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Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England 1620-1633, Volumes I-III

Introduction

For the user of this set of volumes to understand what is being presented, we must define carefully the scope of the Great Migration Study Project. Who were the participants in the Great Migration? What information is being collected on these people?

Criteria for Inclusion in The Great Migration Begins

The first phase of the Great Migration Study Project attempts to identify and describe all those Europeans who settled in New England prior to the end of 1633. The date was chosen because of the steep increase in migration beginning in 1634 and continuing for the rest of that decade (see Robert Charles Anderson, "A Note on the Pace of the Great Migration," *The New England Quarterly* 59 [1986]:406-07). As a rough estimate, about 15 percent of the immigrants to New England arrived in the fourteen years from 1620 to 1633, with the remaining 85 percent coming over in half as many years, from 1634 to 1640.

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RICHARD TURNER

Admitted to Boston church as member #162 [[BChR](#) 16]; this would be in the summer of 1633, probably July or August.

6 September 1638: "Richard **Turner** had granted him 38s. for loss which he sustained formerly in receiving corn at 5s. per bushel" [[MBCR](#) 1:238].

11 November 1638: "Our brother Richard Turnor having been openly found drunken by the excessive drinking of strong water was this day cast out of the church for the same offense" [[BChR](#) 22].

4 December 1638: "Richard **Turner**, for being notoriously drunk, was fined £2" [[MBCR](#) 1:246].

7 September 1639: "Richard **Turner**, for being drunk, was fined 20s." [[MBCR](#) 1:268].

2 June 1641: "It is ordered that our host **Turner** should have 200 bushels of corn, or the value, with such fines as can be got in" [[MBCR](#) 1:333].

COMMENTS: On 10 April 1640 Josiah Hewes of Roxbury gave a letter of attorney to Captain Richard Morris to collect a debt of 38s. owed for three years by "Richard **Turner** of Providence planter" [[Lechford](#) 351]. Richard **Turner** does not appear in the records of the colony of Rhode Island or the town of Providence, so this entry from Lechford may apply to a resident of Providence Island; it does not appear to pertain to the Massachusetts man whose records are given above.

[Beginning The Great Migration Begins: Immigrants to New England 1620-1633, Volumes I-III](#)

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