

ESTEYS

of England

And America

by KARL A. GELPKE

The following is written on the inside cover of Karl's book which Amanda Macy Gelpke loaned to me for copying. George W. Estey 1998

May 1997 Loaned for copying to
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TO
MY WIFE
AMANDA PEIRCE MACY GELPKE
WITH LOVE AND APPRECIATION
HER ENCOURAGEMENT AND AID
MADE THIS VOLUME
POSSIBLE

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First Edition - 1973
Second Edition - 1998

This book has been transcribed into computer format by permission of Mrs. Karl A. Gelpke (Amanda Peirce Macy Gelpke), Karl's widow. It is with my heart felt thanks to Amanda for her generosity in sharing her husbands work with countless others who might otherwise never have the opportunity to share in Karl's belief that the "generations of forebears deserve to be recognized in some permanent form." To this end I have transcribed this volume that those who search for knowledge of the Estey heritage may find it within these pages.

George W. Estey, 1998

IN APPRECIATION

A work such as this must be supported and fed by the memories, cooperation, and patience of many people. It cannot be produced without them.

Harold and Elsie (Estey) Pratt supplied the original family framework upon which this narrative is based and their fantastic memories have added presence to much of the tale. The Allan Esteys of Harwichport, Massachusetts, the John Esteys of Sunderland, Massachusetts, and Carl Jennisons of Canton, Massachusetts have afforded me their hospitality, their recollections and written material. Herbert Blake Estey, The indefatigable mailman who walked 210,000 miles in his career, has provided stories in his supreme raconteur fashion.

To my faithful friends, the Ed Milnes of Shelburne Falls, Massachusetts, my deep thanks for their labors in bringing the Hilsboro, Hew Hampshire story to my desk, to Mrs. Valera Esty Swayer of Gurnee, Illinois for her help in providing information on the descendants of Moses and Julia (Goodridge) Estey, early pioneers in the Northwest Territory.

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To Katherine Sullivan and Edward Bolster, respectively President and Curator of the Canton, Massachusetts Historical Society for their help and understanding, even when faced with my lack of attention to duty.

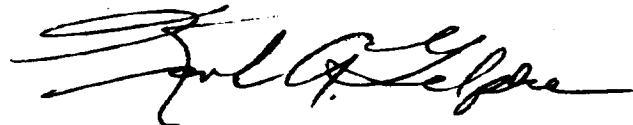
To Robert and Ruth Shaw for their loan and use of the Estey and Gay diaries.

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And to the energetic pioneer Estey genealogical research and grandson Moses (35), Gay Estey Bangs, whose papers have been an invaluable source of information to me. Upon them I have drawn freely and frankly.

Karl Adelbert Gelpke

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Karl A. Gelpke". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned centrally below the typed name.

April 12, 1973

Sharon, Massachusetts

A Tribute

And there are some who have no memorial,
And have perished as though they had not lived,
And have become as though they had not been,
With their children after them.
Yet these were merciful men.
And their uprightness has not been forgotten.
With their descendants it will remain,
A good inheritance for their posterity.
Their descendants stand by the agreements,
And their children also for their sakes;
Their posterity will endure forever,
And their glory will not be blotted out.
Their bodies are buried in peace,
But their lives to all generations.

THE APOCRYPHA - THE WISDOM OF SIRACH

44:9 - 14

PROLOGUE

Of the many genealogies written by a family member, each has been compiled for its author's own personal reasons. Some may be interested in determining the presence of aristocracy or nobility in their line; others may be impressed with the finding of a coat of arms. There can be an interest in determining family traits, talents, and occupations, and in applying this knowledge to the present generation. Still another reason for such a congenial task is the belief that these generations of forebears deserve to be recognized in some permanent form. In this last I find my interests.

Much of the material for such a work must come necessarily from wills, deeds, and concurrent local history; but, in later generations, the writer can draw on family members whose memories and lives span the gaps between the written records. It is here that personal touch enters the narrative, providing character sketches, anecdotes, and descriptions of people and events. At this point, it becomes a very personal narrative and, perhaps, of less interest to family members not of the direct line which is the subject of the story.

This present work on the Esteys may some day be supplemented by an additional publication on the English Esteys (Easties). For this present volume, however, it may be of interest to say that my quest started in the 1940's, when my family and I were living in Edgefield, South Carolina, where I was Plant Manager of a cotton weaving mill owned by the Kendall Company of Boston, Massachusetts, my life-time employer. Correspondence started to include queries about Esty families and the file began to grow. A long-awaited opportunity presented itself in October, 1967 to visit East Anglia, Suffolk County, England and to drive through the countryside surrounding Freston, Holbrook, Hintlesham, and Woolverstone. Visits to the Parish Churches of these four hamlets and a stop at the tiny Woolverstone port on the Orwell River did much to bridge the three centuries passed since Jeffrey Easty, yeoman, his wife Margaret, and three children: Isaac, Catherine, and Mary, left the home of their ancestors for the New England town of Salem, Massachusetts. I had always felt that, if I could but stand on the ground where the Eastys had

lived, toiled and worshipped, my story of their descendants could take on a sense of reality; and so it has. The countryside of gently rolling fields, hedges, narrow roads, and small groves of trees seemed peaceful, pastoral, and anchored to the past by Parish Churches, unchanged since the Norman towers, mortared, burned-flint walls, oriel windows, and slate roofs were erected by unnamed builders. The ceaseless tides on the Orwell at Woolverstone have done little to the sloping, wooded shores and the shallow tide flats since Jeffrey's departure.

At the Vicarage of St. Peter's (Freston), I was hospitably received by Reverend Evans, who assured me that changes had been few. No houses of the time remained and no gravestones of the Eastys were found in the Church Yard. The ravages of time and the scarcity of stone of any kind in East Anglia had made the survival of gravestones uncertain. But imagination fills many needs and, as I walked through the St. Peter's lichgate and into the sunny Church Yard, it was easy to picture my forebears doing the same and even being sobered by a new open grave, as was I. Reverend Evan's Parish numbered "500 souls", scattered sparsely through the countryside.

Some eight miles from Freston is the hamlet of Hintlesham, where Christopher's father, Jeffrey, had lived. The same rolling fields, and hedged woods, made up the countryside and the same Parish Church provided continuity with the past. I was received at the Church doorway by an elderly woman who had been removing flowers used as a decoration for their Harvest Service. One wonders how many times this ritual has taken place. Perhaps the stone floors and carved oaken pews had witnessed it in the sixteenth century when the Eastys were on the tax list of the district. I was urged to visit the Vicar, but the fine afternoon must have invited him to travel, for the doorbell received no answer.

A trip to the tiny village of Holbrook, three miles distant, continued the story, for it was here that An (Arnold) Easty, Jeffrey' the immigrant's mother, moved after her husband, Christopher, died in 1621 and was interred in St. Peter's. Upon her death in 1623 at Holbrook, she was also returned to St. Peter's Church Yard and to the unmarked Easty lot.

To tie all these pieces and impressions together, I visited the Woolverstone port on the Orwell River, where the shore is now occupied by a yacht club and a small dock. The chimneys of Ipswich rise to the west, but one wonders at the small vessel used by Jeffrey and his fellow travelers if it were to navigate in this shallow river. Courage and vision must have been theirs in abundance,

Richard Grant White wrote in his "Canterbury Pilgrimage" that "a man is a result of forces that were tending toward him centuries before he appeared, a result over which his own will and his own work have but a modifying influence". Here around me were many of the forces which had shaped generations of Easties -- some forces are as active today as they were centuries ago; some are covered by dust at my feet and others have long been swept away to limbo by the ever-blowing winds of time.

Lest I seem callous and unappreciative of the effect of these same forces and endless others upon me. I have heeded their urging and have written this small volume.

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THE ENGLISH EASTIES

The name Esty (Easty, Eastie, Eastye, Estye, Eastdye) is not a common one in England, nor is it a very ancient one. It is a geographical surname and refers to those who lived in or came from the East. When more than one person in a village bore the same given name, an additional entry was made in the records to distinguish between them. One such place names were preceded by a preposition as "de, atte, or in", i.e., de Este' or East. By the 14th and 15th centuries, these prepositions had been dropped or absorbed into the name.

The geographical position of East Anglia, home of the Esteys, prompts interesting speculation as to the origin of the English Easties, some of whom were blond people. This part of England took the brunt of marauding and invasion by blond savages of Denmark and the Scandinavian countries in the pre-Conquest era. It is also the area where Flemish workers relocated to pursue their textile skills when the royal decrees of Edward III prohibited exportation of unfinished cloth, which previously had been finished in Flanders -- then too, the French Huguenots fled persecution, with many emigrating to East Anglia during the reign of Elizabeth I. They were craftsman and textile workers with notable concentrations in East Anglia, e.g., Colchester in Essex. Franche Comte (Burgundy) where the Esty name was of sufficient importance to warrant a coat of arms¹ is close enough to the Rhine River to encourage emigration to the Netherlands, Flanders, Belgium, and East Anglia by this route, if the forces of economics, politics, or religious persecution were burdensome enough.

It has been suggested that the name is of Italian origin and related to the illustrious and powerful medieval house of d'Este' whose family seat was at Este', Venetia, Italy. This ancient town is older than Rome and was established by Ateste after the taking of Troy. The d'Este' dynasty was founded by Albert Azzo II in 1097 and flourished until the 17th century. It was renowned as a patron of the arts; Raphael, Leonardo da Vinci and Mantegna were at one time

¹ Rietstaps General Armory -- blue field with gold lions standing on their rear paws facing each other, with a red cross above them.

court painters for the family. The portraits of Isabella and Beatrice d'Este' by da Vinci testify to the beauty and nobility of the women of this ancient house. The history of medieval and renaissance Italy saw much of this family, which first reaches prominence in the wars between the Guelphs and the Ghibellines. The Guelph cause supported by the d'Este's triumphed and the family glory reached its peak in the 13th century. In the 15th century Leonello (1407-1450) became ruler and reigned wisely and virtuously, the while supporting art and literature. It is Leonello's natural son, Francisco, born 1434, who fled to Burgandy, France and thence to England about 1470, who raised interesting speculation as to the Italian origin of the English Esteys. Similar ideas have been prompted by the presence of Italians in England before Henry III (1216-1272) at which time they operated as tradesmen, merchants, bankers, silk workers, and engineers. In 1290 a serious racial conflict arose between this group and the money-lending class at Bury St. Edmonds, Suffolk. The Italian merchants were victorious and the county came under their control and domination.

Any or all of these facts could have contributed to the Eastie name⁽¹⁾ or family, but the documented history of the family commences in Essex and Suffolk Counties in the 14th century, where we find their economic status to be that of yeoman, farmer stock, which in the next several

1 * The name is not included in the 5 volumes of Gipp's Publication of the Suffolk Institute of Archeology nor in P. Reavey's HISTORY OF ENGLISH FAMILY NAMES. In Robert Surtee's HISTORY OF DURHAM, London, 1840, an Este pedigree is noted and the statement made that George III was a descendant. From C.G. Leland's ETRUSCAN MAGIC AND OCCULT REMEDIES - Esta, connected with light. Greek Dictionary - ESTIA = hearth, fireside, altar. If the name is of Saxon origin, its derivation as follows is suggested: EAST = Esth, Island = Eye.

Burke's GENERAL ARMORY - Estee or Estele (Leicestershire) - a red lyon (rearing) on a silver shield with a silver cinquefoil on its shoulder.

The material marked (*) and the reference to Nicholas Esthey on page 3 supplied by Mrs. Julia Cooley Altrocchi.

generations, occasionally produced alderman, guild leaders and divines. The successes of Edward III in this century, including victories at Crecy and Poitiers, produced the patriotic pride which melted away the lingering jealousy and hatred separating the Normans and Englishmen since the conquest. Now they became a united people and given names originating with both races were used in the same family, e.g. the Esteys used Jeffrey, William Richard (of Norman origin), and Edmund of Anglo-Saxon origin. First names, therefore, are not a useful clue to the Estey genesis but it is interesting to note the complete lack of Italian names .

Early reference is made in England to an Esthy family who lived in Colchester, Essex County about 1300, at the East Hedges. John, who lived at the East Hedges, became John Easthy, later John Easthey (See Colchester Red Book, Gurney). In the Subsidy Return of 1327 for Bergholte, Suffolk (Villata De Bergholte) Johanne Est was taxed 2 shillings 6 pence.

The name Atte Esthey or de Esthy is noted at this time in the Kelvedon, Essex area. Nicholas Esthey was vicar of St. Mary's Dedham, Essex in 1368, thereby preceding Francisco's flight by four generations. Dedham is only 8 miles from Freston/Ipswich/Hintlesham/Woolverstone (Samford Deanery) area, where the yeoman family lived before (and after) the Puritan Migration. Richard (Ricus)Esthey of Kelvedon, Essex County, died there on June 7, 1484, with his will being proved on October 11 of that year (Archdeaconry of Essex). He left his wife, Joan, a son Richard, and two daughters, Joan and Agnes. One Thomas Estey of Alverston, Essex, died on August 26, 1517, leaving a widow, a son William, and other unnamed children. A widow, Agnes Esty, of Southease, Sussex, died there in 1562 (Lewes' Book A - No. 122). Those families later appearing in Kent, Sussex, Suffolk and Cambridge may have come from Essex, for the same given names are used throughout and give a thread of continuity to the procession of generations¹.

¹ Mildred Campbell - ENGLISH YEOMAN, page 267, cites an Este viz. Thomas East's (Este) - THE PASSIONS OF THE SPIRIT, 1594.

Jeffrey (or Geoffrey) of Hintlesham, the ancestor of the line with which our story is concerned, may have been the brother of John, who settled in Cambridge and who is listed as being of average fortune (*mediocris fortuna*). John was the father of the brilliant young Vicar of St. Mary, Bury St. Edmund, George Estey. George was born in Cambridge in 1561 and, at the of age 16, was admitted as a pensioner minor to Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge University. He received a series of degrees -- B.A. 1580-1, M.A. 1584, B.D. 1591, and was a Fellow of the College from 1584 to 1600. He lectured in Greek and Hebrew and was ordained October 25, 1587. Other honors were awarded him -- Scholar 1584, Salarist 1595, Scrutator in the University, 1598. In 1598 he was chosen preacher of St. Mary's, Bury St. Edmunds and, in the following year, on November 13, Married Triphosa Fairclo at Rushbrook, Suffolk. Their son Benjamin, born 1600, became a preacher at west Bradinham, Suffolk. George died August 2, 1602 at Bury (three days after a son, Joseph, had died) and was buried in his church. Here a memorial brass engraved with Latin inscription composed by Dr. Joseph Hall, Bishop of Norwich, was placed on a pillar in the chancel^{1,2}. The esteem for this young minister is clearly shown in the Bishop's choice of words. His memory also remained green in the mind of a fellow minister, Robert Lewis of Rushbrook, Suffolk, who died January 9, 1615. Lewis had preached at St. Mary's and requested that "my body to be buried there as near unto the body of my dear and loving brother, Mr. George Estey, as conveniently may be." George Estey was author of expositions on the 51st Psalm, The Lord's Supper, The Creed, 1 Peter 1 13, 119th Psalm -- all printed in one volume in London posthumously (1603) and including his history of the Gospel². In the will of William Thompson of Westberre (July 10, 1623), we find - "Item - he have unto his sonne Samuel Thompson a Junius Bible - a booke made by George Estie."

In his will, dated July 20, 1601, (13 days before his death) he declares himself sounde in mind and remembrance only and leaves his only son, Benjamin, £15 at age 21. His papers are left

1 Appendix No. 4

2 Page 114 Cooper's ATHENAE CANTABRIGIENSIS, page 319

"to my most beloved scholler, Mr. John Stonham" to publish at his discretion. A £20 legacy was left on failure of survival of heirs, to provide preacher to the prisoners in jail, and £10 for firewood for the poor. His wife, Triphosa, was appointed executrix.

George Estey did credit to his family name and made the social transition from yeoman to gentleman possible at that time through the Holy Orders.

Returning now to Jeffrey of Hintlesham, Suffolk -- in his will he leaves his eldest son, John Estye, 40 shillings; his son Jeffrey nothing, and Jeffrey's son John, 6 shillings 8 pence, "when he cometh into this country". These members of the family were located in Canterbury, Kent, where the eldest son, John, was made a freeman of the city in 1562 and, at that time, his occupation was that of shearman. He evidently prospered as a strong man in his craft and became alderman in 1585. In 1576, William Bishop is mentioned as servant to John Estey, clothworker; in 1581 Jeffrey Estye, shearman, was apprenticed to John Estye (his brother); in 1588 "John ap Roberts" was apprenticed to John Estye, clothworker. Thomas Scrimshew was similarly bound. John married at St. Margaret's December 12, 1585. In the same year he testifies as to the will of Jeffrey Estey (his brother). John died at Westberre and his estate was administered September 26, 1592 to Robert Coletee, creditor, Mary Eastday renouncing.

Jeffrey of Hintlesham's son Jeffrey, who had served an apprenticeship with his brother John, married Bridget Winter of St. Margaret's Parish, Canterbury, Kent, on January 6, 1580 and was probably with his brother in business as clothworker or taylor. He died in 1585, leaving a will dated February 26, 1584⁽¹⁾, which was proved in June, 1585. His son John, who was to receive 6 shillings 8 pence from his grandfather, Jeffrey, "when he cometh into this country", was to receive additional money from his father's will when he was 24; his widow was to receive goods and, in event of their death, all was to go to Jeffrey's brother, Edmund, and the second oldest of Jeffrey

(1) Archdeaconry of Canterbury, Book 46, Lib. 35

of Hintlesham's sons. It is possible that young John married and left descendants, for there was an Easty family in the vicinity of Charlton, Kent in the 19th century.⁽¹⁾

Of the remaining children of Jeffrey of Hintlesham, Edmund and William remained in Hintlesham, while Thomas, Richard, and Christopher moved to Freston, about 8 miles journey. Descendants of these sons are recorded by Bangs.⁽¹⁾

This Family branch that settled in Suffolk County, England provides the documented beginnings of the Estey family which later moved to New England, presenting an unbroken, clearly followed family line into the twentieth century. Jeffrey Estey, or Easty, was evidently the first of the name to have settled in the county of Suffolk, England. His name, "Jeffrey Estye" appears in the Subsidy List of the County of Suffolk in 1568 as being from the parish of Hintlesham in the Hundred of Samford and is the only person of the name taxed in the county at this period. He is the only one of the name listed, which may mean he had come from some other part of England, probably adjoining Essex County. The tax of 4 shillings and 2 pence levied on his goods totaling £5 indicated he was a man of moderate means, for the minimum limit taxed was £3 in goods. Average tax paid for husbandmen was about 8 shillings and for yeomen 12 shillings.⁽²⁾ A map of Hintlesham dated 1595 shows the lands and manor of Nicholas Tymperley, Lord of the Manor, Thomas Wright, Surveyor⁽³⁾, and includes two plots, Nos. 57 and 104, identified with Goeffrey Easty (Jeffrey Estie). The map was drawn two years after Jeffrey's death in 1593.

The name of his wife is not known, for the records of this parish were not preserved prior to 1652. His will⁽⁴⁾ is on file in the Consistory Court of Norwich, dated 6 December 1592, in the thirty-fifth year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth and was proved 12 October 1593. Witnesses

(1) Gay Estey Bangs' Manuscript 44, Newbury Library, Chicago, Illinois

(2) Campbell's - ENGLISH YEOMEN, page 359

(3) Ipswich and East Suffolk Record Office - Ref. HA 167/3050/131

(4) Appendix No. 3

were Moses Wood, Thomas Sorrell, Thomas Stephens. Jeffrey calls himself "husbandman" and gives each of his six living sons an allowance of money; his grandchildren are also remembered. He appoints his son Christopher as executor and his son Edmund as supervisor. He requests "that my greate Bible⁽¹⁾ shall remayne to Younge Jeffrey Estye, the sonne of Christopher Estye, if his father bring him up to learnings so he shall be able to use it, or else to Edmund, his brother, if he be brought up to reade it, or for defaulte hereof, so remayne to one of the rest of the kindred that can read and that it be not sould out of kindred". That he was a favorite parent is attested to by the four grandsons who bear his name.

Jeffrey Estye was undoubtedly attracted to the religious ideas of the Reformation and was a member of the Church of England. He was a very old man at the time of his death, at which time he had six sons and eighteen living grandchildren -- subsequently, at least five others were born. He was probably born between 1512 and 1515.

Jeffrey's youngest son, Christopher, was appointed executor of his fathers will when it was proved 12 October 1593. This was seven years after he had married An Arnold of Chattisham, Suffolk County, England, on May 5, 1586, at St. Peter's Church in Freston, Suffolk County, a few miles from his father's house. In 1547 one R. Arnold was Church warden at Freston. An may have been of this same family. The record of the marriage is the first of many entries in the Freston parish register over a period of forty years, or until 1628, after which time the family left the parish, some going to Ipswich, others to Woolverstone.

The small village of Freston is located on the broad, sloping southwest shore of the Orwell River, 3½ miles from Ipswich. Its ancient Church, dedicated to St. Peter, was built about 1300 and records Robert de Heigham as its first curate. Freston Tower, probably built in the reign of Henry VIII, commands an impressive view from its turrets. Freston Hall and the manor were owned by

(1) Published in 1539 - obviously a family treasure and perhaps brought to Salem, Massachusetts by "Younge Jeffrey Estye" in 1636.

a family that took its name from the Parish and were seated here from the time of Henry III (1216-1272). The Latimer family took over the manor c. 1463 and its coat of arms is displayed in glass in the south window of the Church. Edward Latimer was the last of the name to be buried in the Church yard. Later, in 1553, it passed to Thomas Godding of Ipswich, whose descendants held it during the forty year period the Easties participated in the activity of the Parish. In 1653, it was owned by John Hawes of Stockleton, Leichestershire and still later the property of the Wrights.* The presence of a Freston Shores near "The Wash" in Leichestershire may be a Hawes tribute to Freston, Suffolk.

The social and economic status of the Eastie family during the late 16th and early 17th centuries is of interest. Jeffrey of Hintlesham was listed on the subsidy tax rolls of 1586. This tax granted to the King by parliament on occasion to pay for national expenses, and was levied on the people of the "hundred" by two men appointed for the purpose.⁽¹⁾ To be listed at all classes Jeffrey as of moderate circumstances. His will proved in 1593 left 40 shillings or more to six of his sons, thereby qualifying them to vote for that year, but no land or buildings are mentioned in the listing of his goods and effects.⁽²⁾ In the next generation, in 1621, Jeffrey's son Christopher, yeoman, drew a will that again leaves the sum of 40 shillings to his sons and modest part-dowry amounts to his daughter and granddaughter, i.e., £5 and £3, but significantly, in bequeathing his goods and effects to his wife, An, he includes a house and some land holdings.⁽²⁾ An, in her will, conveys "all my houses and lands in Freston" to son Jeffrey and, in addition leaves her servant, Constance Ellis, "one ewe and a lamb". A parcel of land is left to her son George.⁽²⁾ The £100 cash estate of An Eastye, when added to real estate which she was able to bequeath and, further, to her employment of a servant, should dispel any impression one may have formed of a poverty-stricken, low-class family. They were not of the privileged class and, no doubt,

* Copinger - MANORS OF SUFFOLK

White's Directory of Suffolk 1844

(1) Mildred Campbell - THE ENGLISH YEOMAN

(2) Appendix No. 3

were committed to a life of toil associated with land and the manor, but they were, through their own efforts and savings, able to better their lot and to profit by the gradually changing social structure.

Christopher and his family had then settled in Freston, as did two of his brothers, Richard and Thomas, who died in 1599 and 1611. Eight children were born to him and his wife, Anne -- six sons and two daughters:

Jeffrey,	born 1587
Anne,	born 1589, married George Brett 1615
Edmund,	born 1591
Christopher,	born 1592
George,	born 1594
Edmund,	born 1597
Elizabeth,	born 1601
Thomas,	born 1605, died 1624

Christopher was baptized April 9, 1552 at Burstall, Suffolk, an adjoining parish to Hintlesham and, by parish record, was buried November 10, 1621 at Freston, i.e., "Christopher Eastie, Senior was buried 10 November 1621". His will was proved by his widow, Ann, at Ipswich, February 20, 1621/22. After his death, she went to live in Holbrook, Sussex County, probably with one of her children. She died May, 1623. "An Eastie widow was buried 31 May 1623". Her will proved 10 February 1623/24 mentions her children and grandchildren. Jeffrey, the eldest, who was appointed executor, is the emigrant ancestor of the Estey line in America, and was born at Freston, probably in 1587. The baptisms of his three younger brothers and sister, i.e., George, Edmund, and Elizabeth, are recorded in the Church records, but omit Jeffrey, who may have been baptized at his grandfather's Church in nearby Hintlesham, Suffolk. He married Margaret Pett on May 9, 1606, at St. Peter's in Freston. They had three children:

Mary, baptized 16 February 1625 at St. Peter's in Freston

Isaac, baptized 17 November 1627 at St. Peter's in Freston

Catherine, born 1628/29 (?)

These were troubled times, particularly in East Anglia. Famine and drought had been severe in 1629/30 and the winter of 1630/31 had also taken its toll. The cloth and textile industries were in serious decline and inflation was rampant. Increasing pressures on land caused unrest under the manorial system. Added to all of these were the contemporary political and religious issues brought home to the average yeoman by high taxes, such as the "Ship Money Tax", and the oppressions of the Angelican Church. These excesses and others of Charles I and Archbishop Laud fell heavily on the Puritans, particularly those in East Anglia, and brought the flood tide of emigration to the New World. In Jeffrey's home parish of Woolverstone,⁽¹⁾ a few miles from his birthplace in Freston, the import of these events came close to his home and family. Reverend Timothy Dalton, educated at St. John's College in Cambridge, became vicar of Woolverstone on March 8, 1615 and was suspended by the bishop in April 1636. He promptly came to Watertown, Massachusetts, and then to Dedham, Massachusetts, in April, 1637. His brother, Philemon, a linen weaver, had come to Dedham, departing from the port of London in April, 1635, in the ship Increase. Perhaps both brothers were motivated by the same desire to escape the oppressions of the times. Reverend Dalton must have been exasperated when Charles I reissued the Declaration of Sunday Sports in 1633. This edict encouraged parishioners to dance, play games, and practice archery in the Church yard after divine service. Laud used it as a test and turned out all clergymen who refused to read it from their pulpits. Perhaps some ill note as specific as his pastor's discharge, or even a more personal conviction, caused Jeffrey to pack his possessions, gather his family, and set out on a 2½ month ocean trip to the "America Plantations" in 1636. The use of a full years income of £50 for the passage is a measure of his determination.⁽²⁾

(1) Gay Estey Bangs - Manuscript 44, Newbury Library, Chicago, Illinois

(2) Campbell: THE ENGLISH YEOMAN

Jeffrey and his family make their first recorded appearance in Salem (New England) in 1636, when he is granted ten (to forty acres) in that settlement. At a town meeting December 25, 1637, he receives three acres and a note is made that there are four people in his family. This raises questions on Perley's⁽¹⁾ statement that Jeffery came to Salem with his wife, Margaret, and his children: Mary, age 11; and Isaac, age 9, for we know that Catherine also accompanied her father. Either Margaret or Mary had died by 1637. On January 21, 1638/39, he obtains an additional ten acres. Other references to Jeffery are made in the minutes of the town meeting of August 7, 1637, Augustus Kellham is granted one-quarter acre "before Eastie's house" and in those of the town meeting of August 14, 1637, where Roger Morey requests a spot of ground by Esty's.

On June 25, 1638, the town of Salem granted Jeffrey (Eastie) three-quarters of an acre of marshland and on January 21, 1639/40 conveyed to an unnamed person 20 acres of land situated between Jeffrey (Easty) and Henry Swan. Jeffrey appears in the Salem Quarterly Court records in a conflict with Richard Hollonsworth in 1639 -- "If Eastie does not pay for the time in 5 weeks or the other accept his boat, Court to give execution".

