

MIDDLEBROOKS FAMILY ASSOCIATION

Quarterly Newsletter

September 2011
Editor,
Jarrelyn Lang

Volume 10, Number 4
Founding Editor,
Dianne Middlebrooks

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ON-GOING PROJECTS

Cemetery Project – J.A. MIDDLEBROOKS

MFA Website – DAVE CLARK and

LEONARD MIDDLEBROOKS

DNA Project – BOB MIDDLEBROOKS and

HENRY MIDDLEBROOKS

Family Repository – KERRY

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Family Register Update – LEONARD

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Military Register Update – KERRY

MIDDLEBROOKS

England Research – IAN MIDDLEBROOK

and NEAL MIDDLEBROOK

Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc. was founded in 2001 for the purpose of assembling and preserving genealogical and historical material for future generations. MFA Quarterly Newsletter is published four times a year (December, March, June, and September) by the Middlebrooks Family Association, Inc., 274 Wilder Drive, Forsyth, GA 31029.

Subscription to the Quarterly is included in membership dues. Articles for the Quarterly, or suggestions for topics, may be sent to Jarrelyn Lang, Editor, at MFAeditor@gmail.com. All submissions are subject to editing.

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President's Message, September 2011 Newsletter

Highlights of the MFA Ashland, Virginia, Meeting – August 18-20, 2011

First of all, I would like to congratulate our new officers and board members. Joyce Arnold was elected President, Sam Middlebrooks Vice President, and Barbara Camp Secretary/Treasurer. This is the first time all three officers are residents of the same state, Texas. Our new board members are: Joan Miller, Bob Middlebrooks, and Joyce Luck. A special thanks goes to Tom Middlebrook for his services as Vice President and Board member, 2010-2011. We would also like to thank Kathleen Hunter and Charles Middlebrooks for their service as Board members these last two years.

Thursday morning, after registration and time to meet and greet, I gave a presentation on the Virginia Middlebrooks to help everyone better understand how our Virginia ancestors are connected. On Thursday afternoon, we made the trip into Richmond to visit the Library of Virginia. They have a wonderful facility with a variety of genealogical resources. If you are researching Virginia ancestors, this is a must stop, and Archivists are willing to help you get oriented as you begin your research. Dinner that evening was at the Track Side Grill in Ashland. Historic Ashland was a very interesting place to visit.

At the business meeting Thursday night, some of the major decisions included: posting our cemetery information on Find-a-Grave, posting selected contents of our annual meeting notebook on the MFA website, initiating a photo/document repository project (Kerry Middlebrooks volunteered to coordinate the repository project.), and establishing a link on the MFA website to existing web message boards, to answer family history questions. For our DNA project, the following recommendations were adopted: encourage all new and existing participants to be at the 37-marker test level and find a John Middlebrooks (b. 1755) male descendant for testing. We would solicit participants from Virginia, Maryland, and Connecticut descendants who would have a higher priority for DNA testing than North Carolina or Georgia. If MFA pays for the testing, the genealogy must first be verified as correct.

On Friday, our field trip started out with a tour of the Hanover Courthouse and Tavern. The Hanover Courthouse Square was a gathering place by 1735 for many colonists and possibly our ancestors. Thomas and Rachel Middlebrook and son, Isaac, may have walked the same ground we toured. Patrick Henry stayed at the Hanover Tavern. Lord Cornwallis and his staff are believed to have quartered there during the Revolution. The next stop was the Carmel Church in Caroline Co., Virginia, established in 1773. Many of our descendants from the John Middlebrook (b. 1754) line attended this church and are buried in the cemetery. John Middlebrook and Lucy Turner were married there June 9, 1785, by Reverend John Waller, one of the first pastors of Carmel Church.

From Carmel Church, we traveled to the Middlebrook Family Cemetery. To access the cemetery, we walked along the edge of a corn field for a quarter mile to the grave site of

John Middlebrook (b. 1754). Due to the efforts of Joyce Luck and Lana Shelton, the cemetery has been cleaned up, and a grave plaque for John will be installed in October, in cooperation with the Scotchtown Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR). Esther Day, Regent of the Scotchtown Chapter, has been a big help in coordinating with the National Office of DAR, the MFA, Joyce, and Lana. Esther has set up the grave-marking ceremony for October 22, 2011.

The rest of the field trip involved visiting the home places of Cornelius T. Middlebrook, James K. P. Middlebrook, and Sicilian Middlebrook, all located in Caroline County. At the Sicilian Middlebrook home place, called the Mt. Airy Plantation (where Joyce Luck was born), Jim Mead, the current owner, had prepared and presented a history of the Plantation. The first Plantation house was built in the late 1700s. We will include a copy of Jim's Mt. Airy Plantation research in an upcoming newsletter. Joyce Luck and friend Miller graciously hosted the field trip lunch at Joyce's house. The home-cooked food was a real treat and enjoyed by all.

The last stop was the town of Louisa in Louisa County. Pattie Cooke, our speaker and local historian, discussed colonial Louisa and what life was like when our ancestors were living there. Thomas Middlebrook (b. 1700) died in Louisa County in 1766. The setting for the talk was the St. James Episcopal Church built in 1881, with a pipe organ above the front door of the church. We rounded out the field trip with dinner at the Tavern on the Rails (a National Register Historic site) located in Mineral, Virginia. A very good place to eat. By the way, Mineral was the epicenter of the earthquake that hit August 23, and we were on the field trip in Mineral August 19th. Pattie Cooke did sustain damage to her house in Louisa, located 10 miles from Mineral.

On Saturday, after a short introduction about the MFA and project reports, Sam Middlebrook gave an excellent presentation on "A Layman's Approach to Family History Research: Pursuing the Middlebrooks Family Heritage." Next was a presentation by Bob Middlebrooks on the MFA DNA project. Bob did a great job explaining what it all means, how we are related through DNA, and that the Middlebrooks were originally from the Netherlands.

The next presentation was by Joan and Bill Miller: "Ann Sims, Wife of Isaac Middlebrook (b. 1727)." If you recall, Isaac was the son of Thomas and Rachel Middlebrook. Joan and Bill summarized what we know about the Virginia Simses and who we suspect might be Ann's parents. This was a very well-researched paper and a very good presentation. We will eventually include all the papers in an upcoming newsletter.

The next meeting session was what we call ancestor sharing. People break out in discussion groups, based on their ancestor line, to share information and discuss how to address missing information and develop research strategies. At this time, we also take group pictures and share old photos and documents. We had elections (results discussed above) and decided where to meet next year. Some assignments were made and follow-up is needed. Next, we had a close-out and discussed what went well

and what went not-so-well during this year's meeting. Overall, this year's meeting, according to members, was a great success. This is our second meeting in Virginia; however, this was the first time we featured the John Middlebrook (b. 1754) line. We finished the day with a fine dinner at the historic Hanover Tavern.

I have enjoyed being your President these past two years and working with Joyce, Tommy, and the Board. I will remain as the Virginia Middlebrooks and Sims Middlebrooks team leaders. I also volunteered to coordinate the England research with Ian Middlebrooks. I believe the Association will have a bright future under the leadership of our new officers and Board.

Neal Middlebrook

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Historical Fact-Finding Reunion in Connecticut

by Leonard Middlebrooks

(writing on a laptop balanced on his knees in a wireless kiosk near Mount Vernon, Virginia)

We met Friday, July 22, 2011, at the Fairfield Historical Society (8 present). This was basically a day for the Historical Society volunteers to explain their holdings. There was only one of the reference documents I had not seen, Bailey's Church Records. Unfortunately, there was no mention of David 1704.

Saturday morning, we met at the Wilton Historical Society (18 present). Bob Russell, the Wilton historian, gave an hour's excellent talk on the Middlebrooks of Wilton. From there, he led the group on a fantastic tour of the area, with major local Middlebrook highlights.

Saturday evening, we met at the Trumbull Historical Society, where we were given a guided tour of the facility. After the tour, we were given access to their card index system with notes on Trumbull Middlebrooks, notably Elijah Middlebrook, the *Middlebrook's Almanac* compiler and publisher. After the historical society meeting, we went to our only cemetery tour, the Long Hill Cemetery, where Elijah and others are buried. This was the end of the Joseph 1610 group's get-together.

Sunday evening, Toni and I, and Barbara Camp (John 1755 NC), returned to the Fairfield Historical Society to see if we could uncover some of Barbara's maternal Smith ancestors. We found some clues, but nothing definite.

On Monday, July 25, Toni and I were invited to return to the Trumbull Historical Society to view some records that were not available previously. The records turned out to be copied pages straight from the 1909 *Register*.

