

The following information was taken from:

Ancestors and Descendants of Henry Gregory  
Compiled by Grant Gregory<sup>1</sup>

ADAM GREGORY

Adam Gregory was the sire of the Gregorys of Highhurst. He is known to us only because his name in 1567 appeared in a pedigree approved by William Flower, Norroy King of Arms, one of Queen Elizabeth's Heralds, who that year made his official visitation to Lancashire. On file in the College of Arms, Victoria St., London, is the "official" and presumably original transcription of the pedigree of the Highhurst Gregorys, with drawings of two coats of arms. The one to the left (with the crest) was borne by our Gregory ancestors; in the other our arms are impaled with those of the Onslow family. A photostat of pedigree and arms was taken for this book by order of A. T. Butler, Esq., a sub-Herald with the title Portcullis. The frontispiece of this volume is a reproduction of it. The first two paragraphs of the pedigree follow:

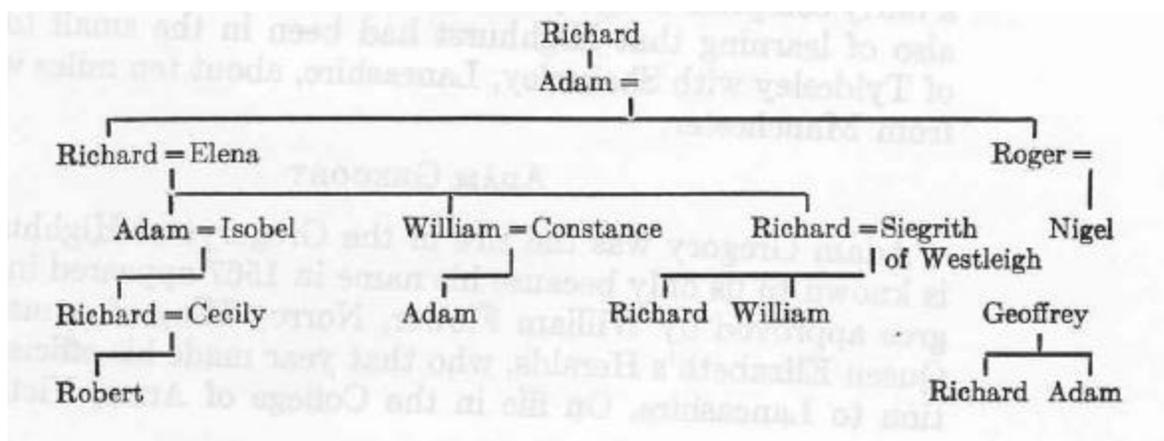
"Adam Gregorye of Highehurste in com Lanc gent maryed a Daughter and one of the heires of Adam Ormston of Ormeston in com Lanc gent and by her had yssue Gregorye sonne and heire

"Wyllyam Gregorye of Highehurste in com Lanc gent lyneallye descended from Adam Gregorye aforesayde married Dorothe Daughter to Mr. Parre of Kempenhoarghe in com Lanc gent and by her hath the yssue John Gregorye sonne and heire-Heughe seconde sonne and John third sonne."

In an examination of thousands of English records and books I found no other reference that with certainty related to this Adam Gregory, except in other pedigrees drawn or copied from this one. Nearly 200 years elapsed between Adam and his descendant William. Proud must our Sixteenth Century Gregorys have been of this ancient alliance with the manorial Ormestons of Ormeston (Urmston-modern spelling) since this marriage was remembered even after five or six intermediate generations of Gregorys had been forgotten. Flower was impressed by the proofs presented else he would not have allowed the quartering of the Gregory lions with the spear heads of the Ormestons. This quartering was proof that the bride was an heiress.

We know a little more about our Ormeston ancestors than we do about Adam Gregory.

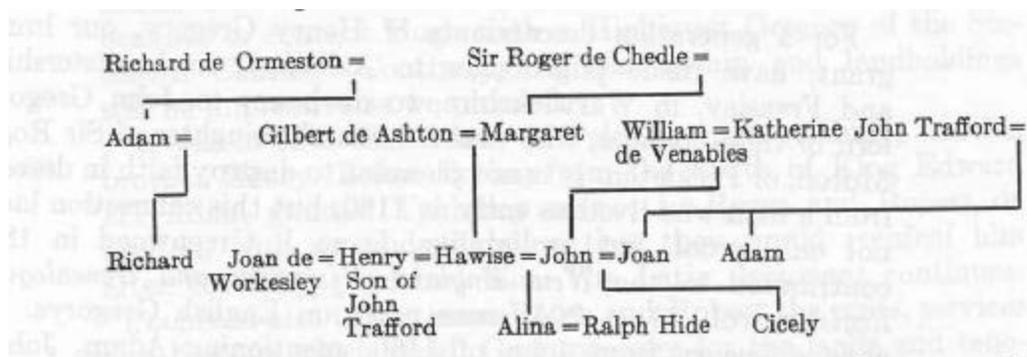
ORMESTONS OF ORMESTON



The township of Urmston, in which is the manor of Urmston, is in Lancashire, about four miles southwest from Manchester. An early holder of the manor was Richard de Ormeston, who in 1193-4 gave 40 shillings for the King's good will after a rebellion.<sup>2</sup> His successor and probably his son was Adam, who held a carucate (about 120 acres) in 1212, in the reign of King John.<sup>3</sup> As this Adam de Ormeston had a son who inherited the manor it does not seem likely that it was his daughter who was married to Adam Gregory. A rule of primogeniture, rather well established by that time, did not permit daughters to inherit land (held by military service) jointly with a brother. The bride of Adam Gregory was an heiress.

The only other Adam de Ormeston who was lord of the manor, so far as my search showed, was the son of Richard, son of the first Adam. About 1288 Nigel, son of Roger, presumable son of Adam I, demanded that Adam II turn the manor over to him.<sup>4</sup> Adam II had a son Richard to whom and to Richard's wife Cecily in 1300 Adam II gave three oxgangs of land in Urmston, but this son Richard did not inherit the manor.<sup>5</sup> Adam II was driven by debt to break the entail and dispose of his Urmston lands in a trade. He seems the most likely father-in-law for Adam Gregory. There were later Adam Ormestons, but they did not own the manor.<sup>6</sup>

A deposition preserved by the Hide family of Denton was copied into Harleian ms. No. 2112, p. 121. It relates a tale of tragedy and romance in which most of the characters axe supposedly ancestors of ours. This table shows the relationship of the dramatis personae.



In 1305, Adam II, son of Richard de Ormeston and presumable father-in-law of Adam

Gregory, being in debt conveyed to Gilbert de Ashton all his lands in Ormeston. In trade Gilbert gave Adam half the town of Ashton-upon-the-Mersey and other lands. When Gilbert's daughter Hawise as a child was married to Henry, son of John Trafford, it was arranged that Ormeston manor, after the death of Gilbert, was to go to Henry and Hawise. But they were divorced, and she was married secondly to John de Venables, to whom she bore a daughter Alina.<sup>7</sup>

About this time John Trafford in a "duel" killed Gilbert on Borrowfield Bank behind Ormeston Hall.<sup>8</sup> From Gilbert's strong box he stole the deed to the manor. To rob Alina of her rights as heiress of Gilbert, John and Henry Trafford, through a false consent, attempted to give the manor to Richard, son of Adam de Ormeston, and to share the lands with him. Alina's own father joined the conspiracy against her; he tried to force her to marry Adam, a son of John Trafford. Alina at night fled; then wedded a suitor more to her liking-Ralph, son of Sir John Hide, of Hide and Norbury, Cheshire. In court Ralph and Alina recovered the manor of Ormeston. Yet for many years afterward Ormestons were making claims to Ormeston lands, in litigation with the Hides, who owned the manor for two centuries. Ralph and Alina were grandparents of Maude Hyde, who was m. to our William Gregory the Younger. Ralph was brother of Robert Hyde, direct ancestor of Queens Mary and Anne, of England.<sup>9</sup>

After Adam Ormeston II broke the entail to Ormeston there seemed no reason that his daughter should not inherit land from him. Isobel was his widow. Richard, his son, was a minor in 1305. If Adam Gregory was of Richards generation he would fit nicely to be father of Hugh Gregory of 1341, whom soon I shall discuss.<sup>10</sup>

For a generation descendants of Henry Gregory, our immigrant, have made pilgrimages to Asfordby, in Leicestershire, and Freasley, in Warwickshire, to do honor to John Gregory, lord of those manors, who married Maud, daughter of Sir Roger Moton, of Peckleton. It is not pleasant to destroy faith in descent from a man who lived as early as 1160, but this connection lacks not only proof, but probability. Isaac J. Greenwood in 1869 contributed to the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol. 23, p. 304, some notes on English Gregorys. He gave a lineage from John of 1160, mentioning Adam, John's grandson. He also gave the pedigree of the Highhurst Gregorys of Lancashire which began with an Adam. He did not assert that the two Adams were one man, but he did hint that Highhurst descendants were of the Freasley family. In American Ancestry, vol. 1, p. 33, a compiler boldly assumed that Adam of Highhurst was the grandson of John of Freasley, (Freseley), giving Greenwood as authority.

One of these Adams apparently lived in Freasley, in the northern tip of Warwickshire, and the other seventy miles north from there, in Lancashire. Their families bore different arms. In many years of searching I found no English record that even hinted they were one man. There is no more reason to connect Adam of Highhurst with the Freasley man than with Adam Gregory of Northamptonshire in 1318, or with Adam Gregory, a tenant in Stoke Goldington, Bucks, in 1234-5.<sup>11</sup> Of more interest to us than these is Adam Gregory de Walton, who at York, May 24, 1327, was pardoned, probably for rebelling. Two of the English Waltons were in Lancashire. Walton le Dale was in the Hundred of Blackburn. The other was in the Hundred of West Derby in which was Highhurst.

