

Edward was on the second list of purchasers of land at Taunton and subscribed to the Iron Works there in October 1652. He was a proprietor in 1660, holding land in the South Purchase, now Berkley.

Of his death the story is told that he and his family, with the other settlers, were called into the blockhouse at Taunton for safety against the bands of Indians who were roaming the country. Some time after arriving at the fort, the Bobet family discovered that they had forgotten a cheese hoop, apparently a most essential piece of equipment. Edward, taking his dog along to warn him of any danger, went back for it. He heard (so it is told) Indians approaching and climbed a tree to get out of danger, whereupon his faithful dog sat under the tree and howled, pointing him out inescapably. It is said that his body was found the next day with the cheese hoop beside it. His inventory showed an estate of £ 302 58 18.

Children (all born at Taunton):

- i. Edward, b. 15 July 1655
- ii. Sarah, b. 20 March 1658
- iii. Hannah, b. 9 March 1660
- iv. Damaris, b. 15 September 1663
2. v. ELKANAH, b. 15 December 1665
- vi. Dorcas, b. 20 January 1667; d. 9 April 1674
- vii. Esther, b. 15 April 1669
- viii. Ruth, b. 7 August 1671
- ix. Deliverance, b. 15 December 1673

2. ELKANAH² BABBIT, son of Edward and Sarah (Tarne) Babbitt, was born at Taunton 15 December 1665 and died in that part of the settlement known as Dighton about 1735.

He married at Taunton (or Berkley) 25 June 1689 Elizabeth Briggs. The Babbitt Family History (1912) calls her the daughter of William and Sarah (Macomber) Briggs, but, in The American Genealogist, Vol. 33, pp. 83ff, she is called the daughter of Jonathan and Experience (perhaps Harvey) Briggs, and this is concurred in by Edna Anne Hannibal in Clement Briggs of Plymouth Colony and His Descendants (1966). The magazine article states, in part:

"Although there is no direct proof that Jonathan and Experience Briggs had a daughter Elizabeth, the will of Nathaniel Briggs names a sister Hopestill and calls Damaris Babbitt, daughter of Elkanah, his cousin (often used for nephew or niece), so the only logical conclusion is that Elizabeth (Briggs) Babbitt was daughter of Jonathan Briggs."

As the daughter of Jonathan and Experience Briggs, Elizabeth was probably born at Taunton about 1666. No date has been found for her death.

Children (born at Berkley):

- i. Elkanah, b. 22 April 1690
- ii. Damaris, b. 18 June 1691
- iii. Dorcas, b. 12 August 1693
- iv. HOPESTILL, b. 11 September 1695; m. James Phillips (q.v.)
- v. Elizabeth, b. 6 March 1698
- vi. Mercy, b. 30 December 1699; d.y.