

Pilgrim Village Families Sketch: John Jenny

By Robert Charles Anderson

Birth: John Jenny was born in England by about 1589.

Death: He died in Plymouth between December 28, 1643, and May 25, 1644.

Ship: *Little James*, 1623

Life in England: John Jenny described himself as being from Norwich at his 1614 betrothal in Leiden.

Life in Holland: John was living in Rotterdam and working for a brewer when he married Sarah Carey from Monk Soham, Suffolk in Leiden in 1614. He probably moved to Leiden at that time. Edward Winslow mentioned John Jenny as one of the members of the Separatist church who understood Dutch and occasionally attended the Dutch reformed church.

Life in New England: John Jenny came to Plymouth with his family in 1623 aboard the *Little James*, of which he was part owner. His wife gave birth to a son during the voyage, but the baby apparently died young. John was a freeman of the colony in 1633, and served on many committees, as well as being an assistant to the governor for several years. By 1638/9, he owned a mill for grinding corn, which his wife operated after his death.

Family: John Jenny married Sarah Carey in Leiden on November 1, 1614, and had seven children. She died in Plymouth between August 18, 1655, and March 5, 1665/6.

Children of John and Sarah Jenny:

- Samuel was born in Leiden about 1616. He married (1) Susanna Wood after 1637 and had three children. He married (2) Anne Lettice by 1657 and had six children. He died between 1688 and 1692.
- A child was buried in Leiden on June 16, 1618.
- Abigail was born about 1621 in Leiden. She married Henry Wood in Plymouth on April 28, 1644, and had ten children. She died after 1673.
- A son was born in 1623 aboard the *Little James*, but died young.
- Sarah was born about 1625. She married Thomas Pope in Plymouth on May 29, 1646, and had seven children. She died in Dartmouth by October 1683.
- John was born after May 22, 1627. He appeared in the 1643 list of men able to bear arms, but there is no further reference.
- Susanna was born about 1634. She married Benjamin Bartlett before April 4, 1654, and died before August 18, 1655.