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Townsend Ancestry of Richard of the Welcome, John of Philadelphia, Joseph of Chester County, and Joan of Chester County

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John Townsend was born in Bucklebury, Berkshire, on 9 April 1656. He was buried in Philadelphia, on 17 June 1727. He married first Elizabeth \_\_\_\_\_, who was buried on 8 12th month [February] 1690[1].

He married secondly, at Oare, Berkshire, on 8 2nd month [April] 1694, Elizabeth Pococke of Hampstead Norris, daughter of Edward Pococke. She is apparently the Elizabeth, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth (\_\_\_\_\_) Pococke who was baptised at Hampstead Norris on 22 December 1678. The proposed marriage caused concern among the Quakers of the Newbury Monthly Meeting:

- 16 11th m [January] 1693[1/4]: John Tounsend, of the Parish of Bucklebury, carpenter, and Elizabeth Pococke, daughter of Edward Pococke, of the Parish of Hampstead Noris, appeared in our meeting and declared their intention of marriage; and it was of some concern to Friends, and Friends counsiel them to defer it till another monthly Meeting, and then to bring their Relations with them befor they proceed any further, because Friends was not well satisfied with their Proceedings.
- 20 1st m [March] 169[3/4]: John Tounsen and Elizabeth Pocke aforsaid appeared in our meeting the 2nd time, and declared their intentions of Marriage with each other, and Friends hath made inquire concerning their clearness from all others in that concern and Friends finds nothing whereby to obstruct them. So Friends hath left them to accomplish their saide intention of Marrison when they see good.

The reason for concern is not stated, but the only Elizabeth Pococke, daughter of Edward, baptized at Hamptsead Norris at any time close to appropriate was the one baptized on 22 December 1678. It would seem, then, that John Townsend was about 38 at his second marriage, while Elizabeth was 15 – reason enough to be concerned.

The marriage certificate was signed first by the married couple, John "Townsen" and Elizabeth Townsen, followed by [his mother] Joan Townsen; in the same column are [his brother-in-law] Richard Higes and her [sister?] Mary Pococke.