Hugh Gregory

With Hugh Gregory we enter a more satisfactory part of our family history, because his name

and doings are preserved in half a dozen of the durable parchments of the Middle Ages. That he was of the Highhurst family is highly probable because of his ownership of land in Tyldesly township, in which was Highhurst, and in Astley township, adjoining Tyldesley on the south. The Victoria Hist. of Lancs. vol. III, p. 448, does not hesitate to connect Hugh with a Highhurst Gregory of the Sixteenth Century. Continuity of relationship and landholdings will be impressive as we proceed.

It was in 1341 that Adam de Tyldesley, son of Hugh, slew his brother Henry. Before fleeing from the wrath of King Edward III Adam granted Tyldesley manor to Roger and Robert de Hulton, with an understanding that they would reenfeoff him after the King pardoned him. The Latin document continues: "I conceded also to the same Roger and Robert the rents, services and homage which Hugh Gregorie owes for the lands and tenements which he holds of me in the same vill of Tyldeslegh." This means that Hugh was a feudal subordinate of the Tyldesley family and owed it military service, or its equivalent in cash. He was a freeholder and presumably a yeoman. The Hultons failed to return the manor to the Tyldesleys, who sued for it in 1413.<sup>12</sup>

Joan and Ellen le Tailour, in 1351 and 1352, recovered a freehold cottage with seven acres in Astley which Hugh Gregory had transferred to Henry de Tyldesley.<sup>13</sup>

The Fourteenth was a rough century, especially in Lancashire. In 34 Ed. III, (1360-1) Hugh was in the Assize court charged with wounding Adam, son of Richard the Nayler at Cheydock. Perhaps there had been a feud, or Hugh had collected a bill with cudgel or sword, after the fashion of the day. Hugh with his long bow may have fought in 1346 at the battle of Crecy, under the Hultons, or the Constable of Chester, overlord of Astley. In 1349 the Great Plague or Black Death invaded Lancashire, sweeping away half the population.

## ROBERT GREGORY

Robert was the son of Hugh Gregory. He married Katherine, daughter of Thurston de Tyldesley (son of Richard) of the younger branch of that family, but founder of the more distinguished line. These facts appear in roll 439, membrane 11b, of the Lancashire Assize Court, telling of a 12-year lease, and in the account of an "agreement" made Feb. 27, 1357, between Thurston and Robert and Katherine, related by A. W. Farrer in his Lancs. Fines, Part II. In England in the Middle Ages, because of the difficulty, expense and insecurity of ordinary conveyancing of land, there arose fictitious methods of passing titles; as for instance the "fine and recovery" in which the purchaser brought suit, pretending already to own the land, and the seller allowed the case to go by default. As these Gregory-Tyldesley incidents were interpreted by an expert for this book Katherine de Tyldesley, a minor, was married to Robert Gregory in or before 27 Edward III (1354-5). Her father gave her 20 marks (a large sum for that day) as a marriage portion; also 35 acres in Tyldesley, with three messuages (houses). Lancashire acres were larger than our acres. Thurston retained for his life the use of the realty, but by the fiction of a 12-year lease provided that his son-in-law was to perform the feudal services.<sup>14</sup> Perhaps the land conveyed was Highhurst itself. Thurston married Margaret, daughter of Jorden de Worsley, and thus became master of Wardley Hall in Worsley, the township east of Tyldesley.

Robert Gregory in Easter week, 1376, came to court with Thomas de Tyldesley, his attorney, who doubtless was his brother-in-law of that name and who became sergent-at-law, or attorney, for

King Henry IV. Through a fictitious suit Robert acquired 10 Astley acres and a house.<sup>15</sup>

### WILLIAM GREGORY The ELDER

Robert de Moston of Chester and Cecily, his wife, in 1402 gave William, son of Robert Gregory, all their lands in Urmston.<sup>16</sup> Robert de Moston was probably from the family seated at the manor of Moston in the Parish of Manchester. There seems little doubt that William Gregory was his son-in-law. William Gregory and Thomas Hyde are referred to as Urmston landowners in Harleian ms., No. 2042, fol. 384, a copy of a copy of part of the Great Inquest of Service under King John in 1212, written by the third Randle Holme. Holme got it from a "Book of John Hide of Urmston", and clearly made an error in treating these Fifteenth Century landowners (Gregory and Hyde) as if they were of the Thirteenth. The daughter of Thomas Hyde was married to William Gregory the Younger of Leigh. Highhurst was in the Parish of Leigh.

William Gregory (the Elder) was a bailiff of the Hundred, or "wapentake," of West Derby. He held the Hundred Court, aided the sheriff and collected taxes. The ministers' accounts of the Duchy of Lancaster show that in 3 Henry VI (1425-6) he was in prison for arrears of fines of £82-14-2. As "William Gregory of Leghe, county Lanc., yeoman" he had been indicted in 2 Hy VI. The next year he was called "of Tyldesley" when remanded to the custody of the sheriff, Sir Robert Lawrence, for not paying the fine. So, year after year, either "of Leigh" or "of Tyldesley", he could not or would not pay the heavy fine. "On the Monday after the assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 11 Hy VI" (1434) a coroner reported in court: "The aforesaid William Gregory died in prison in the castle of Lancaster."<sup>17</sup> As his side of the story was not found we shall never know why he rotted in a dungeon for ten years. He may have been as venal as the average office holder of his day, or may have offended by not squeezing enough taxes from his neighbors, or may have had the enmity of some powerful-nobleman. Parliament in 1419 tried to protect persons in Lancashire from false charges.<sup>18</sup> The Chancery Court, in April 1434, ordered a post mortem inquiry as to the lands and heirs of William Gregory.<sup>19</sup> That this William owned Highhurst I have not a doubt. I found no hint that there was more than one Gregory family that had extensive lands in Tyldesley, Astley and Urmston and could furnish bridegrooms acceptable to the powerful gentry of that part of Lanes.

The inquisition post mortem of Sir Richard de Radcliffe of Wymersley in 1432 showed that William Gregory paid annually 13s, 4d, for lands in Astley.<sup>20</sup> In 1415 Sir Richard de Radcliffe took fifty archers to France for the brilliant campaign of King Henry V. Our William as one of these may have fought at Agincourt.<sup>21</sup>

Sir William Gregory, b. about 1400, and an interesting Lord Mayor of London in 1451, was probably from a younger branch of the Highhurst Gregorys. He bore the same arms as they, with the exception that the two lions rampant instead of having their faces turned away from each other had them gardant. The mayor's father was Roger of Mildenhall, Suffolk. The Tyldesley Gregorys had a Roger.<sup>22</sup>

### WILLIAM GREGORY THE YOUNGER

Copies of many of the Hyde family papers are in Harleian Ms., No. 2112, written by Randle

Holme and now in the British Museum. The following on pp. 124, 160, interests us:

"Thomas Hide, of Ormeston, Esq, acknowledges being bound to William Gregory ye Elder of Leigh in 41 pounds; dated Wednesday after St. Chad, 5 Henry V (1418). This indenture of award beares witness yt (that) Thomas de Booth, of Barton, Esq., maketh a match between William Gregory the younger of Legh and Mawd, the daughter of Thomas Hide. The portion of the marriage is XXI pounds and her joynture XL shillings. Given at the Hope the Friday before Whitsunday, anno 7 Hy V, (May, 1420).

"The condition is that if Thomas Hide doe hold the award of Robert of Urmeston, Moyné of Birched, James of Hulme of Barton and John of Worsley touching the marriage of the aforesaid William Gregory and Mawde, ye daughter of Thomas Hide, that then- " The dinner bell may have called the writer away at the word "then," so we are short a few interesting particulars. The marriage portion would amount to between \$2,500 and \$5,000 in present values. The wedding was in 1422 or 1423.<sup>23</sup> This was the second time one of our Gregorys picked a bride from Urmston manor. There are sound reasons for believing that Leigh above was not the village of Leigh two miles from Tyldesley, but the Parish of Leigh in which was Tyldesley.

### William GREGORY III

In the Chancery Court of the Palatine of Lancaster from 1464 to 1468 was aired a suit arising from a debt William Spakeman, deceased, of Worsley, had owed. William Gregory of Tyldesley, yeoman, was the first of six defendants (including Joan Spakeman, the widow) mentioned as owing 40s. each. This looks as if William had married the eldest daughter of Spakeman. William may have been a William III of Highhurst, or perhaps he was William the Younger, no longer young.<sup>24</sup>

Ralph Gregory between 1445-6 and 1481 often appears in the records. In 1460-1 he was "of Astley", but usually he was "of Tyldesley", and once "of Shakerley", a hamlet in the northwestern part of the township of Tyldesley-with-Shakerley, to give it its full name. Ralph was a mercer, that is a dealer in silks and other textiles. His name suggests he was a son of William Gregory the Younger and Maude Hyde, granddaughter of Ralph Hyde, probably a younger son.