Tuesday, we went to Newtown, Connecticut, to see if we could unearth clues as to the grandparents of William D. Middlebrook, the paper-clip inventor. We found records that listed grandparents as Abraham and Mary Middlebrook of Trumbull. This generates a secondary mystery: an M. Middlebrook had two children per the 1909 *Register*; neither was William D. More research is needed.

Wednesday and Thursday, Toni and I traveled to Hartford, where we went to the Connecticut Historical Society and the State Archives. We did not find any of Louis Middlebrook's papers for the *Register*, nor any clues on David 1704 CT.

From Connecticut, we headed to Philadelphia for a return sight-seeing trip. After Philly, we worked our way south to Ashland for the MFA meeting.

Additional comments contributed by Karen French: (See Karen's pictures on Facebook.) On Friday, we were given a presentation by Rod McKenzie, then we toured the Old Burial Ground adjacent to the Museum, which was full of wonderful exhibits.

In Wilton, Bob Russell played a recording taken in 1974 of an interview with a 74-year-old Middlebrook talking about his life, but I don't remember his name.

One of the highlights for me was when a woman named Gail Middlebrook, from Fairfield, walked into the room with her sister. It was like looking at my Mom & my Aunt Jean. Her grandfather was my great grandfather's cousin. Another highlight was seeing three young female Middlebrooks attending at Wilton with their family – the next generation. I think it's wonderful to see young ones interested in their family history.



The group in Wilton, Connecticut, enjoying the speaker, Bob Russell – photo courtesy of Karen French

VIRGINIA'S WILDERNESS BATTLEFIELD PRESERVED

Suggested by Neal Middlebrook

On October 27, 2010, the Civil War Preservation Trust (CWPT) announced its intention, in a news conference, to purchase 49 acres known as the Wilderness Battlefield, located in Orange County, Virginia, beside the battlefield's best-known landscape, Saunders Field, along State Route 20. CWPT President Jim Lighthizer called the project "one of the most pressing battlefield efforts in the nation" and added that the tract is "some of the most important battlefield land in America."

"Saving critically important landscapes like this is precisely why this organization exists," said Lighthizer. "Generations of Americans will now have the opportunity to walk this hallowed landscape and gain a fuller understanding of the horrors of war experienced by the soldier fighting in the Wilderness."

The property, owned for over 50 years by Orange County resident Warren Middlebrook, is bordered on three sides by Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park and on the north by Lake of the Woods. After months of intense negotiations, Middlebrook, who lives on the property, signed a contract with CWPT to sell his land for \$1,085,000, a hefty price because of its history, road frontage, and location.

Because the land is inside the National Park Service boundary for the battlefield, CWPT was unable to receive matching money from the Federal Land and Water Conservation Fund. This meant that all of the money had to come from private donations, and the monies had to be collected by December 31, 2010, just two months away.

The terms of the acquisition contract specified that the full purchase price was to be made available by the end of 2010. While the transaction will be finalized sometime in 2011, CWPT has collected enough in donations and firm pledges to cover the base price and an extension fee.

In a statement, Lighthizer commented, "Several contributors indicated to me they considered this property so historically significant that they made multiple donations to the effort." John Janson of Wisconsin, longtime member of CWPT, donated \$100,000 toward the acquisition. The Civil War Round of Chicago, through the Battlefield Preservation Committee, gave \$1,000 to the Wilderness campaign.

Middlebrook's final request was for a signed copy of *Battle Cry for Freedom*, written by author and historian James M. McPherson, who won a Pulitzer Prize for the book. McPherson made the presentation in person.

Middlebrook bought the property in 1957. Being a widower without children, he explained why he agreed to sell to the CWPT: "I didn't want to see it passed over. I've taken good care of it for 53 years, and I know they'll do it from now on." Middlebrook has lifetime rights to continue to live on the property.

The Battle of the Wilderness took place May 5-6, 1864, and was where generals Robert E. Lee and Ulysses S. Grant faced each other for the first time. According to McPherson, "The Battle of the Wilderness is a contender for one of the most important turning points in the Civil War, because if it had come out differently or if General Grant had made a different decision after the two bitter, vicious days of fighting here in the Wilderness, the whole course of the Civil War might have gone differently, and maybe even the whole course of American history.

"Grant had promised President Abraham Lincoln that whatever happened, there would be no turning back, and now he was proving it," said McPherson. Grant disengaged his army on May 7, 1864, and moved to the southeast, intending to leave the Wilderness in order to position his army between Lee and Richmond, leading to the bloody Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse.

"The Wilderness set a pattern for the next 11 months. Whether a battle was a Union victory, a draw, or a defeat, Grant would keep moving forward until he achieved final victory at Appomattox," McPherson said, adding that, if Grant had not pressed ahead, "maybe the Confederacy would yet today be its own separate, independent nation, and the United States of America would have continued to be the dis-United States of America."

Sources: "Battle of the Wilderness," Wikipedia; "Civil War Preservation Trust Completes \$1 Million Campaign to Save Battlefield Land at the Wilderness," civilwar.org; "Part of Wilderness to be Bought," fredericksburg.com; Brian Seiter, "Battlefield Preservation," *The Civil War Round Table*, online; Hank Silverberg, "Trust Raises Funds to Preserve Part of Civil War Battlefield," wtcp.com.

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"The Civil War: How It Changed American Life," Betsey Towner, *AARP Bulletin*, June 2011

1. 13th Amendment; slavery banned
2. 14th Amendment; citizenship for all born in the U.S.
3. 15th Amendment; voting rights for all male citizens regardless of race
4. Women's rights gain momentum
5. 1862 Homestead Act passed
6. Federal law trumps states' rights
7. Modern hospital organization
8. Safer surgical techniques
9. Organized ambulance and nurses' corps
10. Memorial Day
11. More than 70 National Park Service Civil War sites
12. 15,000 miles of new telegraph lines, which reached the West Coast
13. Mass production of canned food
14. Transcontinental Railroad
15. Can openers
16. Home-delivered mail
17. Left and right shoes shaped differently
18. Standard pre-made clothing in sizes small, medium, and large
19. National paper currency
20. Repeating rifles
21. First machine guns
22. Submarines
23. Hot-air balloons
24. Soldier ID tags
25. Ironclad ships
26. First national cemeteries
27. Social care for veterans' widows and orphans
28. Civil War slang, *i.e.* Carpetbagger; Deadline; Horse sense; Shebang; Skedaddle; Smart like a fox; Greenback

IN MEMORIAM

Charles Allen Moye, Jr., Senior United States District Court Judge, Northern District of Georgia, died in Atlanta July 26, 2010, at the age of 92. He was the only child of Charles Allen Moye, Sr. and Annie Luther Williamson Moye.

Charles, a Robert 1766 descendant, attended Bass Junior High and graduated from Boys High School in 1935. He received a B.A. from Emory University, where he was a member of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, and graduated from Emory University Law School in 1943. He married Sarah Ellen Johnson in 1945. The couple resided in New York and then in Atlanta, where Charles was a member of the firm of Gambrell and White and its successors.

Active in politics, Charles ran for the Georgia State Senate and the United States House of Representatives in 1952 and 1954, respectively. It was reported that he was the first Republican to run for office in Georgia since Reconstruction. In 1970, he was appointed to the federal court by President Richard Nixon and served for a time as Chief Judge.

Judge Moye was a founding member of Clairmont Hills Baptist Church and later joined Central Congregational United Church of Christ. He was a member of the Atlanta Athletic Club for over fifty years, and he loyally supported Emory University, the Atlanta Audubon Society, and the Atlanta Humane Society.

Charles is survived by his wife; daughter Lucy Ellen Moye, an MFA member; son H. Allen Moye; one granddaughter, and one great-grandson.

The family held a private service of commitment at the Decatur Cemetery, in Decatur County, Georgia. A public memorial service was held at Central Congregational United Church of Christ on July 30, 2010, with a reception immediately following.

MFA wishes to extend our sympathies to Lucy and to all of Judge Moye's family.

Carolyn Ophelia Middlebrooks Lapeyrouse, a Micajah 1758 descendant, passed away November 21, 2010, in Texas. She was born January 13, 1934, to Herbert Ellis and Cora Bell (Parr) Middlebrooks.

Survivors are daughters, MFA member Karen Hebert, Debbie Packard, and Sharon Zajack; a son, Mark Lapeyrouse and a stepson, Emile Lapeyrouse, Jr.; a cousin, Nancy Zeller; and kinswomen Eleanor Holland and Sharon Bartlett, both MFA members. Carolyn was preceded in death by her parents and a brother, Kenneth Wayne Middlebrook.

MFA sends our sympathies to Karen, Eleanor, Sharon, and all of Carolyn's family.

Dora Ella Mae Middlebrooks, 88, passed from this world June 21, 2011, in Overton, Texas. She was born December 13, 1922, in Overton to the late Barron Scott and Nettie Ella Mae (Still) Gill. She was a lifelong resident of Overton and graduated from Overton High School in 1941.

