

# THE STORY OF JOHN "THE EMIGRANT"

by  
Robert Newel Reynolds

The first three generations of our American Reynolds family have been treated by several noted genealogists and historians since the mid eighteen hundreds. Several of their publications have been researched and studied in putting together this short chronology. It is not intended as a complete treatise but rather, the purpose has been to provide a synopsis with noted references so that any family member who reads this work can pick up any of the cited works and explore more fully into the lives and known records of our early American colonists. The joy of learning about our Reynolds forbears has far exceeded the effort involved. Original copies of early genealogical works are becoming difficult to find. The noted volume, "The History and Descendants of John and Sarah Reynolds by Marion H. Reynolds and Anna C. Rippier, 1924, was available as late as 1953 for one dollar a copy. I had just started high school that year and had it in my mind that not one of my living family knew any of our ancestors past my great-grandfather Warren Ford Reynolds. I am sure that my late father who lived to almost his 99<sup>th</sup> year never knew of his progenitors John and Sarah of Watertown. I searched and found an original copy of the book two years ago but it cost one hundred and twenty-five dollars.

Deborah Wing Ray and Gloria P. Stewart performed a magnificent job in capturing and organizing the known sequence of events in the lives and travels of our early American Reynolds ancestors.<sup>1</sup> Their chronology and illustrations carefully depict how John "The Emigrant" and Sarah, his wife, settled first in Watertown, Massachusetts (1634-1636), then in the spring of 1636 moved on down "The Great Trail" and through the wilderness to the fertile Connecticut River valley to the Indian location called "Pyquag," an area made attractive to early day planters because of its rich meadow lands. Pyquag was called "Watertown in the Connecticut River" by its very first settlers. Within months the town carved from Pequot territory became Wethersfield, the first English settlement in Connecticut.<sup>2</sup>

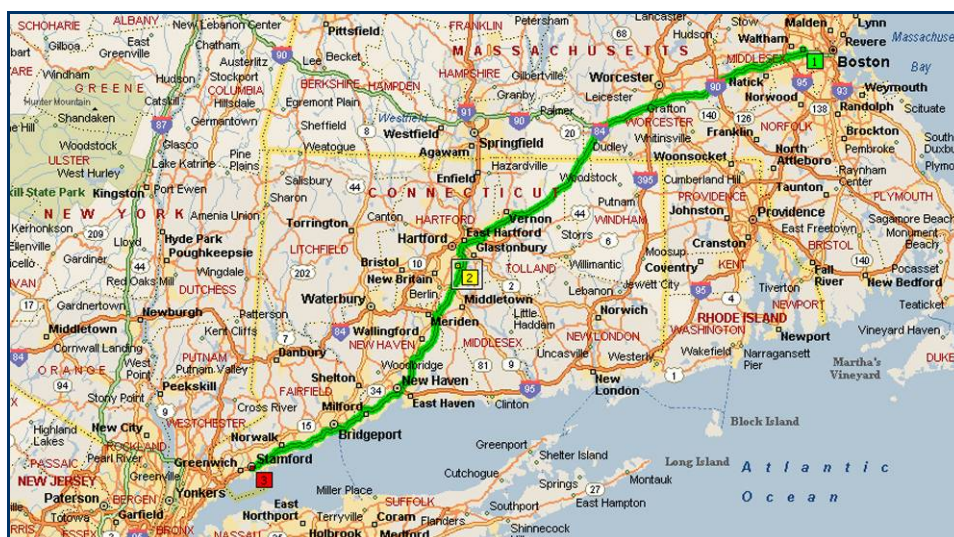
From Wethersfield, John and Sarah moved "ever westward in Connecticut" and settled in Toquams—which later became Stamford. Ray and Stewart wrote "John and Sarah probably arrived in Stamford in the spring of 1641, since.... Wethersfield records show that he sold his land there in December, 1640."<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Ray, Deborah Wing and Gloria P. Stewart, *Loyal to the Land*, Charter Oak Publications, Inc., by Phoenix Publishing, West Kennebunk, Maine, 1990.

<sup>2</sup> Reynolds, Marion H. A.B., *The History and Descendants of John and Sarah Reynolds (1630?-1923)*, The Reynolds Family Association, 413 Third Street, Brooklyn, N. Y. 1924.

