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Peters of New England

A Genealogy, and Family History

Compiled by

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and

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NEW ENGLAND
PETERS



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THE MAKING OF THE BOOK

TWENTY-THREE years ago Andover was visited by the present compiler, and for the first time the correct family descent was ascertained. The work, however, was abandoned almost as soon as begun, to be resumed only in 1895. In the meantime, Edmond Frank Peters, a descendant of the Tory colonel, as he is commonly called (Colonel John of the Queen's Loyal Rangers), started on his labors, and for six years toiled unceasingly on a Peters history and genealogy, which at his death, in 1893, was practically finished. His papers were left to his relative, the Rev. Thomas McClure Peters, who had been greatly interested in and had given every encouragement to the work, but his death also taking place the same summer, the entire material passed into the hands of the present compiler. For the past eight years she has been correcting, adding to, and perfecting the book. Sections of family history collected by some six or eight different individuals have been studied and copied. At least sixty towns have been visited for the personal inspection of town and parish records, probate, and sometimes deeds, being investigated as well. Between forty and fifty graveyards have been visited, which in nearly every case means the inspection of each stone. The genealogy has been rewritten from end to end, the form and system completely changed, and a number of separate articles on subjects of family interest have been added. Portraits, views, and signatures have been collected, and, although very far from complete, the work is believed to be in sufficient shape to justify its printing in

the hope that, by publishing what there is, in time an almost perfect history may be obtained. Far more could have been accomplished had individuals shown more interest in the matter, it being in many cases almost, or quite, impossible to obtain even the common courtesy of a reply, or if information was sent it was often done with so little interest as to be of no value.

To all those who have in any way aided or encouraged the compiler, her heartiest appreciation is due, especially to the Hon. John Andrew Peters, of Bangor, Me., whose active sympathy and generous assistance are most gratefully acknowledged. To Miss Augusta Peters of Blue Hill, Miss Elizabeth Sewall of Medfield, Mrs. Grozelier of North Andover, Mrs. Annis Welles of Hebron, Mr. Jesse S. Reeves of Richmond, Ind., Mr. George Albert Taylor of Albany, and Mr. F. C. Bissell of Hartford; to Miss Charlotte Abbott of Andover, who is a mine of information on all town matters; and to Mrs. Almira Clarke of Woodville, Conn., whose sensible and valuable letters have been of the greatest service, the compiler wishes also to express her thanks, as well as to the Essex Institute for the loan of a copy of Edmond Frank Peters' papers. Town histories have often been quoted and have been found of great value.

Distant members of the family, in many instances total strangers, have loaned valuable papers, autographs, portraits, etc., and have sent information which, in some cases, they procured at the cost of much time and trouble to themselves. It is impossible to name all whom the compiler would thank, in person if possible, but she assures them that their kindness is fully appreciated.

The present compiler has again, in person, gone over much of the ground already carefully studied by Edmond Frank Peters, and can hold herself responsible for the sections entitled Ipswich and Andover, Middleton, An-

dover, Maine, General Absalom, The Revd. Samuel, Lost Tribes, Andrew in New Hampshire, nearly all of Reading and Wakefield, and portions of other sections. The articles before and after the genealogy and the illustrations and signatures are furnished by the present compiler. Nearly the whole of Medfield, all of Colonel John, most of Seborne, and the greater part of the sections unmentioned are wholly due to Edmond Frank Peters, and the present compiler has everywhere been greatly assisted by his thorough and conscientious labors.

The enormous amount of material he amassed in the six years of his toil would have been remarkable had he devoted his entire time to the work, but when one realizes that it was the result of his leisure hours only, it seems little short of a miracle. His system of collecting matter was most elaborate, painstaking, and complete, and was undoubtedly the principal cause of his remarkable success. Were it not for him this work would doubtless never have been written, certainly not by the present author. Even in the portions more especially her own he has been an ever-present guide, counsellor, and friend, often presenting her with some curious bit of information, or warning her of some rock or shoal. In short, the entire work is founded upon and permeated by Edmond Frank Peters, and as his face is the first one sees upon opening the book, so is his guiding and sustaining spirit the last one leaves upon closing the volume.

TRADITION

A WELL disseminated tradition causes our family history to begin in Boston, in 1634, with one William Peters, a merchant, who was educated at Leyden, was a brother of the Revd. Hugh Peters of Salem, and of the Revd. Thomas Peters of Saybrook, and removed to Andover, where he built a church and was buried under the pulpit.* This attractive fiction emanates from the Revd. Samuel Peters, a gentleman of whom it may be truly said that he was indebted to his imagination for his facts, the facts necessarily changing with the amount of imagination temporarily at his command, and thus producing varied versions of one and the same event. For instance, he in one letter says that William Peters came to Boston in 1634, in another that his great-grandfather went from London, a merchant, in 1640.† Now he supposes his

* "William Peters Esq., of Boston, in 1634, was rich and noble, did good in his day, built a meeting-house in Andover about twenty miles from Boston for the Puritans and ordered his body to be buried under the pulpit and turned his soul to God, to sing Praises with the pious and venerable fathers who settled New England."—(Letter from the Revd. Samuel Peters to Gen. Absalom Peters, dated New York, Oct. 10, 1821.)

