

X6575/1

Rose Whitlock

From: Chukrock2@cs.com

Sent: May 29, 2008 6:44:20 PM

To: whitlock@one-name.org

iii. Abraham (or Abram)¹ Parker, immigrant to New England, bp at Great Burstead, 6 Feb. 1619, as "son of John and Anna Parker", died at Chelmsford Mass, 12 Aug 1685. He m. at Woburn, Mass 18 Nov. 1644, Rose¹ Whitlock who died at Chelmsford 30 Nov. 1691.

Abraham Parker kept an ordinary or public house at Chelmsford and served the town as grand juryman, 1658/9, constable, 1673; and tithingman, 1679. Abraham Parker, "Senior," left a will dated Aug. 1685, proved 6 Oct 1685, in which he named his wife, Rose; his sons, John, Abraham, Moses, and Isaac Parker; and daughters Mary, wife of James Parker, Elizabeth Parker, and Lydia, wife of John Kidder.

X6575/2

Whitlock
From: Chukrock2@cs.com
Sent: May 29, 2008 6:44:42 PM
To: whitlock@one-name.org

--Forwarded Message Attachment--
Date: Thu, 29 May 2008 18:25:29 -0600
To: chukrock2@cs.com
From: gc-gateway@rootsweb.com
Subject: PML Search Result matching Whitlock

=====
A result of your requested PML search. To refine or cancel this
search, please visit <http://pml.rootsweb.com/>
=====

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Source: PARKER@rootsweb.com
Subject: Re: [PARKER] Jacob Parker of Chelmsford, Massachusetts
=====

This is a Message Board Post that is gatewayed to this mailing list.

Author: rbnprkr
Surnames: Parker
Classification: queries

Message Board URL:

<http://boards.rootsweb.com/surnames.parker/3925.5787/mb.ashx>

Message Board Post:

I have just come back from a trip to Great Burstead, England. The gravestones are pretty much unreadable, although the main offices in Chelmsford for this area have some burial records to apply for. The earliest stone is in the 1700's, the rest is burial without stones I would guess.

The webpage for this church is:
<http://www.greatburstead.freewire.co.uk/index.html>

and is where the Parker's came from.

The following is the most comprehensive report on these Parker's and should be considered the most reliable. The book from Savage on "Parker's in America" is quite unreliable for it's report on previous generations.

Your request for ship's list will not be fulfilled. This was the period of "The Great Migration" and so many ships sailed that few manifests are available, so you can stop looking for that end of the story.

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The English Origin and Ancestry of The
PARKER Brothers of Massachusetts and Their
Probate Aunt, Sarah Parker, Wife of Edward
Converse

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James¹ Parker was of Woburn, MA in 1640 and was joined there at unknown dates by his brothers, John¹, Abraham (or Abram)¹, Joseph¹, and Jacob¹ Parker. All five men removed as a group, about 1653 to Chelmsford, MA, where Abraham and Jacob remained; John, James and Joseph afterwards went to Billerica and about 1661, James and Joseph continued on to Groton (MA). The evidence that these five men were brothers was set forth in 1943, by Mary Walton Ferris, in Dawes-Gates Ancestral Lines. Briefly, she shows that a donation for Harvard College was made in 1657 by John¹ Parker on behalf of his brother, James. A court record of 1668 referred to Jacob¹ Parker as brother of John Parker, deceased, while in June, 1672, Sarah, daughter of Jacob¹ Parker, chose her uncle, Abram¹ Parker, as her guardian. The residence and land ownership of Joseph¹ Parker in each of the four towns where James was recorded argues that he was another member of the family.

Clues to the English origin in the Parker family have been in print for some time. In 1877 Deloraine P.

Corey, Esq, historian of Malden, MA, published a transcript of a letter written in 1677 by Susan (Waite)

Redington of England to her sister and brother-in-law, Robert and Mary (Waite) Lord of Ipswich, MA regarding the settlement of a Waite family estate in England. The immigrant, Robert¹ Lord and his wife, Mary Waite, to whom the above letter was addressed, were married at Finchingfield, Essex, in 1630.