<sup>3</sup> Ray, Deborah Wing and Gloria P. Stewart, *Loyal to the Land*, Charter Oak Publications, Inc., by Phoenix Publishing, West Kennebunk, Maine, 1990, page 9.



The recorded details of our early Reynolds progenitors are fascinating and uplifting.<sup>4</sup> They depict folks who are at once Christian believers, ambitious, prolific, civic minded, respectful of the land, loyal in defense and service to their country, creative and entrepreneurial. In the works cited here, the lives of our Reynolds ancestors are made to come alive. It is helpful to learn and empathize with these

<sup>4</sup> My good friend Dr. Glenn G. Reynolds, writing in the Reynolds Family Association website forums has referenced the following works as being most helpful for the descendants of John and Sarah of Watertown: (1) *The History and Descendants of John and Sarah Reynolds [1630?-1923] of Watertown, Mass., and Wethersfield, Stamford and Greenwich, Conn.* Edited and compiled by Marion H. Reynolds, A.B., and Mrs. Anna C. Rippier. Published by The Reynolds Family Assn., 1924; (2) *Loyal to the Land, the history of a Greenwich, Connecticut family.* Authored by, Deborah Wing Ray, and Gloria P. Stewart. 1990. Charter Oak Publications, Inc. This very valuable resource was commissioned for research and publication by Russell Seaman Reynolds, Jr., whose family have lived in the Greenwich area for the past 350 years (John, Jonathan, Ebenezer, Nathaniel, etc..... This book also chronicles our side of the family, quite clearly thru the first four generations (John, John, James, Jeremiah "Sr.".....), up to this point Chapters 1-6; (3) The monograph of T. W. Reynolds. He alludes to the family having emigrated from Ireland. That is quite possibly true, if one means a return of some of the family, from Ireland to England, perhaps, in the 14th or 15th century, as there are many members of the Reynolds family, even today, living in Ireland, especially County Leitrim; (4) *Genealogical and Family History of Southern New York and the Hudson River Valley*, by Cuyler Reynolds, Lewis Historical Publishing Company, N.Y. 1914. Pp. 392-414. A similar publication by the same author, on the history of the Hudson and Mohawk Valleys; pp. 1825-1835; is very germane to this family; (5) *Burying Grounds of Sharon, Conn., Amenia, and North East, N.Y.* by L. Van Alstyne. Heart of the Lakes Publishing. 1983. Taken from the same title, published by Walsh, Griffen, Hoystradt, Printers. Amenia, N.Y. 1903. I have obtained and studied all but two of these references and believe they are essential for serious students of our Reynolds progenitors.

early day planter/colonists to better appreciate and understand their contribution to who we are today.

During the short time John and Sarah lived in Watertown their family consisted of their daughter Elizabeth who history records as being born in 1634-35. Speculation on her name includes the possibility that she was born during passage on the ship of the same name. Vital Watertown period records for The Emigrant include a notation in Nathaniel Shurtleff's 1853 "Records of the Governor and Company of the Massachusetts Bay in New England" to wit on May 6, 1635 John Reynolds was admitted as a freeman. *This recognition by the General Court of Massachusetts Bay was not bestowed lightly; it was given only to a man who was a member of the church, held land, and took the solemn oath to "be obedient to laws, orders, sentences and decrees....advance the peace and welfare of this bodie or commonwealth...devert and prevent anyone who wants to ruine or damage it....give notice to government of sedition, violence or treachery plotted or intended against it....Soe helpe me God."*<sup>5</sup> In that day the Freeman Oath was required in order to exercise the right to vote and hold civic or military office.<sup>6</sup>

On November 14, 1635, John was recognized by his neighbors and named to a committee of seven freeman who were given the heavy civic responsibility of dividing the proximate farming land into twenty to seventy acre parcels along the Charles River.<sup>7</sup>