Other entries are:

In 1641 - "Michaell Sallows vs. Jeffrey Esty - Debt"

In 1642 - "Jeffrey Esty (also Easty), a Salem presentment, admonished for much sleeping on the Lord's Day in time of exercise (Witnessed - Jeffrey Massie and George Curwin)".
- "Jeffery Easty, being overseer of their field, admonished for want of a fence".

In 1645 - "Jeffrey Easty paying 5s is discharged from training".

(1) Perley: HISTORY OF SALEM

It was observed in the records of Salem of February 17, 1646/47 that Robert Cotta had sold Jeffrey Eastye "part of his lot".⁽¹⁾

In September, 1651 Jeffrey, then 64 years old, moved to Southhold, Long Island, New York and, at that time, sold thirty acres of Salem upland to William Dixie "6 October, 1651, the said Estee being out of jurisdiction, cannot be called upon to acknowledge same". Previously, on August 23, 1651, he had sold land to Henry Bullock. He remained in Southhold until August 12, 1657, when he sold his home and moved to Huntington, Suffolk County, Long Island, New York. He died there, i.e., at East Neck, where he had lived, January 4, 1657/8 (will not dated but proved January 23, 1657/8) his being the first death recorded in Huntington. Jeffrey's daughter married Henry Scudder, son of Thomas of Salem, Massachusetts. Henry and two of his brothers, Thomas and John, moved first to Southhold, Long Island in 1651, and after selling out to John Baylis in 1656, moved as a group to Huntington, Long Island. Jeffrey obviously accompanied his daughter in these moves. Southhold was settled in 1639 or 1640 from New Haven Connecticut and was named after Southhold, Suffolk County, England. Other emigrants, i.e., King and Benedict, moved from New England to Long Island, King from Salem to Southhold and Benedict from New England to Southhold, Long Island, to Huntington. This oldest town in New York had special land attractions for the colonists. The Scudders were an example, moving from Horton Kirby, Kent County, to Salem (New England) in 1638* and the next generation, i.e., Henry and Catherine (Eastie), thence to Southhold and Huntington. Henry died in Huntington, having made his will January 25, 1661, and Catherine (Eastie) then married Thomas Jones, who made his will February 16, 1699.

(1) Perley: HISTORY OF SALEM

* N.E.H. & G. Reg. Vol. 100, p.222

Isaac Esty (1627-1712)

The records of St Peter's Church, Freston Parish, Suffolk, England state "Isaac Eastie ye son of Jeffrie Eastie, baptized on November 17, 1627". His journey to New England as a boy 9 years old with his father, mother, and sisters Mary and Catherine have already become part of the story.

The Salem Quarterly Court records contain an early reference to him in 1652, "Isaach Esty acknowledges judgment to Mr. Edmund Batter". (Note: Batter was a Salem malster, served in the General Court, and was highly respected. He came from Wiltshire, England in June 1635 aboard the James of London). In the following year, when he was 27 years old, he made his first land transaction -- "February 5, 1653, Job Hilliard of Salem, fisherman, hath sold to Isake Esty of Salem, cooper, one house and land adjoining to be paid for with codfish, mackerel, or caske". This was two years after his father's removal to Southhold and prior to his own marriage to Mary Towne. At this time, Isaac is twenty-seven years of age and established in Salem, Massachusetts as a cooper and land owner. Later, at a meeting of the Selectman, March 25, 1657, Thomas Goldwaite, Isaac Estie, and others were held liable for cutting trees on the common. He relocated in Topsfield, Massachusetts, probably in 1655 or 1656, after his marriage to Mary Towne.

The birth of Isaac's son Joseph is recorded in the Court records (February 5, 1658) and is followed in December of that year by the story of "Isaache Estye's servant, Joseph Williams, who ran away from him and thereby damaged him. Ordered that a portion of said William's estate in the hands of Jeffrey Masseye, Thomas Watson, and Henry Skerry, trustees, be kept by them until the Court take further order". An episode in horse thievery in early Topsfield becomes part of history when the Court, in December 1658, records -- "Issach Esty deposed that he and his brother, Jacob Towne were at Josiah Raye's house and heard Raye say that his brother Lathrop had taken up a mare very like Towne's and deponent thought from the way they spoke that it did not belong to Lathrop".

In 1661 he was one of the commoners appointed to share in the 500 acres of Topsfield common land south of the Ipswich River and in 1664 he was rated at 19s 6d for the minister's rate, drawing at "least fifteenth share" of common land in 1669. He was elected Selectman in 1680, '82, '86, and '88. In 1681, '84, and '85 he was chosen jurymen of trials in Ipswich and in 1691 and '96 was chosen grand jurymen. He also served as tything man, surveyor of highways and fences, and was on various town committees. He received 01-11-08 on January 24, 1676/7 for service in King Philip's War.

In 1677 Isaac is called "Senior", his eldest son Isaac having come of age. In 1689 he is known as Sargent Esty. He and his family were all church members in full communion and Isaac was one of the committee which engaged Mr. Joseph Capen, the famous Topsfield parson. He died in Topsfield in 1712, leaving a will dated March 26, 1709. Son Isaac received land; Jacob was given the homestead and all accessories; Joseph, John, Sarah, Hannah, and Joshua had received their shares during Isaac's lifetime and were to receive clothing or amounts of money. Grandchild Sarah Gill was to receive ten pounds, later changed to five pounds.

Mary Towne, daughter of William and Joannah (Blessing) Towne, was born at Yarmouth, Norfolk County, England and baptized at its St. Nicholas Church, August 24, 1634. The Townes had come to Topsfield from Salem in 1652.⁽¹⁾

Isaac and Mary had nine children:⁽²⁾

2. Isaac, Jr., born 1656, married Abigail Kimble, son Moses, who lived in Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey.
3. Joseph, born February 5, 1657/58, died October 13, 1739, married Jane Stewart June 2, 1682

(1) HISTORY OF SALEM - Felt p. 5

(2) ISAAC ESTY OF TOPSFIELD AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS - Gay Esty Bangs

4. Sarah, born June 30, 1658/59, married first, Moses Gill and second, _____ Ireland.
5. John, born January 2, 1662/63, married Mary Dorman May 31, 1688
6. Hannah, born -- -- 1667, married George Abbot July 21, 1707
7. Benjamin, born April 29, 1669/70, married 1st Elizabeth Goodhue April 9, 1702; and
2nd Mary Holland, December 13, 1716. He died in 1752
8. Samuel, born March 25, 1672, died before 1709, unmarried
9. Jacob, born January 24, 1674/75, married Lydia Elliott January 8, 1710, died 1732
10. Joshua, born July 2, 1678, died before April 25, 1718 when widow
Abigail married William Poole

One of the most notable incidents of this generation was the tragic involvement of Mary Easty in the Salem Witchcraft Trials. She and her two sisters, Rebecca Nourse and Sarah Cloyce, were accused of being witches. Rebecca was tried and found guilty and executed by hanging July 19, 1692. Mary followed her sister to the gallows September 22, 1692 but sister Sarah escaped harm for Mary was among the last group hanged during this terrible time of witchcraft delusion. Much has been written on the happenings at Salem -- but probably the wide diversity of opinions expressed stem from the inability of people of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries to understand the genuine power of witchcraft in a society that believes in it. Such was the belief in 17th-century New England, and accusations of fraud directed at the young accusers of Salem Village or of power lust directed at the clerical and judicial leadership do not explain away the fact that some of those who were tried and executed practiced witchcraft consistent with the mores of the time. The innocence of Mary Towne Easty, however, is accepted by her contemporaries and later confirmed by an analysis of trial testimony and her actions.

Her preliminary examination was held on April 22, 1692, and her conduct so impressed Judge Hathorne that he asked the afflicted girls "-- are you certain this is the woman?" They repeated their charge and she was imprisoned until May 18, when they changed their minds and she was

released. This action brought on more hallucinations and, on May 20, a warrant was issued for her rearrest and imprisonment until September, when she was condemned and executed with seven others: Martha Corey, Alice Parker, Ann Pudeator, Margaret Scott, Wilmot "Mammy" Redd, Samuel Wardwell, and Mary Parker. She is quoted as saying "I am going up the ladder to be hanged for a witch, but I am innocent, and before a twelve month be past you shall believe it."

Before he death, Mary Eastey sent the following petition to the trial magistrates and to the ministers of the County:

The Humble Petition of Mary Easty unto his Excellency Sir William Phips, and to the Honored judge and Bench now sitting in Judicature in Salem, and the Reverend Ministers, humbly showeth, That, whereas, your poor humble petitioner, being condemned to die, do humbly beg of you to take it in your judicious and pious consideration that your poor and humble petitioner, knowing my own innocency, blessed be the Lord for it! and seeing plainly the wiles and subtily of my accusers by myself, cannot but judge charitably of others that are going the same way of myself, if the Lord steps not mightily in. I was confined a whole month upon the same account that I am condemned now for, and then cleared by the afflicted persons, as some of Your Honors know. And in two days' time I was cried out upon them, and have been confined, and now am condemned to die. The Lord knows my innocency then, and likewise does now, as at the great day will be known to men and angels. I petition to Your Honors not for my own life, for I know I must die, and my appointed time is set; but the Lord he knows it is that, if it be possible, no more innocent blood may be shed, which undoubtedly cannot be avoided in the way and course you go in. I question not but Your Honors do to the utmost of your powers in the discovery and detecting of witchcraft and witches, and would not be guilty of innocent blood for the world. But, by my own innocency, I know you are in the wrong way. the Lord in his infinite mercy direct you in this great work, if it be his blessed will that no more innocent blood be shed! I would humbly beg you, that Your Honors would be pleased to examine these afflicted persons strictly, and keep them apart some time, and likewise to try some of these confessing witches;

I being confident there is several of them has belied themselves and others, as will appear, if not in this world, I am sure in the world to come, Whither I am now agoing. I question not but you will see an alteration of these things. They say myself and others having made a league with the Devil, we cannot confess. I know, and the Lord knows, as will ... appear, they belie me, and so I question not but they do to others. The Lord above, who is the Searcher of all hearts, knows, as I shall answer it at the tribunal seat, that I know not the least thing of witchcraft; Therefore I cannot, I dare not, belie my own soul. I beg your Honors not to deny this my humble petition from a poor, dying, innocent person. And I question not but the Lord will give a blessing to your endeavors."

Mary Easty"

The petition prepared by Mary Easty attests to her intelligence, perception, and self-effacement. She has been called the "self forgetful". It is a remarkable document and makes one regret the meager record she left to posterity. After her execution, Isaac, her husband, labored twenty years to clear her name and was, in a measure, successful when the petitions presented to the court were recognized, the verdict annulled. Twenty pounds was granted him in acknowledgement of the injustice done as shown by the following:

By His Excellency the Governor

Whereas ye General Assembly in their last session accepted ye Report of their Committee appointed to consider of ye Damages sustained by Sundry persons, prosecution for Witch-craft ye Year 1692.

Vis.

To

Elizabeth How,	12-0-0	Rebecca Nurse,	25-0-0
George Jacobs,	70-0-0	John Willard,	20-0-0
Mary Easty,	20-0-0	Sarah Good,	30-0-0
Mary Parker,	8-0-0	Martha Carrier,	7-6-0
George Burroughs,	50-0-0	Samuel Wardwell	
Giles Corey & wife	21-0-0	and wife,	36-15-0
Sarah Wild,	14-0-0	John Proctor and	
Abigail Faulkin,	20-0-0	wife,	150-0-0
Abigail Hobbs	10-0-0	Mary Bradbury	20-0-0
Anne Foster	6-0-0	Rebecca Eames	10-0-0
Mary Lacey	8-10-9	Dorcas Hoar	21-14-0
	Mary Post	8-14-0	
	578-12-0		

The whole amounting to Five Hundred and Seventy-eight pounds and 12 shillings.
(Ordered paid to Stephen Sewell, Esq., who was to distribute legally to heirs, etc.)

17 December 1711

J. Dudley

JOSEPH (2) ESTY (1658-1739)

Ancient Dorchester, mother town of the present Canton, Massachusetts, was extended by a General Court order of November 20, 1667, which confirmed the Indian deed of October 8, 1666 to the English. It fixed the southern limit of the town at the Old Colony Line and expanded its area 40,000 acres, including the 6,000 acres of the Punquapaug Plantation, an Indian reservation. This expanse was known as the land beyond the Blue Hills and also was called the "New Grant". This wilderness was divided into twelve divisions and, in 1698, was further divided into various size lots. While most of the proprietors of these early subdivisions never occupied or viewed this new land, there were others who wished to resettle with more land and these hardy ones were attracted to the "New Grant" or South Precinct of Dorchester. Among them were three sons of Isaac and Mary Towne Eastie of Topsfield: Joseph (3), John (5), Benjamin (7), and a daughter, Sarah (4), married to Moses Gill.

We do not know the year in which they made the move but it was probably shortly after the death of Joseph's wife, Jane (Stewart), in 1702 (G. E. Bangs puts the move at about 1705), and certainly before 1717, at which time they signed a covenant setting up a church in Dorchester Village, at what is now Canton Corner, on Washington Street, Canton, Massachusetts. Joseph signed as a member of a neighboring church and Benjamin signed as a non-communicant, after being examined by the council of churches on June 26, 1717. Prior to this time, Mr. Joseph Morse had preached in (Dorchester) New Village for more than 10 years, after having come there from Watertown, Massachusetts in January, 1707. It is possible that the Esteys were associated with Mr. Morse during that time prior to the covenant signing in 1717. Settlement by Joseph's brothers, Benjamin and John, prior to 1706 has been established, for they were summoned to appear before the Constitutional Court on August 18, 1706 to respond to accusations of encroachment on the lands of the Punquapaug Plantation -- the Indian Reservation.* In

* John was not found by the Sheriff.

answering the summons, "the settlers prayed that they might not be severely dealt with after they had built houses and redeemed the land from the wilderness". This problem was resolved on November 20, 1706, when the House of Representatives allowed the leases under the condition that no more be made without the consent of Dorchester. John, Benjamin and their brother-in-law, Moses Gill, must have rejoiced at the news, for they held a 200 acre lease received from the Indians, dated March 23, 1704/1705.⁽¹⁾

Other land transactions by the Esteys included the conveyance of 70 acres by Joseph (3) to his son, Joseph, Jr. (13) in 1712. In 1719 another son, Edward (17), then 26 years old, sold 209 acres in the 64th lot of the 12 divisions to Ebenezer Maudsley (Moseley). Thus the Esteys were among the first settlers in the "New Grant" and were involved in buying and selling land in the early 1700's.

Joseph and Jane Stewart were married June 2, 1682 at Topsfield. She was the daughter of Duncan⁽²⁾ and Ann (Winchurst) Stewart, both of Ipswich and both in the service of George Hadley. They moved to Newbury in 1659, six years after their marriage and lived there for 30 years. Duncan served as fenceviewer and tithing-man within that time and moved on to Rowely in 1690. Here they lived until their deaths, Duncan styling himself as "husbandman" and "planter".

In 1702, Jane (Stewart) Esty died in childbirth at Topsfield, Massachusetts, leaving her husband, and a large family motherless. Joseph was 44 years old and the children ranged from 18 year old Mary and 13 year old Joseph, Jr. to infant Benjamin. The homestead, set up in present Canton, was among the first built in then Dorchester and probably resembled in form and size of the houses built by David Tilden (1717), now standing at 93 Pleasant Street; Samuel Hartwell (1717),

(1) HISTORY OF CANTON, MASSACHUSETTS - D.T.V. Huntoon, p. 47

(2) Family legend claims descent from the Royal English House of Stewart (Stuart), G.E. Bangs account of Isaac and family has her name as Steward.



Built by David Tilden

c 1717

93 Pleasant St., Canton, MA

*Photo by J. F. Little
1972*



Built by Samuel Hartwell

c 1717

279 Pleasant St., Canton, MA

*Photo by J. F. Little
1972*

located at 279 Pleasant Street; and the Fenno House (1704) removed to Sturbridge Village, Massachusetts. These men were neighbors and contemporaries of Joseph's (3), whose land was located on both sides of present Pleasant Street up to present Sherman Street, and also included acreage on the banks of Pequot Brook, dammed in 1828 to flood Crossman's meadows, becoming the present Reservoir Pond.

Joseph's (2) and Jane's (Stewart) children were:

11 Isaac, born March 12, 1683, died April 20, 1683

12 Mary, born February 22, 1684, married Abraham Jackson

13 Joseph, born May 5, 1689, married Experience Bennet 1714 by Rev. Mr. John Danforth
(Dorchester Vital Records)

14 Jacob, born October 15, 1690, married Mehitable Porter

15 Samuel, baptized May, 1691, married Rebecca Hawes 1718

16 Elizabeth, baptized March 13, 1692, Married Samuel Jackson 1712

17 Edward, baptized July 16, 1693, married Elizabeth Stearns

18 Lydia, born March 21, 1696

19 John, born August 26, 1697, married Katherine Ayers 1719⁽¹⁾

20 Benjamin, born October 9, 1701, married Sarah Chandler 1725

Joseph (2) worked as a weaver in Topsfield, where he was born, lived until he was in his 40's, and where all of his children were born. He had become a member of the Topsfield Congregational Church during the pastorate of Joseph Capen (1684-1725), as did his wife, Jane -- "Ye wife of Joseph Estey". He also received credits for service in the French and Indian Wars -- "Joseph Estey, January 24, 1676/7 01.11.08". Under date of December 17, 1680, John Gould had

(1) Their son Joseph, born Manchester, Massachusetts in 1720, lost at sea coming from Virginia in 1754.

transferred to Joseph Estey "30 ac Upland and Swamp". On May 3, 1686, Joseph Estey sold William Smith, Jr. 30 acres of Topsfield land and a house on Billingsgate Hill for £60. When he came to the "New Grant" -- present Canton -- he probably lived as a farmer and plied his weaver's trade for the inhabitants of the town. There were other weavers among the early Dorchester settlers -- one Henry Baily, who died in 1717, the year of the Great Snow, was also styled. Joseph Estey and son Joseph, Jr. witnessed his will and Joseph was one of the appraisers of Bailey's will.

When the first tax was assessed in Stoughton in 1727, after the town was incorporated, Joseph, Sr. (2) was not listed as being taxed in either north (Canton) or south (Sharon) part of the town, but his sons, Joseph, Jr. (13), Edward (7), and Benjamin (20) re listed in the "north part". It is possible that Joseph, Sr., who was 69 years old at the time of the tax levy, had deeded or given his land to his sons. Benjamin (7), Jacob (14) and Samuel (15) were listed as being taxed in the "south part" and thereby, establish themselves as being in Sharon on that date. Descendants of Jacob have lived in Sharon as recently as 1966 and offer an interesting, clear genealogical line, including John Estey, his son, a Revolutionary War veteran.⁽¹⁾ Little is recorded of the activities of Joseph (2) and his family, but he is recorded as receiving by a 1726 deed from the Indians 37½ acres in three different lots, including the homestead lot of 6¾ acres, near present 392 Pleasant Street and the 13½ acre, "L" shaped lot in Mount Hunger off Burr Lane, known later as "Estey's Neck". (Suffolk 51/192).

Of Joseph's (2) sons, Joseph (13) remained in present Canton, and Jacob (14) is recorded as an early settler in Sharon (1727), living on Canton Street with his wife Mehitable.⁽¹⁾ Son Edward (17) first settled in the Ponkapoag area of Canton and is mentioned many times in the diary of Benjamin Lynde, Chief Justice of the Province. On several occasions in 1726, Judge Lynde wrote:⁽²⁾ "paid Edward Estey of Punkapoag for shingles and land" -- "dined at Edward Estey's" --

(1) See Appendix No. 7

(2) SHARON SCRAP BOOK - Volume IV - Sharon Public Library

"met Benjamin (7) Estey, Edward's uncle". In 1733 he wrote "setting out for Stoughton to Esty's -- "breakfast at Edward Esty's" -- "took young Esty as a guide". In 1734 he "paid Edward Esty for hauling cedar rails to Milton from Thompson Island". On November 7, 1741, Judge Lynde wrote of his appreciation of "eating good butter at Edward Este's". and October 26, 1742 he "told Edward Esty to be careful of any large pine trees near Pope's Mill" (in present Stoughton).

Son Edward (17) married Elizabeth Sterns and in 1718 is recorded as being located on Pearl Street (present Stoughton) -- (Misses Donovan's house as of 1930). He sold Ebenezer Maudsley (Mosely) 209 acres in the "Punkapoag" reservation in 1719, when he was 26. In 1730 he conveyed his saw mill at French and Ward site in Stoughton to John Withington and is mentioned in the records of the time as an innkeeper and a "Doctor". Three years after the sale, and in 1733, his home was on Bay Road, next to Dry Pond Cemetery (present Stoughton). Ironically, his last years⁽¹⁾ were spent in near poverty in a house overlooking the Old Stoughton Burying Ground of Pearl Street, Stoughton, where lay buried five of his children who had died in 1738 and 1745 -- the latter year was described by Parson Dunbar in his diary as one of "terrible fever and mortality". Edward died November 6, 1789 at the age of 98.

Son Benjamin (20) spent much of his later years soldiering. He is on the list of men dated Boston, March 16, 1745, who went on an expedition to Cape Breton under command of Major Joseph Hodges. The public fasts recorded by Parson Dunbar for February 28, April 4, and June 17 of

(1) Ancient Stoughton, Vol.3 Page 13

The Town of Stoughton to Asa Waters, Dr.

For boarding and nursing Doc. Esty from the 8th of December, 1788 to the 22nd, two weeks at 7/per week and then from the aforesaid date to February 5, 1789.

It being 6 weeks and 2 days at 8/per week 2-10-3

Jan. 23, 1788 to one pair shirts 0-12-0

Sept. 6 to one great coat and stockings 0-13-0

Stoughton Feb. 23, 1789 Asa Waters

1745 were held "on account of the activity at Cape Breton". He was at the "Eastward" from April 10, 1750 to December of that year and, in 1754, received an abatement of his taxes in recognition for his services in the "late" war.⁽¹⁾ Huntoon, in his HISTORY OF CANTON, MASSACHUSETTS, includes him with General Winslow's 1755 expedition to Nova Scotia and places him with and his son, Nathan, in Captain Josiah Stewart's company, stationed at Port Le Tore on April 25, 1756. Nathan was killed at Halifax during that campaign. Benjamin volunteered on April 22, 1756 for service under Colonel Miller in the West for the French War of 1756 and died at Crown Point, Lake Champlain, New York on October 23, 1756, then registered as being in Colonel Jonathan Bailey's regiment. Through much of this service he ranked as a corporal.

Administration papers were granted to his wife, Sarah (Chandler), on April 27, 1757. Benjamin's and Sarah's children were Abigail, born 1725/26; Nathan, born in 1727; Benjamin, born in 1730; and Mary, born in 1742.

At the time Benjamin (20) was at Crown Point, two of his nephews,⁽¹⁾ Elijah, son of Jacob, born 1736, and Stewart (born June 18, 1730), son of Edward (17) and Elizabeth (Sterns) were also in the expeditionary forces. Elijah served at Crown Point from September to December, 1755, was taken sick at the camp on Lake George, and was moved to a hospital in Albany, New York. Stewart went to Crown Point in Colonel Brown's Regiment.

Sons Samuel (15), Jacob (14), brother Benjamin (7), and Ebenezer Estey, son of Benjamin (7) signed the petition setting up the second precinct (Sharon)⁽²⁾ on June 8, 1739. It was granted July 2, 1740 and their first minister, Philip Curtis, was called. The meeting house was the first of

(1) HISTORY OF CANTON - Huntoon

(2) SHARON - HISTORY OF NORFOLK COUNTY, Solomon Talbot

three successive structures standing in Sharon Square. These brothers were the Ancestors of the Sharon Esteys. Joseph (2) died October 25, 1738/39 in Stoughton (present Canton) at age 82.⁽¹⁾ It is probable that he is buried at Canton Corner Cemetery but this is not certain, although it had been in use since 1716, when Gilbert Endicott was the first settler to be buried there. Joseph's will is not available, due either to loss or to prior conveyance of all his property to his children.

(3) Rev. Samuel Dunbar's private diary - Canton Historical Association property.

Joseph (13) Esty, Jr. -- (1688-1765)

Joseph (13) was the eldest surviving son of Joseph (2) and Jane (Stewart). He was born in Topsfield May 5, 1688 and settled in South Precinct of Dorchester (old Stoughton, present Canton, Massachusetts), about 1705 with his widowed father, his brothers and sisters. He married Experience Bennet June 16, 1715 with Reverend John Danforth of Dorchester officiation.⁽¹⁾ She transferred her membership to the Canton Church February 14, 1718. Her parents are not known. Joseph and Experience had six children, Theodore, born June 29, 1716; Experience; and Elijah, born 1729 had died, probably victims of recurring epidemics of the time.

Pastor Dunbar records the fall and early winter of 1718 as being a time of "great sickness in this place". In 1730 smallpox occurred in Boston, and in December, 1735 he writes of a "malignant and mortal distemper in the land".

Those surviving were:

Francis (21), born September 11, 1717, died 1806, married Joseph Fairbanks April 18, 1744

(had son Nathaniel, born 1754)

Ruth (22), born May 5, 1722, married Daniel Drake July 17, 1755

Joseph (23), born December 8, 1724, married Hannah Callahan July 10, 1755

A map of Stoughton dated 1718 places Joseph near the center of present Stoughton and is probably the location of his first homestead. In later years, he returned to the Ragged Row, or Pleasant Street area, in present Canton then known as the Road to Dorchester Swamp. It is probable he lived in a house on the Estey's Neck plot purchased by his father from the Indians.

During his life he worked as a farmer, carpenter and cooper. The Estey Book⁽²⁾ records considerable business transacted between Joseph and John Wentworth during the years 1721 to

(1) Dorchester Vital Records

(2) See Appendix 15

1730 prior to their quarrels of later years. Joseph "sett 22 hoops and 2 heads", "sett 12 hoops and one head in a cask", "to making a paer of looms", "to hewing timber", "to setting the frame of a barn". These were for Wentworth's account. In 1742 he built a pound for the town on land bought by the Selectmen for £7 10 sh. from James Endicott. Joseph was active in the affairs of the Church at now Canton Corner (the present building is the third built on this site). He was given permission, with others, in 1749 to erect a shed on the meeting-house plot to accommodate a horse and carriage. Mr. Samuel Dunbar was then in the twenty-second year of his pastorate in Stoughton (now Canton), to which he had been called by members of the Church, including Joseph's father, Joseph (2), and his uncle Benjamin (20). Joseph's frontage on the Road to Dorchester Swamp (now Pleasant Street) must have been considerable, for in 1759 and 1760, the two years when he was Highway Surveyor for the town, his assessments and those of his son Joseph, Jr. (23), for road repairs were among the largest listed.⁽¹⁾

Joseph (13) made his will in 1758 when he was 70 years old. He styled himself as "husbandman" and left his home place and dwelling house upon the way to Dorchester Swamp, Robbin's Swamp and the Old Swamp" to his son Joseph (23). Six-pound legacies were left to his daughters Ruth and Francis. In later life Joseph became associated with the third parish Church in present Stoughton, lead by Reverend Jedediah Adams, ordained there on February 19, 1746, and his family pew in that Church was bequeathed to son Joseph in his will. The modest extent of his willed property leads one to speculate upon the fate of the Estey holdings. It is again possible that Joseph had already conveyed land to his son Joseph even at the time of writing the will seven years before his death. Another explanation may be related to Joseph's participation in the disastrous Land Bank Scheme of 1740 (also called the Manufacturing Scheme) where he mortgaged three lots of property to the Manufacturing company. Disposition of these mortgages recorded in Suffolk Deeds Book 60, page 111, is not known, but they may have been involved in the bitter generation-long process of winding up the affairs of the Land Bank.

(1) See Appendix 8

These lots were included in the four lot purchase his father had made from the Indians in 1725 (Suffolk Deeds Book 51, page 192).

From 1727 until 1740 the currency depreciated seriously. Inflation had persuaded Joseph's Church Committee to increase Pastor Samuel Dunbar's annual allowance from £100, granted in 1727, to almost £190 in 1738 and to £185 in 1739 and 1740 -- "We finde that the necessaries of Life have Risen so much betwext ye years 1727 and 1738 that which £100 would purchase..."⁽¹⁾ Hard money or specie was difficult to find and many farmers and people of lower income were in desperate financial condition. One way devised to facilitate the issuance of paper money was the Land Bank Scheme of 1740. It was participated in by some 1000 "Partners" interested in a currency based on real estate.