In a postscript, Susan

asks:

"Pray present our kind loves to brother John and wife to whom I canot now write pray send me word which of the Parkers widows she was."

Susan was obviously referring to the marriage of her

brother, Capt. John¹ Waite in 1675 at Malden, to Sarah, widow of Jacob¹ Parker of Chelmsford, but she was evidently unsure whether he had married the widow of Jacob¹ Parker of Chelmsford or that of Jacob's brother, John¹ Parker of Billerica; both men had died about the same time. Susan Redington evidently knew the Parker family, a fact that suggests a common place of residence in England.

A second clue to the English origin of the Parker brothers may be found in their close association with, and apparent kinship to, the family of the immigrant Edward¹ Converse of Charlestown and Woburn, MA. In 1659, Edward¹ Converse made his will leaving 40 shilings to his "kinsman," John Parker, who was to be one of the overseers. As Mary Walton Ferris rightly noted, two subsequent facts tighten the apparent bond between these families: (a) Josiah² Converse (Edward¹) assisted Jacob¹ Parker in the administration of the estate of Jacob's brother, John¹ Parker; and (b) in 1672, after the death of Jacob¹ Parker, James² Converse (brother of Josiah) joined the widow Sarah Parker and her brother-in-law, James¹ Parker of Groton, MA in petitioning the court for a division of the property left by Jacob¹ Parker.

In the Register article published in 1992, Arnold P.G. and Carolyn Bryant Peterson suggested that the immigrant Edward Converse was probably the man of that name baptized at Navestock, Essex, England, 23 March 1588/9, son of Allen Converse of Navestock and his first wife, Joanna. The baptismal date of Edward¹ Converse of Navestock agrees with his deposition given 10 March 1661/2 when he gave his age as then about 73 years. Edward Converse married at Great Burstead, Essex (ENG) on 29 June 1614 his first wife, Sarah Parker, and they resided at South Weald, Essex, where they had the baptisms of three children recorded between 1618 and 1623.

In an effort to confirm the alleged English origin of Edward Converse, this writer reexamined the parish registers of South Weald. In addition to the baptisms of Edward Converse's three children as reported by the Petersons, two previously overlooked burials were found: Sara, dau. of Edward Converse, in 1623 and Sara, wife of Edward in 1625. Moreover, the South Weald registers revealed that Edward Converse's brother, Allen Converse, Jr. (baptized at Navestock, Essex, in 1586) also resided at South Weald, where he and his wife, also named

Sara, had five children: Theophilus, Allen, Aron, Abraham, and Sara) baptized between March 1613/14 and 1621. Allen's wife Sara was buried there 5 December 1626.

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Of the five children of Allen Converse, Jr. recorded, only three, Theophilus, Allen and Sara survived infancy. Since only Theophilus appears as an adult in the South Weald registers, it is reasonable to suppose that Allen and Sara are identical with the Allen Converse "kinsman" and Sarah Smith "kinswoman" named in the 1659 will of the immigrant Edward Converse of Woburn, MA. Allen Converse nephew of Edward, did in fact immigrate to New England where he joined his uncle at Woburn. He married about 1641 Elizabeth _____ and died at Woburn 19 April 1679. Edward Converse's niece, Sara (Converse) Smith appears to be identical with Sarah (died 1687) wife of John Smith (died 1673) of Charlestown, MA who were married 1646.

The fact that Edward¹ Converse's first wife, Sarah, was a Parker, explains Edward's having referred to John Parker of Billerica as "kinsman" in his will dated 1659. Research in the Essex Record in Chelmsford, Essex, was commissioned in 1976 and again in 1990 by Marian Parker Congdon (Mrs. Guilford) of Atherton, California, a Parker family historian (note: this search was repeated in 1990 at Mrs. Congdon's request, by Debrett Ancestry Service, Limited, of Alresford, Hampshire (ENG). Both searches located the baptisms of our of the five immigrant Parker brothers: John (1615) Abraham (1619) Joseph (1622) and Jacob (1626) all sons of John Parker of the parish of Great Burstead. Although the baptism of the fifth brother, James Parker, was not located, his estimated birth date of 1617, indicated by both a deposition and the will he made as an adult in New England, is consistent with the gap between the baptisms of his brothers John and Abraham.

