

THE CONNECTICUT DUDLEYS.

Rev. Dr. David Dudley Field wrote me from his home in Higganum, Ct., July 2, 1849, as follows :

Mr. Dean Dudley, Respected Sir,

Your letter of the 23rd ult. requested me to inform you what discoveries I made in England last year, respecting "the Genealogies of the Dudleys there."

I found that Thomas Court of Wednesbury, Staffordshire, potter, by his will dated Feb. 9, 1780, devised to his son Thomas Court of Tipton, Staffordshire, laborer, all that messuage, field and garden and building thereon (of which he was then seized in fee) situated in West Bromwich, and then occupied by Francis Cleusson, to hold to his son *for life*, with remainder to Mary Dudley, wife of Geoffrey Dudley of Wednesbury, Staffordshire, collier, for life, remainder unto all her children at her decease, equally; and the testator appointed Wm. Kendrick and George Watkins, executors of his will, he dying in 1780. Thomas Court (the son) died in 1793. Mary Dudley died in 1827, leaving seven children.****

I am maternally descended from Wm. Dudley, one of the first settlers of Guilford, Ct. When in England I found that Wm. Dudley was married to Jane Lutman, Aug. 24, 1636. The marriage is recorded in the Church Records of the Parish of Ockley in the County of Surrey, at a time when the Rev. Henry Whitfield was Rector of Ockley. The record does not call either Wm. or his wife "of Ockley." Soon after Mr. Whitfield left Ockley, came to America with quite a number of emigrants, and settled Guilford, Ct. Wm. Dudley and Jane (Lutman), his wife, lived and died in Guilford.

The descendants of Wm. Dudley by his sons, Wm. and Joseph, are very numerous. There is a tradition among the Guilford Dudleys, that their ancestor (the first Wm.) was a relative to Thomas Dudley of Massachusetts.

They may have been remotely connected, though of this I have no certain evidence.

Mr. H. G. Somerby went to England before I did and was employed by some of the Guilford Dudleys to look up their ancestors in the fatherland. The result of Mr. Somerby's labors was sent to me before I left England, and now I send it to you." [The Heralds' Visitations of Bedfordshire, Durham, &c., came from Dr. Field to