Dora married Virgil E. Middlebrooks June 1, 1942, in Gregg County, Texas, and she was a homemaker. She was a member of Grace Herald Baptist Church, a resident of Overton Healthcare Center, and president of the Resident Council.

She was preceded in death by her husband of 55 years. Survivors include sons Scotty Middlebrooks and Virgil L. Middlebrooks; a sister, Gladys Large; a brother, Bobby Gill; three grandchildren, seven great grandchildren, four great-great grandchildren, and numerous nieces and nephews.

Services were held June 23, 2011, in the Cottle-Pearson Funeral Home Chapel, with burial in Overton City Cemetery, Rusk County, Texas. We extend our sympathies to all of Dora's family.

David Middlebrook Cold, 82, passed away August 13, 2011. He was preceded in death by his wife of 49 years. Zorah, brothers Duke and John, and a sister, Marie. He is survived by daughters Gayle Gordon and Theresa Hewitt; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Services were held August 18, 2011, at Tims Memorial Presbyterian Church in Lutz, Florida, with burial in Lutz Cemetery, Lutz, Hillsboro County, Florida.

MFA sends our thoughts and prayers to the family of this John 1755 descendant.

THIS-AND-THAT

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, from Jarrelyn Lang

You can make an easy, free contribution that will help fund mammograms for women who can't afford them by going to **thebreastcancersite.com** and clicking on the pink rectangle. The site accepts only one click per computer per day, so if you have access to more than one computer, either at home or at work, click daily on each one. Please continue to click daily, even after October is past. (Don't wait until October – start today!) This is a way to help thousands of women, and it costs you absolutely nothing except a few seconds of your time.

The 2011 Jarrell Family Reunion, from Philip Haynes

The reunion will be held Sunday, October 2, 2011, at the home of Philip and Amelia Haynes, next to Jarrell Plantation State Historic Site, in Jones County, Georgia. A meal will be served at 1:00 p.m. At 2:00 p.m., we will meet at the nearby Jarrell Plantation Visitors' Center for a program: "**Dick Jarrell's girls: Allene, Sarah, Bea, Mildred + Annie, Ida.**" We'll also hear from the Plantation staff about what's happened in 2011 and plans for 2012.

Please reserve your meal (\$10 per plate) by **Tuesday, September 27**, with Amelia Ames at **478-986-3972** or at **amelia@haynesmarketing.com**. Please give the name of each person for whom you are making a reservation. The person contacting Amelia is responsible for the meal cost of each person for whom he/she makes a reservation. Hope to see you all!

New hours at Georgia Archives, from Bill Miller

Beginning July 1, 2011, public hours at the Georgia Archives are now Fridays and Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The new hours are a result of reductions in the Georgia Archives' fiscal year 2012 budget. A statement from the Georgia Archives said, "We regret the inconvenience this may cause researchers, and we greatly appreciate your understanding."

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Where does MIDDLEBROOK/S rank in the most common names in the U.S.?

MIDDLEBROOK/S ranks #11083 in terms of the most common surnames in the U.S., with 2,631 occurrences in the 2000 Census. In a random sample of 100,000 people in the U.S., MIDDLEBROOK/S would occur an average of 0.98 times.

The Census Bureau reports the following race/ethnic origins for MIDDLEBROOK/S:

- ▶ 62.98%, or 1,657 total occurrences – "Non-Hispanic, White Only"
- ▶ 33.48%, or 881 total occurrences – "Non-Hispanic, Black Only"
- ▶ 0.49%, or 13 total occurrences – "Non-Hispanic, Asian and Pacific Island Only"
- ▶ 0.46%, or 12 total occurrences – "Non-Hispanic, American Indian and Alaskan Native"
- ▶ 1.25%, or 33 total occurrences – "Non-Hispanic, of Two or More Races"
- ▶ 1.33%, or 35 total occurrences – "Hispanic Origin"

(Information from mongabay.com.)

THE MIDDLEBROOK SISTERS: MOTHER AND MOTHER-IN-LAW OF MICHAEL WIGGLESWORTH

By Maxine Stansell

(From the October 2002 issue of *The New England Historical and Genealogical Register*, NewEnglandAncestors.org.)

Rev. Michael Wigglesworth is well known as the author of the puritan epic poem, *The Day of Doom*,ⁱ the minister to the First Congregational Church of Malden, Massachusetts, 1655-1705, and Malden's physician.ⁱⁱ It is well established that he grew up in New Haven, Connecticut, having arrived there in 1638 with his parents, Edwardⁱⁱⁱ and Esther Wigglesworth, after a brief stopover in Charlestown, Massachusetts. Michael Wigglesworth's first wife was also his first cousin, a fact that evidently troubled him, at least briefly. This article will show that Esther Wigglesworth and Mary Reyner, mother of Michael Wigglesworth's first wife, were the daughters of Michael and Grace Middlebrook of the parish of Batley, Yorkshire.

Michael Wigglesworth was born in England on 18 October 1631.^{iv} All biographical treatments have identified Yorkshire as his birthplace, but it now seems virtually certain that he was baptized, at least, in Wrawby, Lincolnshire. The Bishops' Transcripts for Wrawby include an entry for the baptism of "Michael Wigglesworth," son of Edward, on 21 October 1631, just three days after Michael's known birth date. The same Bishops' Transcripts also show the marriage, on 27 October 1629, of "[] Wigglesworth" to "Ester Middlebrooke."^v

Information on the Middlebrook family may have been found in John Edward Todd's 1920 genealogy of the family of Christopher Todd of New Haven. Under the heading "Extracts From an Old Family Record," Todd wrote that Christopher Todd and Edward Wigglesworth had married sisters Grace and Hester Middlebrook, respectively, in England, and with "their wives came to this country together and settled in New Haven Colony" by 1638.^{vi} According to Todd, Grace and Hester were daughters of Michael Middlebrook, whose other children were Michael, Matthew, and Mary,^{vii} and who lived at a place supposedly called "Hold Mills" in Yorkshire.^{viii} Todd never mentions the name "Michael Wigglesworth" explicitly, but he clearly had him in mind when he noted that "[t]he somewhat famous poet was one of Edward Wigglesworth's descendants."

Both a letter to Michael Wigglesworth from a Middlebrook uncle and the parish registers of Batley, Yorkshire, confirm that the Middlebrooks lived in Yorkshire and that Michael Wigglesworth's mother was a member of this family.

The Letter from Uncle Middlebrook

The letter, dated 6 April 1657, was from "M. Middlebrooke" in England, who gave instructions that the letter be delivered to "Mr. Wigglesworth, Minister at Maiden in Massachusetts."^{ix} Consistent with the thesis that Wigglesworth's mother is the letter-writer's sister, it begins, "Loueing and most affectionate Nephew" and is signed, after a blessing, "your truly loving & well-wishing uncle." One might be confused by the fact that M. Middlebrooke calls Wigglesworth "Cousin" near the end of the letter, but it was common practice to use "cousin" for nephew or niece (or almost any other relation), such as when the writer mentions a message he previously sent to Michael Wigglesworth by "yor father our Cousin Rayner."

There, of course, he was referring in the seventeenth century manner to Wigglesworth's father-in-law, Humphrey Reyner.^x Similarly, outside the body of the letter is the note: "I suppose you have heard from Gildersome of ye death of your Grandmother Reyner and Aunt Smith." These women were the paternal grandmother and a paternal aunt of Michael Wigglesworth's wife, Mary Reyner, daughter of Humphrey Reyner. The Batley parish register shows that on 29 November 1656, "Jane wife of John Smith of Gildersome" was buried and "Ellen Reynor [was] buried the same day."^{xi} The latter is the only Reynor/Reyner burial in the Batley parish register in 1656 or in 1657 prior to the date of the M. Middlebrooks letter, and so Ellen must be Humphrey Reyner's mother.^{xii}

The letter contains three references to Matthew Boyes who had delivered letters from Wigglesworth to his uncle. Matthew Boyes had lived in Rawley, Massachusetts (where Wigglesworth's father-in-law, Humphrey Reyner, lived), but evidently returned to his birthplace, Leeds, Yorkshire, in or before 1657.^{xiii}

The Middlebrook family, however, is the one discussed in detail in the body of the letter. The references to family members appear in M. Middlebrooke's description of "how our great Creator deales towards us":

It hath pleased him to call to her bed of rest and long-home his poore wearied yet patient-waiting-servant yor aged grandmother, her tryalls great her sickness lingering, her life a dying life for many months yet at last peace come, shee was buried at Batley about 14th of December last past, 1656, yor Aunt Mary mournes much and refuseth comfort, since my mother's death in this last month of March, it pleased ye lord to lay his hand upon my bro: yor Vncle Matthew in a Violent sickness ...^{xiv}

