

these and the unsettled years immediately following the war, made no effort to sell or settle their lands. 1650-1722

In 1730, however, their energy was renewed, a new survey made, and in 1731 deeds were entered of record by those who had retained their homes.

Topsham had forty-five such entries, and among them appears the name of William Alexander. His farm, consisting of one hundred acres, was on the Cathance river, being a portion of the lands purchased of Hutchinson by Robert Temple. Under the terms published by the Pejepscot company, it cost him £25, or \$1.25 per acre, provided a house was built within one year and the lands were improved for three years. It could be paid for in wood or timber ready for shipment to Boston.

From this brief statement of the history of land settlements in Topsham it is evident that William Alexander must have come to this country prior to 1722, while the location of his farm upon the Temple lands indicates that he arrived in 1719 in one of the "five large ships" chartered by Robert Temple for immigration purposes. The land then acquired by these settlers could not, under the terms of purchase, have been entered of record