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April 23, 2018

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Chapter 1

Intro

1.1 hello

Two Indexes have been prepared for descendants of each of the four progenitors. One giving the Christian names of Cranes, the other, names of persons who have intermarried with them ; alphabetically arranged.

Also an index of Christian names of Cranes found in the Addenda. In looking for a certain name, unless you know to which line the person belongs it will be necessary to examine each of the Ave indexes.

The number after the name is the consecutive number. Turn to this number in the body of the book and you will find the person's family record. If the person had no family the number will refer to the birth under the parent's name. If the Index does not give the name sought, And name of the parent, and look through the list of the children. Some names came too late for numbering. Where there are several names alike, the year of birth placed before the name may help to indicate the one sought.

The bracketed [] number after the name of a parent refers to the number where the person appears as a child. After the name of a parent the pedigree is indicated in parentheses () with small figures above, showing to what generation the name belongs, and giving the names back as far as the progenitor of the line.

The following abbreviations have been used: b. for born, m. for married, unnm. for unmarried, (s. settled), d. for died.

VOLUME I. of the Crane Family Genealogy, published in 1895, contains an article on Origin of the name Crane; copies of five different armorials belonging to the family ; a sketch of the Crane family in England, with pedigrees covering thirteen generations, and a brief reference to the first of the name who came to New England, together with Henry Crane of Wethersfield and Guilford. Conn., and his descendants of nine generations; a list of Cranes who served in Connecticut as lawmakers and public officials ; also a list of members of the family who served in the French and Indian, as well as the Revolutionary war, from

that State. There has been considerable delay in issuing the second volume, and no doubt some interested persons have become impatient to see the work in print. But the task of tracing the lines from live different progenitors has been no easy one. Special care has been exercised in keeping each line of descendants independent of the other, although they have in some instances intermarried, and in many cases resided for years in close proximity to each other. Volume II. has exceeded in size our most sanguine expectations, for the reason that the descendants of Jasper and Stephen Crane of New Jersey have so willingly assisted in supplying records from private sources that could in no other way be furnished. The early public records of New Jersey, so far as the writer's experience extends, furnish a very unsatisfactory field for the genealogist. During the early settlements there seems to have been no fixed system for recording births, marriages and deaths for preservation. Probate Records have supplied the greater portion of the early records for the descendants of Jasper and Stephen Crane. Some of the early church records, from which much was expected, were found to have been destroyed by fire. The lack of dates has caused a vast amount of trouble in establishing the identity of certain members of the family. "Where

there seemed any doubt of the identification it has been expressed in the context or by a foot-note.

Although the writer has given a vast amount of time, and a considerable sum from his means in prosecuting this work, still he is fully aware how difficult is the task of collecting material and compiling a work of this nature, and presenting it free from inaccuracies. Every effort has been made to avoid errors, and wherever different dates or conflicting statements have been received regarding the same event, which has frequently been the case, careful investigation has followed in order to determine if possible the correct statement to be used in the book. To the many friends who have in any way contributed to the encouragement of this work the writer would here express his profound gratitude. Among the names of those who have given special aid in its prosecution may be mentioned : Rev. Elias Nettleton Crane. Rev. Oliver Crane and James Eells Crane, all deceased; the latter died Nov. 19, 1893, in Philadelphia, Pa. ; William M. Crane, Greenville, Mich. ; Stephen S. Crane, Maple Hill Farm, High Ridge, Conn. ; Harrison Horton Crane, Middletown. N. Y. ; Augustus S. Crane, Elizabeth, N. J. ; Miss A. J. Reed, Carmel, N. Y. ; Dorothy N. Law, Dixon, Ill. ; Anna Russell Vance, Milwaukee, Wis. ; Henry Harmon Noble, Albany, N. Y. ; Horatio Grain, Key West, Fla. : and J. M. Crane, Kingwood, West Va.

Records of several families needing further proof to define their position in the body of the book have been placed in the Addenda with the hope that some of the descendants may be able to find the connecting link. In some instances the peculiar spelling of names has been retained, believing members of the families would prefer to have them presented in that way.

EIXERY BICKN'ELL CRAXE,
Worcester, Mass. January, 1900.
BENJAMIN CRANE.

Windsor was probably the first town settled in Connecticut by the English, and Wethersfield next. The former made its beginning in the year 1633 and

the latter in 1634. The people who planted these towns were almost without exception from Massachusetts. In the year 1621 and for many years thereafter practically all settlers bound for New England lauded in the colony of New Plymouth or Massachusetts, and emigrated from there to the various settlements of their choice. For several years Windsor, Wethersfield and Hartford proved the chief attractions for settlers locating west of the Connecticut River, although a few planted themselves at Saybrook. Many of those who early settled at Wethersfield came from Watertown, Mass., while the towns of Cambridge and Dorchester furnished a considerable number of the families for Windsor, and Newtown furnished some for Hartford. The emigrants from Dorchester, Mass., named their town Dorchester, now Windsor. Wethersfield was called Watertown, and Hartford was called Newtown. But at the meeting of the General Court of the Connecticut colony in 1637 the present name was decided upon and adopted. This, however, was not the first session of the General Court of this colony Their first session was held April 26, 1636.

Rev. Henry Smith was the first settled minister in Wethersfield ; came there about the year 1636, but was not installed until the year 1640 or 1644. and died 1648.

The early records of Wethersfield are exceedingly interesting and voluminous, yet lack system and completeness. The records of births, with some deaths, are furnished from 1635 to about 1666 ; and after an interval of some years the record of deaths is again taken up with the year 1670, and the births and marriages about the year 1692. Subsequent to the year 1700 there seems to have been a more complete system of entries throughout all the departments. On the whole, however, the records at Wethersfield are perhaps in as good condition in all respects and