End Part 1 of 5 Parts

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PARKER Part 2

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While the discovery of the four baptisms was encouraging, conclusive proof that these were the baptisms of the Parker brothers appeared to be lacking, as no will could be found for John Parker, the putative father of the immigrants. It was known that the eldest brother,

John Parker (the immigrant to New England), had married, at an unknown date after 1639, Mary, widow of John Poulter of Rayleigh, Essex. As Rayleigh and Great Burstead are in the same general vicinity, it is natural to suppose that this couple married in England prior to their emigration sometime before 1649 but no record of John Parker and Mary Poulter has been found in English records.

However, a close review of the Great Burstead parish records shows that a John Parker and Mary Aylett, widow, were married there in 1642. Although the bride's name was clearly Aylett, it suggested to this writer that the widow Poulter might have had a brief second marriage to a man named Aylett, after the death of her first husband, John Poulter, in 1639, and before she married John Parker in 1642.

Searches failed to locate such a marriage about 1640, but the will of John Aylett of Rayleigh, Essex, yeoman, proved in 1640, was found and compared with the will of Mary Poulter's first husband, John Poulter of Rayleigh, proved in 1639.

In his will, dated and signed 18 March 1638/9, John Poulter left to his son John Poulter f50 at age 21, or marriage. If any of the children died before inheriting, their portion(s) were to go to his loving wife Mary Poulter, who was to pay the children's legacies to his overseers within six weeks after his death, to be "put out by them unto the best advantage and sufficient bond to be taken for the childrens better assurance and the use to be for the mayntenance and bringing of my said children or so many of them as shall live." He bequeathed "unto Marie Poulter my mother" 40s to buy her a ring for a remembrance. He made other bequests: 20s each to "Anne Hayward my Aunt:, Anne Hudson, Richard Abrahams the son of Richard Abrahams, and William Brewster. Jane Broadwater and Elizabeth Broadwater were to have 5s each, and William Clements 10s. His wife Mary was to "have the keeping governance & bringing up of my said children during there nonages." All the rest of his estate was to go to his wife, Mary, who was appointed executrix, with Thomas Purchas, clerk and John Sharpe, yeoman, as overseers, each to have 20s for a remembrance. He added a bequest "unto Marie Pope my mother in law," f5 to be paid

unto her for five years at 20s a year "if she shall so long live." Witnesses were John Horsnaye, William Brewster, and John Offen (his mark) The will was proved at Great Baddow, Essex, 30 May 1639, before Richard Baylie on the oath of Mary Poulter, relict of the said deceased and the executrix named in the said testament, to whom was committed the administration of the said deceased's estate. John Aylet of Rayleigh in the County of Essex draper, signed his will 9 March 1639/40, noting that he was "sicke of body." Following the usual preamble, he stated:

"And for my wordly estate I thus dispose..unto my brother Gyles Aylett of Sutton magna 40s to buy him a ring..unto my brother Richard Aylett of Leighe f5 to be paid unto him when he shall accomlishe his age of fowre & twenty years..unto my cosen Edward Young of Thundersley 20s.. unto my servant John Parker 20s...unto my servant Elizabeth Broadwater 20s...the rest of all my goods chattells and moveables my debts and legacies being paid I give and bequeath unto Mary my beloved wife whom I make sole executrix of this my last will and testament Witnesses Stephen Vassell, Thomas Gresby, John Parker." The will was proved at Maldon, Essex, 17 April 1640, before Richard Baylie on the oath of Mary Aylett, relict of the said deceased and the executrix named in the said will, to whom was committed the administration of the said deceased's estate.

Both John Poulter and John Aylett had a wife named Mary and both left bequests to a certain Elizabeth Broadwater, who in Aylett's will is called "my servant." This suggests that Elizabeth had been a servant in the household of John Poulter, and subsequently in the Aylett household when her mistress remarried. We can suppose that both men were fairly young when they died as John Poulter's three children are known to have been born between 1631 and 1635 whereas John Aylett was born after 1606 and, in 1640 he had a brother, Richard under 24 years of age. Likewise, if John Aylett's wife, Mary, was the widow of John Poulter, it would necessarily have been a brief marriage and probably childless, which is consistent with the fact that Aylett's will mentions no children. The will of John Aylett fits all the necessary criteria for him to have been the husband of Mary Poulter, barring a specific bequest in his will to her Poulter children.