On March 24, 1468-9 (8 Edward IV) Ralph Gregory, mercer, of Tyldesley, and seventeen others were charged with an armed attack at Westle (West Leigh) on Sir William Harrington, lord of the manor of Westle, and others. I believe that this and a fatal affray at Eccles in which Ralph also took part were irruptions in the War of the Roses, Ralph supporting the red rose of Lancaster. In the Eccles affair was also Richard Gregory, mercer, of Tyldesley, who again was mentioned in 1497-8.<sup>25</sup>

Another Tyldesley Gregory contemporary with Ralph was Roger, yeoman, who, in 1461, was sued by Thurston Tyldesley for breaking, with arms, into his close in Tyldesley, tramping grain, etc. All these Gregorys doubtless were near relatives in the Highhurst family.<sup>26</sup>

### John GREGORY I

King Edward IV, a tyrant, extorted money from his subjects through forced gifts and obsolete statutes--especially from Lancastrians. When Robert Atherton, the King's bailiff, in 1481-2, levied on

the live stock of "John Gregore of Ormeston, gent., for certain issues, forfeitures and amercements" connected with his land in Ormeston, John,- his order of arrest continued, "recaptured by force of arms the animals, in contempt of us", us being the King. My long and intensive study of Lanes. Gregorys convinces me that no Gregory of Tyldesley, Astley or Ormeston (now Urmston) at that time could have achieved the coveted title gentleman except the owner of Highhurst, or perhaps his son or brother. John may have been called "of Ormeston" merely because his beasts had been seized on his land there, or perhaps he was living there instead of on his Highhurst estate. Similar charges in the same warrant were made against five other gentlemen, including Oliver Standish of Shevynghton, and two yeomen.<sup>27</sup> It seems likely this was the John Gregory who served on juries in southern Lanes. every year between 1475 and 1482 and on Sept. 22, 1483, was reported dead. Perhaps death was his penalty for daring to recapture his animals from the King. Jurors then had to be rather important freeholders. Robert Washington frequently served with John.<sup>28</sup> After John's death another John Gregory was a juror three times between March 10, 1483-4, and Aug. 8, 1496. Perhaps he was a son of the former, or even a younger brother. In those Catholic days brothers sometimes were named for St. John the Baptist and St. John the Apostle.<sup>29</sup>

The considerable estate of Joan Gregory, widow, was settled before Aug., 1516. As two of her executors were Peter Shakerley who owned Tyldesley land and Thomas Astley of Peel Hall, Astley (both esquires and important), she would seem to be a Highhurst dowager. Joan reminds us of Joan Spakeman whose daughter probably was married to William Gregory III.<sup>30</sup>

#### William Gregory IV

Now we have reached William Gregory (called IVth for convenience), who is our known Highhurst ancestor-of the 1567 lineage approved by Flower, a herald. See the frontispiece. After a reference to Adam Gregory the pedigree (in present day English and spelling) continues:

"William Gregory of Highhurst in county Lane., gent., lineally descended from Adam Gregory aforesaid, married Dorothy, daughter of Mr. Parre of Kempnough in county Lane., gent., and by her has issue John Gregory, son and heir; Hugh, second son, and John, third son.

"John Gregory of Highhurst in county Lane., gent., son and heir to William aforesaid, married Anne, one of the daughters and coheirs of George Anneslowe of Rodington in county Salop, esquire, and by her has issue Gilbert, son and heir; Lionel, second son, and Richard, third son."

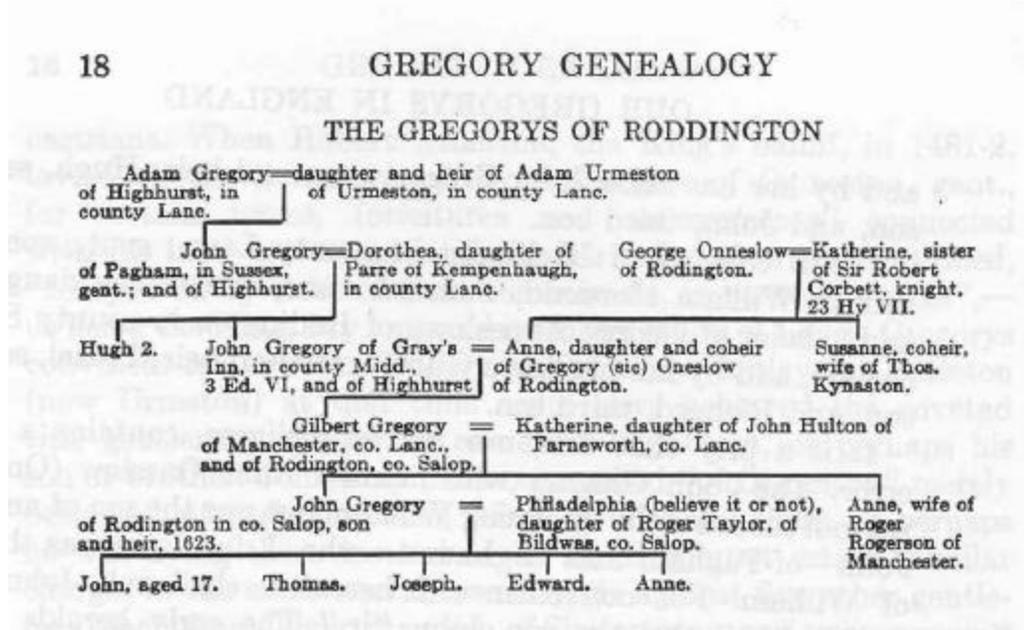
It is a pity that this, our official pedigree, contains a gross error. The John Gregory who married Anne Oneslow (Onslow) was not the son of the foregoing William, but was the son of another John-of Paghams and Highhurst-who I feel sure was the son of William. For convenience I hereafter shall call John, the father, "sr." and the son John "jr." The early heralds made many blunders; "they cared more for fees than records." I believe that John jr., who was head of the house of Highhurst in 1567, gave correctly his line to Flower, Norroy King of Arms, but that Flower, or a subordinate, copied John's notes carelessly, or became confused over his own notes, and perhaps gave William two sons named John instead of a son and grandson of that name. Hugh (our ancestor), son of William, must have been born about 1500, about 25 years before the birth of John jr., and been uncle of the latter.

William Gregory, in 1503, was a juror in the successful recovery suit of James, son and heir of

John Pemberton, who charged that Geoffrey Molyneux and friends, after the death of John, had riotously seized John's manor of Halsenet (Halsnead) in the township of Wiston, to the "merveile and displeasor of the King." Wiston lies westerly from Tyldesley, in the same hundred-West Derby. A jury in a case involving a manor would then have consisted of important landowners of the general neighborhood. This description fits the other jurors that I studied, so I believe William was William IV, master of Highhurst. The addresses of him and several other jurors were not given, indicating they were well known.<sup>31</sup>

### THE ELDER Highhurst Line

John Gregory, gent., of Rodington, Shropshire, son of Gilbert, son of John jr., of Highhurst, Oct. 4, 1623, submitted a chart of his pedigree to Robert Treswell, Somerset Herald, and Augustine Vincent, Rouge Croix, at their visitation of county Salop (Shropshire). As copied by John Withie and translated from the Latin,<sup>32</sup> it follows:



William, father of John sr. (of Pagham), is not in this chart. Perhaps John of Roddington, knowing that John jr. was the son of John sr. (of Pagham) and not the son of William, tried to correct the earlier pedigree (of 1567) by giving (erroneously) to John sr. William's wife (Dorothy Parre) and a son Hugh. The 1623 John proved that John sr. was father of John jr. by quoting from a marriage portion conveyance, dated 1550, in which "John Gregory, of Pagham, Sussex, gent. and John Gregory of Gray's Inn, Midd., son and heir of the aforesaid John," gave tenements and a messuage in Old Bayley, London, to Richard Corbett, esquire, of Payton, co. Salop, in trust for Anne Gregory, daughter and heir of George Onslow, esquire, formerly of Rodington, dead, and now wife of John Gregory, the son.

John Gregory sr. sold to Roger Worseley some horses, but seized them on Roger's failure to

pay installments. Roger sued; he alleged that John on Sept. 18, in the 12th year of the present King (Hy. VIII-1521-2), at Tyldesley in that place called "Hehirst" took three horses and a mare from Roger.<sup>33</sup> This important paragraph gave us the final proof that Highhurst was in Tyldesley. The Anglo-Saxon word for high is heah. By the 16th Century heah had been reduced to he. In ms. No. 22,653 of the Robert's Collection in the British Museum our early pedigree is indexed "Gregorie de Hehurst." Our ancestors undoubtedly pronounced the name Heehurst.

