

of Dorchester, being chosen to be leften^t of Northampton, & Daudid Wilton to be their ensigne, both confirmed by the County Court, this Court orders, y^t on request of any person in their behalf, commissions be graunted to either of them, according to lawe. And it is further ordered, that the aforesd W^m Clarke shall & hereby is empowred to joyne in marriage such as shall desire the sam^e, being published according to lawe."

"Left W^m Clarke" was one of four men appointed, May 1665, as Associates of Captain John Pynchon in the magistracy, to keep the County Courts in Hampshire County. In May 1672, "On a motion made in behalfe of North Hampton & Hadley, M^r Henry Clarke for Hadley, & Leiut Willjam Clarke for Northampton, are appointed & impowred to administer oathes to wittnesses in ciuil & criminall cases in the ljmitts of their oune tounes."

Lieut. William Clarke was Deputy from Northampton to the Mass. General Court, May 1663, Aug. 1664, Apr. 1668, May 1669, May 1670, May 1671, May 1672, May and Sept. 1673, May and Oct. 1674, May 1675, May 1676, May 1677, May 1680, May 1681, and May 1682.

During King Philip's War, we read that in the Fall of 1675 twenty-six men were left at Northampton to be under command of Lieut. Clark.

His second wife was widow of Lieut. Thomas Cooper, who was killed by the Indians when Springfield was burned in 1675.

Lieut. Clark had ten children, all by his first wife, of whom William was next to the youngest. The sons John and William married sisters, daughters of Elder John Strong. John Clark was deacon of the Northampton First Church.

References

- Dorchester Town Records (4th Report, Boston Record Commissioners, 1880), pp. 37, 43, 57, 67, 70, 73, 80, 83, 88, 90, 91, 96, 97, 100, 110, 148, 170, 298, 304, 313.
 Records of the First Church at Dorchester (1891), pp. 52, 53, 54.
 Ebenezer Clapp: History of Dorchester (1859), pp. 116, 177, 179, 181.
 N. B. Shurtleff: Records of Mass. Bay, 4 (Part 2)-63, 148, 517, 72, 117, 362, 418, 449, 485, 507, 551, 561; 5-2, 15, 42, 78, 133, 266, 309, 351.
 J. R. Trumbull: History of Northampton, 1-5, 38, 107, 99, 112.
 John Clark: Records of the Descendants of Hugh Clark of Watertown, Mass. (1866), p. 5.
 G. M. Bodge: Soldiers in King Philip's War (1906), p. 152.

(CAPT.) WILLIAM² CLARK (*William*¹) born at Dorchester, Mass., 3 July 1656, died at Lebanon, Conn., 9 May 1725, in 69th yr.; married first, at Northampton, Mass., 15 July 1680, HANNAH STRONG, born at Windsor, Conn., 30 May 1659, died there 31 Jan. 1693/4, daughter of John and Abigail (Ford) Strong; married second, 31 Jan. 1694/5, MARY SMITH, born at Milford, Conn., 14 Mar. 1662, died at Lebanon, Conn., 23 Apr. 1748, in 87th yr., daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Baldwin) Smith.

William Clark of Northampton was among the soldiers who were in the Fall Fight under Capt. William Turner, May 1676; and in 1736, when a township was to be granted to the heirs of these soldiers, a claimant was William Clark of Lebanon, son of William Clark.

He bought with Josiah Dewey, 2 May 1700, of Owanecho, sachem of the Mohegans, a large tract of wilderness in Lebanon, Conn., called "The Clark and Dewey Purchase."



He was one of the early settlers in the new town of Lebanon, and immediately became prominent there. He served as Deputy to the Conn. General Assembly, May 1705, Oct. 1706, Apr. 1707, Oct. 1708, May and June 1709, May, Aug. and Oct. 1710, Oct. and Nov. 1711, May 1712, May and Oct. 1713, May and Oct. 1715, Oct. 1717, May 1718, Oct. 1719; was a member of the Governor's Council, Nov. 1719, June and Nov. 1721; Deputy again, May and Oct. 1723, and May and Oct. 1724. He was Speaker of the House in May 1723.

In Oct. 1708, "This Assembly do establish and confirm Mr. William Clark to be Captain, Mr. John Sprague to be Lieutenant, and Mr. Abell Wright to be Ensign of the first company or trainband in the town of Lebanon." Capt. Clark served as a Justice of the Peace for the County of New London, 1708 to 1724 inclusive. In May 1717 he was first appointed Justice of the Peace and Quorum, and from June 1717 through June 1724 his name appears regularly as one of the Justices in the records of the New London County Court.

He was Judge of the Probate Court, District of Windham, from May 1723 until his death two years later. In May 1724 he became a member of the committee appointed by the General Assembly to try all cases of error or equity in the Colony.

He had seven children by his first wife, of whom the youngest was Benoni, born shortly before his mother's death; there were five more children by the second wife.

References

- Dorchester Births, Marriages, and Deaths (21st Report, Boston Record Commissioners), p. 5.
 B. W. Dwight: History of the Descendants of Elder John Strong (1871), 2-1468.
 Lebanon Vital Records (original), 1-40.
 Col. Rec. Conn., 4-499; 5-2, 17, 63, 67, 69, 90, 94, 108, 142, 145, 162, 170, 219, 276, 294, 309, 364, 393, 446, 490, 509, 519, 566; 6-12, 19, 41, 44, 125, 140, 166, 178, 242, 260, 295, 318, 366, 367, 378, 379, 411, 439, 444, 456, 482.
 The American Genealogist, 12-255.
 G. M. Bodge: Soldiers in King Philip's War (1906), pp. 251, 252.
 O. D. Hine: Early Lebanon (1876), p. 151.

BENONI⁸ CLARK (*William*², *William*¹), born at Northampton, Mass., 31 Jan. 1693/4, died at Lebanon, Conn., early in 1769; married at Lebanon, 6 Nov. 1718, HANNAH ROOT, born at Lebanon, 12 May 1699, living 1769, daughter of Thomas and Sarah (Clark) Root.

The last will of Benoni Clark of Lebanon, made 11 Jan. 1762, proved 9 Mar. 1769, "being weak and infirm of Body but of sound mind and memory Thanks be given unto God," gave to "Hannah Clark my dearly Beloved wife" one-third part of all my personal estate forever, and the use of one-third of my Real Estate for life. To the heirs of his son Benony Clark deceased, viz. Thomas Clark, Gershom Clark, Jerom Clark, Jesse Clark, Ruth Clark, and Benony Clark, land in part bordering on land belonging to Joseph Clark, a brother of the testator. To sons Eleazer Clark and John Clark. "I give and Bequeath unto my seven Daughters (viz) Sarah Landfear, Hannah Collins, Miriam Allen, Martha Buckingham, Experience Downer, Sybbel Waterman and Rhoda Clark all the remainder of my Household Goods." Specific legacies were given to most of the children in subsequent clauses.