

**1660-1799.**

AN ACCOUNT OF  
**JOHN BURBEEN,**  
WHO CAME FROM SCOTLAND AND SETTLED  
AT WOBURN MASSACHUSETTS, ABOUT 1660

AND OF SUCH OF HIS DESCENDANTS AS HAVE BORNE  
THE SURNAME OF

**BURBEEN**

COMPILED FROM THE TOWN RECORDS OF WOBURN, EPIAPHS OF ITS FIRST AND  
SECOND BURYING-GROUNDS, MANUSCRIPT RECORDS OF CHARLES WALKER,  
ESQ., OF CONCORD, N. H. AND UNDRY OTHER SOUCES.

BY JOSEPH BURBEEN WALKER.

---

CONCORD, N. H. :  
PRINTED BY THE REPUBLICAN PRES ASSOCIATION.  
1892.

150 COPIES.

No. ....

TO  
THE DECENDANTS OF  
JOHN BURBEEN  
A SCOTCHMAN, AND AN EARLY SETTLER OF  
WOBURN, MASSACHUSETTS,  
THIS RECORD OF THOSE WHO HAVE BORNE HIS SURNAME  
IN AMERICA IS AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED  
BY THEIR FELLOW-KINSMAN,  
JOSEPH BURBEEN WALKER.

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

PREFACE.  

---

The surname Burbeen has been spelled variously. In an old deed, bearing date 1696, of John Burbeen to his son James, it appears as "Berbeene;" it is found elsewhere as "Berbeane;" in the probate records of Middlesex county of 1730 as "Burbeen;" -- and by most members of the family this last spelling has been adopted.

The whole number of persons in this country who have borne the surname of Burbeen has been, so far as I have been able to discover, only nineteen. In about one hundred and forty years from the time of its introduction it had become extinct. Two reasons for this will be likely to occur to persons perusing the following pages, viz.:

1st. The phrase "never married," so often appearing upon them, suggests one. Of the whole nineteen members of the family who have borne the name, but five of its male members are known to have married.

2d. All of John Burbeen's descendants, born since 1746, have come from female scions of the original stock. The blood is still in the country, but is found only under names other than that of Burbeen.

The following Genealogy has been largely compiled from,--

1. The Woburn Records of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, edited and arranged by Hon. Edward F. Johnson; and the Epitaphs of the First and Second Burying Grounds, transcribed by William F. Cutter and Nathan Wyman, Esquires.
2. Manuscript notes of Charles Walker, Esq., of Concord, N. H., made about 1830. Mr. Walker was the son of Susannah Burbeen Walker and grandson of Rev. Joseph Burbeen, and had been familiar with the history of the Burbeen family all his life.
3. Sewell's History of Woburn, old Burbeen papers in the possession of the compiler, and sundry other sources of information to which he has had access.
4. For a sketch of the old Burbeen house, or "castle" as it was sometimes called, the compiler is indebted to Leonard Thompson, Esq., of Woburn. His letter describing the same may be found in the Appendix, page 28.

J. B. W.

Concord, N. H., March 15, 1892.

## THE BURBEEN FAMILY.

### FIRST GENERATION.

(1) I. JOHN BURBEEN,<sup>1</sup> the first Anglo-American ancestor of the family, was born in Scotland about 1627, and came to Woburn, Mass., as early as 1660\* certainly, and perhaps earlier. He was a proprietor of the township, possessed some property, was a tailor by occupation, and seems to have been a devout man. † He married Sarah Gould, April 16, 1660. She died May 14, 1670. He died January 8, 1713-'14, aged about 86 years, and was buried in the

\* He "first settled in Woburn, on the easterly side of the hill, a little to the north of Mr. Lawrence's. The remains of his cellar, and also some old apple-trees near by, planted by him, are now to be seen."--C. Walker MS., p. 3.

† This remark has been suggested by items in his will as follows:

"To each and every of my daughter, Mary Houghton's children, a good new bible" etc.

"And further my will is that, my son James shall give his two sons James and John, each of them, a bible out of what I have given him."

Old Woburn burying-ground, where his gravestones may now be seen. Their children were,--

2-1. MARY,2 born July 2, 1661. She was married February 15, 1681, to Jonah Houghton, of Lancaster, Mass., and died July 20, 1733.

3-2. JOHN,2 born August 9, 1663. Little is known of him. In his will, dated November 15, 1701, his father says of him,--

"That my son, John Berbeene, yt is gone to sea and I am satisfied is lost, if he returne again alive, or any that legally represent him, my executor shall pay him or them fifty pounds" etc.

4-3. [JAMES,2](#) born May 15, 1668. (2) II.

## SECOND GENERATION.

(2) II. JAMES BURBEEN<sup>2</sup> (4-3) ([JOHN<sup>1</sup>](#)), born May 15, 1668. He married Mary -----, who died October 14, 1724. He married a second time, but whom it does not appear.\* He lived in Woburn, and was a business man of much enterprise. He was engaged more or less in shipping, as appears by charter parties still in existence. His estate was appraised at œ2,038-16-5.†

"His shop was in that part of the old Burbeen house which adjoined south, on the old castle, and stood on the ground where Leonard Fowle has lately built a new house."--*C. Walker MS., p. 6.*

He died September 4, 1729, aged 61 years. His children were,--

5-1. MARY,<sup>3</sup> born March 6, 1694, and died July 20, 1733.‡

\* 1748, Oct. 27. Mr. Walker attended the funeral of his aged mother-in-law.--Diary of Rev. T. Walker.

† The real estate of James Burbeen, at his decease, consisted of sixteen different parcels of land, situated in six different towns, and appraised at œ1,970. See Appendix, pp. 32-37.

‡ Mary Burbeen left a respectable estate, as appears by her will dated April 12, 1733, and proved Sept. 3, 1733.

6-2. SARAH<sup>3</sup> born March 6, 1694, died March 17, 1794.

7-3. [JAMES](#)<sup>3</sup> born August 21, 1696. (3) III.

8-4. JOHN<sup>3</sup> born March 12, 1699, and died September 5, 1724.

"John Burbeen . . . lived with his father in the old Burbeen house. All that seems to be known of him is that he belonged to a troop of horse, under Colonel Tyng, of Dunstable (who at that time lived in Woburn), and that on the way to Dunstable the party fell into an ambushade of Indians between Chelmsford and Dunstable, and in the affray he was slain."--C. W. MS., p. 11.

9-5. [SARAH](#)<sup>3</sup> born June 17, 1701. (4) III.

10-6. RUTH<sup>3</sup> born March 28, 1708. She married Dr. Jonathan Haywood, of Woburn, February 4, 1735, a man of large property, who died in 1749, leaving one son, Jonathan, who pursued his preparatory studies with Rev. Timothy Walker, of Concord, N. H., and graduated at Harvard college in 1756. He inherited one of the largest estates in Woburn. He left his native town and lived for some time in the state of New York, but subsequently returned to Woburn, where he died in straitened circumstances May 13, 1812, aged 73 years.

11-7. [JOSEPH](#)<sup>3</sup> born March 3, 1712. (5) III.

### THIRD GENERATION.

(3) III. JAMES BURBEEN<sup>3</sup> (7-3) ([JAMES](#),<sup>2</sup> [JOHN](#)<sup>1</sup>) was born August 21, 1696. He was a saddler, and built the shop which adjoined the old Burbeen house on the north. He married Mary Richardson, September 5, 1721, who was a sister to Noah Richardson, the latter. After living in Woburn many years, he moved to Boston, where he died. He had three sons and two daughters, viz.,--

12-1. JAMES,<sup>4</sup> born July 11, 1722.

13-2. PAUL,<sup>4</sup> born April 6, 1724. He graduated at Harvard college in 1743, and his name stands the thirtieth on the roll of his class of thirty-one members. He became a man of much learning and an able mathematician. He claimed that he had discovered the great desideratum in mathematics, viz., the squaring of the circle. He entered the army, and was at the taking of Louisburg in 1745. He served under Captain Ebenezer Eastman, of Pennycook, from November 18, 1747, to April 30, 1748. He was

afterwards with Major Robert Rogers, in the French and Indian War. He never married, and spent his last years in Concord, Mass., where he died June 8, 1795, aged 71 years.

