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THE SCUDDER FAMILY

Between the founding of the Plymouth Colony by the '*Pilgrims*', as the first group of 101 Puritan immigrants were called, in 1620 and the founding some ten years later of Salem, Massachusetts less than 500 people arrived from Europe to settle in all of New England.

However, the founding of Salem as a Puritan colony marked the beginning of the English influx into the New World. John Winthrop in August of 1629 led the great Puritan migration which lasted some eleven years. This migration marked the establishment of a permanent English population in the New World.

In 1635, Thomas and Elizabeth Scudder and their five children came to Salem, Massachusetts. They were the first of our Scudder line to arrive in the New World.

The Scudders were English, coming from Dartford and Darenth in Kent, England south and east of London. They arrived in Salem in 1635 and some of the children, including my John Scudder, left some fifteen years later for the eastern tip of Long Island, which at the time was under the New Haven Colony's jurisdiction.

My Scudder family remained on Long Island for almost fifty years until 1698 when John Scudder III left for Elizabethtown, New Jersey at the mouth of New York Harbor. It was here in New Jersey that John's daughter, Mary Scudder married Jonathan Marsh. Their granddaughter, Phoebe Marsh, married my great-great grandfather Reding Putman in Illinois.

The Scudder family history begins with a Henry Scudder or Skudder, who was living in the southeastern portion of England in the County of Kent.

Most everything that I have on the very early generations of the Scudder Family in England comes from Robert Scudder of Riverside, Missouri who was made several trips to England to try and trace back our line. He has done considerable research on the origins of this family, and much of this opening section comes from his research. More recently I have received info from Chris Scudder of Harrison, Arkansas who has supplied the very earliest generations.

HENRY SCUDDER (SKUDDER)

The earliest known member of the family was Henry Scudder or Skudder. He was born around 1470 in Horton-Kirby in the Darenth Valley of Kent, and died there in 1504. He married a woman named Agnes in about 1490. Henry's will was proved November 9, 1504. Agnes' will was dated November 4, 1508. A copy of Henry's will is at the end of this section.

In Agnes' will, she mentions minor children **THOMAS, ROBERT, JOAN** and **ISABELL**. She also mentions Agnes the daughter of **JOHN SCUDDER**. John was of age in 1508. **JOHN SCUDDER** is our line.

JOHN SCUDDER

John was born about 1492 in Stone, Kent. He was married about 1512 in Stansted. He died in 1541 and his will was proved in Rochester Consistory Court. He had three children.

JOHN SCUDDER, born about 1515 and married a Joan in about 1535. His will was made in December 1566 in Littlebrook. He died sometime after that.

JOAN SCUDDER born about 1516, and died after 1566.

HENRY SKUDDER

Henry Skudder was born about 1526. His wife was named Alice. They were married in about 1540. His will of 1567 was left in Darenth, Kent. He had six sons and two daughters:

EDWARD SKUDDER was born about 1559, he married Jane Smythe in 1576.

WILLIAM SKUDDER, who is our lineage.

JOHN SKUDDER, born in about 1540.

LAWRENCE SKUDDER, born in about 1541.

HENRY SKUDDER, born about 1532.

RICHARD SKUDDER

ALICE SKUDDER

JOAN SKUDDER

WILLIAM SCUDDER

William Scudder, or Skudder as it was sometimes spelled, was born about 1541. He married his wife, Joan in about 1559. He died and left his will in 1596. Joan left her will in 1597, both in Kent. They had three sons, William, Timothy and John.

WILLIAM, born in 1564. He married Margery Humphrey in Northcray. His will of 1607 was recorded in Darenth. Margery left her will in 1626 in Newington, Surrey. William's will of November 4, 1607 refers to his brother John and some of his children, it indicates that John had died by this time. It also details the children of his that were living at the time. These children were: Parnell born in 1590, Margery born in 1592 and married to John Johnson of Kent, Joanne born in 1596 and married to William Clapman, Mary born in 1594 and married to Thomas Freeman, Alice baptized on September 1, 1597 and married to John Shinfeyld, and Henry born in 1598.

TIMOTHY, born about 1561. He married Joan Warren in 1585. Joan remarried after Timothy's death. Her will is listed under Joan Cooper in 1597.

JOHN, born 1569, is our lineage. His story follows.

JOHN SCUDDER

John Scudder was born in Kent about 1569 and he died before 1607 when his brother William left his will. He had two sons, HENRY and THOMAS. Thomas is our lineage and the first of the family to come to America.

