

Thus the line of Christopher Levett contained no near relative named Thomas. It may be that our Thomas Levet was a distant connection, but this is unlikely.

New information concerning Christopher Levett's last voyage to New England is contained in a Chancery proceeding begun in 1631 by his widow against Thomas Wright and Robert Gough of Bristol, owners of the ship *Porcupine*. The proceedings give in detail the sailing agreement and mention the grant of 6000 acres to Levett.

Concerning John Leavitt of Hingham, Mass., Mr. Sheldon Leavitt, Jr., writes that the earliest known record appears in Dorchester, Mass., where in 1634 land was granted to him by the town. In 1636 he was made a freeman of Hingham, where first a house-lot and in the course of time much other land was granted to him. His first wife (possibly, according to Pope, the Mary Lovitt of the Dorchester Church) died at Hingham 4 July 1646, and he married for his second wife, 16 Dec. 1646, Sarah, daughter of Edward Gilman, then of Hingham, Mass., and later of Exeter, N. H. For many years he was a deacon of the church at Hingham and a selectman of the town, which he represented for several sessions in the General Court. He died in 1691, leaving a will, filed in Boston, in which he calls himself "a tayler," and spells his name as above. Some of his children moved to Exeter, and became the ancestors of a distinguished family of Leavitts there, among whom was Dudley Leavitt, the compiler of an excellent Farmer's Almanac. I can find no reason for believing that any connection existed between these Leavitts and our Thomas Levet. Perhaps John Leavitt came from the Essex Levitts, for whom see the next paragraph.

The affidavit of Nathaniel and Abraham Drake (*vide supra*) has led some to believe that our Thomas Levet, like his wife Isabel Bland, came from co. Essex. In Essex there were several families of Levitts, one of which, the Levitts of Messing, had some connection with New England through the Whites. (REGISTER, vol. 55, pp. 22 *et seq.*) It may be that John Leavitt of Dorchester and Hingham came from one of these Essex lines, but a careful search of Essex wills reveals no Thomas Levet who could be our Exeter settler. Thomas Levit of Tarling died in 1631/2, leaving a son and grandson, both named Richard. William Levit of Messing died in 1626, leaving a wife Margaret and sons William, John, Richard, and Isaac. Henry Levitt of Walden died in 1635, leaving a wife Lydia and daughter Mary and other children unnamed. Robert Levett of Feering died in 1648, leaving brothers William and Thomas and sister Grissell, who had married Ralph Wharton. At Purleigh lived a John Levitt, who died in 1633, leaving a brother Thomas, a sister Susan, who married Daniel Goodwin, and a sister Mary, who married William Pond. (REGISTER, vol. 54, p. 348). This Thomas Levit died at Purleigh in 1641, leaving a wife Mary but no children. His goods were bequeathed to his sisters, Susan Goodwin and Mary Pond. Robert Levitt of Stebbing died between 1638 and 1649, leaving a son Robert, a daughter Elizabeth, who married John Clemence, and daughters Elizabeth and Mary, both unmarried. Elizabeth Levet of Theydon Gernon died in 1561, leaving a son John and a daughter Margaret. John Lovet of Little Bromley died in 1561, leaving a wife Marget, sons John, Humphrey, Henry, and Christopher, and a daughter Mary. The wills of several other Levettts are filed from 1550 to 1660, but apparently they have no bearing on our problem.