14-3. JOHN,<sup>4</sup> born February 9, 1725-'26. He lived for many years in Boston, and was employed in the postal service. Charles Walker says that "after Dr. Franklin took charge of the Post Office Department, he was concerned in transporting the mail." He never married, and died in Boston, October 5, 1759.

15-4. MOLLY,<sup>4</sup> born July 6, 1759. For a time she kept a shop in Boston. She never married, and lived by herself. She subsequently removed to Concord, Mass., about the same time as did her brother Paul and sister Sarah. She was a follower of the fanatic, Shadrach Ireland, who was at the head of a company of French prophets. She died October 10, 1799, when the surname of Burbeen became extinct in America.

16-5. SARAH,<sup>4</sup> born March 7, 1733. She lived in Boston for many years with her father, and after his death with her brothers. She never married, and was for a time insane. She recovered her reason, and moved to Concord, Mass.,

where she lived with her brother Paul, and died July 4, 1792.

(4) III. SARAH BURBEEN<sup>3</sup> (9-5) ([JAMES](#),<sup>2</sup> [JOHN](#)<sup>1</sup>) was born June 17, 1701.

"On the evening of the 12th of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1730 (being the day of the General Thanksgiving) she was married to the Rev<sup>d</sup> Timothy Walker, who had recently been engaged by the Proprietors to settle in the ministry at Penny Cook. Mr. Walker sat out the next day (the 13th) for Penny Cook. Preached there on the 15th. The Council of Ministers arrived on the 17th, and on the 18th of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1730, Mr. Walker was ordained by the Proprietors and Council, Minister of Penny Cook.\*

\* The large and fertile tract of Merrimack intervale at Pennycook, or "the crooked place," where, as shown by the early maps, the river made three distinct ox-bows in less than a mile. was early known to the Bay settlers upon the coast. It was granted to several companies, all of whom, one after another, forfeited their grants, except the last. This, composed of one hundred carefully selected members, went there in 1726 and began a permanent settlement, which has since developed into the city of Concord, and become the capital of New Hampshire.

This locality had formerly been the head-quarters of Passaconaway, the renowned chief of the Pennycook Indians--a man skilled in magic and of much influence over his people. The Rev. John Barnard, of Andover, Mass., in his sermon at the ordination and settlement of Mr. Walker, spoke of Pennycook as "a Place where *Satan*, some Years ago, had his seat, and the *Devil* was wont to be *Invocated* by forsaken *Salvages*."

It was far back in the Indian country. Its nearest white neighbors, on the south, were the Scotch-Irish at Londonderry; on the south-west, the settlers at Hinsdale, on the Connecticut; and on the north, the inhabitants of the French settlements on the St. Lawrence.

"On Monday, the 23<sup>d</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup>, Mr. Walker sat out for Woburn, and arrived there on the 24th. After spending a few days in visiting his friends, Mr. Walker and his wife mounted their horses on the 1st of December, 1730, and sat out on their journey for their new settlement at Penny Cook. They lodged the first night at their brother Samuel Walker's, in Wilmington: the second night at Nutfield [now Londonderry], and on the 3<sup>d</sup> day of December, 1730, Mrs. Walker, with five other women (wives of the settlers), arrived at Penny Cook. These were the first white women who had ever been seen in the town, excepting the wives of Rolfe and Uran, who had lived in the Block House the winter previous.

"Mrs. Walker, in common with her neighbors, endured her full share of privations and hardships, incident to a new settlement in the Wilderness, thirty miles beyond any white inhabitants. During two Indian wars, the settlers were obliged to take refuge within their garrisons, to secure themselves and families from the tomahawks and scalping-knives of the Indians. This confinement was particularly irksome and disagreeable to the female part of the community, inasmuch as it destroyed that friendly intercourse among the inhabitants which is so pleasant and desirable.

"Mrs. Walker, it appears, during the whole of her life, enjoyed the esteem and respect of all her parishioners. She died at Penny Cook, now Concord, on the 19th day of February, 1778. Her monument by the side of that of her husband, is to be seen in Concord Burying Ground."--C. W. MS., pp. 22-24

Her children were, --

17-1. SARAH,<sup>4</sup> born June 18, 1732, died December 21, 1736.

18-2. TIMOTHY,<sup>4</sup> born June 26, 1737. A justice of the court of common pleas from 1777 to 1809. He died May 5, 1822.

19-3. SARAH,<sup>4</sup> born August 6, 1739: married, 1st, Colonel Benjamin Rolfe, of Concord; 2d, in November, 1772, Benjamin Thompson, afterwards Count Rumford.

20-4. MARY,<sup>4</sup> born December 7, 1742: married Dr. Ebenezer Harnden Goss, May or June, 1768.

21-5. JUDITH,<sup>4</sup> born December 24, 1744: married, 1st, Captain Abiel Chandler; 2d, Nathaniel Rolfe.

(5) III. JOSEPH BURBEEN<sup>3</sup> (11-7) ([JAMES,<sup>2</sup> JOHN<sup>1</sup>](#)) was born March 3, 1712, and graduated at Harvard college in 1731. He studied theology, and is said to have been a popular preacher, but was never settled as a minister. Evidence is found of his preaching in different places, but not, probably, with any view to a settlement. \* Judging from the character of a few of his theological books, which are now in the possession

\* "During the summer of 1760 Rev. Mr. Burbeen preached several Sabbaths" at New Boston, N. H.--*Hist. New Boston*, p. 105.

of his descendants, he must have been a scholarly man, and possessed of a good library for his time. He married Esther Pool, of Woburn, only daughter of Jonathan Pool, and granddaughter of Colonel Eleazer Flagg. Charles Walker says that

"It is stated upon pretty good authority that Joseph Burbeen, about the time he became of age, became attached to Miss Esther Pool, only daughter of Jon<sup>a</sup> Pool, Esq., of Woburn, whose wife (Mrs. Pool) was sole heiress of Col. Eleazer Flagg. The attachment appears to have been mutual. The Pools, however, disapproved of the match, wishing to have their daughter Esther married to Rev. Edward Jackson, who had been settled about eight years as colleague to the Rev. John Fox, the then minister of the town.

"The young couple, finding their wishes likely to be thwarted, and apprehending severe measures would be resorted to to prevent their union, mounted their horses and galloped off to Hampton Falls, in New Hampshire, where they were married, on the 8th day of October, 1736, by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Joseph Whipple, minister of that town, by license of the Governor.\*

The following is Mr. Whipple's certificate of their marriage, now in the possession of the compiler:

"Hampton Falls Oct: 15, 1736.

"These may certify whom it may concern that Mr. Joseph Burbeen & Mrs. Esther Pool were married on the 8 day of this instant October by virtue of a license from the Gov<sup>r</sup> by  
Joseph Whipple."

"The Pools, upon hearing what had taken place, were much incensed, and would not suffer Mr. Burbeen to come to the house. However, finding the marriage to be legal, they began to relax in their resentment, and soon after cordially rec<sup>d</sup> Mr. Burbeen as their son-in-law, and treated him accordingly.

"Joseph Burbeen had some portion of his father's estate. He was sole owner of the old Burbeen house and land adjoining, which he obtained (probably) partly by heirship and partly by purchase from the rest of the heirs of the estate.

"Soon after his marriage with Miss Esther Pool he removed her home to the old Burbeen house, where they lived together till her death, which happened on the 28th March, 1776, aged 59 years.--*C. W. MS., pp. 13, 14.*

They had three daughters:

22-1. [ESTHER](#),<sup>4</sup> born May 29, 1738.\* (6) IV.

23-2. [BRIDGET](#),<sup>4</sup> born July 17, 1742. (7) IV.

\* "It seems the whole Grannhood of *Esthers* (being four in number) was assembled at Mr. Burbeen's on this joyous occasion. The ladies, who met at Mr. Burbeen's at this time, are stated to have been Granny *Esther* Wiley, of Malden or Stoneham, Granny *Esther* Green, of Malden, Granny *Esther Flagg*, of Woburn, and Granny *Esther* Pool, of Woburn. Mrs. Burbeen's name was *Esther*, and her infant child, on whose account the Grannhood met, was named *Esther*.

