out of perhaps a hundred and twenty made a larger yearly contribution than Joseph, while two made the same, indicating that Joseph was one of the well-to-do men of the colony. It is recorded in the Hatfield History that he had ninety-eight acres of land and "kept a country store", the correctness of which is unknown here. He did, however, own a coastwide trading vessel, the "Snow". As the townships records have become lost it is not known who were the ranking citizens of Elizabethtowne during that period, but it is believed here that a man's political and social prestige then as later was of about the same rank as his financial standing. In 1702 at the age of fifty-four he split his real estate and the ownership of the "Snow" down the middle and conferred the half upon his twenty-two year old son in what looked as though the father and son had gone into a sort of partnership with the father in the store and the son on the sloop. Joseph (2) at that time may have been living in the new stone house built upon the same lot as was his earlier home.

11. Joseph (2) surely had only one son, Joseph (3) born in the seventh year of his and Comfort's marriage. William in his will of 1790 indicated that he had eleven grandchildren living at that time. The youngest son, John, was unmarried and Benjamin in his will fifteen years later, named seven sons, all likely sixteen years of age or older as he made no provision for guardians. Counting Joseph (3) this left only three grandchildren to be by William's daughters, Sarah, age thirty-six in 1790 and Mary two years younger. Anything could have happened, but three children credited to the two daughters at their age if living were not many.

BOX ONE

Robert (1) Meeker (d. 1684/5) of Fairfield, Connecticut married Susan Tuberfield, formerly of Barbados Island, West Indies, on 9/16/1651 and had children:

Mary, who m. three times, one a Samuel Adams.

Daniel (2) (1659/3-12/1716) m. 1st Elizabeth Ogden (bapt. 1695) and had children:

Daniel (3) (c1685-1760) m. Mary and moved to Eliz. N. J.

David (3) (bapt. 1687-1754) m. Sarah Hull.

Joseph (3) (bapt. 1689/0-1752), a miller, m. Rebecca Hull.

Hannah (c1691/3) m. Thomas Lyon of Newark, N. J.

Elizabeth (c1693/5-by 1716).

Benjamin (3) (c1698-1728), never married.

Daniel, (2) m. 2nd. Elizabeth Smith and had children:

Samuel (3) (bapt. 8/25/1700-2/25/1770) m. Abigail Gregory.

Esther (bapt. 7/18/1703-by 1716), never married.

Jonathan (3) (bapt. 5/15/1707-3/28/1765) m. Abigail Parruck.

Isaac (3) (c8/20/1710-4/1735).

Rachel (c1712/3) m. Asa Hall. (Perhaps Hull)

John (2) (c1665/9-1727) m. Elizabeth and had children:

Sarah (c1690/1-1749) m. David Sherwood.

Susanna (c1690) m. Ephraim Beers.

Elizabeth (c1695-1772) m. William Gray.

John (3) (1697) m. Margery Lyon.

Robert (3) (1699-1727) m. Abigail.

Deborah (1702) m. Samuel Adams.

Nathan (3) (c1704-c1751) m. Margery Jackson.

William (1) Meeker of Elizabeth, New Jersey, had two grandsons that apparently immigrated to Connecticut. They were:
(see para. 24)

Joseph (3) of Durham, Conn. m. Ann and had children with baptism dates: Ann (1775), Phinehas (1728), Jemiamah (1731), David (1734), Daniel (1734, John (1738) and Rebeckah (1740).

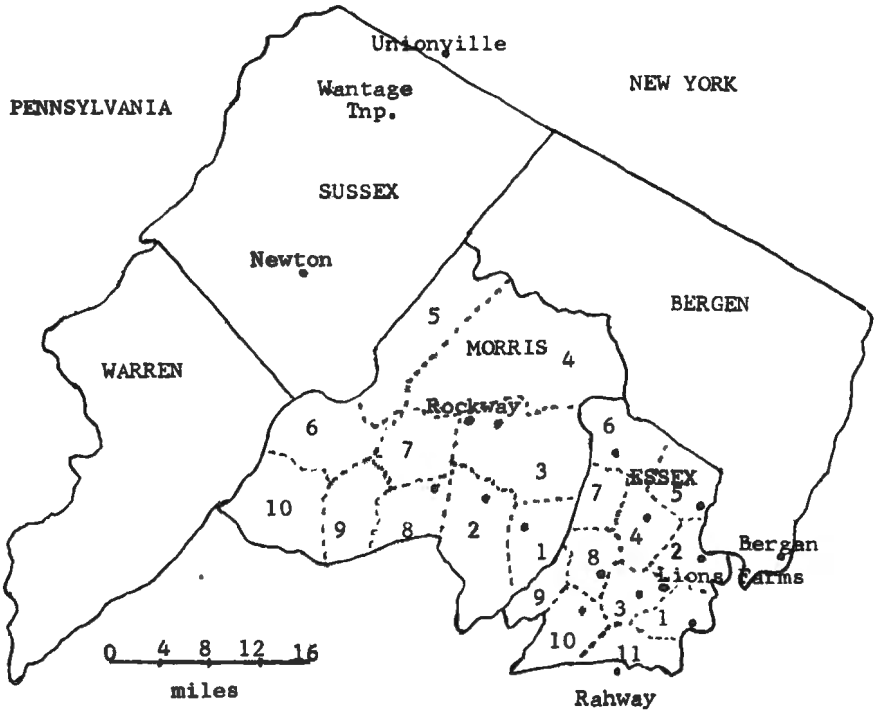
His supposed brother, Samuel, (3) also of Durham m. Mary Seward (1690) and had children with baptism dates: Samuel (1717), Elizabeth (1718), Benjamin (1720), Mary (1722), Nathaniel (1724), a daughter (1726/7), Aaron (1729, Josiah (1731), and a second Mary (1733):

For other information see The
History and Genealogy of The

Families of Old Fairfield Connecticut,

compiled by Donald Lenis Jacobus for the D.A.R.

NORTHERN NEW JERSEY, 1834



MORRIS COUNTY	
Townships	Towns
1. Chatham	MADISON
2. Morris	MORRISTOWN
3. Hanover	PARSIPPANY
4. Pequannock	
5. Jefferson	
6. Roxbury	
7. Randolph	
8. Mendham	MENDHAM
9. Chester	
10. Washington	

ESSEX COUNTY	
Townships	Towns
1. Elizabeth	ELIZABETH
2. Newark	NEWARK
3. Union	CONN. FARMS
4. Orange	ORANGE
5. Bloomfield	BLOOMFIELD
6. Caldwell	CALDWELL
7. Livingston	
8. Springfield	SPRINGFIELD
9. New Providence	
10. Westfield	WESTFIELD
11. Rahway	

The dot in each township marks the town numbered with the township

Joseph in that gift of his in 1702 indicated that he had only one son living at that time. There was supposed to have been a Thomas Morris who married a Meeker and had: Hannah (1693) who married Dan Talmadge, and Eunice (1703) who married Thomas Riggs. If this is correct, and it may not be, Mrs. Thomas Morris could hardly have been other than a daughter of Joseph and Comfort Marsh born shortly after their marriage in 1673. She would not likely have been a daughter of Benjamin as either she or her daughters would have been mentioned in his will. However, this Mrs. Morris might have been either Mary or Sarah, daughters of William, the first. (Note the first two sentences in Box Five).

12. John Littell in his book in 1851 entitled *First Settlers of Passaic Valley above Chatham with Their Ancestors and Descendants as far as Can Be Ascertained* made these statements: "Joseph Meeker was in the first list of eighty associates, called the Elizabethtown associates and was probably the father of Robert Meeker, Stephen Meeker, and Daniel Meeker who were brothers and all settled in or near Elizabethtown". "The name of Benjamin Meeker is in the list of second generation associates admitted in 1699". And "Robert Meeker had sons, James, Robert, Stephen and David". It fell to Mr. Charles H. Meeker's lot a few years ago to positively discount those mistakes without which no progress could be made in unraveling the Meeker story. Mr. Littell while probably rather accurate in most cases apparently knew nothing of William (1), John (2), Joseph (3), or the wills which named most of those persons above and so unwittingly created a double set of Meekers of which no supporting evidence exists. Living Meekers and paid genealogists searching for data on the family seem to always find the above quotes and become hopelessly mired down in conflicts.

13. Benjamin (2) (1649/0-1706) born in New Haven was old enough to have become an original associate at Elizabeth and received a home lot along side his brother's with a share of the undivided land. Evidently his father paid for those memberships of his sons along with his own. According to the Hatfield History of 1868, Benjamin was not only a planter but a carpenter by trade. The New Jersey archives provides an item showing where Benjamin received pay along with another in building a small barn. As the inventory made of his estate in 1706 showed carpenter tools valued at three pounds, little doubt remains that he was at least a part time carpenter. But the nature of the evidence that he built his father's brick home at Bound Creek as often stated is unknown here. The statement of Hatfield that Benjamin owned one hundred and fifty-five acres of land was for the year 1676 and does not conflict with the probability that Benjamin in his will bequeathed about four hundred acres to his sons. Luke Watson with four hundred acres in 1676 was said to have been fourth from the top in land ownership, so likely few had more land than that which Benjamin eventu-

ally acquired. In that church collection of 1694, Benjamin gave well above the average amount but only a little more than half as much as Joseph, which probably describes their comparative wealth. The Livingston text stated that Benjamin was the author of the Elizabeth Petition of 1796, evidently a letter to the crown containing complaints against the local governing authorities.

14. In 1673 Benjamin married Elizabeth Thompson, the daughter of Thomas Thompson (Tomson). According to the Hatfield History, her father had come from Lynn, Massachusetts by way of New London Court, Connecticut, to East Hampton, Long Island and thence to Elizabeth Point as an original associate. He was elected a deputy to the New Jersey Colonial Legislature in 1672, representing the Elizabeth area, during which year he served under Constable Meeker as a deputy constable in the confiscation of William Pardon's property. Thompson Creek was probably named after him. Mary Thompson, sister of Elizabeth, was said to have married John Hinds a cooper (made wooden tubs) by trade and constable of Elizabeth in 1710/1. Elizabeth was likely living as late as 1745 as some Elizabeth Meeker was mentioned in a court house record of that date.

15. Little is known here of John (2) (1666-1730/1), youngest son of William. Although he was to have come into possession of the "Old Meeker Homestead" near Lyons Farms after his step-mother's death, he must have sold or traded it to his brother, Benjamin by 1705. At that time Benjamin owned a hundred acres lying beside property of John's, not necessarily John's home, but from the wording of the will one would think so. The location one would judge laid on the south of Lyons Farms, but east of Connecticut Farms. He married Hannah Ogden about 1692 or soon after, the daughter of Jonathan Ogden and the granddaughter of "Good Old" John Ogden, who probably was the outstanding citizen of early East New Jersey. John Ogden served as governor (schout) of New Jersey during the Dutch occupation and the genealogy of his descendants read like a part of Whose Who of New Jersey. Although the sons of John are known, the name and number of his daughters are not with the exception of Enuice who possibly married a Morris. In his will he named three granddaughters carrying non-Meeker last names, not daughters of sons.

BOX TWO

THE WILL OF WILLIAM MEEKER

dated 12/9/1690,

proved 1/14/1690-1

The two daughters were not mentioned and he said his wife was Hannah Meeker.

He gave to son, John, one half of land and meadow, also the home lot including the house and two acres given to Hannah for her life or as long as she remained his widow.

To son, Benjamin, he gave the other half of land and meadow.

To each of eleven grandchildren he gave a sheep, and to grandson, William, also a colt.

The rest of the estate not specified he divided equally to Joseph, Benjamin and John.

The inventory listed a barn and orchard with house at fifty pounds; eighteen sheep, four cows, two old oxen, two young oxen, one yearling, two calves, one mare, one sow, three pigs, and a cider mill; all told one hundred and eighty-four pounds.

The family as outlined by Charles H. Meeker, Jr. were:

Joseph (1648-c1717+) married to Comfort Marsh (1652-before 1702).

Benjamin (1650-1706) married to Elizabeth Thompson (c1654-1730+).

Sarah (2/17/1654), nothing known.

Mary (10/16/1656), nothing known.

Child (12/1663), died the following month.

John (9/17/1666-1730/1) married to Hannah Ogden.



SECTION TWO

THE THIRTEEN COUSINS AND BROTHERS

16. The third generation contained thirteen males with the sons of John falling a full generation behind the others. Those cousins differed in age from the oldest, Benjamin (3), born ten years after the Elizabethtowne settlement to the youngest, David (3), thirty eight years his junior.

17. Benjamin (3) (c1675-1749/0), son of Benjamin (2), and likely the oldest grandson of William, was about fifteen at the time of his grandfather's death. He married Phebe Clark (1681-1755) of Southhampton, Long Island, sometime around 1698 or 1700; and probably was well set up in business as a blacksmith by the time of his father's death in 1706. As he was almost left out of his father's will one presumes that his father had given him considerable help and that he was in excellent circumstances. His blacksmith shop was supposed to have been located by the bridge in the center of Elizabethtown. If a Benjamin Meeker was constable of Elizabeth around 1710, as has been said, he would need to have been this Benjamin. Of the six known commissioned officers of the Revolution two were grandsons of his, one the only major. Judging from his will made on November 22, 1744, he had five children, two being sons. The David Meeker who was the witness to his will could hardly have been any other than his cousin, David (3) son of John. (See para. 30/35).

18. William (3) (9/13/1677-1744), believed by Mr. Charles H. Meeker to have been the second son of Benjamin (2) was probably thirteen at the time of his grandfather's death and received not only one head of sheep as did his brothers and cousins but a colt as well. For some reason he seems to have been counted first by his father and along with his mother was an administrator of his father's will (1705). Judging by the wording of the will he was at that time married to Hannah Potter, daughter of Samuel Potter, and living in the grandfather's home, the "Old Meeker Homestead" near Lyons Farms. He is believed to have had only sons. His will was made on November 18, 1841 and proved March 11, 1750 with an Isaac Meeker, apparently his son, as the executor. The total amount of the inventory made in 1741 was two hundred and fifty-four pounds. (See para. 36/39).

19. The third son of Benjamin (2), Jonathan (3) (c1679-1768), married a Mary and had only daughters with the married names of Martha Woodruff, Mary Ogden, Jemimah Chandler, Keziah Woodruff and Elizabeth Thompson. From his father's will one assumes that Jonathan lived beside his brother, William, possibly north of the township boundary, the Newark side. Those Woodruffs, sons-in-law of Jonathan, were quite likely close descendants of a John Woodruff the original settler of Elizabeth. According to a genealogy text of the Ogdens, this

John Woodruff was styled "Gent" and was the grandson of an Ogden of Rye, a first cousin of John Ogden of Elizabeth. The Ogden of Rye served as deputy governor of Connecticut in 1674/5. As this John Woodruff married the only daughter of John Ogden, all Woodruffs in early Elizabeth were probably of Ogden descent and in more ways than one. This too, probably illustrates better than elsewhere the high typed marriages being made by most members of the Meeker family.

20. Probably the most affluent of all the early Meekers was a Captain Joseph (3) (1680-12/14/1731), the mariner and only son of a well-to-do father, Joseph (2). As a boy he had attended a class in "the art of navigation" and at the age of twenty-two become the owner of half his father's landed property and his small sailing vessel, the "Snow". Upon this sturdy beginning he accumulated a rather large estate of unknown proportions. He seemed to have speculated in land, as on April 14, 1711 while his father was still living he bought one-fourth of a fifth part of two twenty-eighth parts of a very large tract of land covering parts of Summerset and Morris Counties. Also at another time, he sold a tract of land lying between the Rahway River and the Watchung Mountains in the western part of the Elizabeth Township containing four hundred and eight acres. The inventory of his personal estate, made after his death, showed a total of twelve hundred and forty-nine pounds less some debts to be divided among four unnamed heirs. His two sloops, the "Elizabeth" and the "Patience", which were known to have made voyages from Amboy, New Jersey to both Rhode Island and Boston were appraised at one hundred and eighty and two hundred pounds respectively. As he was titled, the mariner, he most likely operated as a captain on one or the other of those sloops at various times and of the earlier boat, the "Snow".

21. Captain Joseph (3) married a Phebe (alive in 1737) believed to have been a Crane. The early settler of Elizabethtowne was a Stephen Crane (c1630/5-c1709) a near relative of Jasper Crane the noted and well-to-do settler of Newark whose father was said to have been Sir William Crane, a Knight. Joseph appeared to have died quite suddenly, at the age of fifty-one and left no will. The daughter, Elizabeth, who had married Benjamin Price died a short time before her father and he was buried beside her with the same head stone. Later her husband, Benjamin Price, was also laid beside her. The children of this family is herein believed to have been as follows: Stephen (c1705-1749), Elizabeth Price (1713-1731), Joseph (1717-1777), and possibly Rhoda and Sarah. (See para. 43/48).

22. Mr. Daniel (3) (c1680/1-1757), the fourth son of Benjamin (2), was probably so designated to distinguish him from his second cousin Daniel, Sr., former-

BOX THREE

JOSEPH MEEKER LEFT NO WILL

In gift dated 2/18/1702-3

He gave to Joseph (3) half of the home lot joining that of Benjamin's and containing a stone house.

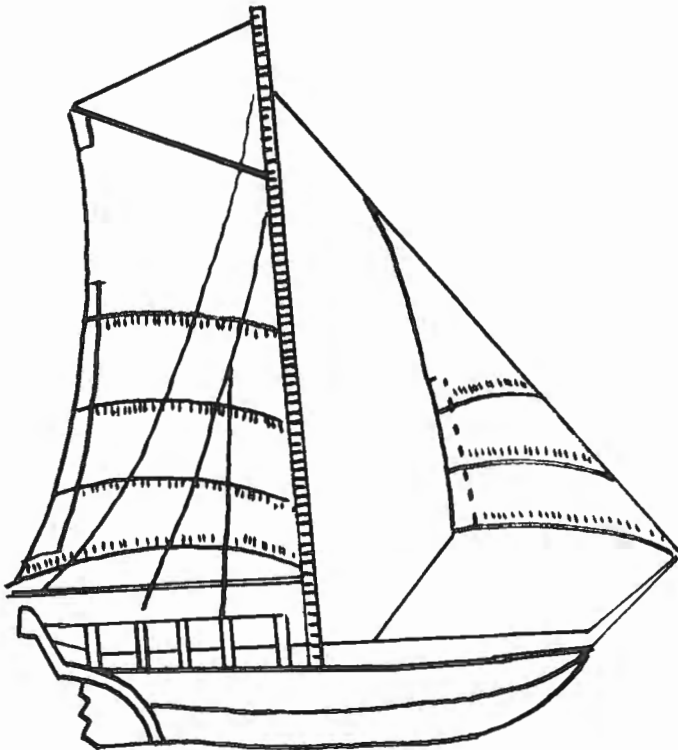
Also to Joseph (3) he gave a half of his other lands and rights of land, except three acres (possibly the acres upon which the stone house stood).

Also to Joseph (3) he gave a half of the sloop, "Snow".

All remaining property at his death was to go to Joseph (3) except that the wife, Martha, should have use of one-half of the house lot containing the home so long as she remained a widow.

On 5/4/1704, he gave Joseph (3) the other half of the sloop if not otherwise disposed of before his death.

Again on 11/13/1717, he and his wife confirmed those gifts.



The Snow

Roerway Boonton
Denville Parsippang
Caldwell
Whippang Bloomfield
Morristown Hanover Canoe Brook
Mendham Bottle Hill Northfield Orange
Chatham So. Orange Newark
Springfield Lyons Farms
Turkeys Conn. Farms
Elizabeth
Westfield
Rahway

ly of Connecticut. That title appears on his will. Cunningham in his text, Newark, states that "Mr." was reserved for the elite, ministers and gentlemen. Evidentially they lived in the same general neighborhood, not far from Elizabethtown as Mr. Daniel was said to have been a farmer and of the Borough of Elizabeth. The maiden name of his wife, Rachel, is unknown. He made a will in 1757, but its contents are unknown here. His son, Michael (1720/3-1755), who died before he was twenty-six, had only two girls: Phebe (1751-1779) who married Lewis Mulford and Charity (1754-1766) who died at the age of twelve. Mary Ogden, wife of Michael, was the daughter of a John Ogden (1700-1780) and his wife Mary Osborn who lived at Sodom two miles out of Elizabethtown. (See para. 40/42).

23. There appeared in the Elizabeth Township among the third generation of Meekers a Daniel, Sr. who could hardly have been one of them as John (2) had no son by that name, Joseph (2) presumably had only one son, a Joseph, and Benjamin (2) already had a son by that name, Mr. Daniel. As a Daniel of about the right age, grandson of Robert (1) of Connecticut, had disappeared from there after 1705, Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. has assumed that this was he. His sister, Mrs. Thomas (Hannah) Lyon, resided in or near Newark, New Jersey, probably near Lyons Farms a village about three miles out of Elizabethtown. One might speculate that Hannah, a younger sister of Daniel, Sr. husband hunting came down to visit her brother and found one of the neighbor Lyon's sons to her liking. As her mother was an Ogden she was not among strangers with those well-to-do Lyons. This Daniel, Sr. (3) (c1685-1760) married a Mary (c1688-2/6/1770) and had six children, three being sons. He made his will in 1759, proved 1760, and among others named granddaughters, Mary and Sarah, daughters of Abraham, and a Susannah, daughter of Moses. As Mary, a widow of a Daniel, was buried at Elizabethtown it can be surmised that the family were residents of a locality not far from there. Actually there is some evidence in the will of a John Leighton to indicate that Daniel, Sr. lived about a mile or so to the west of Elizabethtown. (See para. 49/50).

24. Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. was never able to find any reference to the two sons of Benjamin (2), **Samuel and Joseph, after 1705 in New Jersey**; but up in Connecticut he located two Meekers with the same names who he was satisfied were not descendants of Robert (1) and who he came to believe were those two. For what little it might indicate, Samuel of Connecticut had children named, Benjamin and Elizabeth, and Joseph had a Daniel and an Aaron. Elizabeth, wife of Benjamin (2) and the supposed mother, had a brother, Aaron Thompson. (See Box One).

25. Thomas (3) (c1685), the sixth son of Benjamin (2), is at present the least

known of the seven brothers. Without too good a reason, one might suspect that he lived on the one hundred acre piece of land next to his Uncle John. As likely no other Thomas existed then, unless a son, it was probably his name which appeared in the Essex County records of 1751 as either a witness or a juror. There is little doubt that Timothy (1708/9-1798) was his son and that he had at least one more, the Mythical John of these pages. The Daniel who married Susannah Winans may have been his son and he probably had a fourth and more than likely daughters. (See section six).

26. Robert (3) (c1700-1771), son of John (2), like his cousin, Thomas, is little known today. This unsettled nature of both makes it difficult to study either, particularly Robert, as one is not sure that he had children. A Robert, presumably this one or possibly his son, made the inventory of a carpenter, J. Marsh of Elizabeth in 1745. In 1747, some Robert was a witness to the will of John Magie, a blacksmith; and D. Clark of Elizabeth had land next to a Robert Meeker. A, Robert, appeared as a juryman in 1750 among persons mentioned in the 1740-1752 court records of Essex County. Again in 1744 the name appears on a list of property owners and in 1755 on the sheriff's list of landowners who owned land free and clear. In 1779, after the death of one Robert, there was a Robert listed among the rateables of the Town Ward, and a soldier, Robert, was in the Revolutionary War. On March 23, 1771, a Stephen Meeker was appointed intestate administrator for a Robert with a William Garthwait as fellow bondsman. As nothing was done and the only known Stephen died in 1778, William Garthwait became the administrator with an Abner Sayer for fellow bondsman and Catherine Boudinot as a witness. The failure to settle the estate immediately indicated children or grandchildren who would not be in too big a hurry to push a mother or grandmother out, but at her death eight years later to want things settled. Although there were at least two Roberts, one, the Revolutionary soldier, could easily have been a descendant of Thomas. Catherine Boudinot could possibly have been a daughter but the indications were that no son was living in the neighborhood at the time of death, else the Judge would have appointed him to some position in the administration of the estate.

27. John (3) (1703-1731), second son of John (2) and Hannah Ogden, married a distant cousin, Joanna Ogden (baptised 6/2/1706), in c1725, a daughter of Joseph and Joanna (Baker) Ogden. This John, a cooper by trade (maker of wooden tubs), resided in or near Elizabethtown. He made his will in 1730, dying five years after his marriage leaving four small children. His young widow, Joanna Ogden, then married John Alling (Allen) for a second husband and had daughters, one. Phebe Alling, married Stephen (5) Meeker, brother of the noted Captain Obediah. The only son of John (3) and Joanna, John (1731-3/23/1768),

born after the father's will was made, married Phebe Clark, daughter of Jotham Clark, about 1754, and settled in the Westfield area on or before 1759. This John (4) died at the age of thirty-seven and was buried in the Westfield Presbyterian Churchyard. Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. thinks that it was his son, John (5) age twenty-two, who was the lone rateable of the Westfield Ward, listed for 1779/0 with thirty-five acres of land. Although the Ogden genealogy text carries a notation that he married some Hannah, which may not be true, nothing else is known about this John (5).