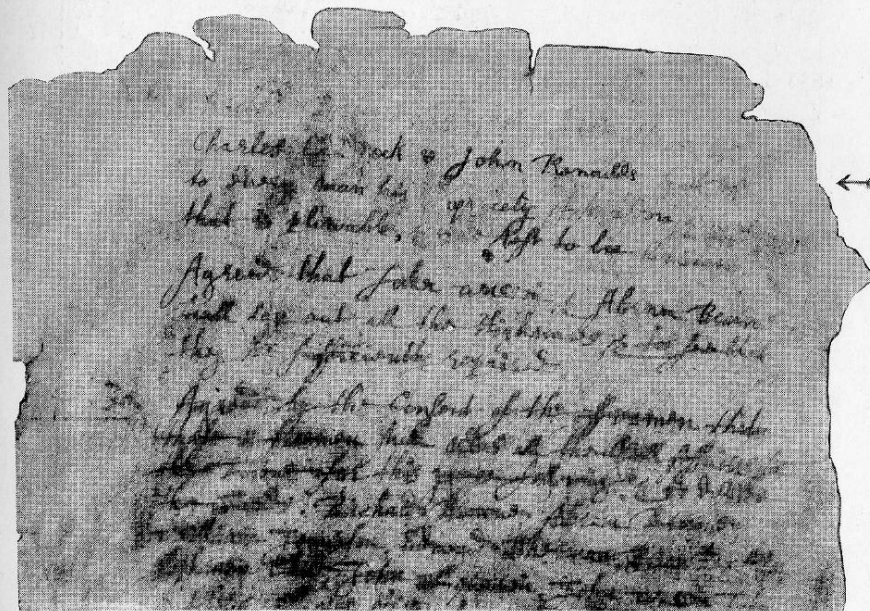


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<sup>5</sup> Ray and Stewart, page 5.

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

<sup>7</sup> Reynolds, Marion H., page 23. See also Ray and Stewart, page 5.



## EARLIEST EXISTING MENTION OF JOHN REYNOLDS

November 14, 1635, at Watertown, Mass.

The existing Watertown records, now almost three centuries old, have so deteriorated that it has been necessary to cover each leaf with oiled silk. This has made photographic reproduction very indistinct. The top part of the above page reads:

"Nov. 14, 1635. Agreed that Daniel Patrick, Brian Pendleton, Richard Browne, Ephraim Child, Abram Browne, Charles Chaddock and John Reynolds shall devise to every man his propriety and Meadow & upland that is plowable, and the rest to be common."

The lower two-thirds of this page three refer to other matters. John's name is near the top. Read carefully page 14 in this Book. We have slightly retouched the above.

Please note that the caption to the forgoing photo of Watertown's November 14, 1635 civic appointment is in error. It was probably prepared by its writer prior to discovery of John's appointment as freeman. This appointment to act in dividing meadow, plowland, and upland was a potentially contentious undertaking and could breed enmity and anger from anyone not satisfied with the results of the draw. One might conclude that certain townsmen, because of their trade specialty, would not need or perhaps even want the responsibility of a large parcel of ground because of both time demands in maintenance and the liability of taxes payable. It is notable that John and others of his seven person committee were not included in the subsequent land division of July 25, 1636.

## John Reinolds.

1. An Homestall of Five Acres & halfe by estimation bounded the North w<sup>th</sup> the highway the South w<sup>th</sup> Isaac Mixer & the East w<sup>th</sup> John Sherman granted to him.

[158] (19)

### [Lands, Grants and Possessions.]

[1] 1636. July 25

A Grant of the Great Dividents lotted out by the Freemen to all the Townsmen then inhabiting being 120 in number, the Land being divided into foure Divisions\*, every Division being 160 rods in breadth, Beginning next to the small Lots and bounded with Cambridge Line on the Northside, & the Plowland on the South, to be laid out successively one after another (all the Meddowes & cartwaies only being excepted) for them to inclofe, or feed in common.