"It has been stated in the annals of those times that the following passage of scripture was completely verified on that occasion. 'Arise, daughter, and go to thy daughter, for thy daughter's daughter has got a daughter.'

"It is remarkable that there were six generations (all of them *Esthers*) on the ground at one and the same time, at Mr. Burbeen's."--*C. W. MS., p. 16.*

24-3. [SUSANNAH](#),<sup>4</sup> born April 11, 1746. (8) IV.

After the death of his wife, March 30, 1776, Mr. Burbeen lived for a while with his daughters, but afterwards returned to the old Burbeen house, where he lived by himself. He died at Woburn, June 7, 1794, aged 82 years, and, at his own request, was buried in the grave of his grandfather, John Burbeen.\*

\* "Statement of Col. Leonard Thompson, of Woburn, who was present at J. Burbeen's obsequies."--*W. R. Cutter*.

## FOURTH GENERATION.

(6) IV. ESTHER BURBEEN<sup>4</sup> (22-1) ([JOSEPH](#),<sup>3</sup> [JAMES](#),<sup>2</sup> [JOHN](#)<sup>1</sup>), born May 29, 1738, married, 1st, Capt. Jesse Wyman, of Woburn, May 1, 1760; married, 2d, Samuel Thompson, Esq., Oct. 22, 1789. Capt. W. left three children:

25-1. JESSE,<sup>5</sup> who died Jan. 21, 1807, aged 42 years.

26-2. ESTHER,<sup>5</sup> who married Leonard Thompson, of W., Oct. 30, 1786, and died Oct. 2, 1846, aged 80 years.

27-3. RANDOLPH,<sup>5</sup> who died April 14, 1854, aged 75 years. After the death of Capt. Wyman, Mrs. Wyman lived with her children until her marriage with Samuel Thompson, Esq., of Woburn. She died Aug. 5, 1818. Esquire Thompson died Aug. 17, 1820.

(7) IV. BRIDGET BURBEEN<sup>4</sup> (23-2) ([JOSEPH](#),<sup>3</sup> [JAMES](#),<sup>2</sup> [JOHN](#)<sup>1</sup>) was born July 17, 1742. She married, Dec. 28, 1759, John Fowle, of Woburn. Mr. Fowle, the son of Capt. John

Fowle, Jr., of W., was born Feb. 1, 1796, and graduated at Harvard college in 1747. He was for a time a clerk for Col. Jacob Fowle, one of the most respectable merchants of Marblehead, Mass.

He became a teacher, and taught school in his native town from 1758 to 1770, some twelve consecutive years, on a salary of œ40 a year. Some of his pupils became very distinguished men. Among them were Loammi Baldwin, and Benjamin Thompson, afterwards known as Count Rumford. Rev. Mr. Sewell, in his History of Woburn, says of him that for many years he was

"distinguished by way of eminence, in Woburn, by the title of Master Fowle; one whose stern manners, strict discipline, and aptness to teach rendered him the terror of all idlers and rogues in his school; but recommended him to the esteem of the diligent and ingenuous, and whom such eminently scientific men as Col. Loammi Baldwin and Benjamin Thompson, Count Rumford, were not ashamed, in their younger days, to attend upon instructions and to call their master."--*Hist. Woburn, p. 225.*

After the death of her husband, Mrs. Fowle lived most of the time alone in the Old Burbeen house, a part of which she owned. The last

three years of her life were passed at Concord, N. H., with her sister, Mrs. Timothy Walker, where she died Dec. 26, 1824, and was buried in the old North Cemetery of that town.

(8) IV. SUSANNAH BURBEEN<sup>4</sup> (24-3) ([JOSEPH](#),<sup>3</sup> [JAMES](#),<sup>2</sup> [JOHN](#)<sup>1</sup>) was born April 11, 1746. She married Hon. Timothy Walker, of Concord, N. H., where she afterwards lived, and died Sept. 28, 1828, in the 83d year of her age. Her children were,--

- 28-1. SARAH,<sup>5</sup> born Jan. 21, 1764.
- 29-2. CHARLES,<sup>5</sup> born Sept. 25, 1765.
- 30-3. PAUL,<sup>5</sup> born April 14, 1767.
- 31-4. TIMOTHY,<sup>5</sup> born Feb 2, 1769.
- 32-5. JOSEPH,<sup>5</sup> born June 21, 1771.
- 33-6. SUSAN,<sup>5</sup> born March 17, 1773.
- 34-7. ESTHER,<sup>5</sup> born April 17, 1775.
- 35-8. SUSANNAH,<sup>5</sup> born Jan. 4, 1777.
- 36-9. ESTHER,<sup>5</sup> born Oct. 13, 1778.
- 37-10. BETSEY,<sup>5</sup> born April 15, 1780.
- 38-11. JOSEPH,<sup>5</sup> born Jan. 12, 1782.
- 39-12. BRIDGET,<sup>5</sup> born Jan. 1, 1784.
- 40-13. POLLY,<sup>5</sup> born March 22, 1786.
- 41-14. CLARISSA,<sup>5</sup> born July 27, 1788.

The foregoing genealogy embraces all the persons who have borne the surname of Burbeen in America --twenty-four in all. For an account of others of the family, who, while they had Burbeen blood in their veins, had not the surname, reference may be had to Sewell's History of Woburn, to Bouton's History of Concord,

N. H., to the Memorial of James Thompson and his descendants, and to the Genealogies of the Hayward and Wyman Families. It has been almost entirely restricted to persons who have borne the surname of Burbeen, which, as has been before remarked, became extinct by the death of Miss Molly Burbeen, October 10, 1799.

## APPENDIX

--

### CONTENTS

I. <u>John Burbeen's Will</u> , .....	25
II. <u>Letter of Leonard Thompson to J.B. Walker</u> , .....	28
III. <u>Bill of Sale of negro boy Dick, by John Desilveir, to Joseph Burbeen</u> , .....	31
IV. <u>Inventory of the Estate of James Burbeen, Nov. 3, 1729</u> , .....	32
V. <u>Report of the Committee appointed to make a Division of the Real Estate of James Burbeen, in the county of Middlesex, Mass., June 19, 1730</u> , .....	38
VI. <u>Decree of judge of Probate relative to the Division of Real Estate of James burbeen, in the County of Middlesex, Mass., Nov. 13, 1730</u> , .....	46
VII. <u>Additional Account of james Burbeen, Administrator of the Estate of James Burbeen, November, 1731</u> , .....	49

THIS PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

## JOHN BURBEEN'S WILL

In the name of god Amen =

I John Berbeen sen<sup>r</sup>. of Woobourne in the County of Midd<sup>x</sup>. in his Maj<sup>ty</sup>. province of the Masstusets Bay in New England, Tayler--being aged, and attended with many Insemeteyes of body, and not knowing how soon or sudin my great change may come, I also knowing it to be a Christian duty for a man to sett his hous in ord<sup>r</sup>. do therfore make and publish this Wrighting my last Will and Testament in maner and forme folowing, ----- That is to say, -----

I do give my soule to god that gave it me, and my body to the earth to be desently buried, in hopes of a Glorious Resurrection to life againe through the death and Merrit of Christ Jesus my Lord and only Saviour,

And as to that portion of temperall estate, that god of his bounty hath bestowed on me, I give and bequeath as is herein after mentioned,--and after my funerall charges is defrayed, and all my just debts fully payd,--

Impri<sup>s</sup>. my Will is, and I do give unto my son James Berbeene all the housing and lands that I have in Woobourne afors<sup>d</sup>., that is to say all and singuler what I have given him before in a deed of gift and deed of exchange, and all the lands y<sup>t</sup>. I had of him, by Jabez brookses, by way of Exchange, and the hous and ground where I now live, and all my Woodland, on or near Hornpond mount, and all my lots lay<sup>d</sup> out to me in the bounds of Woobourne

together with all my Right of Swamp botom hearbidg and Cowcomons all to him his heirs and assignes for ever, he the said Jam<sup>s</sup>. Berbeen yealding and paying such leagasyes, as I shall herein after bequeath to my children and grandchildren,

2 *J<sup>m</sup>*. my Will is and I do give unto my loveing daughter Mary Houghton, all my personall estate, y<sup>t</sup> I shall dye seized of both within doors and without (except one small bed herein after mentioned) and Jam<sup>s</sup> Berbeene my said son shall pay unto my s<sup>d</sup>. Daughter Mary, the sum of seventeene pounds more, within two months after my decease, my meaning is I do give my said daughter all my moneys and other movables after my debts and funeral charge is pay<sup>d</sup> as afors<sup>d</sup>.

