

*Middleborough, East Precinct. Friday, July 5. Last Wednesday Morning, a little after Break of Day, Deceased Here, Samuel Prince Esq; one of His Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the County of Plymouth, after about 10 Days Illness of a Fever, in the 80th Year of his Age; Being born at Boston [May] 1649. and his Remains were decently Interred here this afternoon: 5 of the Justices of the County and an ancient Captain of the Town being Bearers.*

HE was the 4th Son of Mr. John Prince Ruling Elder of the Church of Hull in N. w. England, who was the eldest Son of the Rev. Mr. John Prince Rector of East Shefford in Berkshire in England, in the Reign of K James I. and K Charles I. Of whom there was this Remarkable—That tho' He was one of the Conforming Puritans of those Days, who greatly long'd for a farther R-formation, and had Married Elizabeth a Daughter of Dr. Tolderbury D. D. of Oxford, by whom He had 4 Sons and 7 Daughters that all grew up; yet every one of the Children proved Conscientious Nonconformists even while their Parents lived, but without any Breach of Amity or Affection. And thus they continued pretty near together till the furious and cruel Arch Bishop Laud dispers'd them, and drove their eldest Son with so many others into this Country in the Early times of the Massachusetts Colony. Where, though He was a young Gentleman of a liberal Education, having studied at the University of Oxford 2 or 3 Years; yet thinking He had not made sufficient Progress in Learning for the Ministry, He applied Himself to Husbandry, Married Mrs. Alice Honor, by whom He had 7 Sons and 2 Daughters, and Died August 16. 1676 in the 66th Year of his Age, greatly lamented. The Sons as they grew up, took to Sea. John the eldest died at Hull, Joseph at Quebeck, Job was lost in the Channel of England, Benjamin died at Jamaica, Isaac at Boston, and Thomas the youngest, at Barbadoes.

Samuel, first liv'd at Hull: In 1674 Married Martha a Daughter of Mr. William Barstow of Scituate, and by Her had 3 Sons and 2 Daughters. He first went a Coasting, and then applied Himself to Domestic Trade and Merchandize. In 1686, He Married Mercy a Daughter of the late Honourable Thomas Hinckley Esq, Governour of Plymouth Colony, Removed to Sandwich, and by Her had 7 Sons and 3 Daughters there. Of the first Wife, one Daughter only now survives, Married to Ezra Bourn Esq; of Sandwich: of the 2d, the 3 Daughters and 4 of the Sons with their Mother survive Him; and there are Thirty of his Offspring now living. In 1710 He remov'd to Rochester, where the chief Part of his Estate lay; and for these 2 Towns successively, has serv'd as Representative in the Great and General Court since the Revolution 19 times; and was oftener chosen, when He excus'd Himself from serving. He was healthy and strong in Body, of a vigorous and active Spirit, of a thoughtful and penetrating Mind, religious from his Youth, much improv'd in Scripture Knowledge, esteem'd for his Abilities and Gifts, and especially his Powers of arguing: a zealous Lover and Asserter of the New english Principles & Liberties, with Charity to others: of a Public Spirit, of an open Heart, of an instructive Conversation, of strict Integrity: a very affectionate Husband and Father: in his former Years, pretty severe in Governing his Family; of later, rul'd them with great Ease & Gentleness. In 1713. He came with his Consort to sojourn under the Roof of the Rev. Mr. Thacher Pastor of this Precinct, who is Married to one of their Daughters, and Here He made his Exit. He died in Hope of a Glorious Resurrection. He had the Quickness of his Senses and Apprehension to a few Hours before He expired. And as He used to express his Desire to have his Body laid with that of his dear son Enoch, an extraordinary pious knowing and industrious Youth, who coming over on a visit died Here on August 31. 1713. Aet. 23. It was laid by the side of that of his beloved Son, between and under the shade of: pretty tall Oaks at the Western End of the New Burying Place to Sleep together in the same large Grave.