#### The First Division.

Lott	1	John Coolige	Thirty Acres.
	2	Edmund Sherman	Fifty Acres.
	3	John Tucker	Twenty & Five Acres.
	4	Isaac Mixer	Thirty Acres
	5	Robert Veazy	Twenty Acres
	6	Hugh Mafon	Thirty Acres
	7	John Stowers	Thirty Acres
	8	Robert Jennifon	Twenty Acres
	9	John Vahan	Twenty Acres
	10	Richard Beers	Twenty & Five Acres
	11	William Paine	Seventy Acres
	12	Thomas Haftings	Twenty & Five Acres
	13	John Simfon	Thirty Acres
	14	Robert Betts	Twenty Acres
	15	Henry Dengaine	Twenty Acres
	16	John Rose	Twenty Acres
	17	John Kingfbery	Forty Acres
	18	Gregory Stone	Forty Acres
	19	Brian Pembleton	Seventy Acres
	20	John Browne	Thirty Acres
	21	John Dwight	Thirty Acres
	22	John Bernard	Sixty Acres
	23	William Knop	Thirty Acres
	24	Daniel Perfe	Twenty & Five Acres
	25	John Hayward	Fifty Acres
	26	Edmund Lewis	Thirty Acres
	27	George Richardfon	Twenty & Five Acres
	28	James Cutler	Twenty & Five Acres
	29	John Grigs	Twenty & Five Acres
	30	Henry Goldstone	Sixty Acres
	31	John Cutting	Sixty Acres

[\* Squadron, the word originally used in the record of this Grant, was probably soon afterward erased and Division substituted.—Eds.]

John had been "granted" a homestall of five and one-half acres, when we do not know but it must have been earlier. One historian wrote that the use of the word "granted" implied that he would have been an original founder of the town. John's homestall location in this colonial town was proximate to some who had crossed on the Elizabeth and who would be known in later historical accounts of Wethersfield and Stamford. The names of John Sherman, Thurston Raynor, Isaac Mixer and Daniel Patrick are among others so noted. Also, the name of John Dogget would later be recognized as a forbear of Elizabeth Daggett, the wife of Jeremiah Reynolds Jr. - these the grandparents of great-grandfather Warren Ford Reynolds.

From Marion H. Reynolds we learn that John and Sarah's home place was eventually bought by Miles Nutt. Further, that John's name and the location of the house-lot appear on the early map of Watertown at page 1094 of Dr. Henry Bond's *Genealogies and Histories of Watertown*. Further, that John's five and one-half acres were a short distance just south of Strawberry Hill near the center of this map, and between Sherman and Mixer.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup> Bond, Henry, M.D., *Genealogies and History of Watertown*, 1855., pp 912, 1017.

[69] (42)

John Dogget.

1. An Homestall of Fiveten Acres more or les bounded the South with the highway the North & West with the Pond & Nicholas Busby & the East with William Paine.

[153]

John Dogget.

1. An Homestall of Fifteen Acres by estimation bounded the South with the highway the North & West with the Pond & Nicholas Busby & the East with William Paine granted to him.
2. Two Acres of Meddow by estimation bounded the North with John Biscoe & the Southeast with John Flemming granted to him
3. Six Acres of vpland by estimation bounded the East & South with the highway the North with John Whitney & the West with Edmond White granted to him.
4. Six Acres of Plowland by estimation in the further Plaine bounded the East with Thomas Rogers the West with Martin Vnderwood the North with Common land & the South with the highway granted to him.
5. Six Acres of remote Meddow by estimation & the forty seventh Lott granted to him.
6. Thirty Acres of vpland by estimation being a great Divident in the fourth Division & the twelfe lott granted to him.

The above transcripts of the Watertown land records were obtained from Ancestry.com

### Record of the Grants & Poffeessions of the Lands in Watertown

....the Proportion of Meadow being twenty acres of meadow to one hundred & fifty acres of upland , and those farmes Granted to thofe freemen upon condition they Remaine Inhabitants ftill in the Town.

Ray and Stewart wrote of this time: "Bay Colony farmers had heard about the fertile meadows lying on either side of a beautiful, broad navigable river some miles to the west in what is now Connecticut.....The time had come for John, Sarah and daughter Elizabeth to move on." <sup>9</sup> As the year 1635 drew to an end, John was 23 and Sarah 21. Probably because John and Sarah had already left for Wethersfield, he did not receive any meadow property in the 1636 land division.

The best speculation, based on the known events that took place in Watertown and Wethersfield during the 1635-36 period, is that John and Sarah made the approximate 100 mile trek in the spring of 1636 along with others.<sup>10</sup> A separate

<sup>9</sup> Ray and Stewart, page 7.

<sup>10</sup> Marion Reynolds wrote that .....



image in this section of my history has been prepared to illustrate the trek from Watertown to Wethersfield.