28. James (3) (1709), third son of John (2), married Mary Crocheron about 1736/7 and resided at Connecticut Farms. No will seems to have been made and he was buried at Connecticut Farms on January 11, 1777 with age given at sixty-eight. His oldest son, Isaiah (c1741-2/23/1814) was said to have married Deborah (Halsey) Magie (d.1836?), widow of Jonathan Magie and daughter of Joseph Halsey, and was supposed to have lived at New Providence near Springfield. He was listed with the rateables of the Springfield Ward with seventy acres of land. Isaiah and Deborah had four sons, one, a Jonathan who married an Elizabeth Townley, daughter of Richard, the great grandson of Colonel Richard and Elizabeth (Smith)(Lawrence)(Carteret) Townley. Elizabeth Smith was the first first lady of New Jersey, wife of Governor James Carteret, first governor, and later wife of Colonel Richard Townley, who served on a later governor's counsel and was said to have had the highest social standing of his day in East New Jersey. James (c1755-3/8/1828), second son of James (3), who married Hannah Foster, is believed to be the rateable of the Town Ward in 1779 who had one hundred acres, three horses, four head of cattle, and one hundred and seventy-one pounds loaned out on interest. He was buried in the Presbyterian Churchyard at Connecticut Farms, and was said to have been a Revolutionary War soldier. Aaron (1755/7-1789), third and last son of James (3), is assumed to be the rateable of the Town Ward, a single man working for hire in 1779, but a house holder in 1780 with eighty-three acres of land. He made his will in 1789 and must have been in excellent financial circumstances for a man of thirty-four as he gave to his wife a mare, a riding chair and one hundred pounds. He divided an unspecified amount of land among his sons stating, however, if his unborn infant was a girl she was to receive fifty pounds. Aaron died March 4, 1789, age thirty-four (born c1755) and was buried in the Connecticut Farms Presbyterian Churchyard. His wife, Hannah, died on August 27, 1846, age ninety.

29. David (3) (1713/4-1787), the youngest son of John (2) was married about 1736/7 to Elizabeth Marsh, daughter of Joshua and Sarah Marsh. He seemed to have lived up until 1763 in the Town Ward in or near his deceased father's home at which time he moved to or beyond Connecticut Farms. During the war, the

family was living on the Elizabethtown Road between Springfield and Connecticut Farms as a Colonial Army report stated "We retired toward Springfield until they came with their advance to David Meeker's house". Listed among the rateables of 1779 in the Springfield Ward, David had fifty acres, three horses, six head of horned cattle and two pigs. Elizabeth (Marsh) Meeker died in 1782 and was buried in the Elizabeth Presbyterian graveyard. David, who made his will in 1787 the year he died, had four sons, all of whom are known to have had sons, fourteen in number. His oldest son, Abraham was married about 1759 to an Elizabeth Tichenor (c1739-9/3/1805), one of the three sisters who married Meekers. Abraham, a soldier of the Revolution, died while home on a visit and left Elizabeth with nine young children. It is assumed that he lived somewhere in the Springfield or Connecticut Farms areas. The second son, David, Jr. married Sarah Mills in 1769 and lived in Westfield and a third son, John, married Patience Wade. Michael (1753-1834), a pension case of the Revolution and the youngest son of David (3), was born, so his daughter said, on June 10, 1753 in Elizabeth and resided there (supposedly with his father) until age twenty-one when he moved to Union Township (Connecticut Farms) where he lived the rest of his life. He married Mary Edwards (c1758-1853+), the daughter of Jacob Edwards and his wife, Effie Speir (Dutch). Mary was the sister of Captain John Edwards of the Revolution who married Hannah Meeker, the daughter of "Old" Timothy, and of the Reverend Moses Edwards who married Desire Meeker, sister of Hannah. The children of his son, Moses (c1793), were named on one of the pension applications as John, Elizabeth and Phebe.

BOX FOUR

THE WILL OF BENJAMIN MEEKER

dated 5/9/1705, proved 6/21/1707

- To his wife, Elizabeth, all movable estate; also house and lot so long as she remained his widow.
- To son, William, twenty acres where his house now stands joining Jonas Wood. (Old Meeker Homestead)
- To son, Jonathan, seventeen acres, the rest of the land joining William's twenty acres.
- To son, Thomas, one hundred acres, joining John Meeker and bought of Samuel Hopkins.
- To sons, William, Jonathan and Daniel one hundred and fifty acres "lying neare the Ash swamp".
- To son, Daniel, forty acres lying near to "Daniell Sayre farme".
- To son, Samuel, the home lot bought of Samuel Hopkins, also nine acres in new field; also thirteen acres of land called "Barbers Ridge.
- To son, Joseph, all of house and land lying in old field joining Joseph Ogden.
- To sons, William, Jonathan, Daniel, Samuel and Joseph all the meadow ground that is all ready surveyed to Benjamin (2).
- To sons, William, Benjamin, Jonathan, Daniell, Samuell, Thomas and Joseph Meaker" all the rights of land and meadow (supposingly the undivided land owned by the associates from Indian Purchases of 1664).

Charles H. Meeker, Jr., has estimated the birthdates:

Benjamin (c1775)	Samuel (c1683)
William (9/13/1677)	Thomas (c1685)
Jonathan (c1679)	Joseph (c1687/8)
Daniel (c1681)	

Inventory of personal estate, 6/23/1707, total 94 pounds and 8 shillings. Live stock: 20 head of cattle, 41 sheep, two sows and six pigs. There was "a perssell of old Bookes", 6 shillings.

Rockway

Caldwell

Morristown

Livingston

Belleville

Madison

Newark

Cheapside

New Providence

Union

Elizabeth

Scotch Field
Plainfield

Woodbridge

SECTION THREE

DESCENDANTS OF BENJAMIN (3), WILLIAM (3) AND MR. DANIEL

30. There appeared up in Sussex County and on or across the border into New York State close to the state of Pennsylvania a Benjamin who did not appear to have been a member of the Robert Meeker family of Connecticut. As a Benjamin (c1700) seemed to have disappeared from Elizabeth about that time with his approximate birth date right for the Sussex Benjamin and some of the family names up in Sussex fitting with his father's family, Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. has assumed that this was he, the eldest son of Benjamin (3). He likely lived close to Unionville, New York, as some of his or his son's families attended church there and were buried there. Our authority, Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. is somewhat uncertain as to the names and number of his children. This family must have been quite prominent in Sussex County, as his son, Samuel, became a major in the Revolution, a rank that likely didn't fall to many in that county. The father back in Elizabethtown in his will of 1744 had indicated that Benjamin (4) was living at that time and was in good circumstances. ("Whereas I have already given to my oldest son Benjamin Meeker sufficient to purchase him a settlement in Lands and he has thereby procured a good Settlement already . . .").

31. It is not known here where Samuel (1716/7-1757), youngest son of Benjamin (3) might have lived, but from parts of his father's will one gathers the impression that he was expected to live in the father's home, supposedly quite near Elizabethtown. However, at that time he was about twenty-eight years old and had been married to Rachel for about seven years. The father, the blacksmith, appeared to own some or considerable land of which two thirds was to go directly to Samuel, the rest to follow after the mother's death. This Samuel died a few years after his father at about the age of forty leaving supposedly three sons. A descendant of Samuel, another Samuel (1849-1902), uncle of the present Charles H. Meeker, Jr. and a student of Meeker Genealogy, provided the information (recorded in *The Passaic Valley, New Jersey, in Three Centuries*) that the children of Samuel (4) were the persons of Captain Samuel, Matthias and Benjamin. This seems to have been right, the three men did exist, had the right birth dates, and the names of Samuel and Benjamin were proper expectations. Moreover there is little chance of placing them elsewhere unless in some unknown and unexpected branch of the Thomas line. According to the genealogy text of the Ogdens, there was a William Halstead, descendant of John Ogden, who married a Phebe Meeker (1749-1836) and had a son, John Halstead who married the daughter of Governor William Sanford Pennington. As Samuel (4) had a mother and a sister, Phebe, and as Mrs. Phebe Halstead had a son,

Samuel, not an immediate Halstead name, one can accept the possibility that she might have been a younger sister of those three brothers, sons of Samuel (4). (Their four birth dates: 1738/9, 1744, 1745, and 1749).

32. This oldest son of Samuel (4), Captain Samuel (c1738-c1800), was a trader who lived at Short Hills on the edge of Springfield. He was married in Westfield on December 14, 1760 to a Mary Clark, daughter of James Clark, from whom he had four children, two sons and two daughters. He was listed among the rateables of 1779 as owning one hundred and thirty-six acres, three horses, seven head of cattle, and a riding chair. This leads one to think of him as a rather well-to-do man. Only one other Meeker listed had more acres than he and none had a riding chair. This riding chair must have been an expensive luxury as it seemed to have been about the only personal estate taxed besides live stock. During the war he served as a first lieutenant and as vice-captain in the Essex County Troop of Light Horse. His home was burned by the British soldiers at the time of the battle of Springfield.

33. When The Genealogy Magazine of New Jersey came out in September, 1970, with the rateable list for the Mendham Township of Morris County for the years of 1778 and 1780, Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. was somewhat surprised in that the name of a William Meeker appeared, showing an assessment for one hundred and forty acres and apparently one-third of a sawmill. Only four Williams were known to have been living at that time, none appearing acceptable to have been this man. Mr. Meeker finally agreed that that person was most likely his ancestor, William (8/6/1762-1/3/1831) son of Captain Samuel, age fifteen years and nine months in May of 1778. However, as that particular item in the magazine was a little obscure as to which year the assessment might have been, William could have been two years older. What must have happened was that Captain Samuel, a well-to-do man, had bought timber land in that place which was probably just opening up, and along with two others, a third of a sawmill. Although he may have put this in his son's name, he at least sent him along to look after the family's interest. This William was back in Springfield on June 23, 1780 as he took part in the battle of Springfield and on March 31, 1782, married Sarah Hays of Westfield. He was apparently living not far from Morristown (possibly Mendham Township) in 1783 as the church record there shows a child born to him that year, others later. By 1790, William and his wife had joined the Morristown Church only, according to the record, to move away some time later. In 1798, William bought one hundred and fifteen acres lying beside the Rahway River in the Westfield Ward. Over in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, his younger brother, Samuel, had become a merchant.

BOX FIVE

THE WILL OF JOHN MEEKER

dated 3/1/1731,

proved 4/2/1731.

To his three granddaughters, Sarah Griffing, Rebekah Whitehead and Hannah Talmadge, three lbs. each.

To his daughter, Eunice, after all debts, etc. are paid, remainder of personal estate.

To his grandson, John (only son of dec'd son, John), one-half part land called old field.

To son, David, the homestead, dwelling house and barn where he then dwelt, and other one-half part of land called the old field. But if he died before age of twenty-one without issue than all goes to surviving brothers, Robert and James.

To son, James, all of tract of land containing five acres adjoining John Tompson.

To sons, Robert and James, farm of seventy acres, adjoining Thomas Squire and James Hindes, with the buildings to be in Robert's part. Also "all my rights of land and meadows yet to be surveyed in the whole bounds and purchase of Elizabeth Town".

To sons, Robert, James and David, all meadows already laid out.

James was to enjoy David's part until David became of age, and was to bring up his brother, David.

He did not mention a wife.

34. The second son of Samuel (4), Matthias (1744-1832) who married Jane Parsons, first lived in Springfield and later in Morristown. His name appeared on the rateable list of 1779 showing him at that time to be living in the Springfield Ward with fifty-four acres of land. He was thought to have been a prominent citizen of the neighborhood and active in public affairs. His name appeared on numerous documents and he was said to have been town assessor of the Springfield Township in 1795. This date does not seem to fit with the Morristown Presbyterian Church records which show Jane received into the church on July 2, 1790 and Matthias on April 30, 1799. However, the distance to Morristown from the Springfield Ward was a little under eight miles. His daughter, Chloe, married Dr. Moses Elmer, a physician.

35. The third son of Samuel (4), Benjamin (1745-1812), married Mary Griffith about 1770 and had two sons, Benjamin (6) and Samuel. If Benjamin (6) was the Benjamin who married Esther Headley, he lived first at Springfield, later Brooklyn, New York. He was a carpenter by trade and was buried along with his wife at Connecticut Farms. Benjamin (5) (1745) was quite likely the Benjamin listed as a rateable in 1779 of the Springfield Ward and the Benjamin in 1780 of the Newark Township (possibly near Lyons Farms). His business did not seem to have been farming as he owned no land. He served as a soldier in the American Revolution.

36. Turning to the sons of William (3), David (c1709-11/10/1741), the oldest, who married Abigail was dead at the time of his father's will and had two small children. The son, David (5) (c1740-1799), married a Sarah, perhaps Pierson, and had three children. As far as can be determined David (5) was the rateable of 1779 in the Town Ward, living on twenty-five acres with a horse and a cow. Apparently he was a tradesman, believed to have been a mason not a farmer, dwelling on a small plot of land not far from Lyons Farms.

37. Jonathan (11/8/1712-10/5/1781), the second son of William (3), first married a Rebekah (11/10/1722-1/12/1746) on March 3, 1740, lived near the "Old Meeker Home at Lyons Farms and had two children. After the early death of Rebekah, he married in 1748 a Sarah Marsh (1714) and had three more children. This Jonathan, probably a tradesman, was likely the Jonathan listed among the rateables of the Town Ward in 1779 as the owner of thirty-five acres.

38. The only son of Jonathan (4) to reach maturity was the Captain Jonathan of the Revolutionary War who in 1765 married Mary Ogden (1744-1774), daughter of a John (4) Ogden, and had three children. After her death, he married a Rachel Denman and had eight more. Some of the children of his family gave indications of moderate wealth. Jonathan (6) who married a Martha

Swain of Newark had along with his brother, Denman, established a pottery in that town. Later on in 1814, Denman, who married a Mary Maxwell (1787) on July 20, 1806 and had in time thirteen children, moved to Suscasunna Plains, near Morrision. Jonathan (6) remained in Newark and had eight children. In 1835/6, Elihu and Obadiah had the Elli and Oba Meeker's Iron Work and Foundry located in Newark near the stone bridge. Hannah, a daughter of the first marriage, married in 1789 a Captain Timothy Bigelow, the son of wealthy parents of Hanover Township, Morris County. David married to an Elizabeth Mundy went to New York City and Brooklyn and had seven children. A younger brother, Moses had by 1810 first married Mary R. Henry (1790-1829) and gone to Cincinnati, Ohio, where he became noted in the lead mining business. Later he married an Eliza P. Shakelton (1809-1903) and by 1838 had moved to Shullsburg, Wisconsin where he was a physician. By both marriages he had thirteen children. His name with a short biography, along with two other Meekers, is recorded in the Dictionary of American Biography, by Stevard-Trowbridge. Joel, a son by the first marriage of Captain Jonathan, has been said to have been a farmer of Lyons Farms and to have married Sally Harrison on September 12, 1800.

39. The youngest brother of David (4) and Jonathan (4) was an Isaac (1715/0-1772/7) who married Hannah Smith (1724-1764) and became the third known resident of the "Old Meeker Homestead". He had only sons, William and Josiah. William (5) first married Charity Harrison and lived for a time in Schenectady, New York. About 1785 he had returned to Elizabeth and married Phebe Osborne, daughter of Elias Osborne. Only some of his children are known: Isaac (1779-1857+) of Schenectady, and Eliakim (d. by 1859) of Troy, New York, later Jersey City, New Jersey, by his first wife, and an Elias-Osborne (1790-1834) by his second wife. William (5) must have lived quite close to his brother, Josiah, and the "old" home as the cousin, Captain Jonathan, stated in his will that both had property joining his. Elias-Osborne married in 1813 Nancy Dodd and lived near Orange (Newark Township). Josiah, a soldier of the Revolution, married Phebe Baldwin (1759-1820), supposed daughter of Matthias Baldwin, and along with the "old" home where he lived, came in for some tall tales of the Revolutionary times. In the little booklet, *Historic Newark*, the writers tell how a "Harvey Birch" Meeker (Josiah) outwits the British and about "the Meeker House, home of a brave colonial spy". (There was a remarkable colonial spy, but his name was John, not Josiah! See para. 57.) As Josiah had only a daughter that married, the ownership of the home passed out from under the name, but a descendant of his was to own and to live there until 1914.

40. Nathaniel (4), who died at the age of fifty-two, was the only son of Mr. Daniel to have had sons, five in number. He is supposed to have been a farmer of

the Borough of Elizabeth who first married a daughter (born in 1723) of Peter Salnave and Sarah Hatfield. Sarah Hatfield (1700/2-1764), the daughter of Cornelius Hatfield, was a fairly close relative of General Elias Dayton of Revolutionary War fame. Nathaniel and his first wife had at least one son, Gabriel, who married Sarah Kinney (1741-1801) in 1768 and later moved to Morris County near Morristown. For a second wife, Nathaniel married a Sarah and had other children, one, Lieutenant Usual. Nothing is known here of sons: Nathaniel who married Esther Littell, and Michael. The son, John (1763/4-1012/1800), was a tanner living in the Springfield Ward who married Sarah Potter (2/20/1771-1817) and had five children. Although there is a slight mix-up as to dates, this is likely the John who died intestate in 1799 of the Springfield Ward and whose estate was administered by a Sarah Meeker. There are no Johns named on the index list of property settlements and wills after 1799 in Essex County. Sarah Potter for a second husband married an old man, Joseph Horton (1736-1807), later she was married to a Tuttle.

41. Gabriel (2/23/1747-3/29/1808) is chiefly noted as a member of the New Jersey Militia who volunteered one cold night to attack and capture the British supply ship, Blue Mountain Valley, marooned far out in the harbor. He was listed on the rateable list of 1780 as living at or near Morristown with no land, but with one hundred and eighty-seven pounds out on loan. His first child had died on October 19, 1770 and was buried in the Elizabeth Presbyterian Churchyard. Andrew, oldest son of Gabriel, married Margaret Parker (1784-1863), had about nine children and appeared to have lived very close to Morristown. The son, Daniel who married Sarah H. Richards, the daughter of Jonathan Richards a well-to-do highly respected citizen of Hanover Township, was a farmer living out near Chatham who had at least three children. The third son, John, seems to have been the John, a stone mason, who must have lived on the east side of and next to the Presbyterian Church in Parsippany, Morris County. The difficulty in placing this John of Parsippany lay in his widow's pension application (War of 1812), which gives two different approximate birth dates that imply the same birth date as that of the supposed brother, Daniel. However, the widow, a former Miss Sarah Cooper (c1800), whom he married on March 28, 1839, stated that they both were born in Morris County, which narrows the prospect of his relationship of being none other than the son of Gabriel.

42. Second Lieutenant Usual (Uzal) (1/15/1757-9/3/1829) of the American Revolution, fourth child of Nathaniel (4), married Elizabeth Heaten (4/14/1763-1829), a lady probably of Dutch origin, in 1792 in a Dutch Reformed Church up in Bergen County, the same year he bought his home there.

He lived on a lot of twenty acres for which he paid \$575. The Bible record as reported in the pension application named seven children.

BOX SIX

Benjamin Meeker (4) (c1699/3-1761+) of Goshen Township, Orange County, New York, had children:

Benjamin, Jr. (5), who died a widower in 1790 having had four daughters: Abigail, Lois, a Mrs. Baly, and a Mrs. Job Smith.

Stephen (5) (c1732-1790+) of Goshen Township.

Abigail (10/28/1734-3/10/1814) married Isaiah Vail in 1751 and lived in Walkkill Township, Orange County.

Phebe (c1740), who died March 5, 1808, aged sixty-three, married James Dolsen, Sr., a farmer of Dolsentown, Goshen Township.

Major Samuel (5) (c1747-1804) of the Revolutionary War married a Sarah and had daughters, Mrs. Isaac Cary, Jr and Phebe (11/8/1781-11/3/1856) married to William Wickhan. There also seems to have been a Samuel, Jr.

Nathaniel (5) (c1741-1804), a farmer of Wantage Township, Sussix County, New Jersey, died on May 2, 1804, aged sixty-three. He married a Phebe (c1738-1789) and the executors of his will were his son, Jephtha, and a cousin, Asa Dolsen. The two daughters received one hundred and two pounds each. Their children were:

Jephtha (6) (c1764/6-1812) married to Catherine Clark (bapt. 1766-1846), who was a farmer of Wantage Township. Their children were:

Phebe (1788-1886) married to John Elston.

Sarah (1791-1863) married to Lindsley Meeker (10/9/1792-3/20/1869), son of Henry, William, Timothy Meeker (4).

Mary (1795-1863) married to Charles Smith of Wantage.

Asa Meeker (4/25/1798-7/25/1798).

James (1801-1868) married to a Aminda M. Rogers.

Mary, born by 1770 and married in 1787/8 to a James Clark, Jr. (9/8/1768).

Martha (1770/9) married to a Clark.

Elizabeth (c1761), who died September 10, 1824, aged sixty-three married on October 15, 1786 in the Goshen Presbyterian Church to Ananias Valentine (1760-1/16/1825). (Not sure as to who her father was.)

SECTION FOUR

DESCENDANTS OF JOSPEH (3) AND DANIEL, SR. (3)

43. One of the difficulties, the Stephen problem, that seemed a year or two ago to be unsolvable broke when the over-all picture of the entire Meeker family became clearer. About all the information available concerning his origin had come from a descendant who stated that Stephen was born in 1695, the son of a Joseph and a grandson of William (1). Also a granddaughter of Stephen carried the middle name of Marsh indicating a descent from Comfort Marsh, the first wife of Joseph (2). However, this never did seem to fit Stephen, he was a little too young to have been a son of Joseph (2), his marriage date of c1728 seemed to have been a little late, and no collaborating evidence ever appeared to support this family claim. Besides it had become evident that Joseph (2) could hardly have had but one son, the mariner, in 1702. What must have happened was that Stephen was born later, perhaps around 1705, and his father was Joseph (3), not Joseph (2). The Judge had appointed Stephen to some minor position in the settlement of Joseph's (3) estate which went to four unnamed heirs. By a process of elimination, Stephen could hardly fit elsewhere, the wills of John (2) and Benjamin (2) along with those of the sons of Benjamin (2) fairly well determined that likelihood. Only Thomas (3) remained as a possible sire and nothing seemed to suggest that possibility. Moreover, when a comparison of names were made, a rather extra-ordinary coincident of names appeared. Phebe the wife of Joseph (3) was thought to have been a Crane and more than likely related to a Stephen Crane, and Stephen had children, Elizabeth and Phebe, reminiscent of Joseph's daughter, Elizabeth Price, and his wife, Phebe. There were also three significant similarities of names among the children of Stephen and the supposed brother, Joseph (4), that not only strongly suggested brother relationship, but leads one to suppose that the two other unnamed heirs of Joseph (3) must have been girls named Sara and Rhoda.

Children of Stephen and Mary:

Stephen, Elizabeth, Sarah, Obediah, Mary, Phebe, Rhoda and Child.

Children of Joseph (4) and Rachel Lyons:

Phebe, Mary, Rachel, Azuba, Hannah, Rhoda, Joseph-Stephen, Benjamin and Sarah.

44. Stephen could not have been born as early as 1695 if a son of Joseph (3) (1680). His marriage to Mary about 1728 or a little later makes 1705 a logical birth date. Judging from his son's, Captain Obediah's will, Stephen lived in the Lyons Farms area, about where Bound Creek changed in its flow from an easterly direction to a northerly one. His will and the accompanying inventory show him to have died a rich man, almost a must if he was an heir of Joseph (3). He

had about seven hundred and seven pounds personal estate which he divided among his wife and daughters. Acting as a banker he had loans to sixteen persons totaling two hundred and thirty-four pounds and a list of small loans totaling better than forty-seven pounds. Twice he mentioned his cider house, going to his Widow as though it provided a business of no small concern. He owned a half interest in a sloop, the "Sarah and Mary" reminiscent of Joseph's (3) sloops, the "Elizabeth" and the Patience". His real estate must have been extensive, as his sons got only land and sons then got the lion's share of about everything, besides one son, Captain Obediah, also died a rather rich man. Nothing is known about the unborn child expected at the time of the will, but Charles H. Meeker, Jr. thinks that it may have been a son, David. Hatfield in his history written in 1868 reports a David Meeker, trustee of the Second Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth who was ordained an elder in 1820, and the Meyer's map of Elizabethtown (1780) in Thayer's *As We Were* shows a lot of David Meeker across the street from the home of General Elias Dayton. (Strangely enough, as this home is on the right facing the street leading to Newark, it looks as though David might have been living in the home of Joseph Meeker, original settler of Elizabeth — the new stone house of that gift to his son).