A serious near-revolutionary movement resulted from the number of bankrupt farmers favoring the scheme and the merchants and the more well-to-do opposing the scheme. While the entire plan was annulled by act of Parliament in 1741 and, presumably mortgages pledged were null and void, a reading of the "List of Partners" gives a new view of the political and financial condition of Joseph and his neighbors and his neighbors and friends in Canton. Signing with Joseph in 1739/40 were:

Israel Baily	Ebenezer Maudsley	David Maudsley
Ebenezer Clap	Samuel May	Theophiles Curtis
David Tilden	John Dickerman	John Dickerman, Jr.
The Popes	Clifford Belcher	John Shepard
Thomas Shepard	Joseph Jordan	Thomas Jordan Thomas Spurr

No signers from the Gill, Sherman, Wentworth, Smith, Pitcher or Fisher families appear. The reasons for the diverse views of these families would make an interesting study, but it is

(1) HISTORY OF CANTON -- Huntoon

apparent that Joseph, at this time, was much concerned with his financial condition. Generally, no person of standing or wealth became a partner.

A continuing quarrel between Joseph and John Wentworth, who were neighbors, is documented by Parson Dunbar in 1741. It was no doubt aggravated by tensions of the times. Wentworth, however, must have been a quarrelsome fellow for Dunbar tells in his diary in 1729 that he "seemed to be an obstinate and incorrigible spirit". As a matter of record, he was suspended from the Church in 1730. Dunbar sets down for history the following:

"April 12, 1741 - this evening I communicated to the Church Joseph Esti's letter of complaint against his brother John Wentworth smiting him with an unlawful weapon or club in a violent or hostile manner -- appointed a Church meeting to hear it."⁽¹⁾

The meeting "appointed" was held and dealt with the problem, supporting Joseph in his complaint, who further reported Wentworth had "scorned" Joseph's son. The matter was settled with Wentworth asking forgiveness of Joseph and the Church. This been preceded by clashes between the Esteys and Wentworths, for during 1735, 1736, and 1737 a land dispute had erupted between these two families over a $\frac{3}{4}$ acre plot. Joseph and his Gill cousins lost the argument but did receive a right-of-way to the property over Wentworth land. Nor was it the last disagreement -- Parson Dunbar writes on November 30, 1750 "after prayer heard difference between Brother John Wentworth and Sister Experience Esti -- voted both blameworthy".

Joseph's association late in his years with the 3rd precinct (Stoughton) Church, led by Mr. Jedediah Adams, ordained there, rather than his father's 1st precinct Church led by Mr. Dunbar, raises interesting questions. Joseph's wife, Experience, had joined Mr. Dunbar's Church on February 14, 1718, shortly after their marriage and the meeting house was closer to the Estey

(1) Parson Dunbar's Church Record Diary

homestead than the 3rd precinct Church. Joseph had been "added" to the Church in 1731 and admitted to full communion in 1756. For some reason, however, he had not chosen a pew in Mr. Dunbar's new meeting house on October 10, 1748, when assignment was made.⁽¹⁾ The liberalization of religious thought after Jonathan Edward's mighty effort of the Great Awakening in the early 1740's may have offered Joseph choices of affiliation not possible previously, or it is possible that as personal and disturbing an event as the Church vote of November 30, 1750 criticizing Joseph's wife, Experience, in her quarrel with John Wentworth may have set Joseph's mind against Mr. Dunbar. Whatever the original cause, the argument continued into the next year, when on January 20, 1751, Dunbar "stayed the Church to inform them of the uneasiness of the Church with Brother Joseph Esti for the gross contradiction between his Oath at Court and his assertion in the Church and appointed a committee to consider the matter". Four days later the committee "heard Brother Esti's vindication and voted it sufficient to reconcile the apprehended contradiction". But the differences which dealt with an Esty right-of-way to "Pomery's Land" continued to occupy Mr. Dunbar's attention for the next two years. On February 19, 1753 he records a vote of the Church instructing "Brother Esti to give Brother Wentworth Christian satisfaction for his hasty and wrong charge". This final entry dealing with the problem and the tenor of other votes indicate Church sympathy for Wentworth and disagreement with Joseph. It may have been on this note that Joseph decided to join Mr. Adams in the 3rd precinct.

Mr. Dunbar's absence during his tour of duty with the Colonial Expeditionary Forces may have encouraged the feud to continue without Church control. Dunbar tells in his diary "September 26, 1755. This day I left my Parish and set out upon my journey to Lake George on the expedition to

Note: In Mr. Dunbar's diary of July 29, 1743/44, page 82, he records dismissal and recommendation of the following to set up the 3rd Precinct meeting house (present Stoughton) – George Talbot, John Withington, Joseph Smith, Eliza Monk, Edward Esti, John Osgood, Daniel Talbot, George Talbot sic, John Atherton, Zacharia Watkins, Peter Talbot, Jabez Esti (died October 4, 1745 – "suddenly, a man of exemplary piety").

Crown Point". Huntoon places him as chaplain of Colonel Brown's (Sudbury) regiment. On November 18, 1755, he notes in his diary that he was encamped on the shores of Lake Champlain at the time of the "great earthquake". This was Mr. Dunbar's second experience with an earthquake, for his diary of June 3, 1744 records that on "Lord's Day Morning just after the public prayer -- a considerable Earthquake which roqued and heaved the Meeting House in a very horrible manner" occurred.

In any event, the pew left in his estate to his son Joseph (23) indicates commitment to Mr. Adam's Church rather than Mr. Dunbar's, but Mr. Dunbar's diary, as a final denial of Joseph's change of affiliation, does include note of Joseph's death "February 8, 1765 died Joseph Estey, 78 years".

The record yields little of the specific history of the generation of Esteys but contemporary writers provide glimpses of the times and its problems. Joseph's death in 1765, is described by a diarest⁽¹⁾ as "a very terrible time" -- no doubt due to the passage of the Stamp Act with its attendant riotous and troublesome times in Boston, led by the Sons of Liberty. Mr. Dunbar's contribution to our understanding of Colonial life is indeed meager, for his preoccupations with religious duties deprive us of an opportunity for insight into the social history of early Canton. The series of fasts and prayers "on account" of special events tells us of some of the trials of this community, i.e., "July 8, 1730 -- smallpox in Boston; December 28, 1735 -- malignant and mortal distemper in the land; September 19, 1745 -- war entered into with the Indians; June 9, 1748 -- drought; June 15, 1749 -- a severe drought and a great number of devouring insects; February 21, 1750 -- God's awful dispensations among them (3rd precinct); February 14, 1750 -- God's judicial dealings (2nd precinct); July 2, 1752 -- smallpox and mortal fever in Boston; August 2, 1752 -- collection for Reverend Mr. Curtis, whose barn was struck by lightning; November 18, 1755 -- the terrible earthquake; August 12, and September 2, 1761 -- severe and distressing drought; July 30, 1762 -- moderate and plentiful rain; June 14, 1763 -- smallpox among us; September 28, 1768 -- dark

(1) HISTORY OF CANTON, MASSACHUSETTS - Huntoon

and distressed circumstances of the Province in respect to Civil Liberties and Privileges".

These and others were threads in the fabric of Joseph's life and times.

JOSEPH (23) Estey (1724 - 1780)

Joseph (23), the third in the direct line to be so named, was born in Stoughton, December 8, 1724. He married Hannah Callahan July 10, 1755 at Stoughton, when she was 22 years old. Hannah was the daughter of Dennis and Hannah (Babcock) Callahan of Milton, Massachusetts and was born there May 7th, 1733. Her father was a British soldier stationed at Castle William in Boston Harbor. Her mother was a member of the Babcock family -- early Milton settlers from Essex, England.⁽¹⁾ Joseph (23) and Hannah had 8 children:

24 Hannah, born April 14, 1756, married Samuel Morse in 1783, died May 13, 1799 (had one son, Samuel)

25 Joseph, born 1758

26 Eunice, born March 10, 1760, died 1788

27 John, born May 17, 1762, married Irena Sumner December 18, 1794, died March 6, 1833

28 Elizabeth, born February 3, 1765, died young

29 Elizabeth, born April 21, 1769, married Frederick Farrington, died August, 1805

30 Elijah, born May 10, 1771, married Sally Winslow Williams 1790, died 1812

31 Experience, born July 12, 1774, married Asahel Drake 1799, died 1844

Joseph (23), Joseph's (13) only surviving son, had been willed the homeplace by his father, who died in 1865, when Joseph (23) was 41. He also owned property of his own, for in 1759 and 1760 he is listed by his father, who was surveyor of highways at the time, as being assessed for road maintenance at a rate implying property holding relatively higher than his neighbors.⁽²⁾ As mentioned it is probable that his father, then 70 years old, had already given him property as his only son heir. The "homeplace" was located near present 392 Pleasant Street, Canton,

(1) HISTORY OF MILTON - Teele, page 117

(2) APPENDIX No. 8

Massachusetts, and was sold by Joseph to William Patrick (Fitzpatrick) in 1770. who then raised his house in July of that year. Patrick's house was later added to the Amarah Blake House in 1820 and later became the rear part of the G.F.H. Horton house (present Ernest Guild Landon house 1970). William Patrick died in 1778, a victim of Indian Marauders.⁽¹⁾ This sale of the "homeplace" to Patrick requires us to look elsewhere for Joseph's (23) home, and we find information in the tangled history of the settlement of his estate, from his death in 1780 to the ports of administrator Nathaniel Fisher through 1783. These events followed by sale of property by the heirs and, finally, by settlement of Joseph's widow's (Hannah's) estate in 1817. Tracing of these conveyances and deeds in which the divided house and barn play interesting roles identifies Joseph's (23) homestead as the present house at 757 Pleasant Street, Canton, with the Profile Rock ensconced on the roadside south of the house.⁽²⁾ This is the same house Huntoon comments on in his notes for the "History of Canton" as being the "old Esty house moved from Mount Hunger here to its present site near Profile Rock on Ragged Row" (Pleasant Street).⁽³⁾ An ancient plan of the Burr Lane/Mt. Hunger area dated 1735 shows a right-of-way "to Joseph Estey's" and further shows a house by the road.

The curious custom of "warning out" existed in the colonies in Joseph's time. This prevented indigent persons from becoming charges of the town by simply establishing residence. It was the duty of all heads of families to immediately inform the selectmen of the age, occupation, and previous town of residence of the new-comer, his marital status, and his circumstances.

(1) HISTORY OF CANTON - Huntoon, page 415

(2) APPENDIX No. 13

(3) Canton Historical Society, Fast Day Walk 1874 Cl. 91-E16, page 3

In compliance with the laws covering this provision, Joseph wrote the following:

Stoughton, September 29, 1767

These are to certify to all persons to whomsoever it may concern that Jonathan Stonings of Salem came to with the subscriber on the fifteenth of this month and he says he is a single man and that he is about thirty years of age and I have agreed with him for won month.⁽¹⁾

Stonings may have been a hired man assisting with autumn chores, wood-cutting, etc., but no further record of him has come to us.

A similar notification to the selectmen was made by Joseph in the following year:

Stoughton June the 11th, 1768 to the selectmen of the town of Stoughton - this is to notify you that Matthew Foughler and Sarah his wife, (married 1750); and John, his son, (born Nov. 1751); and Hannah, his daughter (born September, 1753); and William, his son and Sarah, his daughter (born November, 1755); and Matthew, his son (born 1760); and a young child born upon their passage here; and Elizabeth, their daughter, they are come from Nova Scotia from the town called Truro. They are come to my house and I have reserved for them for a few days and I am afraid that they are in a poor way to support their family. They came to my house on this month on the first day. (Also Mehitable, born September, 1749, Canton V.R., p. 66)

Joseph Esty⁽¹⁾

Matthew Foughler (Fowler), who may have been descended from Philip Fowler of Ipswich, Massachusetts, was a mariner who had married Sarah Randol (Randall) in 1750. At the time of

(1) Volume II "Ancient Stoughton" - Canton Historical Society property

Joseph's arrangement, the Fowler children were in their teens. John was 17, Hannah 15, William and Sarah 18, Matthew 8, and Mehitable

19. Perhaps Joseph needed extra hands to run his farm, but the story of "Matthew Fowler, Mariner and Sarah Randol of Stoughton", as told by the vital records, by Parson Dunbar's diary and by Joseph's announcement probably has the making of an interesting tale.

On January 10, 1770⁽¹⁾, Joseph paid Mr. Dunbar, Treasurer, the sum of 6s. 10p. "what charge they had put ye town to by their receiving Persons into Town". Joseph's need for farm help and the care the town used in controlling new settlers is again reflected in this assessment.

Another series of contemporary entries⁽¹⁾ in the town records, first appearing in 1767, relates to Abigail (Nabby) Esty, Joseph's cousin and Samuel Chandler's granddaughter. They tell in part Samuel's boarding and housing Abigail at town expense and of the series of visits and medicines provided to her by Dr. George Crosman -- again at town expense. She was born March 14, 1725/26 the daughter of Benjamin Esty and Sarah Chandler. Entries of Dr. Crosman's ministrations, purchases of cloth, aprons from Mr. Shaller and Benjamin Gill and others continued at close intervals, e.g.,

Gentlemen Selectmen:

£ s d
0 12 0

Stoughton November 1768. Debtors to Samuel	£	s	d
Chandler to seven yards of linen cloth to	0	10	6
making to shifts, 1 shilling 6d	9	1	6

for Abigail Esty

Received in cash from Joseph Billings,

(1) Volume II "Ancient Stoughton" - Canton Historical Society property

Town Treasurer, the sum of £3 and 8
pence lawful money, which is in full
for keeping and supporting Abigail Esty
the quarter of a year

£3.0.8 By Samuel Chandler

In 1772, Abijah Upham, family friend, neighbor, and guardian of Joseph's children, billed the Town of Stoughton as follows:

For May 25, 1772 - for Digging Abigail Esty grave 0-3-0

The personal story of Hephzibah Estey starts with an entry in Parson Dunbar's Church record book for July 4, 1741/42, i.e., "a contribution for Hephzibah Esti - collected £6-15-0" (who lost all she had by fire). (She and "John Wilkyson forrainer" had filed intentions to marry in January 1731/32 but there is no record of the marriage). A set of bills starts in 1767 and tells the care of Hephzibah Esty at town expense. She moved from one family to another, probably as a result of the bidding process used to assign town charges. Benjamin Bird carted "6 cords and 6 feet of wood to Mrs. Hephzibah Esty during the winter of 1767 and 1768". On March 8, 1768 the town paid Thomas Crane 5 shillings "for care to Hephzibah" and on March 28 of that year collected £10-2-3-1 for firewood. Mr. Johnson received town funds in June for keeping "Hephzibah Easty" and store-keeper Christopher Wadsworth was reimbursed "to cash -- let Hephzibah Easty have to by corn 0-0-8". Later in 1768 Seth Morton, local carpenter and coffin maker billed the town £1/16/0 for keeping of "Hipzibah Esty" and providing her with house, home and firing for 6 months. Still later, in 1768, she received 4 yards of woolen cloth and a "pettee coat" from David Thompson. More of her needs were "bought at Babcock's". "provided by Christopher Wadsworth, e.g., veal, pork, "old new chease", butter, salt, Indian meal, and Rye". The records are silent until 1772 when Joseph Esty takes over the care of "Hipzebath" for "won year" for £6, "to the taping and capin a pear of shoes, to won hankirshef, and to a yard and one-half of cloth for an apron". Further entries -- "for extrodener Charge when she was sick", "for pear of shoues and

for pear of shifts".

A last glimpse into the history of this early town welfare case is Dr. George Crosman's bill "1775 - January to December - visits and medicines for Hippy Easty".

Both Joseph (23) and Joseph, Jr. (25) served in the Revolutionary War. Joseph marched as a minute man from (then) Stoughton on receiving the news of the Lexington alarm on the 19th of April, 1775. He served as a private in the second company of his neighbor, the innkeeper, Captain Asahel Smith, with 76 others. Joseph⁽¹⁾ also served after the Lexington alarm, as did Joseph, Jr. -- the father, for two months, twenty -six days -- May to August, 1775 -- in Captain Van Briggs' Company, Col. Joseph Read's regiment; and the son for three months, twelve days in Captain William Bent's Company, Col. John Greaton's regiment.⁽²⁾ Joseph was 51 years old at the time and son Joseph was 17. Neither made application for a Revolutionary War pension.⁽³⁾

Joseph (23) died May 28, 1780⁽⁴⁾. The crops of 1779 had failed and the winter which came with suddenness and severity passed into history as a "hard winter". It was the coldest in memory and the heavy snow made travel difficult and dangerous. The blizzard of January 3, 1780 produced high winds and ten-foot drifts. February was so cold that ships at sea became coated with frozen spray three inches thick⁽⁵⁾, and Boston Harbor froze so solidly as to allow sleighs to travel its surface. The never-to-be-forgotten "Dark Day" of Friday, May 19, 1780 added to the trials of the Esteys. The sun was blotted out by a strange darkness and candles were lighted for the noonday meal. A strong smokey smell brought to visions of hell fire and brimstone and people

(1) July 4, 1876 Centennial Celebration of Canton, Mass., Address by Hon. Charles Endicott - Canton Hist.

(2) Mass. Soldiers and Sailors - War of Rev., Vol. 5, page 163

(3) Index of Rev. War Pension Applications, National Archives, Washington, D.C.

(4) The Estey Book "my father died May 20, 1780" - written by Joseph Estey (25)

(5) Revolution 1776 - Preston, J. H.

gathered in the street to discuss its meaning⁽¹⁾. It proved to be a messenger of death to Joseph.

The Revolutionary War had created heavy debt and the currency had so depreciated it cost £4 to have a horse shod. In 1781 the price of shoes was £20 a pair, milk 15 shillings a quart, potatoes 90 shillings a bushel, rum at 45 shillings per quart, corn at \$40 a bushel and a cow \$1200⁽²⁾. During these troubled times, Joseph (23) died at the age of 56, leaving four minor children: John (18 years), Elizabeth (11 years), Elijah (9 years), and Experience (6 years). Hannah, Joseph, and Eunice were 20 years or older. To make matters worse, he made no will – a circumstance that suggests a sudden, severe illness.

The settlement of Joseph's estate provides a revealing insight into the trials of a family left in those circumstances in colonial times. The inventory of his property provides a list of the household and work implements of a farmer of that period.

In December, 1780, widow Hannah petitioned the judge for Probate of Suffolk County "to give a leater of Administration and Commishon for apprising to my Son, Joseph Estey(25)". She complains of her own illness as preventing her from going to Boston. This petition was granted and inventory was taken by Benjamin Gill, George Crossman, and Abijah Upham, "Apprisers". It totaled £1474 and "was taken in hard money".* Here are listed his household goods: 8 barrells of cider, his spinning and weaving equipment (probably his grandfather's) with flax and wool ready to be made into "linsey woolsy"; the saddle and pilyon which had carried him and his wife, Hannah, to Mr. Jedediah Adam's meeting house in the third precinct; his livestock: "one yolke of oxen", 12 cows, 4 sheep, and 2 hogs; his carpenter tools, carts, pewter, pistols, and "a hide in tan"; his 82-acre home lot and home-place, with 90 additional acres of orchard, swamp,

(1) Yankee Magazine - May, 1965

(2) THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION CONSIDERED AS A SOCIAL MOVEMENT, Jameson

* In January, 1782 the Town of Sharon, Massachusetts chose to fix the ratio of "hard money" to Continental Currency at 1 to 150. (HISTORY OF SHARON, Pratt)

meadow, and wood lot. There also is the record of £430 of notes owed to him.⁽¹⁾

On August 7, 1781, Judge Oliver Wendell, Esq. was petitioned by John Esty(27) ("I, being a miner upwards of 19 years") to have Abijah Upham appointed his guardian. This was granted as were petitions for Upham to be guardian of Experience, Elizabeth, and Elijah. Upham was an old family friend and neighbor and often worked with Joseph.

Son Joseph (25), only 22, struggled with the complexities of settling his father's debt-ridden estate for 16 months, but apparently found the task beyond him. He, his mother, and sisters then petitioned that Nathaniel Fisher, a business man and surveyor in his 40's, be appointed administrator by the court, i.e.,

"and by Reason of the Difficulty of the Times and
the sd. estate being some considerable in Debt,
I have not been able to Settle Said Estate...
therefore, I request that Nathaniel Fisher...
be appointed to administer on said Estate" -
Stoughton, April 10, 1782.*

A similar petition was presented by widow Hannah and daughters Eunice and Hannah. Fisher then set out on the task and his final report and that of the appraisers were presented to the Court in July, 1783.

(1) See Appendix No. 11

* On September 11, 1782 the Stoughton assessors drew up a "list which contains the assessment of Several Classes that are Deficient in Procuring their men in the First precinct in Stoughton in the year 1782" Joseph Esty, Joseph Esty on the estate of Joseph Esty Dec. and John Esty are listed in Class 2 -- £12/3, 2/9/10 and 10/4 respectively.

The New England colonies had a rule of their own applicable to the descent of land in the event a man died without a will. It was so arranged that all children should inherit equally, except that the oldest son should receive double share. This was applied by Fisher in settling Joseph's affairs.

Fisher made a number of reports to the Court as he divided the estate and paid its debts. On October 15, 1782 (Suffolk, Volume 81, page 313), he reported a list of debts, i.e., £95 to Ralph Inman "by a bond and mortgage"; to sundry small debts, the sum not exactly known, supposed to be £6; to Mr. John Withington £1 - 10 - 0; likewise, the house and barn must of necessity be repaired, computed to cost £7 - 10 - 0. On the same date, he requests allowance of payments he has made for the estate, e.g., £1 - 7 - 8 to Abijah Upham for Rates; 8 shillings "to Seth Morton for a coffin"; £0 - 3 - 6 for vendue (auction) expenses; £13 - 8 - 6 Colonel Gill for 3 years classing 1781; various arbitration expenses; arbitration award of £18 to Joseph; and £3 to Hannah, the total payments amounting to £100 - 19 - 11, including expenses for settling of the "widow's (Hannah's) third".

On April 15, 1783, he accounts for the sale of 3½ acres of meadow to Lemuel Gay for £36; for the sale of 14 acres of woodland to John Atherton for £50; for paying of interest and principal in the amount of £78 on bond due to James Smith; and "to cash paid for Nales and labour on repairing the House and Barn; for giting Home Firewood and other Necessarys for the Widow £10 - 15 - 6".

A third account of Nathaniel Fisher was made July 8, 1783, (Suffolk 82/246) and shows receipts of land rentals, including £1 - 6 - 0 from Joseph Chandler for rental of Neck and almost £13 for sale of two pieces of meadow land at vendue. Expenses submitted for allowance include £8 - 18 - 8 for taxes for 1783; fees to Colonel Gill, Dr. George Crosman, and Captain Peter Talbot for assisting "in appraising and dividing said estate" as ordered by Judge Wendell on April 19, 1783; 3 shillings to Dr. Crosman "for his assistance as vendue master"; 6 shillings for Dr. Atherton for a sheep; and to Fisher himself £5 "allowance for time and trouble in settling" -- this last in the hand-writing of O. Wendell, Judge of Probate.

On June 12, 1783, the "appraisors" submitted to Judge Wendell the division of Joseph's estate between the seven children and widow Hannah, who received a third by her right of Dowry (Suffolk 82/247). Agreements were reached and bonds signed with the heirs petitioning the Court that portions of the heirs under age be settled on John. Several interesting events accompany the settlement. The homestead lot is divided between son John and his mother, Hannah, and great detail as to the division of the house and barn is included in the Suffolk County document cited. This type division was not uncommon in colonial times and assured maintenance of a surviving widow, but the painstaking efforts involved here are unique to our story. For example: "said (dividing) line ... running south into the house within four feet of the East end of the Kitchen Room, then running South through the middle of the Fore Door...", "and the widow is to have the eastermost Grate Room and Eastermost Bed Room" ... " and also to have Liberty to go into the Kitchen, to the oven to bake bread and out the back door to the well for water, to the stairs to go up into the chamber and down into the Celler..."

Daughter Hannah's husband, Samuel Morse, received the "Neck", so called, containing about 16 acres ... This was an "L"-shaped piece of property surrounded by hills and swamps, which is situated about 600 feet from (present) Pleasant Street on Burr Lane. It appears in maps of Samuel Morse's estate, dated 1837, the year of his death. Its rental to Joseph Chandler after Joseph's death would indicate it to be meadow land.

It may have been near the old Esty house, later moved from "Mount Hunger" out onto Pleasant Street, where it remains to this date. An updated plan owned by the Canton Historical Society shows "Estey Neck Lot - Joseph F. Jones".

Gravelling operations undertaken in the years between 1940 and 1970 have completely ravaged this historical area, obliterating its contours and landmarks. Discovery of an Indian burial ground near one of these man-made scars caused much stir and interest in 1969.

Son Joseph, who tried desperately at age 22 to settle his father's tangled estate, is recorded as having sold his double share, valued at £106 - 16 - 0 to Nathaniel Fisher, Gentleman. A petition to the court for allowance of this sale signed by the heirs, Abijah Upham as guardian of the minor children, and "Nathaniel Fisher in behalf of Joseph Esty". This would assume son Joseph to have left the area and, for our purposes, his personal history ceases here.

And with these settlements, which extended 3 years beyond Joseph's untimely death, we find Widow Hannah and son John owning the homestead "on the road from the First Meeting House to the Second Meeting House" and, in all probability, keeping house for Eunice and John, who were over 21, and Elizabeth, Elijah, and Experience, who were 18, 12, and 9 years old.

The story of Joseph and Hannah's son John (27) and his family will be told later, but that of son Elijah (30) is equally interesting. As told, he was 9 years old when his father died and probably lived on with his widowed mother, Hannah, and his brothers and sisters; Eunice, John, Elizabeth, and Experience, at the homestead. Family tradition states that he had been educated as a mechanic but his trade was that of a tanner. He probably served an apprenticeship to learn his trade and may have worked with his Sharon cousins, some of whom were tanners. The first record we have of this occupation is in the deed signed by him and his sister, Elizabeth, which quitclaimed land back to brother John. In this document, dated January 17, 1794, he styles himself "Tanner" from Stoughton. Some years before this, however, in 1790, he had married Sally Winslow Williams⁽¹⁾ of Roxbury and may for a time have lived there with the Williamses, for he is not listed personally in the 1790 census of either Canton/Stoughton or Roxbury. John Williams, Sally's father, to whom Elijah may have been apprenticed⁽²⁾ was a tanner and an ardent Revolutionary Whig.

(1) Mayflower Descendant No. 5092

(2) N.E.G. & H. Reg., Vol. 34, p. 70

In or after 1794, Elijah, Sally, and a newborn daughter had set out for the west with an ox cart team and their household goods. After a long and tedious journey, they arrived at the Mohawk River and at the site of present-day Utica, New York. Still pursuing their way westward, they came to a stopping place and made a land purchase in the town of Westmoreland, Oneida County, New York. In the wilderness, among the Indians, they erected their log cabin and started clearing, while homesickness, privations and trials of overwhelming proportions must have beset them. During their stay in Westmoreland, a daughter who lived but two years and a son, Joseph Esty, were born -- the later in 1798. Tradition has it that Joseph was stolen by the Indians but returned four days later.

Discouragement and ill success urged them on to new locations and they moved westward again to Hardersburg's Corner (now Auburn, New York). Here Elijah sought a place to ply his tanner's trade, erected a tannery and dwelling. In 1812 Elijah (30) died in the great epidemic, leaving his estate in debt and his family thrown on their own resources. Widow Sally was remarried in 1815 to Major Olmstead and her son Joseph determined to follow the trade of his father but, being too young at his father's death to have learned it from him, apprenticed out to his mother's (Sally) brother, Ezekiel Williams, who had moved with his brother Thomas to New Hartford, Oneida County, New York.⁽¹⁾ In 1822, Joseph returned to Ithaca, New York. Here he borrowed \$1000.00 with which he bought a tannery and became a highly successful business man. His son, the Honorable Edward S. Esty, succeeded him in 1852, although Joseph lived until 1881, dying at age 83.*

Two documents can be added to Elijah's story: the first is the deed⁽²⁾ given by Hachaliah Burt and Sally Olmstead, (Elijah's remarried widow) and executors of his estate, to Dudley Bailey, Jr. of Canton, Massachusetts, conveying ½ acre of land and ⅓ part of the house and barn; the second is mention of Elijah's heirs in Pompee (Pompey), New York in the petition of April, 1814, by

(1) N.E.G. & H. Reg., Vol. 34, p.70 et seq.

