

Vineyard power of attorney it is "Levit." In the testimony in *Drake v. Colcord*, 1676, and a jury verdict of 1680 it is "Levet," and so distinctly in the wills of both Thomas and Isabel. In the Hampton petition of 1649 it was probably also "Levet"; a copy of this petition is in the Massachusetts Archives, and in it the scrivener has spelled the name "Livet."

In 1647, when Wheelwright was called to the Hampton church, Thomas Levet was already there. He lived in Hampton until his death in 1696, a quiet, useful citizen, seldom prominent in town matters. He was perhaps a tanner, though the only deed from him in the old records describes him as a "planter." He appears in 1654 with Robert Smith as an appraiser of the estate of George Haborne or Rabone, who was one of the Wheelwright group and probably a Lincolnshire man. In 1657 Thomas Levet and Godfrey Dearborn witnessed the will of Susan, widow of George Haborne and then the wife of Thomas Leader of Boston. Dearborn, who followed Levet from Exeter to Hampton, was a Lincolnshire man. (REGISTER, vol. 60, p. 308.) Levet's stepdaughter Isabel married Philip Towle,* who came to Hampton when Wheelwright was there.

Thomas Levet served as selectman of Hampton in 1657 and 1667, and was constable in 1664. He served on several juries, and took the oath of allegiance to Massachusetts in 1678. He was "freed from Training" in 1681, probably on account of age or disability. In 1683, with eighteen others, he signed a petition that their poll-tax be abated, because of old age, "many about seventy, some above eighty, others near ninety, being past labour and work." In 1685 he signed Weare's petition against Cranfield. The Dukes County records show a power of attorney dated 16 Apr. 1691 from Thomas and Isabel Levet to their son John, authorizing him to deal with Isabel's share of the Bland estates in Martha's Vineyard. Apparently some dispute between John Levet and another coheir, Elias, son of Philip Watson, was settled by a division in 1699. John Levet's name in subsequent conveyances of the Vineyard land is spelled "Levit," "Lovet," and "Leavit." Thomas Levet died 28 Nov. 1696, "aged about eighty," the town record says, and his will and inventory are on file at Concord, N. H. (Probate Records, vol. 2, p. 26, and vol. 3, p. 125.) An abstract of his will, dated 9 July 1692, is as follows:

To loving wife the thirds of all lands and meadows, etc., with housing convenient during her life. To wife two cows, two swine, three sheep, my brass and puter, the thirds of all my corn. To son Hezron Levet 100 acres at the new plantation, £20 formerly given him, and 5s. after my decease. To Hezron's son Thomas Levet £10, to be paid him at the age of one and twenty. Residue of lands and housing to sons Aretas and John Levet equally, John to divide and Aretas to choose. To son Aretas all in his house and half the wedges, half the cross cut saw, and half the tools about husbandry, with his house that he now lives in. To son [John] Levet the other half the tools mentioned with all carpenter tools and his house and ground. To son James Levet £10. To three daughters, Isabella Towle, Jemima Knowles, and Kezla Tucker, 5s. apiece. Executors: wife and son John Levet. Witnesses: Abraham Drake, Senr., Abraham Drake, Junr., Robert Drake.

Inventory, £210.1.0, includes all buildings, housing, barn, and house-lot containing 10 acres. 15 acres upland. 25 acres mead and marsh. 5 acres upland and swamp. 4 shares commonage. 60 acres in the North Division. 100 acres in New Plantation. Appraised by Abr. Drake, Senr., and John Smith.

* Towle was probably a Lincolnshire man, perhaps from Habrough. Many Towles wills are filed at Lincoln, but they throw no light on his ancestry. Several Towles are still living in Lincolnshire.

† The old record is torn here, so that it cannot be definitely stated whether it says "above" or "about."