### 1636--FROM WATERTOWN TO WETHERSFIELD

In all likelihood John and Sarah made the nearly one-hundred mile trek on the Great Trail in the usual fashion, on foot or on horseback. Pack animals carried necessities, since the path was too narrow for wagon wheels. Household goods and heavy articles were sent by ship around Cape Cod, through Long Island Sound, and up the Connecticut River to Wethersfield, a costly method to be sure, but one that insured the colonists' survival in the new settlement.

The Reynolds family followed the well laid-out route by day, trudging over "a hill," passing "a pond," sighting "a wigwam," and skirting "a swamp" or "a bad hole." By night they huddled around a fire, with boughs and grass for a bed and a net filled with wild grass for a blanket. Toward the end of their journey, they arrived at Windsor Ferry Place, where a ferryman poled them across the river. From there it was but a short distance to their new home in Wethersfield. --Ray and Stewart



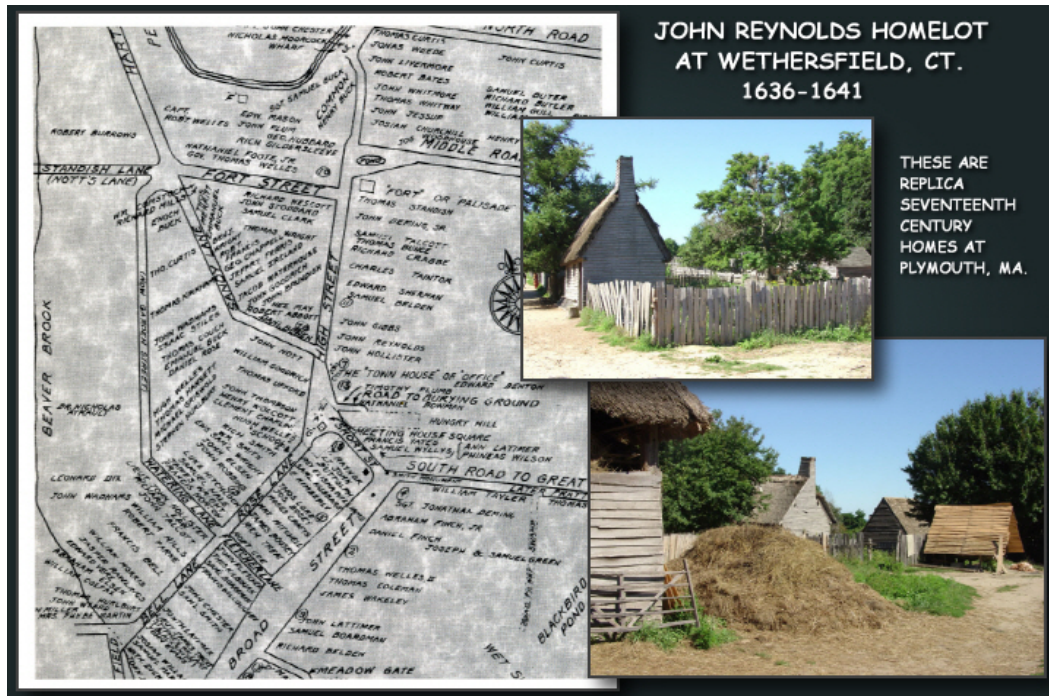
Passage Express image by Robert Newel Reynolds

If, in deed, this is the way John and Sarah moved one must surmise they had little in the way of earthly possessions. However, we learn that shortly after settling in Wethersfield they possessed "swine and kine" as they registered an earmark to protect their property. We should note that if John was a seaman, as some have speculated, the possibility is that John and Sarah's removal to Wethersfield may have been other than by land. History is silent here.

John and Sarah lived at Wethersfield for five years. They were in their twenties—older perhaps from a relative standpoint than we know today, but still childbearing years. And these were years of production and acquisition. History records that two sons were born at this location on the Connecticut River, Jonathan in 1636, and my progenitor John (2) in 1638.