(2) Norfolk County Registry 53/180

* Supplied by Mary Chilton Estey Frenning Sherman - descendant of Elijah.

widow Hannah's heirs for partition of her estate, i.e., her third in husband Joseph's estate.

The high ridge town of Pompey, Onondaga County, New York had attraction for two Canton (Stoughton) men who married Elijah's sisters. Frederick Farrington, who married Elizabeth (29) as his second wife and Asa Drake, who married Experience (31). The petition of April, 1814 places both of them in Pompee (Pompey), New York and is drawn in the name of heirs of Elizabeth, who had died in 1805. Farrington was born in Dedham, Massachusetts August 3, 1766, later living in Stoughton and serving in the Revolution.⁽¹⁾ He married three times, i.e., Sarah Manly of Easton, Massachusetts in 1785, Elizabeth Esty (in or after 1794), and Judy McKown (McGowen) about 1807. The Frederick Farrington family is listed in the census records as follows: 1790 -- Bristol County, Easton, Massachusetts; 1800 -- Pompey, New York; 1810 -- Manlius, New York. *

Asa Drake was born in Canton (Stoughton) December 13, 1765 (parents: Nathan and Jemima). He was the fourth generation from Benjamin Drake, who migrated to America from England in 1680. He first visited Onondaga County, New York - Pompey area in 1785 and permanently located there in 1794, upon land purchased from Elisha Harvey. Samuel Talbot and a Holmes from Stoughton accompanied him.

County Clerk's Office, Onondaga County⁽²⁾

Township of Pompey

Lot 24

August 10, 1793 Elisha Harvey grants Asaph Drake

100 acres - consideration 10 shillings

(1) He received a bounty of £50 in March, 1781 -- "to persons who engage pursuant to a Resolve of the General Court the 28th February, 1781"

* Supplied by Mrs. Lee Allen Parker, descendant of Frederick Farrington.

(2) Reunion of Sons and Daughters of Old Town of Pompey, June 29, 1871, Pompey, New York

His marriage to Experience Esty, February 11, 1799⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾ produced a family of 6 daughters and 2 sons, and historians regard him as an influential citizen, active in church and school affairs.

And thus Joseph's (23) three youngest: Elizabeth, Elijah, and Experience joined the flood of emigrants going west after the Revolutionary War. All sought land and opportunity, all suffered hardships, to which some, including Elijah and Elizabeth, fell early victims. The call of the western country was heard by the next generation of Esteys and this becomes part of the story of son John (27) and his family's exodus to the Northwest Territory in 1838.

(1) Onondaga' Revolutionary Soldiers -- The Onondaga History Association,

Rev. W. M. Beauchamp, Syracuse 1913

(2) Onondaga's Centennial - Dwight H. Bruce 1896, Vol. II

JOHN (27) ESTEY (1762-1833)

John (27) was 18 years old when his father, Joseph (23), died during the Revolutionary War. Joseph's estate had been settled by July, 1783 and John had received various parcels of land and goods as a result of the efforts of Nathaniel Fisher, the administrator. He married Irene (Irena) Sumner on December 18, 1794, when he was 32 and she 21 years of age. Irena was the daughter of Mary Hodges) Sumner (Gay), whose first husband's (Sumner) life is untraced, although he was probably from Robbins Corner (East Foxboro, Massachusetts) area, where the Hodges and Sumner families lived. It was this community that resisted inclusion when Foxboro was incorporated in 1778 and, as recently as 1902, petitioned the Commonwealth for permission to secede and set themselves up as the town of Sumner. When Irena was 7 years old, her widowed mother married Moses Gay (March 4, 1780), who was 50 years old. While we know that Irena was born on February 8, 1773, we have no certain record of her father nor of her parent's marriage.

Probably John and Irena had set up their homeplace on land received from his father's estate and more particularly somewhere on one of the 3 parcels in Lot No. 1, settled on him and valued at £197 - 6.

In the Massachusetts Suffolk County census of 1790, John Estey is not named but one "Widow Estey" is listed. The order of the names is not helpful in placing the location of Widow Estey's home, but Nathaniel Fisher's map of 1793 shows an Esty house on the west side of Pleasant Street in the vicinity of present (1969) No. 757. This house has now⁽¹⁾ been shown to be the old Estey house which Huntoon states was removed from Mount Hunger area to Pleasant Street, next to Profile or Face Rock. At the time of the census, it was occupied by "Widow Estey" -- certainly Hannah, wife of Joseph (23) -- with two other "free white females", probably Elizabeth and Experience -- Hannah had married Samuel Morse and Eunice had died in 1788. No male Esty is listed in "Stoughton Town" in 1790, although Hannah's sons, Joseph (25) and John (27) had reached the census age of 16.

(1) Appendix No. 13

A John Easty⁽¹⁾ is listed in Sharon, but he is a distant cousin of John (27), Hannah's son. This must have been an oversight in the census, for on January 17, 1794, Elizabeth (29), spinster, and Elijah (30), tanner, quitclaimed for £100 to John Easty (Esty), yeoman, (their brother) their rights in several pieces of land in Stoughton, mortgaged by John July 10, 1783. This was Lot No. 1 purchased by John for £197 - 6. All brothers and sisters mentioned in the deed (Norfolk 3/34) were identified as from Stoughton.

As already told, an interesting feature of the division of Joseph's estate was the settlement of son John (27) of 21 acres of land with "its northerly part of the dwelling house and southerly part of the barn". This property was then sold or mortgaged to David Marston, who later conveyed it back to Experience Easty (spinster), John's sister for the sum of 50 pounds. The deed was registered August 21, 1795. The bounds of the plot are helpful in confirming the location of Joseph's (23) homestead, but sale of it by John to sister Experience would suggest that John and Irena's homeplace was not located there.

It also suggests that Experience, unmarried but 21 years old at this time and now owning half of the house and barn, lived with her mother, Hannah, who had been granted the other half of the house and barn as part of the widow's third upon the settlement of Joseph's (23) estate in 1783.⁽²⁾

John and Irena's homeplace is established by Census of 1800 as being located in present Canton. This census for Canton in the district of Massachusetts was taken by Elijah Dunbar and lists John Estey with "one free white female 26 years to 45 years; two free white males under 10; one free white female under 10; and one free white female 10 to 16 years old". It describes John and Irena's family of 1800, i.e., John, Jr., Polly, and Elijah and lists an older unidentified girl.

(1) Probably this John is the son of Jacob (14), Joseph's (13) brother and John's (27) first cousin once removed.
(added by George W. Estey)

(2) Widow Hannah was assessed 0-46 for road repairs in new (present) Stoughton in 1798. She was listed as a Canton (present) resident.

The Census of 1800 for Canton Township also includes John (and Irena) Easty but only shows four children out of the then six living. All of John's family had died or moved away but other family arrangements may have been made to take care of some of the children who ranged from 14 to 1 year old. Irena's mother, Mary Hodges Sumner Gay, then a widow and 58 years old, may have been involved. Family tradition places John and Irena's home at the present Canton/Stoughton line on the west side of Pleasant Street at or near "the Badger Place".

The Canton/Stoughton Vital Records and the baptismal records of the First Parish Church in Present Canton, Mr. Richmond, Pastor, gives the following information on John's and Irena's children.

- (32) John, Jr., born June 26, 1796, 1853, married Wealthy Pickering (Illinois) 1848
- (33) Polly (Mary), born March 19, 1797, died 1839, married Daniel Merrill (Millsboro, New Hampshire), born 1806, died 1839
- (34) Elijah, born May 26, 1799, died 1881, married : 1st Betsy Austin (Canton) October 27, 1822; 2nd Harriet Dunham in 1845
- (35) Moses, born January 14, 1801, died 1869, Julia Goodridge (Dedham) 1827, born 1805, died 1889 (daughter of Ambrose H. and Nancy (Moore) Goodridge)
- (36) Avery, born July 10, 1803, married: 1st Valera O. Ames, born 1814, died 1856 (probably from North Easton, Massachusetts); 2nd, Harriet Ransom Willard, born January 16, 1804, died young
- (37) Willard, born April 26, 1809, died December 3, 1875, married Mary Blake Randall (Easton, Massachusetts) August 1837
- (38) Sally, born March 4, 1805, died September 30, 1807
- (39) Francis, born October 4, 1811, died March 12, 1877, Henniker, New Hampshire) unmarried

The story of John (27) and Irena's family life is an interesting one and has its unsolved mysteries.

He was a farmer or yeoman, as he was styled in the quitclaim deed from his brother and sister in 1794.⁽¹⁾ His mother, Hannah, died in Milton, Massachusetts on July 16, 1809, age 77, but the real estate settled on her in 1783 after her husband Joseph's (23) death was not sold until April 8, 1817,⁽²⁾ and none of it went to John. Family records have it, however, that John moved to Hillsboro, New Hampshire in 1819 and we can assume that Irena and some of the children went with him.

A missing page in the 1820 Census⁽³⁾ for Hillsborough County deprives us of the record of the family in that year but the 1830 Census, page 143⁽³⁾ does list them and notes dependents in age group that identify Avery or Willard and Francis. Polly (Mary) was 22 when her parents moved and her marriage to Daniel Merrill, Jr.,⁽⁴⁾ of Hillsborough would make it certain that she had relocated with them. The older boys, John, Jr., Elijah, and Moses, all 18 years or older, did not accompany their parents. Elijah remained in the home town and courted Betsy Austin, whom he married in 1822, and Moses also found reasons to remain in 1827, he married Julia Goodridge of Dedham and then settled in Canton for 10 years prior to his emigration to the Northwest Territory in 1837.⁽⁵⁾ Francis, who was only a boy of 8, certainly accompanied his parents and spent his life in New Hampshire, dying in Henniker in 1877.

The specific reasons for John and Irena's relocation to Hillsborough, New Hampshire in 1819 can only be speculated upon, as we consider them 150 years later. He and his family may have

(1) Norfolk Deeds, Lib. 53, Folio 181

(2) Norfolk Deeds, Lib. 3, Folio 34

(3) Archives, Washington, D. C.

(4) Daniel, born 1805, was the son of Daniel and Abigail (Colburn) who had married in Hollis, New Hampshire, in 1804 and moved to Hillsborough in 1805. The Merrills living in this country had started with Nathaniel, who had come to Ipswich, Massachusetts from England in 1634.

(5) In the Census of 1830 for Norfolk County, Massachusetts, Elijah is listed in Canton and Moses in Stoughton.

suffered distress in the cold famine year of 1816 -- a year in which crop failures were wide-spread due to the frosts and snows during every month of the year. This calamity, when followed by the serious financial panic of 1819, may have driven John to consider a new start elsewhere than in the homestead area. Underlying these immediate pressures, however, was the continuous urge after the Revolutionary War to wander, to relocate, and to seek out new land opportunities. As already told, three of John's sisters and brothers had emigrated to New York state before the turn of the century and John's father had seen much of the country in his march as a soldier to Manchester, Vermont in 1775. These immediate family experiences may have urged him to move his family and become a hill country farmer. There were also Estey (Eastey) cousins in the town of Hillsboro, who had come from Middletown, Massachusetts -- a neighboring town to Topsfield -- where the Estey family had settled originally, but we have no reason to believe the families had been friendly or kept in touch with one another. As the area developed, the Contoocook River provided water-power sites to enterprising settlers, including Messrs. Cook and Waterman,⁽¹⁾ who, in 1811, built the third cotton factory in the state. It did a thriving business through the War of 1812 and languished until 1822, when it resumed normal activity. It continued to prosper and grew to 1800 spindles and 40 looms and , in 1840, employed 60 people. Another early cotton manufacturer, Joshua Marcy⁽¹⁾ came to Hillsboro, then a town of almost 1800 people.⁽²⁾ He made cotton wadding, twine, and candle wicking, employing 14 people in 1840. John (27) and Irena may have been attracted by these industries, although similar opportunities existed in their home area.

Hillsboro town records and the state vital records are silent on John's and Irena's residence and activities. It may be that they settled in the eastern part of the town near the Merrills in the area known as the Huntington land. If so, the sturdy brick house built by Daniel Merrill, Sr. in the 1830's could give us some indication of the country occupied by the John Estys.

(1) HISTORY OF HILSBORO, Vol, I, - G. Waldo Browne

(2) HAYWARD'S NEW ENGLAND GAZETTEER, Tenth Edition 1839

John and Irena sought a new opportunity and life in nearby New Hampshire, but their children had set their eyes on a more distant horizon. In the absence of proof to the contrary, we accept the family record of John's death in Hillsboro on March 6, 1833. The story is then continued in the 1912 HISTORY OF LAKE COUNTY, ILLINOIS by John Halsey, recounted by a son of Moses (35), George E. Estey, born in 1836, probably in Canton, Massachusetts.

"Moses Esty was one of the earliest of the pioneer settlers of Lake County, and came from Massachusetts to Illinois in 1837, accompanied by James Kennedy and John Esty, his brother. He was then 36 years of age, and had been married ten years previously to Miss Julia A. Goodridge, of Dedham, Massachusetts. The journey to Illinois was made by steamboat up the North River to Albany,* thence by canal** to Buffalo, thence steamboat to Toledo; from this point the journey to what was then known as Abingdon in McHenry County, Illinois, a distance of 280 miles, was made by foot, in seven days' time. From here the journey was continued until what is now Warren, Lake County, Illinois, where Esty's brother Avery, who had preceded him the year previous, (1836) was reached. The settlers were poor and without stock or teams, and to remedy this condition, the day after his arrival, Esty, in company with James Kennedy, started afoot on an expedition to the south to purchase cattle. They proceeded to a point on the Illinois River,

* Moses may have taken one of the steamers which plied the Hudson (North River) in the 1830's. Typical of these was the "Henry Eckford", which steamed between New York and Albany, making local stops and charging a fare of \$1.00 for the entire trip.

** Probably going by the line boats -- the more or less scheduled freight carriers -- which sold deck passage at 1½¢ per mile to those westbound immigrant travelers, willing to carry their own food, risk exposure in bad weather, and so foot-sore as to put up with the mile-an-hour pace. The slightly more commodious Erie Packet boats charged 4¢ per mile for board and room and passage. Other inconveniences such as the all-night war on mosquitoes in the summer and croaking of myriads of bullfrogs infesting the canal are recorded by travelers of the time -- THE AMERICANS, J.C. Furnas, Putnam, New York, 1969.

whence they went by boat to Washington County, where cattle were purchased and the return journey made in the same manner, driving the stock before them. Having been away from his family longer than anticipated, the day after reaching his brother's home, he left the cattle in the latter's care, and started, again afoot, for Toledo, Ohio, there taking a boat across Lake Erie to Buffalo and thence going by canal to Albany, down the North River to a point in Connecticut; thence crossing the country to his home near Boston, he arrived just six weeks after his departure for the western country, in his journey having traveled 850 miles afoot.

The following October (1837), he started again for Illinois, this time accompanied by his mother, (Irena) and a young man by the name of William Holmes, traveling the whole distance by wagon. The following winter was spent with his brother, the time being occupied in splitting rails and fencing in land. In the spring (1838) he returned to Massachusetts, making a return trip in August, this time accompanied by his wife, Julia, and six children. The journey was made by wagon to Buffalo, thence by steamboat across Lake Erie to Toledo. The wagon again served them for the completion of the trip. While passing through Michigan and Northern Indiana, wagons and parties proceeding the other way were occasionally met, and not a little advice and warning were given the sturdy pioneers, the prophecy being made that the six hearty youngsters occupying the wagon with their mother would find early graves in the new country. But the prophecy was unfulfilled, inasmuch as the six all lived past 70 years -- four being still living. The eldest, Mrs. Sarah A. Chittenden, is still (1912) a resident of the county to which came 72 years ago, and at the age of 82, was strong and vigorous in mind and body, and has been the mother of an interesting and prosperous family, seven of whom are now living.

When a few years after Esty's settling in Lake County, near Warren in Section 17, government land was placed on the market, he purchased about 1800 acres in the town of Warren and Avon. The same year, Nathaniel Vose erected a saw mill on the land, and operated it for two years,

when Mr. Esty purchased it. In 1849 a flouring mill was built by him on the same stream as the saw mill. The two were operated by him for several years, when they were turned over to his two eldest sons, and later they were sold to a brother-in-law, John Chittenden.

Mr. Esty was a man of great industry, perseverance, and endurance. He occupied an enviable position among his neighbors for his integrity of character and accommodating spirit, and served as Poor Master for Mill Creek in 1839. He accumulated quite a fortune and enjoyed the respect and confidence of all who knew him. Especially is he remembered for his services to his neighbors in the early days when he supplied them with stock and farming implements, waiting until the land yielded, for payment. He died in Chatsworth, Livingston County, December 11, 1869, at the age of 68 years".⁽¹⁾

Moses' first trip to the Northwest took place in 1837, the year of a serious financial panic. April 6 was long remembered in New York as a day of terror and gloom, with the cost of flour and other necessities rising to unheard of heights.⁽²⁾ The uncertainties of the times, as well as the availability of land, attracted the Estys and a multitude of other immigrants, for it has been estimated that during the years, 1835, 1836, and 1837 over 500 new towns were laid out in Illinois alone.⁽³⁾ In 1837 an observer noted "as if all New England were coming to the Great Lakes shore region".⁽⁴⁾

Moses' preparation for his move West is partly told in the sale of his properties ion Bailey Street, Canton, Massachusetts and at other locations in present Canton and Stoughton. One location, probably that of his home place, is identified in an 1831 map of Canton at Bailey Street, where a house is shown as occupied by "M. Esty". Eventually, all of John and Irene's children, i.e.,

(1) See Appendix No. 14

(2) Hervey Allen - ISRAFEL

(3) William Pooley - THE SETTLEMENT OF ILLINOIS FROM 1830 to 1850 (Madison 1908)

(4) Van Buren - PIONEER ANNALS - Michigan Pioneer Society Collections

John, Polly (or Mary), Elijah, Moses, and Avery, except Willard removed to Warren, Illinois and their records have been made available by Mrs. Valera Esty Swayer of Gurnee, Illinois (great, great, granddaughter of John and Irene).⁽¹⁾ It was probably a member of this family who was the subject of a letter written to Gay Esty Bangs by Mrs. Morton of Kearney, Nebraska in 1914. She wrote Bangs of an old grave stone she had located in a swale in the line of the Oregon Trail. The inscription read "Mary F. Esty, born January 18, 1833. Died July 3, 1866". Mary may have been the wife of still another Esty in search of land and open country -- this time the Far West.

(1) See Appendix No. 14

WILLARD ESTEY (1809 - 1875)

Our story now continues with Willard (37), born in 1809 in Canton, Massachusetts. He was a member of the seventh generation of Estey's who had lived in New England and was nine generations removed from Jeffrey of Hintlesham, Suffolk, England. As already told, he was 10 years old when his parents, John and Irena, moved to Hillsboro, New Hampshire with several of his brothers and sisters. Some of his older brothers and certainly 18-year-old Moses and 20-year-old Elijah remained in the homestead area and Willard may have lived with one of them. Other Estey family ties were few. Uncle Elijah had traveled into upper-state New York 12 years before Willard was born. Aunt Experience had married Frederick Farrington -- both going to Pompey (Pompee), New York before 1800. Uncle Elijah, Aunts Hannah (Morse), Eunice, and then Elizabeth (Farrington) had died and his eldest uncle Joseph's (25) records are deep under time. Even the family homestead had been sold out of the family was owned by John Mansfield in 1819.

There is little in Canton and Stoughton historical material that concerns Willard's early manhood years. The fact that he worked as a blacksmith in later years suggests that he may have apprenticed at this trade and worked at it locally, even prior to his marriage to Mary Blake Randall of North Easton, Massachusetts on August 5, 1837. It is apparent that some set of circumstances* caused him to stay in New England rather than join the west-bound family wagon train in the fall of 1837. With the departure of his mother, brothers, and sisters to Warren, Illinois, Willard was left as the only male member of the family in the Canton area. One can even imagine that his moves for the first 20 years of his married life were made in search of some opportunities close at home that his family had sought farther afield. During that period of time Willard and Mary Blake lived in Plympton, Easton, Sharon, and Canton, Massachusetts. Family lore adds Livermore Falls, Maine.

* Mary Blake was 6 months pregnant at the time.

Their children were:

Willard, born January 27, 1837, died May 30, 1837

(40) Willard Francis, born August 30, 1839, married Jane Withington

**(41) Elijah Henry, born August 3, 1841 Plympton, Massachusetts, married Harriet Louise Gay
January 14, 1864**

(42) Clinton Augustus, born September 10, 1843 (a bachelor).

**(43) Jane Adell, born July 17, 1845 in Easton, Massachusetts, died November 19, 1899, married
George Hammant**

(44) Mary Elizabeth, born June 3, 1847, married Andrew Upham

**(45) Herbert Lester, born September 21, 1849, in Sharon, Massachusetts, died 1912, married
Elizabeth Ann Day**

(46) Clara Louise, born October 13, 1852, in Sharon,, married Alanson Bullock

(47) Julia Emma, born July 29, 1854, married John Meadows

**Note: The above quoted from Vital Records of Canton and Sharon, Massachusetts, Town
Reports and the "Canton Journal".**

Mary Blake Randall Estey's father, Elijah, was a shoe-maker in North Easton, Massachusetts and his house and shop were on North Street in that town. He had married twice – Bethsheba Shepard of Canton in 1802 and Betsy Smith of Maine in 1809. Mary was a child of the second marriage.⁽¹⁾ Family lore has it that Betsy met widower Elijah (15 years her senior) on a visit she made to Massachusetts from her Maine home. She was the daughter of Jesse and Sarah (Briggs) Smith and was born in 1787. In later life she became very heavy. Jesse was a Revolutionary War veteran who had marched from Stoughton on April 19, 1775, and again on March 4, 1776. He may be descended from the Smith family of Hingham and Eastham, Massachusetts, which used the given name Jesse in several generations.

(1) HISTORY OF ROBERT RANDALL AND HIS DESCENDANTS - Chaffee

Note: Elizabeth Estey Spooner of Canton has a desk made by Elijah Randall, Mary Blake Randall Estey's father.

It appears that, after the War, he and his family were attracted to "new fields" in Maine, as were many of the Randalls, including Elijah's sister, Mary. Randalls in Easton and North Easton were numerous and it is possible that Willard was encouraged to settle in that town and find employment. However, the Easton, Massachusetts records give us no information on his residence or employment. Willard (37), Mary Blake and infant son, Willard, born in 1839, were in Plympton, Massachusetts when son Elijah Henry was born in 1841. The small textile and tool-making industries that flourished in that town in pre-Civil War days must have attracted Elijah with his skill as a blacksmith, but only for a short time, for daughter Jane Adell was born in Easton, Massachusetts in 1845. He may have then been drawn to the industrial establishments of Sharon, Massachusetts, which made cotton goods, cutlery, and boots in the mid-1800's, for son Herbert was born there in 1849, as was Clara in 1852. His real estate listed in the census of 1850 was valued at \$900.00.

About 1856, the family moved to Canton, Massachusetts and settled at 1017 Pleasant Street, within a mile of the home of three previous generations of Esteys, i.e., Joseph (13), Joseph (23), and John (27). Willard was not listed as being taxed in 1856, but his house is shown on a detailed map of Canton dated 1866 and, with its $\frac{3}{4}$ -acre lot, was assessed at \$700.00 in 1866. The economic crash of 1857 must have caused distress to this family which in all probability was in modest circumstances.

The census of 1870 affords a picture of Willard's household. He was 61 at the time and was working in a hardware store as was son Herbert. Clara and Julia, girls in their teens, were employed in the straw works and Clinton at 26 worked as a farm laborer. Jane was not included in the family list but records tell of her teaching in the Canton schools during 1868. Elijah had seen service in the Civil War and had, as of 1870, set up house approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile south of his father's place. Staying with Willard and Mary Blake at the time was Mary's mother. Betsy (Smith) Randall was aged 83. Daughter Mary and son Willard were not listed and had probably married and left the homestead area.

Willard (40), the eldest son of Willard and Mary Blake, taught school in several locations, including Canton, in his early years where the superintendent's report for 1861 records him as receiving \$200 for 20 weeks' teaching. He became a lawyer practicing first in Hyde Park, Massachusetts and later in 1883 in State and Federal courts. In 1889 he dissolved a partnership with F. W. Dana and returned to Boston. In his career he served as Judge in equity. He married Jane Withington. Their family of three children were Willard, Francis and Ethel. Willard was a machinist. Ethel married Michael Guerin and in later life she worked in gold leaf. Francis ran a grocery store in the Fairmont section of Hyde Park, Massachusetts for eight years about 1894 and then became foreman with the American Tool Company in that city. He was an accomplished musician playing in several bands including the Shriners' and singing baritone in a celebrated quartet. He taught music, one of his clarinet students being his cousin Bessie Estey (later Spooner), daughter of Herbert. Francis died of a heart attack in Sharon, Massachusetts, in 1923. Francis had married Minnie Hayward. Their daughter Doris learned to play the piano expertly, performing with a trio or quartet in theater and restaurant orchestras throughout New York, New Jersey and New England. She also taught piano to many students, later including her daughters Eleanor and Doris.

Mrs. Doris (Estey) McClellan, whose husband Alexander died in 1969 and her daughters Eleanor (McClellan) Fisher and Doris (McClellan) Cahoon have greatly encouraged me with their hospitality and have graciously contributed the use of their records including Willard's (40) scrapbook.

Elijah (41), Willard and Mary Blake's second son, born 1841 in Plympton, Massachusetts, is the direct line of this history. He married Harriet Louise Gay and set up housekeeping at 1030 Pleasant Street, Canton, across the street from his father's house where years later, by coincidence, his granddaughter, Harriet Louise Estey, husband Charles Henry Gelpke and their two sons Karl and Paul were living when Harriet died in the influenza epidemic of 1918.

Son Clinton, born 1843, was a bachelor and a religious zealot. Family lore refers to mysterious

circumstances surrounding his death. He was said to have slipped away from custodial care in Taunton, Massachusetts and frozen to death in a snowstorm while trying to walk home to Canton.

Son Herbert, born in Sharon, Massachusetts in 1849, married Elizabeth Day, a childhood classmate whom he met at the Sherman School (Pleasant Street, Canton, Massachusetts). Herbert was a machinist, inventor, builder and contractor, advertising in the 1901 Anthony's Business Directory. He was mild mannered, honest and good natured, enjoyed music and played the clarinet as did his father Willard and his daughter Bessie. Herbert played in one of the Canton bands. The Esteys were varied in complexion. Herbert was blond with blue eyes. During his business career he invented a smokeless powder device for shotgun shells and worked on it with Roscoe Hammant and George Meadows. Meadows attempted unsuccessfully to copy Herbert's invention, but the course of its patenting was interrupted by Herbert's sudden death from a heart attack in 1912. Family lore and opinion hold that Herbert and his brother Elijah went to work to help put brother Willard (40) through college. Among Herbert's many construction projects were two houses built for the family. Both still stand as of 1973: "The House" at 1115 Pleasant Street, Canton, and Clara Estey Bullock's home at 980 Pleasant Street, Canton. More will be said of "The House". Herbert and his family lived in Canton Corner section of Canton, Massachusetts.