Matthew, here, corresponds to one of the brothers of Hester/Esther named by John Edward Todd in 1920. The letter writer, "M. Middlebrooke," must be Michael, the other brother identified by Todd, unless the record he cited omitted a brother. Michael Middlebrook's residence in Yorkshire is revealed when he encourages Wigglesworth to relocate to "these parts of Yorkshire about Leeds" where "our climate would better agree with your constitution than New England doth" and Wigglesworth could have "a comfortable maintenance."^{xv}

M. Middlebrooke's failure to punctuate creates an unfortunate ambiguity as to one identification. One might interpret the letter to mean that the woman identified as "yo aged grandmother" (buried about December 14) is different from the woman M. Middlebrooke identifies as "my mother," and further take the clause "yor Aunt Mary mournes much and refuseth comfort, since my mother's death in this last month of March" to mean that Middlebrook's mother died *in* March. The Batley parish register, however, reflects no Middlebrook burials in March 1657. Instead, the phrase "in this last month of March" was probably the beginning of a new thought, intended to refer to the beginning of Uncle Matthew's illness. That is, what M. Middlebrooke probably meant was that Aunt Mary had mourned much since the aged grandmother's death, and that Uncle Matthew's illness followed in March. While some additional punctuation or conjunctions would have been preferable, the writer's failure to follow modern punctuation rules is apparent throughout the letter.

In any event, the Batley parish register makes it clear it was in December that M. Middlebrooke's mother died. The next entry in the Batley parish register after that, for the burial of Ellen Reynor, is one for the burial of Grace Middlebrook on 5 December 1656. There are no other burials in December 1656 in the Batley parish register. The nine-day difference between the date M. Middlebrooke gives for his mother's burial and that given in the register for her

burial must reflect a minor memory lapse, either on his part or by the person responsible for the register.

The letter, while including a quite detailed description of Uncle Matthew's health, lacks any reference to the letter-writer's father, suggesting that he had died some time before. In fact, the burials in the Batley parish register include one for "Michael Middlebrooke" on 31 December 1616, perhaps the father identified by John Edward Todd.

We cannot identify the "Aunt Mary" of the 1657 letter with certainty. She might have been Mary Cookson, who had married Matthew Middlebrook in Batley on 24 May 1637.^{xvi} In that case, Aunt Mary's grief may have been partly due to the very recent death of Matthew's "father Cookson," which M. Middlebrooke also reports.^{xvii} "Aunt Mary" could also have been the wife of Uncle Middlebrooke the letter-writer, since he mentions a wife, but we do not know her name.^{xviii} It is remotely possible that the "Aunt Mary" was Mary (Middlebrook) Reyner. Humphrey Reyner's widow Mary was buried in Rowley, Massachusetts, on 7 May 1672,^{xix} but it is possible that at some point she returned to England for a period to care for her ailing mother. We know from Michael Wigglesworth's diary that Humphrey Reyner had made at least one trip from Massachusetts back to England, returning to Massachusetts one week after Michael Wigglesworth's May 1655 marriage to his daughter. Wigglesworth mentions meeting "my father in Law" upon Reyner's return from England, but makes no mention of his mother-in-law.^{xx}

M. Middlebrooke closed his letter to Michael Wigglesworth by paying his respects to Wigglesworth and to his "bedfellow, mother, aunte, sister, daughter." Why "aunte" singular, if both Grace Todd and Mary Reyner were Wigglesworth's aunts? Perhaps Grace Todd in New Haven was considered too far from Maiden to expect Wigglesworth to deliver the message.

Humphrey and Mary (Middlebrook) Reyner, and Their Daughter Mary

Humphrey Reyner came to Massachusetts by 1642 with his wife, Mary, and three daughters, Mary (who married Michael Wigglesworth), Martha (who married John Whipple, Jr.), and Ann (who married William Hobson).^{xxi} The marriage of Humphrey Reyner and Mary Middlebrook occurred probably no later than July 1631, since daughters Mary and Martha are named in the 8 December 1632 will of their great-grandfather, Humphrey Reyner of Gildersome.^{xxii}

The principal evidence that Michael Wigglesworth's mother-in-law was also his maternal aunt consists of two genealogically significant diary entries that he made in 1655. In an entry made in May 1655, while contemplating marriage to Mary Reyner, Wigglesworth mentions being "somewhat perplexed ... concerning the lawfulness of marrying with a Kinswoman, because the mother's sister is forbidden." Mary Reyner was not, of course, his mother's sister, but, Wigglesworth noted, "sister in scripture language is put for a Kinswoman sometimes."^{xxiii} Wigglesworth decided that his "scruple was invalid," and the marriage proceeded on 18 May 1655.^{xxiv} However, it is clear from this that his wife was a "kinswoman" in some sense to his mother. Crowder indeed states flatly that Wigglesworth's first wife was a niece to his mother, although he neglects to disclose his source for that statement.^{xxv} Because it is clear from other evidence that Esther Wigglesworth was a Middlebrook, rather than a Reyner, the likeliest explanation is that Wigglesworth was concerned about the lawfulness of marrying the daughter of his mother's sister.

A more distant relationship between his intended wife and himself seems unlikely to have troubled Wigglesworth, even briefly, since marriage between cousins was not unusual at the

time. In the later relevant diary entry in August 1655, Wigglesworth refers to getting advice from his "Uncle Reyner" on whether to accept a position as minister to the Malden church. His "Uncle Reyner" was of "the same mind" as "Mr. Alcock," who encouraged him to take the position as minister in Malden.^{xxvi} Wigglesworth diary editor Morgan states that the reference to "Uncle Reyner" was "[p]robably [to] the Reverend John Reyner,^{xxvii} but does not explain his basis for saying so. John Reyner served as minister in Plymouth 1636-1654 and in Dover, New Hampshire 1655-1669.^{xxviii} Corey apparently believed that "Uncle Reyner" was a reference to Humphrey, not John.^{xxix} If there was any correspondence or conversation between Wigglesworth and John Reyner, it was not significant enough for John Reyner to rate even a mention in Crowder's biography of Wigglesworth. While it might seem strange that Wigglesworth should call his father-in-law "Uncle," Wigglesworth would have thought of him as uncle (by marriage) for many years before he married Mary Reyner.

Genealogical Summary

1. MICHAEL MIDDLEBROOK, of Batley, Yorkshire, possibly the man of that name who was buried in Batley 31 December 1616. He married GRACE_____, who was buried there 5 December 1656.

Children of Michael and Grace I) Middlebrook, order uncertain.^{xxx}

i. **MARY MIDDLEBROOK**, m. Humphrey Reyner.

ii. **HESTER MIDDLEBROOK**, m. Edward Wigglesworth.

iii. **MATTHEW MIDDLEBROOK**, d. after 6 April 1657; m. Batley 24 May 1637, **MARY COOKSON**, daughter of Christopher Cookson.

iv. **GRACE MIDDLEBROOK**, bp Batley 11 April 1609, as daughter of Michael Middlebrook. She [or a younger sister of the same name] m. **CHRISTOPHER TODD**, bp. Pontefract, Yorkshire, 12 Jan. 1616/[17]^{xxxi}, son of William and Katherine (Ward) Todd.^{xxxii} They settled in New Haven, Conn., in or before 1641.^{xxxiii} Christopher Todd left a will in New Haven dated 25 March 1686, and an inventory of his estate was taken 23 April 1686.^{xxxiv}

v. **MICHAEL MIDDLEBROOK**, writer of the letter to Michael Wigglesworth dated 6 April 1657, m. an unknown wife.

vi. **MERCY MIDDLEBROOK**, bp. Batley 21 Dec. 1616, as daughter of Michael Middlebrook; bur. there 5 Jan. 1616/17.

2. MARY MIDDLEBROOK, married before July 1631 **HUMPHREY REYNER**, son of John and Ellen (_____) Reyner of Gildersome, Batley.^{xxxv} By 1642 they had settled in Rowley, Massachusetts, where he was a ruling elder of the church. He was buried in Rowley 14 September 1660,^{xxxvi} having left a will there dated 10 September 1660, mentioning wife Mary; daughter Whipple; daughter Hobson; son Wigglesworth; son John Whipple Junior of Ipswich; grandchild Mercy Wigglesworth; grandchildren Humphrey Hobson, John Hobson, and William Hobson; and his "dear brother mr John Reynor pastor of Dover." Mary was buried in Rowley 7 May 1672.

