

b. 18 Aug., 1726 ; Tabitha, b. 14 Nov., 1737 ; Jason, b. 8 Dec., 1728 ; Elizabeth, b. 22 Jan., 1730 ; and Jacob, b. 22 Jan., 1731. His will (Master Wills, iii, 538), dated 24 Sept., 1764, and the accompanying papers name the following children: Joseph, Benjamin, Jason and Jacob. Abigail, w. of Josiah Broad, Tabitha, w. of Bezabel Field, Mary, w. of Joshua Child, Sarah, w. of Micah Witherbee, and Elizabeth, w. of Ephraim Temple. See also Ward's *Shrewsbury Families*, p. 27.

4. HOPESTILL² HINDS, was of Brookfield, as pr. Deeds.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON HERALDRY.

READ BEFORE THE HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY, June 1, 1864.

[By W. H. WHITMORE, Chairman.]

The Committee on Heraldry begs leave to report, after several meetings, the plan adopted for its future operations. It has seemed best to fix a period arbitrarily to the probable authenticity of coats of arms used in New England, and we have settled upon the year 1760, as the latest period when the use of arms, unsupported by other evidence, can be considered proof.

It will be readily understood that seals used by any of the first generations of the colonists were of foreign origin; and until such a subsequent time as seal engraving was practiced here, the seals must have been imported. We also know that about 1770, certain painters in water colors practiced their art here, giving all applicants a coat of arms, apparently without authority. From that time to this day, the practice has continued. During the century preceding 1760, coats of arms were used as is evidenced by the following classes of proofs remaining: 1st. Sculptures upon tombstones. 2d. Chasings upon plate. 3d. Seals. 4th. Old paintings and embroideries. 5th. Book-plates and drawings, and written descriptions of old date.

We have had submitted to us examples of all these, and we propose to recapitulate a few: 1st. Tombstones. Of the Boston Burial Grounds, the King's Chapel has 11, the Granary 15, and the Copp's Hill 9. Those in the King's Chapel will be described further on, and the others in subsequent reports.

In the old burying ground at Charlestown are 10, viz: Cary, Cheever, Chambers, Jenner, Foster, Wood, Dowse, Greaves, Fowle and Lemmon. At Dorchester, 4, viz.: Stoughton, Royall, Foster and Poole. In the yards at Salem are several, of which a few only have yet been copied.

2d. Engravings upon plate. We have examined but a few specimens, as these have to be sought out in the hands of the present owners. We have seen a candlestick with the arms of Jeffries, Lidgett, Clark and Usher; a watch and seal with the Foster arms. We need much assistance in obtaining more examples of this class. The different churches possess many examples no doubt. Thus the

church at Quincy has a cup with the Quincy family arms; the Second Church at Boston has articles marked with the arms of Winthrop, Hutchinson, Foster, Frisell, Welsteed and Goodrich.

3d. Seals. These are mostly to be found at the various registries of Probate, though some impressions on deeds and letters are in private collections. Thus the wills of Gov. Thomas Dudley, Gov. Joseph Dudley, Mrs. Eliz Lidgett, Simon Lynde, Eleizer Holyoke, Simon Bradstreet, William Stoughton, Welthian, widow of Thomas Richards, and John Gibbs, all at the Suffolk registry, have legible impressions of coats of arms. We have necessarily done little in investigating these depositories. Deeds furnish us with the arms of Bellingham, Leverett and Mayhew.

4th. Paintings like the Bulkeley picture in the possession of the society, and the Lynde, Oliver, Newdigate, Digby, Smith, Curwen, Browne and Fitch paintings in the possession of Dr. Oliver, are very valuable evidences. The Quincy and Sturgis arms have been shown to us in this form.

5th. Drawings and book-plates have preserved the Gardiner, Vaughan, Hallowell, Manning and Storer arms. Written descriptions, the Prince and Stiles arms.

As an instance of the carelessness with which this matter has been treated, we propose to examine three books descriptive of the Boston Graveyards. These works of Mr. Bridgman contain many engravings of arms, and the natural inference is that they are to be found on the tombstones. *Such is not the fact.* We propose to give a true account of what remain, hoping that our readers will thereby be incited to give more attention to the subject.

In the first place, in the "Copp's Hill Epitaphs," there are ten engravings of arms, viz.: those belonging to the families of Lake, Greenwood, Goodrich, Mountfort, Clark, Martyn, Gee, Thornton, Snelling and Loring. Of these only six are there, viz.: GREENWOOD, GOODRICH, MOUNTFORT, CLARK, MARTYN and GEE. The Lake arms, and very possibly the Snelling arms, belong to the family here. The Thornton and Loring have yet to be proved. There are two other stones belonging to the Hutchinsons formerly, and inscribed with their well-known arms. These are now marked with the names of Lewis and Capen respectively, but the arms do not belong to those families.

Secondly. In the "Pilgrims of Boston," or Record of the Granary Burying Ground, Mr. Bridgman gives the arms of Bowdoin, Walley, Mountfort, Sumner, Amory and Loring, six in all. Of these only one, the Bowdoin, is in the yard. The MOUNTFORT we have mentioned; the Walley and Amory arms are otherwise authenticated; the SUMNER and LORING are not.

