THE NEWBERRY FAMILY OF WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT: IN THE LINE OF CLARINDA (NEWBERRY) GOODWIN OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, 1634-1886

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The Newberry Family of Windsor, Connecticut: In the Line of Clarinda (Newberry) Goodwin of Hartford, Connecticut, 1634-1886 by Frank Farnsworth Starr

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WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT

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CLARINDA (NEWBERRY) GOODWIN

OF

HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

1634-1866

COMPILED BY

FRANK FARNSWORTH STARR

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FOR

JAMES J. GOODWIN

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HARTFORD, CONN. 1898

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PREFACE.

FOR this monograph on the Newberry Family a thorough examination has been made of the Colonial Records of Massachusetts and Connecticut, the various records of Suffolk County, Massachusetts, Windsor, Connecticut, and the Hartford Probate District, beside family papers. For valuable assistance and courtesies I am indebted to Charles J. Hoadly, LL. D., State Librarian of Connecticut, the Library Committee and Albert C. Bates, Librarian of the Connecticut Historical Society, James G. Batterson of Hartford, Samuel P. Newberry and Miss Frances E. Newberry of South Windsor, Connecticut, to all of whom the subscriber returns his sincere thanks.

FRANK FARNSWORTH STARR.

MIDDLETOWN, CONN., June, 1898.

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THE NEWBERRY FAMILY.

1.

N y' Year of our Lord 1629, Divers Godly Persons in Devonshire, Somersetshire, Dorcetshire & other places, Proposed a Remoue to New England, among whom were two Famous Ministers, viz. Mr. John Maverick (who I suppose was somewhat advanced in Age) and Mr. John Warham (I suppose a younger Man), then a Preacher in y" City of Exon, or Exeter, in y" County of Devon. These good People met together at Plymouth, a Seaport Town in y^a S^d County of Devon, in order to Ship themselnes & Families for New England; and because they designed to line together after they should arrive here, they met together in the New Hospital in Plymouth and Associated into Church Fellowship, and Chose y' S⁴ Mr. Mauerick and Mr. Warham to be their Ministers and Officers keeping y* Day as a Day of Solemn Fasting & Prayer, and y' Sd Ministers accepted of y' Call & Expressed y' same ; the Revd. Mr. John White of Dorchester in Dorcet (who was an active Instrument to promote y" Settlement of New England, and I think a means of procuring y* Charter) being present & Preaching y* fore part of y* Day, and in y* latter part of y* Day, they performed y' work aforesaid.

This People being too many in Number to come in one Vessel, they hired one Capt Squeb to bring them in a large Ship of 400 Tons; they set Sail from Plymonth y^4 20th of March 1629-30, and arrived at Nantasket (now Hull) y^4 30th of May 1630, . . . They had agreed with Capt. Squeb to bring them into Charles

THE NEWBERBY FAMILY.

River, but he was false to his bargain & would not come any further than Nantasket, where he turned them and their Goods Ashore on y° point, leaving them in a forlorn Wilderness destitute of any habitation & most other comforts of life. But it pleased God, they got a Boat of some that had staid in y* Country, . . . and put their goods in y' Boat, and Instead of Sailing up to Charles River in a Ship were forced (as I suppose) to Row up in a Boat, it being about 3 Leagues to yo Mouth of y' River. They went up y' River until it grew narrow & Shallow, & then put ashore & built a hut to shelter their Goods, Intending there to set down, it being about y' place where Watertown now is. The Indians upon their arrival Mustered thick, they thought about 800, but having with them an Old Planter as they called him, one that had stayed in the Country & could speak something of the Indian Language, (I suppose they took him from Charlestown that now is, for they called there & saw several Wigwams & one English Man in an House where they ate boiled Bass, but had no Bread to eat with it) they sent him to y' Indians, who were persuaded to keep at a distance y' first night, and y' next morning when the Indiana appeared, they offered no violence but sent some of their number holding out a Bass; our people sent a man with a Bisquet, & so they exchanged not only then but often afterwards, a bisquet for a Bass, and y' Indians were very friendly to them, which our people ascribed to God's watchful Providence ouer them in their weak beginnings ; for all the Company were not gone up y° River, but about Ten men to seek y" way for y" Rest. . . . They had not stayed here at Watertown but a few days but y' Rest of their Company below had found out a neck of Land Joyning to a place called by y' Indians Mattapan, (now Dorchester) that was a fit place to turn their Cattle upon to prevent their straying ; so they sent to their friends to come away from Watertown, and settled at Mattapan, & turned their Cattle upon y* S4 neck, then called Mattapannock now called Dorchester Neck. They began their Settlement here at Mattapan y^{*} beginning of June as I suppose, or thereabout, A. D. 1630, and changed y^{*} name into Dorchester, calling it Dorchester Plantation.

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Why they called it Dorchester I have never heard, but there was some of Dorcet Shire, & some of y" Town of Dorchester that settled here; and it is very likely it might be in Honour of y" aforesaid Revd. Mr. White of Dorchester.

Our People were Settled here a month or two before Governor Winthrop & y^* Ships that came with him arrived at Charlestown, so that Dorchester Plantation was settled next to y^* Town of Salem in y^* Massachusetts Colony, being before Charlestown or Boston: And y^* Church of Dorchester y^* oldest Church in y^* Colony Except Salem; and I suppose y^* only Church that came over in Church Fellowship, the other Churches being gathered here. The Indians here at Dorchester were also kind to our People.

The first Inhabitants of Dorchester came chiefly from $y^a S^a$ Countys of Devon, Dorcet & Somerset, and I think from some other places. They were a very Godly & Religious people; and many of them Persons of Note and figure, being dignified with y^a Title of Master; which but few in those days were.³

Unfortunately for the student of history, the first four pages of the earliest volume of Dorchester Town Records, covering the period down to January, 1632-3, as also the Church Records prior to August, 1636, are lost.

Governor Winthrop, in his History of New England, under date of June 24, 1633, says : --

"A ship arrived from Weymouth, with about eighty passengers, and twelve kine, who sate down at Dorchester."*

¹ Annals of the Town of Dorchester, by James Blake, page 7.

³ History of New England, by John Winthrop, edited by James Savage, 1853, page 125.

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