Herbert and Elizabeth (Day) had four daughters including Bessie Randall, born October 14, 1882. Though she was christened Bessie, her father had preferred Betsey (after her great grandmother Betsey Smith Randall). Bessie herself used Betty or Elizabeth in later years, feeling that "Bessie" was too reminiscent of her grandmother Day's pet cow of name! Elizabeth is a remarkably alert person in this her 91st year (1973). Her guidance to the children of Canton over her span of 47 years of teaching can hardly be overestimated. She had started her career teaching in Westport, Massachusetts, in 1904 when she undertook instructing 50 students in the one-room Akin's Corner School on Horseneck Road. This group of students spanned 9 grades and certainly taxed Miss Estey's talents. After one year she returned to Canton due to her father's illness and

continued teaching there. Her popularity with the Westport parents had prompted them to take up a voluntary collection to add \$300 yearly salary,* hoping she would stay there, but her sense of duty to her family after her father's heart attack took her back to Canton Corner and restricted her moves in later years. Elizabeth played the clarinet expertly. She performed in many orchestras and symphonies and was invited to join a celebrated women's instrumental group known as the Fidgettes. On July 12, 1961 Elizabeth married widower George Spooner (born Leicester, Massachusetts, January 28, 1881) who died June 15, 1964.

Daughter Jane taught school in Canton, Massachusetts, District 5 (Sherman School on Pleasant Street) and received the following commendation in the Superintendent of Schools' Report for the school year ending April 6, 1868: "Miss Jane E. Estey taught school during the summer and with success in most subjects. Arithmetic and reading are well taught -- I have seldom found pupils more positively well-grounded in the rules of Arithmetic". Jane received \$280.00 for teaching 40 weeks at District 5 during 1868. During the same period brother Elijah had delivered wood to her school and had received \$15.00 for the service.

The husbands of the daughters, Jane, Clara, and Julia, were all Canton men and made their homes in Canton after marriage. School teacher Mary moved to Gardner, Massachusetts, and Jane (Hammant) lived in Medfield, Massachusetts. Calm and sunny dispositions must have been family trait, for Elizabeth (Estey) Spooner comments on the serenity of her grandmother, Mary Blake (Randall) Estey and of her Aunts Julia, Mary, and Jane. She also recalls that Julia wrote very competently, including poetry. Clara, married in 1852 to Alanson Bullock, a dentist, was a wonderful person -- a real "Yankee". She used to walk the 4 miles from Ponkapoag (in Canton) where she had done some dressmaking, to her home on Pleasant Street. Her grandniece, Faustina Shaw Jennison, remembers her as a "beautiful dressmaker". Clara often stopped enroute to visit her brother Herbert and niece Bessie with whom she would have supper and spend the night.

* She also had \$40 per year allowance for a janitor and used her older pupils for this work.

Willard and Mary's (Blake) children were variously complected. Herbert, as mentioned, was blond and fair with blue eyes; Mary had similar coloring; Elijah had reddish hair and fair skin. Julia, Jane , Clara and Willard had dark hair and were all of darker complexion as was their mother. Family comment states that the "dark Esteys were the smart ones".

As previously noted, Willard's (37) occupation was that of blacksmith and hardware craftsman. His granddaughter Elizabeth Estey Spooner recalls his being a carpenter in addition. She also retells stories told by her father, Herbert, of the long walks taken by his father, Willard, to Boston. He took along a pocketful of raisins to sustain him. Of her grandmother, she remembers her sitting in a chair, dressed in black, with a lace cap upon her head. She had dark, thin hair, which was still black at her death in 1896. Her family interested her deeply. She was well-read and kept up with current events.⁽¹⁾

She owned a parlor organ which was left to her daughter Julia who, in turn, gave it to Herbert Blake Estey. He sold it for \$5.00 to his sister Harriet Louise and after Harriet's marriage to Charles H. Gelpke, it became part of their household furnishings. Its use (after Harriet's death and Charles' remarriage to Julia Hall) by many children led to its destruction.

Canton Town Reports list Willard's death on December 3, 1875, 66 years, 7 months, 4 days, born in Canton, (of) Congestion (probably pneumonia).

(1) "Canton Journal", May 15, 1896

A letter from Elijah Henry Estey to his Mother Mary Blake (Randall) Estey:

Falmouth, Va. Dec. 24, 1862

Dear Mother

I now have a few spare moments and I will now improve them by writing to you. The reason that I have not wrote before we were gone from camp four or five. We crosed over into Fredricksburg and our folks had fight. It was a verry hevvy battle. Our lost was very large. We lost about 10,000 killed and wounded and the rebels about half. We had to come back this side doble quick. Our regiment was the last regiment over. We tolk up the bridge. The rebels did not know that we left the place til morning. If they had known that we were leaving they would have shelled and cut us all to pieces. We worked very still. The 18 Mass. reg was all cut up. We left it in the rite time. The Bridegedier General that we are under now his name is Christe he seems to be quite pleasant. Whare we do picket duty now we can talk with the Rebels. The rebels say that we can not whip them. And I begin to think so. It seems tough to destroy property in the manner we did in Fredricksburg. Great nice houses torn down with all the furniture in them. All the women and children of the city had to leave. I got all the stuff that I could lug off. I got about ten (?) pounds of tobacco if I had any way to get the stuff off I could have got two or three hundred dollars wirth of stuff. I begin to be sick of the war and wish it was settled up. But I dont think it ever will by fighting. I suppose that Julia was fat as ever and Clara must be quite a large girl and I suppose that White Head is skating every chance he can get he must be careful and not get in the ice is not very strong yet. The other day there was a rebel tried to desert and come over in our camp and the river was not frose enough to bear him so the poor fellow drowned. They desert every day and come over into our lines. What do the folks think about the war to home? I suppose they think it look dark. I can not think of any more to write news. Write and tell me all of the news and give my respects the folks that inquire after me my love to the children and accept a large share yourself. This is from your son Elijah H. Estey. Write soon.*

* Elijah's brother, Herbert Lester (?)



Harriet Louise Gay Estey



Sarah (Sally) Williamson (Gay)

(Holmes) 1816 - 1900



Sarah Gay Gay

ELIJAH HENRY ESTEY (1841 - 1903)

Elijah (41), eight generations from Jeffrey of Freston, Suffolk, England, was born in Plimpton, Massachusetts, August 3, 1841. His parents settled in Canton, Massachusetts, on Pleasant Street, in the 1850's and Elijah from that time on lived his life, with the exception of his military service, and raised his family within one-half mile of that location until his death in 1903.

When twenty years old, he enlisted in the Grand Army of the Republic, was for three years a private in Company G, 29th Massachusetts Infantry, and became acting second lieutenant at the end of the War. In 1862 his father Willard received \$6.56 from the Town of Canton as "Relief of the families of Volunteers Who Have Been Mustered into U. S. Service"⁽¹⁾. In 1863 a similar payment of \$8.43 was made. He married Harriet Louise Gay on January 14, 1864, in Sharon, Massachusetts, with the Reverend Perley Davis officiating. She was the daughter of John Gay, Jr. and Sarah (Willimson) Gay of Canton and Marshfield, Massachusetts, respectively.

Elijah and Harriet set up house at 1030 Pleasant Street, Canton, just across the street from his father's home. Apparently they rented the house, for the Tax Lists of 1868 charge Elijah only for a poll and some livestock. In 1882 he is still not taxed for the house, but is assessed for 3 horses, swine, and 7 acres of Atherton Woodland. Elijah must have fared well for in 1890 his brother Herbert, who was a contractor and builder, erected the homestead or homeplace for him at 1115 Pleasant Street on land purchased from the Wentworths.

As a veteran of the Civil War, Elijah was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, Post No. 94 (Canton). His eight-year service to the town as Highway Surveyor was in the family tradition, for Joseph (13) and Isaac, his grandfathers of generations before, held similar posts in the Towns of Canton and Topsfield, Massachusetts. Elijah's eldest son, Henry, did similar public service in the City of Malden, Massachusetts over a term of almost 40 years, and was honored by having a street named for him.

(1) Canton Town Report - 1862

During Elijah's lifetime, he earned his living by teaming, snow removal, hauling, and dealing in posts, fence rails, and charcoal. In Town Reports of Canton, his accounts as Highway Surveyor are recorded, e.g., in the report of 1885 he handled \$615 in expenses for highway work. His services of 39-8/10 days were paid for at \$1.75 per day -- the use of his horse and cart for 96-1/2 days were billed at \$1.50 per day. Two of Elijah's sons, John and George, were employed at \$1.50 and \$1.25 per day.

Elijah and Harriet had a family of ten children:

(48) Henry Willard, born May 26, 1865, died 1949, married Etta Atkins in 1892; she died in 1899.

(49) John Gay, born 1866, died 1934, married 1) Flora Badger, in 1893; she died 1923, married 2) Bessie Riford

(50) George Adelbert*, born December 15, 1868, died August 15, 1947, married Annie Law, March 9, 1888

(51) Amos Holmes, born 1871, died 1955; married Mary Amanda Good; she died 1937

(52) Hartford Ernest, born 1872, died 1957, married Elizabeth Bevins in 1893

(53) Susan, born October 5, 1874; died August 10, 1960, married John Shaw

(54) Earl Gannet, born 1876; died 1954

(55) Frederick Wilbur, born July 26, 1878; died 1959, married Gratia Currier

(56) Maude Irving, born 1880, died 1929, married William Gardner

(57) Otis Warren, born 1883, died 1887

* Direct Line of Karl Gelpke

Elijah's account books* for the years 1891, 1892 and 1897 through 1902 provide a detailed view of the family business he operated with his sons, using extra hired hands when needed. In 1900, for example, he produced 220 cords of firewood @ \$3.00, 1100 sleepers and 57 poles for the Blue Hill Electric Railroad, 600 baskets of charcoal @ 22¢, 10,500 feet of pine lumber, hundreds of poles and posts of various sizes and many feet of box logs. Much of the timber used was from his own woodlots, but he did purchase additional stocks. Equally important to the business was the offering of men, teams and wagons for coal hauling, general hauling, plowing, mowing, haying, gravel and sand hauling, building and household moving and road work. Elijah's customers included The Lexington Print Works; The Kinsley Iron Works; Revere Copper Company; American Tool Company in Hyde Park (Boston suburb); Sayles Bleachery, Saylesville, Rhode Island; Glenlyon Dyeworks; New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad; Eureka Silk Mill; and the Town of Canton, Massachusetts. Reference is made in the 1891 journal to an ice house and in 1892 to a mill -- both Elijah's property.

In 1900 Elijah's sons John, Hartford, Amos and Fred ranged in age from 34 to 22 and worked for their father as did hired men Leavitt, David, Joe and Jack. These men were paid \$1.50 per day, often in goods such as a 128 pound pig for \$10.24, eggs at 25¢ per dozen, bread at 10¢, potatoes at 30¢ per peck, an axe at 87¢ and milk at 6¢ a quart. At this time plank-bottom kitchen chairs sold for 39¢ and a mans wool suit was available from Sears catalog from \$4.49 to \$11.35 for the finest.

Elijah charged \$2.00 per day for their hire. A man and a horse were available for \$3.50 per day, while a man and 2 horses cost \$5.00 a day. Leisure for the men was rare and confined to Sundays, which was family visiting day, holidays and stormy days, short August beach stays at Hough's Neck, Quincy and a yearly visit to the October Cattle Show held in Brockton, Massachusetts.

* Property of Robert Shaw, Canton, Massachusetts, grandson of Elijah

In September, 1892, "Elijah and John went to Washington to attend the National Encampment of the G.A.R.". Harriet writes of a dance held in the Homestead on Saturday, February 14, 1891. On Thanksgiving Day, 1891, "Henry, Hart, Susie, Father and I went to Sharon to the dance - had a fine time." The day before Christmas, 1891 was "stormy - at home all day to work on the Christmas Log."

Included in the journals were references to deaths: Sarah Williamson (Gay) Holmes, February 24, 1900; Jane Hammant (Elijah's sister), November 19, 1899; Abijah Tisdale (Harriet Louise's uncle), March 11, 1898; Earle Gannett, August 13, 1898 (Harriet's father's brother-in-law); Etta Atkins Estey (Henry's (48) wife, July 13, 1899. The birth of Harriet Louise Estey, daughter of George and Annie, is recorded for Thursday, October 22, 1891 at "10 o'clock".

Thanksgiving and Christmas Days were recognized by a short, eloquent "all at home". The women of the family were not mentioned but who can doubt their efforts to feed and clothe their hardworking men. Family stories tell of Elijah rising early in the morning to start the wood stove. Harriet Louise then got up to bake bread for the men's breakfasts. It is clear that in the journal Harriet Louise is making some entries, for references to "father" and to "me" as well as change in handwriting reveal a change in the diarist. However, Elijah writes the greater part to its conclusion in November of 1902. He died in September, 1903 as a result of cancer of the rectum which started by a bruise caused by his falling on a stump. Family lore says that raw beefsteak was tried as a remedy for the injury. Later Elijah and Harriet are said to have travelled widely seeking a cure. None was found to alleviate his suffering of 2 to 3 years prior to his death.

Harriet Louise (Gay) Estey was born in Canton, Massachusetts July 1, 1844 at 431 Bolivar Street. She was the daughter of John Gay, Jr. and Sarah (Williamson) Gay and the granddaughter of Colonel John Gay and Susanna (Gay) Gay. She went to school at the Sherman School, Pleasant Street, Canton, and also attended in Sharon, Massachusetts. Her father,

John Gay, Jr.⁽¹⁾ died in 1851 at the age of 32 when Harriet was seven years old, and her mother, Sarah, remarried (Enoch Holmes, died 1860). At times during her youth she lived with cousin "Susie" Tisdale on Bay Road in Easton, Massachusetts and it was at this time that she attended Sharon Academy. Her marriage to Elijah took place in the Tisdale homestead on Mountain Street, Sharon near the Tisdale cemetery. After her school years, she entered the employ of the Messinger Brothers, in Canton. Her obituary, entered in the "Canton Journal" following her death, November 5, 1922, attests to her popularity. She outlived her husband by nineteen years. Those who knew her personally say that her dominant, active personality well complemented her more retiring, kindly, good-natured, fine-principled husband, Elijah. She was interested in old things, and was particularly proud of a sideboard⁽²⁾ and clock that were in the family. She was very religious, knew the Bible well, and quoted it frequently. However, she seldom attended church, although she was brought up a Baptist. She is remembered by a granddaughter (Faustina Shaw Jennison) as a hard worker, no-nonsense type of person, who ran her home with a firm hand. She was a pretty woman, short of stature, with long, curly hair she often braided. Patchwork quilts made by Harriet prove her ability as a seamstress. Much of her energy in later years was spent in caring for her emotionally-disturbed, physically-deformed son, Earl Gannett Estey (54).

The diary of John Gay, Jr., Harriet Louise's father, spans nearly 13 years of his brief life. It was started in February, 1839 two months after his 19th birthday with a heading that shows he was living at home in Canton, Massachusetts with his parents and sister Susan. It ends pathetically three weeks before his death barely a month before his 32nd birthday and eight months after his father's sudden and shocking death on February 8, 1851. Colonel John Gay had been an important man in town and the admiration of his son John for "Father" is clearly evident in his

(1) John Gay, Jr.'s diary covering the period February 3, 1839 to September 24, 1851 is property of Mr. Robert Shaw of Canton, Massachusetts

(2) Became the property of son George Adelbert who later sold it to Winroth's in Stoughton - antique dealers.

diary. His mother, Susanna, is mentioned a single time whereas every page has multiple entries concerning his work for and with his father*. Son John's personal life story contains a first reference to Sarah Williamson (his future wife) on September 28, 1839 when he "carried her home to Scituate." He writes of his marriage to Sarah on a stormy Sunday (November 22, 1839). His close friend Asabel Allen, his sister Susan and Sarah's sister Mary "went with us." They "commenced house keeping in Stoughton" in "what used to be the old Methodist House" (now No. 1829 Central Street, Stoughton, Massachusetts) but spent their first Thanksgiving - "myself and wife at father's." On February 24, 1843, "my wife had a Son Born and it was dead" and in November of that year they moved to Canton, Massachusetts "to my own house near my father." At this time John started fitting boots but continued his wood cutting and hiring out activities. His daughter Harriet Louise Gay (wife of Elijah (41) of this story) was born Monday, July 1, 1844, "my wife ... a daughter Born about 8 o'clock ... she weighed 5 lbs. 14 ounces." His pride in the child speaks through his October 1 entry - "my girl is three months old and weights 11½ pounds." On Friday, June 26, 1846, the second daughter Sarah Eldora was born - "My Wife had a daughter Born a bout half past 6 O. C. this morning weighed 9 pounds." Their last child Abigail Davenport was born on a stormy Tuesday, June 20, 1848, and weighed 7¼ lbs.

John Gay, Jr. was observant and sensitive to the world around him. He writes of the religious sect Millerites, of family baptism in Southworth's pond; of his own meeting attendance and of revival activities in surrounding towns; Local news, gossip and deaths are noted by him; prices and the state of the local economy receive his attention; his travels to Marshfield, Scituate, Boston, Dedham and Brockton are commented upon. Town Meetings are faithfully attended and reported. His gunning, clamming, cold water picnics are interspersed with his journal of work done for various people including his relatives. The recording of the coming of new boarders at

* Actually his step-father, i.e. from Col. John Gay's Will Feb. 9, 1828 "—John Gay, Jun, son of my wife Susan Gay— born prior to my intermarriage with said Susan —."

his and Sarah's house is dutifully done including arrival of Enoch Holmes (who is to marry Sarah upon John's death). All this is placed against a daily comment on the weather, "Remarkable fine - a Butiful day" - some 4000 such comments over the diary period. But tragedy strikes through the story of daily life. John is the victim of "Demon Rum" and struggles through temperance meetings and anguished resolutions to break the hold - "Earl split my Rum and I got mad at him. Forever. So help me God" - (September 1849). "I stopped drinking rum," (February 1849) - "I stopped Drink Rum Friday Last," (April 1850). His handwriting deterioration reveals much of the battle. His father's crushing death in February, 1851, essentially closes the diary - "Sunday 9 Stormy - My father was found dead about 4 hours it is expected to be a disease of the hart. Tuesday 11 pleasant - I attended the funeral of my father he was put in the tomb for a few weeks." John's numb comments and the tortured handwriting hinted of impending and final disaster. The last entry of September 24, 1851, precedes his death by a mere three weeks. Harriet was seven years old, and the impact of her father's drunken death made her an outspoken opponent of alcohol throughout her life.

As already told, Elijah and Harriet had ten children, nine of whom grew to maturity.

Henry (48) was a "wonderful, even tempered, generous man" but was frugal with himself. he spent forty years in service as City Civil Engineer for the City of Malden, Massachusetts and in appreciation the city named a street for him. It is said that he left the contents of his predecessor's desk untouched in the belief that these papers were not his to disturb. His mother recorded his weekly Sunday visit home with a diary note, but his marriage to Etta Atkins in 1892 received a very short reference - "Henry married today." Etta's name, etched with her diamond ring remains on one of the south windows of the "big room" in the homestead, 1115 Pleasant Street, Canton, Massachusetts. Henry and Etta had two sons before her early death in 1899. Allan, who married Daisy Smith and lives (1973) in West Harwich, Massachusetts, has five children. Leon, the second son who married Marietta _____ (died 1952) and in 1953 married Helen Wetzel, lives in

Canton, Massachusetts on Pleasant Street, near the Canton/Stoughton town line and has no children.

John (49) was short of stature, powerful, honest and peppery. He was his father's right-hand man and took over his father's business upon his death in 1903, later becoming foreman of road construction for Reynolds Brothers of Canton. He was active in the Masons, Odd Fellows and Son's of Union Veterans and was a member of the Canton Historical Society, the Grange and the Universalist Church. In his career he served as Chairman of the Board of Registrars for the town of Canton and as President of the Canton Cooperative Bank. He had no children.

George* (50), who married Annie Law, will receive attention in the next section of this story.

Amos (51) was a hard working, frugal, more serious than George, John, and Henry. In 1886 he graduated from the Eliot (Grammar) School. He raised hens and sold eggs. The depression of 1929/1930 caused him financial loss. He married Amanda Good, and had three sons: Joseph, Charles and Arthur.

Fred (55) was a big, tall man, "hot-peppery" and honest. He lived on Central Street, Stoughton, Massachusetts, and married Gratia Carrier. They had three children: Sally, Bradford Gay and Russell.

Maude (56) was a lovely person - mild, frail, thin, retiring and large framed. She married William Gardner in 1909 and had William and Richard. She died in 1929 of nephritis. William and Maude lived in the homestead until her death, and shortly afterward Henry (Elijah's brother) bought it and the associated land for taxes. He then, of his own choice, paid off the other heirs proportionately on the basis of the total assessed valuation of the property. Henry's sons Allen and Leon inherited it from their father and Allen then bought out Leon. Allan disposed of the property by selling the

* direct line

homestead and three acres to Faustina (Shaw) and her husband Carl Jennison in 1947, and the remainder of the land to A. A. Will for \$9000.

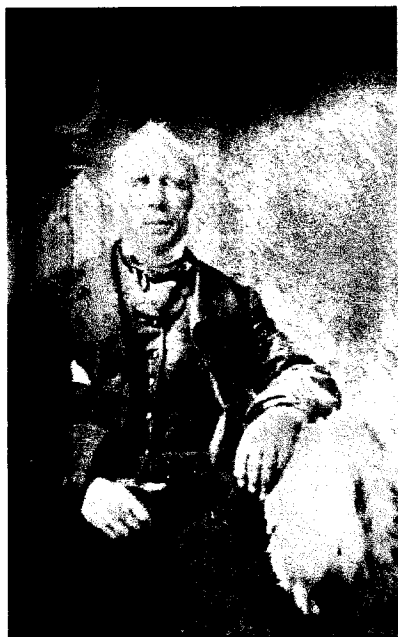
Otis (57) died young of "membranous croup", i.e. diphtheria. His only mark on the flow of family history is his mother Harriet's entry in Elijah's 1897 journal - "Otie died 10 years ago today."

Hartford (52), known as Hart (and originally named Arthur), worked for his father in the 1890's and later became a letter carrier. He was the only one of Elijah and Harriet's children that graduated from High School - 1889 English course. Elizabeth Bevins and he were married in 1893 and had five children: Avis, Hazel, Florence, Anna and Otis.

Susan (53) was good-living, strict like her mother and was widowed in 1910 when her husband, John Shaw, died. They had three children: Fred, born 1896; Faustina, born 1900; Robert, born 1909 who were 14, 10, and 1 at the time of their father's death. Susan worked hard to bring up the children and did blanket binding at the Silk Mill. She had pep, was lots of fun and always welcomed their neighbor's children for card games. Fred did not marry. Faustina married Carl Jennison and had Lillian, John, Phyllis, Eleanor, Russell, and Susan. Robert married Ruth Withington and had Carol, Judith, Dorothy and Nancy. As of this writing Faustina lives in her grandfather Elijah's homestead at 1115 Pleasant Street. Robert and Ruth live at 1167 Pleasant Street, Uncle John's home, and Fred at 1159 Pleasant Street in his mother Susan's former home.

Earl (54) had measles when young (one to one-and-a-half years), walked at eight to ten years old, was half paralyzed, could understand but could not talk (said bya, dyah, and fuff, fuff). He was the brunt of jokes by cousins -- Ned gave him a piece of chewing tobacco, which Earl swallowed, making him sick. Maude became his guardian upon her mother Harriet's death in 1922. Susan took up this responsibility in 1929 until Earl's death in 1954.

As this is written in 1973 many of Elijah's and Harriet's great and great-great grandchildren are living and pursuing interesting and useful lives. It is regretted that space and time restrictions make it impossible to extend this story to include them, but this pleasant task we pass to individual families to undertake.



William Law



Elizabeth McLean Law



George Adelbert Estey



Annie Law Estey



Annie Law Estey
Herbert Blake Estey
Harriet Louise Estey



George Adelbert Estey
Annie Law Estey



Annie Law Estey



Annie Law Estey

GEORGE ADELBERT ESTEY (1868-1947)

George Adelbert was born in Canton, Massachusetts on December 15, 1868. On March 9, 1889 he married Annie Law of Folly Village (Glenholm), Nova Scotia, who was born August 3, 1861. She was the daughter of William Law and Elizabeth (MacLean)* and spent her early childhood on a 100-acre farm, through which flowed Folly River. In the river were huge, flat stones worn by the rushing water of centuries. Trout was plentiful and easily caught with a bent pin fish hook. In the waters she washed wool, which with geese the family raised, was bartered in the town for other goods. When she was 14 years old, she came to Canton, Massachusetts with a cousin, John Wetherbee; and, in the following 13 years, prior to her marriage to George Adelbert Estey, worked in the silk mills in Canton and Lowell. Her native talent for sewing and dressmaking was turned to making clothes for the children of the Oliver family of Canton (corner of Jackson and Neponset Streets) and, later in her married life, was used to clothe her own children.

Several of Annie's immediate family came to Canton/Sharon area -- her sisters Isabel and Charlotte Adelaide Johnson, and her parents, William and Elizabeth. In the 1880's the home farm was sold to a Mr. Morrison for a mere \$300 and collection of this sum was bungled by one of the Law cousins. After the sale, William and Elizabeth came to Canton and set up a boarding house at the corner of Rockland and Washington Streets, but William was not able to adjust to this change and finally went back to Nova Scotia, where he boarded and spent his final years. Elizabeth ran the boarding house until the early 1890's, finally giving it up to stay with daughter Isabel, after her husband Christian's (Trites) death. Elizabeth also had a short stay with Annie (Law) and George Adelbert after their marriage on March 9, 1889, just before Annie's twenty-eighth birthday, on August 3rd.

* The MacLean name is Scots in origin and derives from a famous Celtic warrior. The powerful clan which adopted the name and the holly badge has been seated in "The Duart Castle", a massive tower on the edge of a high cliff on the coast of Mull near Oban. The clan supported the Stewart cause.

George and Annie had five children:

(58) Herbert Blake, born February 12, 1890, married Ruth Jennison

They had 3 children: Mildred Josephine, Elsie Ruth, Marjorie Rigby

(59) Harriet Louise, born October 22, 1891, Married Charles Henry Gelpke

They had 2 children: Karl and Paul

(60) Elsie Gertrude, born July 7, 1895, Married Harold Pratt - No children

(61) Edward Ross, born April 24, 1899, Married Melinda Gillingham, He died in 1924 - No children

(62) Elijah Henry, born August 30, 1901, married Elizabeth "Doety" MacInulty - They had 4 children: Edward Andrew, William Herbert, Elizabeth Ann, Sandra Jean

Their first home of several in Canton was on Pleasant Street near Beaver Dam Brook -- here Herbert Blake, the first of the grandchildren of Elijah and Harriet, was born. They were to make several moves to locations Bolivar, Pleasant and Washington Streets -- all within one mile of another and also within a mile of the homesteads of five preceding generations of Esteys.

One of the moves, to the Horace Guild, Jr. place at 375 Pleasant Street, was made in 1908 and was for the purpose of providing more room for the dairy business being run by George with the aid of the family. Here he had ten cows and five horses and operated the farm which he leased for five years for \$15 per month. George gave up his dairy, selling out to Charles French, as the children became older and sought out other means of livelihood. Herbert, or Bert, his eldest, began work for the post office in 1907 and became a permanent carrier in 1911. George and those of his family who were not married then moved back to 964 Pleasant Street in 1913. Here

George went to plowing, grading and teaming as a business. Later he sold nursery stock for Chase Brothers of New York. He also worked as an assistant foreman at the Springdale Finishing Company. In his later years he sold fish which he obtained in the Boston wholesale markets. Annie used her sewing and knitting talent both to earn money and to clothe the children. She made braided rugs, mittens and stockings. In earlier years she assembled cardigan jackets for Jim Meadows, who had knitted them in a small factory at the rear of his house opposite Sherman School. The children picked up and delivered the materials. George and Annie were good parents and were strict, yet fair and affectionate. George, like his father Elijah, his bother John, and his son Ned (Edward) had a fiery temper on occasion. He was of medium stature and reddish blond complexion. He was a good handler of men and was foreman for Byam's Express for several years. Annie was an excellent manager and worked with husband George as a team. He liked poetry. She was smart, bright, perceptive*, wrote a good letter, was a reader and good speller - liked to sing "Beautiful Dreamer". She made short work of pedlars. Her family was never hungry and was well clothed, although money was tight.

Of the children's traits, these are of interest:

Bert was a hard worker, sang well and had a talent for acting in amateur theatricals.

Elsie was retiring, had an excellent memory and did very well in school.