But in this yard there are fifteen stones thus inscribed. These are those of PERKINS, BYFIELD, BONNER, CUSHING, BOWDOIN, LAZINBY, FANBUIL, TUTHILL, HUBBARD, ECKLEY, FREKE, SEARS, CHECKLY, and two unknown.

Thirdly. The "King's Chapel Epitaphs" contains twenty engraved coats of arms, *not one of which* is in the yard, and only two are in the church. Of these three can be otherwise authenticated, viz.: those of WINTHROP, BRINLEY, WENDELL and OLIVER; and very probably some

of the others ; but surely they should not have been printed in that book without some statement of the authority, and a clear and explicit mention of the fact that they were *not* copied from the grave-stones.

To sum the matter up, Bridgman gives thirty-three engravings (33); and of these only nine (9) are on tombstones now standing. The number of such sculptured stones is thirty-five, eight in the Copp's Hill yard, fifteen in the Granary, and twelve in the King's Chapel and the adjoining yard.

We propose to give a detail of those in the King's Chapel yard. Beginning in the northeast corner, next to the Massachusetts Historical Society's building, we find four flat stones next to the fence. These are as follows :



No. 4. Trail.

No. 7. John Wheelwright.

No. 6. Captain Steel.

No. 9. Godney.

In the cluster of brick tombs in the same corner, are two



Townsend.

Farther back is the tomb ascribed to John Winslow, bearing the following shield :



In the northwest portion is the tomb of Major Thomas Savage, dated Feb. 15, 1681-2, with the following coat of arms.

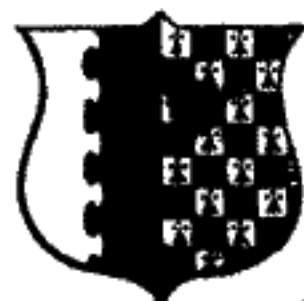


On the path westerly from it, is the following:



HERE LYES
YE BODY OF
ELIZABETH
PAIN, WIFE
TO SAMUEL
PAIN, AGED
NEAR 52
YEARS. DEPARTED
THIS LIFE NOVEMBER
YE 26, 1704.

Inside the church are three monuments, which have been fully described by Bridgman in Apthorp, Shirley and Vassall.



Apthorp.



Vassall.



Shirley, Impaling. Barker.

Lastly, there is a new monument to the Lowells, whose arms are duly authenticated.

It will be seen that the Committee instead of finding the subject barren, is pressed by the extent of the riches open to its care. We desire to show how others can render essential aid, and to urge upon each member of the society the necessity of immediate action.

We earnestly intreat every member to inform us of the existence of any ~~coats~~ of arms to be found on tombstones, silver, seals of letters or ~~seals~~, and to all paintings of arms dating prior to 1760.

It is ~~only~~ for those members who reside in the country to answer these two questions. Are there any tombstones in your town thus inscribed? Do any of your churches possess any plate thus marked? As to the memorials remaining in private hands, we can only promise a prompt attention to any one who will give us information and a full and careful record of the same upon our books.

PEDIGREE OF REV. JOHN OXENBRIDGE, OF BOSTON.

A correspondent has sent us a tabular pedigree showing the descent of Katherine Harby, supposed to be the mother of Rev. John Oxenbridge, of Boston, from King Edward I, of England, through two of his sons and one of his daughters, namely: King Edward II, Edmund, Earl of Kent, and the Princess Joan of Acres.

"I do not seek," writes our correspondent, "to claim a distinguished lineage for *all* our Puritan ancestors, for their hold on our veneration and respect is too well founded to need the aid of such; and when we build up an imposing pedigree and load their names with fictitious honors they neither sought nor cared for, we are apt to forget the simple virtues that best adorn their memories. Too much has been attempted in this way; opinions the most absurd have been advanced serving only to make their authors contemptible in the estimation of those not personally interested—and yet, when accident or patient research has revealed some well authenticated fact not previously known, it is proper that it should be recorded for the benefit and instruction of others.

Rev. John Oxenbridge, pastor of the Old South Church, was we are told, the son of Daniel Oxenbridge, M. D., of Daventry, Northamptonshire, England. In Baker's Hist. of N., vol. 2d, page 19 (a copy of which is in the Boston Public Library), we find that this Daniel O. married Catharine, dr. of Thomas Harby, *and had issue*, but the names of their children are not there given; but as John O. was born in 1608-9 and his father died in 1642, I think it extremely probable that Catharine Harby was his mother, especially as we are not told that Daniel O. had other wives.

On referring to Burke's Royal Families, vol. 2d, pedigrees 116 and 124, the lineage of this lady may be satisfactorily traced; from these we learn that she was descended in two direct lines from King Edward III; through his sons, John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster, and Edmund, Duke of York; she was the fifth also from Lady Alice Neville, dr. of Richard, Earl of Salisbury, and sister of the renowned 'king maker,' and inherited the blood of the Montacutes, Beauchamps, Holands and Throckmortons.

I think I may with confidence assert that the old Puritan divine, whose remains rest in the King's Chapel Burial Ground, was descended from many of the noblest families of England. N. F. C."