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of Samuel Crowfoot, born in 1699. The following are believed to refer to Joseph son of John Crowfoot. John Crowfoot sold land to Joseph Crowfoot in 1721.

At a Town meeting March 9, 1725/6, Joseph Crowfoot and others were chosen fence viewers and field drivers. Dec. 30, 1725, Joseph Crowfoot petitioned for aid in keeping his brother Thomas Crowfoot and was granted £10.

Administrations upon estates of two Joseph Crowfoots were granted by the Hampshire Probate Court, one in 1726 and the other, called Joseph, senior, in 1727. The latter was probably son of John Crowfoot and the former son of Samuel Crowfoot, but we may be mistaken. Both seem to have been unmarried.

14. SAMUEL³ CROWFOOT (*Samuel*², *Joseph*¹), born in Springfield, Mass., Jan. 21, 1694; died there Feb. 25, 1746; married Sept. 11, 1729, Johannah Seovil of Middletown, Conn.

Children recorded in Springfield:

- i. SAMUEL⁴, b. March 14, 1736/7; d. Oct. 17, 1757.
- ii. JOHANNAH, b. Oct. 13, 1741; m. Jan. 16, 1764, John Gibson of Middletown, Conn.

(continued on 17:23)

THOMAS BIRCHARD OF NORWICH, CONNECTICUT AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS

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1. THOMAS BIRCHARD

The name is written by various clerks and records as Bercher, Berchard, Bercherd, Birchard, Bircherd, Bircher, Birchwood, Burchard, Burcherd, Burchet, Birchood, Burchwood.

On September 19, 1635, "Thomas Burchard," laboring man, aged 40 years, with his family consisting of wife Mary, aged 38 years, and children, Elizabeth, aged 13 years, Marie, aged 12, Sara, aged 9, Suzanna, aged 8, John aged 7, and Ann, aged 18 months, took passage on the True Love, from London, England, for New England.¹

He came to the Massachusetts Colony, where "Thom: Bircher" was made a freeman, May 17, 1637.²

On the Reverend John Eliot's "Record of such as adjoined

* The late Mrs. Elisha E. Rogers of Norwich, Conn., was one of the finest genealogists Connecticut has produced. Little of her work, which was largely in the eastern part of the state, has appeared in print under her own name, and we are grateful to Mr. Seymour for permission to publish her excellent sketch of the Birchard family.—D. L. J.

¹ New Eng. Hist. & Gen. Register, XIV, p. 323.

² Col. Records, Massachusetts, Vol. I, p. 373; New Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg., III, p. 95.

themselves unto the fellowship of this Church of Christ at Roxborough," are the names of "Thomas Birchard" and later on the list, "—— Birchard the wife of Thomas Birchard."²

Before February, 1639, he had removed to Hartford, Connecticut, where he was one of the original, though not of the earliest, proprietors; in the first volume of Hartford land records, in the "Distribution of Lands," page 124, is recorded "Feb: Anno: dom: 1639. Several parcells of land in Hartford vpon the river Cananticott belonging to Thomas Birchwo(od) and to his heires forever."

Six parcels were entered, one of which was "One parcel on which his dwellinge house now Standeth," and his neighbor on the south was John Clark.⁴

From this it may be inferred that he was already living there; he is frequently mentioned in this "Distribution of Lands," as an abutter. April 11, 1639, he served on the jury⁵ and on Sept. 27, 1645, was one of the apprizers of the estate of "Willia Lotha," and was then called "Thomas Burchwood." His daughter Sarah, was married in October 1647, to Bartholomew Barnard, of Hartford.⁶

He then went to Saybrook, Connecticut, the exact date not being determined, as few records of Saybrook are extant till 1660, but he attended the General Court at Hartford, May 15, 1651, as deputy from Saybrook, John Clark, his former Hartford neighbor, being the other deputy.⁷

At this Court, Thomas Birchard and John Clark, as deputies for Saybrook, engaged that the town of Saybrook should pay the levy which had been due for five years; also "This Courte taking into consideracon the proposition of the inhabitants of Pequett for some inlargement of meadow at Niantecutt, and whereas there was 500 hundred acres of ground lying in the Pequett granted to five of Capt. Masons souldgers at the Pequett warr, wch being taken vp by Pequett, they doe desire may be recompenced at Niantecutt: the Courte desires and appoints that John Clarke & Thomas Birchard of Seabrooke should goe to Pequett & view the said parcell of land there giuen to the said souldgers, and taken vp by Pequett, as before, and then goe to (Nianticutt) and lay out there vnto the said souldgers such and so m(uch) of land as may bee fully equivalent to their former gr(aunt) of land at Pequett"; &c.⁸

Do the words "as before" here used, mean that Clark and

² City Document (Boston, Mass.), No. 114; Roxbury Land & Chh. Records, Rev. John Eliot's list of Church Members, Roxbury, Mass.: pp. 81, 176.