HENRY SCUDDER His son, Henry Scudder, was a well known English clergyman. Henry married twice; first to Elizabeth Hunt June 7, 1608 and then to Joyce Savage. He was known as the Reverend Henry Scudder of Collingbourne, and was a prominent minister. In 1643, King Charles called the Westminster Assembly to 'harmonize' the Church of England and the Presbyterian Church of Scotland. Henry Scudder was a Presbyterian minister to this assembly. He died and left a will in 1652, and Joyce died and left her will in 1660.

THOMAS SCUDER His other son, Thomas is our line and is covered in the next section.

THOMAS SCUDDER

Thomas Scudder was born in Horton Kirby, Kent, England in the early 1590s. He married his wife Elizabeth in about 1617. They had five children, all born in England before 1622. They sailed from Kent, England in 1635 for Salem, Massachusetts in the new world.

There have been many references to Elizabeth's maiden name being Lorners or Lowers, but it would appear that Elizabeth was a Somers based on Robert Scudder's research.

Thomas and Elizabeth lived in Salem for the remainders of their lives. Thomas wrote his will on September 30, 1657 and it was proved on June 29, 1658. He died sometime during that one year period, probably in the spring of 1658. In this will, he names his wife, Elizabeth, his sons John, Thomas and Henry, his daughter Elizabeth and his grandson Thomas son of his (deceased) son William. His wife Elizabeth died, also in Salem, in 1666.

The following is what is known of their children.

ELIZABETH was born in 1622 and died in Salem on September 1, 1682. In 1640 she married Henry Bartholomew, a man of some distinction in Salem. Henry died in 1692 at age 92. The Bartholomews had ten children.

WILLIAM lived in Salem and died sometime in the early to mid 1650s and obviously before his father's will was written in 1657. He seems to have married twice, first to a Rachael and then to a Penelope. His son Thomas, mentioned in his grandfather's will, was a sailor and died in Boston in 1689. His will mentioned his wife Sarah, but no children.

THOMAS was born on April 26, 1618. He married Mary Ludlum and along with his brothers, Henry and John, was in Southold Long Island by 1651 and in Huntington by 1657. He remained in Huntington, Long Island until his death. Thomas wrote his will on December 7, 1686, and on November 14, 1690 and his will was proved on October 22, 1691.

He had sons Timothy who married Sarah Wood, Henry and Benjamin who married Sarah Maverick, and daughters Elizabeth, wife of Walter Noakes, Mary, wife of Robert Arthur, Sarah and Mercy.

HENRY moved also from Southold to Huntington in 1657. There he married Catherine Esty, the daughter of Jeffrey Esty. He died in Huntington in 1661. He left his wife, three sons and two daughters.

JOHN is my line and his life follows.

JOHN SCUDDER I

John Scudder was born in Kent, England in 1619 and traveled with his family to Salem in 1636. In 1642 he received a land grant in Salem for himself. In the same year he married Mary King. They appear on the Salem Church list in 1647.

I have enough information on the family of Mary King to warrant a separate section on the **KING FAMILY HISTORY**, which follows later in this work.

In 1651 John, along with his brothers Thomas and Henry, sailed from Salem to Southold on the eastern tip of Long Island. Southold was originally settled in the early 1640s by a Salem Minister, John Youngs. It was established as a part of the newly founded New Haven Colony. In 1651 Reverend Youngs brought a boatload of Puritans from Salem and our Scudders were on board.

Southold is the oldest English settled town in New York State and their church is the second oldest in New York State, after the Dutch Church in New York City. Originally part of the New Haven Colony jurisdiction, Southold later joined with the Connecticut Colony in 1662 and was acquired by the New York Colony in 1664.

John Scudder was a currier and tanner of leather while in Salem and he continued this profession after he moved to Long Island.

John and Mary Scudder remained in Southold from 1651 to 1657 when they moved to Huntington. By 1660 they were prominent in Newtown, New York where they lived for the remainder of their lives.

In 1668 John owned what was later known as Schenck's Mill on a dammed river in the Buswick area. There was a fever spreading in the area at the time, and the officials felt the dam was stagnating the river and causing the problem. The Court of Newtown ordered that the dam be broken.

The following was taken from a record of the Scudder Family published in 1883:

On October 3, 1662, John Scudder and others purchased of the Indian Chiefs Womatupa, Wonoxi and Powatahuman, the neck of land commonly called by the English 'Plungers Neck' lying on the south side of Long Island bounded on the east by the river Hohosboco, with a small brook on the west running into the river before mentioned.

Upon application being made to the Hon. Richard Nicoll by the inhabitants of Newtown, L.I., June 23, 1663, empowering them to make what purchases they should think fit of lands situate between the Mespath Kills and the head of Flushing Creek of Long Island. In pursuance of said license, in the same year, John Scudder, Samuel Scudder and others did in due form of law purchase of and from the Indian Natives, all that tract of land situate between Mespath Kills and Flushing Creek to hold unto the inhabitants of Newtown forever, by certain deed made under the hand and seal of Powwanhon, Indian Chief dated July 9, 1666.