Hat (Harriet) was at ease in a crowd and enjoyed a good time, had taken piano lessons and played expertly by ear. She liked to sing. She was a worker in fancy needle work and made a patch work quilt when a young girl - she had fun dressing up. She was a good reader, wrote poetry, did well in school and was generous. Her eyes were hazel and her chestnut hair was tightly curled.

* She was an excellent card player into her 90's.

Ned was quick-tempered, lively, and in frail health due to an attack of rheumatic fever he had as a child. He enlisted in the Navy in World War I and was discharged for his infirmity. He later enlisted in the Army and was in Providence, Rhode Island when the Armistice was signed in 1918.

Elijah, the youngest, was good-natured and lively as a young man.

Bert got along well with Hat and Elsie, but in later years, due to Hat's being four years Elsie's senior, they had little in common. Hat and Bert went to dancing school together.

"The House", as the homestead at 1115 Pleasant Street was called, was the center of much activity involving George, Annie, and their family. Bert was given a guest room on the southeast corner of the second floor and occupied it with satisfaction on many weekends. The house was built by his great uncle in the early 1890's and its large dining room, twenty-one feet long, was the scene of square dances on weekends and the location of the family Thanksgiving celebration, which included forty-two adults and children on one particular occasion. The women cooked the vegetables and served them with guinea hen, goose, or duck raised on the farm. The grown-ups were served at one table - the children at another. Chicken soup was always the first course -- plum pudding and pies the last.

Christmas was an "at home" day for George, Annie and the family. All gathered for Christmas Eve and Aunt Ella (Holmes) helped them trim the tree after the children were in bed. Those who lived out of town stayed over night and those who went home came back the next day for Christmas dinner. Anecdotes are many in the Estey clan and are well told by Herbert in a natural raconteur style. He tells with glee of Elijah "bombing" Ned, blond hair, white shirt, and all, with ripe tomato from one hundred feet. Bert's testing of even tempered grandfather Elijah's patience by throwing stones at chickens concludes on a note of respect and with switched ankles.

His reminiscences of Uncle Earl's escapades with telephone repairmen, hurdy-gurdy players, and a mouthful of horseradish are hilarious. Earl's infirmities, physical appearance (he was difficult to shave), and inability to talk intelligibly made strangers and some members of the family afraid of him. A luckless telephone repairman was "treed" by Earl while he was working on a pole. It is said that the poor fellow decided to stay aloft for hours rather than meet Earl any closer. In another episode, Earl's father, Elijah, knowing of Earl's fondness for hurdy-gurdy music, arranged for a performance for Earl in the front yard of the big house. Everything seemed to be going well until Earl arrived pell-mell on the scene. His pleasure and enthusiasm expressed in cries and the waving of arms convinced the hurdy-gurdy player that he was playing for a wild man and he left in haste. Though protected and disciplined by his mother, Earl became the brunt of many practical jokes by his brothers, sisters, and cousins. Getting Earl to gulp down a spoonful of horseradish and then watch his behavior is one of the family classics.

George's and Annie's family were always ready for a game of croquet or baseball and visitors found the activities in full swing during summer evenings. A picnic at Hemlock Spring in Stumpy Grove (on the Reservoir) was also an annual summer event. Grandmother Harriet Louise owned the Spring property until her death.

George broke his hip in 1937 while reaching from a stepladder to wash the roof of his car. He died in 1947 of pneumonia. Annie outlived him seven years and died April 12, 1954 at the age of 92.

Harriet Louise Estey (Gelpke) 1891-1918

Harriet Louise was the oldest daughter and the second child of George Adelbert Estey and Annie MacLean (Law). She was born at 365 Bolivar Street, Canton, Massachusetts, on October 22, 1891 and was named after her grandmother, Harriet Louise (Gay) Estey. Early in her childhood, she received the pet name of "Hat" and was always so called by her family and friends. Her early childhood was interwoven with moves of her parents, as has been related, visits to her grandmother Estey, and growing up with her brothers and sisters. She completed grammar school at the Eliot School where she was remembered by a teacher, Honora Cronin, who later (1924) taught her sons Karl and Paul. Her first job was at Upham's Shoe Factory in Stoughton, Massachusetts, which she reached by taking a train from Canton's Springdale Station. This proved too tiring for her feet and she then took up the care of the children of a Richardson family on Sherman Avenue. Later she was employed by Draper Brothers, who manufactured woolen felts. She then went further from home to Boston, where she worked as a book clerk at R. H. White's and "lived in" at the Franklin Square House, a well-known rooming house for young women of that and later times. It is recalled by "Hat's" sister, Elsie, that at one time she boarded upstairs in the house owned by her future in-laws, William and Louisa Gelpke, at 24 Elmo (Ellington Street) in Dorchester, Massachusetts, a part of Boston. (The upstairs was occupied by William and Madge (Healy) Gelpke. William was the eldest of William's and Louisa's three living sons, William Richardson, Herbert Ades, and Charles Henry.)

During a family stay at 375 Pleasant Street (the old Horace Guild place, present (1973) John Carroll place), she met the Ernest Guild children: Amelia, Gertrude, Helen, and Jones, and became fast friends and a frequent visitor to their home just across the street. It is this socializing that led to her meeting Charles H. Gelpke, who had a camp with a group of friends called the "Stoughton Boys". The camp located on the shore of the Reservoir Pond, on Ernest Guild land, which ran from Pleasant Street to the Reservoir Pond shore. Charles and Harriet were married on Thanksgiving day, November 29, 1913, in the Ruggles Street Baptist Church, in Boston, Massachusetts. By coincidence his father and mother had also married Thanksgiving day 35



Harriet Louise Estey Gelpke

years earlier. The newly married couple honeymooned and then set up housekeeping in South Boston, Massachusetts at Norwell Street. They spent their summers at Charles' camp on the Reservoir and it was in the fall of 1914 that their first son, Karl Adelbert*, was born on October 2. Family lore has it that when her time for delivery was near she walked from the camp across the woods and fields, perhaps one-quarter of a mile, to the home of Lola Capper, 448 Pleasant Street, who acted as midwife -- and just in time. Karl was the first born grandchild of George and Annie and in this privileged position was the object of much attention. The following letter written to her friend Amelia Guild by Harriet Louise, probably in January 1917, gives a glimpse of a post Christmas abundance of toys for Karl.

789 Third St.
South Boston

Dear Amelia -,

We received your letter and was very glad to hear from you, also that you liked the little caps. You must have had a very nice Christmas, judging from your letter.

We also had a fine time, but as you say the kids get everything and we are kind of in the cold. Karl had a tie, silk stockings, a puff for his crib, a big engine and a coal car, that he rides his stuffed cat on, a very large steam boat that I fall over every time I walk, a fire engine, watch, book, a dog, a horse and cart, a wheel-barrow, a clown that stands on his head, a large cart so that I can take him to see you this summer and some money, so you can see he fared pretty well, and if you could see me trying to navigate through that kitchen without being run over by at least two of these you would be glad that Santa only comes once a year. I am writing with this pencil because my son took a notion to write Santa Clause with my pen, and now it is sadly bent. I pity you when yours grow up, for with two like Karl, you will have to write with a tooth pick. I fared pretty well for an old lady, a pair of silk slippers and a cap that would completely take you by storm, and I guess I'll have to go on parade with them, a pretty coat hanger, a cut-glass dish, an apron, handkerchief, a pretty scarf, a picture and some money. Wish you

could come in some day and see me, would be glad to have you.

Remember me to all the folks and wish every body a Happy New Year.

Lovingly,

Hat

P.S.

Write when you can.

Paul Forrest* was born on June 17, 1917 in Canton, Massachusetts, also at the Capper's home. Charles and Harriet lived in South Boston and then moved to 1030 Pleasant Street, Canton, Massachusetts when Charles changed his employment from the Boston Molasses Company in South Boston to Springdale Finishing Company in Canton -- a textile finishing enterprise.

Here he started as a payroll clerk with Harriet assisting him with the work he brought home. Their camp was moved to a lot on the south side of George and Annie's house at 964 Pleasant Street, and was occupied by Charles, Harriet, and the two boys in the summer. It was later moved across the street and used as a garage and storage shed, surviving until 1968 when it was dismantled.

Tragedy, however, was to strike and shatter this young family. The mourning of the Esteys joined that of other bereaved families visited by the "flu" epidemic of 1918. Harriet Louise died suddenly and awfully on September 19, 1918 of influenza-pneumonia. She was 27 years old.

* Selection of the boys' names shows interesting family history -- Karl is Germanic for Charles and chosen early in the World War I Period when the United States was pro-German. Adelbert obviously was Harriet's father's middle name of unknown origin. Paul was selected as a reflection of Charles' high regard for St. Paul. Forrest was the middle name of Edwin Forrest Gelpke, Charles' brother, who died young. It had been chosen by William and Louisa as a tribute to a brilliant American Shakespearian actor of the times -- Edwin Forrest.

The trials of Charles and his two sons prior to his remarriage to Julia Sarah Hall on August 20, 1922 are not really part of the Estey story and, therefore, must await the telling.

EPILOGUE

And so we have concluded our story of one line of the Esteys, spanning almost four centuries, with its beginning in Tudor, England and its conclusion in the United States, in the decade man sets foot on the moon. The family has produced vicars, ministers, deacons, tradesmen, farmers, weavers, coopers, engineers, doctors, executives, professors, educators, and musicians. It produced those who simply observe the passing years and whose only contributions to society was the sustenance and maintenance of a family, those who wandered far from familiar places into the unknown in search of liberty, land, opportunity, adventure; those whose monument is the bettering of the place through which they passed and the society in which they participated.

And what motivates a person to spend time over a period of some twenty years to compile such a story? Perhaps "it provides a vicarious journey into the past by way of family ties which are really extensions of oneself;" or perhaps it is history of a personal kind which excites the imagination or expands the mind; or perhaps it is an effort to ensure the preservation of the life story of worthy people. Perhaps, also, it is a response to a tug of tender roots which work mysteriously on one's presence in an area familiar to generations of his ancestors.

From 1923 to 1937, your author spent his "growing up years" with his father, Charles Henry Gelpke and his second wife, Julia Sarah Hall, at 432 Pleasant Street, Canton Massachusetts. These were peaceful, memorable years with field, meadow, lake and forest spread out around us as our playground. The serenity, fragrance, and abundance of this land seemed peculiarly right and even vaguely familiar. It was only later that I learned that it was on these same acres that Joseph Estey had set up his homestead in the early 1700's as a new settler. These same stone walls and brooks had been my great, great, great, great, great, great grandfather's.

* Robb Sagendorph, Editor of the Farmer's Almanac and Yankee Magazine -- this quotation from his book "America and Her Almanacs."

And then I, like some of the others in our story, travelled 1000 miles to seek my fortune in the Carolinas, returning after a decade with my wife, Amanda, and four children: Paul, Robert, Ann and Catherine. This time Sharon, Massachusetts became our home and, when it celebrated its bicentennial in 1965, we were recognized as members of one of the original families -- again the Estys -- and this time, Benjamin, who participated in the founding of the Church in then second Precinct of Stoughton, in 1740.

These subtle "familiarities" then lure one to expand his knowledge of "his" people and of the times which they lived.

OTHER ESTEY FAMILY LINES

There are other lines of the Estey family which have produced worthy and useful citizens. We have not done an all inclusive search on these, but have visited the following which represent major branches of the family:

John Cushing Esty of Sunderland, Massachusetts

Mary Chilton Esty Frenning Sherman of Washington, D.C.

John C. Esty's forbears are the same as related in the first portions of this story, but he traces back to Edward (17), son of Joseph (2) and Jane, rather than to son Joseph (13). Reference is made to Edward (17) in our text. He married Elizabeth Stearns, daughter of Deacon Isaac and Elizabeth Stearns, probably in 1718. Four of their children died in January and February, 1738, but the line was carried by Steward, born June 18, 1730 in Stoughton, Massachusetts. He married Abigail Davenport (born November 11, 1730) in Bridgewater, Massachusetts and their seven children, born between 1752 and 1766, included David, born September 11, 1766. Steward and Abigail lived for a time in Sutton, Massachusetts, and it is here that David married Mercy Hicks, daughter of Zachariah and Elizabeth (Davenport) Hicks, his own cousin. They married June 26, 1794, and settled of the Daniel Farr farm. He became a successful dairy farmer and brought his mother to live with him in her declining years. She is buried in North Cemetery in Sutton, Massachusetts. The Esty name is perpetuated in this town by the locality known as Esty Hill.

David and Mercy had two children, Isaac and Clarissa. Isaac was born on April 24, 1796 at Sutton; and when he was 33, he married Anna G. Cole, daughter of Asa Cole. He was an Orthodox Preacher, graduate of Yale, Class of 1821, and of Andover Theological Seminary in 1824. He preached in Maine and Massachusetts.

Isaac and Anna had two children, William Cole and Henry. William was born April 8, 1838. He graduated from Amherst College in 1860 and was a professor of mathematics there after 1865. He married Martha Cushing of Boston on July 18, 1867 and died July 27, 1916.

William and Martha produced four children: William, Thomas, Edward and Robert. William was born July 9, 1868 and graduated from Amherst College in 1889. He married Julia Coy, daughter of Lucien Coy of Bernardston, Massachusetts and Little Rock, on June 14, 1894, and was a professor of Electrical Engineering at the University of Illinois and at Lehigh University. He died July 6, 1928.

William and Julia had three children: William Cole, Lucien Coy, and John Cushing. John was born May 12, 1901, and graduated from Amherst College in 1922. He married Virginia Bellaurie, Daughter of Charles A. Place, Caledonia, New York, on July 24, 1924. From his home in Chappaqua, New York, he worked as an advertising executive in New York City, until 1950, when he removed to Amherst, Massachusetts, and then to Sunderland, Massachusetts in 1962.

John and Virginia have four sons: John Cushing, Jr., David Cameron, Charles Place, and Peter Tuckerman. John, Jr. is Headmaster at Kent School, Connecticut (1970). He compiled the above material in 1967.

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Mary Chilton Esty Frenning Sherman's ancestors are the same as those in our narrative, but branch out with Elijah (30). He was the son of Joseph Esty (23) and Hannah Callahan and was born in Stoughton, Massachusetts (present Canton, Massachusetts) May 10, 1771. His marriage to Sally Winslow Williams of Roxbury, Massachusetts, his westward trek with his family and his death in 1812 have been told. Widow Sally's remarriage to Major Noah Olmstead and her son Joseph's success as a tannery operator are also noted in our story. Joseph Married Mary Selover in 1819. The Selovers were of Dutch origin, settling on Long Island and later moving to New Brunswick, New Jersey, where Mary, daughter of Isaac, was born. Opportunities or the quest for land lured them to Albany, New York, and, finally to Auburn, New York in 1817. Joseph ran his business until 1852, when his son, the Honorable Edward Selover Esty, succeeded him. Joseph lived to be 83 years old, thus showing the trend-to-longevity nature of many of the Esty family.

He left a large estate of \$70,000.

Edward married Amelia Francis Wilgus and, through prudent management of the business, became wealthy and influential. He served several terms as Congressman and died in Boston while on a business trip in 1890. Edward and Amelia had three children: Albert Henry (1847-1910), a graduate of Yale and Heidelberg, Germany; Amelia Wilgus (1850-1914), a graduate of Vassar; Clarence Houghton (1854-1917), a graduate of Cornell and Columbia Law School.

In 1893, Clarence married Rosamand Almeda Field, who was born in Corning, New York, attended and was graduated from Vassar and Cornell. Shortly after their marriage, they moved to Brookline, Massachusetts, where their five children were born: Edward Selover (1893-1964), a graduate of Harvard; Mary Chilton (1897-), a graduate of Vassar; Francis Field (1900-1957), a graduate of Radcliffe; and Geoffrey Winslow (1904-), a graduate of Harvard and Harvard Medical School.

Mary Chilton Estey Frenning Sherman, who supplied the above information, has three children and resides at Chevy Chase, Maryland. Geoffrey Winslow Esty resides at 6 Ober Road, Princeton, New Jersey. Edward Selover was an official in Blackstone Valley Gas and Electric Company, sang in the Glee Club of Providence, Rhode Island, and was an excellent organist.

Mary Chilton characterized the Esteys of her family as shrewd, capable of making money, and of investing it wisely, as having a flair for mechanical invention, and as being deeply interested in music. They were honest and strong on educational accomplishment.

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Estey, Julius Jacob, of Brattleboro, Vermont, born there January 8, 1845, educated in Brattleboro schools and Norwich University: entered in business life with his father in manufacture of Estey Organs and succeeded him as President of the Company at his death; President of Peoples National Bank; Commander of the First Brigade Vermont National Guard; member of the Vermont House of Representatives 1876/7; Senator 1882/3. Married October 29, 1867, Florence Carpenter Gray, daughter of Dr. Henry C. and Jannet (Bullions) Gray of Cambridge, New York, and granddaughter of Reverend Alexander Bullions. Children: Jacob Gray, Julius, Harry, and Guy Carpenter Esty.

Julius Jacob was the son of Jacob of Brattleboro, Vermont, born in Hinsdale, New Hampshire September 30, 1814, died in Brattleboro, Vermont April 15, 1890 -- founder of Estey Organ Company: Representstive 1869/70; Senator; 1872/3; first selectman of town, member of Baptist Church, married May 2, 1837, Desdemonia, daughter of David and Anna (Kendall) Wood.

Jacob of Brattleboro was the son of Isaac of Hinsdale, New Hampshire, born April 7, 1773, died in Hinsdale, New Hampshire December 26, 1834, married Patty Forbes November 26, 1801.

Isaac of Hinsdale was the son of Jacob of Royalston, Massachusetts (?), born August 10, 1744, died November 20, 1829, married March 19, 1772 to Sarah Chamberlin.

HISTORY OF WINDHAM, NEW HAMPSHIRE -- Morrison, Page 527

Esty Family

1. Richard (2), son of John and Betsey (Peabody) of Topsfield, Massachusetts, born Topsfield October 25, 1815, bought Daniel Anderson place of Washington Hay April 1855. He married Clara H., daughter of James and Priscilla (Crowell) Nichols, born Windham September 9, 1833. Children born in Windham (except James N).
2. James N. (3), born June 14, 1853, carpenter, res. Lawrence.
3. Eliza E. (3), born April 27, 1855, married October 7, 1880 to Charles E. Thorne, res. Hudson .
4. Maria (3), born March 11, 1857, married December 29, 1880 to Horace B. Johnson (see Johnson family).
5. Lydia L. (3), born February 24, 1857, married October 29, 1876 to William K. Voles, res. Hudson.
6. Lizzie J. (3), born June 11, 1862.
7. Moody M. (3), born March 2, 1864.
8. Charles I. (3), born May 30, 1866
9. Clara E. (3), born March 2, 1868
10. Laura Z. (3), born September 25, 1871
11. Ivonette R. (3), born April 1, 1874.

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APPENDIX NO. 1

ESTY ENGLISH GENEALOGY

*Jeffrey Estie (Hintlesham and Burstall, Suffolk), born 1515 (?), died 1593

Children:

John, born ____, died 1592, married Mary King December 12, 1583

Edmond, born ____, died 1593, married Rose ____.

William, born ____, died 1558

Thomas, baptized July 19, 1548, died 1611, married Joan Dwight 1611

Richard, born ____, died 1599

Jeffry, baptized April 29, 1550, died 1585, married Bridget Winter January 6, 1580

*Christopher, baptized April 9, 1552, died 1621, married An Arnold May 5, 1586

Ann, born 1567 (?), died ____, married Robert Elfry

*Christopher Eastie, (Freston, Suffolk), born 1552, died 1621, married An Arnold May 5, 1586, she died 1623

Children:

*Jeffrey, born 1587, died 1658, married Margaret Pett 1606 at Freston

An, born 1589, died ____, married George Brett 1615 at Ipswich

Edmund, born 1591, died ____, married Priscilla Runting 1622 at Holbrook

Christopher, born 1592, died 1622, married Mary King

George, baptized December 10, 1694, Freston

Edmund, baptized October 18, 1597, Freston

Elizabeth, baptized June 24. 1601

Thomas, baptized June 23, 1605, Freston, died 1611

* Direct Line

APPENDIX NO. 1 (continued)

ESTY ENGLISH GENEALOGY

*Jeffrey Eastie (Freston, Woolverstone, Suffolk; Salem, Massachusetts, Huntington, Long Island, New York), born 1587, died 1658, married Margaret Pett 1606 at Freston

Children:

Mary, baptized February 16, 1625

*Isaac, baptized November 17, 1628

Catherine, baptized _____

SOURCES:

Freston, Holbrook, Woolverston, and Ipswich St. Nicholas
All of Suffolk County - Parish Register Transcriptions

Will of Jeffrey Estie, Hintlesham, Suffolk 1592

Will of Christopher Eastye, Freston, Suffolk 1621

Will of An Eastye, Holbrook, Suffolk 1622

Will of Edmond Estye, Hintlesham, Suffolk 1592

Notes of Gay Esty Bangs, Manuscript No. 44 Newberry Library, Chicago, Illinois

APPENDIX NO. 2

FRESTON PARISH REGISTER TRANSCRIPTION

BAPTISMS

1594 Dec. 10 George, s. of Christopher Eastie baptized
1597 Oct. 18 Edmund, s. of " " "
1601 Jun. 24 Elizabeth, d. of " " "
1605 Jun. 23 Thomas, s. of " " "
1611 Sep. 1 Jeffrey, and Edmund, sons of Thomas Eastie baptized
1625 Feb. 16 Mary, d. of Jeffrey Eastie baptized
1628 Nov. 17 Isaac, s of " " "

MARRIAGES

1586, May 1, Christopher Eastie and Ann Arnold
1606, May 29, Jeffrey Eastie and Margaret Pet.
1611, June 6 or 8, Thomas Eastie and Joan Dwight

HOLBROOK

1622 Edmund Easty and Priscilla Runting (or Bunting)

WOOLVERSTONE PARISH REGISTER TRANSCRIPTION

1628 Mar. 3 Elizabeth, wife of Robert Esty buried
1635 Jun. 11 Mary, d. of Jeffrey baptized at Chepton (Chepmondisto)
1636 Jun. 5 Mary Minter, servant to Jeffrey Easty buried
1641 Oct. — ——— s. of Jeffrey Eastie baptized at St. Stephens, Ipswich.
(There is no record of such a baptism in October 1641 in St. Stephens)

IPSWICH ST. NICHOLAS PARISH REGISTER TRANSCRIPTION

1615 May 19 George Brett took wife Ann Estye
1638 May 6 Francis, s. of Jeffrey and Elizabeth Estie baptized
1638 Nov. 8 William Arty buried
1640 Aug. 18 A child of Jeffrey Eastie buried
1640 Aug. 22 Elizabeth, wife of Jeffrey Estie buried
1640 Aug. 25 the widower Estie buried
1680 Feb. 13 Jeffrey Easty buried
1682 May 11 Susan, wife of Jeffrey Easta buried
1689 Jun. 23 Mary, the d. of Jeffrey Easty was buried being of St. Helen's Parish
1689 Jul. 21 Jeremiah, s. of Jeremiah Esty of St. Hellen buried
1689 Nov. 14 Susan, d. of Jeffrey Easty of St. Helen
1691 Sep. 29 Elizabeth Easty, widow, buried
1702 Jun. 31 Jeffrey Easty from St. Helens buried

APPENDIX NO. 2 (continued)

MARRIAGE LICENSE BOND

1634 May 24 Walter Eastie, single of Woolverstone, and Elizabeth Courtnall, widow of Ipswich St. Nicholas, by Licence.

(This is probably an error of the Indexer as it would seem more probable that it is the marriage of Jeffrey Estie to his wife Elizabeth.)

BURSTALL

1548 Jul. 19 Thomas, s. of Jeffrey Eastie baptized
1550 Apr. 29 Jeffrey, s. of — Eastie baptized
1552 Apr. 9 Christofer, s. of — Eastie baptized
1558 Dec. 17 William Eastie buried

KERSEY

1592 Feb. 8 Raphe Estys and Margaret Lotton were married

RUSHBROOK

1599 Nov. 13 George Estye and Tryphosa, d. of William Faircloth were married

ERWARTON

1605 Nov. 21 Robert Chamberlain and Elizabeth Estee were married

SAMFORD DEANERY PARISHES SEARCHED FOR THE NAME EASTY, ESTY, ETC.

Belstead 1538-1600
Burstall 1542-1630 (Baptisims and Burials)
Chapel St. Mary 1538-1600
Chattisham 1560-1600
Higham St. Mary 1538-1600
Holbrook 1559-1600
Holton 1538-1600
Raydon 1558-1600
Shotley 1571-1600 (Suffolk Green Books, Indexed)
Sproughton 1540-1600
Stratford St. Mary 1562-1600
Washbrook 1559-1600
Lt. Wenham 1558-1600
Wherstead 1590- 1600
Woolverstone 1539-1600

APPENDIX NO. 2 (continued)

SAMFORD DEANERY PARISHES NOT SEARCHED

Copdock, Register begins 1701
E. Bergholt, Register begins 1653
Erwarton, Register begins 1600
Harkstead, Register begins 1654
Hintlesham, Register begins 1655
Shelley, Register begins 1698
Sutton, Register begins 1645
Tattingstone, Register begins 1654
Gt. Wenham, Register begins 1642

APPENDIX NO. 3

WILL OF JEFFREY ESTIE, PROVED October 12, 1593

(Written December 6, 1592)

John Estye	40 shillings
Edmond Estye	£3 his son, Jeffrey Estye, 20 sh., bedding his daughter, Margerye Estie, 3 sh. 4 p. his daughter, Susan Estye, one bullock
William Estye	£3 his son, John Estye, 6 sh 8 p. at 21 years his son, Robert Estie, 3 sh. 4 p. his son, Jeffrey Estye, 6 sh. 8 p. his daughter, Anne, 3 sh. 4 p. his daughter, Katherine, 3 sh. 4 p. his daughter, Elizabeth, 3 sh. 4 p.
Thomas Estye	30 shillings his daughter, Elizabeth Estye, £3, 6sh. 8p. at 22 years, also "my hutch and small lynnyn therein" his son Jeffrey Estye 10 sh. at 21 years his son, Thomas, 3 sh. 4 p. his son, Robert, 3 sh. 4 p. his daughter, Elizabeth, 3 sh. 4 p.
Richard Estye	£6, 13 sh. 4 p., also "twoe mylch neate", half brass, half pewter, best featherbed, bedding and bedstead and great hutch.
Jeffrey Estye	None his son John 6 sh. 8 p. "when he cometh into this country"
*Christopher Estye	All goods, cattle, corn, household, moveables, (and residue) also to be Executor his son, *Jeffrey, great Bible, 3 sh. 4 p. his son Edmonde, 3 sh. 4 p. his daughter Anne, 3 sh. 4 p.
Executor -	Christopher Estye
Witnesses:	Moses Wood, Thomas Sorrel, Thomas Stephens

* Direct Line

APPENDIX NO. 3 (continued)

Will of Christopher Eastie (Esty), Freston, Suffolk, England, November 7, 1621.

To An my wife plough and all thereto belonging, horse and cart, farm goods, house and furnishings etc., land etc.

To *Jeffrey my eldest son	£40
To Edmond my second son	£40
To Christopher my third son	£40
To George my fourth son	£40
To Edmond my fifth son	£40
To Thomas my sixth son	£40
To An Brett my grandchild	£3 at the age of 24
To Elizabeth my daughter	£5
Residue to my wife	
Sole Executrix	An my wife
Witnesses:	William Smythe, An Langlye

APPENDIX NO. 3 (continued)

AN EASTYE OF HOLBROOK, widow, 1622

..... I give and bequeath the sum of £100 of good and lawful money of Englande to be paid unto

Elizabeth my daughter the sum of 14 pounds five shillings and eight pence of good and lawful money of England also one milk cow of her choice .. also one bedstead, a feather bed and feather bolster, two pillows and all the bedding used or belonging to the same. A pooke of feathers. The one half of my linnen and woollen apparel except on pair of sheets of the second sort and one little coffer of lemon ...

Ann Brett my daughter the half of my lemon ... at her choice ...

