

APPENDIX F

ORIGIN OF SETTLERS

IN STUDYING the pioneer families and the movements of population considerable scattered data has been collected. But as unrelated details the story of emigration in general is lost unless the findings are presented in some systematic way. For the benefit of the student of sociology and local history there are here presented in tabular form certain phases of the story of the coming and going of the settlers of Middlefield, which in a measure can doubtless be considered as typical of the hill-towns of western Massachusetts during the same period.

In drawing up these tables it has been necessary to define the term "settler." In this discussion a settler has been taken as the head of a household, minor sons or sons unmarried at the time of migration, not being separately counted. Married sons, even if living with the father for a while are counted for separate families. In some cases where two or more brothers came without parents and became heads of households, they have been counted for separate families, as have also unattached men, whether they became heads of households or not.

The following tables have been prepared which are in the main self-explanatory.

Table I. Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York Towns from which Settlers Came.

Table II. Rate at which Families Came to Middlefield and Their Permanence.

Table III. Rate at which Families Moved away from Middlefield.

Table IV. Growth of Villages in Middlefield Township.

In Table II the families have been divided into two groups, those which became permanent residents, and those which moved on to other towns, within a few years. A little study will show that not only did the state of Connecticut furnish more than

half of all these pioneer families, but that this same state also furnished nearly two thirds of those families which became permanent residents during this early period.

TABLE I

MASSACHUSETTS TOWNS FROM WHICH SETTLERS CAME

AMHERST	DEDHAM
Jonathan Nash	John Metcalf
AGAWAM	DEERFIELD
Ebenezer Selden	Abel Parker
BECKET	GRANVILLE
Samuel Gray	Thomas Cooley
Oliver Merrifield	
Ozem Merrifield	HOLLISTON
Benjamin Pinney	Ebenezer Lealand
David Taylor	Lemuel Lealand
BLANDFORD	LEICESTER
David Bolton	Benjamin Converse
Robert Cochran	Elijah Dix
Joseph Freeland	
Nathan Mann	LENOX
Daniel Meeker	John Coats
James Taggart	
BOSTON	MONTGOMERY
Thomas Ward	Seth Bull
BRAINTREE	NEWTON
Abel Cheeseman	Jonathan Clark
Benj. Cheeseman	Samuel Clark
	Thomas Durant
BROOKFIELD	NORTHBOROUGH
Moses Barnes	James Gamwell
Elijah White	John Gamwell
CHESTER	NORWICH
Isaac Bartlett	Parker Fellows
Simpson Bell	
Robert Campbell	OAKHAM
James Clark	Abraham Bell
David Cross	
Samuel Goold	PALMER
Luther Granger	Henry Lamberton
George Holland	William Mann
James Holland	
Rufus Smith	PARTRIDGEFIELD
	Joseph Russ

SAVOY

John Norcott
Sylvanus Norcott

SOUTHAMPTON

Abner Clapp

SOUTHWICK

Joseph Moore
Justus Olds
Levi Olds

SPENCER

Jessie Graham
William Graham
Aaron Whittemore
Jno. Woodward
Bazaleel Wright
Jude Wright
Nathan Wright

SPRINGFIELD

Samuel Taylor

TYRINGHAM

Moses Orcutt

WESTFIELD

Edward Bush
Silas Bush
Daniel Falley
Shadrach Noble
Noadiah Root

WEST SPRINGFIELD

Josiah Leonard

WILBRAHAM

Abner Chapin
Daniel Leach
Andrew Meacham
Samuel Meacham
Prince William

WILLIAMSBURG

Asa Cary
Joseph Cary
Amasa Graves

WORCESTER

Samuel Hamilton
John Ward
Uriah Ward

WORTHINGTON

Simon Huntington
Rufus Marsh
David Tuttle
William Wheeler
Samuel Woods

YARMOUTH

Enos Blossom
Thomas Blossom
Enoch Crowell

CONNECTICUT TOWNS FROM WHICH SETTLERS CAME

ASHFORD

David Robbins
Job Robbins

BOLTON

Benjamin Blish
Joseph Blush
Barzillai Little
Abel West
David West

COLCHESTER

David Carrier
Russell Gillett

Samuel Judd
James Kelley
James Newton
John Newton
Eli Skinner
Samuel Skinner
William Skinner

