

The sons were John and Samuel. John was born in 1599, being thirteen years old at his death. Samuel was but an infant of eight months. His wife's name was Frances Darbye, to whom he was married in 1593.

The Wightmans of the south, of whom the late Rev. William May Wightman, Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, may be mentioned, was a conspicuous member of the same general family.

GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

(First American Wightman).

It is impossible to trace all the descendants of Edward Wightman, but one fact at least is regarded as settled, viz., that George Wightman was the son of John, and grandson of the martyr. He was born in 1632, and came to America about the year 1657. He settled in North Kingston, in what was then called the "Providence Plantation Colony of Rhode Island." His motives for leaving England do not seem to be clear. As he seems to have been possessed of considerable material wealth, it would seem that it was not for material gain that he came to Rhode Island. The time of his immigration was during the Cromwell's Protectorate, and perhaps the disturbed condition of political and religious affairs in England had something to do with his removal. His will, a very interesting document, is still in the possession of the family, but need not here be re-produced. He makes many bequests of farms and money to his children and others, among which was "twenty shillings to buy wine for the congregation to celebrate the Lord's Supper." Also an old Bible is mentioned, which he "brought out of England," and is still in existence. He married his wife, Elizabeth Updike, in Rhode Island.