

He seems always to have been much interested in educational matters. November 20, 1660, he was appointed on a committee "to consider what way may be best for ye caring and end of a free schole."

p. 132.

March 14, 1660-1, the Court "haveing heard the case respecting Jeremie and John Adams and EDWARD STEBBING, respecting the sale of ye Homelot of Thomas Greenhill, at Hartford, doe sentence and conclude, that ye said sale of yt lot by EDWARD STEBBING to Mr. Goodwin is a legal sale: the sale being acknowledged by EDWARD STEBBIN in open Court."

Colonial Records of Ct. 1 p. 362.

He was a man in whom the people ever placed great confidence; and he was frequently asked to settle the estates, and care for the widows and children of his neighbors. While he appears to have been somewhat aggressive, most of his legal controversies were for the benefit of others rather than himself. In 1662 he was appointed administrator of the personal estate of Mrs. Dorothy Chester, and was to pay the debts, the remainder to be at his disposal.

Trumbull's Hist. of Hartford Co. Ct. p. 234. Hinman's Puritan Settlers p. 162.

On the decease of Governor Hopkins, MR. STEBBINS was appointed one of the trustees to dispose of his estate.

"At a session of the Generall Assembly at Hartford, [October] the 8th, 1663," it was recorded that, "This Court doth approve of DEACON STEBBING and Lut Tho: Bull paying what doth [appear] to be due from Mr. Hopkins estate to Mr. Bournes and Mr. Dallye with what [] eney may bee."

It is recorded January 18, 1663-4, that "DEACON EDWARD STEBBING and Lu't Thomas Bull doe engage themselves to pay unto the comittee of the towne of Hartford the sume of fower hundred pounds out of Mr. Hopkins estate in currant pay, this spring, to be improved by the sayd comittee in the towne of Hartford, for promoteing of learning according to the will of o'r honoured freind Mr. Hopkins." December 3, 1664, "MR. EDW. STEBBING" was appointed a trustee for the "Worshipfull Mr. Edw. Hopkins fund of four hundred pounds," and other funds "to bee employed in this Towne for the promoteing of Learning."

Colonial Records of Ct. XV p. 543.

Conn. Historical Socy Collections VI p. 144.

He continued as deacon of the church until his death. No dignity, except that of the minister, equaled the office of elder or deacon in colonial times. DEACON STEBBINS is frequently mentioned as a man of note, and of more than ordinary worldly possessions. His cattle mark was "a slitt downe the top of both eares." In addition to the ones already noted, he held numerous offices, and administered various estates, etc. His name was placed on the monument erected by the Ancient Burying Ground Association of Hartford, in memory of the First Settlers.

Hinman's Puritan Settlers p. 162.

Comparatively little is known of his wife. Her name appears first in the list of sisters in full communion with the Second Church of Hartford, in 1670. There is a tradition that she was a woman of such dignity and godliness and that, as a tribute to her worth, her name was given the place of honor on the church roll, preceding even that of the wife of the minister. Her will, dated November 12, 1673, is given below.

Talcott's N. Y. & N. E. Family p. 569.

The exact date of death of DEACON EDWARD STEBBINS is not known; he probably died in 1668, as his son-in-law, Thomas Cadwell, mentions in his will that his wife Elizabeth "was the only child living of" EDWARD STEB-