3 *J<sup>m</sup>*. my Will is and I do hereby order and give to each and every of my daughter Mary Houghtons children a good new bible y<sup>e</sup> which my son James shall pay for out of what I have given him, and

4 *J<sup>m</sup>*. my will is and I do given unto Mary y<sup>e</sup> daughter of my son Jam<sup>s</sup>. that small fether bed which I Redeemed from Mrs. Dandy, her father paying unto my daughter Houghton twenty and five shillings for it, but If they Refuse to pay that twenty five shils. then Mary Houghton shall have that bed, and further my will is that my son Jam<sup>s</sup>. shall give his two sons Jam<sup>s</sup> and John each of them a bible, out of what I have given him.

5 *J<sup>m</sup>*. my will is that my son John Berbeene y<sup>t</sup> is gon to sea and I am afraid is lost, If he returne againe alive, or any that leagaly Represent him, my Exec<sup>rs</sup> herein named shall pay him or them fifty pounds, that is James Berbeene shall pay him thirty three pounds, and Jonas Houghton, shall pay him seventeen pounds,

lastly I do hereby nominate and appoint my loveing son Jam<sup>s</sup>. Berbeene, and my soninlaw Jonas Houghton, to be joynt Exec<sup>rs</sup>. of this my Will,

In Witness whereof I the said John Berbeene sen<sup>r</sup>. have hereunto sett my hand and seale, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, and in the 13<sup>th</sup> yeare of his Maj<sup>ty</sup>. Reigne Wm. y<sup>e</sup>. d3 over England &. King deffender of y<sup>e</sup>. faith, Annog, Domini 1701:

Signed sealed and published by John Berbeene Sen<sup>r</sup>. to be his last will and testament before us:

James Peirce	The mark of	
William Bruce	† B	[Seal]
Jams Converse	†	
	John † Berbeene	

## LETTER OF LEONARD THOMPSON TO JOSEPH B. WALKER

WOBURN, MASS., February 15, 1892.

MY DEAR SIR: The daughter of Mr. F. K. Cragin, who bought and levelled the house, has no dates of any service except that on a note attached to an oak chair, which says, made in 1858. The chair was made from the trimmer, so called, or oaken beam used to support the mantel. It is described as having been eight feet long by eight inches square, very good oak wood. That shows the fireplace to have been spacious. High up in the throat of the chimney was a crosspole of ample thickness to support the long trammels and pot-hooks for sustaining old style cooking-pots. The living-room had a beaufet, beside ample shelves for the pewter ware. The house must have been built about the time of John Burbeen's marriage, say 1660. It must have been forty feet long by twenty feet wide below, and twenty-two feet above. It was never painted. The chimney had two ovens below, showing ample convenience for the large and social family.

Two slaves<sup>\*</sup> are known to have lived with the family, and one, Prince, went to Concord with his mistress,<sup>†</sup> and died in Woburn in 1825; Cato, the other, was famous as a musician.

\* There was still a third, Dick, as appears by the bill of sale, Paper III, on p. 31.

† Mrs. Sarah Burbeen Walker, wife of Rev. Timothy Walker. For an account of Prince, see Bouton's History of Concord, pp. 252, 253.

The lot is now on Main street, opposite Church street, so called because of the first Baptist church, which stood opposite the Burbeen house, on the south corner.\* Referring to the question of tenements, I never knew of only one, yet Aunt Fowle occupied the upper rooms, while N. Hutchinson and wife lived below. He was a shoemaker, and used the *cake and ale* lean-to, or low L, as his shop. He was an intelligent man, and enjoyed the society of Aunt Fowle very much. The fireplace up stairs was ample, but not so large as that below. I well remember visiting there when about six years old, and admiring the black cat perched on a wooden block in the cosey corner.

I talked with Dr. Cutter, the librarian, but he could not add to my information. Judge Johnson, in his "Researches at Cambridge Court Records," often speaks of lands of the family. They must have been a business people to have carried on the lumber and potash making so successfully. Doubtless the college studies of the sons at Harvard gave the family the best known methods in chemicals of that day. The abundant well near the kettle-house was always known as the potash well. The cellar and foundations were near it, and to be seen plainly in my school days.

The luxuriant elm in front should be prominent, and the wide stone walk from door to street line. It was of natural stones, of large size. The lower ceiling was filled with huge bricks in clay mortar, in the garrison-house style of that period.

\* This house stood at the corner of Main and Plympton streets, facing the north-east. There was at one time an addition at the south end as well as at the north. It was built at two different times, the southerly section, containing the chimney, being the oldest. While it may now be impossible to ascertain the precise dates of their erection, it was evidently an old colonial, seventeenth century structure. Ancient deeds indicate that it was built between 1660 and 1694. It was taken down in 1858.

30

I shall be pleased to search for you in any direction for other facts or legends, but of these last you are no doubt better posted far than I. Any facts relating to our coming Centennial we shall appreciate very much, hoping we may all meet to enjoy it.

With kind regards to your family,

Yours very truly,

L. THOMPSON.

HON. J. B. WALKER,  
Concord, N. H.

**BILL OF SALE OF NEGRO BOY DICK, BY  
JOHN DESILVEIR TO JOSEPH BURBEEN**

Know all men by these Presents that I John Desilveir of Boston in the County of Suffolk in his Majesties Province of the Massachusetts Bay in New England Marriner for and in Consideration of the Sum of Forty-four pound Lawful money to me in hand paid & Secured by Joseph Burbeen of Woburn in the County of Middlesex and Province above Said Gentleman I have therefore Sold Delivered & made Over unto him the Said Joseph his Heirs and assigns forever freely and Clearly a Certain Negro Boy named Dick Judged to be about Fourteen years of Age which I lately brought into this Conterey and I hereby declare for my Self that I am the Sole & Lawful owner of the above Said Boy and will warrant Secure and Defend him against the Claims of me the Said Desilveir my Heirs Executors or administrators or aney other person or persons whatsoever as in Witness hereof I have hereunto Set my Hand & Seal this Twenty Seventh day of July 1759 - - - - -

Signed Sealed & Delivered | John Desilveir  
in presence of us | [SEAL]  
*John Burbeen*  
*Ebenezer Stevens*

**INVENTORY OF THE ESTATE OF JAMES  
BURBEEN, NOVEMBER 3, 1729**

AN INVENTORY of the Estate of James Burbeen late of Woburn in the County of Middlesex Deced  
Taken by us the Subscribers Novemb<sup>r</sup> 3<sup>d</sup> 1729. as follows Viz<sup>t</sup>.