John Gregory and John Gregory, "son and heir apparent," (no address) in 1546-7 for 100 pounds transferred to William Partyngton six messuages, six gardens, six orchards, forty acres of arable land, eight of meadow and twelve of pasture in Urmston. This probably was land that had been brought to William Gregory the Elder by a Moston bride. Possibly some of it had come through the remote daughter of Adam Ormeston.<sup>34</sup>

John sr. married, perhaps as a second wife, Elizabeth, who seemingly was a daughter of Richard Stoughton (son of Thomas of Surrey,) whose daughter Elizabeth was the wife of "Gregory of Sussex."<sup>35</sup> The will of John Gregory, gentleman, of the Parish of Pagham (in which was a manor of Pagham), Sussex, was signed Nov. 11, 1551, and probated March 4 following in the Prorogative Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury (because John had land in more than one diocese). He gave his soul to God and "our blessed Lady Saynt Mary and to all the holye companey of heaven;" ordered his burial in the Pagham Parish Church; mentioned his wife, Elizabeth (sole executrix), his daughter Margaret, wife of John Mathew, and his son John, to whom went his "best gown and jacket." His lands were entailed. The overseer was "my brother" Stoughton; witnesses were Gregory and Richard Stoughton.<sup>36</sup>

John Gregory jr. studied law at Gray's Inn, London, where he was admitted 1541. He moved to Manchester, near Highhurst, by 1561. The frontispiece pedigree, which he prepared, is headed "Salford Hundred"-in which is Manchester. In a Salford Hundred list was Gilbert Gregory of Highhurst. In the Manchester Cathedral axe records of the burial, June 14, 1588, of John Gregory, gent., of Manchester; the marriage of his son Gilbert and Katherine "Hilton," Feb. 10, 1577; the christening, Nov. 14, 1578, of their son John, and the burial of "Elizabeth, widow of John Gregory, July 10, 1584." She probably was the widow of John sr., of Pagham. I am convinced that John jr. was the John Gregory, gent., who was the Manchester business agent, "deputy steward ... .. Lord's officer," for the powerful Roman Catholic Edward Stanley, 3d Earl of Derby, and who (John) presided over the Manchester Court Leet.<sup>37</sup> Before his death John jr. (perhaps to pay debts) sold much ancestral land. In 1569-70 he and Anne, his wife, for , 40 sterling, conveyed to Robert Edge five acres of meadow, ten of pasture, six of wood, forty of moor, twenty newly plowed and eight of just land, all in Astley. In his *Hist. of The Palatinate of Lanc.*, Baines assumes this land had belonged to Highhurst Gregorys since Robert, son of Hugh Gregory.<sup>38</sup> The same assumption is made in *Victoria Hist. of Counties of England, Lancashire*, vol. III, p. 488.

## THE SALE OF HIGHHURST

On Aug. 8, 1587, ten months before his death, John jr., with Gilbert, his son and "heir apparent," and Richard, his younger son (Lionel evidently was dead), by means of a fictitious claim and

consent, conveyed to Ralph Sorrocolde (Sorocold) a messuage, three cottages, three tofts, four gardens, three orchards, twenty acres of "arable," six of meadow, eight of pasture and some (common pasture for all animals," in Tyldesley and Worsley.<sup>39</sup> Who can doubt that in that sale Highhurst, the home of our ancestors for over 250 years, departed from the Gregorys? The price was £85-16-8, a big sum then. The Worsley property I think had come into the family with Dorothy Parre, or Katherine Tyldesley. Gilbert Gregory moved to Shropshire, where he became lord of the manor of Rodington, inherited through his mother. On his death, Oct. 1, 1593, his son John succeeded him, and quartered the Onslow and Corbett arms with the lions and spear heads.<sup>40</sup>

#### HUGH GREGORY II

We now return to our direct line. About Hugh Gregory I found nothing further than the information contained in Gregory pedigrees-all of which call him a second son; two say son of William. He married Mary and had a son Thomas. He may have lived in Urmston, and may have moved to Nottinghamshire.

#### THOMAS GREGORY

Thomas Gregory, son of Hugh and Mary, lived in and perhaps had migrated to the town of Over Broughton, earlier called Broughton Sulney, but now Upper Broughton in Nottinghamshire. An overlordship of both Broughton Sulney manor and Lanes. lands by the Honors of Puttney and Tutbury hints at a reason for Thomas moving so far from his ancestral home. His wife was Dorothy Beeston. Beeston families were in both Lanes. and Notts. J. T. Godfrey, historian of Lenton, calls Thomas and John, his son, yeomen (landowning farmers), but I failed to find them mentioned as freeholders or tax payers in Over Broughton. It seems likely that father and son were tenants of the Broughton Sulney Manor, which still retains that name. Law's Hist. of the Hundred of Broxton, 1871, calls Thomas "a small farmer and grazier of Broughton Sulney."

William Partyngton in 1546-7 bought Urmston lands from the John Gregorys, sr. and jr. When John Partyngton in 1559 sold Urmston lands to Edmund Trafford, of Trafford, his tenants included Thomas and John Gregory, and another Thomas Gregory of Hillam, Urmston. A Thomas Gregory in 1543 had a small freehold in Urmston. Perhaps one of these Thomases was Hugh's son.<sup>41</sup>

#### JOHN GREGORY

John Gregory, son of Thomas and Dorothy, married Alice, who may have been a Baylye. He is called "of Broughton Sulney," more likely in his day to mean the manor than the township. I believe they were the John and Alice Gregory who, Aug. 9, 1588, (fine Aug. 14) in Trafford, Lancs., signed papers transferring, for £40, to Ralph Sorrocolde their interest in the same Tyldesley (Highhurst?) and Worsley lands and houses that John jr., Gilbert and Richard Gregory had conveyed a year and a day earlier. This delay perhaps was due to the distance between our John's Over Broughton home and Trafford. To make Sorrocolde's title good this couple had to sign, as John was a "remainder man", meaning that after the deaths of his three cousins and their direct heirs he would have succeeded to these entailed lands.

See on another page a reproduction of the bond with the signatures of John and of Sir Edmund Trafford, commissioner. It was Sir Edmund, or his ancestor, who had bought the Urmston lands on which Thomas and John Gregory were tenants.<sup>42</sup>

The registers of St. Luke's church, Upper Broughton, go back only to 1571. The rector (1923) examined them for this book. He reported finding no reference to Thomas or Henry, and just one to John, as follows:

"Wynefret Gregorie, daughter to John Gregorie, was buried Dec. 20, Anno Dom. 1614."

The name Winifred supports the suggestion that John was a tenant of the manor of Broughton Sulney. Winifred was the name of the wife of Sir Gervase Clifton, who held the manor many years till his death in 1588. His son George married a Winifred. George's son, Sir Gervase, had seven wives, "yet cheerfulness never foresook him," remarks a chronicler. Children of John and Alice Gregory:

1. MICHAEL, possibly a son; In. 4 Feb. 1603, Margery Marshall. He was a glover of Nottingham; will prob. 29 July, 1637. Children christened in St. Peter's, Nott., were: Robert, 4 June, 1604. Bridget, 25 Apr. 1606. John, 7 Feb. 1607. Anne, 30 Sept. 1609. Catherine, 1 Nov. 1611. Michael, 1 Nov. 1613. William, 25 Oct. 1615. Mary, 8 Feb. 1617.
2. WILLIAM, alderman of Nottingham, bur. 23 Aug. 1650; In. Anne, bap., 1 Jan. 1583/84; d. 7 Mch. 1664, daughter of Adam Jackson. Their children, christened in St. Mary's:
  1. John, bap., 25 Feb. 1605/06; In. 9 Feb. 1629, Elizabeth Alton.
  2. Francis, bap., 31 July 1608; bur., 23 Feb. 1664/65; In. Anne.
3. JOHN. He had a son John.
4. EDWARD; no children.
5. **HENRY--our English-American ancestor.**
6. ELIZABETH, prob. a daughter; In. 16 Sept. 1611, Michael Smaley. She died in giving birth to twins, Elizabeth and Margaret. They were christened and the mother was buried 12 July 1612.<sup>43</sup>
7. WINIFRED, bur., 20 Dec. 1614.

#### HENRY GREGORY, EMIGRANT

Henry Gregory probably was born between 1590 and 1595. I found no authority for 1570 as his birth year, which often has appeared in print in America. It was an assumption from the fact that in a suit in 1647 Henry's son John testified that Henry was old and had failing eyesight. Doubtless Henry was "old" in those days at 57, and needed glasses. As in 1625 he seems to have had a loan intended for young men, he then could scarcely have been fifty-five. Presumably he was born in Over Broughton, but in an extensive examination of Notts. records of all sorts I found nothing about his birth or marriage, or the births or baptisms of his children John, Judah and Elizabeth. The earliest record I found of any of Henry's children was this one in "Christenings" in the registers of St. Peter's Parish, Nottingham:

"1625. Anne ye daughter of Henry Gregory the 29 of January." This means 1625-6, and I believe gives us the birth year of our Henry's daughter Anne who was married to William Crooker and lived in Stratford, Ct., and on Long Island. Others of Henry's children christened in St. Peter's were

Triphosa, William and Abigail, all of whom died young. Note the Puritan names of the girls. William, "son of Henry Gregory," was buried Aug. 6, 1635. I found no later date connected with Henry in England, so it seems likely that he sailed for Boston late in that year, or in 1636-not in 1633 as often written. William and Anne were probably named for Henry's rich brother - and sister-in-law, William and Anne. St. Peter's, the church in which our forebear's offspring were baptized, still stands.

Sir Thomas White, in 1542, established the "Coventry Charity," a fund from which every nine years 10 (equivalent to hundreds of dollars now) was to be lent to each of four young men, of "good name and thrift," who had served an apprenticeship in Nottingham. These loans were to aid them in business and to be repaid after nine years. Similar loans were made in four other towns. In *Hallbook No. 3399*, town of Nottingham, p. 59, under "Sutors for the £40," is the following talley, in 1625, of two ballots in which the burgesses chose as one of the four borrowers Henry Gregory:

1st		2nd
1	John Bayley	3
2	Henry Wood	1
3	Mr. Newcome	
4	Roger Millner	
7	George Bladen	2
9	Richard James	
14	Mr. Alvey	
16	Henrie Gregorie	4
19	Mr. Welshe	

It seems that Henry was second man on the first ballot and first or fourth on the second.<sup>44</sup>

### Gone Into New England

Apparently, the same year of the loan, or a year before, Henry was elected a burgess. In the Nott. Guild Hall is a book part of the title of which is: "The Names of the Burgesses within the Towne of Nottingham now lyvinge, October 4, 1625." In the long list-on page 18, headed Leonard Mixe, Mayor (he held office 1624, 1625), is the line:

"Henricus Gregorie, cordweyner. gone into Newe England." A cordwainer is a shoemaker. Henricus is Latin for Henry. The absence of b. n. after his name indicates he was not the eldest son of a burgess. He was eligible because he had served an apprenticeship. This important disclosure that Henry Gregory of Nottingham was a maker of shoes was the last proof needed to establish that he was our known ancestor, Henry Gregory of Stratford, Ct. William, brother of Henry, was a butcher and grazier, who sold his hides to Nott. tanners. It is thus easy to understand why the younger brother chose a leather-goods trade. An apprenticeship then lasted seven to twelve years. The words "gone into Newe England" are in another script from "Henricus Gregorie, cordweyner" and seem to have been written in 1642, three years after the earliest record of Henry in New England. E. L. Guilford, a Nott. expert, and I made independent searches for Henry among Nott. records. Each became convinced that there was

only one Henry Gregory in his years there. Of course, it is possible there were other Henrys.