Children of Humphrey and Mary (Middlebrook) Reyner:

i. **MARY REYNER**, b. by 8 Dec. 1632 (the date of her great-grandfather's will); d. Maiden, Mass., 21 December 1659; m. Rowley 18 May 1655, her first cousin, **REV. MICHAEL WIGGLESWORTH** (no. 4 below)

ii. **MARTHA REYNER**, b. by 8 Dec/ 1632; d. Ipswich, Mass., 24 Feb. 1679[/80?]^{xxxvii}, m. ca. 1656 **JOHN WHIPPLE**, b. 21 Dec. 1625, bp Becking, Essex, 25 Dec. 1625, d. Ipswich 10 Aug. 1683, son of John and Susanna (Stacy?) Whipple.^{xxxviii}

iii. **ANN REYNER**, b. after 8 Dec. 1632; d. Rowley 22 Dec. 1693; m. there 12 Nov. 1652, **WILLIAM HOBSON**, bur. there 17 July 1659.^{xxxix}

3. **ESTHER MIDDLEBROOK**, died after 10 September 1655^{xl}, m. Wrawby, Lincolnshire, 29 October 1629, **EDWARD WIGGLESWORTH**, presumably the child of that name baptized at Scotton, Lincolnshire, 6 August 1603, son of William. They settled in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1638.^{xli} Edward Wigglesworth died in New Haven 1 October 1653,^{xlii} leaving a will dated 5 May 1653, mentioning wife Hester, son Michael, and daughter Abigail.^{xliii}

Children of Edward and Esther (Middlebrook) Wigglesworth:

i. **MICHAEL WIGGLESWORTH**, b. 18 Oct. 1631; m. his first cousin Mary Reyner (see above).

ii. **ABIGAIL WIGGLESWORTH**, bp. New Haven 1 Dec. 1640,^{xliv} d. by 22 May 1722 (when her second husband remarried); m. (1) by 1663 **BENJAMIN SWEETSER**, b. ca. 1632, d. 22 July 1718, aged 86, bur. Charlestown, Mass., son of Seth Sweetser.^{xlvi} She m. (2) Boston 17 Nov. 1719, **ELLIS CALLENDER**, b. ca. 1640, d. Boston 18 May 1728, aged 87.^{xlvi}

4. **REV. MICHAEL WIGGLESWORTH**, born 18 October 1631, baptized in Wrawby, Lincolnshire, 21 October 1631. He died in Malden, Massachusetts, 10 June 1705, aged 73 years, 8 months, and was buried in Bell Rock Cemetery there.^{xlvii} He graduated from Harvard College in 1651,^{xlviii} and was minister at Maiden from 1655 until his death. He married first in Rowley 18 May 1655, **MARY REYNER**, his first cousin (see above). She was born before 8 December 1632 and died in Maiden 21 December 1659. He married second in late spring 1679 (but after 8 May), his housekeeper,^{xlix} **MARTHA MUDGE**, born about 1662, died in Maiden 4 September 1690, aged about 28,^l daughter of Thomas and Mary (____) Mudge of Malden.^{li} He married at the First Church Braintree Massachusetts, 23 June 1691,^{lii} **SYBIL (SPARHAWK) AVERY**, of Dedham, Massachusetts, born about 1655, died 6 August 1708, aged 53, buried in the Old Burying Ground, Cambridge, Massachusetts,^{liii} daughter of Nathaniel and Patience (Newman) Sparhawk, and widow of Dr. Jonathan Avery.^{liv}

Rev. Michael Wigglesworth left an interesting will dated 12 April 1705,^{lv} in which he leaves his wife Sybil various real and personal property and names her as executrix. Sons Samuel and Edward were to receive £60 each "towards bringing them up at the colledg" as well as real estate and all his books when of full age, "giving their mother a choice of half a dozen English Books." Married daughters Mercy, Abigail, and Martha were to receive ten shillings each "for they have rec'd their portions already." The unmarried daughters Mary, Esther, and Dorothy were to receive £10 each "put for them Severally in 3 Boxes marked with their three Several names and 40 shillings in Bills in Every Box which fell to them as their own mother's portion from their Grandfather Mudge's estate."

His widow, Sybil (Sparhawk) (Avery) Wigglesworth, left an equally interesting will, suggesting she was a loving stepmother. It was dated 31 March 1708, proved 17 August 1708.^{lvi} After saying she had already distributed most of her part of the household goods in the "estate left by Mr. Wigglesworth" to "his Daughters," Mary, Esther, and Dorothy, she then proceeds to refer to all of the children as if they were her own. To "my son" Samuel Wigglesworth and "my son" Edward Wigglesworth she left £20 each and various items. She mentioned daughter Mary

Belcher and her son William Brackenbury and her granddaughter Mary Brackenbury; daughter Abigail Tappan and her sons Samuel and Wigglesworth Tappan; daughter Martha Wheeler and her son [unnamed]; daughters Mary, Esther, and Dorothy Wigglesworth. Daughters Sybill and Dorothy Avery were to get clothes, linens, and medicines. Daughters Martha Wheeler, Mary, Esther, and Dorothy were to be "Executresses" for her "Physick Debts" and daughter Sybill was to be executrix for all other debts.

Child of Rev. Michael and Mary (Reyner) Wigglesworth:^{lvii}

i.MERCY WIGGLESWORTH, b. Maiden 21 Feb. 1655/56; d. Ipswich, Mass., 14 Nov. 1728,^{lviii} m. (1) by 3 Feb. 1672/73 (birth of first child)^{lix} **REV. SAMUEL BRACKENBURY**, b. Charlestown, Mass., 10 Feb. 1645/46, d. 11 or 16 Jan. 1678, probably in Boston, son of William and Alice (____) Brackenbury.^{lx} She m. (2) **REV. SAMUEL BELCHER**, b. ca. 1639, d. Ipswich 10 March 1713/14, bur. Old Burying Hill there, son of Jeremiah Belcher.^{lxi}

Children of Rev. Michael and Martha (Mudge) Wigglesworth (all born in Maiden):^{lxii}

ii.ABIGAIL WIGGLESWORTH, b. 20 March 1681; d. Newbury, Mass., 28 Jan. or June 1771, aged 90;^{lxiii} m. by her father at Malden 23 Dec. 1700,^{lxiv} **SAMUEL TOPPAN**, b. Newbury 5 June 1670, d. there 30 Oct. 1750, aged 80, son of Peter and Jane (Batt) Tappan.^{lxv}

iii.MARY WIGGLESWORTH, b. 21 Sept. 1682; m. Newbury, Mass., 26 Oct. 1709,^{lxvi} **BENAIHA TITCOMB**, b. there 24 Oct. 1679, d. between 17 Oct. 1740 and 1 July 1745, son of Benaiah and Sarah (Brown) Titcomb.^{lxvii} Mary left a will dated 25 March 1759, proved 3 Oct. 1760, mentioning her two sisters, Abigail Tappan, widow of Samuel Tappan, and Esther Tappan, widow of Abraham Tappan.^{lxviii}

iv.MARTHA WIGGLESWORTH, b. 21 Dec. 1683; d. Stonington, Conn., 4 Dec. 1719; m. (1) Salem, Mass., 2 Nov. 1704, **DR. JOSEPH WHEELER**, b. Concord, Mass., 11 Jan. 1680/81, d. Salem 1705, son of Thomas and Sarah (Beers) Wheeler.^{lxix} She m. (2) Concord 15 Dec. 1708,^{lxx} **DR. SAMUEL LAW**, b. there 28 May 1680, d. Groton, Conn., 29 or 30 April 1727, son of John and Lydia (Draper) Law.^{lxxi}

v. ESTHER WIGGLESWORTH, b. 16 April 1685; d. after 25 March 1750 (date of her sister Mary's will); m. (1) Newbury, Mass., 8 June 1708, **JOHN SEWALL**, b. there 10 April 1680,^{lxxii} d. there 25 Feb. 1711/12,^{lxxiii} son of John and Hannah (Fessenden) Sewall.^{lxxiv} She m. (2) Newbury 21 Oct. 1713, **ABRAHAM TOPPAN**,^{lxxv} b. 29 June 1684, d. ca. 1756, son of Jacob and Hannah (Sewall) Toppan.^{lxxvi}

vi.DOROTHY WIGGLESWORTH, b. 22 Feb. 1686/87; m. Maiden 2 June 1709, **JAMES UPHAM**, b. Maiden 8 Aug. 1687, son of Phineas and Mary (Mellin) Upham.^{lxxvii}

vii. (REV.) SAMUEL WIGGLESWORTH, b. 4 Feb. 1688/89; d. Hamilton, Mass., 3 Sept. 1768.^{lxxviii} Harvard College 1707;^{lxxix} m. (1) Boston 30 June 1715, **MARY BRINTNALL**,^{lxxx} b. ca. 1695, d. 6 June 1723, aged 28, bur. Hamilton, daughter of John and Phoebe (Smith) Brintnall, of Chelsea, Mass.^{lxxxi} He m. (2) Ipswich 12 March 1730, **MARTHA BROWN**,^{lxxxii} b. Newbury, Mass., 19 Feb. 1703/04,^{lxxxiii} d. Newburyport, Mass., 1784,^{lxxxiv} daughter of Rev. Richard and Martha (Whipple) Brown.^{lxxxv}