The Emigrant's house as given on the map of Wethersfield, 1634-44, was on High Street, the third from the meeting-house and about the centre of the town, between John Gibbs and Andrew Ward. It was a houselot of some three and one-half acres. On *"the 12th Month and 11 daie 1640" (Feby. 11, 1640-41)*, John received a houselot and several other pieces of land at Wethersfield. These were on *"3rd mo. 20d 1644" (May 20, 1644, o. s.)* recorded to Lieut. John Hollister as

"bought of John Reynolds."<sup>11</sup> And of their livestock we are told: "In 1641 the official earmark<sup>^</sup> of John's swine and kine was registered in Wethersfield town records."<sup>12</sup>



Passage Express Image by Robert Newel Reynolds

*This information from Ray and Stewart: "John and Sarah made their home on a three and one-half acre plot on the east side of High Street, the third lot from the Meeting House. A dwelling, a kitchen garden, outbuildings and perhaps a fenced-in area for cattle and swine were crowded on this home-lot. This piece of land represented but a fraction of John's total holdings in Wethersfield. He owned at least as much as one hundred and fifty additional acres, scattered about the periphery of the town. Much of this land was upland and meadow. The true measure of a family's ability to survive rested on the Indian corn (maize) planted on the uplands and the hay crops from the meadows."<sup>13</sup>*

<sup>11</sup> Reynolds, Marion H. page 17.

<sup>12</sup> Ibid.

<sup>13</sup> Ray and Stewart, page 7, further, Adams and Stiles, op. cit., 299, show that in 1664, Richard Smith, Jr. bought James Wright's tract of 150 acres that was originally in the possession of John Reynolds.



For a moment consider the world of 1636-1644 in which John and Sarah lived. It was just a couple of years before this time that the first settlers purchased land from the Pequot Tribe and made a permanent settlement. In 1636, one of the most famous early Connecticut settlers, the Reverend Thomas Hooker, traveled from Massachusetts with a group of colonists. They founded the town of Hartford, which soon became an important center of government and trade. Within the next year, many English settlers from the Massachusetts Bay Colony began exploring throughout the Connecticut Valley area.<sup>14</sup>

This was the period of colonization. They were living in wilderness; trespassers on land that belonged to the Pequot, Mohegan, Mohawks, Narragansett, Uncas and Wawequen. Their new settlements were colonies; the surrounding country was carved away from the wilderness and wrapped into plantations. In town, lots were close together for economy and protection. For several years, travel outside the town safety net would be fraught by encounters with unfriendly natives. Many struggles and deaths occurred. In the end the natives would lose, but first they would fight to the death for what they believed was theirs.

The Wethersfield Colonists were continually exposed to danger from the Indians, especially the Pequots. In April, 1637, they waylaid the settlers as they were going into their fields and killed six men and three women. On May 26, 1637, the Wethersfield men, uniting with those from Windsor and Hartford, and with seventy friendly Mohicans under their Sachem Uncas, attacked the Pequots, burned seventy wigwams and killed five or six hundred of the enemy—the 'Pequot War'.<sup>15</sup>

In explanation of why difficulties occurred between the settlers and the native Americans, Ray and Stewart reasoned: *"The settlers in the Connecticut River Valley had come by their land through lawful purchase and, from their perspective, it was private property. This concept was incomprehensible to the Native Americans, who believed that land belonged to the tribe and that anyone who chose to had the right to use it. When the Indians realized they had been dispossessed, their anger mounted and violence followed. Indians swept up and down the Valley, terrorizing, plundering, burning, and killing the hapless settlers. Only after the Bay Colony and Connecticut men joined to strike down the mighty Pe-quot, entrapped seven hundred of them near the mouth of the Mystic River, fell upon them in a savage massacre, and forever destroyed their power, could the residents of the Valley resume their daily lives free of apprehension and anxiety. John and Sarah survived these years of terror, at what cost we know not."*

When John and Sarah came to their new land they found an environment that we would envy today. Connecticut abounded in furs. There were otters, beaver, the black, gray, and red fox, bobcats, raccoon, mink, muskrat, and the large predators

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.hartford.com>

<sup>15</sup> Reynolds, Marion H. page 16.

native to this continent. Wolves and black bear were numerous in all parts of New England when the Settlements commenced, and did great damage to the planters, killing their sheep, calves, and young cattle.