45. Stephen (4) had two or three sons, one a Captain Obediah who made his will in 1829. While inheriting only a half or a third of his father's land estate, Obediah finished his life span with a hundred and eighty acres astride Bound Creek, west of where the airport is today, upon which besides himself a son lived and it would seem a third person, a renter. He also rented out a farm of sixty-eight acres in Morris County and another of two hundred acres in Sussex County. He owned a rented house and lot in Newark and had money out on loan with interest. His personal estate totaled three thousand four hundred and seventy-four dollars (716 pounds, counting \$4.85 a pound). Thayer in his history *As We Were: The Story of Old Elizabethtown* says that Obediah was a noted townsman and by October 1775 a captain of one of sixteen companies of eye-catching "Plummed Light Horse commanded by Colonel Matthias Williamson" and was still serving in that capacity in 1793. However, his war record shows him as a first lieutenant later raised to a captain in the Contentanal Army. According to Thayer, he served as a first lieutenant in a company of old men as home guards in the War of 1812. He was a ruling elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Elizabeth in 1820 and ordained deacon in 1823. He first married Comfort Johnson by whom he had six children, one, Obediah the only son to reach maturity, married Jerusha-Cook Harrison and lived on the home place. The inventory of this Obediah, Jr. (6) personal estate made in 1855 showed bonds and notes on interest of \$4689.30 with the total inventory being \$6743.58 (1390 pounds).

BOX SEVEN

EARLY DAUGHTERS

name	birth-death	father	married
Sarah	1654	William (1)	unknown
Mary	1656	William (1)	unknown
Eunice	App. 1710	John (2)	a Morris
Daughters	App. 1695/15	John (2)	unknown
Abigail	1722/3	Daniel, Sr. (3)	David Conklin
Anna	App. 1745	James (3)	never married
Elizabeth	1712/3-1731	Capt. Joseph (3)	Benjamin Price
Elizabeth	App. 1700/20	Jonathan (3)	a Thompson
Elizabeth	App. 1738/53-1787+	David (3)	never married
Esther	1710/1-1750	Benjamin (3)	Stephen Hinds
Esther	1759	James (3)	Samuel Foster
Frances	1748	James (3)	Waters Burrows
Hannah	1748	James (3)	Edward Hall
Jemimah	App. 1700/20	Jonathan (3)	a Chandler
Joanna	1726/7-1770	John (3)	Nathan Baldwin
Keziah	App. 1700/20	Jonathan (3)	a Woodruff
Martha	App. 1700/20	Jonathan (3)	a Woodruff
Mary	App. 1700/20	Jonathan (3)	an Ogden
Mary	1711/2-1778	Daniel, Sr. (3)	Joseph Cory
Mary	c1729-1768	John (3)	Amos Potter
Mary	1739-1797	James (3)	Ephram Sayre
Mary	c1738/53-1787	David (3)	never married
Phebe	1705/6	Benjamin (3)	Nehemiah Ludlum
Rachel	1725-1774	Mr. Daniel (3)	Abraham Clark
Rebecca	1753	James (3)	Sineon Moorhouse
Rebekah	1727/8	John (3)	David Squier
Sarah	c1710/5	Mr. Daniel	Abraham Clark
Sarah	1722/3-1799	Benjamin (3)	Isaac Woodruff
Susanna	c1738/53	David (3)	an Ayres
Daughter	App. 1710/25	Mr. Daniel (3)	John Thompson
Daughters	App. 1705/25	Capt. Joseph (3)	unknown

App. means approximate.

46. Stephen (5) oldest child of Stephen (4), married Phebe Alling, daughter of John Alling (Allen) and his first wife, Joanna Ogden, the widow of John (3) Meeker (see par. # 27), around 1753 when he was about twenty-two and a year or so after he had come into his inheritance. To this family was born eleven children, five sons reaching maturity and marrying. Stephen (5) died intestate at the age of forty-seven, thus leaving no information of his financial accomplishment. Obediah, or Obed the soldier, son of Stephen (5) was born on November 5, 1763 in Elizabeth Township and enlisted in the spring of 1778 as a private in the American Revolution. He married on March 13, 1824 an Elizabeth (c1781), widow of a William Crane. Both received pensions as residents of Union Township, Essex County. This Obadiah (6) must have been married before as it is said that an Abraham Scudder married a Joanna Meeker, daughter of one of the Obadiahs of Lyons Farms in 1807. As she does not appear to have been the daughter of Captain Obadiah, and was entirely too young to be the daughter of his son, Obadiah (1782), she must have been this Obadiah's daughter.

47. Little doubt exists that Joseph (4) (11/4/1717-5/21/1777) was the son of Joseph (3). He bore the right name and had a daughter, Phebe, the same name as his mother, Phebe Crane. The comparison of his children's names with that of his supposed brother, Stephen (4), shows close relationship (see par. 43) and the possibility of a parent elsewhere was about nonexistent unless it would have been that of Robert (3) or Thomas (3). Two of Joseph's (4) children and a few grandchildren and great grandchildren were buried in the same grave section as was the mariner, Joseph (3). One son, Joseph (5), was buried with but two graves between him and that of his grandfather. Then from what little is known, Joseph (4) gave every appearance of being quite well-to-do, a son of a wealthy parent. One would suppose that he lived at least during his youth in the "new stone" house of his grandfather in Elizabethtown. Eight years after his father's death at the age of twenty two he married Rachel (12/12/1717-2/19/1800), daughter of Benjamin Lyon, and lived for the next twelve years or so in the Elizabethtown locality. By 1751 he had moved to or near Madison, close to Morristown, as his daughter, Hannah, was born there that year. Some years later he must have moved to Rockaway up in the iron country of Morris County where he purchased a piece of land and seemed to have owned another inherited from his father nearby at Franklin. Joseph was not likely interested in farming as the land up there was used for timber to feed the iron mills and to mine iron ore. He died at the age of sixty and was buried at Rockaway. The family may have spent part time living in Elizabethtown as the daughter, Azuba, in her marriage to Moses Miller, son of Enoch Miller of Westfield, was said to have been of

Elizabeth. The Meyer's map of Elizabethtown for 1780 printed in the Thayer history, *As We Were*, shows a twenty-one acre lot in the north east corner of town owned by a Joseph Meeker in which a part had been bought or sold in 1768. The wife, Rachel, died twenty-two years after her husband and was buried in Madison. One of the two questions involved with this Joseph concerns the burial and residence at Rockaway as the dates in the markings on the grave stone are weather worn and the research specialists can not be sure as to who that Joseph Meeker was. Actually there are no other reasons to think that he lived beyond Madison except the doubtful one of the ownership of the two pieces of land near Rockaway. The other concerns his occupation. After his death, his only son, Joseph (5) age twenty, returned to or remained in) the Elizabeth Township where he became a miller.

48. Joseph-Stephen (2/28/1757-10/24/1803), the one son of Joseph (4) to reach maturity must have married Mary Magie (Ma gee') (c1762-1834) about 1779 as he was listed that year as a rateable in the Town Ward of the Elizabeth Township. Also his oldest child was born in 1781/2. Apparently he was not a farmer. Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. says that at one time he operated a grain mill at Salem near Lyons Farms on the Newark Township boundary line. He died at the age of forty six and was buried at Elizabethtown, quite near his grandfather's grave. His will was made on October 10, 1803 and proved February 29, 1804. At that time he owned a house and lot in Elizabethtown occupied by a William Crane; a house and farm near Elizabethtown that he had lately live in, now occupied by the widow, Mason; also other lands in Essex County and two sections of land in the west. The inventory of his personal estate was given at \$4420.80 (911 pounds, using \$4.85 to a pound). He had ten children, five sons reaching maturity.

49. Very little is known here about the descendants of Daniel (3), Sr. from Connecticut, beyond the knowledge that he had three sons. The father in his will of 1759 was concerned in the future care of his eldest son, Daniel, Jr. which indicated that the son was in some way afflicted or crippled which led Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. to believe that he had never married, particularly as nothing had ever appeared to indicate otherwise. ("and whereas my son Daniel Meeker by reason of sickness or otherwise become utterly unable to provide for himself . . ."). No provisions were made for children of this Daniel (5) and the estate which was laid aside to provide for him (under his brother's care) was to go to others of the family after his death. The second son, Abraham, probably the rateable of the Springfield Ward credited with fifty acres in 1779, had only daughters. The youngest son, Moses, who married a Hannah, died in 1753 at the age of thirty three, leaving three infant children, a daughter and two sons. His

son, Moses (5), first married an Abigail and had five children, later he married Mary Clark and had five more. Six of those ten were sons.

50. The oldest son of Moses (4), a John (c1748/0) who married an Elizabeth about 1769, appeared to live on his grandfather's homestead somewhere on the Westfield road a short distance from Elizabethtown. A daughter supposedly his, Sarah, died sometime between 1770 and 1779 and was buried in the Elizabeth Presbyterian churchyard. Some John Meeker died on November 11, 1779 and was buried in the same graveyard but a question arises as to whether that was John (5), son of Moses. The rateable of the Town Ward in 1779, John, Esq., who owned fifty acres and the William's ferry died some time during that year and should be the one who died on November 11, 1779; but it doesn't seem probably that John (5), son of Moses, was old enough to have been a magistrate which that title implies. Furthermore, there is no indication that John Leighton, whose wife inherited John's estate, owned or operated the William's ferry. At any rate, John died some time around that date or perhaps earlier as his estate was settled on May 5, 1783 by administrators composed of his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Leighton, her second husband, John Leighton, and a William Garthwaite. (That the second husband was involved in the settlement indicated that John had been dead for some time). John Leighton apparently obtained the landed estate as he willed it all including other property to Elizabeth on October 9, 1804. As far as known here, John and Elizabeth had but one child, Hannah (1770-1813+), to reach maturity and who married Henry Weaver in 1787. Elizabeth (Meeker) Leighton was supposed to have died in Morristown on August 27, 1824.

BOX EIGHT

COURTHOUSE RECORDS 1740-1755

The names on the opposite page were acquired by Charles H. Meeker, Jr. from four sources:

- (1)The 1740-52 columns were copied from a list of approximately 20,000 names occurring in the Essex County Court Minutes alphabetically indexed by a William Y. Pryer for the Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey beginning in Volume 28 and ending in Volume 31.
- (2)The 1744 column was copied from a list made by Orra E. Monette of Meekers, named in the records of the Elizabeth Bill in Chancery which contains 309 names of persons involved in legal action concerning a dispute over the titles to land between the Associates and Proprietors of July 1744. The name of one person, Isack (number seven) was recorded as of Newark Township.
- (3)The 1755 column was obtained from a sheriff's list of Essex County citizens, freeholders in September of 1755, as published by the Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey and the Proceeding of New Jersey Historical Society, 2nd. Series, Volume 13, page 25.
- (4)The exception, number 12 (Joseph of Hanover Township), was on the Sheriff's list of Morris County for August 1752 as published in the Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey, Volume 16, number 3, page 61.

The first set, containing three columns, has the date of the person's appearance in court listed in the second column. If the person appeared in more than one year, first and last years are given.

One cannot be sure that the identifications are correct or that similar names are placed on the proper line. There may have not been three Daniels listed in those records, as the title, Junior, was often affixed to the name of a younger man having the same name as an elder, regardless of their relationship. As Captain Samuel was sixteen or seventeen in 1755, the Sam'l, jun. of the fifth column might not have been he. There was another Samuel, husband of Anne Kyte, whose age is unknown. The John listed in the same column, need not be the John (1731), but some unknown John. Two names of persons, Timothy (1708/9) and Michael (1720/3-1755), are rather conspicuous because of absence from those records.

1740 - 1752			1744	1755	Possible Identifications	
1.	Abraham	1745 - 1750	Juryman	Abraham	Abra.	Abraham (4) (c1717)
2.	Daniel	1740 - 1752	Witness	Daniel	Daniel	Daniel, Sr. (3) (c1685) or
3.				Dan'l		Mr. Daniel (3) (c1680)
4./	Daniel, Jr.	1749		Daniel 4th	Dan'l, Jun.	Daniel md. Susannah Winans
5.				David	David	David (3) (c1713/4)
6.	Elizabeth	1745	Witness			
7.				Isaack		Isaac (4) (1715/0)
8.				James	James	James (3) (1709)
9.					John	John (4) (1731)
10.	Jonathan	1751		Jonathan		Jonathan (2) (c1679)
11.	Jonathan, Jr.	1749 - 1751			Jonathan, jun.	Jonathan (3) (1712)
12.					Joseph - Han. Tan.	Joseph (4) (1717)
13.	Moses	1745		Moses		Moses (4) (c1720)
14.	Nathaniel	1748 - 1751			Nath'l.	Nathaniel (4) (1722/3)
15.	Robert	1750	Juryman	Robert	Robert	Robert (3) (c1699/0)
16.				Samuel		Samuel (4) (c1716/7)
17.					Sam'l., jun.	Capt. Samuel (5) (c1738/9)
18.	Stephen	1751	Witness	Stephen		Stephen (4) (c1705)
19.	Thomas	1741				Thomas (3) (c1685)

CODE TO CHARTS

1. Some of the children are unknown here, others are left out due to unavailable space or possibly because their birth dates occur after 1780.
2. A father with more than one wife may have the names of his children separated by a short bar to indicate the proper mother of each set.
3. A name in parenthesis indicates a question, the name may be or may not be correct.
4. Names of children are usually by order of birth as far as known or suspected. A few changes in this order was made to fit the diagram need, which the birth date will show.
5. The little letter, m., indicates the word, married.
6. The little letter, c., occurring with a date indicates the word, about. Many birth dates were derived from grave markers obscuring the exact year (example: died March 20, 1830, age 50. The reader would not know whether the birth date was 1779 or 1780). Other birth dates are projected from the arrangement of names in a will where some birth dates are known, or from the parent's marriage date, wife's or husband's birth date, etc. Where nothing is known, the birth date is omitted. Some birth dates are much harder than others to pin-point.
7. Some same names are spelled or pronounced different, such as Margaret and Martha, or Squier and Square, or Joanna and Johanna.

CHART I

William (1) (c1620/5-1690) of Lyons Farms married Sarah Preston (c1626).

Joseph (2) (1648-1717+), Merchant and Mariner, resided to the north out of Elizabethtown, and married Comfort Marsh (8/22/1652). Their son,

Captain Joseph (3) (1680-1731), the Mariner, a wealthy shipowner of Elizabethtowne, was probably married to a Phebe Crane.

Benjamin (2) (1650-1706), Carpenter and large landowner of Elizabethtowne, married Elizabeth Thompson (c1654-1740+). Four of their sons were:

Benjamin (3) (c1675-1744/1), Blacksmith, had his shop located near stone bridge in the heart of Elizabethtowne. He married Phebe Clark (1681-1755).

William (3) (c1677-1744) resided in the "Old Meeker Home" at Lyons Farms and married Hannah Potter.

Mr. Daniel (3) (c1680/1-1757) located in the rural section out of Elizabethtowne and married Rachel.

Thomas (3) (c1785), likely located somewhere in the rural section out of Elizabethtowne.

John (2) (1666-1731), likely located near his nephew, Thomas, above and married Hannah Ogden. Their sons:

Robert (3) (c1699/0-1771), likely located in the rural section out of Elizabethtowne.

John (3) (c1703-1731), the Cooper, likely lived close to Elizabethtowne and married Joanna Ogden (c1706).

James (3) (1709-1777) lived in or near Connecticut Farms and married Mary Crocheron.

David (3) (c1713/4-1787) married Elizabeth March (d. 1782) and resided on the Springfield Road west of Connecticut Farms.

Daniel, Sr. (3) (c1689-c1760), grandson of Robert Meeker (1) of Fairfield, Connecticut, married Mary (1688-2/6/1770) and lived possibly close and to the west of Elizabethtowne.

CHART II

Capt. Joseph (3) (1680 - 1731), the
Mariner m. Phebe (Crane)

Stephen (4) (c1705-
1749) m. Mary

Elizabeth (1712/3-
1731) m.
Benjamin Price

Joseph (4) (1717-
1777) m.
Rachel Lyon

Stephen (5) (1731-1778)
m. Phebe Alling
Elizabeth (1734-1789)
m. John Lum
Sarah (c1736)
Capt. Obediah (5) (1738-
1829) m. Comfort
Johnson
Mary (c1740)
Phebe (c1742/3) m.
Benjamin Crane
Rhoda (c1746)
Child (1749)

Phebe (1740) m.
Matthias Crane
Mary (1742-1763)
Rachel (1744-1829) m.
Andrew Bryant
Azuba (1746-1784) m.
Moses Miller
Joseph S. (1749-1753)
Hannah (1751-1840) m.
Ephram Sayre
Rhoda (1754-1768)
Joseph (5) (1757-1803)
m. Mary Magie
Benjamin (1760-1767)
Sarah (1763-1769)

Rachel (1754) m. Meeker Squire (s. of Benj.)
Joanna (1756) m. Abner Sayre
Robert (6) (1758), died young
Esther (1760) m. John Potter
Prudence (1762) m. William Garthwaite
Obediah (6) (1763-1834) m. (Eliz.) Crane
Ezekiel (6) (1766) m. Phebe Spinning
Stephen (6) (1768-1857) m. Charity Crane
& Mary & Hannah Ogden
Abner (6) (1770) m. Mary Ball
Noah (6) (1773-1807) m. Charity Miller
Phebe (1775-1821) m. Ithamar Bonnell

Sarah (1765-1852) m. Obediah Lyon
David (1776-1776)
Elizabeth (c1779) m. Enoch Moore
Obediah (6) (1782-1855) m. Jerusha C. Harrison
Rhoda (1785-1816) m. Nathaniel Johnson
Polly m. Aaron Ward

Joseph-Stephen (1781/2-1784)
John-Magie (6) (1783-1822) m. Phebe Price
Phebe-Ogden (1780/9) m. Joseph Periam
Rachel (1780/9) m. Daniel Beach
David (6) (1789-1828) m. Abby R. Beach &
Frances Nesbitt
Joseph-Stephen (6) (1791) m. Mary-Ann Woodruff
Mary (1793/4) m. Isaac Beach
Jonathan (1795) m. Vashti Butler
Moses (6) (1796/7) m. Matilda Finley
Abigail-Ogden (1798) m. Stephen Woodruff

Daniel, Sr. (3) (c1685
-c1760) m. Mary

CHART III

Abraham (4) (c1717-1781)

Mary (1711/2-1778)
m. Joseph Cory

Moses (4) (c1720-1753) m. Hannah

Daniel (4) (c1714)
Abigail (1722/3)
m. David Conklin

Mary
Sarah
Rebekah
Child (1766-1766)

John (5) (c1748/0) m.
Elizabeth

Moses (5) (1753-1824) m.
Abigail & Mary Clark

Susannah (c1748/2)

Hannah (c1770-1813+) m. Henry Weaver

William (6) (1777-1851) m. Hannah Cory
Moses (1779-1791)

Abigail (c1781) m. Levi Darby

Daniel (6) (1783) m. Hannah Kyte (Ohio)

Mary (1784) m. Stephen Garthwaite

John C. (6) (1794/5) m. Sarah Woodworth

Benjamin (6) (1796/7) m. in 1823

Robert (6) (1799) m. Sally-Ann

Susan-Clark (1801) m. James-Wilson Voorhis

Child (1801/2)

Benjamin (3) (c1675 - 1744/51)
m. Phebe Clark

CHART IV

Benjamin (4) (c1699/3)

Phebe (1705/6) m.
Nehemiah Lutlum

Samuel (4) (1716/7 - 1757)
m. Rachel

Esther (1710/1-1750)

m. Stephen Hinds

Sarah (1722/3 - 1799)

m. Isaac Woodruff

Capt. Samuel (5) (c1738/9-
c1800+) m. Mary Clark

Matthias (5) (1744 - 1832)
m. Jane Parson

Benjamin (5) (1745 - 1812)
m. Mary Griffith

Mary (1761), never married

William (6) (1762 - 1831) m. Sarah Hays

Samuel (6) (1763) m. Nancy Bryant (Pa.)

Phebe m. Alex. Cocran & Joseph Brookfield

Jane m. William Ross

William-Parson (6) (d.1812), never married

Matthias (1771 - 1771)

Chloe (c 1773 - 1833) m. Dr. Moses Elmer

Elizabeth-Halstead (1783) m. James Wood

Benjamin (6) (1773 - 1849) m. Esther Headley

Samuel (6) (1780/9 - 1850) m. Eliz. Halsey

Mary (1778) m. Jonathan Burnet

CHART V

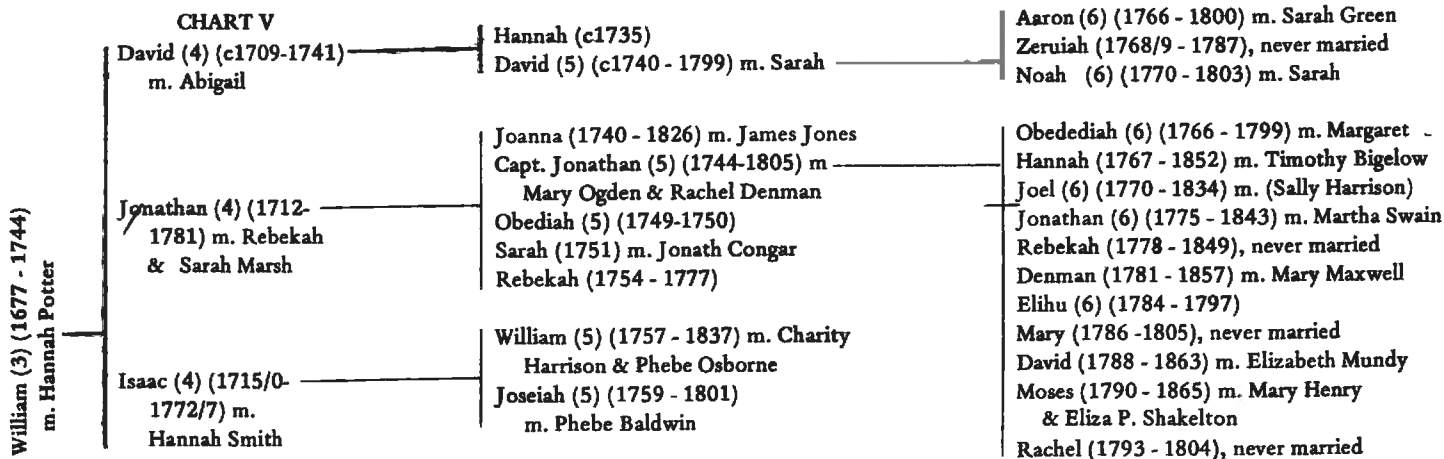


CHART VI

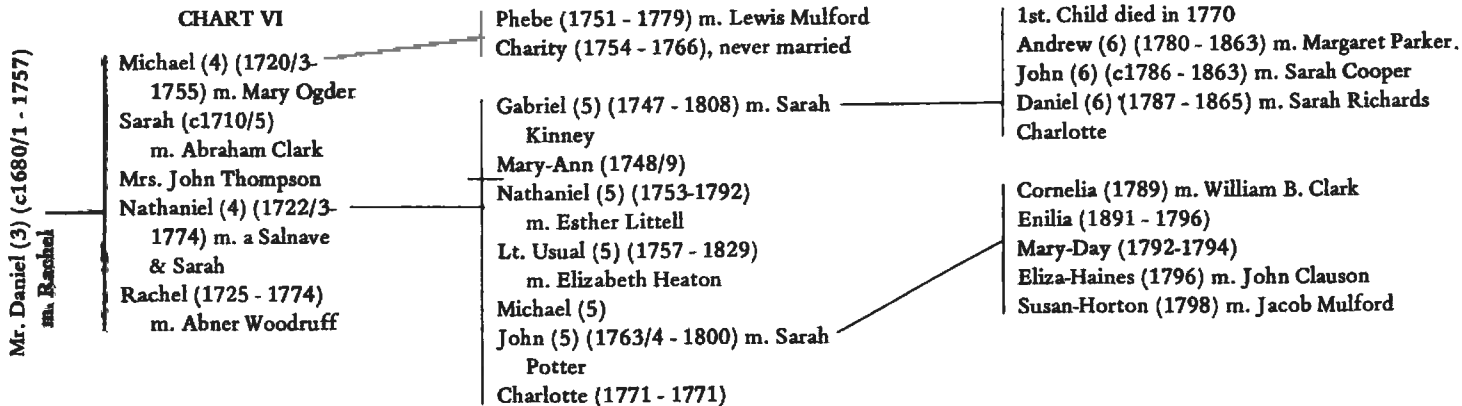


CHART VII

Thomas (3) (c1685)

Timothy (4)
(1708/9-1798)
m. Sarah
Pierson &
Miss Munn &
Desire Cory

Capt. Joseph (5)
(c1737-1799/16)
m. Mary Smith

Sarah (1738) m.
Isaac Smith, Jr.