Perhaps the singular most significant thing about John Aylett's will is a bequest of 20s to his servant, John Parker. It seems likely that John Parker is the immigrant to New England, and that he married Mary, the widow of his former master, John Aylett and earlier the wife of John Poulter. John Parker, baptized at Great Burstead, Essex in 1615 was approximately ten years younger than his wife, Mary, who was born about 1605, if her age of 88 years at death in 1693 was correctly stated. At the time of their marriage in 1642, John Parker and the widow Mary Aylett (formerly Poulter) would have been 27 and 37 years old respectively.

In summary, combining previously known evidence with new discoveries, we find that the parish records of Great Burstead, Essex, include the baptisms of four of the five Parker brothers and the marriage of Sarah Parker to Edward Converse, as well as the previously undetected marriages of the immigrant John Parker to Mary Aylett, widow in 1642 and of his brother Joseph, to Margaret Puttow (or Putton) in 1650.

Additional research into the Parker family of Great Burstead has traced this family's ancestry to a certain John Parker, husbandman, who died leaving a will proved in 1591. Although the parish registers of Great Burstead appear to have been poorly kept over years and very few Parker family wills are available, the following tentative reconstruction of the family has been made. While it is still unproven how closely related Sarah Parker, wife of Edward¹ Converse, was to the five immigrant Parker brothers, for the purposes of this article it is assumed that she was their aunt, named for a Sarah Parker found in an earlier generation.

End Part 2 - Next: The Parker Family of Great Burstead and New England

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PARKER Part 3

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The Parker Family of Great Burstead, Essex (ENG) and New England

1. John Parker was born say 1525. The names of his parents are unknown, but according to his will, he had sisters named Joan and Agnes (or Annes). His wife was Margaret _____. They lived in Great Burstead, described by Samuel Lewis in his Topographical Dictionary of England as "pleasantly situated on elevated ground commanding a view of the river Thames...The church is an ancient

structure...very spacious, and is a prominent feature in the landscape..."

John Parker of Great Burstead, husbandman, at the time of his death owned two houses in Great Burstead and one house in the market-town of Billericay in Great Burstead. In his will dated March 1580/1 and proved 29 May 1581, he asked to be buried in the churchyard of Great Burstead, and bequeathed:

"to Mergreat my wyfe my two houses, that is to saye the howse that widdowe Charnell dwelleth in with thaportenance during (her) naturall life and after her decese, I will and my will is that the saied (howses) aforesaid with all and singuler thaportinance shall remayne untomy sonne John and his heires forever. ...unto my said wife 3 kynne & ewes and halfe my moveable goods...unto my sonne in lawe Thomas Doore halfe an acre of my wheate now growing on the grounds and halfe an acre of land to sowe otts, one also I will that he shall have 4 bushells of wheatand my will is that his two chyldren Thomas and Ameeshall have ether of them one sheep to be delivered within halfe a yeare nixt after my decese...unto my two Systers Joan and Annes ether of them 10s within one yeare after my decese...also to Marian ffuller 3s 4d within one yeare after my decese..unto the vicker of great bursteed 10s within one yeare nixt after my decese..unto the poore of great bursteed 10s within one yeare after my decese..unto my two daughters Sara and Marye my house at Billercay within 3 yeares after my decese to them & to their heiress of their bodies lawfully begotten..my executors shall haveand in Joye the rent of the said howse at Billericay for the (said) 3 yeares afore specified, to paye and discharge the said legacies (given) in my said will. The rest of all my other goods unbequeated (sic) to my three chyldren John Sara & Marey equallie to be devided. And of this my present will and testament I make and ordayne Margreat my wife and John my sonne mine executors..Witnesses...James Harris, Walter Harris, John Trower, Thomas Jooce (Joce) with others."