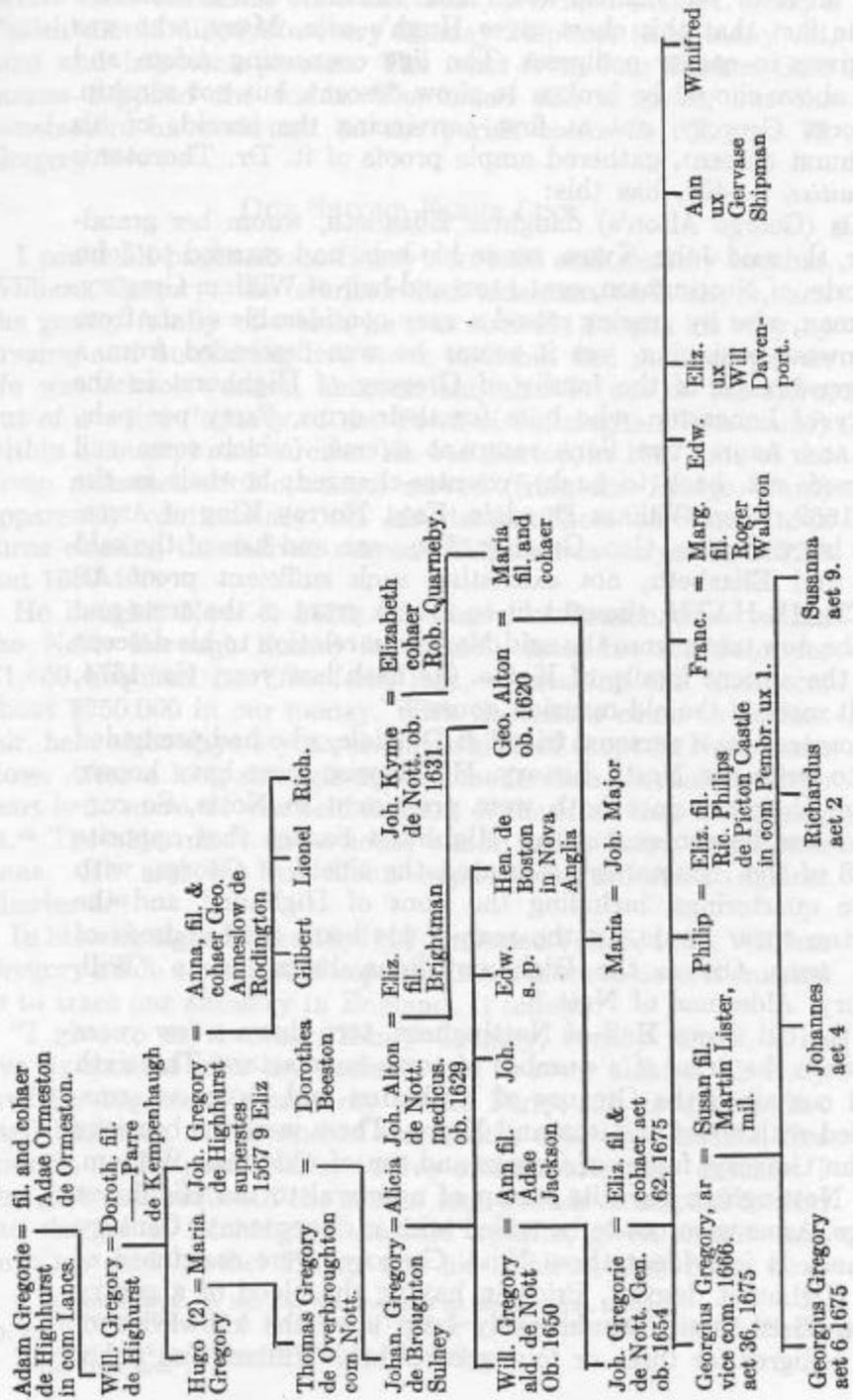
In those days Sherwood forest grew nearer Nottingham than now. Deer often left the chase to browse in the town's outlying fields. Hallbook 3401, p. 27, under date of 1626, has this entry:

"Itt is ordered by the companie thatt Henrie Gregorie and Henrie Dun shalle be feild keeps this year for drivinge oute the deere there and they to have for theire paines heerin five pounds, wch shal be raysed by the payment of two pence an acre of corne and grasse growinge in the feilds,-A

Our Henry was reappointed "field reeve" in 1627, 1629. He doubtless had his politician brother William to thank for this job. William may have backed also Michael Gregory (perhaps their brother), who was sheriff's sergeant from 1625-6 till his death-also a glover (in the leather line!) and had children with the suggestive names, John, William and Anne, christened in Henry's church.<sup>45</sup>

How do we know that Henry Gregory of Stratford, Conn., was descended from the medieval Gregorys of Highhurst? There is much convincing evidence. George Gregory, grandnephew of Henry and grandson of William, prepared an elaborate chart of his ancestry, presumably to submit to the heralds at their Notts. visitation of 1662. In 1675, bringing it up to date, he evidently gave a copy of it to Dr. Robert Thoroton, who, two years later, printed it in his *The Antiquities of Nottinghamshire, extracted out of records, leiger books, other manuscripts and authentic authorities*. This chart is on the opposite page.

Some of the Latinized words in it are: Hugo for Hugh; Maria, Mary; Johannes, John; Alicia, Alice; com., county; and Georgius, George. Hen. (Henricus) de Boston in Nova Anglia of course means Henry of Boston in New England.<sup>46</sup> That Hugh as an ancestor was handed down from father to son is indicated by the fact that this chart gives Hugh's wife, Mary, who was not given in earlier pedigrees. The line connecting Adam and Will. above should be broken to show descent, but not sonship.



The Antiquities of Nottinghamshire, extracted out of records, leiger books, other manuscripts and authentic authorities by Dr. Robert Thoroton in 1675. Names are Latinized words in it are Hugo for Hugh; Maria for Mary; etc...

George Gregory, not at first convincing the heralds of his Highhurst descent, gathered ample proofs of it. Dr. Thoroton's *Antiquities*, p. 497, has this:

"His (George Alton's) daughter Elizabeth, whom her grandfather, the said John Kyme, made his heir, and married to John Gregorie, of Nottingham, gent., son and heir of William Gregory, alderman, who by grazing raised a very considerable estate from the lowest beginning, yet it seems he was descended from a younger branch of the family of Gregory of Highhurst in the county of Lancaster, who bore for their arms, Party per pale, Ar and Azure, two lions rampant averse', (which some call g. endorsed, viz. back to back), counter-changed; howbeit in the year 1662, when William Dugdale, Esq., Norroy King of Arms, made his visitation, Geo. Gregory, Esq., son and heir of the said John and Elizabeth, not exhibiting such sufficient proof AS SINCE HE HATH, thought fit to take a grant of the arms and crest he now useth from the said Norroy in relation to his descent from the antient family of Kyme. He hath last year, viz. 1674, rebuilt most of the old mansion house-

Thoroton was a personal friend of Dugdale, who had persuaded him to write the Notts. history. He likewise must have known George Gregory, since both were prominent in Notts. So convinced was he concerning this Highhurst lineage that opposite p. 488 of the *Antiquities* he printed the shield of George, with twelve quarterings, including the lions of Highhurst and the Urmston spear heads. In the rear of his book are hundreds of Nott. arms. One is the Highhurst lions, belonging to "Will. Gregory, Alderman of Nott."

