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 Subj: WHELPLEY 1/2 Conf: (10) Genealogy

To all WHELPLEY / KNIFFEN / SNIFFEN researchers:
 There is much confusing information published regarding the family of Henry WHELPLEY of Fairfield, CT. I have thrown together this brief genealogy based on what little I could find on Henry's family. Can you add to, subtract from or contradict any part of this body of information? Contact me!

Thanks! C. Baer (Chris Baer RFD 247 Vineyard Haven MA 02568)

Some Descendants of Henry Whelpley

1. Henry Whelpley was probably born before 1627 in England. (1) He married (first), probably before 1647, _____ who bore his children. He married (second) probably about 1660, in Fairfield, CT, (3) Sarah(?) _____. He married (third) about 1660-1, probably in Stratford, CT, (2) Sarah (Howes?), who died in 1684. (3) Henry died in 1662 in Fairfield. (3,16)

Henry first appears in Stratford, CT in 1645, and "was soon after" in Fairfield, CT. He may have been a married man upon arriving in Stratford, or may have married in Stratford or Fairfield shortly after his arrival. He probably had all of the children listed below with his first wife. She probably died before about 1660, perhaps in Fairfield.

Henry married again about 1660, to John Whitlock's widow, Sarah. She evidently died within the year, and she has often been confused with Henry's third wife, also named Sarah. There is no evidence that Henry had children by his second or third wives.

On 30 Nov 1684, David Whitlock for himself and brothers and sisters receipted to Rebecca widow of Joseph Whelpley for portions, Henry Whelpley dec'd having become responsible for their payments by marrying David's mother.

Henry's third marriage was about 1660-1 to Sarah, widow of Edward Treadwell of Hempstead, Long Island. I have a mention of her maiden name "Howes," but have no corroborating evidence. Henry died soon after, in 1662, and Sarah remarried about 1663, Ralph Keeler of Norwalk, and ultimately Thomas Skidmore of Fairfield.

On 6 Jun 1662, the Court ordered L300 to be paid to Henry Whelpley's widow "of ye estate of her former husband Treadwell," any deficit to be made up out of Whelpley's estate. (16)

Citations:

Savage notes, "Henry Whelpley, Stratford 1645, in 1653 sold ld. and ho. in Fairfield. His wid. prob. nam. Sarah, m. Ralph Keeler. Perhaps he had Joseph and Nathan, and even more."

E.H. Schenck, writes in the History of Fairfield, "Henry Whelpley was at Stratford in 1645, and soon after at F., where he was granted a homelot on the sw corner of the Frost Square. He sold this place in 1653... His widow Sarah, m. Ralph Keeler of Norwalk. He was probably the father of Joseph & Rebecca & perhaps other children."

An unmarked KEELER Genealogy I have notes that "Ralph

Whelpley. Sarah, whose maiden name is unknown, was married to Edward Treadwell of Huntington, L.I., when he died in 1660.. She then married Henry Whelpley of Fairfield, Conn., who June 1662. Sarah then married Ralph and after his death in married Thomas Skidmore of Fairfield, who died in 1684. 5 days later." It also notes "The Keeler-Wood Genealogy... over fact that [Henry] Whelpley married the widow of John Whitlock married the widow of Edward Treadwell... and assumes that it is Whitlock's widow who later married Ralph Keeler. This leads th to the faulty conclusion that it was not Sarah Whelpley who w to Ralph Keeler at the time of his death."

Children (by unnamed first wife):

- + 2. Mary Whelpley born before 1650.
- 3. Joseph Whelpley born before 1652.4 He married before 1676, in Fairfield, CT,3 Rebecca Bulkeley, who was born in 1646,3 and died 1690.3 Joseph died in 1682.5

Savage notes "Joseph [Whelpley], Fairfield, propound. for freem. 1670, perhaps s. of [Henry] was d. in May 1682, leav. wid. Deborah, wh. d. 1690; but he had former w. Rebecca, d. of Thomas Bulkley, wh. prob. was. mo. of his three ch. Sarah , Rebecca, and Joseph."

[descendants of Joseph omitted.]

- 4. Nathan Whelpley born before 1660,6 and died in 1687 in Barbados. Savage notes "Nathan [Whelpley], New Haven, from 1678 was master of a vessel, and in 1687, on voyage from Barbadoes d. and by nuncup. will give ho. at New Haven to Samuel Knifton, or some such name, s. of his sis."

Max Sniffen notes in The Kniffen/Sniffen Story, "Nathan Whelpley [uncle of Samuel Kniffen], died in Barbados in 1687 while captain of a vessel there and left a house in New Haven to 'Samuel Knifton, son of my sister.' It may be that Samuel was the only son of age at that time."

- 5. Rebecca Whelpley born before 1650.8 She married on 25 Apr 1665, probably in Fairfield, CT,9 Ezekiel Sanford, who was born in 1637,10 and died in 1683.10 Rebecca died about 1697.11

The Compendium of American Genealogy, Vol. VI, p. 559 notes: "Ezekiel Sanford (1637-83), engr., Fairfiel, Conn.; built the first stockade fort at Saybrook, Conn.; m. 1665, Rebecca Whelpley (d. ca 1697; Henry.)" (repeated in part in Vol. IV, p. 595.)

[descendants of Rebecca (Whelpley) Sanford omitted.]

- 6. [probably](16) Jonathan Whelpley, who died 1712/3. He married Sarah _____, and his children included Hannah, Mary Marshall, Jonathan, and Sarah Whelpley.(16)

Second Generation

- 2. Mary Whelpley was born before 1650.12 She married about 1664, probably in Stratford, CT,13 George Knifton, who was born in 1632 in England,14 and died about 1693-4, probably in Rye, Westchester Co., NY.14 Mary died after 1694 in Rye.15

Max Sniffen claims that George Knifton married "Mary Whelpley, daughter of Henry and Sarah, in about 1664" after which they moved to Rye, NY. However, Torrey claims that George Kniffen married Mary (?) Whelpley, a widow of a Whelpley, but not a blood Whelpley. Savage and Sniffen both note that Nathan Whelpley left a house to Samuel Knifton, "son of my sister, which would cast doubt on Torrey. Meanwhile, Norman Davis claims in Westchester Patriarchs that Henry married 'Rebecca Whelpley," dau. of Henry. I am apt to believe that it was "Mary" Whelpley, blood daughter of Henry, who

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According to Max Sniffen in The Kniffen/SniffenStory, George Knifton arrived in Stratford, CT from England (Derby Co.?) in 1650. In 1664, he married Mary Whelpley, and moved to Rye, Westchester Co., NY. In 1670, "George Snuffene of Ry" was propounded for freeman. In 1694, his estate was settled. Widow Mary was administrator.

Children:

- 7. Samuel Kniffen born c. 1665, Rye, Westchester Co., NY, 14 died 170 +
- 8. George Kniffen born c. 1667.
- 9. Joseph Kniffen born c. 1669, Rye, Westchester Co., NY. 14
- 10. Ebenezer Kniffen born c. 1672, Rye, Westchester Co., NY, 14 died 1722. 14

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* Origin: Over Board (508)693-6279, Peanut Butter CRAZED! (1:331/201)