The subsequent history of Margaret, wife of John Parker is not known. The Essex Quarter Sessions Court records mention an otherwise unidentified Widow Parker of Great Burstead, who was indicted for victualling without a license in 1607. Although this seems a bit too late for Margaret, widow of John Parker, it is worth noting that her grandson, James Parker (no 2. 2.iii), was indicted for the same offense in 1621.

Children:

- i. Anne Parker b. say 1553; m. at Great Burstead, 28 June 1573, Thomas Dore (or Doore). He was a legatee in the 1581 will of his father-in-law, John Parker.
- l. Amy Dore bp 6 Dec 1574. Her grandfather, John Parker in his 1581 will bequeathed her one sheep.
2. John Dore, bp 24 Nov 1577 d. presumably young.
3. Thomas Dore, b. say 1579 (baptism not found) His grandfather, John Parker, in his 1581 will bequeathed to him one sheep.
- ii. John Parker (Jr) b. say 1560 m. (1)____, (2) Mary Ashels (or Wheeler)
- iii. Sarah Parker, living in 1581 when her father bequeathed to her a joint share with her sister Mary in a house in Billercay in Great Burstead.
- iv. Mary Parker living in 1581 when her father bequeathed to her a joint share with her sister Sarah in a house, as noted above.

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2. John Parker was born say 1560 and was buried at Great Burstead, Essex, 5 August 1613, as, "John Parker, householder." He married, first, a wife whose name has not been learned. He married, second, as "John Parker, widower," at Great Burstead, 9 October 1606 Mary ____, whose surname, not clear in the parish register, appears to be Ashels but could be the more likely Wheeler.

John's father in his will written in 1581 bequeathed to him two houses in Great Burstead. Presumably his widow Mary Parker who married there, 14 November 1614, Edward Bridges. Nothing more of their subsequent history has been learned.

Children, with his first wife:

- i. John Parker b. say 1585/90 m. Anne (or Anna)_____.
- ii. Alice Parker (possible child) b. say 1590; m. at Great Burstead 12 July 1609 George Payne. Their subsequent history is unknown.
- iii. James Parker b. say 1594; buried at Great Burstead 8 March 1622/3 as "James Parker, young man, son of John Parker." He m. at Great Burstead, 14 Aug, 1616 Joan Coker; she m. (2) at Great Burstead, 18 Sept 1623 John Hove. James Parker of Great Burstead was indicted in 1621 for victualling without a

license.

Children, all records from registers of Great Burstead:

1. Elizabeth Parker bp 9 April 1620 buried 26 Aug 1620, in both records as, "daughter of James and Johan Parker."

2. James Parker; bp 14 Oct. 1621, as "son of James and Johan Parker."; m. 30 Sept. 1647 Elizabeth Willson. Their children bp at Great Burstead:

i. James Parker bp 28 April 1650

ii. James Parker bp 6 March 1652

iii. James Parker bp 6 March 1654

iv. Sarah Parker b. say 1596 m. Edward1 Converse.

Child with 2nd wife, Mary Ashels or Wheeler:

v. Joseph Parker bp at Great Burstead 9 Aug. 1607 as "son of John Parker"; d. presumably young.

3. John Parker was born probably between 1585 and 1590

He married, say 1614, Ann or Anna _____. They resided at Great Burstead, where six of their seven known children were baptized. John served as a witness in 1618 in the Essex Court of Quarter Sessions. John Parker and his wife Anne, wer both living in 1630, at the birth of their seventh child, Joshua. Their subsequent history is unknown.

Children:

i. (Sergeant) John1 Parker, immigrant to New England, bp at Great Burstead 4 June 1615, as "son of John Parker"; d. intestate without issue at Billerica, Mass, 14 June 1667. He m. at Great Burstead, 23 June 1642, Mary (?Pope) (Poulter) Aylett. b. ca 1605, dau. of Marie (____) Pope, and widow successively of John Poulter, yeoman and John Aylett, draper, both of Rayleigh, Essex
Mary had three children with her first husband
1. Mary Poulter, 2. Elizabeth Poulter, 3. John Poulter.