COVENTRY

Benjamin Babcock
Ebenezer Babcock

DANBURY

Martin Starr

EAST HADDAM

Ambrose Church
 Elihu Church
 Uriah Church
 William Church
 James Dickson
 John Dickson
 Daniel S. Emmons
 Ebenezer Emmons
 Ichabod Emmons
 Sylvester Emmons
 Ashbel Olmstead
 Calvin Smith
 Matthew Smith
 John Smith
 Joseph Smith
 John Spencer

ENFIELD

Ebenezer Collins
 Isaac Gleason
 Samuel Gowday
 Ezra Jones
 John Jones
 Philip Jones
 Samuel Jones
 Ambrose Meacham
 James Meacham
 John Meacham
 James Nooney
 Israel Pease
 Israel Pease, Jr.
 Phineas Perkins
 Heman Prior
 Thomas Root
 Joseph Talcott
 Henry Vadrakin
 John Ward

GLASTONBURY

Elias Wares

HARTFORD

Charles Gilbert

HEBRON

Elijah Bartholomew
 Oliver Bates

Asa Brown

Daniel Chapman
 John Ford
 Zebidee Goodwin
 Erastus Ingham
 Solomon Ingham
 Benajah Jones
 Elkanah Jones
 Malachi Loveland
 David Mack
 Elisha Mack
 Bissell Phelps
 Benjamin Stewart
 Amos Strong

NEW HAVEN

William Coleman

NEW MILFORD

Myles Washburn

PRESTON

Asa Benjamin
 Salah Benjamin
 Ezra Herrick
 Moses Herrick

SIMSBURY

Daniel Alderman
 Aaron Goddard
 Edward Little

SOMERS

Bildad Kibbey
 Benjamin Phelps
 Gideon Russell
 Ephraim Sheldon
 Eliakim Wardwell
 Thomas Wood

STAFFORD

Jeremiah Rider
 Benjamin Thomas

VOLUNTOWN

John Rhoads

WATERBURY

Elias Sanford

WINDSOR AND EAST WINDSOR

Timothy Allen
 Israel Bissell
 Justus Bissell
 Robert Bissell
 Ephraim Booth
 Simeon Booth
 Elijah Churchill
 Cyrus Cone
 John Damon
 Benjamin Eggleston
 Bigot Eggleston
 Jonathan Ely

Zechariah Field
 Timothy McElwain
 Ithamar Pelton
 Obadiah Phelps
 John Pinney
 John Taylor
 John Thompson
 Alexander Vining
 Elam Vining
 Elkanah Vining

WOODSTOCK

Isaac H. Streater

NEW YORK TOWN FROM WHICH SETTLERS CAME

SALEM

Stephen Wood

SETTLERS WHOSE ORIGIN IS UNKNOWN

Thomas Arms	William May
Joseph Brown	Nathan Parkhurst
John Burgess	Christopher Reed
Joseph Butler	Thomas Swain
John Carter	John Tuttle
Benjamin Chapman	John Wheeler
Elijah Herriek	Artemas Wood
Elisha Herriek	Simeon Wood
Joseph Herriek	James Woods

SUMMARY OF TABLE I

TOWNS FROM WHICH EARLY SETTLERS CAME

MASSACHUSETTS TOWNS	PERSONS		PERSONS
Agawam	1	Leicester	2
Amherst	1	Lenox	1
Becket	5	Montgomery	1
Blandford	6	Newton	3
Boston	1	Northboro	2
Braintree	2	Norwich	1
Brookfield	2	Oakham	1
Chester	10	Palmer	2
Dedham	1	Partridgefield	1
Deerfield	1	Savoy	2
Granville	1	Southampton	1
Holliston	2	Southwick	3

MASSACHUSETTS TOWNS	PERSONS	CONNECTICUT TOWNS	PERSONS
Spencer	7	New Haven	1
Springfield	1	New Milford	1
Tyringham	1	Preston	4
Westfield	5	Simsbury	3
West Springfield	1	Somers	6
Wilbraham	5	Stafford	2
Williamsburg	3	Voluntown	1
Worcester	3	Waterbury	1
Worthington	5	Windsor and E. Windsor ..	22
Yarmouth	3	Woodstock	1
	—		—
33 Towns	87	20 Towns	114