⁴ Distribution of Lands, Hartford, Conn., published by the Connecticut Historical Society; Collections, Vol. XIV, page 124, and numerous other references, same book.

⁵ Manwaring's Early Probate Records of Hartford County, Connecticut, Vol. 1, p. 23.

⁶ Hartford, Conn., Land Rec., Distribution of Lands, Vol. 1; New Eng. Hist. & Gen. Reg., XII, p. 141; Memorial History of Hartford County, Conn., I, p. 272.

⁷ Public Records of the Colony of Connecticut, Vol. 1, p. 221; Caulkins' History of New London, Conn., pp. 64, 65.

⁸ *Ibid.*

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Birchard had looked over this land at some previous time? The name occurs three times in this session of the General Court, and each time is spelled Birchard, which is the form used by both Thomas and his son John Birchard.

It may be remarked here that though Thomas Birchard is given in the ship list of 1635, as a laboring man, yet here in 1651, he is a deputy to the General Court of Connecticut, and is appointed by them to survey and lay out land. He must have had some experience as a surveyor, as did later his son John and his grandson Samuel Birchard.

In May 1651, he was residing at Saybrook, as he was deputy from that place, but he soon removed to Martha's Vineyard, then called Martin's Vineyard, though still holding land in Hartford and Saybrook: on December 17, 1652, Richard Ary was granted a house lot at Great Harbor, in Edgartown, on Martins Vineyard, between "Mr. Burchard's and Thomas Daggett's."⁹

May 8, 1653, two lots in the planting field on the Vineyard, were allotted to him, and on the twentieth of the same month, Thomas Mayhew, Sr., Thomas Burchard, and Philip Taber, were appointed to make a division of "the Necks" of land.

In 1654, Thomas Mayhew, Sr., Thomas Burchard, John Daggett and Philip Taber, were "chosen by the town to end all controversies by the same manner and way as did the last year, only if any one of the said number be wanting the rest are to chose another to fill up the number." (Edgartown Rec. 1-121.)

In 1654, Thomas Burchard was elected town clerk of Edgartown, and was the first town clerk of whom there is any record; he held the office for two years, when he was succeeded by his son John Birchard.

Mr. Mayhew was again elected Magistrate, June 5, 1655, his Assistants being Thomas Burchard, John Daggett, Peter Folger and Mr. Nicholas Butler.

In the early part of this year, Thomas Birchard lost his wife; her death being recorded on the records of the Roxbury, Mass., Church of which she was a member, as occurring on March 24, 1655.¹⁰

Whether her death was in Roxbury, or whether word was sent, is not easy to determine: certainly the family travelled frequently enough to make it probable that she was visiting in Roxbury.

At a town meeting held January 7, 1655/6, in Saybrook, "Tho: Burchet" is on the list of those present, probably in the interests of his lands, which he still held there, as also in Hartford.¹¹

⁹ Banks' History of Martha's Vineyard, Vol. 1, p. 28; Edgartown Rec. Martha's Vineyard, Vol. 1, pp. 124, 5.

¹⁰ Rev. John Eliot's list, see footnote 3, above; p. 176.

¹¹ Caulkins' History of Norwich, Conn. (1874), p. 161. Records, Guilford, Conn. Perkins' Old Families of Norwich, Conn., p. 22.

Attention is called here to the form "Burchet," as this is the only place except one, where this form has been noted; the other is in the marriage record of John Baldwin and Hannah Burchet, April 25, 1653.¹¹

October 31, 1656, Thomas Birchard, "of Martins Vineyard," sold some of his land at Saybrook, to William Pratt.¹²

He still owned lands at Saybrook and also at Hartford, 1657, where in a list of those who have rights in the undivided lands, is the name of Thomas Birchard. His son-in-law, Bartholomew Barnard, acquired these rights, either by gift or purchase, as shown by his record February 1671.

Before July 21, 1659, Thomas Birchard had married the widow Katherine Andrews; an abstract of early wills of Suffolk County, Mass., printed in the *New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, Vol. X, page 88, has the following:

"Whereas Administration to ye Estate of Lewes Martine was giuen 21 July 1659, to Thomas Trapp, in behalfe of Mr John Andrews to whom it was given, and ye sd Trapp failing to giue good securitie to ye Recorder, who finding ye sd Thomas Trapp to be Conveying himselfe and ye Goods out of this Jurisdicon. to Martins Vineyard, to Thomas Burchard, who marryed ye sd Thomas (?) Andrews mother, ye said Burchard haveing wrote to Mr Elliott to give securitie to ye Court for ye Goods till order come from ye sd Andrewes for ye disposing thereof."