Possibly John and his brothers attended the school for boys in Great Burstead, (which in 1840 Lewis stated, was endowed with land producing f60 per annum.) He was a legatee and witness to the 1640 will of John Aylett of Rayleigh, who bequeathed him 20s and called him "servant." John and Mary immigrated to New England by 1649 where they settled first at Woburn and by 1654

were at Billerica, Mass. John Parker was the first town clerk of Billerica, the first collector of taxes, and he built the first meeting house there. He was named a legatee and overseer in the 1659 will of Edward¹ Converse of Woburn, Mass., who called him "kinsman" and bequeathed him 40s.

- ii. (Captain) James¹ Parker, immigrant to New England, b. ca 1617 (he gave his age as 81 yrs in a deposition in 1698 and as 83 in his 1700 will) died at Groton, Mass, shortly before 12 July 1700 when his estate was inventoried. He m. (1) at Woburn, 23 May 1643 Elizabeth Long bp at St. Albans, Herts, 14 Nov. 1621 daughter of Robert¹ and Sarah (Taylor) Long of St. Albans and Dunstable, Bedfordshire and Charlestown, Mass. She was the older sister of Anne (or Anna) Long who m. James's first cousin, (Lieut) James² Converse (see no. 5.iii, below). He m. (2) between 1693 and 1697 Eunice (Brooks) Carter b. at Woburn 1655 daughter of John¹ and Eunice (Mousall) Brooks and widow of Rev. Samuel Carter. James Parker resided successively at Woburn, Chelmsford and Groton, Mass. He was selectman of Groton in most of the years between 1662 and 1699; town clerk there 1678-1679; town treasurer 1697; representative to the General Court for Groton 1683 and 1693; deacon of the Groton Church and captain of the military company in Groton during King Philip's War. James Parker, "Senior," left a will dated 25 May 1700 proved 17 Aug 1700, in which he mentioned his wife, Eunice; his wife's former husband, (not named); daughters Sarah Parker (under 18) Anna Blood, and Elizabeth Gary; grandchild Elizabeth Parker, daughter of son Zechariah Parker, deceased; grandchild Abiel Parker, daughter of son Joshua Parker, deceased; former gifts to sons, James, Josiah, Samuel, Zechariah and Eleazer Parker; son Josiah Parker of Cambridge, Mass., to serve as executor. His widow Eunice m. (3) after 1701, John Kendall b. at Woburn 2 July 1642 d. ca April 1732 age 86, son of Francis¹ and Mary (Tidd) Kendall of Charlestown and Woburn.
- iii. Abraham (or Abram)¹ Parker, immigrant to New England, bp at Great Burstead, 6 Feb. 1619, as

"son of John and Anna Parker", died at Chelmsford Mass, 12 Aug 1685. He m. at Woburn, Mass 18 Nov. 1644, Rose¹ Whitlock who died at Chelmsford 30 Nov. 1691.

Abraham Parker kept an ordinary or public house at Chelmsford and served the town as grand juryman, 1658/9, constable, 1673; and tithingman, 1679. Abraham Parker, "Senior," left a will dated Aug. 1685, proved 6 Oct 1685, in which he named his wife, Rose; his sons, John, Abraham, Moses, and Isaac Parker; and daughters Mary, wife of James Parker, Elizabeth Parker, and Lydia, wife of John Kidder.

iv. Joseph¹ Parker, immigrant to New England, bp at Great Burstead 1 Sept. 1622 as "son of John and Ann Parker", died in 1690. He m. (1) evidently at Great Burstead, 16 April 1650 Margaret Puttow and they came to New England in 1652. He m. (2) at Chelmsford, Mass., 19 Nov. 1683, Hannah (Jenkins) Balke widow of Capt. John Balke (or Bake) of Chelmsford and daughter of Joel¹ and Sarah (Gilbert) Jenkins of Braintree and Malden Mass. Hannah m. (3) 8 Jan 1690/1 at Concord, as his 2d wife, Robert Blood Sr. of Ruddington Nottingham, and Concord, Mass, who died at Concord 22 Oct. 1701. Hannah died there 13 Dec. 1716.