Imp <sup>ts</sup> to two p <sup>r</sup> of Oxen the biggest at 16 <sup>pds</sup> the least at 12 <sup>pds</sup> both at	£28 -- --
To 3 Cows at 5 <sup>pds</sup> a peice a Heifer at 2 <sup>pds</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup> all at	17 10 --
To the Swine at 8 <sup>pds</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup>	8 10 --
To an old Cart & Wheels Horse trav <sup>ts</sup> Haims & Ox yoak	8 10 --
To Hay and other Fodder in the Barn 8 <sup>pds</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup> the mare at 6 <sup>pds</sup>	14 10 --
To 2 <sup>prs</sup> of new Cotton & Linnen Sheets at 3 <sup>pds</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup> 3 <sup>prs</sup> of old Cotton & Linnen Sheets at 3 <sup>pds</sup> and a pair of Tow Sheets 8 <sup>s</sup>	6 18 --
To 4 <sup>prs</sup> of Cotton & Linnen pillow cases 1 <sup>pd</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup> 2 <sup>prs</sup> of old Pill <sup>w</sup> cases 5 <sup>s</sup> all at	1 15 --
To two new Cotton & Linnen Table Cloths at 18 <sup>s</sup> to 3 new Cotton & Linnen Napkins 9 <sup>s</sup> 3 old Napkins 4 <sup>s</sup> 6 all at	1 11 6
To old Towels 2 <sup>s</sup> 6 to old Window Curtains 2 <sup>s</sup> To a Feather Bed and Furniture in the best Chamber 12 <sup>pds</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup>	12 14 6
	----- £99 19- --

To a feather Bed & Furniture in the old Chamber near y <sup>e</sup> Chimney	£6 -- --
To a feather Bed in the South Corner of the old Chamber with Furniture &c	8 -- --
To a Feather Bed belonging to the Trundle bed in the old Chamber with Furniture	5 10 --
To a Feather Bed at College with bedding by Information	7 -- --
To an old round Table 10 <sup>s</sup> an old Chest 3 <sup>s</sup> 6 an old Trunk 1 <sup>s</sup> 6 all at	-- 15 --
To an old Cupboard 2 old Trunks & an old Bedstead all at	1 -- --
To two old Tables & a joynt Stool 5 <sup>s</sup> to an old Flock Bed & 2 old Coverlids 1 <sup>pd</sup>	1 5 --
To 3 old Chests 6 <sup>s</sup> to 5 leather Chairs & 2 Turkey work't Chairs 1 <sup>pd</sup> 15 <sup>s</sup>	2 1 --
To 7 old Chairs @ 16 <sup>s</sup> 2 old great Chairs @ 4 <sup>s</sup> to 9 new Chairs 1 <sup>pd</sup> 16 <sup>s</sup>	2 16 --
To 3 Pewter Platters a Doz of Plates & a Tankard 3pds 4s	3 4 --
	-----
	£137 10 --
To old Pewter Vessels 1 <sup>pd</sup> 13 <sup>s</sup> a Brass Kettle & 2 Brass Skilets 2 <sup>pd</sup> 15 <sup>s</sup> 9. all	4 8 9
To 4 Iron Pots and old Iron Kettle	1 8 --
To Andirons 1 <sup>pd</sup> 10 <sup>s</sup> 2 old Tramels 10 <sup>s</sup> & Fireshil & Tongs 8 <sup>s</sup> a pr of Bellows 10 <sup>s</sup> all	2 18 --
To two pair of old Steelyards 1 <sup>pd</sup> Boxiron & Heaters 1 <sup>s</sup>	1 1 --
To 7 y <sup>ds</sup> & 1/2 of Drugget 5 <sup>s</sup> 3 <sup>d</sup> ?? yard	1 19 4
3 1/2 yards of Red Broad Cloth 11 <sup>s</sup> ?? yd 1 <sup>pd</sup> 18 <sup>d</sup> 6. 8 1/2 yards of Duroy at 4 <sup>s</sup> 3 1 <sup>pd</sup> 16 <sup>s</sup>	3 14 6
To 3 yards of Moth Eaten Broad Cloth @ 7 <sup>s</sup> ?? y <sup>d</sup> 1pd 1 <sup>s</sup> To five Silk Handkerchiefs at 3 <sup>s</sup> 6 ?? peice 17 <sup>s</sup> 6	1 18 6

To half a Doz of knives & Forks @ 7 <sup>s</sup> to Cart hoops Boxes & old iron at 1 <sup>pd</sup> 6 <sup>s</sup>	£1 13 --
To 3 powdering Tubs 3 old Barrels & other old Lumber 1 <sup>pd</sup> 12 <sup>s</sup>	1 12 --
To Books 2 <sup>pds</sup> 13 <sup>s</sup> to an old Churn half Bushel and Peck at 5 <sup>s</sup>	2 18 --
	-----
	£161 1 1
To a Flax Hetchel 12 <sup>s</sup> 2 old axes 10 <sup>s</sup> . 2 Hoes 7 <sup>s</sup> . 2 old Forks 4 <sup>s</sup> Two old Scythes and Tackling 12 <sup>s</sup> all at	2 5 --
To part of a draught Chain 8 <sup>s</sup> Plow and irons 18 <sup>s</sup> at	1 6 --
To Harrow Teeth and Beetle Rings at	1 10 --
To 4 old Chests 8 <sup>s</sup> old Flock bed and bedstead at 20 <sup>s</sup>	1 8 --
To a peice of Chain Staple & Ring 10 <sup>s</sup> old Iron at 10 <sup>s</sup>	1 -- --
To an old iron Crow and old Grindstone & old Cask at	-- 12 --
	-----
	£169 2 1
To Six Bushll of Rye Corn 1 <sup>pd</sup> 18 <sup>s</sup> to 12 Bush <sup>ll</sup> & ½ of Indian Corn at 5 <sup>s</sup> 6 ?? Bushell 3 <sup>pds</sup> 8 <sup>s</sup> 95 6 9	
To 2 Bushell & ½ of Beans at 7 <sup>s</sup> ?? Bushll 17 <sup>s</sup> 6 to the Corn standing on the Ground 20 <sup>pds</sup>	20 17 6
To 280 <sup>lb</sup> of old Hops at 4 <sup>d</sup> ?? <sup>lb</sup> 4 <sup>pds</sup> 13 <sup>s</sup> 4 <sup>d</sup> to 210 <sup>lb</sup> of New Hops at 6 <sup>d</sup> ?? <sup>lb</sup> 5 <sup>pds</sup> 5 <sup>s</sup>	9 18 4
To a Timber Chain 18 <sup>s</sup> 9. Old Plow irons 10 <sup>s</sup> Corn Tan 1 <sup>pd</sup> all at	2 8 9
To a Negro man	90 -- --
	-----
	£297 13 5

Real Estate is as follows Viz'.

Imp <sup>rs</sup> To the dwelling House and Land adjoining & other Buildings thereon	£150 -- --
To the Barn and Land adjoining to the Same at	45 -- --
To Sixteen Acres of Land lying on the West Side of Charlestown Road near and adjoining to the Rev <sup>d</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Foxes Land & one acre of Land lying on the East Side of S <sup>d</sup> Road joyning to Simon Thompsons Land at	255 -- --
To two Acres of meadow lying at 40 <sup>h</sup> Meadow	24 -- --
To forty Acres of Land partly meadow Land partly Plow land & partly Pasture land lying near to Horn Pond at	280 -- --
To 10 Acres of Wood Land near to Winter Pond well wooded at	100 -- --
To 5 Acres of poor Land lying near to James Peirces	15 -- --
To 2 Acres of Land lying on the South side of M <sup>rs</sup> Blodgets Homestead	20 -- --
To an acre & half of meadow at maple meadow	15 -- --
To 18 Acres of Wood land at Wood Hill	48 -- --
To a pine Lott at Eben <sup>zr</sup> Peirces	6 -- --
To a Small Lott at mathew Edward's Bridge	2 10 --
To 18 Acres of Land at Rock Pond	40 -- --
By the best Information of Lands out of Town we apprise as follows.	
To an old House and half Acre of Land at Charlestown	160 -- --
To a Tenement consisting of an House and Barn with about an 100 Acres Land under the Present Circumstances at Littleton	400 -- --

To a Right of Land at Lancaster new Grant of Lands at £80 -- --

To a Right of Propriety in the north Township above Groton 50 -- --

To Six Acres of medow at Chelmsford at 18 -- --

Total of Real Estate -----  
£1708 10 --

Benj<sup>a</sup> Wyman | App<sup>ng</sup> Sworn  
Jacob Fowle | before Jus: Poole.  
John Russell |

Brought over E Contra £297 13 5

The following Particulars were apprizd after the signing of y<sup>e</sup> Inventory.