CONNECTICUT TOWNS	PERSONS	NEW YORK TOWNS	PERSONS
Ashford	2	Salem	1
Bolton	5		
Colchester	9		
Coventry	2		
Danbury	1		
East Haddam	16		
Enfield	19		
Glastonbury	1		
Hartford	1		
Hebron	16		
		Total	55
			220

SUMMARY

Massachusetts34 towns	... 87
Connecticut20 towns	...114
New York 1 towns	... 1
Unknown - 18
		—
		—

TABLE II

RATE AT WHICH FAMILIES CAME TO MIDDLEFIELD AND THEIR PERMANENCE

YEARS OF COMING	NUMBER OF FAMILIES COMING FROM										GRAND TOTAL
	MASSACHUSETTS			CONNECTICUT			N. Y.			UNKNOWN	
	<i>Prm.</i>	<i>Tran.</i>	<i>Totl.</i>	<i>Prm.</i>	<i>Tran.</i>	<i>Totl.</i>	<i>Tran.</i>	<i>Prm.</i>	<i>Tran.</i>	<i>Totl.</i>	
Before											
1775	1	5	6	2	4	6	—	—	—	—	12
1775-79	0	6	6	8	4	12	—	0	1	1	19
1780-84	3	9	12	16	27	43	—	0	2	2	57
1785-89	5	9	14	9	7	16	—	0	1	1	31
1790-94	6	15	21	6	15	21	1	0	7	7	50
1795-99	4	8	12	2	11	13	—	0	3	3	28
1800-10	6	10	16	1	2	3	—	1	3	4	23
Total	25	62	87	44	70	114	1	1	17	18	220

Prm.—Permanent Tran.—Transient Totl.—Total

TABLE III

RATE AT WHICH FAMILIES MOVED AWAY FROM MIDDLEFIELD

<i>Destination</i>	BEFORE 1790	1790-1799	1800-1809	1810-1819	1820-1829	1830-1839	AFTER 1840	TOTAL
Massachusetts	20	9	18	30	20	27	51	175
Vermont	4	1	3	—	—	1	—	9
Connecticut	1	1	—	2	3	2	3	12
New York	3	6	19	13	9	7	10	67
Pennsylvania	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	4
Ohio	—	—	16	15	2	8	5	46
Other States	—	—	—	5	2	2	9	18
Destination Unknown..	12	41	39	26	36	34	30	218
Total	40	58	95	91	75	81	109	549

The above table is a compilation of men who left Middlefield during the first half century of the town's history. Men who were heads of households, or were of age when they moved away are included. This enumeration includes natives of the town as well as those who came from outside, previous to the year 1840.

TABLE IV

GROWTH OF VILLAGES IN MIDDLEFIELD TOWNSHIP

DATE	<i>Center</i>	NO. OF FAMILIES IN VILLAGES			<i>Total Percent</i>	
		<i>Fact.</i>	<i>“Switch”</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Families in</i>	<i>in Mid. Villages</i>
1790	2	2	0	4	101	4
1800	3	5	0	8	149	5
1810	4	3	0	7	134	5
1820	8	6	0	14	123	11
1830	7	9	0	16	122	12
1840	8	11	2*	21	116	19
1850	10	31	11	52	139	37
1860	11	57	17	85	163	51
1870	15	39	21	75	147	51
1880	15	38	15	68	130	52
1890	12	19	17	48	106	45
1920	5	5	3	13	43	30

The figures for the years up to and including 1810 show the town to have been a region of scattered farms previous to 1820. The Center began to grow by 1820 but was not in its prime until 1850-60. Factory Village had its boom period 1850-60. The "Switch" began in 1840 and was at its best in 1870. The mark * under 1840 indicates 1,031 persons of foreign extraction building the Western Railroad, and living in the region of the "Switch" and Mt. Gobble. They were counted as separate from the regular population. Smith Hollow has not been listed as a village though this community had dreams of importance in the days of soapstone quarrying. From one family in 1800 it grew to six or more by 1840. What was really the first beginning of a village was the hamlet in the Pease District, of which Taylor's and Blossom's Tavern was the nucleus.