“Benjamin1 Atwell of New London, Connecticut,” by Norman W. Ing- ham, 14 (2000): 131-58, note 135. The church records of Rev. Stephen Mix do seem to name “Gen Crowfoot” as John2 Atwell’s father-in-law, and the name was clearly transcribed as “Gen. Crowfoot” by Rev. Roger Welles in his records.1 But Joseph Crowfoot certainly was not a high-ranking military officer; probably some other abbreviation was intended by Mix.2

14:154. The Richard Atwell who had a wife Abigail/Nabby and who wrote his will in 1807 and died the same year was not Richard3 (Richard2, Benjamin1), as was incorrectly stated also by Charles B. Atwell and Henry A. Baker.3 C. B. Atwell noticed belatedly that a generation seemed to have been skipped (Richard3 would have been 97 when signing his will), and he suggested in square brackets that more likely the Richard of 1807 was a son of Richard3. But that guess cannot be right either, since Richard3 sold his property rights to his “Mother in Law” [stepmother] Joanna Atwell on 26 June 1732 and is seen no more in New London or Montville records.4

Almost certainly the man who died in 1807 and left a widow Nabby and children in Montville was a Richard4 Atwell son of William3 (Richard2, Benjamin1) and Phebe (Amsberry/Almsbury). Onomastics alone might have suggested that he was their son, as the 1807 will shows he named a son William and two of his daughters Phebe and Lucy. His father, William3 Atwell, died by 1778 leaving no probate or death record. However, on 18 November 1778 Phebe Atwell of New London, for £30, quitclaimed to Richard Atwell of the same all her right to “the Farm of Land that my Father Mr William Atwell late of New London aforesaid died possessed of[,] said Land is undivided and belongs to the Heirs of said Deceased of which I am one.”5 Nathaniel Parish and Lucy Parish his wife, of Norwich, for £18, as heirs in Lucy’s right quitclaimed to Richard Atwell their portion of the real

1 Mix, p. 36, Welles, p. 25, both records available on FHL microfilm L.H. 4302-3.
2 Henry R. Stiles, The History of Ancient Wethersfield. Connecticut, 2 vols. (1904; repr. Camden, Maine: Picton Press, 1995), 2:38, has that John Atwell of Saybrook “m. [Quartermaster] Crowfoot’s dau.,” but this correction may have been only a guess. The most that has been proved is that in 1712 Joseph Crowfoot received pay for his promotion from “a private man to a Trumpeter” (Connecticut Archives: Colonial Wars, Series 1, 3:118k, on microfilm at Connecticut State Library).
estate on 25 November 1779. On 25 August 1784, for £15 10s., Thankful Atwell of New London released to Richard Atwell her share in “the Farm that was my hon[ore]d Father William Atwells.” They do not expressly call Richard their brother, but it is evident that he must have been. Since the child of William and Phebe who was baptized on 7 April 1745 was Lucy, it is possible that Richard was born say around 1750.

14:156-57. The first wife of Samuel Atwell was named Mary Baker after all. By a deed of 5 January 1749/50, Philip Goff and Sarah Goff his wife, Nathaniel Goff and Jerusha Goff his wife, Ezekiel “Chapple” and Hannah Chapel his wife, all of New London, and Ebenezer Wilson and Thankfull Wilson his wife, both of Killingly, Connecticut, “which Sarah Jerushua [sic] Hannah and Thankfull are Daughters of Samuel Atwell and Mary his Wife Daughter of Joshua Baker Sen[io]r of s[ai]d New London dec[ease]d,” for £4 quitclaimed to “our Brother Samuel Atwell Jun[io]r of New London” all claims to the commons of New London in the right of “our Hon[ore]d Grandfather Joshua Baker formerly of s[ai]d New London Dec[ease]d.” This appears to be the source from which Charles B. Atwell took the name of Samuel’s wife and the list of their children, though he got the surname of son-in-law Ebenezer Wilson wrong, calling him “Williams.” He also somehow overlooked the proof that Samuel Atwell, Jr., was their [half-]brother.

The birth of Mary Baker, daughter of Joshua Baker, Sr., is not recorded, but her adult baptism is. In the First Church of New London on 8 August 1703, “Joshua Baker had four of his daughters who owned the Cov[enan]t and were baptized”: Elizabeth, Sarah, Hannah, and Mary, the record noting that Elizabeth was “wife of Rich. Atwell.” Most compilers have omitted Mary from Joshua’s family; the “Parkhurst Manuscript” lists her, placing her as seventh child, between John and Benjamin. This is plausible and would mean she was born about 1687.

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8 Rev. S. Leroy Blake, The Later History of the First Church of Christ New London, Conn. (New London, 1900), 513. This is an unreliable source. Blake mistakenly calls Lucy’s father “Wm Atwater” but probably has the child’s name right.
9 New London Deeds, 16:100.
10 New London First Church records, 1:115, FHL microfilm 5131.
12 Joshua Baker’s remaining three children were baptized 6 May 1711 (New London First Church Records [supra note 10], 1:127, by which time the youngest could have about turned 16.