Christopher Eastye my sonne the sum of fourteen pounds five shillings and eight pence ...

George Easty fourteen pounds five shillings and eight pence and a parcel of ...

Ann Brett my daughter fourteen pounds five shillings and eight pence upon condition that George Brett now the husband of the said Ann my daughter shall be contented therewith and not to trouble my Executor or make claim for any parte of portion of the goods of my late husband Christopher Eastye. And that the said George Brett shall contend with my executor for any part of my said husbands goods, then I will that the said Ann Brett my daughter shall have but twenty shillings and be utterly void of my said former gift.

Edmonde Easty the younger, my son, the sum of fourteen pounds five shillings and eight pence ...

Thomas Eastye my sonne the sum of fourteen pounds five shillings and eight pence ...

An Brett my grandchilde the sum of ten pounds to be paid unto George Brett my son-in-law her father to the use of the said An within four years next after my decease, provided and my will is that the said George Brett my son-in-law shall enter into sufficient bond to my Executor for the discharge. That the said An Brett shall have the said sum with the benefit and profit that shall be made thereof well and truly paid her when she shall come of age of one and twenty years. And if the said George Brett shall refuse to enter into sufficient bond as aforesaid that then my said executor shall pay the said ten pounds to the said An Brett at her age of one and twenty years or within 20 days after notice given to the executor that she is marryed whichever happens first.

To Edmond Easty the elder my son fourteen pounds five shillings and eightpence. If An Brett my grandchild happen to depart this life before the time of payment of her said legacy of ten pounds then I will and bequeath the same to An Brett her mother.

To Mary Eastye, Christopher Eastye and Elizabeth Eastye, the children of Christopher Eastye my son, to each of them one lamb of the middle sort.

To Constance Ellis my servant on ewe and lamb to be delivered unto her by my Executor immediately next after my decease.

Residue of my movable goods unbequeathed whatsoever I give unto Jeffrey Eastye my son towards the payment of my debts and legacies funeral expenses and all other things to this my last will appertaining and belonging. And I make and ordain Jeffrey Easty my son my sole executor.

APPENDIX NO. 3 (continued)

AN EASTYE OF HOLBROOK, widow, 1622 (continued)

To the said Jeffrey Easty my son for the better performing of this my last will all my houses and lands lying in Freston to holde to him and to his heirs so long time as he shall perform this testament and last will. According to the content and true meaning thereof.

Witnesses: Edward Farrow, Thomas Perryball

Probate February 1623

APPENDIX NO. 4

Inscription on the memorial brass tablet placed on a chancel column of the Church of St. Mary's, Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, England in memory of George Estye:

To Surviving Fame

and

Eternal Memory Hail.

To George Estye, blessed and celebrated preacher of this place

Pause a while, whoever you may be who with daring step

Tread upon these places sacred to overflowing divine power.

Do not touch these stone with your profane fingers for

Perchance an urn of sacred ashes lies hidden beneath these stones

But whether this ordinary marble conceals such relics you can not know traveler

But piety does lie here.

Here lies kindly virtue joined to the chorus of the Muses and the Graces

And here, if there be any charms in these,

Persuasion, integrity, versatile knowledge,

The inner sanctity of a purer mind, the outward charm of manners,

I will say more and better briefly:

Here lies Estye

His wife T. (Triphosa) put this memorial with dearest L. M.

He died in the year 1601 in his 36th year, August 2

Thus, thus it pleased him to live; thus to die I. H.

(Rev. John Hall) (On the upper part of the tablet is an almost spent candle in a candlestick, with the words)
I give light and am consumed

Translated from the Latin by Mrs John Quinn, Mt. Holyoke College, 1970
Edited by Amanda M. Gelpke, April 24, 1970

APPENDIX NO. 5

COURT RECORDS - Huntington, Long Island, New York page 11

(Will of Jeffrey Este)

(1657, Jan 4)

Jefery Este deseased the 4th of January 57 haveing mad his will and deposed of his estat as follueth:-

1. he gave to his son Isak Easte sholld have A bedd and all that thar unto belonging.
2. 20 shillings in shewes of if henry skodar so can to his dafter.
3. he bequeathed his house and lote to Jonathn Skoda the son of henary Skodar and his father to be his gardenar, till his son com of age 21 yeres and the rest of his estat to henary skodar of huntington.

I henary Skodar being exetar in the present of thes witnesses the 23 of Jenunry 59

Jonas Wood
Thomas Bennydict

Note: Jeffry Este was at Salem, Mass. in 1637 and afterwards at Southold. He was an old man when he came to Huntington. He resided at East Neck. His children were Mary, Isaac and Catherine. Isaac's wife, Mary Towne Este was executed as a witch September 26, 1692. Catherine married Henry Scudder (the above henary skodar) and after his death married Thomas Jones: This is the first record of a death in Huntington - (Chas. R. Street).

Transcriber's note: The documented date of Mary Estey's hanging is September 22, 1692 not September 26 as in Chas. R. Street's recording. G.W. Estey 1997

APPENDIX NO. 6

WILL OF ISAAC ESTIE, SR.

In the name of God amen I, Isaac Estie senr. of Topsfield in the County of Essex in New England, Cooper, being at this present of perfect understanding and memery but sensible of my Declining years have thought good to make sum disposal of my Temporal Estate as followeth Commending my soul into y^e hands of God y^e maker and Redeemer of it whenever it shall please God to take me hense and my body to descent Interment.

1. My will is y^t my son Isaac have all y^e land which he is already posest of being on y^e south side of Ipswich river which I reckon to be about forty acres of upland and four of meadow be it more or less. My will is y^t he & his heirs forever have y^e land aforesaid together with what he hath had of my movable estate.

2. As for my son Joseph my will is y^t besides what I have already Done for him about building of in Cattle or in purchasing Land which hath been Considerable _____ he shall have half of my wearing apparel at my decease.

3. As for my son John he hath already what I intended for him in full & hath signified the same by writing under his hand.

4. As for my son Benjamin my will is y^t he and his heirs forever have y^e house & land adjacent, which I formerly designed for my son Joshua. My meaning is y^t he have y^e value of y^e said house and land y^t is what was sold for to my neighbor John Robinson together with the two cows which he hath had of me already which money for said House and Land he hath had already.

5. As for my son Jacob, my will is y^t he & his heirs forever have my dwelling house, together with barn, and other buildings with my orchards, plow lands, pasture lands and meadows not already otherwise disposed of together with all my Implements of husbandry, weaving or Copering also my will is y^t my son Jacob have y^e whole of my movable estate y^t shall be left at my decease he taking off

& discharging my funeral expenses whom I do appoint sole Executor of this my last will whom I do appoint to pay my grandchild Sarah Gill ten pounds in pay not in money, nor as money, also my son Jacob and his heirs forever shall have all my right in cart or drift way expressed in deeds.

6. As for my son Joshua for whom I procured a trade and payde some debts for him, my will is y^t besides what I have already done for him he have at my decease y^t other half of my wearing apparel eaqually dividing y^e same with brother Joseph which is all I can do for him.

APPENDIX NO. 6 (continued)

As for my daughter Sarah Irellan she had her full propotion out of my estate upon her marriage in Cattle bedding or otherwise.

As for my daughter Hannah I have on her marriage with George Abbot of Andover payed her y^e full w^t I intended for her excepting twenty pounds in pay which I thought she should have at my decease payd her by my son Jacob, but inasmuch as my son Jacob hath payd her about seven pounds & ten shillings of y^e twenty pounds already there remains only about twelve pounds ten shillings in pay due to her by my son Jacob at or before or within one year of my decease and in testimony of y^e *** I y^e said Isaac Estie senr hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty-sixth day of March in y^e year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & & nine and in y^e seventh year of y^e reign of Anne of Great Brittain France & Ireland Queen.

Signed, sealed and declared to be y^e last will of Isaac Estie senr
as above said in presence of us

John How

Isaac Estie senr

Abraham How

Joseph Capen

Codicill

Sarah Gill to have five pounds twenty fourth day of January 1710/11

Admitted to probate June 11, 1712.

APPENDIX NO. 7

THE SHARON, MASSACHUSETTS ESTEYS

The Sharon, Massachusetts Estey families descend from three early Topsfield, Massachusetts freemen: Benjamin (7), son of Mary Easty, one of the Towne sisters executed for witchcraft in Salem's 1692 hysteria, and Isaac born in Freston, Suffolk, England; Jacob (14), Samuel (15), sons of Joseph (2) and Jane Steward.

The family charts of these early settlers in the second Precinct of Dorchester, later known as Stoughtonham, and still later called Sharon, are as follows:

Benjamin (7) born 1669, died 1750

married (1x) Elizabeth Goodhue, Ipswich 1702, died 1713

married (2x) Mary Holland 1716

Son Benjamin, born 1703, died 1781

married (1x) Abigail Farley 1732

children: Benjamin, born 1743, died at Bunker Hill; Lydia, born 1742

married (2x) Joanna Tupper Ormsbee 1751

children: Joanna, born 1752; Patience, born 1754, died 1778; Unity, born 1757; Job born 1760.

Son Ebenezer born 1705, died 1769

married (1x) Martha Belcher 1739, died 1764

married (2x) Hephibah Gulliver (Milton) 1765

children Aaron, born 1741; Solomon, born 1744 (Revolutionary War Veteran); Mary, born 1746; Ebenezer, born 1750; Hephshibah, born ?.

Daughter Elizabeth , born 1707, married Caleb Howard 1739

Daughter Sarah, born 1713

APPENDIX NO. 7 (continued)

Jacob (14), born 1690, died 1777

married Mehitable Porter; she died June 16, 1777

(they were in Sharon in 1726)

Son Jacob, born 1731, died 1790

married Mary Holmes 1756, she died 1810

Children: Jacob, born 1757; Samuel, born 1761

Mehitable, born 1763; Lemuel, born 1761, died 1834

Son John, born 1733, died 1811

married Abigail Gould of Dedham, 1752

Children: John, born 1763; Elizabeth, born 1765

Elenore, born 1768 Jeremiah, born 1775; Lucy, born 1779

Son Elijah, born 1736

Daughter Mary, born 1739

Samuel (15), born 1691, died 1779

married Rebecca Hawes, 1718, she died 1780

Son Samuel, born 1721

Son Peletiah, born 1723

married Jane Cobb (Taunton) (int. March 3, 1748-49);

daughter Keziah, born 1750; son Samuel, born 1754

Daughter Sarah, born 1725

married Noah Johnson

Daughter Bathsheba, born 1728

married (1x) Jacob French, Sr.; (2x) Mathias Puffer

Daughter Hannah, born 1731

These three men were established in present Sharon (the "south" part of Stoughton) in 1727 when the first tax list for the area was drawn up. Chief Justice Benjamin Lynde, on his circuit through the territory in 1726, met Benjamin Esty (7), Edward's uncle, and in 1730 his travels brought him to Billings' Tavern, where he dined, bated

APPENDIX NO. 7 (continued)

his horse, and then rode across Billings' Plain, following a bridle path to meet Benjamin Esty at his house. Benjamin then guided him about a mile and a half to Deacon Stearns' place on "Ould Bay Road". After a visit, the Deacon provided him with a boy for a guide and the two took the road through the wood to Edward Estey's (Benjamin's nephew), another mile and a half south along Bay Road. Edward lived on the lot south of Dry Pond Cemetery and had married Deacon Stearns' daughter, Elizabeth. Edward's (17) story is told in this present narrative. This was one of many similar visits by Justice Lynde to Edward's home for they were acquainted prior to this time when he lived in Ponkapoag in 1726. On this visit, as well as upon others, Benjamin Lynde had "dined at Edward's", "taken young Esty as a guide", and purchased from him cedar shingles and nails, which were hauled by oxen "to Milton Landing for shipment to Salem in one of Colonel Thacher's sloops."

Benjamin Estey was a leader in the organization of the second Precinct Church in present Sharon, granted by the General Court July 2, 1740. He signed the petition with his nephews, Jacob and Samuel, and with his son, Ebenezer. Benjamin, Benjamin, Jr., and Ebenezer's "dismissal and recommendation in order to be gathered into a distant and particular Church in the Precinct" is recorded in Parson Dunbar's diary for May 17, 1741. Dunbar's participation in the induction of Philip Curtis of the second Precinct Church is also noted under a January 1741/42 entry.

Benjamin died in 1744 and his farm was divided between his two sons, Benjamin, Jr. and Ebenezer. Benjamin, Jr. served in the French and Indian War 1750-1760 with cousin John and became an Ensign in his company. His taxes were remitted in 1750 as recognition of his services "to the Eastward". At age 29, in 1732, he had married Abigail Farley of Billerica as his first wife and in 1751 Joanna Tupper Ormsbee for his second. Joanna was a sister of Reuben Tupper, Benjamin's comrade in arms, from Rehoboth, Massachusetts, and the widow of William Ormsbee. At the first town meeting of Stoughtonham (Sharon), held July 8, 1765, Benjamin was elected tythingman and later served as treasurer and moderator. The Church had chosen him Deacon and his death is duly noted in the Sharon Vital Records -- "Deacon Benjamin Esty, June 9, 1781".

Ebenezer, who received the other part of the farm suffered catastrophe in 1765, when lightning struck and burned his buildings. Mr. Dunbar's Church at Stoughton (present Canton, Massachusetts) raised £30/17 sh. for his assistance. Ebenezer's sons, Aaron and Solomon, inherited his estate at his death in 1769. They married

(1) Parson Dunbar's diary for September 16, 1739 - "Deacon Sterns complained that John Upham called him an old one eyed hypocrite and lying old sinner and could prove it."

APPENDIX NO. 7 (continued)

daughters of Walley Leonard of Stoughton, and Solomon responded to the Lexington alarm, enrolling in Captain Peter Talbot's company from Stoughton. He was in the Battle of Bunker Hill and drew pay for 38 miles of military travel. After the war, Solomon sold his soldier's certificate for lands in Maine to the State of Massachusetts and moved to Farmington, Maine and later to Winthrop, Maine where he died in 1829. A family historian writes that "Solomon Estey came to Winthrop, Maine in 1784 and took up a lot in the unbroken forest which he converted to a fertile farm."

Jacob (14) was a mason by trade. He and his wife Mehitable, were settled in present Sharon in 1726, at the time of the first tax levy in old Stoughton. He also signed the petition for the setting up of the new Precinct. Their home was located on Canton Street near Chestnut Hill Cemetery and the cellar hole was visible up to recent years. Their family included Jacob, Jr., later a Lieutenant in the Revolutionary War; and John, who also served in the War. John married Abigail Gould in 1752 and their family included Jeremiah, born 1761, and marrying Judith French in 1808. This marriage produced Jeremiah, Jr., born 1810, whose wife was Mary Francis Sprague of Marshfield (in 1845). This branch of the family later lived in the south of present Sharon, near the Foxboro town line. John, Jeremiah, Warren, and Judith are interred in the Foxboro Street Cemetery (opposite 385 East Foxboro Street, Sharon), i.e.,

John Estey, died November 29, 1811 at 78, Rev. War Veteran

Jeremiah Estey, died September 13, 1855 at 80

Warren Estey, died November 10, 1859 at 35

Judith Estey (this stone and others destroyed)

Jeremiah, Mary Francis, and Jeremiah Edward Estey are buried in Sharon's Rockridge Cemetery.

Samuel (15) was settled in Sharon at the time of Stoughton's first tax levy and, with three other Esteys, signed the petition for the second Precinct.

On 19th century maps of Sharon, several Estey homes are shown. In 1831 a G. Estey (probably George Esty, born 1800, died 1834, married Elizabeth Messinger) is shown on Canton Street near the Chestnut Hill Cemetery. On Edgemoor Road, as of this date, an L. Estey is shown. On a later map, dated 1888, W. Estey* is placed on East Foxboro Street, and J. Estey on Cottage Street. These were Willard and Jeremiah respectively. The Estey

* See transcriber's note on next page

APPENDIX NO. 7 (continued)

name has disappeared from the town lists of Sharon, but in 1965 your author, as a member of the family, accepted a certificate honoring these early founders and settlers.

Transcriber's Note

The W. Estey on the previous page is most likely my great grandfather Willard Alden Estey.
(George Warren Estey, 1998)

Willard Alden Estey, born October 6, 1856; died September 3, 1925; married Lizzie Sarah Ballou; Only son, George Willard Estey was born in the same house and same room as his father and grandfather. George married Mae Lydia (Sloggy) Larson widow of Marvin Larson. Marvin and Mae had a daughter, Vivian Hanna, born September 15, 1900 who George adopted. Vivian died December 14, 1912. At her death George wrote in the family Bible, "Daughter of Mae Lydia Larson and Marvin A. Larson and loved as daughter by George Willard Estey." George and Mae lived in Leominster, Massachusetts and had two children, Marvin Willard, born December 11, 1906, died June 06, 1960 at San Marino, CA, and George Warren, born May 17, 1908, died February 12, 1909. After Vivian's death Mae and George moved to Los Angeles, CA. Marvin married Violet Althea Dixon February 14, 1931 and they had three sons, Marvin Willard, II; George Warren; John Stephen.

*(The above note was not in the first edition of this book. George Warren Estey 1998)

APPENDIX NO. 7 (continued)

Sources used for the above sketch were:

The Esteys of Old Stoughton -- Solomon Talbot

Sharon, by Solomon Talbot, History of Norfolk County, Massachusetts

Sharon Early Settlement No. 3 -- Solomon Talbot

Sharon Scrapbook -- Sharon Library Property

On Site Grave Records

Sharon Massachusetts to 1865 -- Amy Pratt

History of Canton, Massachusetts -- D.T. V. Huntoon

APPENDIX NO. 8

Reports of Joseph Esty - Road Surveyor (ANCIENT STOUGHTON, Vol. 1)

February 2, 1759 Stoughton - certify to Selectman that the men in my district have labored on the town way as follows:

Joseph Esty, Surveyor

David Tilden	7-7-2	Eleazer May, Jr.	4-6-0
David Lyon	3-11-2	Joseph Esty, Jr.	0-10-0-3
Benjamin Blackman	3-11-2	Joseph Esty, Jr.	0-4-5-0
Eleazer May	11-2-2	Samuel Dickerman	0-6-3-2
John May	1-4-0	Stephen Tilden	0-5-3-0
Samuel Chandler	7-8-3	Eli Pitcher	0-4-6-3
Benjamin Gill	7-8-0	Benjamin Smith	0-9-8-1
John Wentworth	0-11-4-0	Benjamin Smith, Jr.	0-4-5-0
Aaron Wentworth	8-3-0	Eph. Smith	0-4-3-3
John Clark	4-4-2	Asa Smith	0-5-4-0
Edmond Bayley*	9-6-11	Ruphas Haywood	0-3-11-2
Ed. Withington	5-6-2	Nathaniel Petingil	0-3-11-2
		Lewis Johnson	0-3-11-2

* Son of Henry Bailey, died 1717, who inherited farm (p. 51 Huntoon) bounded on the north by Pongapoag Res. Line, on the east and southeast by Beaver Brook (owned partially in 1893 F. Bird on Boliver Street, Canton, Massachusetts).

APPENDIX NO. 8 (continued)

1760 STOUGHTON

To Mr. Stephen Tilden, a petition to take care of and amend the ways "from the Corner by Mr. John Withington's to the line between the first and third" precincts. Near Joseph Estey's also by Mr. Ed Bailey's by Samuel Dickerman's as it comes to the line of the 3rd precinct near Capt. Wm. Smith's and persons named -- pay in labor etc. at rate of 2 shillings per day per man or 4 shillings per day for a man, cart and two oxen:

Samuel Jordan	0-4-11-0	John Clark	0-5-2-0
David Tilden	0-7-4-2	Ewd. Baily	0-10-8-2
Wm. Bussi	-	Eleazer May, Jr.	0-4-10-1
Eleazer May	0-22-8-0	Edw. Withington	0-4-4-1
John May	0-5-5-0	Bailey Withington	0-4-0-0
Samuel Chandler	0-8-2-0	Joseph Esty	0-11-8-0
Benjamin Gill	0-9-8-2	Joseph Esty, Jr.	0-5-1-1
Asahel Smith	0-5-4-3	Thomas Dickerman	0-5-9-3
Lewis Johnson	0-4-0-4	Sam Dickerman	0-5-9-3
John Wentworth	0-11-9-1	Stephen Tilden	0-5-8-3
Aaron Wentworth	0-7-4-3	Capt. Wm. Smith	-
		John Huble	0-4-0-0

Note: Both of these reports made in handwriting that appears to match the available signatures of Joseph (13) seem to list the land owners in geographical order proceeding from the corner of Ragged Row (Pleasant Street) and present Washington Street and going southward. A student of this material would be further assured of the location and present existence (1970) of one of the early Estey homesteads as explained in APPENDIX NO. 13.

* Present Stoughton, Massachusetts

APPENDIX NO. 9

MASSACHUSETTS SOLDIERS & SAILORS – WAR OF REVOLUTION

John Easty, Pvt., Capt. Ralph Thompson's Company.
Enlisted October 1, 1779, discharged November 10, 1779,
served one month 11 days under Major General Hancock at
Castle Island – company raised in Suffolk County.

Joseph Easty, Pvt., Capt. Van Briggs' Company, Col. Joseph Read's
Stoughton regiment; muster roll dated August 1, 1775, enlisted
May 9, 1775, served 2 months 26 days.

Joseph Easty, Pvt., Capt John Bradley's Company, Col. Benjamin Gill's
regiment, enlisted August 14, 1777, served 3 mos. 20 days
Travel: company marched to Manchester, Vermont, to
reinforce Northern Army. Roll sworn to Suffolk County.

Joseph Easty, Jr., Pvt., William Bent's Company, Col. John Groaton's Stoughton
regiment; muster roll dated August 1, 1775, enlisted
April 27, 1775, served 3 months 12 days.

Other soldiers named Eastey or Estey from Massachusetts were:
Benjamin, Daniel, Edward, John, Oliver, Silas (Estee), Solomon and
William.

APPENDIX NO. 10

WILL OF JOSEPH ESTY, STOUGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS

July 1, 1758

In the name of God Amen this first day of July in the thirty second year of His Majesties Reign George the Second by the Grace of God of Great Britain France and Ireland and in the year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Eight I Joseph Esty of Stoughton in the County of Suffolk within his Majesties Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Husbandman being arrived to old age and Sick and weak but yet of Perfect and Memory thanks be unto God therefore for the same I do make this my last will and Testament First of all I Give and Recommend my Soul unto the Mercy of Almighty God nothing Doubting but at the General Resurrection by the almighty power of God I shall Receive the same again and my body I Recommend to the to be Buried in a Christian Manner by my Executor and as Touching Such Worldly Estate It hath Pleas'd almighty God to Bless me with I do Dispose of the Same in form and manner Following viz

Imprimus My will is that my beloved wife Experience Esty shall have a Sufficant Mantinance out of my Estate annually Paid to her for and during her natural Life by my Executor and he is to pay her nine Bushels of Indian Corn annually and three Bushels of Good Ry annually and also my Executor to pay my Beloved wife Experience Esty Eighty pounds of Good Pork and Eighty pounds of Good Beef annually or yearly and also ten pounds of flax and also Eighty pounds of Good Sheep wool annually and also a Cow Kept Winter and Summer annually and to have a horse to Ride on at all times when she has Occasion and also one half Part of a Dwelling house to Live in with a Sufficiency of Wood brought to Cut and Dry for the fire and Two Bushels of malt annually all During Life and Cyder and apples what is needed annually and also Shoes what is needed to Wear and also one Bushel and a half of Turnups and also one Bushel of Pertators annually Paid and any other Conveniency what is needed both in Time or Sicknes and health and any other help from Doctors or any other Persons what is needful And my will is that my Wife Shall have all my indoor Moveables Her Life Time and after her Decease to be Equally Divided between my Children and their heirs.

APPENDIX NO. 10 (continued)

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my Beloved Son Joseph Esty and his heirs my now homeplace and Dwelling house joyning upon the way leading to Dorchester Swamp Southerly bounding upon the land of John Wentworth and Northerly upon the land of Benjamin Gill or however bounding belonging to the first precinct in Stoughton and also Robbins Swamp and also the Old Swamp and all my other right that may appear to be my Rights in said Stoughton together with all my Chains and Cart and all Out Door moveables and Shop.

This my son Joseph Esty I appoint and Constitute my Sole Executor of this my Last will and Testament and what of money in bills and bonds and book debts and wearing apparel that are to be found to be mine and my Decease I give to my son Joseph Esty or to his heirs for Ever and also a pew in Mr. Adams meeting house I give unto this my son Joseph Esty and heirs

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Francis Fairbank wife of Joseph Fairbank Six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence Lawfull money and a good Cow to be paid in Two years to her or her Heirs by my Executor after my Decease

Item I Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Ruth Drake wife of James Drake Six Pounds thirteen shillings and four pence of Good and Lawfull money and also a good Cow to be paid in Two years after my Decease and What of Movebels my Daughter Drake has not already received to make her Equal with her Sister Francis Fairbank Shall be made up to her or her heirs upon Demand after my Decease

Item It is my will that If any of These my Children mentioned in my Last Will and Testament Shall break and violate this my Last Will and Testament or be any way Instrumental in thus doing they shall be utterly Debarred from receiving any part or portion out of my Estate.

Item It is my will that all my Just Debts with my funeral Charges shall be paid within a Convenient Time after my Decease by my Executor

Disannuling and making void all former wills by me make Ratifying and Confirming this and no other to be my Last will and Testament In Witness whereof I have hereunto set to my hand and seal the day and year above Written.