Child of Rev. Michael and Sybil (Sparhawk) Wigglesworth:

viii.(REV.) EDWARD WIGGLESWORTH, b. 1692 or 1693; d. Cambridge, Mass., 16 or 17 Jan. 1765, in his 73rd year,^{lxxxvi} Harvard College 1710;^{lxxxvii} m. (1) Cambridge 15

June 1726, **SARAH LEVERETT**, b. there 12 Nov. 1700, d. there 9 Nov. 1727, in her 27th year, bur. Old Burying Ground, Cambridge,^{lxxxviii} daughter of John Leverett of Harvard College, and his first wife, Margaret Rogers.^{lxxxix} He m. (2) Cambridge 10 Sept 1729, **REBECCA COOLIDGE**, bp. there 4 June 1699, d. 5 June 1754, bur. Old Burying Ground, Cambridge,^{xc} daughter of Joseph and Rebecca (Frost) Coolidge.^{xcic}

ⁱ Originally published in 1662, *The Day of Doom* was "for more than a century the most popular poem in New England" (Thomas William Herringshaw, *Herringshaw's Encyclopedia of American Biography of the Nineteenth Century* [Chicago: American Publishers' Association. 1902], 1007.) It has been called second only to the Bible in terms of the respect and authority it enjoyed in the lives of colonial New Englanders (Mark Ludwig, in the Introduction to *The Day of Doom* [Tucson, Ariz.: American Eagle Publications, 1991], 1).

ⁱⁱ Biographical treatments of Michael Wigglesworth include Richard Crowder, *No Featherbed to Heaven: A Biography of Michael Wigglesworth, 1631-1705* (East Lansing, Mich.: Michigan State University Press, 1962) and John Ward Dean, *Memoir of the Reverend Michael Wigglesworth* (Albany, NY: Joel Munsell, 1871). This edition of Dean's *Memoir* "was limited to fifty copies, all of which were subscribed for before the book was issued" (*Register* 25 [1871]:398-99). An earlier version appeared in the *Register* in 1863 as "Rev. Michael Wigglesworth: His Memoir, Autobiography, Letters & Library," *History of Maiden, Massachusetts, 1633-1785* (Maiden: University Press, 1899), 188-203; Clifford K. Shipton. *Sibley's Harvard Graduates*, 18 vols. [Boston: Massachusetts Historical Society, 1873-1999]. (Lancaster, Mass.: Society of Descendants of Colonial Clergy, 1936; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1977), 226; and James Savage, *Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England*, 4 vols. (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1862; reprint, Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1969), 4:540-41. The issue of Michael Wigglesworth's sexual orientation (see *New England Ancestors* 3:3 [Summer 2002]: 12) is beyond the scope of this article. Suffice it to say that one should be cautious about using a late twentieth or early twenty-first century language and theology.

ⁱⁱⁱ Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 3-8. According to Michael Wigglesworth's autobiography (*Register* 17 [1863]: 137; see note 2), he and his parents immigrated to New England when he was "not full seven years old," landing at Charlestown, Massachusetts, and then sailing for New Haven, Connecticut, in October of the same year. Based on his known date of birth, this would have happened in 1638. This appears to be correct; see note 43 in the Genealogical Summary below. The autobiography is the only basis for the mention of the family in Thomas B. Wyman, *The Genealogical and Estates of Charlestown, in the County of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, 1629-1818* [Boston: David Clapp and Son, 1879], 1029.

^{iv} Corey, *History of Maiden* [note 2], 188; Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 3. Wigglesworth made note of his October 18 birthdate in a journal he kept while composing *Meat Out of the Eater* in 1669 (Crowder, *No Featherbed*, 133). That date in the Julian ("Old Style") calendar, in use during Wigglesworth's lifetime, corresponds to October 28, 1631, in the Gregorian ("New Style") calendar, adopted in England and the colonies in the middle of the eighteenth century. The Gregorian date is used in the memoir in *Register* 17 (1863): 130, citing a memoir in the *Bi-Centennial Book of Maiden* (Boston: G.C. Rand & Co., 1850), 144-56, as well as in Savage [note 2], 4:540.

^v Wrawby, Lincolnshire, Parish Registers, Bishops' Transcripts, 1561-1812 (FHL 508,099). Also in North Lincolnshire, about thirteen miles southeast of Wrawby, is Section where "Edwardus Wigglesworth," son of "Willi," was baptized on 3 August 1603 (Brace's Transcripts of the Scotton Parish Registers, 1560-1812, FHL 436,002). Assuming his baptism occurred within a few days of his birth, Edwardus of Scotton would have been 49 on 18 July 1653, the date on which Edward Wigglesworth wrote a letter to physician John Winthrop, Jr. giving his age as 49 (Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 61, 275, citing *Massachusetts Historical Society Collections*, 3rd series, 9 [1846]: 296-97.)

^{vi} John Edward Todd, *The Todd Family in America, or The Descendants of Christopher Todd, 1637-1919* (Northampton, Mass.: Gazette Printing Co., 1920), 16-18.

^{vii} *Ibid.* Other works identifying Christopher Todd's wife as the daughter of Michael Middlebrook include S.F. Hall Coe, *Memoranda Relating to the Ancestry and Family of Sophia Fidelia Hall* (Meriden, Conn.: Curtiss-Way Co., 1902); 76; Ralph D. Smyth and Bernard C. Steiner in "Christopher Todd of New Haven, Conn., and His Descendants," *Register* 62 (1908); Alvan Talcott, *Families of Early Guilford, Connecticut* (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1984), 1174 [claims Michael's wife was named *Deborah*]; and William Richard Cutter, comp., *New*

England Families Genealogical and Memorial, 4 vols. (New York: Lewis Historical, 1913; reprint Baltimore: Clearfield Co., 1997), 1:3200; 4:2029-30 [claims to identify Michael, his father and mother, and her parents, but the information provided is actually true of Christopher Todd's parents and grandparents, according to Todd, *Todd Family* [note 6], 13-17, and Thomas B. Willis, *The Parish Register of Pontefract, 1585-1641*, vol. 122, *Publications of the Yorkshire Parish Register Society* (Wakefield, Yorkshire: West Yorkshire Printing Co., 1958), 23, 26, 192, 252, 264.

^{viii} "Hold Mills" has not been located, nor has any variant place name.

^{ix} The letter was published in its entirety as a footnote to "Lane Family Papers," *Register* 11 (1857): 110-11. The original is in the NEHGS Manuscript Collection.

^x The identity of Wigglesworth's first wife and her parents is widely accepted. See Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 87, 99; *Register* 17 (1863): 135; Savage [note 2], 3:513; 4:541. One proof of the marriage of Michael Wigglesworth to Mary Reyner, daughter of Humphrey, is the reference in Humphrey Reyner's 1660 will to "son Wigglesworth," who received a bequest for the use of Reyner's "grandchild Mercy Wigglesworth" (*Essex Antiquarian* 8[1904]: 105). Mercy's birth in February 1655/56 as daughter of Michael appears in Deloraine P. Corey, *Births, Marriages, and Deaths in the Town of Maiden, Massachusetts, 1649-1850* (Cambridge, Mass.: University Press, 1903), 103, and *Register* 10 (1856): 161. That Mercy was born on 21 February is apparent from Edmund S. Morgan, ed., *The Diary of Michael Wigglesworth 1653-1657: The Conscience of a Puritan*, [Vol. 35, *Publications of the Colonial Society of Massachusetts*] (Boston: The Society, 1951; reprinted Cloucester, Mass.: Peter Smith, 1970). 96.

^{xi} Batley, Yorkshire, Parish Registers (FHL 1,524,093). That Jane, wife of John Smith, was a sister of Humphrey Reyner, is also apparent from Reyner wills abstracted by John Insley Coddington in "The Rayner Family of Batley Co., York, England, and of New England" *Register* 109 (1995): 5-11.

^{xii} Her husband was John Reyner, whose will, dated 24 August 1638, proved 2 October 1639, appears in Coddington, "The Reyner Family" [note 11.] He was buried in Batley on 31 August 1638 (Batley Parish Registers [note 11]).