In the old Town Hall of Nottingham, torn down a few years ago, were the arms of a number of town benefactors. The sixth shield contained the Gregory of Highhurst and Urmston arms, impaled with those of Alton and Kyme. These were the bearings of John Gregory, father of George and son of Alderman William. Thus Nottingham gave its stamp of approval to the Highhurst lineage. Arms were not to be trifled with in Seventeenth Century England. It is evident these Nott. Gregorys were convinced of their Highhurst descent. Pride in having the blood of a gentry and armorial family would easily keep alive the knowledge of their pedigree for three or four generations. William and John, before their deaths in 1650 and 1654, provided that St. Mary's Parish should distribute every Sunday 24 pence to as many old, poor and impotent persons. The rents from four Barker Gate houses supplied the funds. The bread still is given, but the benefactors have shrunk on the parish books to "T. and W. Gregory."<sup>47</sup>

## OUR SECOND ELDER LINE

I could fill pages about Henry's forceful and wealthy brother, William Gregory, the scarlet-robed alderman and mayor, and the gentry family of which he was sire. He fought his way by grazing and butchering live stock to riches and political power. He was school warden, chamberlain, sheriff (not of the shire, but of a weird "county of the Town of Nottingham"-a county 'within a county) and coroner. He was elected, in 1627, one of the seven aldermen of Nott., and served (from the Bridge Ward) apparently continuously till his death. These aldermen took turns electing themselves mayor. William was mayor in 1632-3 and 1639-40.<sup>48</sup>

He bought, Nov. 6, 1630, the manor of Lenton (now within the Nott. Borough limits) for £2,500; later his son John for £1,460 acquired its "fee farm rent,-" making the total cost about

\$250,000 in our money. With the manor came an ancient fair, held eight days a year, during which all shops-in Nott. must close. After a long struggle against modernism the monopolistic mart is no more. It was held in front of the Hart Inn, in Gregory St.<sup>49</sup> The alderman's town house was in Linby Lane, now Bottle Lane. He and his son John supported Parliament against Charles I.<sup>50</sup>

In his will, signed June 18, 1650; probated Feb. 5, 1651, William Gregory made a bequest of supreme importance to us as it enabled us to trace our ancestry in England. It follows:

"I give to my brother, Henry Gregory, twenty marks, if he live six months after my decease, and to every child of his body lawfully begotten (except my cousin Perry, his daughter) that shall be living at the end of six months after my decease, five pounds, to be paid within twelve months after my decease. I also give and bequeath the sum of four pounds to be paid toward the charges of fetching of the said legacies, given as aforesaid unto my said brother Henry and his children, they being now, as I am informed, in the parts beyond the seas called New England. I give and bequeath to my said cousin Perrie, my said brother Henry's daughter, the sum of ten pounds, to be paid within six months after my decease."

The alderman was buried, Aug. 22 or 23, 1650, presumably beside his wife in the cathedral-like St. Mary's. The will remembered the brother John and a nephew John (John's son?), also "my cousin, William Baylye," which suggests that our Henry's mother may have been a Baylye.<sup>51</sup>

George,- son of William's son John, was Notts. high sheriff, 1666. He made a brave fight to keep Charles II and the notorious Jeffreys from destroying Nott's charter.<sup>52</sup>

His son, George 2nd, bap. 1669-70, m. Susanna, daughter of William Williams, of Rempston, Notts.; lived in Lenton; was high sheriff, 1694, and M. P.; bur. 1746. 'William, eldest son of Geo. 2nd, having no issue, was succeeded by the second son, George 3d, who in 1738 m. Elizabeth, granddaughter of Sir Daniel de Ligne. She and George inherited the deLigne manor of Harlaxton, three miles s. w. from Grantham, Lincolnshire where George was high sheriff in 1748. This couple had four sons. The eldest, George DeLigne Gregory, was b. 1740; was Notts. high sheriff, 1793; d. 1822; unmarried. The second son, William, assumed the surname Williams. He was the last of our Gregory high sheriffs-of Notts., 1800. Of his three sons, Gregory Williams (the eldest) resumed our name, becoming Gregory Gregory. George, second son of William Williams and last survivor of the alderman's direct line, died July 15, 1860, whereupon John Sherwin Longdon inherited the manors of Lenton and Harlaxton under an entail, in the will of George deLigne Gregory. Longdon assumed the name Gregory. In 1923 T. S. Pearson Gregory was lord of these Gregory manors.<sup>53</sup>

## OUR ANCIENT NAME

Gregory is the English form of the Greek name Gregorios. Gregorios, says The History of Christian Names (1863), is derived from a late and corrupted form of the Greek verb meaning to watch, or wake. It is easy to understand why so many early bishops were called Gregorios, or Gregorius-the Latin form, since they must watch over their flocks. As the pagans were converted they adopted new names, often those of church fathers, or indicating Christian virtues. This accounts for the distribution throughout Christendom of the name Gregory in its various national forms-Gregoire, French; Gregorio, Italian and Spanish; Gregos, Danish; Gregoor, Dutch; Rehor, Bohemian; and Greis, said to be the Swedish form. It may astonish the many members of our tribe who have confused Gregory and MacGregor to learn that there is no etymological connection between the two names. The Scotch

Gregor is from grig, celtic for fierce, say some authorities, or greigh, a herd, assert others.

In Catholic England many infants were christened Gregory, usually for Gregory the Great (St. Gregory, Pope Gregory I), who was specially popular because he had been instrumental in converting the people of the Kingdom of Kent to Christianity. In the Thirteenth and Fourteenth centuries the common people adopted family names. Many converted their fathers' single appellations into surnames. All over England Gregory families came into existence. The Rotuli Curioe Regis for 1199 gives William Fitz-Gregory, Fitz meaning son. This Gregory, father of William, may have been the sire of one of the earliest English Gregory families. In this way, probably, our family had its beginning in Lanes., perhaps with an Adam filius Gregorii (son of Gregory.)

#### A CHANGE IN THE CALENDAR

The English Parliament in 1751 made Jan. 1 instead of March 25 the first day of the year. The act took effect Jan. 1, 1752. Before that, March had been called the first month and April the second. If, for instance, in this book you see 1672-3 it usually will refer to the period between Jan. 1 and March 25, which under the old style was in 1672, (in this case), but under the new style was in 1673. Eleven days were dropped, making, for instance, Washington's birthday Feb. 22nd, instead of 11th, as it appears in his family's bible.

## FIRST GENERATION

1. **HENRY GREGORY.** The latest information found in England concerning this immigrant sire and founder of a Gregory clan in America was that he had gone to New England and was known to his Nottingham relatives as of Boston. They doubtless knew he had sailed for that port, and perhaps letters from him and his family had been received from there. He presumably had a brief residence in or near Boston, perhaps in Roxbury, Pynchon's town.

Genealogists have written that Henry crossed the ocean in 1633, that on Nov. 22, 1634, he had a grant of land in "South Boston" and that he lived in Dorchester, Mass. In a considerable search among the early records of Boston and its neighboring towns I found no authority for any of these statements. My present belief is that he did not cross the ocean until after Aug. 6, 1635, the date of the burial of an infant who presumably was his son. The high probability is that he came to the new world in 1636.

The following, in Springfield, Mass., is the earliest record mention I found of him in North America: "January 16th, 1638. It is ordered that the three rod of grownd yt (that) lyes betwixt John Woodcock's pale (fence) and Goodman Grigorys Lott shall be appropriated 2 rod of it to Goodman Grigory & one rod of it to Rich: Everit reserving 40 rod for a place for a meeting howse wch is to be allowed out of Goodman Grigorys Lott."

This paragraph is on page 21, in Volume "1 & 2" of the *Town Records* of Springfield. In our way of reckoning this date is Jan. 27, 1639. It is probable that Henry went to Springfield (then called Agawam) many months before that-perhaps in 1636, the year of its settlement, since he seemingly had an original grant of land. In Volume 4, page 4, is "Grants 1st settlers at Springfield." Henry Gregory is written on the margin (Van Hoosear). H. M. Burt in *The First Century of the History of Springfield* tells us that grants of land were made to settlers with the understanding that if they did not remain five years they forfeited their holdings. On Mar. 14Y 1642-43, the town decided to buy Henry's land, so his arrival at least as early as Mar. 1637-38, is indicated. The frequent early spelling Grigory shows that our ancestors then pronounced their name with a short i sound for the e.

The Plantation, May 1, 1645, agreed that "Thomas Stebbinse who is the present owner of the lott wch was Henry Gregorys shall accordinge to ye order p contra allow for ye meetinge howse 6 rods square & what is remayninge of ye 40 rod in yt order mentioned on ye other side he is to allow a rod in breadth for a way to ye trayning place lately purchased of him and francis Ball, & whatever ground is overpluss he hath liberty to appropriate it to his owne proper use."<sup>164</sup>

Henry's original home lot ran southwesterly from Main (then Town) St. to the Connecticut river-"the Great river"-a distance (now) of about 1337 feet. It had an eight rod frontage on the street. Two rods more frontage was granted in trade for land for a church. The location of the long boundaries of the enlarged lot (paralleling the present Elm St.) is- uncertain because of lack of complete data about the early grants and the several widenings of Elm St. Harry A. Wright, author of the *Genesis of Springfield*, thinks Henry's s. e. line was the s. e. line of the present Elm St. Confusion is created by the lot granted Everit. In 1700 the town record (Vol. III, p. 189) refers to the rod given for a way to the training place (Elm St.) by Stebbins, and continues: "but we find no mention of that rod that was given to Richard Everit who deserted the towne we suppose it fell into the town againe it being a way of great improvement for carting," etc. There is a hint in what appear to be eleven rods of frontage fence sold by

Henry to the town that he may have acquired Everit's lot. At any rate his n. w. line lay considerably more than half the distance up the present Court Square from Elm St. A descendant of Goodman Gregory standing in the lower part of this impressive square is on ancestral land. The first church building stood near the easterly corner of the square, facing Elm St. Ball acquired the homelot of Woodcock-on the southeast side of Elm St.<sup>55</sup>

Henry's homelot contained about five acres, less 40 sq. rods for the church. As did each proprietor, he owned opposite his lot-across Town St.-land of the same frontage (10 rods) that ran northeasterly through a hassocky marsh and up a wooded ridge to the present School St. It contained 2 acres of marsh, 4 acres of wood lot. His house was of "wattle and daub" or weather boarding (not logs) and was thatched. His chimney was of claydaubed timber.<sup>56</sup>

When the red man was not furnishing excitement for our Puritan ancestors they sought diversion in law suits. Henry was as litigious as the average. He often was in court as plaintiff, defendant or juror. June 16, 1640, "John Leonard complains in an action of the case against Henry Gregory for taking more recompense for driving home of certaine stray sowes than his share comes to, for taking of more pigges with his sow than his share comes to." This case and those immediately following are recorded in the note book of William Pynchon, the Springfield magistrate, which is now in the possession of the Law School of Harvard University. A photostat was kindly lent me. Some of the pages are damaged. In the Leonard case, the jury decided against Henry in the sum of 8 s. It seemed impressed by evidence of "sixe pigges" and only "5 teates drawen." The same day William Warrenner, Henry's next neighbor on the n. w., complained against him "for layinge false imputations of wrong dealinge in taking of those pompions (pumpkins) that Richard Everit gave to both of them wch Henry Gregory affirmeth to be contrary to the appointment of Richard Everit." The verdict in this case is obliterated.

