

THOMAS BLODGETT

ORIGIN: Stowmarket, Suffolk

MIGRATION: 1635 on the *Increase*

FIRST RESIDENCE: Cambridge

OCCUPATION: Glover (in England).

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP: Admission to Cambridge church prior to 3 March 1635/6 implied by freemanship.

FREEMAN: 3 March 1635/6 (as "Thomas Bloyett," twelfth in a sequence of fourteen Cambridge men) [MBCR 1:371].

EDUCATION: Signed his will. His inventory included "a Bible and other books" valued at £1 5s.

ESTATE: Thomas Blodgett purchased the house and other land of JONAS AUSTIN, probably including the propriety, at about the time of Austin's move to Hingham in 1636 [CaBOP 26, 34, 48]. On 6 February 1636/7, "Thomas Blogget" was granted two acres of swamp [CaTR 26].

In 1639 "Thomas Blogget" held three parcels of land in Cambridge: "given by the town in the West Field two acres of planting ground"; "given by the town one houselot upon the Cow Common"; and "bought of Jonas Austen two acres of planting ground in the West End" [CaBOP 59]. By 1639 "Thomas Blogget" sold to Edmund Frost "one house [with] garden [and] backside in Water Street" [CaBOP 48]; this was the house Blodgett had acquired from Jonas Austin. By 1639 "Thomas Blogget" sold to Robert Daniel "one house upon the common with garden and backside about half an acre" [CaBOP 61].

On an unknown date, "Thomas Bloged" received eight acres in the lower division on the south side of Charles River and eight acres in the upper division [CaBOP 331]. Also on an unknown date, "Thomas Bloggitt" held parcels of two acres and one acre in Fresh Pond Meadow [CaBOP 333].

In his will, dated 10 August 1641 and proved 8 March 1642/3, "Thomas Blogget" bequeathed to "my present wife Susan Blogget my whole estate after my decease as well within doors as without," she to pay to "my eldest son Daniel" £15 at age 21 or one month after her decease, to "my second son Samuel" £15 at age 21 or two months after her decease, and to "my daughter Susan" £15 at her decease; if "my children should come into the hands of a father-in-law" who did not "deal by them as is meet," then "the deacons & our brother Fessington & our brother Edward Winchship" should resolve the matter [SPR 1:21].

The inventory of the estate of "Thomas Blogget, late deceased, appraised the 28 of the 10 month [December, year not given, but apparently 1642]" and presented at court 8 March 1642/3 was untotaled; the real estate was valued at £47 10s.: "four acres planting ground," £14; "five acres meadow & marsh," £3 10s.; and "the house & yards," £30 [SPR 2:15].

On 6 January 1642/3, "Susan Bloget" held five parcels in Cambridge: "on the Common one dwelling house and outhouse with about half an acre of ground"; "in the New West Field two acres"; "in the West End two acres"; "on the south side of Charles River two acres and half of marsh"; and "in the Fresh Pond Meadow two acres & half" [CaBOP 101-2]. In 1645 "Susan Blogett" (by then married to James Thomson) was granted "three acres & half" on the west side of Menotomy River [CaBOP 130].

BIRTH: About 1605 (aged 30 in 1635 [Hotten 61]).

DEATH: Cambridge between 10 August 1641 (date of will) and 10 December 1642 (date of inventory).

MARRIAGE: By about 1627 Susanna _____. She married (2) Woburn 15 February 1643/4 JAMES THOMSON [GMB 3:1809-11]. She died at Woburn on 10 February 1660/1.

CHILDREN:

- i JOHN, b. say 1627; bur. Stowmarket, Suffolk, 4 May 1632 [Blodgett Gen 1:2].
- ii NATHANIEL, bp. Stowmarket 28 February 1628/9 [Blodgett Gen 1:2]; bur. there 8 May 1630 [Blodgett Gen 1:2].
- iii DANIEL, bp. Stowmarket 14 May 1631 [Blodgett Gen 1:2] (aged four in 1635 [Hotten 61]); m. (1) Chelmsford 15 September 1653 Mary Butterfield; m. (2) Chelmsford 10 March 1669[/70] Sarah Underwood.
- iv SAMUEL, bp. Stowmarket 12 July 1633 [Blodgett Gen 1:2] (aged 1« on 8 April 1635 [Hotten 61]); m. Woburn 13 December 1655 Ruth Eggleton [Dawes-Gates 1:285-86].
- v SUSANNA, b. Cambridge [blank] June 1637 [NEHGR 3:248]; m. Woburn 28 November 1655 Jonathan Thomson (her stepbrother), son of JAMES THOMSON.
- vi THOMAS, d. Cambridge 7 August 1639 [NEHGR 3:248].

COMMENTS: On 18 April 1635, "Tho[mas] Blogget," glover, aged 30, "uxor Suzan Bloggett," aged 37, and two children "Daniell Blogget," aged 4, and "Samuell Blogget," aged 1«, were enrolled as passengers for New England on the Increase [Hotten 61].

BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTE: In 1943 Mary Walton Ferris prepared an account of Thomas Blodgett and of his son Samuel [Dawes-Gates 1:91-92].

In 1955 Bradley DeForest Thompson and Franklin Condit Thompson published a multi-volume typescript genealogy of the Blodgett family, the first volume of which contains the information on the English origin of the immigrant [Bradley DeForest Thompson and Franklin Condit Thompson, *Blodget-Blodgett Descendants of Thomas of Cambridge*, 6 vols. and index vol. (Concord, New Hampshire, 1955), cited above as Blodgett Gen].