

While definite knowledge concerning my Simons ancestors in America begins with Wilkiam Simons Sr., found in the records of Enfield, Conn., it is probable that the first Simons of my line in this country was William Simonds, who sailed from the port of London for America, on the ship "Safety" October 20, 1635.

Media Records mention a William Simonds as being in Charlestown, Mass., in 1639. Charlestown was the first name given to the town which has since been known as Woburn, Mass. The history of Woburn on Page 637 tells of William Simonds, who settled there as early as 1644, and who died June 7, 1672.

In 1643or 44, William Simonds married Judith Hayward, widow of James Hayward, who as Judith Phippen married James Hayward when both were fellow passengers or fellow servants on board the "Planter", which sailed from London in 1635. As William Simonds sailed from London also in the year 1635, it seems quite likely that he may have known Jud~~ith~~ Phippen Hayward either before they sailed from London, or became acquanited immediately after they arrived in America.

a William Simonds and J^dith Hayward

In any event ~~the two~~ were married at Woburn either in 1643 or in 1644 and to them were born twelve children. Their fifth child, William was born April 15, 1651. Four other sons;-Caleb born 1649, Joseph 1652, Benjamin 1654 and James 1658, served as soldiers from Woburn in King Philip's War, which began June 24, 1675 and ended a year later. The four soldier sons returned to Woburn where they reared families, but there is no record of William other than of his birth.

As the War was fought in Connecticut, it seems likely that William either accompanied his brothers there, or was charmed with the stories told him of the riches of the Connecticut River valley and settled near Enfield or Hazardville, where he is listed in the records of Enfield. While the records give his birth as in 1659,