^{xiii} Savage [note 2], 1:225; "Lane Family Papers" [note 9], 231-33; "Mr. Joseph Boyse," *Register* 12 (1858): 65-67; "Genealogical Research in England," *Register* 61 (1907):385. [In *Ancestry of Elizabeth Barrett Gillespie* (New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1976), Paul W. Prindle analyzes the 1657 letter at pages 345-47. He proposes a series of possible relationships making Matthew Boyes a close relative, probably based on W.H. Whitmore's analysis of the letter making the unwarranted suggestion that M. Middlebrook married the sister of Matthew Boyes (*Register* 11 [1857]: 102). All the relationships Prindle proposes are unlikely, at best, and most are disproved by the present article. Regrettably, Prindle identifies Hester Middlebrook as having married "Edward Wigglesworth, Jr.," who was a brother [*sic*] of the Rev. Michael Wigglesworth, even though the letter's autobiography says he was his father's only son and the will of Edward Wigglesworth mentions only one son, Michael. — ED.]

^{xiv} "Lane Family Papers" [note 9], 110-111.

^{xv} Leeds is almost sixty miles from Wrawby, but only five miles northeast of Gildersome, where the Reyners lived, and about the same from the town of Batley.

^{xvi} Batley Parish Registers [note 11].

^{xvii} M. Middlebrooke's letter mentions that during Matthew's illness, his "father Cookson came to visit him dyvers times from Bruntcliffe, yet he died before my Brother could walke abroad of 2 or 3 daies sickness." ("Lane Family Papers" [note 9], 111; the original letter says "Cookeson"). The Batley parish register reflects the death of Christopher Cookson, who must have been Matthew's father-in-law, on 21 March 1656[/57]. While rather late to allow them to be the parents of Mary (Cookson) Middlebrook, Christopher Cookson and Agnes Sharpe were married at Batley 6 June 1619. Thirteen years later, Christopher "Cockson" and Paul Sharpe witnessed the will of Humphrey Reyner of Gildersome (Coddington, "The Raynor Family" [note 11], 9.

^{xviii} They may have married during one of the several gaps in the Batley parish registers: 1595-1605, 1605-08, 1609-14, 1632-34, 1635-36, 1639-42, 1645-52. The Bishops' Transcripts for Batley are even less comprehensive.

^{xix} George Brainard Blodgette (comp.) and Amos Everett Jewett (ed.), *Early Settlers of Rowley, Massachusetts* (Rowley, Mass.: the editor, 1933), 321; *Vital Records of Rowley, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1928-31).

^{xx} Morgan, *Diary of Michael Wigglesworth* [note 10], 87-88.

^{xxi} Blodgette and Jewett, *Early Settlers of Rowley* [note 19], 321. Humphrey Reyner's will of 10 September 1660, written four days before his burial, mentions his wife Mary, his two daughters then living, "daughter Whipple" and

"daughter Hobson," and "son Wigglesworth" (*Essex Antiquarian* 8 [1904]: 105.) Mary (Reyner) Wigglesworth had died on 21 December 1659 (Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 98; Savage [note 2], 3:513; 4:541). A document respecting maintenance of Mary Reyner, widow to Humphrey, identifies her as mother to Martha Whipple and Ann Hobson (John H. Boutelle, *A Brief Genealogy of the Whipple Family* [Lowell, Mass.: E.D. Oreen & Co., 1857], 31). It is clear from the 1632 will of Humphrey Rayner, that his grandson Humphrey [the Rowley settler] had a wife named Mary (Coddington, "The Reyner Family" [note 11], 9. See "More on the Reyners" following this article.

^{xxii} Caddington, "The Reyner Family" [note 11], 9.

^{xxiii} Morgan, *Diary of Michael Wigglesworth* [note 10], 87.

^{xxiv} Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 87; Morgan, *Diary of Michael Wigglesworth* [note 10].

^{xxv} Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 78, 83. Similarly, Maiden historian Deloraine Corey calls Mary Reyner a cousin to Wigglesworth, but does not explain the relationship further, although he separately discusses Wigglesworth's concern about marrying his mother's "kinswoman" (Corey, *History of Maiden* [note 2], 195, 200.

^{xxvi} Morgan, *Diary of Michael Wigglesworth* [note 10], 90.

^{xxvii} Morgan, *Diary of Michael Wigglesworth* [note 10], 90 n. 45. Savage suggested that Esther Wigglesworth was "perhaps" the sister of Rev. John Reyner (Savage [note 2], 4:450), possibly based on these diary entries. Some family historians have stated as a fact that Esther's maiden name was Reyner or Raynor, e.g., Edward Augustus Bowen, *Lineage of the Bowens of Woodstock, Connecticut* (Cambridge, Mass.: Riverside Press, 1897) 203; D.W. Morris and H.A. Feldmann, *The Wells Family* (Milwaukee: The Cramer-Krasselt Co., 1942), 292, 375.

^{xxviii} Weiss, *Colonial Clergy* [note 2], 172, 247, 266; *Register* 26 (1872): 332. Based on abstracts of Reyner wills from Batley, John Insley Coddington thought that Rev. John Reyner and Humphrey Reyner were more likely first cousins than brothers (Coddington, "The Reyner Family" [note 11], 10); however, the evidence is overwhelming that they were brothers.

^{xxix} Corey's index to his history of Maiden lists page 195 as a reference to Humphrey Reyner, but the only possible reference to him on that page is a quote from Wigglesworth's August 1655 diary reference to "Uncle Reyner" (Corey, *History of Maiden* [note 2], 195, 861).

^{xxx} See note 18 regarding gaps in the Batley parish registers.

^{xxxi} Willis, *Parish Register of Pontefract* [note 7], 71.

^{xxxii} Prindle, *Ancestry of Elizabeth Barrett Gillespie* [note 13], 455.

^{xxxiii} Christopher Todd was first mentioned in New Haven in a record dated 17 1st month 1641 (Charles J. Hoadly, *Records of the Colony and Plantation of New Haven, from 1638 to 1849* [Hartford: Case, Tiffany & Co., 1857, 50]. He was not on the list of New Haven planters made between 7 April 1639 and 22 November 1640 (Hoadly, 91-93; *Great Migration Newsletter* 6:1 [January-March 1997]: 4-5). According to Robert Charles Anderson, FASG, it is clear that several of the signers of the Fundamental Agreement of New Haven, dated 4 June 1639 (Hoadly, 11-18), arrived in New Haven after that date.

^{xxxiv} Prindle, *Ancestry of Elizabeth Barrett Gillespie* [note 13], 461, citing *Register* 81 (1927): 133.

^{xxxv} [No information]

^{xxxvi} *Vital Records of Rowley* [note 19] 1:514.

^{xxxvii} *Vital Records of Ipswich, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 3 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1910-19), 2:709.

^{xxxviii} Mary Lovering Holman, *Ancestry of Charles Stinson Pillsbury and John Sargent Pittsburry*, 2 vols. (Concord, N.H.: privately printed, 1938), 1:46-48. Their daughter Susanna married her second cousin John Lane, son of Job and Anna (Reyner) Lane. The chart in the "Lane Family Papers" [note 1], at 238, is incorrect as to these relationships, and the evidence cited to support the chart actually supports the real relationships. See also Blodgett and Jewett, *Early Settlers of Rowley* [note 19], 321; Boutelle, *Whipple Family* [note 21], 29-31; and Henry Burdette Whipple, *A Partial List of the Descendants of Matthew Whipple, the Elder, of Backing, Essex County, England*. 2 vols. (High Point, N.C.: n.p., 1965-69), 1:9,23; 2:13
The will of John Whipple was dated 2 August 1683 and an inventory of his estate was taken 10 September 1683 (Essex County, Massachusetts, Probate, 304:10-11), thus supporting 10 August 1683 as his date of death, as given in Blodgett and Jewett, *Early Settlers of Rowley*, 321, but not in *Vital Records of Ipswich* [note 37].

^{xxxix} Blodgette and Jewett, *Early Settlers of Rowley* [note 19], 153, 321; *Vital Records of Rowley* [note 19], 1:473 (her death), 1:315 (marriage), 1:474 (his burial)). The Yorkshire ancestry of William Hobson is shown in "Lane Family Papers" [note 9], at 237; however, as it was furnished by Horatio Gates Somerby, its accuracy is suspect.

^{xl} Morgan, *Diary of Michael Wigglesworth* [note 10], 91-92.

^{xli} Michael Wigglesworth's autobiographical statement that he and his parents arrived in New Haven in October 1638 appears to be accurate. Edward Wigglesworth was on the list of New Haven planters made between 7 April 1639 and 22 November 1640 (see note 33). He was an early freeman of the court of New Haven (Hoadly [note 33], 9, 17, but was not mentioned in the New Haven records (which start 4 June 1639) as being admitted to the court. His name was on the Fundamental Agreement dated 4 June 1639 (see note 33). See also Isabel McBeath Calder, *The New Haven Colony* (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1934), 68-70.

^{xlii} Morgan, *Diary of Michael Wigglesworth* [note 10], 50.