To the wearing Apparel 6<sup>pds</sup> 18<sup>s</sup> a Hat at 1<sup>pd</sup> 2<sup>s</sup> all at £8 -- --

To Scales and Weights 1<sup>pd</sup> 5<sup>d</sup> And warming Pan 10<sup>s</sup> 1 15 --

To a holeing Ax old Andirons and Sickle at -- 9 --

To old Shovels Spade and threetind Fork at 7<sup>s</sup> to a Hop Bag 7<sup>a</sup> -- 14 --

To 3 Iron Wedges and a Box of marking Irons -- 7 --

To a Sadle Bridle and Saddle Trees 4<sup>pds</sup> 8<sup>s</sup> to two Bears Skins 12<sup>s</sup> 5 0 --

To 5 Barrels of Cyder 2<sup>pds</sup> 10<sup>s</sup> 2 10 --

To 13 oz & 18 P<sup>wt</sup> of Plate at 20<sup>s</sup> ?? oz. 13 18 --

£32 13 --

Brought down 297 13 5

Personal Estate £330 6 5

Real Estate 1708 10 --

-----  
£2038 16 5

Midd<sup>sex</sup>p<sup>t</sup> Camb: Dec<sup>r</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> 1729.

James Burbeen Admin<sup>r</sup> on the Estate of the aforementioned Deced presented the foregoing and made Oath that the Same contains a true and perfect Inventory of S<sup>d</sup> Deced Estate as yet come to his Hands or knowledge and if more appears he will Cause the Same to be added.

JON<sup>A</sup> REMINGTON J<sup>D</sup> PROB<sup>TE</sup>

Entred ?? Fra: Foxcroft Regr

A true Copy from the Registry of Wills et<sup>e</sup> For the County of Midd<sup>x</sup> Lib<sup>r</sup> 18 pa<sup>e</sup> 621,2,3.

Attes<sup>d</sup> ?? FRA: FOXCROFT REG<sup>R</sup>

**REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE APPOINTED  
TO MAKE AN INVENTORY OF THE REAL  
ESTATE OF JAMES BURBEEN, IN THE  
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, MASS., JUNE  
19, 1730**

Pursuant to the Commission to us the Subscribers directed for the Inventorying & Dividing the Real Estate of M<sup>r</sup> James Burbeen late of Wobourn Dece'd, which lyes in the County of Middlesex; We have Inventoried the Same as Shown to us by the Administ<sup>r</sup> and is as followeth--Viz<sup>t</sup>!

Imprim <sup>s</sup> The Homsted & Buildings, The Barn & Land it Stands on	£220- 0-0
A Grant of Nineteen Acres of Land part of about four thousand Acres lying between Maple Meadow River & Billerica Line--@	20- 0-0
Ten Acres 123 Rods of Land in Wobourn known by y <sup>e</sup> name of Wood-hill Lott-- at forty Pounds	40- 0-0
Four Acres & 1/8th of Land at a place called Maple Meadow Plain, at	8- 5-0
One Acre & 133 Rods of Maple Meadow known by the name of Maple Meadow--at twenty four Pounds	24- 0-0
Two Acres of Land lying by Caleb Bloggets Pasture--at	24- 0-0
One Acre & fifty Rods of Meadow commonly called the little Meadow--at twenty five Pounds	25- 0-0

Sixteen Acres & $\frac{1}{4}$ by Mr Foxes called the old Place	£201- 0 0
Two Acres & fifty two Rods of Meadow called forty Pound Meadow--at	40- 0 0
Thirty Seven Acres & one quarter of Land by Belknaps called Horn Pond Pasture--at three hundred and thirty five Pounds 10 <sup>s</sup>	335-10-0
Twelve Acres & fifty two Rods called the Lott by David Wymans--at	160- 0-0
Six Acres & 110 Rods lying by James Peirces--at twenty three Pounds	23- 0-0
All the beforementioned Land lyes in Wobourn.	£1120-15-0
One hundred & eight Acres at Littleton with the House & Barn	476- 0-0
Six Acres of Meadow lying in two pieces in Westford at a place called Tadnick Meadows--at twenty four Pounds	24- 0-0
The whole Right of Lancaster new Grant--at	120- 0-0
One whole Right in Northtown so called--Eighty Pounds	80- 0-0
About half an Acre of Land at Charlestown with an old House on it	150- 0-0
	£850- 0-0
Total	£1970-15-0

Then notice was given to the Heirs of Age & Guardians of minors to meet in order for an Agreement, And we then Signified to them our Proceedings as above--but they not Agreeing, We therefore proceeded to & have set off to Each Heir the Said Estate as is herewith set forth ---- -----

TO JAMES BURBEEN, the eldest son, Sundry pieces & parcels of Land all Situate in the Township of Wobourn, one piece thereof being part of the Homested which part contains about Sixteen Rods with part of the House, Said part is commonly called the new House which Stands on Said part of Land--the Bounds to extend so far as the Southeast Cell. of the part called the new House and so through the House between the old House & the new, a paralel Line thro' the back Leento & then the line turns Southeasterly as the Leento turneth untill it cometh unto the Southeasterly Corner of Said Leento, & then turneth Southwesterly as the Fence now Stands untill it cometh unto a Stake in the Wall, & Southwesterly & Northwesterly by Town Land, and Northeasterly by the Country Road.--Also the Barn & about fifty two Rods of Land bounded westerly by the Country Road, Northwardly by Land of Caleb Blogget, Easterly & Southerly by Land of Joseph Baldwin, also free Liberty of drawing Water at the Well upon the said Homested--all which we Inventoried at one hundred & fifty Pounds--

£150-  
0-0

Also a Grant of Nineteen Acres of Land part of about four thousand Acres lying between Maple Meadow River & Billerica Line to the North of the said River, as set forth in the Town Book--at twenty Pounds ----- 20- 0-0

Also a piece of Land called Woodhill Lott, containing ten Acres & one hundred & twenty three Rods bounded thus--Easterly by James Thompsons Land & Joshua Sawyers and elsewhere by Land of Hugh Jones, or however otherwise bounded--at forty Pounds --- 40- 0 0

- Also four Acres & one Eighth of Land lying at a place called Maple Meadow Plain  
 Inventoried at Eight Pounds five Shillings, bounded thus--Westerly by the Range  
 Line, Easterly by Maple Meadow, Northerly & Southerly on s<sup>d</sup> Plain Lotts -- -- -- -- £8- 5-0
- Also a piece of Meadow called Maple Meadow, containing One Acre one hundred &  
 thirty three Rods, bounded thus--beginning at a Bridge being the Northwesterly  
 Corner, so running Southerly by a Fence near the Road till it comes to John Russels  
 Land & by his Land to Maple Meadow River, & so by said River to the Bridge first  
 mentioned--at -- -- -- -- 24- 0 0
- Also a piece of Meadow lying by Jabez Brooke's containing two Acres & fifty two  
 Rods--bounded thus--Westerly by the High Way, Northerly by John Fowle, Easterly  
 by Jabez Brooke's, Southerly by Thomas Belknapp's Meadow--at forty Pounds -- -- 40- 0-0
- Also a piece of Upland & Meadow called Horn Pond Pasture containing thirty seven  
 Acres and one Quarter of an Acre, bounded thus--Northeastly by the High Way,  
 Southeasterly by Thos Belknapps Land, Southwesterly by Horn Pond Brook till it  
 comes to the Pond there partly Northwesterly & Westerly by said Pond till it comes  
 to Brook's Land & by Jabez Brooke's Land till it comes to the High way first  
 mentioned--at three hundred & thirty five Pounds ten Shillings -- -- -- -- 335-10-0

Also a piece of Land by M<sup>r</sup> Foxes called the old Place containing sixteen Acres & one Quarter of an Acre bounded thus--Easterly by the High Way, Southwesterly by Joseph Wrights Land, Northerly by Mr John Foxes Land to y<sup>e</sup> s<sup>d</sup> High Way--at -- -- £201- 0-0

Also a piece of Land lying by David Wyman's called Horn Pond Hill Lott containing twelve Acres fifty two Rods, bounded thus--Easterly & Southerly by the High Way till it comes to David Wymans Land, then running Westerly by David Wymans Land to the Southwest Corner & then running Northeasterly by David Wymans Land to the said High Way, at one hundred & sixty Pounds -- -- -- -- -- 160- 0-0

Also a piece of Land lying by James Pierces containing Six Acres bounded thus-- Southerly, Easterly & Northerly partly by the High Way & partly by Benj<sup>a</sup> Peirce's, Westerly by James Peirces--at twenty three Pounds -- -- -- -- -- 23- 0-0

