

In the first legal town meeting of Douglas he was chosen chairman of the Selectmen. This was Jan. 8, 1746-47. I presume he lived there some years before the town was incorporated, which was in 1746. It had before that been called "New Sherburn" or "New Sherburn Grant."

"Samuel Dudley, Esq.," says the town history of Sutton, Mass., "removed to Douglas, where he died at the age of 109 years. His descendants have been remarkable for longevity, and some of them for their honorable positions in society."

The Dudley farm at Sutton, where Samuel, Esq., first settled in 1725, was on the county road between Millbury and Wilkinsons-ville. He built a house there upon the site of the Geo. Dudley residence, and occupied it for a long time, "until his death." These are the words used, but they seem inconsistent with the above statement that he removed to Douglas.

Samuel Dudley, Esq., first appears to be mentioned in the Town Records May 31, 1726, as the purchaser of land from the Proprietors; and he often bought more land afterwards, so that in 1740 he was one of the chief land owners in town. He was a Justice of the Peace and a man of prominence and influence.

This Samuel Dudley, Esq., son of Francis of Concord, Mass., was first Selectman of Douglas in 1746 and in 1747. His son William Dudley had lived at Douglas a long time before this date,

*Wm Dudley* (his autograph.)

Samuel, Esq., was chosen Town Clerk, March 14, 1748. He was chairman of a committee chosen Sept. 12, 1749, to glaze the meeting-house and "lay the flouers &c." He was moderator of the Town Meeting, Dec. 20, 1750, also one of the Assessors that year.

At the last date it is recorded that "Sam<sup>l</sup> Dudley Esq<sup>r</sup>." was allowed by the District the following accounts for buying the glass to glaze the meeting-house: "£2: 2<sup>s</sup>: 8<sup>d</sup>: L: M." (lawful money), and for going to the General Court to get Draper's and Mordock's farms laid to Douglass, £3: 4<sup>s</sup>: 0<sup>d</sup>: L: M. For shingles to shingle the meeting house, £0: 16<sup>s</sup>: 0<sup>d</sup>: L: M. He was Sealer of Weights and Measures, and sworn. Also March 12, 1749-50, he was on a committee to provide a school.

All this is recorded in his plain hand writing, and much more of similar import. He was on many committees. He was not