APPENDIX NO. 10 (continued)

Signed, Sealed Published and Declared
this to be my Last will and Testament before us

viz Joseph Esti

John Withington
Edward Withington
Hannah Withington

APPENDIX NO. 11

An Inventory of the Estate of Joseph Esty, Late of Stoughton

Deceased. Taken by us the Subscribers this 22nd Day of December, 1780

	£	S	P
His wearing apperril	5	00	0
A number of old books		12	0
Best Bed Bedstead & Bed Cloathing	9	10	0
Two Bedfleece & Bed Cloathing	10	08	0
Two poorer Beds with Bed Cloathing	8	05	0
Two Pillow cases Table cloath & meal bag		11	0
Two cases of Draws & a Small Desk	5	17	0
five chests & an old fashion case of Draws	2	05	0
five Tables & 2 Table frames	1	19	0
Six chares with Sum old ones 3 ¹ / ₂ Two spinning wheels 15/6	2	06	6
Eight barrels of Sidder 72/ Sider cask & old tubs 24/	4	16	0
Pewter Dishes Plates etc. 88/ Brass ware 82/6	8	10	6
Iron ware 42/ one pare of Dogs Hand Iron 18/	3	00	0
four Tramels Shovel & Tongues grid &	2	08	8
one Hatchel 6/ 3 card Hoops cart Bows & old ... 9?/	2	04	0
Carpenters Tools 20/ old Sadle & Pilyon & ... 14/	1	12	0
one half of a Pew 6:0:0 glas dish & wooden ware 20/4	7	00	2
Part of a grinstone 6/ Earthenware 4/2 hide in tan 15/	1	05	2
a pare of old pistols 6/ 3 pounds of wool 6/		12	0
Cart & wheals 4:16:0 Chains ox & Horse Tackling 15:18:0	10	14	0
Out door utensils 42/ flax in stock 10/	2	12	0
Seven tons of fresh hay 12:0:0 25 Hundred of English hay 50/	14	10	0
one yolke of oxen 16:0:0 one old cow 5:0:0	21	00	0
Six cows 28/4/ one heffer & three calves 5:0:0	33	04	0
old mare & calf 10:4:0, 4 sheep 40/ 2 hogs 86/	16	09	0
Due upon Notes of Hand	430	05	0
Home Lot with the buildings 83 acres at 5:0:0 p. acre	415	00	0
Wood Lot 48 acres at 3:0:0 p. acre	144	00	0
Neck of Land So called 14 acres at 4:10:0 p. acre	63	00	0
A Swamp 6 acres at 4:4:0 p. acre	25	00	0
fowl meadows 7 acres at 12:0:0 p. acre	84	00	0
Two Peaces of Meadow in Morses Meadow 6 acres & 1/2 at 11:0:0 p. acre	71	10	0

APPENDIX NO. 11 (continued)

	£	S	P
Two acres 1/2 of meadow & swamp on the South side of Pequot Brook at 6:0:0 p. acre	15	00	0
one half of a whip Saw	1	00	0
one Iron Harrow teeth with .39 old teeth	0	07	0
	<hr/>		
Specie	1474	08	2

Above apportionment was taken in hard money

allowed the Amount of Twenty pounds
to be personal estate of
Inventory
Suff. ss

) Benjamin Gill)
) George Crosman) Apprisers
) Abijah Upham)

Joseph Esty Administrator presented the foregoing
and made Oath that it Contains a true & perfect Inventory
of the Estate of Joseph Esty late of Stoughton Deceased
Joseph Esty

.....so far as has come to his hands of knowledge
and that if more hereafter appears to be he will cause it to be added
and render account thereof when required Boston June 19th 1781

O. Wendell Jud. Probate

APPENDIX NO. 11 (continued)

To the Honourable Judge of Probate for the County of Suffolk sir this is to inform you that my Husband Joseph Esty deceased the 28th of May last and I being not able to com to Boston by reason of Sicknes Desier your Honor to give a leater of Administrashon and Commisshon for apprising to my Son Joseph Esty and you will oblige your frind

Hannah Esty

Prisers

Col. Benj... Gill
Dr. George Crosman
Abijah Upham

Stoughton December 8-1780

APPENDIX NO. 11 (continued)

To the Honorable Oliver Wendell esq. Judge of Probate for the County of Suffolk. Whereas I Joseph Esty of Stoughton have some time ago Taken a Letter of Administration on the Estate of my Honored Father Joseph Esty Late of Stoughton Deceased. and by Reason of the Difficulty of the Times and the sd. Estate being some considerable in Debt I have not been able to Settle the Said Estate..... Therefore I request that Nathaniel Fisher of Said Stoughton may be Appointed by your Honour to Administer on said Estate in my stead and in so Doing you will oblige your Humble Servant
Stoughton April the 10 1782

Attest Benj Gill

Joseph Esty

We the Subscribers being Heirs to the above Estate do Hereby give our consent that the Above Said Nathl Fisher may be appointed to Administer on the above mentioned Estate in stead of Joseph Esty who has been appointed to settle sd Estate Because that he Has Not been Able to Settle the Estate and in so Doing you will oblige us

Stoughton April the 10th 1782

Hannah Esty widow

Eunice Esty
Joseph Esty
Hannah Esty

APPENDIX NO. 12

DEED REGISTER

DEEDS OF PERTINENCE TO THIS FAMILY BRANCH

Norfolk County

<u>Lib.</u>	<u>Folio</u>	
53	181	Hannah Easty estate to Atherton, et al
4	70	Marston to Experience Eastey
3	34	Elizabeth and Elijah Easty to John Easty
53	180	Heirs of Elijah - Partition of Joseph Eastey estate
502	75	Harriet L. Esty to Benjamin Atherton

Suffolk County

<u>Lib.</u>	<u>Folio</u>	<u>Date</u>	
-	-	March 24, 1712	Joseph Esty to Joseph Esty, Jr.
39	86	January 2, 1715	Joseph and Joseph Esty, Jr. to ?
-	-	January 26, 1719	Edward Esty to Mandsley (Mosley)
36	19	April 17, 1722	Joseph Esty, Jr. to Weeks
39	58	November 19, 1725	Joseph Estie to Edward Estie
39	58	November 19, 1725	Edward Estey to Benjamin Lynde
51	192	October 22, 1735	Amos Ahauton (Indian) to Joseph Esty
60	111	December 5, 1740	Joseph Esty to Robert Auchmuty
69	177	January 4, 1744	Joseph Esty mortgaged to James Smith
113	56	April 25, 1752	Joseph Esty to Joseph Esty, Jr.
113	57	July 21, 1759	Sam Capen to Joseph Esty
113	59	August 13, 1768	Hannah Esty to James Smith
116	231	September 26, 1789	Hannah Easty and Joseph Esty Mortgage to A. Upham
131	169	May 26, 1780	Joseph Estey to William Kirkpatrick
163	271	December 4, 1788	Eunice Estey to Benjamin Gill (Mort.)
167	167	March 29, 1790	Joseph Easty (est) to John Atherton, Jr.



The Estey Homestead

Built C 1740

767 Pleasant St., Canton, Mass.

Profile Rock in the Left Foreground

APPENDIX NO. 13

Tracing of the 18th Century Estey Homestead

Huntoon's statement that the old Estey house was moved from Mt. Hunger to a location on Ragged Row beside Profile Rock (present 767 Pleasant Street) suggests an exercise in deed tracing. A visit to this address finds a modest, featureless house which is, in all probability, one of the oldest houses in Canton. It is pictured in this present volume.

The deed trace is as follows and takes us up to the Reardon family, who owned this house within the memory of your author.

Joseph (23)

Received from his father Joseph (13) "his homeplace and dwelling house upon the way to Dorchester Swamp" also Robins Swamp and the Old Swamp" (will made 1758, Joseph (13) died 1765).

- a. This land mortgaged in 1740 in Land Bank Scheme (Suffolk 60/111)
- b. This land mortgaged to James Smith 1744 (Suffolk 69/77)
- c. On April 25, 1752 Joseph ux et al sold to Joseph Jr. (23) 66 acres on town way to Dorchester Swamp (Suffolk 113/56)
- d. On April 25, 1752 Experience sold Joseph, Jr. (23) 66 acres on town way to Dorchester Swamp (Suffolk 113/56)
- e. Joseph, Jr. (23) purchased July 21, 1759 from Samuel Capen 49¼ acres in Stoughton (one message) (Suffolk 113/57). *This land was mortgaged to James Smith of Milton August 13, 1760 and not quitclaimed until April, 1785.*

Joseph (23) died without a will in 1780, partition of his land proposed July 3, 1783 by administrator Nathaniel Fisher. Meantime, Fisher sold 2 small pieces of land in March, 1783, ie., to Lemuel Gay and John Atherton, Jr. and had purchased double share held by eldest son Joseph (25) who had unsuccessfully tried to settle his father's estate.

APPENDIX NO. 13 (continued)

Partition made the following statements:

- a. The Widow Hannah's 1/3 -- 41 Acres - 1/2 house and barn
- b. Lot No. 1 to John Esty 44 acres of the home lot with remainder of the house and barn and 11 acres of wood lot and 1 1/4 acres b. Pequot Brook.
- c. Lot no. 2 to Eunice Esty 5 3/4 acres (mortgaged to Col. Benjamin Gill December 4, 1788) (Suffolk 163/271)
- d. Lot No. 3 (The Neck) to Hannah (Esty) Morse, wife of Samuel Morse, 16 acres and 3 acres of Swamp near Col. Benjamin Gill's Swamp.
- e. Lot No. 4 to Fisher 3 1/2 acres - 4 1/2 acres - 16 acres. 16 acres part of homelot b.w. by Widow's 1/3, n. on 11 acres of No. 1 in (b).

Hence, the Widow Hannah, son John and Nathaniel Fisher held title in 1783 to portions of the homestead and homestead lot of Joseph (23).

September 26, 1789 John (and his mother Hannah) mortgages No. 1 "lots to Abijah Upham (guardian) Suffolk 116/231

March 29 1790 Joseph (est) sold John Atherton, Jr. 12 a. in Stoughton b. Briggs, Atherton, Suffolk 167/321

December 15, 1794 Elijah quitclaim to John vs. mortgage held by Abijah Upham late guardian, Norfolk 3/34, Suffolk 166/231

December 15, 1794 John sold to Lebbeus Porter¹, Norfolk 3/33 - 21 3/4 acres, west part of house and s.e. part of barn b.s. by 21 acres John was to sell to Samuel Wales

January 17, 1794 Norfolk 156/23

John sold to Samuel Wales - 22 acres b. Gay, Smith, Porter

1. Lebbeus Porter s. of Joseph and Elizabeth - b. 4/23/1771, married Polly Barstow (Wrentham) 12/4/1794

APPENDIX NO. 13 (continued)

August 26, 1809 - Norfolk 33/261

John sold to Dudley Bailey, Jr. all rights to his father's estate and his mother's widow's dower (for \$130.00)

September 2, 1813 - Norfolk 53/180

Elijah's (30) widow sells his right in the widow's 1/3 to Dudley Bailey, Jr, for \$100.00 -- ½ a. - 1/3 house - 1/3 barn

January 10, 1816 - Norfolk 53/181

Experience (31) (Drake), heirs of Elizabeth (29) (Farrington), heirs of Elijah (30) and heirs of Hannah (24) Morse sell their rights in their mother's (widow Hannah) 1/3rd, i.e. 10 a. John Atherton. 8 a. (of homestead) to Judah Henry, 11 a. Dudley Bailey, Jr. (with buildings), Nathan Drake, Jr. (agent for Experience (Esty) Drake, his sister-in-law) 2 acres (of homestead lot)

April 8, 1817 - Norfolk 48/264

Dudley Bailey, Jr. sold to John Mansfield 11½ acres - 1/3 house - 1/3 barn

And thus by 1817 all Esty ownership in the homestead of Joseph (23) had expired and passed to:

- a. John Mansfield, 11½ acres - 1/3 house - 1/3 barn
- b. Judah Henry
- c. John Atherton
- d. Nathaniel Fisher (or assings)
- e. Lebbeus Porter

At this point the 21¾ acres plot, in addition to the western end of the house and the southeastern part of the barn, passed to John Mansfield, who held the remainder of the property, i.e.

APPENDIX NO. 13 (continued)

Porter to Marston, Norfolk 3/35/ Dec. 15, 1794

Marston to Mansfield, Norfolk 18/129, Dec. 18, 1802

The Mansfield estate held the property until 1836, when it moved through 8 conveyances in 30 years to Reardon hands, where it remained for a lengthy time, i.e.

Mansfield to White, Norfolk 111/258,	Oct. 15, 1836
White to Spear, Norfolk 115/266	1837
Spear to Harris, Norfolk 129/277	1841
Harris to Harris, Norfolk 183/136	1848
Harris to Packard, Norfolk 183/136	1848
Packard to Pitcher, Norfolk 191/176	1849
Pitcher to Waters, Norfolk 276/246	1859
Waters to Reardon, Norfolk 359.181	1867

APPENDIX NO. 14

THE ESTY FAMILY OF WARREN TOWNSHIP, LAKE COUNTY (Gurnee, Illinois)

This information made available by Mrs. Valera Esty Swayer has been used in part in the chapter entitled John (27) Esty - Farmer 1762 - 1863, but the complete data on this pioneer family of the Northwest provided by Mrs. Swayer is entered here for reference.

Buried in Avery Esty's (36) lot 47, Section I of Warren Cemetery are the following with gravestone inscriptions:

Irene	Wife of John and mother of Avery Esty age 73 years, died March 21, 1846
Daniel	Age 40, died September 4, 1839
Mary	wife of Daniel Merrill, daughter of John and Irene Esty, age 43, died October 2, 1839
Valeria O. Esty	wife of Avery Esty, age 42, died September 19, 1856
Avery Esty	age 85, died December 22, 1888
Josephine	daughter of Walter and Amelia Ames, died May 16, 1920
Julia Schreiner	age 82, (body cremated - ashes buried in grandmother's grave)
George Esty	age 86, died February 12, 1922

Buried elsewhere in the Warren Cemetery (Estys)

Elijah O., Lucy B.	
Mary S.	wife of John A., died December 6, 183? (possibly a 0), age 30
Mary E.	daughter of John A., age 8 months
Harriet E.	second wife of Elijah, born June 27, 1808, died February 1, 1879
Elijah	born November 13, 1799, died ()

APPENDIX NO. 14 (continued)

John A.	
Emma	died February 10, 1906, age 41
Hobart J.	
Monty	son of Henry and Eva Esty (N.D.)
Evaline	wife of Henry, died April 17, 1914, age 76
Henry B.	died April 14, 1908, age 76
Fred G.	son of Henry and Evaline, died August 22, 1897, body moved from Kansas 1916
Cora and Ella	daughters of William Esty (died young)
William D.	died June 10, 1869, age 69
Phoebe	wife of William, mother of June, Clara, Mary
Kinsley House Estey	

APPENDIX NO. 15

THE ESTEY BOOK

During a visit with Mrs. Doris Esty McClellan and her daughters in Walpole, Massachusetts in May, 1970, four photographs of an old, leather-bound book were shown to me. It developed that this was an old record book of the Esty family, originally owned by Joseph (13) of this present story (1688-1765), and then passed to Joseph (23), who left it in the hands of John (27) (1762-1833), who died in Hillsboro, New Hampshire. The book then passed to his widow, Irene, who carried it with her on her trek to Warren County, Illinois in 1837 in the company of several of her sons and daughters, including Avery (36), who died there in 1856. Ownership then passed to his niece, Irene (Merrill) Jaquith, daughter of Polly (Mary) Esty Merrill (33). Gay Esty Bangs wrote these comments on the back of one of the plates c. 1910. "Mrs. Jaquith then lived in Shebanse, Illinois."

The book contains records of marriages, births and deaths, as well as accounts and memoranda. It is 6 inches by 4 inches by ¾ inch thick, containing 55 pages, half of which have been used for entries.

During a business trip to Chicago, Illinois in May 1970, I attempted to trace this book, after the passage of almost 60 years over Bangs notes and photos. I talked with Mrs. Valera Esty Swayer of Gurnee, Illinois, who remembered Mrs. Jaquith ("a cousin of my father's"), who had a daughter later married to a Ballard.

A check of the telephone directory for Shebanse, Illinois, yielded no Jaquiths or Ballards -- but several Ballards lived in neighboring towns. Two Jaquith's were listed in Northfield, a Chicago suburb.

Use of this piece of Estinana, if available, would add much to this narrative. The four photographs will be returned to Mrs. McClellan, but note has been taken of legible vital statistics and the Wentworth account, i.e.:

Joseph Esty, Jr. died February 6, 1765 his wife, Experience
(Bennet) died April 28, 1768

Joseph Esty died May 26, 1780, his daughter, Mrs. Hannah (Esty) Morse, died May 13, 1799,
and Elizabeth (Esty) Farrington, died August 24, 1805

APPENDIX NO. 16

OTHER ESTEY MEMORABILIA

JOURNAL OF ELIJA HENRY ESTEY

110/110/110

1754

Mar 21 Wednesday Amos &
Fred Carting Box logs
and 2 loads of Pine wood
to K. J. M. Co.

22 Thursday, Fred went
to Hyde Park with 71
Basket of Charcoal to the
American Tool Co. Amos
helped him load and then
Carted logs. Harley Carting
paid bill to date John Sick

23 Friday Amos & Fred
Carted logs to mill
K. J. M. Co sent check for
Bill rendered. W. E. Eadell
sent Note for \$60.
John Sick

24 Saturday. Amos & Fred
Carting box logs paid
O. M. Lord bill for wheat grain
paid \$11.00 on Carting logs



Face Rock
Pleasant St.

Sp...

*** HEADQUARTERS ***

Revere Post, No. 94, G. A. R.

DEPARTMENT MASSACHUSETTS

Meetings Second THURSDAYS at 8 o'clock.

Tanton, Mass., November 19th 1903.

Resolved, It has pleased our Heavenly Father to
call our late Comrade Elijah W. Estey from our midst.
Therefore, be it Resolved,

That while we bow with submission to the will of the great
Commander of us all, we cannot forget the Comrade who
has in days past met with us so many times.

Resolved: that we recognize in the life of our departed com-
rade, those principles of honor and patriotism which adorn
in a high degree the life of every American citizen.

Resolved, that we extend to the family, our sincerest
sympathy in their bereavement, commending them to the
God of the widow and the fatherless.

Resolved, that their resolutions be spread upon the
Records of the Post and also a copy be sent to the family
of our late Comrade.

Horace D. Stone

J. C. Stone

Secretary

A muster roll of the company that marched to Moon Island under the command of Capt. James Endicott, Jr., Col. Benjamin Gill's Regiment, June 13th, 1776, when the Ministerial fleet was driven out of Boston Harbor:

Capt. James Endicott,
First Lieut. David Lyon,
Lieut. Benjamin Tucker,
Sergt., Isaac Billings.

Babcock, Enoch	Kennedy, Samuel
Billings, Daniel	Kenny John
Billings, Frederic	Lyon, Elijah
Billings, Samuel	[Drummer.
Briggs, Samuel	McKendry Wm.
Blackman, Oliver	Pierce, Seth
Blake, Stephen	Pitcher, Ekanah
Blake, Aaron	Puffer, Joseph
Crane, Nathaniel	Redman, Robert
Crane, Abner	Shepard, William
Crane, Lemuel	Shepard, Jacob
Crane, William	Smith Benjamin
Dickerman, Enoch	Smith, John
Esty, Joseph	Spur, Redman
Fisher, Ebenezer	Spear, John
Fisher, Lemuel	Sumner, John
[Fifer.	Tucker, Daniel
Fisher, Nathaniel	Wentworth, E.
Haus, Elisha	Wentworth, Jacob
Hill, Sylvanus	Wentworth, Seth
Ingraham, J.	Wentworth, Chas.
Jordan, Thomas	Withington, John

Stoughton of Old.

We shall publish from time to time lists of the men who went from the town of Stoughton and served for greater or less time in the Revolutionary Army. Our readers will bear in mind that at this time the town of Stoughton embraced a much larger territory than at present.

Muster of Capt. Wm. Bents Company in 36th regiment of foot in ye Continental Army, Oct. 5, 1776.

Allen, Abijah	Lyon, Elijah
Billings, Nathan	Maddan, John
Billings, Jonathan	McKendry, Wm.
Busey, Benj. Jr.	Moore, Thomas
Blackman Wm.	May, John Jr.
Chandler, Samuel	Mero, Josiah
Curmet, William	Mero, Amariah
*Crane, Ebenezer	*Miller, Lewis
*Daniel, Nathaniel	Miller, Henry
Esty, Joseph	Perley, Henry
Esty, Joseph Jr.	Puffer, Joseph
Flood, Stephen	Stodder, Lemuel
*Glover, Thomas	Spear, Richard
*Glover, Joshua	*Smith, Philip
Henry, Michel	*Vose, Jonathan
*Houghton, Elijah	Withington, Edw.
*Houghton, Seth	Wentworth, Joseph
Jordan, Jacob	Wentworth, Chas.
Jordan, Benjamin	Wentworth, Seth
Jordan, Egnatius	Wentworth, Enoch
Kenny, David	Wentworth, Daniel
Kenny, Nathaniel	Wentworth Eben'r
Kenny, Samuel	* From 1780

The following letter was in long-hand in the original book but was too faded to copy as well as damage to the book's binding might have occurred if an attempt to copy it had been made.

789 Third St.

South Boston

Jan. 1917

Dear Amilia,

We received your letter and was very glad that you liked the little caps. You must have had a very nice Christmas, judging from your letter

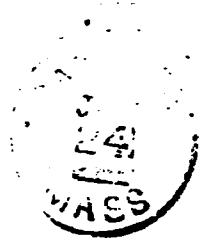
We also had a fun time, but as you say, the kids get everything and we are kind-of in the cold. Karl had a tie, silk stockings, a puff for his crib, a big engine and a coal car that he rides his stuffed cat in, a very large steam boat that I fall over every time I walk, a fire engine, watch, book, a dog, a horse and cart, a wheel-barrow, a clown that stands on his head, a large cart so I can take him to see you this summer and some money. So you can see he fared pretty well, and if you could see me trying to navigate through that kitchen without being run over by at least two of them you would be glad that Santa only came once a year. I am writing with this pencil because my son took a notion to write Santa Claus with my pen and now it is sadly bent. I pity you when yours grow up, for with two like Karl, you will have to write with a tooth pick. I fared pretty well for an old lady, a pair of silk slippers and a cap that would completely take you by storm, and I guess I'll have to go on parade with them, a petty coat hanger, a cut-glass dish, an apron, handkerchief, a pretty scarf, a picture and some money - Wish you could come in some day and see me, would be glad to have you. Remember me to all the folks and wish everybody a Happy New Year.

Lovingly,

Hat

P.S.

Write when you can.



Rev. Henry Morrison,
Folly Village,
D. Scotia

Sent ^{to} 2/100 to Law
June 28, '86
H.C.M.

Canter June 23rd (1896)
Mr. Morrison

Would you
please send Father a
line so to set him at
ease. You know he is
old and childish, and
he is afraid you did
not get the letter I
wrote last month, and
then again he wants the
money before the 1st of July
if you can possibly send
it. Yours -
O. M. Law.

Canton June 30th/86
Dear Sir -

P.O. Order for \$27.00.
received to day with thanks
your spoke of paying all the
money. If it dont make any
difference to you we would
just as leave it - because
its just as well in your
hands perhaps better. we
are very much obliged for
your kind offer but we
dont want to trouble you
at all. keep the money till

time. it may happen that
we will have to ask you for
it - time enough then.

Yours with respect
Aemie Quinn
Canton

(1886?)

Canton, —

Mr. Morrison,

Since I wrote
to you last. It seems
as though Father is
going down, each you
will see that he is
not quite right in his
mind we cant keep
him here unless we force
him to stay and if we
do that he will just
go crazy. for all his talk
is to go home. he has

acted kind of strange.
for some time. now
if he goes down to you
and wants the money
why do not give it to
him all at once at
any rate. because he
is not capable of taking
care of it. You will see
for your self and do
what you think right.
Yours. Amos Lawrence

APPENDIX NO. 17

ESTEY FAMILY CHART

From Jeffrey (b. 1515) to Karl A. Gelpke

Jeffrey Estie b. 1515 (?) d. 12/06/1592 - m. ?

John

Edmund

William

Thomas

Richard

Jeffrey

Ann

Christopher b. 1552 - d. 11/07/1621

m. 05/01/1586 Ann Arnold d. 05/26/1623

Thomas

An

Edmund

Christopher

George

Edmund

Elizabeth

Jeffrey Esty b. 1587 - d. 01/04/1657

m. 05/29/1606 Margaret Pott (or Pote)

Mary

Catherine

Isaac b. 1627 - d. 1712

m. Mary Towne b. 1634 - d. 09/22/1692

Jacob

Isaac

Sarah

John

Hannah

Benjamin

Sammuel

Joshua

Joseph b. 02/05/1658 - d. 10/25/1738 (see next page)

m. 06/02/1682 Jane Stewart

APPENDIX NO. 17 (continued)

Joseph b. 02/05/1658 - d. 10/25/1738 (see previous page)

m. 06/02/1682 Jane Stewart

Isaac

Mary

Jacob **

Samuel

Elizabeth

Edward

Lydia

John

Benjamin

Joseph b. 05/05/1688 - d. 02/08/1765

m. 06/16/1714 Experience Bennet

Theodore

Experience

Elijah

Frances

Ruth

Joseph Estey b. 12/08/1724 - d. 05/28/1780

m. 07/10/1755 Hannah Callahan b.05/07/1733

Hannah

Joseph

Eunice

Elizabeth

Elijah

Experience

John b. 05/17/1762 - d. 03/06/1833

m. 12/18/1794 Irena Sumner b. 1773

John

Polly

Elijah

Moses

Avery

Sally

Francis

Willard b. 04/26/1809 - d. 12/03/1875 (see next page)

** See page 152 for line from Jacob to George Warren Estey

APPENDIX NO. 17 (continued)

Willard b. 04/26/1809 - d. 12/03/1875 (see previous page)

m. 08/1837 Mary Blake Randall

Willard

Clinton

Jane

Mary

Herbert

Clara

Julia

Elijah b. 08/03/1841 - d. 09/1903

m. 01/14/1864 Harriet Louise Gay

Henry

John

Amos

Hartford

Susan

Earl

Frederick

Maudie

Otis

George b. 12/15/1868 - d. 08/15/1947

m. 03/09/1888 Annie Law d. 04/12/1954

Herbert

Elsie

Edward

Elijah

Harriet b. 10/22/1891 - d. 09/19/1918

m. 11/29/1913 Charles H. Gelpke

Karl Adelbert b. 10/02/1914 - d. 01/28/1993

m. Amanda Peirce Macy

Paul Forrest b. 06/17/1917

APPENDIX NO. 17 (continued)

This page was not in the original printing of this book (G. W. Estey, 1998):

Jacob b. 10/15/1657 - d. 04/1777_ (See page 150 for line back to Jeffrey of Hintlesham)

m. Mehitable Porter

Jacob, Jr.

Judith

Jeremiah

Abigail

Hannah

Elijah

John b. 12/14/1733 _ d. 11/27/1811

m. 12/08/1762 Abigail Gould b. 1741 d. 09/25/1816

John

Elizabeth

Eleanor

Abigail

John

Lucy

Elijah

Jeremiah b. 09/09/1775 d. 13 Sept. 1855

m. 03/19/1808 Judith French

Judith

Jeremiah

Abigail

Elijah

Hannah

Fanny

John

Willard Gould b. 09/13/1818

m. 05/04/1850-51 Mary S. Green

Willard Alden b. 10/16/1856 - d. 09/03/1925

m. Lizzie Sarah Ballou

George Willard b. 08/19/1883 - d. 08/26/1938

m. 11/11/1905 Mae Lydia (Sloggy) Larson b. 06/15/1881 - d. 08/26/1936

Vivian Hanna (Larson) adopted by George

George Warren

Marvin Willard b. 12/11/1906 - d. 06/21/1961

m. 02/14/1931 Violet Althea Dixon b. 07/14/1908 - d. 11/08/1978

Marvin Willard, II

m. Mary Sharon Plumb

Sara Ann

m. 09/22/1991 Jeff Sauvageau, Orange, CA

Bryce Michael

David Ian

m. 02/1996 Lorie "FLAP" Williamson, Boise, ID

APPENDIX NO. 17 (continued)

This page was not in the original printing of this book (G. W. Estey, 1998):

Ethan Paul

m. 07/11/1998 Clara Serrita, at the Cathedrale de Saint-Brieuc,
Saint-Brieuc, France by Ethan's father

Molly Marie

m. 04/23/1998 Steven John Stamper, at Guadalupe Church,
Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

Joshua Michael

George Warren

m. (1st) 03/21/1964 Patricia Ann Dunn

Gregg Allan

Yvonne Jeannine

m. 11/20/1987 Robert D. Kester, Vestal, NY

Jeremy Nathan Kester

Aaron Matthew Kester

Michael James

m. (2nd) 09/22/1990 Kathleen Lara (Nixon) Jackson

Carolyn Marie Jackson (Stepdaughter)

John Stephen

m. Lorraine Leslie Anderson

Diana Lynne

m. 02/25/1989 James E. Ruonala

Avery Christiansa

Page Elise

Stephen John

Karen Jane

m. 01/16/1993 Walter Eugene Singley

April 22, 1993

Dear George,

Thank you for the print out of
your Ester, family line.

I have enclosed some copies
from Karl's exhaustive researched
genealogy privately published in
1973. He included a couple of
other lines besides our direct line.
If you could get a copy of Karl's book
you would not have to do much
more research.

We visited John Esty of his home
"Villa d'Este" Sunderland, Mass.
01375 in the early 70s and
Mary Chilton Esty Frenning Sherman
who lived in Chevy Chase, MD.
She looked like a sister of Karl's -
same build and energy. Her story
and that of John (Cushing) Esty (as above)
is told in The Book!

I have included 2 obituaries about
Karl who died Thursday
Jan. 28, 1973 of cancer (bone, bladder
prostate) at Mass. General Hospital,
Boston. While thru the week of
Jan 20-28th he suffered a stroke
which affected his right side - losing
his speech and then had pneumonia
which took his life. He had a Living
Will (Right to die) so he was allowed
to go and was saved any future
excruciating pain. He had ^{an} artificial
aortic valve + pacemaker which had
enabled him since 1976 to be active
in his retirement of which he made
good use and accomplished an
amazing number of projects the last
of which was starting restoration of a
1950 Buick we had stored. We'll
carry out that project in his
memory.

Sincerely,
Amanda Peirce Macy Delpke

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Primary Material

Canton Historical Society Properties - various including:

Ancient Stoughton, Volumes I and II

Diary of Colonel John Gay (as abstracted by D. V. T. Huntoon)

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