Joseph Parker resided successively at Woburn and Chelmsford, Groton, Dunstable and again at Chelmsford, Mass. He had children with both wives.

v. Anne Parker bp at Great Burstead, 13 Feb. 1624 as "daughter of John and Ann Parker." Presumably she is the Ann Parker who m. at Great Burstead 23 Sept 1647 Edward Clyfe (Cliffe) Their subsequent history is unknown.

vi. Jacob¹ Parker immigrant to New England, bp at Great Burstead 19 Nov. 1626 as "son of John and Ann Parker"; died intestate at Billerica, Mass., 7 Jan 1668/9. He m. Sarah_____ b. ca 1627. Jacob was first town clerk of Chelmsford and served as selectman from 1662 until his death. His widow Sarah m. (2) at Malden, Mass., 4 Aug 1675 (as his 2d wife), Capt. John¹ Waite of Malden b. ca 1618 in England, son of Samuel and Mary (Ward) Waite of Wethersfield, Essex and widower of Mary Hills, who died at Malden 25 Nov. 1674.

Jacob and Sarah Parker were ancestors of Franklin Pierce, 14th President of the United States.

vii. Joshua Parker bp. at Great Burstead 29 Nov 1630 as "son of John and Ann Parker." d. presumably young.

End Part 3 - Next, p.92: 4. Sarah Parker b. 1596 NEHGS Register, Vol. 153 - January, 1999, No. 609 PARKER Part 4

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4. Sarah Parker was born probably abt 1596 and was buried at South Weald, Essex, 13 June 1625 as, "Sara wyfe to Edward Convers." She married at Great Burstead, 29 June 1614, as his first wife, Edward¹ Converse (or Combers), who was baptized at Navestock, Essex, 23 Mar 1588/9 and died at Woburn, Mass., 10 August 1663, son of Allen Converse of Navestock and his first wife, Joanna. Edward and Sarah resided at South Weald, where several of their children were baptized before her death there in 1625.

In 1630 Edward Converse immigrated with the Winthrop Fleet to New England, settling initially at Charlestown, Mass., where he operated a ferry between Charlestown and Boston. He was admitted as a member of the Boston church in the fall of 1630. He requested to become a freeman 19 October 1630 and was admitted 18 May 1631. He married second, Sarah____ shortly before 14 Oct. 1632 when they were dismissed from the Boston church to participate in forming the new Charlestown church. He served as selectman at Charlestown 1635-1638, and grandjuryman there in 1638. In 1640 Edward and Sarah removed to Woburn, where he was a commissioner to end smallcauses in 1643 and deputy to the General Court in 1660.

Following the death of his 2d wife there 14, January 1662 (presumably 1661/2 intended), Edward married, third, at Woburn, 9 Sept. 1662, Joan (or Joanna) (Warren) Sprague, daughter of Richard Warren of Fordington, Dorset and widow of Lieut. Ralph Sprague of Fordington St. George, Dorset and Charlestown and Malden, Mass. Edward Converse left a will dated August 1659 proved 7 Oct. 1663, naming his wife, Sara; sons, Josiah, James, and Samuel Converse; daughter, Mary Sheldon; the children of his daughter, Mary Thompson; grandson, Edward son of James Converse; kinsmen, Allen Converse and John Parker; and kinswoman, Sarah Smith. Joanna, the widow of Edward Converse died at Charlestown

24 February 1680/1, and in her will dated 24 February 1674/5 proved 15, June 1680, named her sons, Phineas, John, Richard and Samuel Sprague; her daughter, Mary Edmunds and (her grandchild), Mary daughter of Daniel and Mary Edmunds.

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Children of Edward and Sarah (Parker) Converse:

i. Josiah¹ Converse, bp at South Weald, Essex, 30 Oct 1618 as "Josiah Convers son to Edward Convers",

d. 3 Feb 1690/1 aged 72 yrs. He m. at Woburn, Mass., 26 March 1651, Esther Champney, dau. of Richard¹ and Jane (____) Champney of Cambridge, b. ca. 1638 in England, d. at Billerica, Mass., 5 April 1713 aged 80. She m. (2nd) at Billerica, Mass., 17 Nov. 1690, (as his 2nd wife), (Captain) Jonathan² Danforth, Sr. of Cambridge and Billerica, widower of Elizabeth Poulter, stepdaughter of John¹ Parker of Billerica (see 3 above) Jonathan d. 7 Sept. 1712 aged 85 yrs.