Our forebear's suit against John Woodcock, his nearest neighbor s. e., was tried Sept. 10, 1640. It was for "fower poundes fowerteene shillinges" and related to a "pigg" and "the double ingagment of the hogges." Henry won a verdict for £4-7-3 and 3 s costs, but in a moment of excessive generosity consented to a new "tryall" before the same jury. This, Sept. 24, went against Henry to the extent of £2-2-0 damages and 9 s costs. "Henry Gregory," wrote Pynchon (p. 13), "after the verdict was much moved & said; I marvill with what conscience the Jury can find such damages; seeing in the case of John Searles I had of him but twenty shillinges for three slanders, and he added: But such Juries-He was about to speak more, but Mr. Moxon (the Rev. George Moxon, the minister) bid him take heed, take heed, and so gave him grave admonition. Presently after the admonition Henry Gregory acknowledged his fault & earnestly craved pardon & promised more care & watchfulness for tyme to come; and so all the Jury acknowledged satisfaction in hope of reformation." This shows the remarkable authority possessed by the clergy in early New England. Now, with impunity we say, Such juries!

It seems doubtful that Henry paid the judgment, because later Pynchon. wrote: "John Woodcoke comminge, to me for a warrant to warne Henry Gregory to answer him in 2 actions of slander; I then demanded of him why he did not satisfie Mr. Moxon for the action of slander that he had recovered against him by way of action." "John Woodcooke for his many miscarriages was censured to be whipped" by the Mass. Court of Assistants, 12th mo., 1640 (Its records, 2-119).

Henry and his wife, "Goody" Gregory, were witnesses in a suit against Woodcock tried Feb. 15, 1640/41. They testified as to false statements by him as to how much he owed. Pynchon, page 17,

continued: "Goody Gregory being accused by oath of John Woodcoke & Richard Williams for swearing before God I could break thy head: she did acknowld it was her great sin & fault & saith she hath bin much humbled for it. She is fined 12d to the pore to be paid to Henry Smyth within a month; or if she doe not she is to sit 3 hours in the stockes." It was not her desire to break the Woodcock head that brought her punishment, but her "swearing before God," which was enough to cause an earthquake in 1640 New England. "Woodcock," declares M. A. Green,<sup>57</sup> "delighted in irritating and annoying his neighbor."

That Mrs. Gregory died between Feb. 15, 1640/41 and Jan. 5, 1641/42 is shown by the granting to Henry on the latter date of 8 rods in breadth of land in the second division of planting ground. It had been decided to give 8 rods to single men and 10 rods to married men. We can only guess from names of descendants that she was an Abigail, Phebe, Elizabeth or Hannah.

A puzzling entry in Pynchon's book, Jan. 13, 1641/42, page 21, follows: "Henry Burt complaines against Judith Gregory in an action of the case for breach of Covenant in molestinge him in his daughter Sara Burt." Pynchon gives the name of the jurors impaneled, and adds: "Judith Gregory was 3 tymes caled by the Constable to answer the action abovesaid & he appeared not." Three times Pynchon wrote "Judith," a woman's name, and then wrote "he" appeared not. Henry may have had a wife or daughter Judith, but it seems more likely that Judah Gregory, a son of Henry, was the defendant whose attentions to Miss Burt were annoying her father. That they were objectionable to her is not so certain, since "Judah Gregory was joyned in marriage to Saron Burt 4 mon: 20 day, 1643."<sup>58</sup>

Henry and two others, Dec. 24, 1640/41, were accused of violating an ordinance against selling or pawning "cannoos" to outsiders; 5 mos. was allowed to bring them back.

Henry decided to move to southern Connecticut apparently to live near or with his son John or his daughters Elizabeth and Anne. *The Town Records*, Vol. I and II, page 30, under date Max. 14, 1642 (1643, new style), say: "Henry Gregory beinge purposed to sell his lott and ppoundinge it to ye Plantation by his sonne Judah accordinge to order, Richard Everit beinge his chapman the Plantation gave ye voate wherein they disalowed ye chapman ppounded and resolved to buy ye lott accordinge to ye conditions expssed in a former order Dated January 24th 1638." Chapman meant buyer. The agency of Judah suggests that his father already had departed. The reason for rejecting Everit was that it was against the policy of the town to let one man own two home lots and Everit had one. On page 1 is given "the estimation of Goodman Grigoris lot the 3rd April,"<sup>59</sup> as follows:

3 acres broaken up	£3
11 rod fencing at 2 s 6 d	1- 7- 6
29 rod fencing at 14 d	1-14
ye house	<u>3-00</u>
	9-01- 6

The above 11 may be 14.

The next four or five years of Henry's life are shrouded in mystery, chiefly because in 1650 the records of Stratford, Ct., were burned. It seems likely that he lived in New Haven, Ct.-perhaps with his son John-before moving to Stratford, where he resided in 1647, and till his death. The records of the Colony and Plantation of New Haven (in print), beginning page 198, contain a long account of a suit in

which Henry was the defendant and John Meges, or Meigs, of New Haven, the plaintiff. The trial was on Dec. 7, 1647-reported in part as follows:

{ I DID NOT INCLUDE }

This Hooke witness seems to have been the son of Rev. William Hooke, then co-pastor with Davenport in New Haven. There is no likelihood that Hooke saw Henry at work in Stratford, 14 miles from the Hooke home in New Haven, so "their shopp" presumably was that of John Gregory, New Haven shoemaker, and of Henry. This evidence alone nearly proves that John of New Haven and John, son of Henry, were one man. Mrs. Crooker told of what occurred in the cellar, probably in Stratford. Henry worked in two places. I doubt that Meigs would have contracted with him unless Meigs had known him in New Haven. If there had been two John Gregorys the clerk doubtless would have put distinguishing words in the record.

Henry, his sons John and Judah, and many descendants for seven generations were makers of shoes-predecessors of the present shoe manufacturers whose machinery has succeeded the hand. Some of them tanned their own leather.

In the earliest existing town records of Stratford, called *Town Records, Vol. 1*, is a list of "every man's fence in the outfield," south of the village. Henry appears as No. 32, with 8 rods. William Burrit is listed, and died in 1651, so the entry could scarcely have been of a later date than that. As Henry was manifestly a Stratford proprietor he must have had a home lot, but there is no existing record of it. On page 85 is the following: "Grants by the town March ye 1652. there being a piесе of meadow on the west side of the dich. if it be not disposed of by the towne they give liberty to Henery Gregory to cut it til such tyme as they se use to order it to the contrary." This indicates that Henry had livestock, and perhaps was somewhat favored because of his advancing years. There is just one other reference to his land. An acre belonging to Isaac Nichols "in the ould feyld" had Henry's land on its western boundary and the "Harbour" on the north.

Henry Gregory died probably in 1655, because under date of June 19 that year, on page 5 of Vol. I of the Fairfield Probate Records, is this entry: "The court orders that the estate of Henery Gregory shall be distributed as followeth: the debts shall be payd, then the remainder shall be distributed to his children, only the eldest sonn liveing shall have a dubble portion and he the said eldest sonn being John Gregory is apoynted to Administer the estate acording to the above distribution. William Hill, Secretary.

Preceding this order on the same page is the inventory of Henry's personal estate, followed by the names of the appraisers-John Wells and Thomas ffairchild. The writing at the top of the page was obliterated by ink. Following is the decipherable part:

5 Pillowes, all the wooden ware, 3 Chayres & I wheel, I pair

Skales, some pewter ware

(blur) 00-04-

2 Iron pots, 1 skillit

(blur) 1-02-

2 axes I drawing knife 1 meat knife

00-04-00

2 spones

00-00-08

all the books

00-04-00

1 howe 1 pot hanger

00-03-00

1 sieth 1 Iron ringe

00-01-06

3 pound of rosen I baskitt	00-02-06
1 maat	00-01-00
1 coat	01-00-00
old pacede (not clear) & bagg	00-05-00
Pease & hoppps	00-08-00
Lasts	00-01-06

Four shillings is not a heavy investment in books, but there were more than the family Bible.