Jonas (5) (1740/1-
1763/4) m.
Sarah Osborne (1716-1783?)

John (5) (1742/3-
1802) m. Miss
Perry &
Rachel Force

William (5) (c1745-
1790) m.
Hannah Tichenor

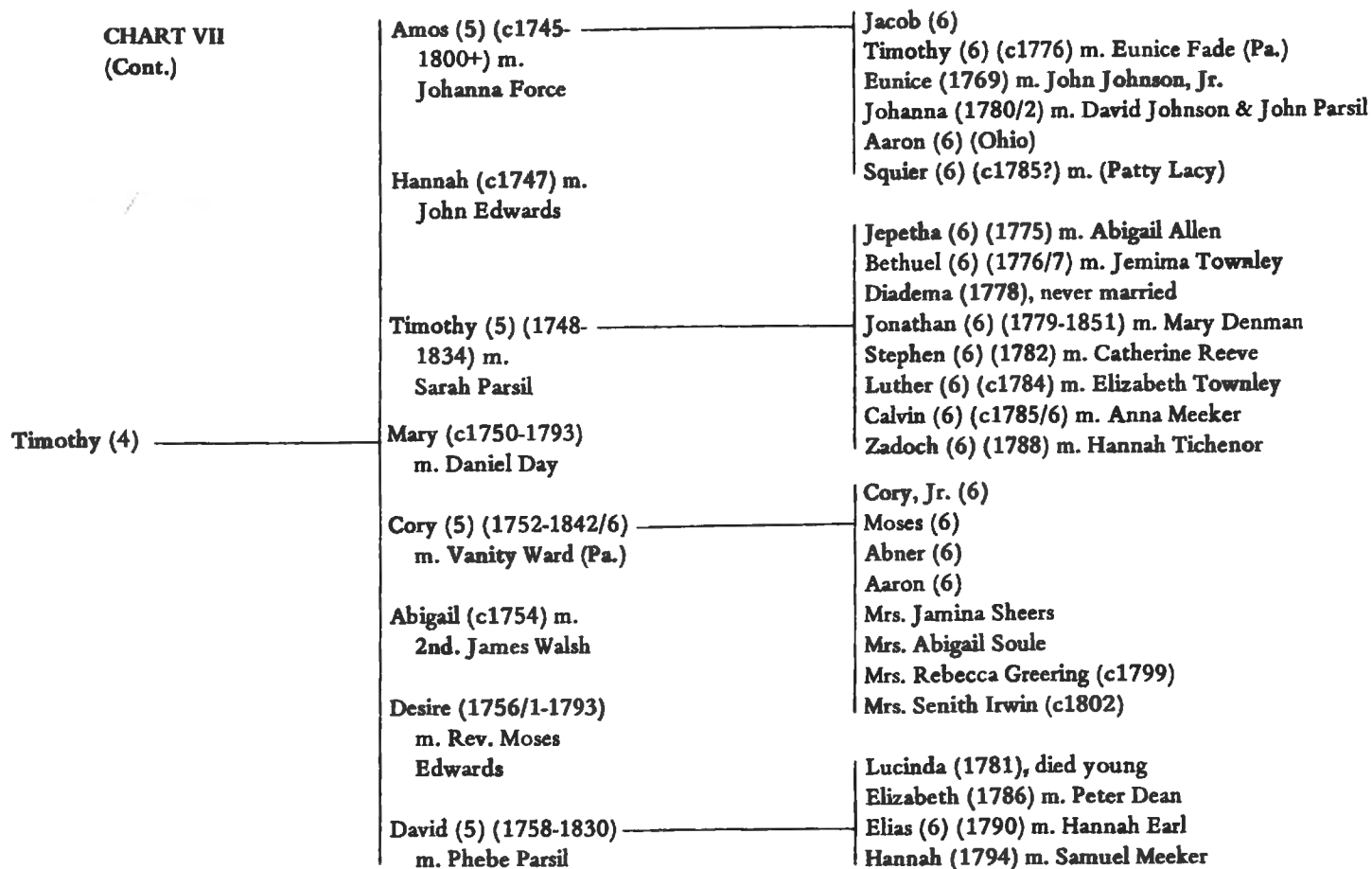
Caleb (6) (1760-1817) m. Susan Skinner
Rachel (1761/9) m. Nathaniel Miller
Enoch (6) (1766/7-1790)
Keziah (1768/9) m. Thomas Jansen
Sarah (1771/2-1797/8) m. Benjamin Dooley
Elisha (6) (1774-1811) m. Betsey Owens
Joseph (6) (1777/8) m. Ellen Ryall
Mary (1780/1-1784)
Aaron (6) (1784-1847) m. Joanna Youngs

(John) (6) (1759-1835) m. Elizabeth (Ohio)
Jonas (6) (1763/4-1852) m. Charity (Ohio)

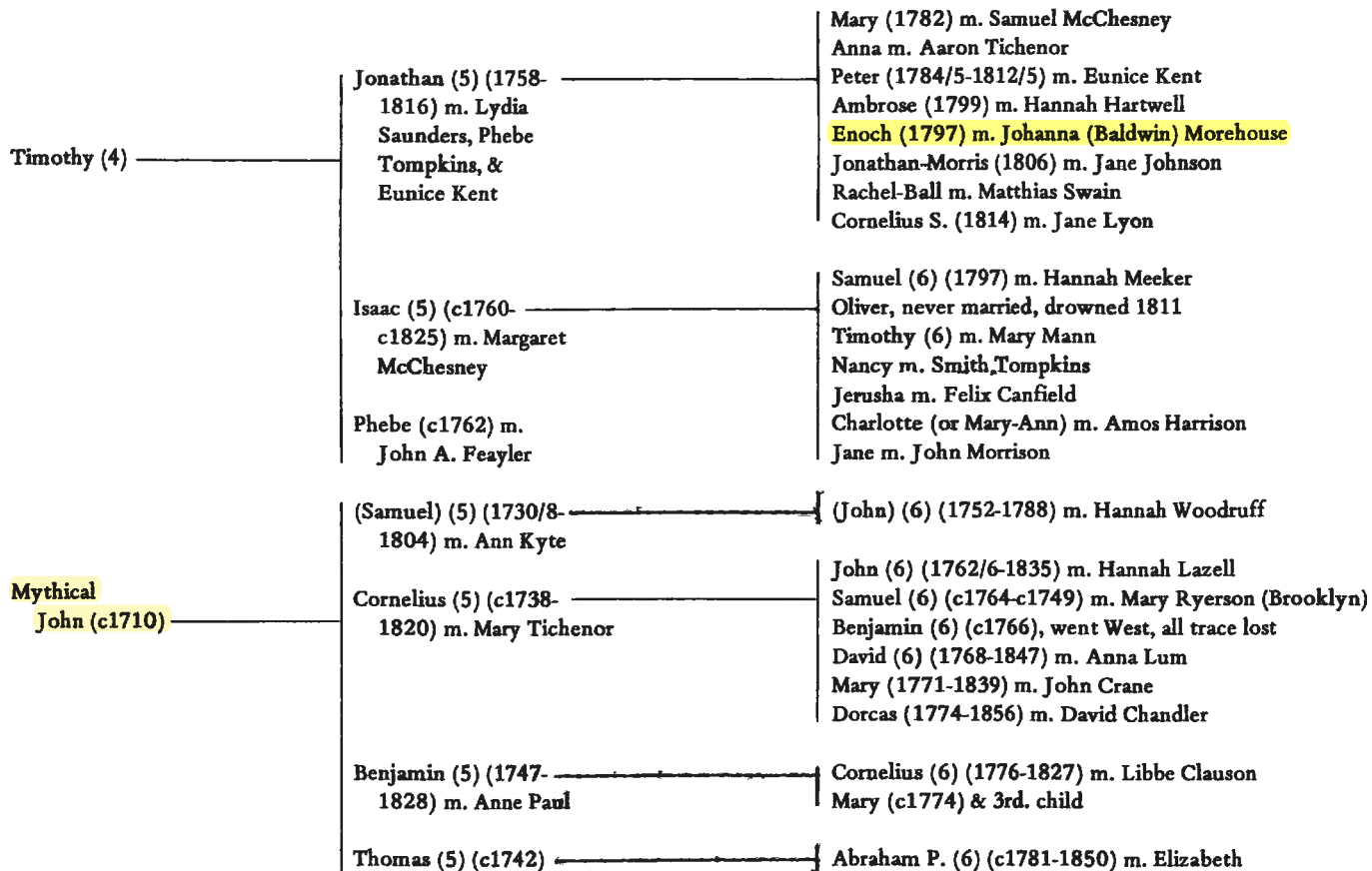
Jonas (6) (1770/1-1860) m. Elizabeth Miller (Ohio)
Manning (6) (1781/3-1816/7) m. Hannah Thompson (N. Y.)
Usual (Uzal) (6) (1784-1855) m. Margery (N. Y.)
Benjamin (6) (1786-1857) m. (Elizabeth Baldwin) (Ill.)
Mary (1788-1854)
Also likely Abram and William

Elijah (6) (c1768) m. Lucy Williams
Henry (6) (c1770) m. Sarah-Jane (Lindsley)
David (6) (c1771) m. Rhoda Johnson (Ohio)
Rhoda (c1773) m. John Kent
Josephus (Joseph) (1773/4)
Lydia (c1774) m. Thomas Saunders
William (6) (1777) m. Pauly Caskey
Also Amos and Jonathan

**CHART VII
(Cont.)**



Thomas (3)



John (3) (c1703 - 1731 -)
m. Joanna Ogden

CHART VIII

John (4) (1731-1768)
m. Phebe Clark
Joanna (1726/7-1770)
m. Nathan Baldwin
Rebekah (1727/8) m.
David Squier
Mary (c1729-1768)
m. Amos Potter

Joseph-Ogden (5) (1768-1861) m.
Phebe Dunham
Sarah (c1756-1799+) m. John Marsh
John (5) (c1757/8-1799+)
Phebe (1762-1799+) m. William
Littell
Rhoda (c1760)
Johanna (1766-1799+) m. Elias Crane
& Jacob Hand
Jotham (5) (1764-1849) m. Sarah Line

Mary-Marsh-Elmer (1797) m. John
Squier
Sarah-Scudder (1798-1876) m.
Ezra-Darby Hatfield
Anna (1799) m. William Line
Rachel (1802)
John (6) (1822) m. Margaret Farley

Corra-Osborn (6) (d. 1887) m.
Sarah Shotwell
Phebe-Clark (1797-1821)
Myria (1789-1808) m. John Osborn
Others

CHART IX

James (3) (1709 - 1777)
m. Mary Crocherea

Isaiah (4) (1741-1814)
m. Deborah (Halsey)
Magie
Mary (1739-1797)
m. a Davis &
Ephram Sayre
Anna, never married
Hannah (1748-1809)
m. Edward Hall
Frances (1748-) m.
Waters Burrows
James (4) (1755-1828)
m. Hannah Foster

Abigail (1767-1846) m. Thomas Parrot
Daniel-Halsey (5) (1768-1798) m.
Sarah Wood
Nancy (1771-1842) m. John Roberts
Caleb (5) (1772/3-1815/6) m.
Charity Frost
Jonathan (5) (1776-1852) m.
Elizabeth Townley
Isaac (5) (1778) m. Jane Wilcox
Mary (1780-1841) m. Arauna Muir

Nancy (1779-1845) m. James Bruster
Nathan (5) (1784-1858) m. Ann Watkins
James-Foster (5) (1792-1858) m.
Rebecca Bloomfield
Stephen-Jones (5) (1797/8-1832) m.
Phebe Magie
Sarah (1800) m. John High

John M. (6) (1791-1867) m.
Mary-Crane Budd

Mary (1798-1831) m. Amos Wilcox
Nancy (1801-1818), never married
Betsey-Townley (1803-1817)
Charity-Frost (1805-1824),
never married
Caleb-Halsey (6) (1807-1873) m.
Hannah Gillam
Jonathan-Magie (6) (1809/0-1874)
m. Almira Voder & Mary Deleagar
Isaac (6) (1811-1890) m.
Mehitabel-Barnet Wilcox
John-Lewis (6) (1814-1819)

Marie (1810) m. Lewis Noe, Jr.
Harriet (1813-1843) m.
Abraham Valentine
Eliza-Ann (1819-1843) m.
Daniel Noe

Aaron (4) (c1757-1789)
m. (Hannah Lyon)
Esther (1759-1801) m.
Samuel Foster

James (5)
Henry (5)
Moses (5) *a. c. 1791*
Job (5)
Aaron (5)
Child (1789)

CHART X

David (3) (c1713/4-1787)
m. Elizabeth Marsh

Abraham (4) (c2738-1776)
m. Elizabeth Tichenor

Susanna m. Ayres

Elizabeth (d. 1787+),
never married

Mary (d. 1787+),
never married

David (4) (1744-1778)
m. Sarah Mills

John (4) (1750) m.
Patience Wade

Hannah (1760) m. Zecheous Baldwin

Elizabeth (1764) m. Timothy Johnson

Elihu (5) (1768)

Nehemiah (5) (1772-1840)

Charity (1776) m. Jonathan Andrus

Daniel (5) (1762)

Abigail (1766-1770)

Rhoda (1770-1801)

Lewis (5) (1774)

Phebe (c1770)

Samuel (1772)

Mary (1774)

Dorothy (1782) m. Charles Jennings

Elizabeth (1786) m. Caleb Edwards

Nathaniel-Wade (5) (1793) m. Patience Lewis

Stephen (5) (1795) m. Phebe-Pierson Johnson

Daivd (5), died young

Possibly Michael (5)

Robert (3) (c1699/0-1771)

CHART XI

Daniel (4) (c1712)
m. Susannah Winans

Jacob (5) (c1730/8-1779) m.
Phebe Tichenor

Enos (6) (1761/3-1835) m.
Mary Dunham &
Rhoda Headley
Phebe m. Moses
Price in 1801
Susan
Eunice (c1774-1796) m.
Luther Dean
Dorcas m. Daniel Chandler
Jacob-Putnam (6) (1775-
1827) m. Margaret
Joralmon
Johanna m. Jacob Wheeler

Daniel (5)
(1736)

Michael (6) (1758/9-1844) m.
Hannah (Woodruff) Garthwaite
Daniel (6) (d.1855) m. Rhoda
(Magie) Mulford
Prussia (d.1855) m. William Woodruff
Rhoda m. a Stephens

Michael (4) (1753-1834)
m. Mary Edwards

Sarah (1778-1848) m. Isaac Townley
Elihu (5) (1780-1812/4) m. Sarah Miller
Susan (1782-1853+) m. Woodruff Osborn
Jane (1788) m. Eleazer Cotterel & Thomas Wager
Michael-Marsh (5) (1790) m. Elizabeth Smith, a widow
Abigail (1785-1852) m. Elias Dean
Moses (5) (1793-1826) m. Hannah Peet
Aaron (5) (1793-1836) m. Catherine Dean
Elizabeth (1798-1856) m. Andrew Brokaw
Catherine (1798-1886) m. Daniel Baldwin
(Mary-Edwards) (1802) m. Ezra Parkurst?

SECTION FIVE

TIMOTHY

51. Perhaps the most provocative problem concerning the genealogy of the early Meekers has been that of the ancestry of "Old" Timothy, who probably was the most colorful of all the Meekers and who became almost a legendary figure in the early days of the Orange Mountain region. As late as the summer of 1970 a professional genealogist who had worked on many family lines including that of the Meekers stated that "They don't seem to have any idea as to who Timothy Meeker was". Nevertheless, by that time Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. had acquired and assembled material that made it almost certain that "Old" Timothy had to be either the son of Thomas (3) or of Joseph (3). With the four heirs of Joseph (3) rather well determined, Thomas (3) became the most likely prospect. Moreover, Timothy never showed the kind of wealth needed to have been a son of the mariner that both Stephen (4) and his brother, Joseph, exhibited; and none of his children carried names to have been in the Joseph line, which can not be explained elsewhere. Mrs. Cook, a descendant of Timothy, in her little book *Pioneers of Old Northfield* says that Timothy was supposed to have been a grandson of Benjamin (2); and the writers of the *Livingston* text, although providing no evidence, positively states that as a fact. Thomas (3) not Joseph (3) was the son of Benjamin (2).

52. It is supposed that Timothy (1708/9-1798) was born and reared somewhere in what later become known as the Town Ward of the Elizabeth Township, probably fairly close to Lyons Farms. Although the identity of his father is believed established, none others of the family are, mother, brothers or sisters. At the age of twenty-seven or twenty eight, he married the seventeen year old daughter, Sarah (1719-1/21/1738), of Joseph and Hepzibah (Camp) Pierson. The Piersons, a highly respected family appeared to live near what is now Maplewood, two and a half miles northeast of Springfield and possibly no farther than that from the boyhood home of Timothy. Joseph Pierson (1693) who owned and operated both a grist and a sawmill nearby on the Rahway River, was said to have been a close descendant of the Reverend Abraham Pierson, a learned person and first pastor of the Newark Presbyterian Church. According to a grandson, Enoch Edwards, Timothy after his marriage lived on and owned a farm one and a half miles north of the Springfield Presbyterian meeting house, which might have been within a mile of the Pierson sawmill location. Unless the datings are all wrong, the first two children of Timothy, Joseph (c1737) carrying his grandfather Piersons's name, and Sarah (1/21/1738) whose birth-date is given as the day her mother died, were both the children of Sarah Pierson. The second marriage of Timothy was to a Munn (perhaps daughter of a John Munn) and

according to the grandson of Timothy, Enoch Edwards, the aunt of a Judge Aaron Munn. She died shortly after her marriage and Timothy's third marriage was to a Desire Cory, possibly the mother of all but his first two children. In all, Timothy had ten sons and six daughters, including two sets of twins. With perhaps some missing and not including children of daughters there were at least sixty-seven grandchildren of Timothy.

53. Sometime around 1741/2 or a little later, Timothy sold his farm near Springfield and bought a hundred acre lot located in the Canoe Brook section a short distance east of what is now Northfield and about two and a half miles north of his former home, where, according to Enoch Edwards, he built the first frame house north of Springfield. His name and that of his son appear in the rateable listing of 1779/0 showing him to be living on eighty-eight acres with the son, John, presumably living beside him on twelve acres. As this place in time came to contain the homes of many of his sons and daughters, it became known as Meekertown. The writer of the Livingston text tells us that Timothy was the "undisputed leader of the Canoe Brook settlers". Those settlers had difficulty in getting and holding title to their land and when a home in Newark burned, destroying an original deed, other claimants, attempting to force their claims had a Baldwin arrested (in 1745) for cutting down a tree or trees in the disputed area. This provoked Timothy to lead a group of mountain men into Newark, who broke into the Newark jail and freed the imprisoned man, then the head of the Mountain Society, later known as the Presbyterian Church of Orange. This affair seemed to have been a part of a larger grievance running through colonial New Jersey history, first erupting in the "Meaker Riot", and continued on until finally settled in the aftermath of the Revolution.

54. From Mrs. Cook one learns that "Dear Old Timothy" founded the first school and the first Baptist Church in Northfield. Two of Timothy's sons became sergeants in the Revolutionary War, with his eldest, Joseph, becoming a captain. His daughter, Hannah, married a Captain John Edwards, neighbor and soldier of the same war. In spite of the fiction involved, The Daughters of The American Revolution have accepted as true the story that Timothy was a soldier in the battle of Springfield. This tradition would have it that Timothy, age seventy or older, led about ten sons, two sons-in-law and a grandson into that battle, and that later George Washington for the purpose of seeing the man who furnished a small army of his own, visited him incognito and had dinner at his home. According to the story, when Desire, his wife, on informing the visiting officers that had she known that there would be company she would have served fowl, Timothy responded by saying that the dinner was fit for George Washington, himself.

BOX NINE

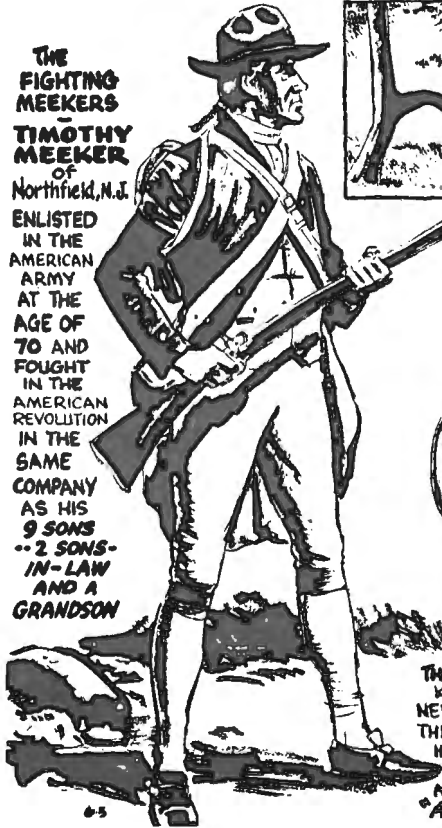
MEEKERS OF ESSEX COUNTY - 1740 (DUMMY CENSUS)

name	age	wife	residence	died
Capt. Joseph (3)	deceased	Phebe (Crane)*	Elizabethtown	1731
Stephen	35*	Mary	Lyons Farms	1749
Stephen (5)	9	Phebe Alling	Elizabeth Tnp.	1778
Capt. Obediah	2	Comfort Johnson	Lyons Farms	1829
Joseph	23	Rachel Lyon	Rockaway	1777
Daniel, Sr. (3)	55	Mary	Elizabeth Tnp.	c1760
Daniel	26	Never married*	Elizabeth Tnp.	
Abraham	23		Elizabeth Tnp.	1781
Moses	20	Hannah	Elizabeth Tnp.	1753
Benjamin (3)	65	Phebe Clark	Elizabethtown	1744/1
Benjamin	40		Orange Co., N.Y.	
Samuel	24	Rachel	Elizabeth Tnp.	1757
William (3)	63	Hannah Potter	Lyons Farms	1744
David	31	Abigail	Elizabeth Tnp.	1741
Jonathan	28	Rebekah & Sar. Marsh	Lyons Farms	1781
Isaac	20/25	Hannah Smith	Lyons Farms	1772/7
Jonathan (3)	61		Lyons Farms	
Mr. Daniel (3)	59	Rachel	Elizabeth Tnp.	1757
Michael	19	Mary Ogden	Elizabeth Tnp.	1755
Nathaniel	17	Miss Sainave & Sarah	Elizabeth Tnp.	1774
Thomas (3)	55		Elizabeth Tnp.	
Timothy	32	Desire Cory & others	Northfield	1798
Capt. Joseph (5)	3	Mary Smith	Springfield	1799/16
Daniel*	30*	Susannah Winans	Elizabeth Tnp.	
Daniel* (5)	9	Sarah	Johnstown, N. Y.	1829
Myth. John*	28*		Elizabeth Tnp.	
Samuel*	2/10*	Anne Kyte	Elizabeth Tnp.	1804*
Cornelius	2	Mary Tichenor	Parsippany	*1820
(son)*	26*		Elizabeth Tnp.*	
Daniel* (5)	4		Essex Co.	
Michael*	9 da.		Livingston	
John (2)	deceased	Hannah Ogden	Elizabeth Tnp.	1731
Robert	41		Elizabeth Tnp.	1779
John	deceased	Joanna Ogden	Elizabeth Tnp.	1731
John (4)	9	Phebe Clark	Westfield	1768
James	31	Mary Crocheron	Elizabeth Tnp.	1777
David	26	Elizabeth Marsh	Springfield	1787
Abraham (4)	2	Elizabeth Tichenor	Conn. Farms	1776
Unknown				
Jacob	6*	Phebe Tichenor	Conn. Farms	1779

(*) means quite uncertain

BELIEVE IT OR NOT By Ripley

**THE
FIGHTING
MEEKERS**
-
**TIMOTHY
MEEKER**
of
Northfield, N.J.
ENLISTED
IN THE
AMERICAN
ARMY
AT THE
AGE OF
70 AND
FOUGHT
IN THE
AMERICAN
REVOLUTION
IN THE
SAME
COMPANY
AS HIS
9 SONS
- 2 SONS-
IN-LAW
AND A
GRANDSON



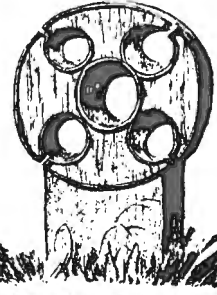
THE
"H"
ELMS
near
Arcadia,
Ohio



CANE
MADE OF
VERTEBRAE
OF A
DOLPHIN

Harlan
Collection

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THE MARRIAGE STONE
Kirkinner, Scotland
NEWLYWEDS GRIPPED HANDS
THROUGH THE STONES OPENINGS
IN OLDEN DAYS IN THE
BELIEF THEIR
MARRIAGE WOULD THEN BE
"AS SOLID AS ROCK"

55. Captain Joseph (5), oldest son of "Old" Timothy was said to have commanded a Morris County company of soldiers, first battalion, first establishment, a regiment of foot commanded by Colonel Winds. He married Mary Smith and was likely the rateable listed in 1779 as a resident of the Springfield Ward with one hundred and thirty acres, and ninety acres the next year. He was thought to have later gone to Mendham Township, Morris County (southwest of Morristown). His son, Caleb, who married Susan (c1765-1838+), daughter of Jonathan Skinner in 1785 of Springfield, enlisted on November 1, 1775, as a fifer in his father's company. This Caleb died in Randolph Township, Morris County, having had five sons and four daughters. (NOTE: Captain Joseph might have maintained a home or owned property at Meekertown as the sheriff's list of rateables in Newark Township of 1779 credited a "Cpt Joseph" with no land, four horses, two cows, and one pig; and the next year with sixteen acres only. However, there are published sketches of his war record which causes one to suspect that there might have been two Captains named Joseph).