The country afforded an almost incredible bounty of waterfowl. In the bays, creeks, rivers, and ponds, were wild geese, and ducks of all kinds, widgeons, sheldrakes, broadbills, teal of various sorts, and other waterfowl, which were both wholesome and palatable. In the waters, on the shores, and in the sands were lobsters, oysters, clams, and all kinds of shellfish in abundance. Most of these are reckoned among the higher priced sea foods of the table today.

So while some aspects of their lives yielded bounties, there were many trials and tribulations for sure. Central to the core of their existence was the church. It was after all the reason they were in the new world. And it seems the church more than any other factor became the driving force for staying or moving on. And for John and Sarah at Wethersfield the church in 1641 became the reason for yet another move. I include here a transcript of this important phase of their lives prepared by our distant cousin Cuyler Reynolds.<sup>16</sup> The transcript in italics follows:

*It was not long before internal dissensions were disturbing the church at Wethersfield and dividing inhabitants as well as the brethren. The Rev. Richard Denton became the leader of the more progressive and radical party. The ministers of the other churches of the river, and Mr. Davenport from New Haven, successively tried to unite the factions. The latter suggested the expediency of one of the parties removing and making a new settlement. At length a number of men who were the most pleased with the advice of Mr. Davenport and the New Haven brethren, and to whom the government of that colony was most agreeable, determined to remove and settle in combination with New Haven.*

*Nathaniel Turner had on July 1st, 1640, on behalf of the New Haven Colony, bought of Ponus, Sagamore of Toquams, and of Wascussee, Sagamore of Shippan, a tract of land which includes the present towns of Darien and Stamford and part of Greenwich paying about 33 pounds for a tract of land of one hundred and twenty-eight square miles. This tract, Rippowanis, Mr. Andrew Ward and Mr. Robert Coe, of Wethersfield, on October 30, 1640, purchased of the New Haven Colony on behalf of themselves and about twenty other planters on these conditions: First, the Wethersfield men were to give the price paid to the Indians for the land by Mr. Turner. Second, a fifth part of the lands were*

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<sup>16</sup> Reynolds, Cuyler, Genealogical and Family History of Southern New York and the Hudson River Valley, A record of the Achievements of Her People in the Making of a Commonwealth and the Building of a Nation, Vol. I, New York Lewis Historical Publishing Company, 1914

to be reserved to be disposed of by the court to such other settlers as they saw fit. Third, they were to join with the New Haven plantation in the form of government there adopted. Twenty men were to settle in Stamford by the last of November, 1641.

It was decided that the majority of the seven church members, church membership being essential to becoming a freeman, should remove with a minority of the planters and that they should take the church organization with them. Thirty men, among them **John Reynolds**, volunteered as pioneers of the new colony. These subscribed "100 bushels of corne," to be paid May or June, 1641, to the New Haven Colony, to make good the purchase price of the land, each man giving as he was able and receiving a proportional amount of land. In this subscription, Mr. Denton ranks third with 4.1 bu.; Jo. Reynolds, eighth with 3.2 bu. (Stamford Records, p. 5). **Of these thirty, twenty-eight removed to the site of Stamford in the summer of 1641.** On October 19th they held their first meeting, electing five men to form a provisional government and dividing the land between them. An account of this is to be found at Stamford in the earliest town record entitled "1640-41 a towne book of ye free holders of ye towne of Stamford as it was after wards called but now Rippowan, containing the acts and conclusions of the companie of Wethersfield men." At this meeting "the man under consideration absenting himself while his case was in hand and so successively and when he was called in again and demanded if so much gave him content and so content and satisfaction was by every one of these men acknowledged and they set down these numbers of acres of marsh and upland after the same proportion that followeth xxx Mr. Denton 14 acres xxx John Renoulds 11 acres." (Stamford Records, p. 7.)

The New Haven Colony had not been fully satisfied by the one hundred bushels of corn, so that an assessment was laid to make this good. The following is John Reynolds' account: "For rate—now 56.10.0 and due at W. 13. s. 6 d and to received Jo Renoulds 17 S. 11 d. makes 4. lbs.08-3.,' each of whom subscribed a 'pick.' **The next mention of him is in a list of twelve men. Here his name appears as Jo. Renoulds.** Latter is a tax list to make good the loss of the town mill and dam and for building a 'captain's house.' 'Jo. Reynoulds debtor for loss by mill 269, house 13 both 39.9 and he hath paid (for loss) at mill, First bill 9 s. 6. and dam 9 s. 3 s. house, 12 s. last charge 5. s. all 38 s. 6d.' "

The last mention of him is in a deed recorded March, 1651, of property in the extreme west section of the town near the site of Old Greenwich, bounded by "ye lot which was John Renoles." (Stamford Records, p. 51).

