

5 **Mary** (*John*¹) was born in England in 1620. She came, with others of the family, to America in 1631, and in 1637 she was married at Ipswich to Thomas Bradbury, and removed with him to Salisbury. He died at Salisbury, March 16, 1695. Thomas Bradbury was a representative in 1651 and after. He was recorder of Norfolk Co.; town clerk of Salisbury, and was captain of a military company. His varied acquirements caused him to be elected to fill many places of honor and trust. He was a man of no mean talents; some of the records of Salisbury are in his beautiful hand-writing.

Mary (Perkins) Bradbury was one of those unfortunate people who, in the dark days of witchcraft delusion, was among the accused. She was also convicted, but by the efforts of her friends her execution was delayed, the horrid delusion passed away, and she was discharged. The papers connected with her trial, as well as those of the others, who were, some of them, more unfortunate, have been preserved, and are to be seen on the files in the Clerk of Courts Office in Salem, Mass.

Her defence in answer to the accusations of her persecutors, the testimony of her husband with that of Rev. James Allin and John Pike, her ministers, and the united testimonial of over one hundred of her neighbors and towns-people were all of no avail. These papers show her to have been a most estimable, pious and good woman, and should be recorded in her praise. We copy them from the original :

“The answer of Mary Bradbury to the charge of witchcraft or familiarity with the Devil.— I do plead not guilty. — I am wholly innocent of such wickedness through the goodness of God that hath kept me hitherto. I am the servant of Jesus Christ and have given myself up to him

as my only Lord and Saviour, and to the diligent attendance upon him in all holy ordinances, in utter contempt and defiance of the Devil & all his works as horrid and detestable ; and have endeavored accordingly to frame my life & conversation according to the rules of his holy word, and in that faith and practice resolve, by the help and assistance of God, to continue to my life's end. For the truth of what I say as to matter of practice, I humbly refer myself to my brethren and neighbors that know me, and to the searcher of all hearts for the truth & uprightness of my heart therein, human frailties & unavoidable infirmities excepted, of which I bitterly complain every day.

Mary Bradbury."

"July 28 : 1692.—Concerning my beloved wife, Mary Bradbury, this is what I have to say : We have been married fifty-five years, and she hath been a loving and faithful wife to me. Unto this day shee hath been wonderfully laborious, diligent and industrions, in her place and employment about the bringing up of our family (which hath been eleven children of our own and four grandchildren) she was both prudent and provident, of a cheerful spirit, liberal and charitable. She being now very aged and grieved under her affliction, may not be able to speak much for herself, not being so free of speech as some others may be. I hope her life and conversation have been such among her neighbours as gives a better and more real testimony of her than can be expressed by words.

Tho. Bradbury."

"Being desired to give my testimony concerning the life and conversation of Mrs. Bradbury of Salisbury among us w^{ch} is as followeth, viz : I have lived nine years at

Salisbury in the work of the ministry and now four years in the office of a pastour; to my best notice and observation of Mrs. Bradbury she hath lived according to the gospel among us, was a constant attender upon the ministry of y^e word; and all the ordinances of the gospel, full of works of charity and mercy to the siek and poor, neither have I seen or heard anything of her unbecoming the profession of the gospel. James Allin.”

“Having lived many years in Salisbury and been much conversant there, according to my best observation and notice of Mrs. Bradbury must needs affirme to what is above written, and give my oath to it if called thereto. John Pike.”

July 22: 1692.

“Concerning M^{rs} Bradburies life and conversation, We the subscribers do testifie that it was such as becometh y^e gospel, shee was a louer of y^e ministry in all appearance and a diligent attender upon Gods holy ordinances being of a curteous and peacable disposition and cariag, neither did any of us (some of whom have lived in y^e towne with her fifty yeare) ever heare or know that she ever had any difference or falling oute wth any of her neighbors, man, woman, or child — but was alwayes readie and willing to doe for them w^t lay in her power night and day, though wth hazard to her health or other danger. — more might be spoken in her cōmendation but this for the p^rsent.”

The above was signed by 117 men and women of Salisbury.

Mary (Perkins) Bradbury died in Amesbury in 1700, at the age of eighty years.

Children of Thos. and Mary (Perkins) Bradbury were :

Wymond, b. Apr. 1, 1637.
 Judith, b. Oct. 2, 1638.
 Thomas, b. Jan. 28, 1640.
 Mary, b. March 17, 1642.
 Jane, b. May 11, 1645.
 Jacob, b. June 17, 1647.
 William, b. Sept. 15, 1649.
 Elizabeth, b. Nov. 11, 1651.
 John, b. Apr. 20, 1654.
 Ann, b. Apr. 16, 1656.
 Jabez, b. June 27, 1658.

6 Jacob (*John*¹) was born in England in 1624. He married, first, Elizabeth ———; ⁷ her father's name is not known. The time of their marriage was probably in 1648; she died Feb. 12, 1665, her age being fifty-six years. He afterwards married for a second wife, Damaris Robinson, widow of Nathaniel Robinson, mariner, of Boston. She removed to Boston after the death of Jacob Perkins, and died there, leaving property by will to several children by her first husband. The date of her death was in 1716, and her age at that time was eighty years. At the time of his marriage with the widow Robinson he made a promise to support her during her life; later in life he gave all his property into the possession of his two sons, Jacob and Matthew, on condition that they support both himself and wife during their natural lives. This will appear evident from the following extract from the deed which he gave his sons Matthew and Jacob.

20 March, 1693.

I, Sargt. Jacob Perkins, sen.

"Having grown old & decrepid and not able to manage my farm, I give the other portions of my land to my

⁷ Possibly the daughter of Matthew Whipple.