It appears that this Lewis Martine had told Thomas Trapp that if he, Martin, died, his stuff was to go to Trapp's cousin, John Andrews, of Fanchurch St., London, a linen draper. Birchard and his wife Katherine, called this Thomas Trapp, "cousin" and "kinsman."

Dec. 30, 1661, "Goodman Burchard" was enrolled in the train band of Edgartown, and the historian of Martha's Vineyard says that of the twenty-seven names enrolled, this is the only one styled "Goodman." He must have been about sixty-six years old at this time. On July 10, 1662, acting as attorney for his son John Birchard, he sold the latter's house lot at the Vineyard; he appears also on the land records, Oct. 18, 1662, and June 6, 1667. A descriptive list of the lands of Thomas Burchard, "Upon the Vineyard" was recorded in 1669, but there is nothing to show the date of purchase. With Thomas Mayhew, he witnessed the will of Nicholas Butler, August 13, 1671.

Up to this time, he seems to have kept in the good graces of the party in power, the government of the Vineyard, or at Edgartown, having been mostly in the control of Thomas Mayhew; finally some of the inhabitants desired a change of administration, and their pleas to Mayhew being disregarded, about twenty of the inhabitants sent a petition to the Massachusetts Colony,

¹² Land Records, Saybrook, Conn., Vol. 2, p. 99.

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offering the island as part of the Massachusetts government; the instrument was dated October 15, 1673, and signed by twenty men, the first ones being "Tho: Birchard" and Isaac Robinson. Massachusetts declined to interfere and sent their answer "To Mr Thomas Bercher, Mr Isaac Robenson and the rest of the subscribers of a petition sent from Martens Vineyard unto the honoured Governor and Assistants of the Massachusetts." (Archives, XLVIII, p. 138.)

Birchard was called by one of the party, a "principal instigator of the Rebellion."

He and his wife Katherine, were witnesses on March 4, 1674, of the will of John Pease, of the Vineyard; Pease, in this will, gave to his son John Pease, all the land that had been given him at "Mohegan," now Norwich, Conn.; this was the place to which John Birchard had removed. Thomas Trapp, the relation of Mrs. Birchard's, was also a witness.

A Division of the Plain at the Vineyard, was made February 14, 1676, and in this division Birchard had the first lot.

It is possible that Thomas Birchard had a third wife, Deborah, as on Charlestown, Mass., records, under date of May 10, 1680, is the death of Deborah Burcham, wife of Thomas of Martha's Vineyard. (Wyman's Genealogies and Estates of Charlestown, Mass., p. 154.)

On May 2, 1682, he sold some land at "Aquampacker neck near Pahoggannot," and soon after, removed from Martha's Vineyard; for on March 20, 1682/3, "Thomas Birchard of Norwich, County New London, Colony of Connecticut," sold to Nicholas Marsen of Saybrook, Conn., "for three pounds to me secured by bill," a hundred pound right in the Oxpasture, in Saybrook. This sale was not recorded till 1714. (Land Rec. Saybrook, Conn.; Vol. 2, p. 237.)

He had probably come to Norwich to live with his son John Birchard or his daughter Hannah (or Ann) Baldwin.

In 1683, on May 9, he sold a small piece of land in the Vineyard, and in the deed, calls himself, "late inhabitant upon the Vineyard" where he had resided for thirty years.

He died in Norwich, Conn., sometime between the date of the above deed, May 9, 1683, and September 1684. when at a County Court for New London County, Connecticut, "John Birchard petitions the Court of some reason for not probating Thomas Birchard's addition by last will, although sd John Birchard had notice of sd will; the Court grants liberty to continue till next Court or else that John Birchard pay the Ten pounds given by Mr. Thomas Birchard to some of his children."

Nothing further has been found concerning this will, so probably the ten pounds were paid. The Probate Court of New London, Connecticut, was not established till 1698; previous to that time, wills, estates, &c., were presented at the County Court; then

the burning of New London, Conn., in 1781, destroyed many probate records.

In regard to the statement made by Savage, in his *Genealogical Dictionary of New England*, Vol. 1, page 181, that a Thomas Birchard died at Dorchester, Mass., Oct. 3, 1657, and quoted by Miss Caulkins in her *History of Norwich, Conn.*, (1874 ed.), page 166, the following solution is offered.