On page 55 of the original Stamford records is recorded the marriage of his daughter: "Peter Ferris and **Elizabeth Rinealls** Joyned ye 15 July, 1654." Her

*husband, Freeman, of Stamford, Connecticut, 1662, representative 1667, was the son of Jeffrey Ferris, one of the seven original proprietors of Greenwich, who had, like John Reynolds, removed successively from Watertown and Wethersfield to Stamford. They had the following children: 1. Joseph, son of Peter Ferris, b. 20-6-1657, (Stamford. Records p. 74.) 2. Illegible, son of Peter Ferris, illegible, 1659. 3. Elizabeth, dau. of Peter Ferris, b. 28-11-1659 —d—5-2-1660, Stamford Rec. p. 98. 4. Mary, dau. of Peter Ferris, b. May 2, 1662. (Stamford Records p. 76.) 5. Elizabeth, dau. of Peter Ferris, b. Jan. 2, 1664. (Stamford Records p. 76)....*

*On page 19 of the Stamford Records is entered the death of the wife of John: "Sarrah Reanolds died 31-16-1657." On page 20 a second entry gives it as "Sarra Reanols died ye 31 August 1657," We have records of only three of John's children: 1. Elizabeth, b. about 1634. 2. Jonathan, b. about 1636. 3. John, b. about 1638.*

*The subsequent history of John is undetermined....*

*The site of "Old" Greenwich," now Sound Beach, lying some three miles to the west of Stamford, had been purchased from the Indians on behalf of the New Haven Colony, on July 18, 1640, by Robert Feaks and Captain Daniel Patrick, the latter a companion of John Reynolds of Watertown and Wethersfield.*

*About 1653 many of the settlers of Stamford had moved there, and among the earliest inhabitants were Jonathan and John Reynolds, whose land lay along the Two Brothers' Brook, which fact probably suggested its name. Subsequently to 1653 the name of Jonathan Reynolds appears but once in the Stamford Records: "Jan. 7, 1666, Wm. Grimes.*

That land purchased from the New Haven Colony that John Reynolds helped pay for was first called Toquams but within months became known as Stamford. There he brought his family. There he probably died though no record has ever been found of his death. But record keeping was horribly loose in those days and we have been told of town hall fires that destroyed all. What is important is that we know of his participation in the founding of Stamford; we know the half dozen or so families that stayed and traveled together from one settlement to the other and whose descendants intermarried;<sup>17</sup> we know of Sarah's death; we know that


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<sup>17</sup> Among those emigrants from Watertown to Wethersfield who subsequently removed to Stamford, were John Reynolds, Rev. Richard Denton, Thurston Raynor (Raynor came over in 1634 on the same ship with John's wife), the Lockwoods and the Knapps, whose descendants intermarried with the Greenwich Reynolds family.



proprietors like John were assured of a major entitlement, the chance to acquire additional land in subsequent divisions; and we know that John did in fact receive his lands and these were passed on to his descendants including his two sons Jonathan and John who probable took some satisfaction in hearing town folk refer to their holdings as being "out there on both sides of Two Brothers' Brook; but most important we know the results of John and Sarah's efforts and sacrifices—their progeny still live in the area and relatives and descendants are scattered from one end of this country to the other. It really is not important to know that he died, but what is important is to know that he lived.

In the next section we will move on to the second and third generation with special focus on my progenitors and The Emigrant's son John (2) and his grandson Captain James Reynolds, Esquire.



From England  
to Watertown  
to Wethersfield  
to Stamford  
(1630-1641)

<u>John "The Emigrant"</u> <u>1612</u>	begat	<u>Elizabeth Reynolds</u> <u>1634</u>
		<u>Jonathan Reynolds</u> <u>1636</u>
<u>Mrs. Sarah Reynolds</u> <u>1614</u>		<u>John (2nd) Reynolds</u> <u>1638</u>

Passage Express image by Robert Newel Reynolds