James's Land- £1001-15-0

Also set off to JOSEPH BURBEEN sundry pieces of Land--One parcel thereof situate & being in the Township of Littleton being the Homeplace in Littleton containing one hundred & Eight Acres, with the Buildings, &c, bounded thus--Easterly on a High Way which goes from the Meeting House in said Littleton toward Concord, a white Oak Tree marked at the Northwesterly Corner, and a Walnutt Tree at the Eastwardly Corner from whence it turns & runs on a strait line to Pond beforementioned to the mouth of a small run of Water which comes out of the Premises, & from thence it bounds Southwardly & Westwardly

by said Pond till it comes to a black Oak Tree marked which is the Eastwardly Corner of Joseph Bakers Lott which he bought of Thomas Powers, and from thence it runs up the Hill by said Bakers Land till it comes to an heap of Stones which is the most Westwardly Corner of the Premises, & from thence it runs on a strait line Eastward to a Stake & heap of Stones by a great Oak Tree, and from thence on a strait line to the first mentioned White Oak--at four hundred & seventy six Pounds £476- 0-0

Also two certain pieces of Meadow situate & being in y<sup>e</sup> Township of Westford called by the name of Tadnick Meadows, one piece thereof containing four Acres Eighty seven Rods bounded thus--Southeasterly on Land, the Southeast Corner being a Stake, & thence Southerly to a White Oak & heap of stones, & so Southerly on James Burn & Samuel Procter to a Stake, & Northerly by Peter Procter and common Land to a White Oak thence Southerly to a Birch Tree marked by the Common Land--and so to the first bound mentioned, at Seventeen Pounds --- 17- 0-0

Also the other piece of Meadow containing One Acre & sixty seven Rods bounded thus--Southwardly by Land of Elias Foster beginning at a Maple Tree being the Southwest Corner thence Easterly Samuel Procter to a Stake being the Southeast Corner, thence Northeast by James Burn to a Stake & heap of Stones, & from thence by Josiah Barrett Northwest to a Stake--at seven Pounds --- 7- 0-0

£500- 0-0

Also set off to MARY BURBEEN sundry pieces of Land (excepting the Priviledges allowed unto the other part of the Homested concerning the Well) situate & being in the Township of Wobourn, One piece thereof being part of the aforesaid Homested and Buildings (together with the Clapboards and Shingle's prepared for Repairing the same) containing about twenty eight Pole--bounded thus--Northeasterly by the Country Road, Northwesterly by the beforerecited part of the Homested, elsewhere by the Towns Land--at seventy Pounds -- - - - - £70- 0-0

Also two Acres of Land lying by Bloggets Pasture, which is bounded West & North by Bloggets Land, East & South by Zerubbabel Snows Land--at twenty four Pounds 24- 0-0

Also a piece of Meadow called the little Meadow containing one Acre & fifty Rods, bounded thus--by the Country Road Westerly, by Simon Thompsson Northerly, by Joseph Wright Easterly & Southerly, at twenty five Pounds -- - - - - 25- 0-0

Also a piece or parcel of Land situate & being in y<sup>e</sup> Township of Charlestown, with an old House on it, containing about half an Acre, bounded thus, Easterly by the Country Road, Southerly & Westerly by Joseph Stimpson's Land, Northwardly by the Land that was somerly Andrew Stimpson's--at -- - - - - 150- 0-0

£269- 0-0

Also set off to SARAH BURBEEN one full Right or Lott in Northtown--with all the Divisions & Proportions laid out or to be laid out to said Lot, as they are or shall be there Recorded--at Eighty Pounds ----- £80- 0-0

Also set off to RUTH BURBEEN one full Right or Lot in Lancaster New Grant as it is or shall be laid out or Recorded--with all & every Division & Proportion thereto belonging--at one hundred & twenty Pounds 120- 0-0

Which said Pieces--is the whole of the Inventory, £1970-15-0

We have further proceeded to ask all Parties if any thing has been received as Portion--and are not informed there's any thing--And as a Testimony of our joint Consent in the Proceeding, we have hereto Subscrib'd this 19<sup>th</sup> Day of June 1730. John Brooks his mark O = Joshua Sawyer, Caleb Blogget, Jacob Wright, Joseph Blanchard

Mem<sup>dm</sup> Ruth acknowledged before the Judge to have been advanced by her Father--One hundred Pounds. £100

Entred & Examin'd by Fra: Foxcroft Reg<sup>r</sup>

A true Copy from the Records in the Registry of Probate for y<sup>e</sup> County of Middlesex Lib. 18. Pag. 594,5,6.

Attest. SAMUEL DANFORTH REG<sup>R</sup>.

**DECREE OF JUDGE PF PROBATE RELATIVE  
TO THE DIVISION OF THE REAL  
ESTATE OF JAMES BURBEEN, IN THE  
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX MASS.,  
NOV. 13, 1730**

[ SEAL ] TO ALL PEOPLE unto whom these Presents shall come Jonathan Remington Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Judge for the Probate of Wills e<sup>lc</sup> in the County of Middlesex within the Province of  
the Massachusetts Bay in New England Sendeth Greeting

KNOW YE that pursuant to the Act or Law of the Said Province intituled an Act for the Settlement and Distribution of the Estates of Intestates and the Direction Power and Authority to me therein and thereby given I do hereby order and assign unto James Burbeen, Joseph Burbeen, Mary Burbeen, Sarah Burbeen and Ruth Burbeen, the children of M<sup>r</sup> James Burbeen late of Woburn in the said County deceased Intestate all those pieces and parcels of Land with the Buildings and appurtenances thereon and thereunto belonging being the whole of the Real Estate of the Said Intestate whereof he died Seiz'd and possessed in the County aforesaid and the Same are particularly Set forth and described in a Commissioners Return by me appointed and sworn for the apprizal thereof and by the Said Commissioners valued at one thousand nine hundred and Seventy Pounds fifteen Shilings, in good Bills of publick Credit on the Said Province as appears by the Return of the aforesaid Commissioners

in the Registry of Probate for the County aforesaid Lib<sup>r</sup> 19 Pa<sup>s</sup> 594,5,6 To have and to hold the hereby ordered and assigned Land and Premises with the Members and Appurtenances thereof unto them the beforenamed James, Joseph, Mary, Sarah and Ruth Burbeen in Severalty according to the Proportions to them Severally and respectively Set off in the aforesaid Return and to their heirs and assigns forever On Condition that they the said James, Joseph, Mary, Sarah and Ruth Burbeen and each of them their and each of their Executors or Administrators Shall and do well and truly pay or cause to be paid the several sums of money hereafter in this my Decree by them ordered to be paid together with the Interest therefor after the Rate of Six Pounds per Cent per annum to commence on the thirteenth Day of November 1730 and both Principal and Interest to be paid is demanded on or before the thirteenth Day of November which will be in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty one and in all matters the same concerning well and faithfully fulfil this my Decree.

Accordingly I order the beforenamed assignee James Burbeen his Executrs or Admin<sup>rs</sup> to clear all charges relating to this Settlement Amounting to Forty Six Pounds nineteen Shillings and eight Pence; Then to pay to his Sister Mary Sixty eight Pounds five Shillings and ten Pence half Penny, to his Sister Sarah two hundred and eleven Pounds Seventeen Shillings and eight Pence ha'penny in like money manner and with the Interest beforementioned.

I order the beforenamed Joseph his Execut<sup>rs</sup> or Adminrs to pay unto the said Sarah forty five Pounds eight Shillings and twopence, to his Sister Ruth one hundred and Seventeen Pounds five Shillings and ten pence ha'penny, in like money manner and with the Interest beforementioned, which Said sums together with the said assignees James and Joseph's own shares, the Land Set off to the beforenamed Mary Sarah and

Ruth, and what said Ruth has had in advance of the Intestate in his life time and the fraction of one Penny comprise the full apprized Value of the said Estate and make each childs Share therein to be agreeable to the Direction of the Law.

Provided nevertheless in Case all or any part of the hereby ordered or assigned Land and Premises shall be legally evicted from the beforenamed assignees or either of them their or either of their heirs or assigns the rest of the Children of the beforenamed deceased their heirs e<sup>lc</sup> Shall refund their rateable parts together with Law Charges.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto Set my hand and the Seal of the Probate Office for the County aforesaid the thirteenth Day of November in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty.