How do we know that Henry Gregory of Nottingham was Henry Gregory of Springfield and Stratford? The alderman's will and pedigree and a Nottingham record tell us that Henry came to America. An extensive examination of records by myself and others has discovered no other Henry Gregory in early New England than the Springfield-Stratford man. Shoemaking was "his" business both in Nottingham and Stratford. Henry here had a son John, which was the name of Nottingham Henry's father. Henry in Nottingham had a daughter Anne baptised at the right time to be Anne, the dau. of our Henry. Elizabeth was a name in the English family and that of our founder's daughter. "Henry" appeared here soon after disappearing in Nottingham. It is suggestive that Thos. Benedict of Nottingham and Norwalk supplied bridegrooms for our Henry's granddaughters. Henry's body was probably bur. in the oldest burying ground, and from there moved, with others, to the second grave yard. Henry's children:

- + 2. **JOHN.**
- + 3. **JUDAH.**
- 4. **PERRY.** She was mentioned twice in the will of her uncle, William Gregory of Nottingham: "I give and bequeath to my said cousin Perrie, my said brother Henry's daughter," also "my cousin Perry, his daughter." That she received twice as much as the other children, to be paid within six months instead of twelve, indicates that she was William's favorite niece and lived in England. If she was Mrs. Perry she was one of the older children. If Perry was her given name she perhaps was brought up by William. Possibly Perry was a pet name for Persis, the name of Henry's great granddaughter-and perhaps carried down in the generations. In the record of the will the name to me looked as much like Perris as Perrie.
- 5. **ELIZABETH,** d. 24 Jan. 1680/81; In. Richard Webb, a surveyor He may have been the Richard Webb of Wayland, co. Suffolk, who, 1630, came in Winthrop's fleet, with wife Elizabeth; settled in Cambridge, where he, 1632, was made freeman. He moved to Hartford abt. 1636. He and others, 1650, agreed with Ludlow for the settlement of Norwalk, Ct., in which, 1655, he was townsman. In East Norwalk the New Haven R. R. station stands (1933) on what was his home lot. He d. July- 1665; Elizabeth was admx.; the estate, L234-08-06, was ordered dist. to wid. and (L10) to Sarah, dau. of Rev. Samuel Stone of Hartford, whom Richard had brought up, till she m. Thomas Butler of Hartford. Elizabeth, in 1677, employed "her beloved brother, John Gregory, to make an agreement" with the Butlers, they "laying claim to the estate of her husband Richard Webb."

On Apr. 8, 1669, Elizabeth conveyed to her brother John (with the consent of the Butlers) all her estate, he to maintain her the rest of her life. John was her adm., when 14 Mar.

1681/82, the court ordered L20 given to Richard Holmes, a Norwalk gunsmith, because of his wife's relationship to Elizabeth. She was Sarah and spoke of Webb as father. It seems that Sarah m. twice. Money went to Bartholomew Barnard "by virtue of the right of his wife, her father, Birchard, having right to both deceased, Elizabeth Webb and her husband Richard." Savage calls him Thomas Birchard and the daughter, Sarah. In 1709 was granted a grist mill privilege to Joseph Birchard (perhaps related to Thos.) and John Gregory, grandnephew of Elizabeth.<sup>60</sup>

6. ELIZAPHATT. Gyles Gibbs of Windsor, Ct., in postscript to will, 18 May 1641, said: "I give to Elizaphatt Gregory 10 bushels of corne in case hee discharge the debt I gave my worde for him to Mr. Huitt." It is not improbable Elizaphatt was Henry's son since the distribution order, 1655, for Henry's estate calls John the "eldest son living" of Henry. That implies a younger son living. The sons Judah and William were dead. Elizaphatt is the only Gregory man, besides Henry and his known relatives, whom I discovered in Ct. in Henry's day. I found no other reference to him. Katherine, the wife of Gyles Gibbs, d. 24 Oct. 1660. She was the mother of his son Jacob, and probably of his children Gregory, Benjamin, Samuel and Sarah. She may have been a sister of Elizaphatt and a daughter of Henry; but this is not so likely if the Gibbses came in the Mary and John in 1630.<sup>61</sup>
- + 7. ANNE, bap. in St. Peter's parish, Nottingham, 29 Jan. 1625, "ye daughter of Henry Gregory." The following three were christened and buried in the same parish.
8. TRIPHOSA, bap. 23 Sept. 1627, "ye daughter of Henry Gregory"; bur. 2 Oct. 1629.
9. WILLIAM, bap. 27 June 1630, "ye son of Henry Gregory"; bur. 6 Aug. 1635.
10. ABIGAIL, bap. 17 Mar. 1632, "ye daughter of Henry Gregory"; bur. 25 Mar. 1633.<sup>62</sup>

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1. The Tuttle Publishing Co., Inc., Rutland Vermont, 1938.

2. VHL. Vol. 5, p.51.

3. Book of Fees, b Dep. Keeper of Rec. pt. 1, p. 217 Lanc. Inquest, by W. Farrer, Vol. 1, p.29.

4. VHL, Vol. 5, p.51.

5. Crofton ms. On Urmston.

6. Assize R. 422.

7. DL. 35, 3, 11b. DL Assize R. 5.

8. Old Stretford, by J. E. Bailey.

9. For Alina's descent from the Knights of Chedle and Barons of Halton see Harl. ms. 2112. Hist. Chester, by Geo. Ormerod, 1-509, 111-621, 622. Hist. Castle of Halton. Burke's Dormant Peerage York Arch. and Top. Journal, 11-171. Avoid the disproved descent from Alfred the Great.

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10. Crofton ms. on Urmston in Manchester Library.
  11. Cal. of Close Rolle, Ed. II, p. 634. Rot. Hund. 11, 347.
  12. Coram Rege R., 609, m. 29. Assize R. 435, m. 29 d.
  13. Assize R., I, part 2, fol. 4. do 11, part 1, 3d. D of L., 35,2 mem., 3b and 4.
  14. D. L. Assize R, 5, m. 8.
  15. DeBanco R., 458, m. 404.
  16. DeTrafford deed No. 296, quoted by VHL, Vol. 5, p. 55.
  17. D. L., 29, 1790, 100. P. L., 25, 1, membranes 5,6,7,9,10,11,12,13,14,16,17,18, 19.
  18. VHL, Vol. 11, p. 212.
  19. D. L., 37,7, m. 120.
  20. Lancs. Inquisitions, by C. Townley.
  
  21. VHL, Vol. II, v. 212.
  22. Stow's Survey of London, 11, 321. Herbert's Livery Companies, 11, 318.
  23. Vis. of Lanes., 1613. Chet, Soc. Pubs., 82-53. Maude was a granddaughter of Ralph Hide who married runaway Alina.
  24. P. L., 20, 4; 15, 33; 15, 4b; 28, 39, pt. 1.
  25. P. L., 15-8; m. 1; 22, m. 1b; 24, m. 13; 19, m. 13; 34, m. 6b, 8b, 15b, 16; 36,14b; 53, m. 7. P. L 20-2,3,4, P. L., 28-39, pt. 1. Paston Letters 11, p. 152.
  26. P. L., 15-22, m. 6.
  27. P. L. 20-7.
  28. P. L. 20-5,6,7 and 8.
  29. P. L. 20-8 and 16.
  30. P. L. 15-27, 28; 117, m; 16; 120, 1b; P. L 20-19;

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31. Pleadings and depositions, Duchy of Lane., Vol. 1, pp. 14, 16; Rec. Soc. Pubs. Vol. XXXII.
  32. Harl. 118 1396, fol. 156.
  33. P. L., 15-129, m. 22. P. L. 20-21.
  34. Fines 38 Hy VIII, pt. 4. p. 47. D. of L., f of f, Hy VIII, bn. 12-254, or 256.
  35. Via. Sussex, 1633-4, Harl. 1562.
  36. Wills-Powell, 35-7. P. L., 26-10, 3.
  37. Records, Manchester Ct. Lest, by J. P. Earwalker, vol. 1, pp. 71, 78, 106, 194. Chet Soc. Remains main 63-65.
  38. D.L. f of f, bu. 31-79
  39. D.L. f of f, 48-93.
  40. See Gilbert Gregory in Salop Post Mort. Inq., Vol. 236, No. 65.
  41. Rains Ms., Vol. 25 in Chatham Lib. Vic. Hist. Lanes. Thoroton's Hist. Notts.
  42. D. L., f of f., bu. 49-91. P. L. 1749.
  43. St Luke's register.
  44. Deering's Nott.
  45. Hallbook, 3404. P. 55.
  46. See Throsby's edition of Thoroton's hist.
  47. Thoroton's Notts., pp. 500, 504. Wm. Stretton's mss. Notes on Hist. of Nott.
  48. Hall Books, 3392, 3399, p. 38; 3402, p. 11; 3406. Rec. Bor. of Nott., Vol. IV, pp. 174, 320, 351, 430 ; Vol. V.
  49. Hist. of Parish and Priory of Lenten, by J. T. Godfrey.
  50. Vict. Hist. Nott.
  51. Record of the Will of William Gregory, Boyer 30, Prerog. Ct., Archbp. Cant., Somerset House,

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London. Waters' Genealogical Gleanings in England. Vol. 1, p. 717. St. Mary's registers.

52.Hist. Account of Nott. b Chas. Deering, 1751.

53.Coll. for Hist. of Town and Soke of Grantham, by Edmund Turnor, 1806. Harl. Soc. Pubs., Vols. 40, 51. Burke's Gentry.

54.Town Records, 1 & 2-21.

55.Burt's map in 1st Cent. of Spgfld.

56.Gen. of Spgfld., pp. 16, 20. TR, 1 & 2-34.

57.History of the Town and City of Springfield, 1888.

58.Springfield VR, Vol. 1. p. 117.

59.No year given but undoubtedly it was 1643.

60.Manwaring's Hartford PR, 1-249,1-28,1-34. Hall. Selleck. Ffld PR, 2-8. Mem. Hist. Hartford Co.. 1-267.1-98. Savage. Transcript, 1/30/36, D.M.V. 7/24/33, C.C.C.M.

61.Planters of the Commonwealth, by C. E. Banks. Manwaring's Ct. PR, 1-14. Windsor records.

62.Reg. of St. Peter's.