In the beginning of the year 1686, the Inhabitants received a draft of the new confirmatory charter of Newtown.

The last references I have on John Scudder Senior is a reference recorded in the Town Minutes of Newtown dated December 13, 1680.

'John Scudder, Sen. at present inhabitant in Maspeth Kills ... to make over my whole estate ... unto my son Samuel Scudder ... only to allow myself and my wife comfortable and convenient maintenance ...'

John Scudder died sometime afterwards in Newtown. Mary had died on January 5, 1668. They had 5 children, all born in Salem, Massachusetts.

SAMUEL married Phoebe Titus, daughter of Edmund Titus of Westbury. He died in January 1689 and Phoebe remarried on February 24, 1690 to a Robert Field of Newtown. Samuel and his brother John (II) were among a group of four Newtown Quakers who refused to swear the oath of allegiance in August of 1673. Samuel had acquired the family lands as mentioned above. Their children were Samuel, Mary (Renne), Sarah, Deborah (Denton).

JOHN (II) is my line and is covered in the next section.

ELIZABETH was baptized in Salem on March 18, 1648/9. In 1669 she married John Alburdis. John was the son of Peter Alburdis and Judith Jans Manje. The Alburdis family was the first Italian family to settle in New York State. He died in April of 1691 and Elizabeth married again in 1693 to William Lawrence. They moved to New Jersey where he was a senator from Monmouth County. Lawrence died in 1704, I do not know when Elizabeth died, but it was after 1712.

MARY was baptized in Salem on June 11, 1648.

HANNAH was baptized in Salem on August 19, 1649. Hannah married William Smith in 1668.

JOHN SCUDDER II

John junior was born in Salem, Massachusetts on 1645. After moving to Newtown with his family, he married Joanna Betts there in 1669. The license was dated April 20, 1669, I assume the marriage was shortly thereafter. Joanna was the daughter of Captain Richard Betts and Joanna Chamberlain Betts. The BETTS FAMILY HISTORY is covered in another section as I have a fair amount of information on them.

Governor Dongan confirmed a series of land patents on November 25, 1686. He listed 105 freeholders of Newtown including John and Samuel Scudder and Richard and Thomas Betts.

In a Newtown Census of August 31, 1698 John Scudder junior was listed as the head of a household of 19 persons. I have information on only two sons so I haven't the slightest idea who all these other folks were. His father was listed as head of a household of two, he and Mary.

In the town minutes of Newtown under the date of January 16, 1683 is recorded a gift of a plot of land by Richard Betts to *'my son in law John Scudder and my daughter Joanna, his wife.'*

John Scudder II died in Newtown on December 1, 1732. Joanna was alive at least through 1713, but I have no date of her death.

They had two sons that I have a record of: John III and Richard Betts Scudder. Here were probably other children.

JOHN SCUDDER III is my line and is covered in the next section.

RICHARD BETTS SCUDDER was born in 1671 in Newtown, New York and died on March 14, 1754 in Ewing, New Jersey. In 1691 he married Hannah Reeder in Newtown. Richard spawned the various Scudder families of the Trenton, New Jersey area. He came to Trenton sometime before 1709 and in May, 1709, purchased a plantation of some 500 acres on the Delaware River at the Falls now known as Scudder Falls about two miles below where Washington crossed the Delaware on Christmas 1776. He was commissioned a Captain on March 10, 1713. Richard and Hannah had the following children: Hannah, Mary, Richard, John, Abigail, Joseph, Samuel, Rebecca and Joanna. Richard and Hannah are buried in the Ewing Church yard.

JOHN SCUDDER III

John Scudder, the third of that name, was born in Maspeth Kills, Newtown, Long Island in 1673. He left Long Island for Elizabethtown, New Jersey in 1698. It was there that he met and married Mary Pack in 1699. Mary was a daughter of George and Anna Pack of Westfield, a part of the colony at Elizabethtown. Mary was born November 2, 1665. There is more about Mary and her family in the **PACK FAMILY HISTORY** following in this Addendum.

John was active in local government and helped to found the Westfield Presbyterian Church in 1730.

John Scudder remained in Westfield and left a will there dated January 13, 1739 and probated on April 25, 1739. He obviously died during that time period. I found another record where he seems to have died on January 15, 1739 and left 10 pounds to the Presbyterian Church of Westfield. Executors of his will were his sons Samuel and John and his son in law Ephraim Marsh (Anna's husband). John Scudder was buried at the Colonial Cemetery. Mary Pack Scudder outlived her husband, but I have no date of her death.