ii. James Converse bp at South Weald, Essex, 29 Nov. 1620, as "John (sic) Convers son to Edw: Convers and Sarah his wief." Died at Woburn, Mass., 10 May 1715 aged 95 yrs. He m. at Woburn 24 Oct 1643, Anne (or Anna) Long, bp 1 June 1623 at St. Albans, Herts., and d. at Woburn 10 Aug 1691 aged 69 yrs. daughter of Robert¹ and Sarah (Taylor) Long of St. Albans, Herts., and Dunstable, Bedfordshire, and Charlestown, Mass., and younger sister of Elizabeth Long, wife of James¹ Parker (see no. 3.ii, above)

iii. Sarah Converse bp at South Weald, Essex 2 June 1623, as "Sara Convers daughter to Edward Convers & Sara, his wife"; buried there 30 Dec. 1623, as "Sara Conbers (sic) daughter to Edward Convers."

iv. Mary Converse, b. say 1625 baptism not found. She m. (1) at Woburn, Mass., 19 Dec. 1643, Simon Thompson, who died there in May, 1658. She m. (2) at Billerica, 1 Feb 1659/60, John Sheldon who d. there 24 May 1690, aged about 63.

p.95 Converse Addenda

Allen Converse (or Combers), Jr., brother of Edward Converse the immigrant (see above) was baptized at Navestock, Essex in 1586, the son of Allen Converse, Sr.

of Navestock and South Weald, Essex with his first wife, Joanna. He was buried at Navestock 24 April 1639. He m. say 1613, Sara ____, who was buried at South Weald 5 December 1626. As an adult, he was styled "junior", to distinguish him from his father of the same name. Children, all baptized at South Weald, Essex:

- i. Theophilus Converse (or Cumbers) bp 13 March 1613/4, as "Theophilus Convers the sonne of Allen Convers (junior);" buried at South Weald "as Theophilus Cumbers of Brentwood" 16 Aug. 1672; m. (1) at South Weald, 25 Sept. 1644, Elizabeth ____, whose surname is not included in the record. She was buried at South Weald as "Elizabeth the Wife of Theophilus Convers of Brentwood" 5 Feb 1667/8. He m. (2) at South Weald, 6 Oct. 1668, Margery (____)Hurrall. Children: bp at South Weald: 1. John Converse bp 28 Sept. 1645; buried at South Weald 9 April 1679. 2. Japhet Converse bp 14 Sept. 1648. 3. James Converse bp 11 April 1652.
- ii. Allen¹ Converse immigrant to New England bp 18 Aug, 1616 as "Allen Convers sonne to Allen Convers" d. at Woburn, Mass., 19 April 1679. He m. say 1641, Elizabeth ____ who d. at Woburn 9 Aug. 1691. (p.96) In his will dated 14, April 1679, proved 17 June 1679, he named his wife, Elizabeth; two children of his deceased son, Zachariah; son, Samuel; and daughters Sarah and Mary.
- iii. Aaron Converse, bp 2 Feb. 1618/19, as "Aron Convers ye sonne to Allin Convers" buried at South Weald 7 March 1618/19, as "Aron Convers sonne to Allin Convers.
- iv. Abraham Converse bp 7 Jan 1619/20 as "Abraham Convers sonne to Aleyn Convers"; buried at SouthWeald 3 May 1620, as "Abraham Convers son to Allen Convers."
- v. Sarah (or Sara) Converse, immigrant to New England, bp 17 April 1621, as "Sara Convers daughter to Allen Converse & Sara, his wife", living 1659 when she was mentioned in the will of her uncle, Edward¹ Converse of Woburn, Mass. She m. by 1659, ____ Smith. A review of all contemporary Smith men with a wife Sarah suggests that she was probably Sarah, wife of John¹ Smith of Charlestown, Mass., ship carpenter, who m. by

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1646. He d. 26 March 1672/3 leaving a will dated 8 March 1672/3 proved 17 June 1673, that named his wife, Sarah; sons, John, James, and Josiah; and daughters, Elizabeth, Sarah, and Mary. The widow Sarah d. at Charlestown 12 Nov. 1687.

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