^{xliii} Winifred S. Alcorn, "Abstracts of the Early Probate Records of New Haven, Book I, Part I 1647-1687," *Register* 81 (1927): 134.

^{xliiv} Henry White, "List of Baptisms in the Church in New Haven, Conn. *Register* 9 (1855); 363.

^{xlv} "Sweetser and Wigglesworth," *Register* 18 (1864):290; Wyman, *Charlestown* [note 3], 921.

^{xlvi} Esther Littleford Woodworth-Barnes, "Descendants of Ellis Callender of Boston," *Register* 144(1990): 196.

^{xlvii} Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 265; Corey, *Births ... in Maiden* [note 10], 392; *Register* 17(1863); 134.

^{xlviii} Shipton, *Sibley's Harvard Graduates*, [note 2], 1:259-86.

^{xlix} Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 212,215.

^l Corey, *Births ... in Maiden* [note 10], 392.

^{li} Alfred Mudge, *Memorials: Being a Genealogical, Biographical, and Historical Account of the Name of Mudge in America, from 1638 to 1868* (Boston: Alfred Mudge & Son, 1868), 180-181, 194-95; *Register* 59(1905):53.

^{lii} *Register* 59 ((1905):53

^{liii} Thomas W. Baldwin, ed., *Vital Records of Cambridge, Massachusetts, to the Year 1850, 1 mis.* (Boston: NEGHS, 1914-15), 2:792; Middlesex County, Massachusetts, Probate 12:68-69, and Probate File #24860; Mudge, *Memorials*; *Register* 17(1863): 135.

^{liiv} Wm. S. Appleton, "The Family of Nathaniel Sparhawk," *Register* 19 (1865); 126.

^{lv} [no information]

^{lvi} Middlesex County, Massachusetts, Probate File #24861.

^{lvii} Prior accounts of his children are in "Brief Memoirs and Notices of Prince's Subscribers," *Register* 15 (1861): 334-36, and Alicia Crane Williams, *Chase-Wigglesworth Genealogy ...* (Baltimore: Gateway Press, 1990), 37-39.

^{lviii} *Vital Records of Ipswich* [note 37], 2:481; Shipton, *Sibley's Harvard Graduates* [note 2], 2:44.

^{lix} Aaron Sargent, Jr., "Early Records of Maiden," *Register* 10 (1856):235; not in Corey, *Births ... in Maiden* [note 10], under Brackenbury.

^{lx} Robert Charles Anderson, *The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England, 1620-1633*, 3 vols. (Boston: NEHGS, 1995), 1:202; "Samuel Brackenbury," *Register* 19 (1865):108 [death]; Shipton, *Sibley's Harvard Graduates* [note 2], 2:155.

^{lxi} Robert Charles Anderson, George F. Sanborn Jr., and Melinde Lutz Sanborn, *The Great Migration: Immigrants to New England 1634-1635, Volume IA-B* (Boston: NEHGS, 1999), 234-35; Shipton, *Sibley's Harvard Graduates* [note 2], 2:42-45; *Vital Records of Ipswich* [note 37], 2:489; William Henry Belcher and Joseph Warren Belcher, *The Belcher Family in England and America* (Detroit: n.p., 1941), 370-71.

^{lxii} Corey, *Births ... in Maiden* [note 10], 103; Mudge, *Memorials* [note 52], 195.

^{lxiii} *Vital Records of Newbury, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849*, 2 vols. (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1911), 2:742.

^{lxiv} Corey, *Births ... in Maiden* [note 10], 322; however, 3 June 1701 is the marriage date given in David W. Hoyt, *The Old Families of Salisbury and Amesbury, Massachusetts*, 3 vols. (Providence: Snow & Farnham. 1897-1916; reprint Camden, Me.: P? Press 1981), 1:331. *Vital Records of Newbury* [note 63], 2:490, 512, says the marriage intentions were dated 15 ... 1701; *Vital Records of Newbury* [note 63], 2:490, 512, says the marriage intentions were dated 15 ... 1701.

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- ^{lxv} Daniel Langdon Tappan, *Tappan-Toppan Genealogy: Ancestors and Descendants of Abraham Toppan of Newbury, Massachusetts, 1606-1672*. (Arlington, Mass.: the author, 1915), 7, 22; Hoyt, *Salisbury and Amesbury* [note 64], 1:330-31.
- ^{lxvi} *Vital Records of Newbury* [note 63], 2:512.
- ^{lxvii} Gilbert M. Titcomb, *Descendants of William Titcomb of Newbury, Massachusetts, 1635* (Ann Arbor, Mich: Edwards Brothers, 1969), 13.
- ^{lxviii} Essex County, Massachusetts, Probate, 337:373.
- ^{lxix} Raymond David Wheeler, *The Wheeler Genealogy*, 4 vols. (Dolgeville, N.Y.: Kin-systems, 1993), 1:7, 15.
- ^{lxx} *Ibid.*, 15
- ^{lxxi} J.W. Dean, "Dr. Samuel Law and His Wife," *Register* 23 (1869): 212; Savage [note 2], 3:60; *Concord, Massachusetts, Births, Marriages, and Deaths, 1635-1850* (Boston: Beacon Press, 1891), 24 (birth); 9 (parents' marriage).
- ^{lxxii} *Vital Records of Newbury* [note 63], 1:471 (his birth); 2:512 (marriage).
- ^{lxxiii} M. Halsey Thomas, ed., *The Diary of Samuel Sewall, 1674-1729*, 2 vols. (New York: Farrar, Straus & Giroux), 2:681. *Vital Records of Newbury* [note 63], 2:719, says only 1711.
- ^{lxxiv} *Vital Records of Newbury* [note 63], 2:446 (marriage); *Tappan, Toppan Genealogy* [note 65], 79; Hoyt, *Salisbury and Amesbury* [note 64], 1:331.
- ^{lxxv} *Vital Records of Newbury* [note 63], 2:224, 490.
- ^{lxxvi} *Tappan-Toppan Genealogy* [note 65], 79, 80; Hoyt, *Salisbury and Amesbury* [note 64], 1:330-31. Abraham and Esther (Wigglesworth) Toppan were ancestors of John Ward Dean, for whom see note 2.
- ^{lxxvii} Cory, *Births ... in Maiden* [note 10], 90 (his birth), 322 (marriage); Janet Ireland Delorey, "The English Crismond? Descendants to the Fourth Generation of Edward Wood of Charlestown, Massachusetts," *The Genealogist* 9 (1988): 98-99; "Upham Genealogy," *Register* 23 (1869): 34-35. James and Dorothy (Wigglesworth) Upham are ancestors of the author.
- ^{lxxviii} *Vital Records of Hamilton, Massachusetts, to the End of the Year 1849* (Salem, Mass.: Essex Institute, 1908), 109.
- ^{lxxix} Shipton, *Sibley's Harvard Graduates* [note 2], 5:406-12.
- ^{lxxx} [Twenty-Eighth] *Report of the Record Commissioners of the City of Boston, Containing the Boston Marriages from 1770 to 1751* (Boston: Municipal Printing Office, 1898), 61.
- ^{lxxxi} *Vital Records of Hamilton* [note 78], 109.
- ^{lxxxii} Savage [note 2], 1:255; 4:542; Annie Haven Thwing, *Inhabitants and Estates of the Town of Boston 1630-1800 and The Crooked and Narrow Streets of Boston 1630-1822*, CD-ROM (Boston: NEHGS and Massachusetts Historical Society, 2001), under "Brentnall/Brintnall, John."
- ^{lxxxiii} *Vital Records of Ipswich* [note 37], 2:457.
- ^{lxxxiv} *Vital Records of Newbury* [note 63], 1:70.
- ^{lxxxv} *Vital Records of Hamilton* [note 78], 109, says she died aged 89, but this is overstated.
- ^{lxxxvi} *Essex Antiquarian* 13 (1909): 170; Savage [note 2], 1:275; 4:542
- ^{lxxxvii} Crowder, *No Featherbed* [note 2], 248; John W. Dean, "Avery and Wigglesworth," *Register* (1891); 168; *Vital Records of Cambridge* [note 53], 2:79.
- ^{lxxxviii} Shipton, *Sibley's Harvard Graduates* [note 2], 5:546; "Prince's Subscribers" [note 61], 15:335-36.
- ^{lxxxix} *Vital Records of Cambridge* [note 53], 2:422 (marriage); 1:436 (birth); 2:792 (death and burial).
- ^{xc} Nathaniel B. Shurtleff, "Family of Elder Thomas Leverett," *Register* 4 (1850): 135.
- ^{xci} *Vital Records of Cambridge* [note 53], 2:422 (marriage); 1:159 (birth); 2:791 (death and burial).; George Walter Chamberlain, "The Early New England Coolidges and Some of Their Descendants," *Register* 77 (1923): 279.