56. Although it seems impossible from the known data, there is some indication that Jonas (1740/1 1763/4), supposedly third child of Timothy might have been the son of Sarah Pierson. An old land deed made to him by his father, Timothy, dated May 6, 1763, and witnessed by his brother, Amos, and a David Osborne, was recently found secreted above a ceiling beam in an old stone house (still in use as a residence) in Maplewood, a home believed to have originally been that of Joseph and Hepzibah Pierson. This Jonas (5) died shortly after his marriage to Sarah Osborne and was thought to have had only one child, a Jonas (6), born after the father's death. The younger Jonas married a Charity, had a large family and settled out in Clermont County, Ohio. However, there existed a John (1759-1835), soldier of the Revolution, living in Hamilton County (Cincinnati), Ohio, adjoining that of Clermont County, who left a pension record showing his birth to have been in Essex County, New Jersey. Although several of his descendants have tried, this John seemingly can not be placed. Letters written by those folk carry information showing him to have lived in Northfield (near Meekertown) up until 1793 and then to have gone first to New York State, thence to Ohio. That was what several grandsons of "Old" Timothy, sons of John and William, did. They left the neighborhood of Northfield going into Sussex County, New Jersey and then over into Orange County, New York, and from there took off for the West. To this one notes that John's first born was named Sarah, reminiscent of his possible mother, Sarah Osborne; and that the older Jonas (5) had a brother, John.

57. John (5) (1741/3-1802), third son of "Old" Timothy, married twice, first to a Miss Perry and second to a Rachel Force of Hanover Township, Morris

County. He must have been a tradesman, probably a cordwainer (shoemaker), who lived beside his father at Meekertown up until after 1780. He seemed to have been living up in Sussex County not far from the family of Benjamin (4) at the time he made his will in 1802, and none of his children seemed to be of Essex County. His son, Manning, was the grandfather of Ezra-Manning (1830), the author who drove the ox team to Oregon over the Oregon Trail. A John Bakelless in his history text, *Turncoats, Traitors and Heroes*, copyrighted in 1959, tells of a remarkable Revolutionary War soldier, John Meeker, who was involved as one of a trio in an American spy net, in both espionage and counter espionage. As written, the three "had General Washington's authority to carry 'market Truck' to the British and bring back 'a few Goods' illicitly", and were permitted certain information to be passed on to the British. The writer says that they were highly successful, operating out of Staten Island, and were the best that Washington had around New York. At one time when arrested and subjected to being hung by the American authorities, Washington interceded, writing to the governor of New Jersey, who managed somehow to effect their escape and they went back to their business "still unsuspected by the enemy, and still supplying information". Two weeks after the first letter, Washington sent a second to Governor Livingston thanking him for services (unnamed) rendered. Although this is speculation, John, son of Timothy, fits rather well into the writer's requirement needed to have been that successful agent. He would need have been a resident of the back country (so the Tories wouldn't know his family's politics), to have had relatives in Elizabethtown (to provide secret lodging and concealment), and to have had a good knowledge of the streets and byways of Elizabethtown and Staten Island. No other John Meeker seems to have the slightest claim to this distinction.

58. The fourth and fifth sons of Timothy were twins (c1745), William and Amos. William married a Hannah Tichenor on January 1, 1766, and had possibly nine children. The rateable list show him living beside his father in Meekertown in 1780 on fifty acres of land. His son, Henry, who possibly married a Sarah Lindsley, must have gone to Sussex County and had nine children. A son of this Henry, Lindsley (7) (1792-1869), married Sarah-Jane Meeker, great granddaughter of Benjamin (4). The other twin, Amos, married a Johanna Force and lived in Meekertown. In 1779 he had fifty acres, two horses and six head of cattle. The next year he had increased his acreage to one hundred.

59. From the files of the pension records of Revolutionary War soldiers found in the National Archives at Washington, D. C. was obtained the following on Timothy (5), sixth son of "Old" Timothy: Timothy Meeker was born 1748 in Newark Township, and served as an orderly sergeant under his brother, Joseph,

and others, acting one month as an ensign. On September 18, 1832 he was living in the Newark Township (likely Northfield) and died on April 24, 1834. He had been married in Springfield on May 12, 1774 to a Sarah Parcells (likely Parcel). Information gathered from the Biography and Genealogical History of the City of Newark and Essex County, New Jersey show that his son, Jonathan (9/13/1779), who married Mary Denman (8/17/1782-1838), daughter of a John Denman probably of French descent, was a cordwainer who settled in Millburn Township and had seven children.

60. As best one can tell from the pension record, Cory (1752) was at first, a private in his brother, Joseph's company, later served in many companies including that of his brother-in-law, Captain John Edward. From that record one is led to suppose he had been married twice as he referred to a Valeria (1762/3) as his wife in 1829. According to Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. his first wife was a Vanity Ward, believed here to be the daughter of Theophilus Ward. He received his pension in 1843 while living in Butler County, Penselvania, and a letter from a descendant states that he died in 1849. In the rateable list of 1779, when Cory was twenty seven, he was listed as living in Newark Township, likely Meekertown, with no land, two horses and six head of cattle; in 1780, he was listed as a single man working for hire with ten acres, no horse and one cow.

61. The eighth and ninth sons of "Old" Timothy were a second set of twins, David (1758-1830) who married Phebe Parsil and Jonathan (1758-1830) who first married Lydia Saunders. The records of the Daughters of the American Revolution show David to have been a sergeant in the Revolution and Phebe Parsil to have died in 1823. Jonathan for a third wife married Eunice Kent in 1802, the niece of John Kent, the husband of Rhoda Meeker, daughter of Jonathan's brother, William. Jonathan's son, Peter, married in 1812 the cousin, a second Eunice Kent, daughter of John Kent and his wife, Rhoda Meeker. Peter was killed in the War of 1812. Mrs. Cook says that Isaac (c1760-c1825), youngest son of Timothy, was a farmer who married Margaret (Peggy), eldest daughter or Robert McChesney, on August 9, 1795, both being of Canoe Brook (Northfield), and that Peggy lived for a while at Meekertown.

BOX TEN

The opposite page presents thirty-four names obtained from a long list of names, printed in *The Genealogical Magazine of New Jersey* under the title, *New Jersey Rateables*, evidently copied and alphabetized by a Kenn Stryker-Rodda from the assessment records of Essex and Morris Counties. The issues used here were:

- Volume 43, Number 1, January 1968, pages 29-36, Elizabeth Tsp. Town Ward, Essex County.
- Volume 43, Number 2, May 1968, pages 78-87, Elizabeth Tsp. Town Ward and Springfield Ward, Essex County.
- Volume 43, Number 3, September 1968, pages 131-137, Elizabeth Tsp. Westfield Ward, Essex County.
- Volume 44, Number 2, May 1969, pages 86-96, Newark Tsp., Essex County.
- Volume 45, Number 1, January 1970, pages 15-28, Hanover Tsp., Morris County.
- Volume 45, Number 3, September 1970, pages 120-128, Mendham Tsp., Morris County.
- Volume 46, Number 1, January 1971, pages 34-47, Morris Tsp., Morris County.

Although the number of pigs taxed were in the magazine, that item was omitted here. Cattle was listed as horned cattle. The acres as copied here were listed as improved land taxed. The code "O-hh" implies non-householder and the parentheses show the second year if different from the first.

Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. has provided the identification of all but four, numbers six, fourteen, fifteen, and twenty-two. Four may be the John who married Hannah Woodruff (para. 79), and twenty-two may be the soldier, Robert (para. 26). The approximate ages are projected on the year 1779.

It is understood that not all residents were listed, possibly because they owned no taxable property, or were not a householder or a single man working for hire. For some reason the names of the Samuel who married Ann Kyte and the Thomas, father of Abraham P., were left out of the assessment records. (Chart 7). Nor was either the names of a Nathaniel or his mother listed, although Nathaniel (5) was age twenty-six, possibly not married, and whose father was dead (Chart 6). John (4), age twenty-nine, may have been unmarried and living with his parents in the Springfield Ward. (Chart 10). Names of persons listed in Box Eleven as numbers one, ten, seventeen and twenty-two are not found in the rateable list.

RATEABLES FOR TAX ASSESSMENT, 1779/0

name	Acres	horses	cattle	other	birth	wife	chart	age
NEWARK TOWNSHIP								
1. Amos	50 (100)	2	6	(5) (out on loan £100)	1745	Johanna Force	VII	34
2. Benjamin	0	0	(2) 0	(3)	1745	Mary Griffith	IV	34
3. Cory	0 (10)	2	(1) 6	(1) (single man) (0-hh)	1752	Vanity Ward	VII	27
4. John	12	2	3	(2)	c 1742	Rabbel Force	VII	37
5. Josiah	45	1	(2) 4	(5)	1759	Phebe Baldwin	V	20
6. Cpt. Joseph	0 (16)	4	(0) 2	(0)				
7. Timothy	88	2	4	(5)	c 1708	Desire Cory	VII	71
8. Timothy, Jr.	80	0	(2) 0	(2) (out on loan £225)	1748	Sarah Parsil	VII	31
9. William	50	2	2	(0-hh)	c 1745	Han. Tichenor	VII	34
TOWN WARD - ELIZABETH TOWNSHIP								
10. Aaron	0(83)	0	(2) 0	(2) single man (married)	c 1757	Hannah Lyon?	1X	22
11. Benjamin	42	3	(2) 3	0	1747	Anne Paul	VII	32
12. David	12	1	1		c 1740	Sarah	V	29
13. James	100 (83)	3	(2) 4	(3) (out on loan £171)	1755	Hannah Foster	1X	24
14. John	32 (16)	1	(2) 3	(2)				
15. John Esqr	50	1	3	(1) Wms ferry? (estate)				
16. Jonathan	35	1	(2) 6	(3) (out on loan £112.10)	1712	Rebekah	IV	67 exempt
17. Jonathan Junr	35	1	(3) 5	6	1744	Rachel Denman	IV	35
18. Joseph	32 (33)	1	(2) 2		1757	Mary Magie	11	22
19. Jacob, estate	12	0	1	(widow of 10)	c 1734	P. Tichenor	XI	45?
20. Moses	50	2	(1) 5	(1)	1753	Mary Clark	111	26
21. Obadiah	132	6	(4) 12	(13)	1738	C. Johnson	11	41 exempt
22. Robert	(22)							
23. William	78 (38)	2	(1) 5		1757	C. Harrison	V	22
SPRINGFIELD WARD - ELIZABETH TOWNSHIP								
24. Abraham	60	0	(1) 0	(2)	c 1717		111	62 exempt
25. David	50	0	(3) 0	(6)	c 1713	Eliz. March	X	66 exempt
26. Isaiah	77	0	(2) 0	(4)	1741	Deborah	1X	38
27. Capt. Joseph	130 (90)	0	(1) 0	(4)	c 1737	Mary Smith	VII	42
28. Michael	0	0	(1) 0	0	1753	Mary Edwards	X	26
29. Matthias	54 (51)	0	(1) 0	(2)	1744	Jame Parsons	IV	35
30. Capt. Samuel	136 (103)	3	7	(6) trader, riding chair	c 1738	Mary Clark	IV	41
WESTFIELD WARD - ELIZABETH TOWNSHIP								
31. John	35	2	(1) 0		c 1757		VIII	22
MORRIS COUNTY, 1778 AND 1780								
32. Cornelius	48	0	3	(4)	c 1738	M. Tichenor	VII	41
33. Gabriel				(out on loan £187.10)	1747	Sarah Kinney	VI	32
34. William	140			1/3 of sawmill	1762	Sarah Hays	IV	17

SECTION SIX

OTHER DESCENDANTS OF THOMAS (3)

62. As there were persons in the fifth generation who appeared to have been grandsons of his, Thomas (3) must have had at least one other son beside that of Timothy. If true, then all accounts of that son have vanished or he had a name that a student today confuses with another, similarly named, so in this paper he is termed the Mythical John.

63. A Benjamin (1747-1828), who on December 1, 1773 was married to an Anne Paul of Elizabeth, had two known children by that marriage, a Cornelius (1776) who was to live at Madison, Morris County and a daughter, Mary. According to the writer of a Pugsley genealogy account ("as given in Virus's First Families of America"), this Benjamin, a soldier, was of a line of descent; the son of a second Benjamin, a first Benjamin, and William (1). This second Benjamin has to have been the blacksmith, whose wife was supposedly sixty-six in 1747, and who said in his will of 1744 that he had two sons (then living), a Benjamin and a youngest, Samuel. This youngest, thought to have been born about 1716/7, was close to thirty years older than the Benjamin (1747) and the oldest, a Benjamin (c1700), was most likely the Benjamin living up in Sussex County. Unless everything is wrong with the known data, Benjamin (1747) could not be the son of a mother, sixty-six years older than he, nor could he have had a younger brother, thirty years his senior. Moreover, there would not have been two brothers living at the same time, both named Benjamin. This Benjamin (1747), for all that is known, might be selected to have been the son of Samuel (4) (1716/7), son of the second Benjamin, had not the genealogists picked the Benjamin who married Mary Griffith for that relationship. Most certainly he could not have been the son of the Benjamin of Sussex County as that Benjamin (4) had a son, Benjamin, who lived on a farm, part in Sussex and part in New York State. From this Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. concludes, that as Samuel and Joseph, sons of Benjamin (2) must have gone to Connecticut, this Benjamin (1747), if a descendant of Benjamin (2) must necessarily be a descendant of Thomas, the only son with unknown children. It is assumed with reasonable certainty that Benjamin (1747) was the person whose name appears on the rateable lists as taxed for forty-two acres, three horses and three and two head of horned cattle respectively.

64. Over in Parsippany, Hanover Township, there was a Cornelius (c1738-1820) who had married a Mary (c1742), daughter of a Daniel Tichenor of Newark, who could hardly have been any other than a grandson of Thomas (3). As Annette C. Ball in her *History of The First Presbyterian Church, Parsippany, New Jersey* stated that a "Cornelius Meeker and a Thomas Meeker at-

tended the meeting of a Presbyterian group in 1775", implying possible close relationship of the two. As the Dutch name, Cornelius, rarely appeared in a pure English family, if ever, it looks like the Cornelius (5) (c1738) and the Cornelius (6) (1776), son of Benjamin (1747) and Anne Paul, were uncle and nephew. This would have made Cornelius (5) a brother of Benjamin who married Anne Paul.

65. Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. found a third possible brother to this Benjamin (5) and Cornelius in a **Thomas, father of an Abraham P. (c1781)**. The daughter of Abraham P., Mrs. Alima Matthews, stated that her father was born in the Orange Mountain region of Essex (near Meekertown and Caldwell) and that her grandfather, a Thomas, was with Wolfe at Quebec (1759) and in the Revolution from beginning to end. His Revolutionary War service record shows him to have been a sergeant at first and to have received pay as one throughout the war, but apparently when his first group was discharged he lost that position and re-listed (perhaps willingly) as a **private. If sixteen at the time of the Battle of Quebec, he would have been born about 1743, midway between Cornelius and Benjamin.** As he possibly lived near Caldwell, a village seven and one-half miles from Parsippany, he was likely that visitor with Cornelius at the church meeting in Parsippany.

66. As Cornelius of Parsippany, who married Mary Tichenor, had six children, three of whom had Tichenor names, leaving the sons, John, Samuel and Benjamin to have carried Meeker names, he needed a brother (or father) from whom to have named his son, Samuel. This brother might have been the Samuel of Elizabeth who married an Ann Kyte, a sister of Catherine (1737), the wife of Moses Bishop, as no other Samuel is known to have existed available for that relationship. As a Samuel, Ann and a John Meeker were witnesses to Moses Bishop's will made in 1775, it is thought that the John might have been a son of the Samuel husband of Ann Kyte, particularly as Ann's father was a John Kyte. Although the name of this Samuel does not appear on the rateable lists of 1779/0, a Samuel died on March 28, 1804 and was buried in the Presbyterian Churchyard of Elizabeth. He might have been a tradesman, a nonproperty owner, thus escaping the tax assessment.

67. Outside of the two sons of Benjamin (2) who went to Connecticut around 1710 and the Benjamin (4) who went to Sussex County about 1725, Cornelius (5) was possibly the first or second Meeker to leave Essex County, close to the years of 1761/2. He bought his farm of around fifty acres just out of and to the north of Parsippany on March 21, 1764. The order of his children is somewhat in a state of flux, with only two birthdates known. Samuel (d. c1748), who married Mary Ryerson, went to Brooklyn, New York, where Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. found him located in the year of 1822 as a carpenter, later on as a

farmer. He disappeared after 1848 and his supposed widow, Mary R., turned up in the home of a John F. likely a son and a farmer. It is somewhat uncertain if the son, Benjamin, ever existed, but his name did turn up in an old manuscript which shows some aspects of reliability, listing him as having gone West "with all trace lost". The son, David, who married Anna Lum on April 6, 1796 and lived at Parsippany was said by a grandson to have followed his father's trade of a cordwainer (shoemaker).

68. John (6) son of Cornelius of Parsippany married a Hannah Lazell and according to his uncle's will made in 1839 was dead at that time and had three daughters living, Phebe, Julia and Hannah. Several sources have give his residence at Elizabeth, the place where he was buried. The Sexton's Book of Burials list his birth as in 1766 and his death on April 15, 1835, and the inscription as copied from the gravestone marker (now removed) read "John Meeker (Newark), age 69, 4/17/1835", implying that his birth was in 1766 and that his residence was near Newark. Although he was living in 1830, his name was not found in that year's census of the Elizabeth Township. Up in the Township of Orange, near Newark, there appeared in the 1830 census John, age 60/69, thus born in 1761/0. This John of Orange was a soldier who made application for his pension in 1832. He stated that he was born in Parsippany, that his parents lived in Morris County during the war, and that he enlisted at Elizabeth in 1779 while living with an uncle there. He first served as a private and then second sergeant, serving until the end of the war. He stated, that while he did not know the year he was born, he believed December 16, 1762 to be his birth date. On another paper he gave his age as sixty-nine on September 20, 1832, which would have made his birthday to have been December 16, 1762. He apparently was uncertain of his age, claiming that the family Bible had been lost for fifty years. He was living as late as March 4, 1835 in the Orange Township. As the 1778/0 rateable list for Hanover Township (includes Parsippany) gave only one Meeker, Cornelius, living there; it is assumed in spite of the birthdate discrepancy that those two Johns were the same person.

69. The Abraham P. (c1781-1850), son of Thomas (5) married an Elizabeth (1784-1837), resided in the Orange Township during the canvassing for the 1830 census, and at the time his will was made was a farmer in good financial standing. In the neighboring township of Caldwell there lived a Joseph who had married a Hannah Lisk (7/15/1770-8/4/1865) of Newark from whom he had seven sons and two daughters. Four of the given names of his sons, Samuel, David L., Benjamin and Thomas-Pierson are of interest here. The location and those given names strongly suggest that Joseph was an older brother of Abraham P. Realizing that the name, Joseph, was a Pierson name of that locality and ob-

servicing the middle name of Thomas-Pierson and the P. in Abraham's name leads one to suspect that Thomas (5) might have married a Pierson. Although she might have been the wife of a David (5) (see para. 36) there was supposed to have been a Sarah Pierson, residing in the Northfield area, who married some Meeker (not Timothy). Furthermore, there was a David (11/1775), who as a soldier in the Whiskey Insurrection from Caldwell, petitioned for "Bounty land", and a second David, likely the same man, married a Catherine, daughter of Henry Vanhouton (d.c1815) of Caldwell. This individual fits rather well as a brother to the Joseph who married Hannah Lisk. If there was a second Captain Joseph (see para. 55), he would appear to fit here as a brother of Thomas (5).

70. Among the fifth generation of persons whose ancestry has been well hidden was that of a Jacob who married a Phebe (c1737), daughter of Daniel and Susanna (Guerin) Tichenor. As the father of Phebe in his will dated October 1, 1759, used her married name, one can assume that they were married close to the year of 1758. Using twenty-four years as the possible marriage age of Jacob would make his birthday to fall in 1734. Again using her probable birthdate of 1737 and subtracting four years to cover the possible difference in age of a husband and wife would make his birthdate to have been 1733. With this crude estimation, one can be rather satisfied that his birth year was somewhere between 1730 and 1738, thus obtaining the compromise date of c1734. His estate was on the rateable list of 1779/0 containing twelve acres of land and a cow, indicating that he had been a non-farmer and was then deceased. This estate was listed in the Town Ward, Elizabeth Township, and is believed to have been close to Connecticut Farms. One striking notation appears on the rateable list in that the estate of Jacob was occupied by a "widow of 10". Before the appearance of this list, Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. had remarked that his list of seven children did not seem to be complete and that he was uncertain as to the exact order of birth.

71. Phebe Tichenor, the oldest of the three sisters to marry Meekers, had a brother, Isaac, who after becoming a graduate of Princeton and later a lawyer, was to serve ten one-year terms as governor of Vermont, sandwiched in between two terms as a United States senator. A biography writer of his was to imply that he was a goodlooking personage with an exceptional pleasing personality. Thus it is visualized here, that Phebe, likely an attractive eighteen year old, while visiting friends or relatives in the Connecticut Farm's area, managed to meet and wed Jacob, possibly an upcoming merchant, inn-keeper, or tradesman of that vicinity. Once established in a home of her own, she might have brought down her two sisters to find husbands, Elizabeth who married Abraham, son of David (3) in 1759 and Mary who married the Cornelius of Parsippany about

BOX ELEVEN

PERSONS UNKNOWN

IN THE FIFTH GENERATION (OR SIXTH)

1. Benjamin (1749-5/22/1830) married Lydia (perhaps Halstead).
2. Daniel (1731-9/12/1829) of Montgomery County, New York, born in Elizabeth, married Sarah and had:
John, Silas, Daniel, Isaac, Moses, Susanna.
3. Daniel (1736) (probably of Connecticut Farms) had:
Michael, Daniel, Prussia, Rhoda.
4. Daniel (1759) a soldier of the Revolution was from Elizabeth.
5. Elizabeth (1737-1812) (likely of Elizabeth) married Enoch Moore.
6. Eunice (c1740/9) of Connecticut Farms married James (1744-1804), son of Nathaniel and Esther (Osborne) Ball and had: Rhoda, David, Phebe, James, Samuel.
7. Hannah (1751-1810) married in New Providence a Jonathan Williams on 4/9/1771 and had at least one son, Calab Williams who married Martha Crane.
8. Jacob (c1734) married Phebe Tichenor and had with Tichenor names: Phebe, Eunice, Dorcas; others Enos, Susan, Jacob, Johanna.
9. John (c1748) of Middlesex County married an Abigail Ross on 7/3/1769 and was perhaps the John who in the same county married Sarah Oliver in 1775.
10. John (c1750) married Mary Hinds (1753/4-1773), daughter of Benjamin and Catherine, of Elizabeth, in 1771 and had: Mary married Michael Magie, Elizabeth married Luther Dean.
11. John (c1752) married Hannah Woodruff (c1753) in Long Island on 11/18/1773 (both from Elizabeth).
12. John (1752), chairmaker of Orange County, New York, was born in Elizabeth, enlisted in 1775 at Orange as soldier.
13. Johannah married a Daniel Woodruff on 3/24/1771 in New York City, both from Elizabeth.
14. Joseph listed on the rateable list (1779/0) as a "Cpt Joseph" of the Newark Township.
15. Margaret (1751-1785) married William Ludlum on 4/1/1770 in Westfield.
16. Mary (1740/9) married at New Providence or Springfield a David Dickinson on 2/19/1769.
17. Michael (12/21/1740-5/5/1838), Revolutionary War soldier, lived at Cheap-side and Livingston, near Northfield.
18. Phebe (9/30/1749-7/30/1836) married William Halstead and had with Halstead names: Caleb, William, Robert, John; others, Betsey, Phebe, Burnet, Oliver.
19. Priscilla (likely of Elizabeth) married Jacob Bloom in 1761 in New York City.
20. Samuel (wife's sister born in 1737) married Anne Kyte. He was of Elizabeth.
21. Sarah (1744-5/21/1805) married in Westfield James Crane of Elizabeth on 9/14/1762 and had: Stephen, Jeremiah, Elizabeth, Rachel, Anna, Nancy.
22. William married Mary Winans (1755), daughter of Benjamin Winans of Elizabeth.

