**EMORY**John Emory

1598-1683

John Emory was born 26 September 1598 in Romsey, Hampshire, England, the son of John and Agnes Emory. He was christened at St.Mary & Ethelfri, Romsey, Hampshire, England.

On 26 June 1621, John married Alice Grantham, the daughter of Andrew Grantham, in England. John and Alice had five children in England, and, then, with his brother Anthony and other relitives and friends, he and Alice sailed from Southampton April 3, 1635, in the ship James, William Cooper, Master, and landed in Boston June 3, 1635.

John Emory settled at Newberry soon after landing in thsi country. He and his wife werre among the original settlers of the new town of Newberry, MA. At the end of Cottage Street in Newberry is a marker commemorating the landing place of the original settlers of Newberry. He was given a grant of land on the southerly side of the main road leadinng to what is now the bridge over Parker River, a short distance above the Lower Green of Old town. He soon became one of the leeders of the young community. He believed in defending what was right, and got in trouble with the law on several occasions becuse of his strong beliefs.

The first record found of him is that on December 22, 1637, he was fined twenty shilings for enclosing ground not laid out or owned by the town, contrary to the town's order. He undoubtedly considered that he had a right to enclose that particuliar piece of ground, and, such being the case, the town's order would not have fazed him in the least. In 1638, the town granted him that part of ground which he had already enclosed.

John was a carpentar and owned a shop where many fine pieces of furniture were manufactured. A chest of drawers originally owned by John and Margaret Staniford of Ipswich, Massachusetts, was produced by the Emory shop. The techniques and stylistic features are similar to a West Country (England) tradition of furniture making which in turn was derived from an earlier French/Flemish furniture making traditon of the 16th century.

In 1641 he was admitted as a freeman. In 1642 he was one of a committee to make a valuation in referance to the removal of the inhabitants to "the new towne. " Around 1643, in the famous ecclesiastical difficulties, John Emory was a member of the Woodman party. In 1645 he was assigned a lot in the new towne "joyning Cross Street," which, however, apparently he never occupied.

On December 18, 1645, a committee of seven was appointed by the town at a public meeting "for to procure a water mill for to be built and set up in said towne of Newberry to grind theyr corne," and John Emory and Samuel Scullard were given twenty pounds in merchantable pay and ten acres of upland and six acres of meadow, free of all rates for the first seven years, "they on their part agreeing to sett up said mill ready for the towns use to grind the town's grists, at or before the twenty ninth of September, 1646." The mill appears to have been built at "the little River" and operated by John Emory, whose son John followed him as miller on the Artichoke.

In 1646, he was fined for his attentions to Bridget, the wife of Henry Travers, and wass bound not to frequent her company. This bond was discharged in 1647.

John’s wife Alice died in 1649, and on 29 October 1650, in Newberry, Essex, Massachusetts, John married Mary Shatswell, the widow of John Webster. They had nine children between 1651 and 1658, and Mary died in 1658.

In 1654 John sined a petition, presented to the General Court, ernestly entreating the magistrates to remit the punishment they imposed on Lt. Robert Pike, who had denounced a law they had passed. This petition made the court very angry, and so most of the signers apologized. However, John Emory of Newberry, and nine others insisted on the right of petition and would not apologize. Therefore, they were required to give bonds and "answers for their offense before the County Courts." The General Court chose a committee to call the signers of the Pike petitions from the several towns together to ascertain their reasons for signing the petition. The committee visited the towns and held sessions, calling upon the offenders to appear before them and justify their conduct. John insisted on his right to petition and would not back down.

In 1661, John was chosen as a selectman and a town officer.

In 1663, John again was in court. He was accused of entertaining travelers and Quakers. The Court fined him 4 pounds, costs and fees for entertaining strangers. The court document said that John had entertaned two Quackers and had even fed them supper and let them sleep at his hoose. John petitioned the General Court for the remission of his fine. His petition was signed by the selectmen of the town and 50 of the citizens. However, the fine was not remitted.

He continued to be active in civic affairs up until his death in 1680, at the age of 83. He was a fence viewer, served on the grand jury, was a juror, and was a member of the Newberry Church. He took the Oath of Allegiance in Newberry in 1678.

Off of highway 1A in Newberry, past "The Green" on the west side of the road is the old "Burial Ground" which includes a headstone plased there in recent times "In Memory Of" John Emory. Next to the burying ground is "Emory Field" which was one of the original Emory properties.