

CONCERNING THE HOLYOKE FAMILY.

Captain Elizur Holyoke married Mary, youngest daughter of William Pynchon, the pioneer of the Springfield colony, Nov. 20, A. D. 1640. She died Oct. 26, 1657.

Capt. Holyoke afterwards married a Mrs. John Maynard, already twice a widow.

He died Feb. 5, 1676, a few months after the burning of Springfield.

In the old burying ground at the foot of Elm street the remains of the Pynchon families were interred from time immemorial—all within a spot of perhaps three rods square, and within this space stood the double head-stone, now in the Pynchon lot in the new cemetery. The writer superintended the removal of these remains in the year 1849.

Beneath this stone, and deep in the white sand, on the banks of the Connecticut river, were found the remains of two lying side by side, with no others in close proximity. Is it too much to conjecture that these were the remains of Elizur and Mary Holyoke? Is it not natural that Mr. Holyoke's last wife should have been buried by the side of one of her former husbands, rather than within the Pynchon grounds; that he should have erected the double head-stone to his *first* wife after her death, and, dying afterwards, was laid by the side of *her* who was the wife of his early love—the mother of all his children—by the side of the Pynchon family, *with whom and by the side of whom* he had lived, from early manhood,* all the years

* Holyoke's homestead extended from what is now Bridge street to Worthington street, and went to the river. Pynchon's homestead lay next north, extending nearly to the railroad, and on this land stood the fort.