1761/2.

72. A. Dr. L. E. Meeker (8), descendant of William (3) who did considerable research on the Meeker family back around 1900, left some correspondence which gave, with no other detail, that brothers, Jacob and David, were the sons of a Josiah. This Josiah born about c1710/5, if he ever existed, could have been the son of Joseph, the mariner, but far more likely the son of Thomas (c1685). As Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. never could find any evidence of the existence of this person or locate the David, one is inclined to doubt the credibility of that information.

73. If one takes into consideration the assumptions and data as here presented, Jacob could have had only four possible lines of descent, one being that of a grandson of Joseph (3) by an unknown son. However, it is thought here that the family of Joseph (3), son of Joseph (2), has been reasonably well settled as that of two sons and three daughters. Then too, Jacob's economic status does not appear to have been appropriate for a membership in that family. A second possibility for Jacob was to have been the son (or grandson?) of Robert (c1699). As Robert's mother was an Ogden, this line of descent would have made Jacob a descendant of the well known Ogden family. Enos, the son of Jacob who first married a Mary Dunham and second a Rhoda Headley, had a son, Ogden Meeker, a name which might have come down the mother's side, although the names of Dunham or Headley do not seem to appear in early Ogden genealogy. Otherwise, not a name fits as three of the children of Jacob and Phebe Tichenor, Phebe, Dorcas and Eunice, carried Tichenor names, leaving Enos, Susan, Johanna, and Jacob-Putnam to have had Meeker names. Susan also could have had a Tichenor name as Phebe had a sister and mother, Susanna. A third but most improbable line of descent for Jacob might have been that of a son of Samuel (4) (1716/7) whose progenies have never been firmly identified. Never-the-less, it looks as though Jacob must have descended from Thomas, the third generation person, evidently a sire of a rather large lost family.

74. Another fifth generation person who must have fit into the Thomas (3) line was a Daniel (1736) whose daughter, Prussia (1763-3/22/1855) was said to have been of Connecticut Farms at the time of her marriage (4/30/1798) to William Woodruff, a man who became a miller at Morristown. Daniel had, beside Prussia, a Daniel (d1832) of Livingston Township who married a widow, Rhoda (Magie) Mulford; a Rhoda who married a Stephens; and Michael, (1758-12/5/1844) a Revolutionary War soldier, who married at the age of sixty-four on October 19, 1822 the twenty-seven year old widow of William Garthwaite, the grandson of Stephen (5) and Phebe (Alling) Meeker. Shortly before his marriage, Michael had stated in his application for a pension that he

was seriously crippled with arthritis and could no longer practice his trade as a weaver. After his death, Hannah too received a pension, but no children were mentioned in her application. This Daniel who married the Mulford might have been the Daniel Meeker (1759), soldier of Elizabethtown. The age is right and he would likely have been from Elizabeth during his youth.

75. Also, there appeared presumably in the Elizabethtown Area a Daniel of the fourth generation who likely married about 1730 a Susannah (c1712-1747+), daughter of Jacob and Mary (Marsh) Winans. As she had a grandfather, Joseph; brothers, John, Jacob and Benjamin; and sisters, Mary and Elizabeth; she was subject to having had children with those names prominent among them. That this Daniel existed is in part confirmed by the Essex Courthouse records of 1740/5, which appear to show three contemporary Daniels. As to his origin anything unsuspected might have happened. He could have been one of the four unnamed heirs of Joseph (3), but not likely. He could have been of the Robert (1) Meeker family of Connecticut, but Charles H. Meeker, Jr., also an expert on that family, doesn't think so. Then too, Joseph and Samuel, sons of Benjamin (2), might not have gone to Connecticut as thought likely, allowing Daniel a possible origin there. Or he might have been a new immigrant out of England, or the son of one, although only one of that kind has ever been found in America. ("A Henry Meeker came to Cayuga, N. Y. from Somersetshire, England about 1825"). More likely, he could have been the invalid son of Daniel, Sr., but the evidence is rather strong against that possibility. (see para. 49). Thus by eliminating those unlikely sources would made this Daniel to appear to be a third son of Thomas (c1685), both his age and name being right. Thomas had a brother, Mr. Daniel. As Susannah had a father and a brother named Jacob this family provides the best lead yet to the ancestry of Jacob (c1734), his name and age being proper, but there is as before no explanation for the naming of his children, Amos and Johanna. There was also in the fifth generation a Benjamin (1749-1830) who married a Lydia. As Samuel (4), son of Benjamin the blacksmith, was the probable father of the Benjamin who married Mary Griffith and The Mythical John was the father of the Benjamin who married Anne Paul permits only the Daniel (4) who married Susannah Winans to have been the father of this third Benjamin (1749). Susannah who would have been thirty-seven in 1749 had a brother, Benjamin. Nevertheless, Thomas could have had a fourth son possibly named Benjamin, to have been the sire of that Benjamin who married Lydia.

76. Up in Montgomery County, New York, Charles H. Meeker, Jr. found a Daniel (c1731-9/12/1829) who died in his ninety-eighth year. A county historian said he was born in New Jersey. His wife's name was Sarah and he had

among his nine children a John and a Susanna. This Daniel (5) makes a better fit to have been a son of Daniel (4) and Susannah than does the other Daniel (5) (1736), father of Prussia, Daniel and Michael; not only in that he had a daughter, Susanna, but that he was older. If Thomas (c1685) had a fourth son that son would likely have been younger than either Timothy (1709/8) or Daniel (4) (1709/2), possibly born in 1714 or later, thus making the younger Daniel (1736) more likely the issue of the fourth son.

77. As far as one can tell, when the numerous notes on Johns are assembled, there were at least thirteen persons of that name prior to 1780 in New Jersey, four of whom no knowledge exists as to their origin. Although Robert (c1699) can not be completely dismissed, the tendency here is, until something new emerges, to assume that those four are of the Thomas (c1685) line.

78. One of those unknowns was a John, seemingly located in Middlesex County, adjacent and south of the Elizabeth Township, who married an Abigail Ross of that place in July of 1769; and presumingly the same John married a Sarah Oliver of that county in January of 1775. He is thought likely to have been the parent of a John Oliver Meeker, born in 1785. With only his marriage date known, his birth date might be projected as being somewhere between 1744 and 1751, early enough to have been a grandson of Thomas. The Cornelius of Parsippany needed a brother or father named John for who to have named his first born. (see para. 66). Mrs. Daniel (Susannah Winans) Meeker, born in 1712 could have been John's mother, his age was right and she had a brother, John. Although the name could have come from the unknown family of his wife, the Daniel (1731) of Johnstown, Montgomery County, New York, also had a son named John.

79. A second unknown was a John (1752?) of Elizabeth who married a Hannah Woodruff (c1753) also of Elizabeth at Newtown, Long Island on November 18, 1773, saying that he was twenty-one at the time. There was a rateable, John, in the Elizabeth Town Ward who had in 1779 thirty-two acres, one horse and three horned cattle and in 1780 was a householder with sixteen acres, two horses, two horned cattle and one pig. On April of 1788, a John made his will having a wife, Hannah, and small children. He seemed to have had a small farm and instructed the executor to sell three acres to pay off a small debt. There was a John, deceased, who had a daughter to die on October 6, 1790; and a John who had a widow, Hannah, received into the Elizabeth Presbyterian Church on July 7, 1793. Assuming that those mentioned are the same John, his origin is completely unknown unless he was the John, supposedly son of Samuel and Ann Kyte. (See para. 66). That John, to have been old enough to have been a witness to a will in 1775, must have been born in 1759 or earlier. The parents

of Ann Kyte are said to have been married in 1721, so that this John could easily have been born in 1752.

80. A third unknown was a John said to have been born in Elizabeth who enlisted in 1775 at Orange, New York in Captain Denton's Company of New York Continentals. He was supposed to have been a chairmaker and could have been born as early as 1725 or before or as late as 1755. He might fit as a cousin of the John of Middlesex County.

81. The fourth was a John (c1749) who in 1771 married Mary Hinds (c1753), daughter of Benjamin and Catherine Hinds of Elizabeth. This Mary died in 1773 during her twentieth year. They had two children, Mary (1772) who married Michael Magie and Eunice (1773) who married Luther Dean. This John's birth date could have been somewhere between 1745 and 1753, placing him in either the fifth or sixth generation.

82. Lastly it is to be noted that flitting through the literature on this family was the shadow of some John, not necessarily the Mythical John. Hatfield in his *History of Elizabeth* states that the town clerk listed a John among the associates in 1735, at a time when there was only supposed to have been the infant, John (4) (1731), living. The sheriff's list (see box 8) shows a John owning land at a time when it was uncertain if the only known mature Meeker living by that name, John (4) (1731), was married or had bought his property at Westfield. Peter Wilcock of Elizabeth had will made on June 8, 1763, in which it was stated that he had land to right of John Meeker, dec'd. There were no known John Meeker, deceased, since 1731. T. Squier of Elizabeth had will in 1667, the executor and friend being a John Meeker. John (4) (1731-1768) lived at Westfield eight miles from Elizabethtown, but as both men probably lived on farms they could have lived near each other. Mr. Charles H. Meeker tells about an Old Meeker Inn which might have or might not have been built by a John and quotes from the *Proceeding N. J. Hist. Soc.*, Volume 15, 1930 "The Meeker Inn is 173 years old; and one of the show places of Union in Union County, N. J., was razed November 1, 1929, to make way for a store and office building. A realty Company purchased the plot for \$150,000.00. The Inn was established by John Meeker in 1756." Union had become the name for Connecticut Farms. As noted above the only mature John known to be living was the John (4) (1731) who married Phebe Clark about 1754 and settled in the Westfield area on or before 1759. (See para. 27). Although he could have been the builder of this Inn, one is not inclined to believe that a man so young would do so or leave it so soon. Moreover, Mr. Meeker states that this Inn was operated and presumably owned by a Meeker line descending from Jacob and Phebe (Tichenor) Meeker. (See para. 70). Unless Jacob was the son of Robert (3), John (4) was quite distantly

BOX TWELVE

COAT OF ARMS

One cannot be sure that a certain "Coat of Arms" belongs to one's ancestor, only as in this case that some Meeker (or similar name) of honorable lineage once wore that insignia on a piece of cloth pulled over his armor. Both the Irish and the English have a Meeker "Coat of Arms", most certainly of different families, possibly related. It is here understood that the Irish substitutes a (gh) for a (k), hence: Meeker, Meaker, Mea(k)er, Mea(gh)er, Meagher. The O' in Irish, so says, Nancy L. Halbert, denotes a grandfather. Below is a portion of a letter dated August 12, 1971, received from Charles H. Meeker, Jr. pertaining to this subject:

"We were on the subjects of origin of name Meeker and the Coat of Arms, so I am giving you a copy from the big book I had out, -Vol. I, at page 237, O'Hart's Irish Pedigrees."

"O'Meager, -Chiefs of Ikerin, County Tipperary,
Arms: Az two lions rampant Combattant or, supporting a sword, in pale.

Crest: A falcon rising ppr."

"As means azure or blue; Or stands for yellow, Ppr for purple. In pale indicates the center third of the shield. The lions are on each side of the shield, facing each other, standing on their hind feet, ready to fight, and supporting the sword, point upward between them. The field of the shield is blue, the lions are yellow. The falcon is starting to fly up, and is purple."

"In the line of descent O'Hart names a "Meachar" (Meach, Irish, Hospitality), and his son O'Meachair. This name was anglicised, O'Meagher, Meagher, Maher."

"In O'HART'S Book, Vol. I, the various arms in color are shown on Plates 1 through 40. O'Meagher is Number 205. The motto is "Deus Protector Noster", -God is our protector."

Nancy Halbert's version (English) of the Meeker Arms is different:

Arms: "Gu. a lion ramp. ar. a bordure indented or."

"Gu means red; ar(gent) means white; or means yellow. The field of the shield is red; only one lion, is white and facing left; The shield had a border in yellow with a "saw tooth" inside edge. The Crest is a lion, duplicate of the one below in the Shield."

The two pages are on sale by Nancy L. Halbert, 3687 Ira Road, Bath, Ohio 44210. \$2.00 for the two sheets.

related to him. The Inn was likely in existence before 1780 as it was said to have been used by British officers for their headquarters that year. Jacob's estate in 1779 contained only twelve acres, so likely he was not a farmer. If Jacob owned the Inn at the time of his death, Phebe might have operated it for a time or until her death. It was her grandson who eventually operated it. ~~The~~ John, Esquire, who died in 1779 is also of uncertain identity. (See para. 50).

SECTION SEVEN

THE "OLD" MEEKER HOME

83. Through the use of material gathered from several libraries in New Jersey, the letters of Charles H. Meeker, Jr. and several history texts found available, the short historical sketch here presented was prepared. Dr. John E. Pomfret's book *The Province of East New Jersey, 1609-1702, (The Rebellious Proprietary)*, written in 1962 was used primarily as a guide. Others used were: *the History of Elizabeth, New Jersey* by the Rev. Edwin Hatfield written in 1868; *As We Were, (The Story of Old Elizabethtown)*, written in 1964 by Theodore Thayer; and *Newark* by the author, John T. Cunningham, written in 1966. The city library of Newark provided an examination of a newspaper item clipped from some local newspaper around about 1913 which constituted the main basis for the house description. Mr. Howard W. Wiseman, the curator in the library of the New Jersey Historical Society, provided and assisted in securing a print of the home developed from an old glass negative, perhaps taken around 1905, which he found stored in the files of the library. Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. provided a copy of the drawing made perhaps somewhere in the years around 1884/5 by an Edwin J. Meeker, a professional artist and illustrator. And Mr. R. P. Arzberger, assistant Treasurer, of the Fidelity Union Trust Company, a bank located on Broad Street, Newark, permitted the exact copying of the pages concerning the Meeker story from their little booklet, *Historic Newark*, published in 1916.

84. In 1671, six years after the first settlement had been made, the people of Elizabeth, finding no satisfactory court in which to make an appeal, instituted the so called "Meaker Riot". The governor provided the opportunity by repeating for a second time a highly questionable act of rewarding an indentured servant of his with a plot of ground which automatically bestowed upon the servant the status of an associate and freeman. The town membership held quite strongly to the notion that they alone held that privilege, beside the land was evidently a part of their Indian Purchase of 1664. Hatfield in his *History of Elizabeth, New Jersey* states that "In the fundamental agreement of 1665/6 it had been agreed that none but the people would determine who should be admitted as freeholders and Associates" and that the "governor had signed the agreement". Knowing that cattle and hogs pastured in the open so that none could farm without fences, several associates under the leadership of Goodman Meeker tore down a part of the pole fence that surrounded a section of the gift. (Goodman was a title applied by the English to property owners.) The event was highly emotional and violent. The owner was supposed to have remonstrated and William Pardon, the disliked Justice of the Peace and the governor's chief "toady" arrived on the scene to get in his provoking words of discord. That

afternoon two other men, allegedly looking for a drink in the neighborhood, ripped some of the shingles off of the servant's house and pulled up a portion of the palisades that surrounded the garden letting in a drove of pigs that uprooted the vegetables.

85. The settlers and early residents of East New Jersey probably were the most obstinate and contentious of all the colonists in America. Although many troublesome issues did develop, it would seem that the primary cause of conflict lay in the high social tone of the settlers coupled with their peculiar land problem and the development of their democratic culture. Uniting as associates, and after clearing the matter with the ruling authorities in New York, they had bought their land from the Indians prior to their entrance into the colony. The proprietors, on the other hand, in acquiring their rights as a gift from the (later) king of England laid claim to the same land and assumed over lordship even to the matter of government. Back in Connecticut and on Long Island those same colonists had become accustomed to more or less governing themselves, electing their own governors and judges, but here in New Jersey they found themselves subjected to rich absentee landlords. Governor Carteret, appointed by the proprietors, let the early Indian purchase stand but insisted that the proprietors must have part of the land and that all must pay quitrents (half a cent an acre). To those freeborn Englishmen, descendants of knights, gentlemen and property owners, this appearance of peonage must have been most degrading and humiliating. The proprietors had control of the courts and acted accordingly, the colonists countered, as jurors, by finding against the judge regardless of the justice involved; and in time jail breaks and violence were to occur openly and with the connivance of the population in general.

86. Nine months later, the eight rioters were brought to trial. Thayer in his history text, *As We Were*, asserts that "never before had Elizabethtown been in such an uproar". The judges were hand picked by the governor and not a jurymen was from Elizabeth or Newark. The defendants, intentionally in contempt of court walked out before the proceedings were over and refused to pay their fines. The Marshall of the Court who was assigned to levy on their household goods and live stock, dared not do so in the presence of the angry populace and no effort was ever made to collect the fines.

87. At this time another event was developing which Pomfret in his history, *The Province of East New Jersey*, calls the "Rebellion of 1672", an affair in which Goodman Meeker, then constable, became a prominent participant. A Captain James Carteret, son of the leading proprietor, on his way to filling an appointment as one of the "hereditary nobles" of Carolina, stopped to visit in New Jersey. According to Pomfret he was elected in an illegal and revolutionary

meeting of the general assembly of the colony to be the "president of the Province". Governor Carteret was forced to flee Elizabeth, the capital, but did send William Pardon, his staunchest supporter, back to read a proclamation of reprisal. As Captain Carteret had issued a warrant for Pardon's arrest, Constable Meeker put him in jail (one wonders what he used for a jail). Pardon escaped, but the constable caught and rejailed him. Escaping again, perhaps allowed to do so, he got out of town and the township. Using a warrant issued by John Ogden, a magistrate, attaching Pardon's personal estate, Goodman Meeker aided by four deputies broke into Pardon's home during his forced absence, confiscated his live stock, some of his household goods and five acres of peas. Later someone ripped some of the shingles off of the side of his house. It was this episode that got Goodman Meeker into his most serious trouble.

88. This rebellion had lasted about six months when the governor of New York received instruction from the Duke of York, back in England, to see that the folk of New Jersey got back in obedience and Captain Carteret received notice from his father to move on to Carolina. Before Governor Carteret could get back from England where he had gone to plead his mistreatment, the acting governor, Berry, brought Goodman Meeker to trial in a court no doubt properly fixed for the purpose. In all, Pardon received five hundred acres of land from the proprietors (likely questionable in the eyes of the associates as to whether it belonged to the proprietors to give), and in addition obtained the home, land, and personal belongings of Goodman Meeker.

89. Before anything else could happen the Dutch reconquered New York and the Jerseys, and as noted by the historians, the Dutch got not only sympathy but aid in this from the folk of New Jersey. With John Ogden becoming the chief schout (head sheriff) of the six English townships then established, Governor Carteret was forced into temporary retirement. Goodman Meeker retained his property and most government offices were held by the associates and their friends. Nevertheless, the Dutch rule only lasted about fifteen months and Carteret returned to reinstate the turmoil and strife of before. Sometime later, probably in the early part of 1675, William Meeker was forced out of his home with everything confiscated. He likely went to live with one or the other of his sons, who lived down the road in the next two adjoining lots, and both of whom had been married for less than two years. He alone was the only person to receive punishment of any consequence for the "Rebellion of 1672".

90. In May of 1679, Sir Edmond Andros, governor of New York (and through some English government mixup, New Jersey also), sent a group of sailors late at night to kidnap Carteret. According to the historian, Thayer, it would appear that they broke into his house, "struck and kicked him terribly

and even injured him internally", threw him naked out a window and hauled him off still naked to New York in a canoe and put him in prison. William Meeker evidently didn't waste much time getting up to New York for a conference with Andros and as a result brought Pardon to trial in a differently constructed court than before. This court ordered Pardon to return the property and pay twenty pounds damage. Pardon dallied and procrastinated and before anything was done Andres was recalled by the Britist government. As Carteret returned to his authority, Pardon must have got away with his temporizing. During this same year, persumably finding the climate getting too warm for his peace of mind, he removed to New York where he went into the mercantile business. William Meeker died about ten years later and Governor Philip Carteret, whose health had broken, possibly from his kidnapped experience, died about two years later. The death of Carteret did not end the strife as it continued on into the American Revolution which brought it to an end, partly, one would suppose, by eliminating the land rights of the proprietors and partly by instituting a democratic form of government in New Jersey. The statement made by the newspaper writer in 1913 that William Meeker struck the first blow "for freedom and home rule attempted in New Jersey" is a little hard to question.

91. The minutes of the Newark town meeting held on November 21, 1676 show that the folk of that township had or were making a voluntary contribution to replace the loss sustained by William Meeker in the Pardon affair. Also that their collector was expected to deliver the gifts shortly after the following Saturday. It is assumed that the people of Elizabeth out of their angered attitude toward their governor were doing the same. While no township or associate record seems to have existed concerning this, it has been generally assumed that each of the two townships made a small donation of land aside from the money raised. The will of Benjamin, the son of William, shows the house to have been located on a twenty acre plot evidently adjacent to the boundary line and joined by a seventeen acre lot. It was here about 1677 that Benjamin Meeker was supposed to have built his father's home, possibly the most pretentious and elegant of all residences at that time in New Jersey, and out of the free will gifts of the neighbors given intentionally for that purpose. The newspaper writer, writing two hundred and thirty-six years later, was to say that this "the oldest house in the state of New Jersey" was then "as quaint (pleasingly odd and antique) an old house as one can see anywhere about here" and "it is as famous as it is old."

92. The home was located about four miles inland from the Newark Bay (now directly west of the Newark Airfield), erected on a rise of ground presumedly facing north and a small stream flowing southward. Divident Hill, now in the northern part of Weequahic Park, and Bound Creek, which turns north

near there must have been some short distance to the east. The probably center of Connecticut Farms, later a village, appears to have been slightly less than a half mile to the west and a few hundred feet to the south. (Apparently in time the rear of the building became the front). Judging from the photograph taken



prior to 1913 the main part of the house must have been about fifty feet by twenty-two and possibly to have contained three rooms. Reconstruction of early homes of stone built in Brunswick Town, North Carolina, founded in 1726, shows no opening between rooms, thus requiring a resident to go outside to get to another room. Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr. points out that, because of the noticeable difference in heights of the windows and doors of the two parts and other exterior characteristics, part of the building might have been built at a later time. If so, then the newspaper writer, who visited the structure about 1913 and the occupant with whom he talked were completely unaware of that circumstance. The writer stated that aside from adding the kitchen extension (built of stone), the renewing of the roof shingles and rebuilding of the chimneys "no change had been made on the outside of the house" (How he could have known this is somewhat vague). The building, so he said, was built on a "solid stone foundation" with "eighteen-inch brick walls" covered with cedar shingles and contained on the inside, ceiling rafters of "staunch twelve-inch square chestnut timbers".

93. That the bricks and nails used were made in England and floated up Bound Creek, as he stated, is more than likely correct. No bricks were made in New Jersey until 1681 and bricks were used at that time for ballast in ships crossing the Atlantic. Those ships, which carried back, possibly wheat, lumber, and other heavy material, had no need for ballast on the return trip. When stones were used for ballast they were usually dumped in the American harbors forcing occasionally a harbor change. Bricks, however, could be sold and a profit realized. Houses at Brunswick Town were built of those bricks and also of the imported stone.

