

JABEZ HAMLIN, ninth and youngest child of Judge John Hamlin, and grandson of the Hon. Giles Hamlin, the first of the name in Connecticut, and one of the earliest settlers in Middletown, was born in that town, July 28, 1709. His mother was Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. Nathaniel Collins (Harv. 1660), the first minister of Middletown. In the order of family station, he led his College class.

He settled in his native place, and as early as 1731 served as deputy in the General Assembly,—a position which he occupied during sixty-five sessions between this date and 1773; in some of the later sessions he was Speaker of the House. He was also a member of the Governor's Council, or Upper House, from 1758 to 1766 (when his sympathy with the course of Governor Fitch cost him his place), and from 1773 to 1785. In 1752, when Middletown was made a distinct Probate District, he was appointed Judge, and held the office until 1789. He was also Judge of the Hartford County Court for thirty years from 1754. In the Revolution he was an active member of the Council of Safety. In the Militia he reached the rank of Colonel.

In Middletown he was by common consent the leading civilian, and when the city was incorporated in 1784, he was elected mayor, and held the office till his death, though having offered his resignation, and for the last three or four years, owing to lameness and other infirmities, being obliged to delegate to subordinates the most of the duties.

He was one of the deacons of the Congregational Church from February, 1754, to his death, which occurred on the 25th of April, 1791, in his 82d year.

He possessed, says Dr. Field, who was settled in the adjoining parish in 1803, "a well balanced mind, unusual sweetness and uniformity of temper, and courtliness of manners." A Discourse occasioned by his death was published (Middletown, 1791, 8^o, pp. 24) by his pastor, the Rev. Enoch Huntington (Y. C. 1759): it commends "his

uncommonly benign, happy natural temper," and his "enlarged, liberal, philanthropic mind."

He married, November 19, 1729, Mary, daughter of the Hon. Christopher Christophers, Jr., of New London, who died April 3, 1736, in her 22d year. He next married, December 6, 1736, Margaret, daughter of Captain George Phillips, of Middletown, who died September 6, 1748. He married thirdly, April 5, 1749, Abigail, third daughter of the Rev. Nathaniel Chauncey (Y. C. 1702), of Durham; she was born October 2, 1717, and died November 3, 1768.

He was again married, April 2, 1771, to Susannah, daughter of Roger Newton, Jr., and widow of the Rev. Samuel Whittelsey (Y. C. 1729), of Milford. She survived him, dying May 9, 1803, in her 88th year.

By his first marriage he had four children, of whom two daughters survived him; by his second marriage, two sons who died young; and by his third marriage, one son, who was graduated here in 1769, and died in 1776, and two daughters, of whom only one survived him.

AUTHORITIES.

Chauncey Memorials, III. Dwight Conn. in War of the Revol., *passim*.
Genealogy, i, 505. *Field*, Statistical *Kendall*, Travels through the U. S., i,
Account of Middlesex County, 50; and 145. *Savage*, Geneal. Dict., ii, 344.
Centennial Address, 53-4, 167, 287-8. *F. F. Starr*, MS. Letter, June 2, 1883.
Hazen, Discourse on the History of the Strong Family, ii, 1288.
Hinman,

SAMUEL HEATON, son of Nathaniel Heaton, and grandson of James and Sarah (Street) Heaton (or Eaton), was born in New Haven, December 9, 1709.

He studied theology, and had begun to preach at North Castle (about six miles from White Plains), Westchester County, New York, when he was licensed to preach, May 28, 1734, by the New Haven Association of Ministers, "having first made his acknowledgment and submission to this Association for his irregular conduct in preaching without examination and the approbation of the Association."