They had four sons and six daughters. The following is what I know of them.

JOHN SCUDDER (IV) was the eldest son, born in 1700 married (1) Jane Davis. Jane was the daughter of John and Susannah Davis. Jane died on April 17, 1731, and he then married

(2) Sarah Davis on January 5, 1763. Sarah was probably Jane's younger sister. Sarah died on November 6, 1784. John died February 26, 1777 leaving his wife and three sons: John, Ephraim and William and four daughters: Mary (married a Hubbell), Charity (married Jesse Clark), Kesiah (married John Enslee) and Anna (married David Baker).

RICHARD was born in 1703, he married Sarah Stites, born in 1706 and died on March 17, 1750 based on her tombstone. Richard died in 1785 in Westfield, New Jersey.

SAMUEL was a church Deacon and was born in 1704. He married Phoebe Miller daughter of Richard and Mary Hatfield Miller about 1727. After Phoebe died on December 15, 1761, he married her sister Apphia Miller. He died in August of 1777. They had the following children: Samuel, Moses, Aaron, John, Thomas, Matthias who married Elizabeth Moore, George, Phoebe and Hannah.

THOMAS was born in 1706 and he died in January of 1761. He had a wife named Sarah as mentioned in his will dated December 29, 1760. Sarah died on April 10, 1784. They had the following children: David, James, Eliphalet, William, Richard, John, Thomas, Elias and Sarah.

ANNA was born about 1701 and died April 16, 1762 in her 62nd year according to tombstone. She married Ephraim Marsh and after his death on April 23, 1750, she married Captain Thomas Woodruff on December 6, 1753.

MARY SCUDDER was born in 1706 in Westfield, New Jersey, and married Jonathan Marsh in Westfield in about 1725. She died December 9, 1805. Jonathan died there July 27, 1779. This is my line and their lives are detailed in ***THE MARSH FAMILY HISTORY***.

The other daughters were **ELIZABETH, KESIAH, JOANNA** and **PHOEBE**. I have absolutely no information on these four daughters.

WILL OF HENRY SKUDDER OF HORTON 1504

In the name of God Amen, the 14th day of the month of July in the year of our lord 1504

I, Henry Skudder being of sound mind make this my will in this manner

First I leave my soul to Almighty God, to the Blessed Virgin Mary, and to all the Saints.

And my body to be buried in the Churchyard of the parish church of St. Mary at Horton.

Item I leave to the high altar of the same church at Horton, for tithes forgotten, 3s 4d.

Item I leave to the sacristan of St. Andrew at Rochester 2d.

Item I leave to the parish church of Horton one torch of the value of 6s 8d, and when I am buried, that light to burn during my obsequies, at the month's mind.

Item I make constitute and ordain, Agnes my wife my sole executrix, to dispose of all my goods, moveable and unmoveable, for the good of my soul and those of my ancestors.

Item I leave to my sons, that is to say, Thomas and Robert, after the death of my wife, all my goods, moveable and unmoveable, as common and undivided property, for the heirs male lawfully begotten of their bodies.

And if it should happen that my sons should not have heirs male lawfully begotten of their bodies

Then I will and ordain that Richard and John my sons should succeed to all my goods, moveable and unmoveable, as for the heirs male lawfully begotten of their bodies.

Item I leave to Richard my son 40s if and when the land and all my goods, moveable and unmoveable, may come and remain to the aforesaid Thomas and Robert, after the death of Agnes my wife.

Item I leave to John my son 40s if and when the land and all my goods, moveable and unmoveable, may come and remain to the aforesaid Thomas and Robert, after the death of Agnes my wife.

Item I will and ordain that the aforesaid Thomas and Robert may be of service to me and my wife in our lives for the time being.

Item I leave to my daughter Joan Baker 20s.

Item I leave to Margery my daughter, if by chance it should happen that she should wish to marry with the consent of her mother and brothers 20s, or otherwise nothing to go to my daughter, or otherwise she to receive any of my goods.

Item I leave to Alice my daughter on her joining in Marriage 40s.

Item I leave to Joan my younger daughter when she should come to her joining in marriage 46s 8d.

Item I leave to Elizabeth my daughter on her joining in marriage 40s.

These in witness: John Skudder, Thomas Skudder, Robert Skudder, Richard Skudder and John Skudder, and many others.

This will was proved before Richard lawfully constituted official for and in the diocese of 9th day of the month of November AD

And administration of all and singular the goods etc. of the said deceased was granted executorsworn in form of law

Signed and sealed on the day and year

This family has a website at <http://www.scudder.org/>, and it's a good place to get info.