94. The writer of the newspaper clipping informs us that "near the back-kitchen door is an old well . . . , but the clumsy old giant sweep, ballasted by heavy weights and fitting in so harmoniously with its surroundings had been relegated to an idle life". Its age would of course be unknown to the writer. The same would be true for the sundial, which he states "near the kitchen door is a sundial, beneath the semicircular figures of which is chiseled 'Lat. 41 N. My days are as a shadow that declineth. Ps. 102 ii' ". Further he states that "A member of the family who had a turn for mathematics originated a set of tables by which one only had to know the day of the month to figure the exact hour". The possibility that other houses at that time might have had an exact duplicate of this did not seem to have occurred to him.

95. The drawing made for the front cover was sketched without the knowledge of the glass negative reproduction or the discovery of the newspaper article, permitting two excusable mistakes. First, the artist somewhat centered the dormers which judging by the glass negative picture were both on the right hand half of the building, the left dormer perhaps close to the center. Second, having studied the drawing reproduced in the text, *Historic Newark*, and being unacquainted with the newspaper writer's statement that the builders had probably run out of bricks as one corner was "pieced with a big block of stone", she drew the right hand chimney on the outside of the end wall. Those stones must have been touching the southeast corner, extending across the end to the window and not covered with shingles as were the bricks elsewhere. Realizing this, one can perceive such in the picture or drawing shown in the little booklet, *Historic Newark*. The same picture shows the wall above the square to be on the outside of the chimney, which is believed here to have been characteristic of construction during that period. Pictures of old buildings indicate that.

96. One item that the newspaper reporter never disclosed was how and why shingles were placed over a brick structure. An owner, of an old brick house built before 1750 on the banks of the Cape Fear River in North Carolina, states that in the interior of the rooms, embedded in the mortar and arranged in irregu-

lar intervals one above the other, were horizontal boards or planks. The purpose, he supposed, was to have aided the builder in keeping the bricks on a straight level plane. As the walls were eighteen inches thick the planks did not extend through to the outside. He further stated that the walls looked unsightly. If Benjamin Meeker, age twenty-seven, was the builder of his father's home as so firmly believed, he more than likely had little experience with brick and probably thought that long wooden hewed planks, enclosed in the walls, but showing on the outside, would give strength and durability to the structure. But more than likely he also thought that shingles would give a more stylish and pleasing effect to the building. The newspaper visitor insisted in 1913 that the original shingles were still there "and although blackened by age and worn thin by the elements they had not rotted and were too firmly fastened on to become loose". In earlier times mortar was often made of lime mixed with sand which tended to crumble when exposed to the wetness of rain. The same has been said of mortar composed of marl. Wooden pegs, if nails were not used, might have been driven into the mortar before it had hardened. According to Cunningham, shingle nails were used in the construction of the "Meeting House" at Newark built in 1670, and one gathers from the minutes of the town meeting, that members of the town had those nails to donate for a price.

97. Strangely enough, the photograph shows that the bottom part of the double window at the left end of the building was well below the square, indicating a low ceiling at that end. On around to the right the small window over the second door had its upper part above the bottom of the double window, indicating that the attic floor, resting on twelve inch square timbers might have ended short of this second door. As fireplaces were usually against walls, the chimney above must have been over and to the right of a partition, opening into two fireplaces below. The presence of a second chimney coupled with the raised door and windows show the likelihood of another partition probably near and to the left of the second dormer. The extreme positions of the two dormers on the right half of the building and the lowness of the double window causes one to suspect that there were three attic rooms with possibly three floor levels. It could have been that the original construction had only the two left rooms, a building possibly thirty-four feet by twenty-two; although it seems unlikely that the builders would run out of bricks for the later room at a time when bricks were being made in Elizabeth, three miles away. Cunningham in his history, Newark says that "Homes generally were a story and a half high and about thirty feet long, with sharply sloping roofs" and that "A typical house was that of William Meeker, built in 1674.

98. The outside basement cellar doors could have been a later innovation as it

is understood here that openings to the cellars were generally through the floor of a room. Although it need not have been true here, the partitions at Brunswick Town were of the same material as the outside wall. Cunningham in his text, Newark, shows a picture of a Johnson home, located and built three years later, quite near the Meeker home. It too was of brick, must have contained three rooms and was quite similar in appearance and size. However, the walls were not covered with shingles, nor had it dormers. The third room on the right was set back in from the rest of the building with its roof somewhat lower and the door on the extreme left opening against the partition.

99. William (1) when he died in 1690/1 gave this home to his widow, Hannah, to be hers as long as she lived or remained his widow, after which it was to go to his youngest son, John (2), not married at the time. It is not known if John as a married man ever lived in it, as by 1705 the grandson, William (3) his nephew, was living there. In 1744, at the time of his death this grandson, William, gave it to his youngest son, Isaac (4). However, he stated that Isaac's mother, Hannah (Pottér), was to have the use of the west room for her life time and was to own one-third of the movable estate. Also that the two sons, including Isaac, must keep her in firewood and contribute twelve pounds annually for her maintenance. This west room is believed here to have been the room to the left in the picture and the one-third movable estate to indicate that at the time of the will, November 18, 1741, there were three rooms in the building. Moreover, this will increases the feeling that there were no doors between rooms. Isaac at his death around 1772/7 left the home to his youngest son, Josiah (5). Josiah was the resident during the Revolution and was the head of the last Meeker family to own and to live there, as he had only one child, a daughter to marry. This daughter, Phebe (6) (1798-1883+) was but three years old when her father died, and in time acquired the old home. Her youngest son, William Grummon, Jr. (7) (1830-1914) a bachelor, was the last resident of the home and an old man when visited by the newspaper reporter in or around 1913. He gave as his story: "Old William Meeker was an owner of vessels that sailed into Norwich, Connecticut." "Old William was a godly man, but he didn't like the way the blue laws made his ships stop sailing on Sundays, so he came to Elizabethtown across the sound from Staten Island."

100. Possibly Grummon was also responsible for the reporter's statements that "this house was used as an underground station for Continental soldiers who escaped from prison ships at the Wallabout" and that "Josiah Meeker . . . sheltered Elihu Fish, a Continental officer who escaped from prison and afterward became a prominent Judge". Also that "The family still has in its possession a set of spoons which Judge Fish gave . . . as a mark of his gratitude".

There are other tales told elsewhere, one, that an escape tunnel led from somewhere to the barn. Later apparently when the family was unable to produce the spoons other tales developed. It seems that female members of the family eventually got the spoons with one upset lady getting her spoon stolen. It is to be noticed that Grummon was a grandson of Josiah, **born twenty-nine years after his grandfather's death and ten years after his grandmother Meeker (Phebe Baldwin) died.** He had no cousins on that side of the family, so if female owners of those spoons existed they had to be nieces, daughters of his only brother (his sister died in infancy). If there were spoons still in the family, Grummon would have known all about them, so the writer might have been merely reciting local myth. The writings from "Historic Newark" copied below were prepared only three years later than was this newspaper story.

"HARVEY BIRCH" MEEKER OUTWITS THE BRITISH

Within a short distance of historic Divident Hill, where the Elizabethan and Newark settlers met to fix a boundary line, in what is now the Lyons Farms part of the city, stood the old Meeker place, which had gathered a hundred years of history before the war of the Revolution gave young Josiah Meeker his opportunity. An aged mother, it is said, prevented young Josiah from joining the ranks of the regular army. So he played his part nearer home, and was a familiar figure, dashing over the country on a swift horse, sometimes in the uniform of an officer, at others in the garb of a countryman. Thus disguised, he carried messages from one part of the American army to another, ran great risks, and was often within the enemy's lines. During the war the Meeker house was the gathering-place for Continental soldiers. Often, too, the British came, asking boldly for refreshment. A score or so of redcoats once came to the Meeker house, where they were welcomed by young Josiah, who summoned an old colored mammy and told her to place before them an abundance of everthing from the larder. The best dinner and the finest cider — for which Newark was then famous — were brought. After offering every courtesy to his guests, young Meeker may have said: "I want you to excuse me. When you come, I was just starting for my grandmother's death-bed. I must go now." So gracious was he that no suspicion was aroused in the minds of the enemy. He went to the stable, brought out his favorite horse, and started at great speed to collect from the country-side, for three or four miles around, a party with which to assail the British feasting in his house.

What might have happened, had the British continued to make merry over their most excellent cider, may be imagined. But fortune interviened in the person of one Phyllis, colored, a neighbor, violently pro-British. Phyllis had seen the soldiers enter the Meeker house, had observed that they remained a long time, and she had seen young Josiah Meeker ride away in haste. Phyllis knew his habits, and was not long in making up her mind that it was time for her to take a hand in things. The redcoats were having a jovial party when she appeared in the doorway.

She angrily told them that Josiah Meeker was gathering the Continentals, and, if the troopers didn't wish to be butchered on the spot, they'd better scamper, which they certainly did. In doing so, they left pistols, hats, swords, and belts. They ran for their horses in the Meeker barn, and barely escaped; for, as they dashed off wildly toward Elizabethtown, Meeker and his party surrounded the house.



THE MEEKER HOUSE, HOME OF A BRAVE COLONIAL SPY

Built in 1676. Stood on Prospect Avenue (now Chancellor Avenue) a block west of Elizabeth Avenue, in the Lyons Farms section of Newark.

These are but fragments of the interesting events connected with the old homestead. Until its sale a few years ago, the place was in the uninterrupted possession of one family for two centuries and a quarter. At the time the land on which it stood was sold for building lots, it was the oldest house in the State of New Jersey. During all the years the Meeker family had been a brave one that had helped make Newark history from the first Meeker settler, who was given the land on which the homestead stood after playing the constable in defiance of Carteret and pulling down some houses and fences of which he and the "Associates" didn't approve. Thereby hangs a tale, for the beginnings of which one has to turn back Jersey pages to the 28th of October, 1664. There was then a tract of land lying west of Staten Island which some hardy colonists from Long Island and New Haven purchased and occupied. They were known as the "Associates," and among their number was this first Meeker of all, whom history dubs Goodman Meeker. Somebody has said that he was Jersey's first constable; for, in defiance of Carteret, who with his followers were named the "Proprietors," he pulled down a house or two that he and the "Associates" claimed, according to previous agreements between themselves and Carteret, should not have been erected. Goodman Meeker was proclaimed a mutineer, an enemy to

the government, and his property was confiscated. His old neighbors, grateful to him for his efforts on their behalf, gave him the land on which this old Meeker house was erected in approximately the year 1676. The house was build by his son, Benjamin Meeker, who came with him from the New Haven Colony, where he was born. "One hundred years later," writes a descendant of the first Meeker, "this house was used as an underground station for the Continental soldiers who escaped from the Prison Ships at the Wallabout."

The old house had a solid stone fundation. Above this were eighteen-inch brick walls, covered with boards, shingled on the outside and plastered within. With the exception of reshingling the roof and rebuilding the chimneys, no changes were made in the old place.

At the Meeker homestead during the Revolution Elihu Fish, a Continental officer, who escaped from the prison and afterward became a lay judge of a Connecticut court, as well as a hotel proprietor found shelter after having vainly sought it from place to place. When he arrived at Meeker's, he was hungry, penniless, and sick.

The good women of the house and young Josiah nursed him back to health, and during the days of his convalescence he remained at home with the aged mother, while Josiah Meeker scoured the country in the interests of the Continental Army. In 1824, when Lafayette was in Newark, there came to the old homestead a distinguished gentleman, who proved to be the once penniless young officer, Elihu Fish, whom the Meekers had befriended in the days of the Revolution. He did not tarry long; but, after he went away, he sent back a set of spoons that are now cherished by descendants of daring Josiah Meeker. The house was torn down about two years ago.

BOX THIRTEEN

Ancestry of Charles H. Meeker, Jr.

1. William Meeker (c1620/5) married Sarah Preston.
2. Benjamin Meeker (1649/0) married Elizabeth Thompson.
3. Benjamin Meeker (c1675) married Phebe Clark.
4. Samuel Meeker (1716/7) married Rachel.
5. Capt. Samuel Meeker (c1738/9) married Mary Clark.
6. William Meeker (1762) married Sarah Hays.
7. Samuel Meeker (1786) married Martha Harbeck.
8. Judge John Harbeck Meeker (1823) married Henrietta Augusta Bolles.
9. Charles Henry Meeker (1865) married Alice Hanford.
10. Charles Henry Meeker, Jr. (1885).

In His will, Charles H. Meeker, Jr., is bequeathing his research material to the Genealogical Society of New Jersey. That society has at present a special room for their collection with the Rutgers University Library at New Brunswick, New Jersey.



Photograph of the drawing made by Edwin J. Meeker about 1885. (See paragraph 83)

APPENDIX

The following is a list of families not included in the charts as outlined in this booklet and are for the most part in the sixth generation. No effort was made to make a complete list nor to check the accuracy of material listed. As not all the material was acquired from the letters of Charles H. Meeker, Jr. there is almost certain to be some serious mistakes, nevertheless it is believed here that the mistakes are not numerous. Each person is identified in the parentheses, naming father, grandfather, etc. back to the third generation and a forebear that can be located in the proper chart. The siblings are listed in order of age as far as possible.

1. Abner Meeker (1770) (Stephen, Stephen, Joseph-3) married Mary Ball and had children: Rachel, Mary, Aaron B. who married a Hannah, Henry-Wade, Obediah, Ezekial and Henry.
2. Abraham P. Meeker (c1781) (Thomas, unknown, Thomas-3) married an Elizabeth and had children: Ambrose, Albert R. (1807/8), Elema (1810) who married John H. Mathews, Columbus and Washington (1819) married Phebe-Marsh Ward.
3. Benjamin Meeker (1773) (Some Benjamin, likely Samuel, Benjamin-3) married Esther Headley and seemed to have had at least a Benjamin F. and Rev. Stephen-Headley Meeker.
4. Caleb Meeker (1760) (Joseph, Timothy, Thomas-3) married Susan Skinner and had children: Smith, John F. (d.1819), Isaiah (d.1814), Betsey T. and others.
5. Cornelius Meeker (1776) (Benjamin, Unknown, Thomas-3) married for second wife Nancy Redding and had children: Libbe-Clauson (1805) married Ira Genung, William-Edwin (1807) married Mary M. Youle, Mary-Ann-Ward (1809) married Isaac-Parkhurst Genung, Andrew-Jackson (1814) married Elizabeth Sturges, Cornelius-Irving (1816) married Charlotte-Reed Haughton and Julia-Butler (1820) married Gilbert-Taylor Pugsley.
6. Daniel Meeker (c1731) (possibly Daniel, Thomas-3) of Johnstown, Montgomery County, New York, married Mary and had children: John (c1764/8), Silas (c1755), Daniel married Joseph Newton, Anna (1775), Lovana married a Hovey and another who married a Degraff.
7. Daniel Meeker (1787) (Gabriel, Nathaniel, Mr. Daniel-3) married Sarah Richards and had Carnot-Bolton (c1837), Josephine E. married Ambrose Kitchell, William-Joseph (c1841) and just possibly David F.
8. David Meeker (1768) (Cornelius, unknown, Thomas-3) married Anna Lum and had children: Dr. George-Augustus (1801) married Mary Bouser, Lodowick A. C. (c1803). Clarinda (1805-1812), Catherine (1810) married

- Joseph-Clark Cobb, Richard-Brinkerhoff (1814) married first R. Eliza Wardell and second Laura-Ann Canfield, Stephen-Ward-Tichenor (1816) who married Hannah Shawger.
9. David Meeker (1789) (Joseph, Joseph, Joseph-3) married for second wife Frances Nesbitt and had children: Elizabeth (1815-1815), Joseph (1817-1817), Thomas (1819) who never married, Eliza (1821) married Charles White, Frances (1822-1822), Frances-Swan (1823) and Anna-White.
 10. Denman Meeker (1781) (Jonathan, Jonathan, William-3) married Mary Maxwell and had thirteen children some of whom were: David, Josiah, L. E. (likely Lewis Edgar), Nancy M, Henrietta, William (1823), Marcus (1823) and Edward (1830).
 11. Dorcas Meeker (1774) (Cornelius, unknown, Thomas-3) married David Chandler and had children: Daniel, Hiram, Maria, Henry, Joseph, Susan-Thompson, Stephen, Rhoda and David Chandler.
 12. Elijah Meeker (c1768) (William, Timothy, Thomas-3) married Lucy Williams and had children: Ogden (c1810), Lot (c1806), Nancy (c1808) and Lucy (c1810). (Someone reported that they had a daughter, Elizabeth, who married a James-Ford Ward).
 13. Elias-Osborne Meeker (1790) (William, Isaac, William-3) married Nancy Dodd and had at least one child, Elizabeth-Range (c1821) married to **Isaac-Edge Baldwin**.
 14. Ellis-Randall Meeker (1848-1908) (Jonathan, Caleb, Isaiah, James-3) married Fanny Gilbert and had children: Elizabeth-Dullager (c1872/3), Edna, Jessamine and Alexander-Gilbert (1877).
 15. Enos Meeker (1761/3) (Jacob, unknown, probably Thomas-3) married Mary Dunham and Rhoda Headley and had children: Phebe, Ephraim, Joseph, Jacob-Wheeler, Enos, David-Headley, Harvey, Cornelia-Connet and Ogden.
 16. Ezekiel Meeker (1766) (Stephen, Stephen, Joseph-3) married a Phebe Spinning. Some Ezekiel made will in 1813 had wife, Elizabeth, (possibly second wife), daughter Elizabeth, son Stephen and son John B., also brother Stephen. 1830 census names a Stephen, age 20/29, and a John B., age 30/39.
 17. Jacob-Putnam Meeker (1775) (Jacob, unknown, probably Thomas-3) married Margaret Joralemon and had children: Nicholas-Joralemon (1806) married Susan Townley and Mary-Ann Leonard, Joanna-Wheeler (1806) and Margaret-Rachel (1809) who married John Sweasey.
 18. John Meeker (1759) (possibly Jonas, Timothy, Thomas-3) Revolutionary

War soldier of Hamilton County, Ohio, married Elizabeth and had children: Sarah, John, Elizabeth, Mary and Phebe.

19. John Meeker (1762/6) (Cornelius, unknown, Thomas-3) married Hannah Lazell and had children: Phebe, Julia and Hannah L. who may have married John H. Oliver.
20. John Meeker (c1786/8) (Gabriel, Nathaniel, Mr. Daniel-3) married Sarah Cooper in 1839 and had one child, John W. (c1843).
21. Jonas Meeker (1763/4) (Jonas, Timothy, Thomas-3) married a Charity and had at least one daughter, Mrs. Monta Mattix.
22. Jonathan Meeker (1779) (Timothy, Timothy, Thomas-3) married Mary Denman and had children: Cyrus (1806), Jotham (1807), Julia-Ann (1809) married a Jones and a Samuel Bailey, Mary (1812), Catherine (1814), William N. (1816), Stephen (1820) and John D. (1822) who married Parmelia C. Ball.
23. Joseph Meeker (c1775/0) (possibly Thomas, unknown, Thomas-3) married Hannah Lisk (1770-1865) of Newark and had children: Ichabod married Martha Griffith, Samuel, David L. (1805) married Sarah Pamelia Corby, Benjamin, Thomas-Pierson (1808), Joseph married second time an Ellen H. Leal, Alford (1818) married Mary Leal, Anna-Eliza (1819) married Stephen Corby and Joanna married a Lake.
24. Josephus (Joseph) Meeker (1773/4) (William, Timothy, Thomas-3) married Martha and had among others a son, Jonathan, married to a Martha Shellberger.
25. Manning Meeker (1781) (John, Timothy, Thomas-3) married Hannah Thompson and had children: Jacob-Redding (1804) married a Phebe S. Baker and Nancy (North) Burr, Usual-Halford (1811), Ezra-Manning (1813) and Charles (1818).
26. Mary Meeker (1734) (Stephen, Joseph-3) married John Lum and had children: Stephen (1754), Mary (1756), John Clark (1759), Amos (1762), Elizabeth (1766) and Susannah-Marsh (1731).
27. Moses Meeker (1790) (Jonathan, Jonathan, William-3) married Mary R. Henry and Eliza P. Shakelton and had children: Jonathan married Margaret Waters, Evaline married Thomas Potts, Henry married Mary Maloney, Elizabeth, Warner-Hatch, Elizabeth, John-Averly married Martha Stephenson, Emma-Shakleton married Thomas F. Humbold, Edwin-Irving married Minnie Davis, Julia-Clara married Nicholas Smith, Moses P., and Eliza-Rebecca married George W. Snow.
28. Noah Meeker (1753) (Stephen, Stephen, Joseph-3) married Charity Miller and had children: William (1799) married Eliza (or Elizabeth) Osborne, Allen, Nathaniel, Job and Noah.

- Allen, Nathaniel, Job and Noah.
29. Obadiah Meeker (1763/4) (Stephen, Stephen, Joseph-3) married a widow, Elizabeth Crane in 1824 possibly for a second wife as he seemed to have had a daughter, Joanna, married to Abraham Scudder in 1807.
 30. Obadiah Meeker (1782) (Obadiah, Stephen, Joseph-3) married Jerusha-Cook Harrison and had children: Henry, Mary-Crane married James H. Robinson, Esq., Caroline-Nicholas deceased in 1855, Stephen-Harris and David.
 31. Phebe Meeker (c1742/3) (Stephen, Joseph-3) married Benjmain Crane and had children: Jonas (1766), Obadiah (1780), Benjamin, Isaac B. and David Crane.
 32. Samuel Meeker (c1764) (Cornelius, unknown, Thomas-3) married Mary Ryerson and likely had at least one son, John F. There was a Ryerson Meeker living near Orange, New Jersey, listed in 1830 census.
 33. Stephen Meeker (1768) (Stephen, Stephen, Joseph-3) married Charity Crane, Mary and Hannah Ogden and had children: Nehemiah (1794), Phebe-Allen (1796) married Aaron Bonnel, Mary (1805) married William Stiles, Esther (1808) and Charity married Nehemiah Sayre.
 34. Usual Meeker (1757) (Nathaniel, Mr. Daniel-3) married Elizabeth Heaton and had children: Sally (1792), James (c1793), Elizabeth (1794), Margaret (1795), Uzal (1797), Michael (1800) and Lanus (1802).
 35. William Meeker (1757) (Isaac, William-3) married Charity Harrison and Phebe Osborne and had children: Isaac (1779), Eliakem, Elias-Osborne (1790) married Nancy Dodd, and others.
 36. William Meeker (1762) (Samuel, Samuel, Benjamin-3) married Sarah Hays and had children: James-Clark (1783-1785), William (1784-1794), Samuel (1786), James (1788-1792), Henry (1791) married Mary Baldwin, Phebe (1792) married John Woods, William (1795), and Alleta (1797) married Randolph Jones.
 37. William Meeker (1777) (Moses, Moses, Daniel, Sr-3) married Hannah Cory and had children: Moses died young, Hannah married Andrew Crane, Jonathan, Abigail, Anne, Susan and possibly Mary.
 38. William Meeker (1799) (Noah, Stephen, Stephen, Joseph-3) was supposed to have married Eliza Osborne and possibly had children: John W. (c1838) and William-Theodore (1840) married to Kate Heacock.