By Order of the Judge |  
Fra: Foxcroft Regr | JON<sup>A</sup> REMINGTON

Entred in the Registry of Wills e<sup>lc</sup> for the County of Middlesex Lib<sup>f</sup> 19 pa<sup>s</sup> 223,4

BY FRA: FOXCROFT REG<sup>R</sup>

**ADDITIONAL ACCOUNT OF JAMES  
BURBEEN, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE ESTATE  
OF JAMES BURBEEN, NOVEMBER, 1731**

The Additional Account of James Burbeen Administ<sup>r</sup> of the Estate of James Burbeen late of Wobourn in the County of Middlesex Dece'd Intestate.

The said Accountant chargeth himself with the Ballance of his former Account made up & allow'd of the 12<sup>th</sup> of Nov<sup>r</sup> 1730--of Record Lib<sup>r</sup> 19. pag. 145,6, amounting (as by the same £484-15- 5 account appears) to the Sum of four hundred & Eighty four Pounds fifteen shillings & five pence

And he now adds mony receiv'd of sundry Persons, (as by a particular account herewith Exhibited may appear) amounting to	274-19-10
	-----
	£759-15- 3

The said Accountant waves Allowance in his Discharge as follows--Viz<sup>t</sup>.

Paid Eleazer Flag 9 <sup>s</sup> 5 <sup>d</sup> . Jabez Brooks 30 <sup>s</sup> 9 <sup>d</sup> -----	2- 0-2
Richard King 8 <sup>s</sup> . Jonathan Hartwell 55 <sup>s</sup> -----	3- 3-0
Samuel Call 7 <sup>s</sup> . Joshua Sawyer 36 <sup>s</sup> -----	2- 3-0
For his trouble in Administration since the Allowance of his former Account	1-10-0
For framing this Account -----	0- 3-0
Examining & Allowing this Account -----	0- 5-0
Registring & Copy of it -----	0- 5-6
For a Citation -----	0- 1-0
	-----
	£9-10-8

Middlesex ss. Cambe Novemb<sup>r</sup> 1731.

James Burbeen the Administrator beforenamed presented the beforewritten And made Oath that the same

contains a just & true Account of his Administration on the beforenamed Deceased's Estate-- since the Allowance of his former Account.

JONA REMINGTON J PROB<sup>E</sup>.

A Copy--Attest<sup>t</sup> SAMUEL DANFORTH REG<sup>R</sup>.

## INDEX

Baker, Joseph	43.	Desilveir, John	31.
Baldwin, Joseph	40.	Dick	31.
Baldwin, Loammi	20.		
Barnard, Rev. John	13.	Eastman, Ebenezer	11.
Barrett, Josiah	43.	Edwards, Matthew	35.
Belknapp, Thomas	41.		
Blanchard, Joseph	45.	Flagg, Eleazer	16, 49.
Block house at Penny Cook	14.	Flagg, Esther	17.
Blodgett, Caleb	38, 40, 45.	Foster, Elias	43.
Bouton, Nathaniel	22, 28.	Fowle, Jacob	20, 36.
Brooks, Jabez	25, 41, 49.	Fox, John	42.
Brooks, John	45.	Fox, Mr.	39, 42.
Bruce, William	27.	Fox, William	35.
Burbeen, Bridget	17, 19, 20.	Franklin, Benjamin	12.
widow of J. Fowle	29.	Fowle, John	19, 41.
Burbeen, Esther	17, 19.	Foxcroft, Fra.	37, 45, 48.
Burbeen House	18, 28-29.		
Burbeen, how written	5.	Gould, Sarah	7.
Burbeen, James	7, 8, 9.	Green, Esther	17.
estate of	23, 25, 26.		
inventory	32, 37, 38, 46, 47, 49, 50.	Hartwell, Jonathan	49.
Burbeen, John	7, 8, 10, 12, 18.	Haywood, Jonathan	10.
will of	25, 26, 27, 28, 31.	Horn Pond	25.
Burbeen, Joseph	6, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 31, 42, 46, 47.	Houghton, Jonas	8.
Burbeen, Mary	8, 9, 12, 26, 44, 46, 47.	Houghton, Mary	7, 26.
Burbeen, Paul	9, 10, 11, 12.	Hutchinson, N.	29.
Burbeen, Ruth	10, 45, 46, 47, 48.		
Burbeen, Sarah	10, 12, 45, 46, 47.	Indians	13.
Burbeen, surname extinct	12.	Ireland, Shadrack	12.
Burbeen, Susannah	18.		
Burn, John	43.	Jackson, Edward	16.
		Johnson, Edward F.	6.
		Jones, Hugh	40.
Call, Samuel	49.	King, Richard	49.
Cato	28.		
Concord	13.	Londonderry	13, 14.
Converse, James	27.		
Cragin, F. H.	28.	Merrimack Intervale, Grants of	13.
Cutter, William F.	4, 29.		
		Passaconaway	13.
Dandy, Mrs.	26.	Penny Cook	11, 13, 14.
Danforth, Samuel	45, 50.		

Peirce, Benjamin	42.	Tyng, Col.	10
Pierce, Ebenezer	35		
Pierce, James	27, 35, 39, 42.	Uran, Richard	14
Pool, Esther	16, 17.		
Pool, Jonathan	16.	Walker, Betsey	21
Powers, Thomas	43.	Walker, Bridget	21
Prince	28.	Walker, Charles	6, 7, 9, 12, 16, 17, 21
Procter, Peter	43.	Walker, Clarissa	21
Proctor, Samuel	43.	Walker, Esther	21
		Walker, Joseph	21
Remington, Jona.	37, 48, 50.	Walker, Judith	15
Rogers, Robert	12.	Walker, Mary	15
Richardson, Mary	11.	Walker, Paul	21
Richardson, Noah	11.	Walker, Polly	19
Rolfe, Dr.	14.	Walker, Samuel	14
Russell, John	36, 41.	Walker, Sarah, nee Burbeen	14, 15, 21, 28
		Walker, Susannah	6, 21
Sawyer, Joshua	40, 45, 49.	Walker, Susan	21
Scotch Irish	13.	Walker, Rev. Timothy	9, 10, 13, 14
Sewall, Samuel	20, 22.	Walker, Timothy, Hon.	15, 21
Snow, Zerubbabel	44.	Whipple, Joseph	16
St. Lawrence	13.	Wiley, Esther	17
Stevens, Ebenezer	31.	Wright, Jacob	45
Stimpson, Andrew	44.	Wright, Joseph	44
Stimpson, Joseph	44.	Wyman, Benjamin	36
		Wyman, David	39, 42
Thompson, Benjamin	20.	Wyman, Esther	19
Thompson, James	22, 40.	Wyman, Jesse	19
Thompson, Leonard	6, 18, 19.	Wyman, Nathan	6
letter of	28-30.	Wyman, Randolph	19
Thompson, Samuel	19.		
Thompson, Simon	35, 44.		

**NOTES FROM THE TRANSCRIBER:** The preceding text was transcribed from a first edition copy of the subject text. While formatted for online viewing, much effort was made to preserve original formatting, including page numbers, and most formatted text. In keeping with our original design for earlyMaine.org, this file is available FREE for download for personal use only.

Everything done on earlyMaine.org is a labor of love, and while I thoroughly enjoy taking time to put information online for people's use, please consider that it takes many hours of work to put even a small text such as this online and available for people's use. If you like what we are trying to do with earlyMaine.org, and would like to help keep it moving in the right direction, please consider making a donation to our cause. Money received will go directly back into the website in order to pay for operating costs, promotional expenses, travel costs, photocopying fees, etc...

If you would like to donate to our cause, you can do so through a Paypal donation by going to <http://www.earlyMaine.org> and clicking on the "Donate Now" on the left side of the screen. If you would like to donate through money order or check, email me for the address: [brian@earlyMaine.org](mailto:brian@earlyMaine.org).

As of October 2008, we are NOT currently a non-profit organization. We ARE a group of people donating time and energy to preserving our State historical and genealogical material, as well as fostering the sharing of existing materials wherever they may be.