

farmer, and had, in a short time, wrested part of his land from the grasp of the forest and reduced it to a condition of tillage, by the following extract from the Colonial Records :

"Newhaven, August 9th. 1711. The Colony of Connecticut is debtor to sundry persons in money, as followeth, that is to say . . . To Mr. Alexander Russigue of Norwalk, for 40 bushels wheat taken out of Mr. Jno Williams' sloop at New Haven, at 4s. 6d. per bushel. 9. 0. 0."

Until his death he evidently pursued the even tenor of his way as a private citizen and pioneer farmer, holding no office, and probably wanting none, and leaving but little trace of his life save the record of his possessions. He died in October, 1752. His wife survived him until May, 1757. The place of their sepulchre is unknown, but it was probably in the old cemetery in the southern part of Ridgefield, in which but two ancient stones remain to mark the spot where many lie interred. The following is the will of Alexander Resseguie :

"In the name of God, Amen. I, Alexander Resseguie, formerly of Ridgefield, now of Norwalk in ye County of Fairfield and Colony of Connecticut, being weak of body but of a disposing mind and memory, praised be God; calling to mind ye mortality of my body, and yt is appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain this my last will and testament. That is to say principally and first of all I give and bequeath my soul to God who gave it; and my body I recommend to be decently buried at ye discretion of my execrs hereafter named, nothing doubting but at ye generall ressurection I shall receive ye same again by ye mighty power of God to bless me within this life. I give, demise and dispose of ye same as followeth, my just debts and funcrall charges being first paid :

I give and bequeath to well beloved wife Sarah, ye use & improvement of ye one-half part of my house & barn and homlot, said building standing or lying in ye southerly part of Ridgfield Town, during ye terme or time she shall remain my widow.

ITEM. I give and bequeath unto my loving sons Alexander, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, all my land and reall estate that I shall die possessed of or have any right to; except what I have before given away by deed of gift to them and their heirs and assigns forever, to be equally divided amongst them my said four sons.

Lastly, I do hereby appoint, constitute and fully impower my well beloved wife Sarah to be my executrix, together with my loving son Alexander Resse-

chased a large tract between that town and Danbury. The purchase was made of Catoonah, the chief sachem, and other Indians, who were the proprietors of that part of the country. The deed bears date Sept. 30, 1708. At this session (1709) it was ordained that it should be a distinct township, by the name of Ridgefield."—*History of Connecticut*, by Benj. Trumbull, D.D., Vol. I., page 460.