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(Asterisk (*) before name denotes soldier of the Revolution)

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Aaron s of Aaron (4) & (Hannah Lyon)	C9
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Elizabeth (c1734/52*-1787+) d of David (3), never m	C10
Elizabeth (1737-1812) m Enoch Moore	Box-11
Elizabeth (c1761-1824) of Sussex, m Ananias Valentine	Box-6
Elizabeth (c/14/1764) d of Abraham (4), m Timothy Johnson	C10
Elizabeth (c1779) d of Capt. Obediah (5), m Enoch Moore	C2
Elizabeth-Halstead (1783) d of Matthias (5), m James Wood	C4
Elizabeth (1786) d of John (4), m Caleb Edwards	C10
Elizabeth (1786) d of David (5), m Peter Dean	C7
Elizabeth d of John & Elizabeth (Hamilton County, Ohio)	Appendix 18
Elizabeth (1794) d of Lieutenant Usual & Elizabeth Heaton	Appendix 34
Elizabeth (1797-1853) d of Michael (4), m Andrew Brokaw	C10
Esther (1710/1-3/31/1750) d of Benjamin (3), m Stephen Hines	C4
Esther (1759-1801) d of James (3), m Samuel Foster	C9
Esther (1760) d of Stephen (5), m John Potter	C2
Eunice (1694/14)* d of John (2), m a Morris	Box-5,15
Eunice (c1740/9) m James Ball	Box-11
Eunice (1769) d of Amos (5), m John Johnson, Jr.	C7
Eunice (1773) d of John (5), m (Luther Dean)	81
Eunice (c1774-1796) d of Jacob (5), m (Luther Dean)	73,C11
Frances (1748-1809) d of James (3), m Waters Burrows	C9
Hannah (c1691/3) d of Daniel (2), m Thomas Lyon	4,23,Box-1
Hannah (c1735) d of David & Abigail	C5
Hannah (1748-1809) d of James (3), m Edward Hall	C9
Hannah (c1747) d of Timothy (4), m Capt. John Edwards	29,54,C7
Hannah (7/18/1751-1840) d of Joseph (4), m Ephraim Sayre	47,C2
Hannah (1751-1810) m Jonathan Williams	Box-11
Hannah (8/13/1760) d of Abraham (4), m Zacheaus Baldwin	C10
Hannah (1767-1852) d of Capt. Jonathan (5), m Capt. T. Bigelow	38,C5
Hannah (c1770-1813+) d of John (5), m Henry Weaver	50, C3
Hannah (1794) d of David (5), m Samuel Meeker	C7
Harriet (1813-1843) d of Isaac (5), m Abraham Valentine	C9
Jamima (c1775/1800) d of Cory (5), m a Sheers	C7
Jane (c1765/85)* d of Matthias (5), m William Ross	C4

Jane (c1785/1805)* d of Isaac (5), m John Morrison	C7
Jane (1788) d of Michael (4), m Eleazer Cotterel	C10
Jemimah d of Jonathan (3), m a Chandler	19
Jerusha (c1785/1805) d of Isaac (5), m Felix Canfield	C7
Joanna (1726/7-1770) d of John (3), m Nathan Baldwin	C8
Joanna (1740-1826) d of Jonathan (4), m James Jones	C5
Joanna (1756) d of Stephen (5), m Abner Sayre	C2
Joanna (1766-1799+) d of John (4), m Elias Crane	C8
Joanna d of Obadiah (6), m Abraham Scudder in 1807	46
Johanna (1760/78) d of Jacob (5), m Jacob Wheeler	73,C11
Johanna (1780/2) d of Amos (5), m David Johnson	C7
Johannah m Daniel Woodruff	Box-11
Josephine E. (c1834) d of Daniel (6) & Sarah Richard	Appendix 7
Keziah d of Jonathan (3), m a Woodruff	19
Keziah (1768/9) d of Capt. Joseph (5), m Thomas Jansen	C7
Lois d of Benjamin (5) of Sussex County	Box-6
Lydia (c1774) d of William (5), m Thomas Saunders	C7
Margaret (1751-1785) m William Ludlum	Box-11
Martha d of Jonathan (3), m a Woodruff	19
Martha (1770/9) of Sussex m a Clark	Box-6
Mary (1656) d of William (1)	Box-2,11
Mary d of Robert (1) m Samuel Adams	4,Box-1
Mary d of Jonathan (3), m an Ogden	19
Mary (1711/2-1778) d of Daniel, Sr. (3), m Joseph Cory	C3
Mary (c1729-1768) d of John (3), m Amos Potter	C8
Mary (c1734/52*-1787+) d of David (3), never m	C10
Mary (1739-1797) d of James (3), m Ephram Sayre	C9
Mary (c1740) d of Stephen (4) & Mary	C2
Mary (1740/9) m David Dickinson	Box-11
Mary (c1740/60)* d of Abraham (4) & grand-d of Daniel, Sr.	C3
Mary (9/5/1742-1/12/1763) d of Joseph (4) & Rachel Lyon	47,C2
Mary-Ann (1748/9) d of Nathaniel (4) & Miss Salnave	C6
Mary (c1750-1793) d of Timothy (4), Daniel Day	C7
Mary (1761) d of Capt. Samuel (5), never m	C4
Mary (1770) of Sussex m James Clark, Jr	Box-6
Mary *(1771-1839) d of Cornelius (5), m John Crane	C7
Mary (1772) d of John (5), m Michael Magie	81
Mary (1774) d of David (4) & Sarah Mills	C10

Mary (c1774) d of Benjamin (5) & Anne Paul	63,C7
Mary (1778) d of Benjamin (5), m Jonathan Burnet	C4
Mary (1780-1841) d of Isaiah (4), m Arauna Muir	C9
Mary (1782) d of Jonathan (5), m Samuel McChesney	C7
Mary (1784) d of Moses (5), m Stephen Garthwaite	C3
Mary (1786-1854) d of John (5) & Rachel Force	C7
Mary d of John (6) & Elizabeth of Cincinnati, Ohio	Appendix 18
Mary-Crane of Obadiah (6) & Jerusha-Cook Harrison	Appendix 30
Mary (1793-4) d of Joseph (5) m Isaac Beach	C2
Mary (1795-1863) of Sussex m Charles Smith	Box-6
Mary-Marsh-Elmer (1797) d of Joseph-Ogden (5), m John Squier	C8
Mary (1798-1831) d of Caleb (5), m Amos Wilcox	C9
Mary-Edwards (1802) d of Michael (4), m Ezra Parkurst	C10
Mary (1812) d of Jonathan & Mary Denman	Appendix 22
Marie (1810) d of Isaac (5) & Jane Wilcox, m Lewis Noe, Jr.	C9
Mrs. Baly d of Benjamin (5) of Sussex	Box-6
Mrs. Isaac Cory d of Benjamin (5) of Sussex	Box-6
Mrs. Job Smith d of Benjamin (5) of Sussex	Box-6
Myria (1789-1808) d of Jotham (5), m John Osborn	C8
Nancy (1771-1842) d of Isaiah (4), m John Roberts	C9
Nancy (1779-1845) d of James (4), m James Bruster	C9
Nancy (1780/1800)* d of Isaac (5), m Smith Tompkins	C7
Nancy (1801-1818) d of Caleb (5), never m	C9
Phebe (1705/6) d of Benjamin (3), m Nehimiah (Ludlum)	C4
Phebe (12/1/1740) d of Joseph (4), m Matthias Crane	C2
Phebe (c1740-1808) of Goshen T., N. Y., m James Dolsen, Sr.	Box-6
Phebe (c1742/3) d of Stephen (4), m Benjamin Crane	43,C2
Phebe (1749-1836) m William Halstead	31,Box-11
Phebe (1751-1779) d of Michael (4), m Lewis Mulford	C6
Phebe (c1761/3) d of Jacob (5), Moses Price	73,C11
Phebe (1762) d of Timothy (4), m John A. Feayler	C7
Phebe (c1763/75)* d of Capt. Samuel (5), m Alexander Cochran	C4
Phebe (1770) d of David (4) & Sarah Mills	C10
Phebe (1775-1821) d of Stephen (5), m Ithamar Bonnell	C2
Phebe (1781-1856) d of Major Samuel of Sussex	Box-6
Phebe-Ogden (1780/9) d of Joseph (5), m Joseph Periam	C2
Phebe (1788-1886) of Sussex County, m John Elston	Box-6
Phebe d of John (6) & Elizabeth of Cincinnati, Ohio	Appendix 18
Phebe-Clark (1797-1821) d of Jotham & Sarah Line	C8

Phebe (1798-1883+) d of Josiah (5)	99
Polly (likely Mary) (1767/86)* d of Capt. Obadiah, m Aaron Ward	C2
Priseilla m Jacob Bloom	Box-11
Prudence (1762) d of Stephen (5), m William Garthwaite	C2
Prussia (c1763-1855) d of Daniel (5), m William Woodruff	74,C11
Rachel (1725-1774), d of Mr. Daniel (3), m Abner Woodruff	C6
Rachel (9/24/1744-1829) d of Joseph (4), m Andrew Bryant	C2
Rachel (1754), d of Stephen (5), m Meeker Squire	C2
Rachel (1761/9) d of Capt. Joseph (5), m Nathaniel Miller	C7
Rachel (1780/9) d of Joseph (5), m Daniel Beach	C2
Rachel-Ball (1783/1800)* d of Jonathan (5), m Matthias Swain	C7
Rachel (1793-1804) d of Capt. Jonathan (5) & Rachel Denman	C5
Rachel (1802) d of Joseph-Ogden (5) & Phebe Dunham	C8
Rebekah (1727/8) d of John (3), m David Squier	C8
Rebekah (c1740/60)* d of Abraham (4) & grand-d of Daniel, Sr.	C3
Rebekah (1754-1777) d of Jonathan (4)	C5
Rebekah (1778-1849) d of Capt. Jonathan (5), never m	C5
Rebecca (c1799) d of Cory (5), m a Greering	C7
Rhoda (c1706/20)* possible d of Joseph (3) & Phebe (Crane)	21,43
Rhoda (c1746) d of Stephen (4) & Mary	C2
Rhoda (5/22/1754-3/28/1768) d of Joseph (4), never m	C2
Rhoda (c1760) d of John (4) & Phebe Clark	C8
Rhoda c1760/80)* d of Daniel (5), m a Stephens	74,C11
Rhoda (1770-1801) d of Abraham (4) & Elizabeth Tichenor	C10
Rhoda (c1773) d of William (5), m John Kent	C7
Rhoda (1785-1816) d of Capt. Obediah (5), m Nathaniel Johnson	C2
Sarah (1654) d of William (1)	Box-2,11
Sarah (c1706/20)* possible d of Joseph (3) & Phebe (Crane)	21,43
Sarah (c1710/5) d of Mr. Daniel (3), m Abraham Clark	C6
Sarah (1722/3-9/5/1799) d of Benjamin (3) m Isaac Woodruff	C4
Sarah (c1734-1789) d of Stephen (4) & Mary	C2
Sarah (1738) d of Timothy (4), m Isaac Smith, Jr.	52,C7
Sarah (c1740/60)* d of Abraham & grand-d of Daniel, Sr.	C3
Sarah (1744-1805) m James Crane	Box-11
Sarah (1751) d of Jonathan (4), m Jonathan Congar	C5
Sarah (c1756/9-1799+) d of John (4), m John Marsh	C8
Sarah (1/11/1763-6/20/1769) d of Joseph (4), never m	C2
Sarah (1768-1852) d of Capt. Obediah (5), m Obediah Lyon	C2
Sarah (1771/2-1797/8) d of Capt. Joseph, m Benjamin Dooley	C7

Sarah (1778-1848) d of Miachel (4), m Isaac Townley	C10
Sarah (1791-1863) d of Jeptha (6), m Lindsley Meeker	Box-6
Sarah d of John (6) & Elizabeth of Cincinnati, Ohio	Appendix 18
Sally (1792) d of Lieut. Usual, m a (Ball)	Appendix 34
Sarah-Scudder (1798-1876) d of Joseph-Ogden (5), m E. D. Hatfield	C8
Sarah (1800) d of James (4), m John High	C9
Senith (c1802) d of Cory (5), m an Irwin	C7
Susanna (c1734/52)* d of David (3), m an Ayres	C10
Susanna d of the Daniel of Montgomery Co. N. Y.	76
Susannah (c1748/2) d of Moses (4) & grand-d of Daniel, Sr.	C3
Susan (c1760/80)* d of Jacob (5) & Phebe Tichenor	73,C11
Susan (1782-1853+) d of Michael (4), m Woodruff Osborn	C10
Susan-Clark(1801) d of Moses (5), m James Wilson Voorhis	C3
Zeriuah (1768/9-1787) d of David (5), never m	C5

(*) Above birth dates indicates complete guessing here.

HUSBANDS AND WIVES

Abigail Allen	C7	Felix Canfield	C7
Phebe Alling	46,C2	Isaac Cary, Jr.	Box-6
Jonathan Andrus	C10	Pauly Casky	C7
Daniel Baldwin	C10	Daniel Chandler	C11
Elizabeth Baldwin	C7	David Chandler	C7
Joanna Baldwin	C7	Abraham Clark	C6
Nathan Baldwin	C8	Catherine Clark	Box-6
Phebe Baldwin	39,100,C5	James Clark	Box-6
Zacheous Baldwin	C10	Mary Clark	32,C4
James Ball	Box-11	Mary Clark	49,C3
Mary Ball	C2	Mr. ?? Clark	Box-6
Abby R. Beach	C2	Phebe Clark	21,C1
Daniel Beach	C2	Phebe Clark	27,C8
Isaac Beach	C2	William B. Clark	C6
Capt. Tim Bigelow	38,C5	John Clauson	C6
Jacob Bloom	Box-11	Libbe Clauson	C7
Rebecca Blumfield	C9	Mary Cocheron	28,C1
Ithamar Bonnell	C2	Alexander Cocran	C4
Andrew Brokaw	C10	Jonathan Congar	C5
Joseph Brookfield	C4	David Conklin	C3
James Bruster	C9	Sarah Cooper	41,C6
Andrew Bryant	C2	Eleazer Cotterel	C10
Nancy Bryant	C4	Desire Cory	52,54,C7
Mary-Crane Budd	C9	Hannah Cory	C3
Jonathan Burnet	C4	Joseph Cory	C3
Waters Burrows	C9	Benjamin Crane	C2
Vashti Butler	C2	Charity Crane	C2

Elias Crane	C8	Johanna Force	58,C7
Elizabeth Crane	46,C2	Rachel Force	57,C7
John Crane	C7	Hannah Foster	28,C9
James Crane	Box-11	Samuel Foster	C9
Matthias Crane	C2	Charity Frost	C9
Phebe Crane	21,C1	Stephen Garthwaite	C3
Levi Darby	C3	William Garthwaite	C2
Mr. ?? Davis	C9	Hannah Gillam	C9
Daniel Day	C7	Sarah Green	C5
Catherine Dean	C10	Mary Griffith	35,C4
Elias Dean	C10	Edward Hall	C9
Luther Dean	C11	Deborah Halsey	28,C9
Peter Dean	C7	Elizabeth Halsey	C4
Mary Delegar	C9	William Halstead	31,Box 11
Mary Denman	59,C7	Jacob Hand	C8
Rachel Denman	38,C5	Amos Harrison	C7
David Dickinson	Box-11	Charity Harrison	39,C5
Nancy Dodd	39	Jerusha-Cook Harrison	45,C2
James Dolsen	Box-6	Sally Harrison	38,C5
Benjamin Dooley	C7	Hannah Hartwell	C7
Mary Dunham	73,C11	Ezra-Darby Hatfield	C8
Phebe Dunham	C8	Sarah Hays	33,C4
Hannah Earl	C7	Esther Headley	35,C4
Caleb Edwards	C10	Rhoda Headley	73,C11
Capt. John Edwards	29,54,60,C7	Elizabeth Heaton	42,C6
Mary Edwards	29,C10	Mary R. Henry	38,C5
Rev. Moses Edwards	29,C7	John High	C9
Dr. Moses Elmer	34,C4	Mary Hinds	81,Box-11
John Elston	Box-6	Stephen Hinds	C4
Eunice Fade	C7	Thomas Jansen	C7
Margaret Farley	C8		
John A. Feayler	C7		
Matilda Finley	C2		

Charles Jennings	C10	Rachel Lyon	47,C2
Comfort Johnson	45,C2	Thomas Lyon	23,Box-1
David Johnson	C7	Mary Magie	48,C2
Jane Johnson	C7	Phebe Magie	C9
John Johnson, Jr.	C7	Rhoda Magie	74,C11
Nathaniel Johnson	C2	Mary Mann	C7
Phebe-Pierson Johnson	C10	Comfort Marsh	9,43,C1
Rhoda Johnson	C7	Elizabeth Marsh	29,C1
Timothy Johnson	C10	John Marsh	C8
James Jones	C5	Sarah Marsh	37,C5
Margaret Joralmon	C11	Mary Maxwell	38,C5
John Kent	C7		
Eunice Kent	61,C7	Margaret McChesney	61,C7
Eunice Kent	61,C7	Samuel McChesney	C7
Sarah Kinney	40,C6	Mrs. Meekers, maiden name unknown.	
Ann Kyte	Box-11,66,C7	Abigail (Moses-5)	49,C3
Hannah Kyte	C3	Abigail (David-4)	36,C5
Patty Lacy	C7	Charity (Jonas-6)	56,C7
Hannah Lazell	68,C7	Elizabeth (John-5)	50,C3
Patience Lewis	C10	Elizabeth (Abraham P.)	69,C7
Sarah-Jane Lindsley	58,C7	Elizabeth (John-6)	C7
Sarah Line	C8	Hannah (William-1)	5,Box-2
William Line	C8	Hannah (Moses-4)	49,C3
Hannah Lisk	69	Lydia (Benjamin-5)	75,Box-11
Esther Littell	40,C6	Margaret (Obediah-6)	C5
William Littell	C8	Margery (Usual-6)	C7
Nehemiah Ludlum	C4	Martha (Joseph-2)	9,Box-3
William Ludlum	Box-11	Mary (Jonathan-3)	19
Anna Lum	67,C7	Mary (Stephen-4)	44,C2
John Lum	C2	Mary (Stephen-6)	C2

Mary (Daniel, Sr.-3)	23,C1	Daniel Noe	C9
Phebe (Nathaniel-5)	Box-6	Elizabeth Ogden	4,Box-1
Rachel (Mr. Daniel-3)	22,C1	Hannah Ogden	15,C1
		Hannah Ogden	C2
Rachel (Samuel-4)	31,C4	Joanna Ogden	27,46,C1
Rebekah (Jonathan-4)	37,C5	Mary Ogden	38,C5
Sally-Ann (Robert-6)	C3	Sarah Oliver	78,Box-11
Sarah (Nathaniel-4)	40,C6	John Osborn	C8
Sarah (David-5)	36,69,C5	Phebe Osborne	39,C5
Sarah (Noah-6)	C5	Sarah Osborne	56,C7
Sarah (Maj. Samuel)	Box-6	Woodruff Osborn	C10
Sarah (Daniel-5)	76,Box-11	Betsey Owens	C7
Valeria (Cory-5)	60	John Parcil	C7
Anna Meeker	C7	Phebe Parcil	61,C7
Hannah Meeker	C7	Sarah Parcil	59,C7
Lindsley Meeker	Box-6,58,C7	Margaret Parker	41,C6
Samuel Meeker	C7		
Charity Miller	C2	Ezra Parkurst	C10
Elizabeth Miller	C7	Thomas Parrot	C9
Moses Miller	47,C2	Jane Parsons	34,C4
Nathaniel Miller	C7	Hannah Peet	C10
Sarah Mills	29,C10	Anne Paul	63,C7
Enoch Moore	C2	Joseph Periam	C2
Enoch Moore	Box-11	Miss ?? Perry	57,C7
Thomas Morris	11	Sarah Pierson	52,56,C7
John Morrison	C7	Sarah Pierson	36,69
Arauna Muir	C9	Amos Potter	C8
Lewis Mulford	C6	Hannah Potter	18,99,C1
Jacob Mulford	C6	John Potter	C2
Miss ?? Munn	52,C7	Sarah Potter	40,C6
Frances Nesbitt	C2	Sarah Preston	5,C1
Lewis Noe, Jr.	C9	Benjamin Price	21,C2

Moses Price	C11	Meeker Squire	
Phebe Price	C2	(Squier?)	C2
Nancy Redding		Mr. ?? Stephens	74,C11
		Martha Swain	38,C5
Catherine Reeve	C7	Matthias Swain	C7
Sarah Richards	41,C6	Elizabeth Thompson	Box-4,14,C1
John Roberts	C9	Hannah Thompson	C7
Aminda M. Rogers	Box-6	Aaron Tichenor	C7
Abigail Ross	78,Box-11	Elizabeth Tichenor	29,71,C10
William Ross	C4	Hannah Tichenor	C7
Ellen Ryall	C7	Hannah Tichenor	58,C7
Mary Ryerson	67,C7	Mary Tichenor	64,66,71,C7
Miss ?? Salnave	40,C6	Phebe Tichenor	70,71,82,C11
Abner Sayre	C2	Phebe Tompkins	C7
Ephram Sayre	C2	Smith Tompkins	C7
Ephram Sayre	C9	Elizabeth Townley	28,C9
		Elizabeth Townley	C7
Lydia Saunders	61,C7	Isaac Townley	C10
Thomas Saunders	C7	Jemima Townley	C7
Abraham Scudder	46	Susan Tubarfield	4,Box-1
		Isaiah Vail	Box-6
Eliza P. Shakelton	38,C5	Abraham Valentine	C9
Sarah Shotwell	C8	Ananias Valentine	Box-6
Susan Skinner	55,C7	Almira Voder	C9
		James-Wilson Voorhis	C3
Charles Smith	Box-6	Patience Wade	29,C10
Elizabeth Smith	4,Box-1	Thomas Wagner	C10
Elizabeth Smith	C10	James Walsh	C7
Isaac Smith, Jr	C7	Vanity Ward	60,C7
Hannah Smith	39,C5	Aaron Ward	C2
Mary Smith	55,C7	Ann Watkins	C9
Phebe Spinning	C2	Henry Weaver	50,C3
David Squier	C8	Jacob Wheeler	C11
John Squier	C8	William Whickham	Box-6

Amos Wilcox	C9	Abner Woodruff	C6
Jane Wilcox	C9	Hannah G. Woodruff	74,C11
Mehitable-Barnet Wilcox	C9	Isaac Woodruff	C4
Jonathan Williams	Box-11	Hannah Woodruff	,74,79,C11
Lucy Williams	C7	Mary-Ann Woodruff	C2
Mary Winans	Box-11	Stephen Woodruff	C2
Susannah Winans	25,75,78,C11	William Woodruff	74,C11
James Wood	C4	Sarah Woodworth	C3
Sarah Wood	C9	Joanna Youngs	C7

NOTES, CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS AND CHANGES

An error appears at the top of the third printed page above the drawing of "The Snow", where William Grumman is quoted as having made a statement in the year of 1813, which correctly should be 1913.

In the last sentence, paragraph fourteen, it is stated that Elizabeth (Thompson) Meeker "was likely living as late as 1745 as some Elizabeth Meeker was mentioned in a court house record of that date" There was another Elizabeth Meeker, wife of David (3) Meeker, who was living in 1745 (see paragraph twenty-nine). The word (possibly) should be substituted for (likely).

In Paragraphs twenty five and sixty five, two Thomas Meekers are introduced. Actually the known data provides for five:

1. Thomas (3) (c1685), son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Meeker and sire of a lost family.
2. Thomas (5) (c1743), father of Abraham P. Meeker presumedly the soldier in Capt. Baldwin's Co. (Am. Rev.) and likely the grandson of number one.
3. Thomas, a soldier enrolled in Capt. Piatt's Co. (Am. Rev.)
4. Thomas, died October 4, 1777 (date of battle of Germantown, Pa.), estate settled on August 29, 1808.
5. Thomas B., enrolled in the Whiskey War of 1794.

Numbers one and four could be the same man, born about 1685, dying at about the age of ninety two. Again it might be that numbers three and four are the same person, possibly a son of number one. The twenty one years that elapsed before settlement could possibly indicate that some heir living in the home didn't want to have things settled, or more likely, the widow was living and her children preferred to leave things alone.

In paragraph thirty one it is stated that a "Samuel (1849-1902)... provided the information that the children of Samuel (4) were the persons of Captain Samuel, Mathias and Benjamin." That writer further stated that the son, Benjamin, married a Mary Harriman, but it is recorded in Chart IV that he married Mary Griffith. Either the man was married twice, or some mistake is envolved. It is here believed that the Chart is correct.

New Information has came from Mr. Charles H. Meeker, Jr., concerning the Nathaniel (5) (1753-1792) mentioned in paragraph forty. Nathaniel who Married Esther, daughter of Anthony Littell, was living in the year of 1882 on his father-in-law's farm in Somerset County, adjacent and south of Morris County, the authority being Anthony Littell's will of September 11, 1782. Only one

child is known, David-Littell Meeker (1792-1852), who went with his widowed mother to Darke County, Ohio in 1802 and in 1816 married Nancy-Ann Miller from New Jersey and had thirteen children.

In paragraph forty-six on line fourteen, a Joanna Meeker is said to have been too (young) to have been the daughter of an Obadiah (1782). This should have read as being too (old). Joanna marrying in 1807 could hardly have been born later than 1791 at a time when this Obadiah was nine years old. It was Obadiah who was too young. There was a fourth Obadiah (1766) who could have been the father of this Joanna (see Chart V).

To the items under "CODE TO CHARTS" following paragraph fifty should be added an eighth: While most of the information presented came directly from Charles H. Meeker, Jr., not all did, and some of the assumptions (possibly errors) as outlined are not his responsibility.

On line six in paragraph ninety-two the name of the locality, Connecticut Farms, appears which correctly should have been Lyons Farms.

NOTES, CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS AND CHANGES

NOTES, CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS AND CHANGES