In Vol. 1, page 181, under "*BIRCH*," Savage says that *Thomas Birch* died at Dorchester, Oct. 3, 1657, and this death is given on Dorchester records, (printed record in *N. E. Hist. and Gen. Reg.*, Vol. 11, page 332), as attested by William Blake, "Clarke of ye Writts."

This Thomas Birch was a resident of Dorchester, where he was living in 1651, when he was paid four shillings for iron work done on the meeting house.

Savage, Vol. 1, page 181, further states that this Thomas Birch made a will on June 4, 1654, in which he mentions six children; Joseph, the eldest son having a double portion; the only others he mentions by name, are Jeremiah and Mary.

The *New England Hist. and Gen. Register*, Vol. XVI, page 162, under early Suffolk, Mass., wills, adds that on Jan. 31, 1664, the administrator asked the Court that the whole estate might be made over to Joseph, who is now twenty-one years of age, he giving to his brothers and sisters, £30 apiece at age. Jonathan, the youngest, chose Thomas Tilestone as guardian.

On the same page where the death of this Thomas Birch is given, (and this name and date are correct as proved by Dorchester records), Dr. Savage gives the death on the same day and place of a Thomas Birchard. Now it is very unlikely that a Thomas Birch and a Thomas Birchard should both die in Dorchester, Mass., on Oct. 3, 1657, as it is fully proved that Thomas Birch did die there on that date, it must be concluded that a mistake was made in regard to Thomas *Birchard*.

It has already been stated that the death of "Good-wife Birchard" on March 24, 1655, is recorded on Roxbury Church records; Dr. Savage (Vol. 1, p. 181) says that "a plausible conjecture may be raised that he (Thomas (1) Birchard) went back to Roxbury, where it appears by the church record, "goodw Birchard was buried 24 Mar. 1655," and as the town record is silent, it would be thought that she was on a visit to her old friends, and it might be suggested that they lived within the edge of Dorchester, where the record gives the decease of one Thomas B. 3 Oct. 1657."

The church record in some places says that persons "died" such a day, and sometimes notes that they were "buried" such a day; but in the entry of Mrs. Birchard, it is "1654/5 1 m day 24 Goodwife Birchard." (City Document, No. 114; Roxbury, Mass., Land and Church Records, page 176.) According

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to the usual tenor of such an entry, it would naturally be supposed that she died on that day, as nothing was said of a burial.

Having shown that it was Thomas *Birch* who died in Dorchester, not Thomas *Birchard*, the conjecture that the Birchards returned to Roxbury or lived within the border of Dorchester, has no support, and the records of Martha's Vineyard prove that Thomas Birchard was living on the Vineyard in 1654, where he was town clerk that year, and in 1655 was one of the assistant magistrates there.

The next entry after Mrs. Birchard's on the death and burial record of Roxbury Church, was in the "4 m," that is in June, 1655.

In 1659, according to the Suffolk County Probate Records, already quoted, Thomas Birchard had written from Martha's Vineyard, to "Mr. Elliott to give securitie to ye Court," for him.

It seems very probable that the Mr. Elliott referred to, was the Rev. John Eliot, of whose church Thomas Birchard was still a member; the fact that Birchard wrote to him to give security, implies a continued acquaintance and knowledge of circumstances on both sides, for some years past.

So while Mrs. Birchard may have been on a visit to Roxbury and have died there, there is the alternative that the fact of her death was written by Mr. Birchard to their pastor; as it was three months before the next entry of a death was made, there was ample time for this to have been done.

Another point in connection with Dr. Savage's account of the Birchard family; he gives "Burchall" as one of the variations of the name; the writer, however, who has studied Birchard records in many places, and found the name in various forms as noted at the beginning of these notes, has not yet found any of this family under the name of "Burchall"; though this negative evidence does not prove that it may not so occur.

Children of Thomas (1) and Mary () Birchard; all born in England; ages determined by dates given at time of emigration in 1635:

- i. Elizabeth^s Birchard, born 1622.
- ii. Marie Birchard, born 1624.
- 2+ iii. Sarah Birchard, born 1626, mar. in Hartford, Conn., Bartholomew Barnard.
- iv. Susanna Birchard, born 1627.
- 3+ v. John Birchard, born 1628, died Nov. 17, 1702, mar. 1st, Christian Andrews; 2nd, Jane (Lee) Hyde, d. Jan. 21, 1723.
- 4+ vi. Ann Birchard, born 1632, married Apr. 12, 1653, John Baldwin.

(continued on 16:221)