

THE MULFORD FAMILY<sup>1</sup>

Away to the eastward on Long Island is a region where the waves roll in with unbroken force to the silent and thinly populated shore, and where with diapason roar the wintry blasts from the ocean sweep in to howl and whistle over the wild waves. Here, to this wilderness, in 1649, came a band of pioneers and founded the old, quaint, traditional East Hampton. The majority came from Salem and Lynn, Mass., via Connecticut, to Long Island, and the land was purchased, of the aborigines, from this place as far east as Montauk, for £30 4s. 8d. sterling.

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Among these pioneers were Judge John Mulford and his brother William. They came to Long Island from Salem, Mass. \* \* \* John and William Mulford, brothers, probably from Devonshire, England, where the name is often spelled Molford, settled in Southampton, Long Island, going there via Connecticut, of which colony it was then a part. By the records of Southampton, published 1874, vol. I., page 29, May 29, 1643, "it was ordered that John Mulford shall have two acres of land on the plain." On page 55, sold his house in Southampton, February 8, 1648 and in that or the following year was one of the nine persons who settled Easthampton; his name appears many times in the Council Minutes of Connecticut, vols. II., IV., VI., and he was commissioned Judge in 1674. In attending to the town affairs, keeping peace with the Indians, representing the eastern towns in Hartford, and afterwards in New York, he was the foremost man until his death in 1686, *act.* 80. \* \* \*

## DESCENDANTS OF WILLIAM MULFORD

1. WILLIAM MULFORD, as before stated, was one of the first settlers of Easthampton, L. I., 1649. His name appears on the "Town Records" of Southampton, L. I., in 1645, which town was settled a few years before Easthampton. Unlike his brother, he seems to have taken no part in the government of the colony, but appears to have turned his attention to agriculture. His name appears on the "Estimate of Easthampton," dated "September ye 8th," 1683. He [was born 1620], and married Sarah [Akers, daughter of Thomas and Priscilla Akers]. His demise occurred in March, 1687.

<sup>1</sup> Pages 15-16 are taken, with the kind permission of the author, from the "Mulford genealogy" by Wm. R. Mulford, in the "New England Historical and Genealogical Register" for April, 1880. The same article contains an account of some of the descendants of Judge John Mulford by Robert L. Mulford of Mt. Vernon, N. Y. Additions to the text of this article are made in brackets.