APPENDIX D.

[PAGE 56.]

PERSONAL SKETCHES.

Major James Humphrey was one of the pillars of the town, a man of intelligence, influence and wealth, for more than sixty years, from 1735 to 1797, holding the most important offices in the gift of his fellow-citizens, from his first service as constable in 1735, until, in 1781, he received a public vote of thanks from the town "for more than forty years of faithful service as selectman." He was also many times chosen representative to the General Court, and for several terms he represented his district in the Council (State senator). He was also a prominent and active member of the church and parish.

He was the son of James and Margaret (Torrey-Humphrey, born in Weymouth, June 22, 1711, and a descendant, in the fourth generation, from Jonas Humphrey, of Dorchester, who settled in that town in 1637, whose son, Deacon Jonas Humphrey, removed to Weymouth soon after 1650, and at once became a leading citizen.

Major Humphrey was twice married; first, on Dec. 5, 1734, to his neighbor, Ann, daughter of John and Mary (Symes-Torrey, a native of "Old Spain," born May 28, 1715, a descendant of Capt. William Torrey, the well-known "Clerk of the Deputies." She died Dec. 17, 1751, having borne him six children.

- I. Ann, born Nov. 19, 1735; died June 24, 1744.
- II. James, born April 12, 1737; died Aug. 20, 1811.
- III. MARGARET, born Feb. 8, 1739; who married Abner Pratt, of Weymouth.
- IV. Lucy, born April 13, 1742; who married Col. Asa White, of Weymouth.
- V. Ann, born July 6, 1746; who married David Blanchard, of Weymouth.
- VI. Josiah, born June 19, 1748; for many years town treasurer. He died May 7, 1835.