



My forgotten folks this time were eight men, women and children who fell victims to the small pox epidemic that raged in Plympton and East Middleboro in the years 1777 and 1778. A small group, Eugene A. Wright among them, were talking of neglected cemeteries when Mr. Wright called our attention to a small pox cemetery in Plympton which he suspected few people, even in Plympton, are aware of, and he volunteered to act as a guide if we wished to see the cemetery. Accordingly when the opportunity presented itself we called for our guide and took to the woods. Mr. Wright had not seen the cemetery for years and in the mean time changes had taken place; tracts had been cut with the debris scattered over the ground; on other tracts trees had grown, while around the headstones trees and underbrush had almost hidden them from view, and we combed quite an area off at least two streets before our guide succeeded in locating the spot. The spot was an open field when the burials were made there. The headstones of the slate variety are fast deteriorating and a few years more they will be beyond recall. However this is not vital as the deaths are found in the vital records of Plympton and the cemetery itself, with its old time headstones is all we need consider.

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The late John Sherman, always interested in Plympton history copied the inscriptions thirty years ago and from his list I give the names of those buried there. From North to South, they read:  
 1—In memory of Mrs. Anna, wife of Mr. Thomas Cushman. She died with the small pox Jan. 14, 1778, in the 49th year of her age.

2—In memory of Mrs. Kesiah, wife of Mr. Job Cushman. She died Dec. 13, 1777 in the 28th year of her age with the small pox. O'Nerson Nathaniel was buried at the foot. He died December 24, 1777, aged 2 years and 2 months, with the small pox.

3—In memory of Sarah, daughter of Mr. Thomas Cushman and his wife Anna. Deceased March 14, 1778 in the 14th year of her age with the small pox.

4—In memory of Mr. Eleazer Rickard. He died Nov. 28th, 1777 in the 69th year of his age with the small pox.

5—Lieut. Zebedee Chandler. In memory of Zebedee Chandler, who died Dec. 2, 1777, aged 61 years.

6—In memory of Samuel, son of Mr. Thomas Cushman and Mrs. Anna, his wife. He died with small pox Nov. 30, 1777 in the 21st year of his age.

7—In memory of Elizabeth, dau. of Mr. Thomas Cushman and his wife, Mrs. Anna, who died with the small pox Dec.