† In the rough draft of a letter he is composing in London, November 14, 1775, to Lord Petre of Writtle, the Revd. Samuel says: "My Lord, I lately came from New England to which country my Great-grandfather went from London, in the year 1640, a Merchant, his son bore his name William Peters, his Grandson bore the name of John, his great Grandson bears the name of Samuel who is a clergyman of the church of England. The family have ever lived in Affluence in America and with the Honorable Tradition that William who first went to Boston was a nigh Relation of the then Lord Petre. I had a manuscript copy of my great-grandfather giving an Account of his Pedigree but the Rebels have Seized it and all my Property."

great-grandfather to be William, and always so designates him; but in fact his great-grandfather was Andrew (of whose existence the reverend gentleman apparently had never heard), born in 1634 (we always find some substratum of truth at the bottom of the reverend gentleman's assertions) and of him we have no record before 1659. (Curiously enough there is record of a William Peters in Virginia in 1634.) Nor has any record of any William Peters been found in New England prior to that date, or of any one there who could be Andrew's father. Andrew did remove to Andover (about 1686), but there is no mention of any of the family building a church or being interred in any part of it, and if such an event had occurred it is almost certain there would be some record or recollection of it. As for William (who if he existed would necessarily be the father of Andrew) being educated at Leyden, again there is no record there of any such person being in any way connected with that university.*

* LEIDEN, 1 April, 1896.

MY DEAR PROF. PETERS.

I have gone over our Album Academicum and compared all students of the name of W. or G. Peters, Peter, Petri, Petrijii, Petrius, inscribed between 1614 and 1634, but all of them were either Dutchmen, by the name of Gerardus or Godofredus, or Danes, Swedes, or Germans. Dickwood, Dirkwood or Duykwood, nor anything coming near, is to be found among the students of our University. No Professor, Lector or Master of a College of either name has taught at Leiden. I am sorry that this is only a negative result, and though I have no idea in what other way your forefather could be connected with our University I will ask the Recorder of our Senatus if he can give any light. He is just recovering from a serious illness, so I cannot trouble him for the moment, but I hope to have his advice after a couple of weeks. I don't think there will be any expense; only if we should be so happy as to find some documents relating to Peters or Dirkwood, there might be wanted a small remuneration for copying. I thank you very much for your kind intention to send me an off-print of your last article the subject of which most interests me. Believe me dear Sir, Yours truly,

C. P. TIELS.

(Letter to the Revd. J. P. Peters.)

As to William's being a brother of the Revd. Hugh and of the Revd. Thomas, and simultaneously "a nigh relation of the then Lord Petre," he might have been one or the other, but hardly both, for Hugh and Thomas Peter (not Peters) had parents whose names were, respectively, Thomas Dirkwood and Martha Treffry* the former descending from ancestors who fled from Antwerp on account of religious persecution in 1543. The name of Dirkwood was changed to Peter between 1599 and 1610, for cause unknown, unless it might be from the marriage of Deborah Treffry (sister of Martha, who married Thomas Dirkwood), in 1609, to Henry Peter, M. P. for Fowey, and descendant of a sister of Sir William Peter, who was "secretary and of the Privy Council to four Kings and Queens of this realm and seven times ambassador abroad in foreign lands," said Sir William being also ancestor of the Barons Petre of Writtle, Essex, which seat the Revd. Samuel Peters persistently places in Devonshire. Now if we descend from the Dirkwood family, it is difficult to see how we are closely related to the family of Lord Petre, unless it might be through the female side, several Peters having married Treffrys; but this is not what the reverend gentleman intends.† Even at the present day there are Peters who will insist, unblushingly,—though Hugh Peter left but a daughter—that they derive the name of Peters from the fourth pastor of the First church in Salem. Being closely connected with two families of such consequence as that of Treffry and of Peter, it is not impossible that lands and the coat-of-arms may have been given to the descendants of the Flemish merchant to place them on an equality with their relatives by marriage,—but even here there is little hope for us. There is record of a William,

* Parish records, Fowey.

† "William, fourth son of Sir John Petre, Knt. of Exeter, is said to have been father of Hugh."

(Letter from the Revd. Samuel Peters.)

"son of Thomas Dirkwood," born in Fowey in 1600, but there is also the burial of William, "son of Thomas Peter,* 17th October, 1609." It certainly is self-evident that we could not descend from William, brother of Hugh, and yet have the ancestry claimed for us by the Revd. Samuel Peters.† Personally the compiler is of the opinion that we descend from some branch of the Peter family formerly of Devonshire and Cornwall, and that the relationship to the Revd. Hugh Peter—if relationship there be—comes through the Treffrys and not through the Peters. It might be worth the while of some one, with idle pence and hours, to investigate the claim of descent from "the fourth son of Sir John Petre, Knt. of Exeter, in Devon" (this is the usual version), who actually did live and did have four sons, the youngest being named William. In the face of what has here been said it seems unnecessary to make any comment upon the pedigree given in the Revd. Samuel Peters' *Life of Hugh Peters*, or to do more than remark that the Revd. Thomas Peter was not the first Englishman to arrive at Saybrook (in fact there is no evidence of his being there

* The names of Peter and of Dirkwood appear to have been used interchangeably.

† In a letter dated New York, Oct. 10, 1821, to his nephew Gen. Absalom, he says: "You are the oldest surviving son of my oldest brother Col. John Peters, the honest man, and son of John Peters the good man, who was the grandson of William Peters Esq. of Boston in A.D. 1634, who was the fourth son of the Right Honorable Lord John Peters, Lord of Writtle in Devonshire, England, and one of the sixteen Peers who educated King Edward VI and governed England during the minority of that good King.‡ By the Herald's office of London you know now the rock from which you descend, you cannot boast of Royal blood in your veins, but you can boast of Noble Blood running in your veins and arteries."

‡ (At the period mentioned there was no Lord Petre; this title not existing until 1603, when Sir John Peter was made baron. Our reverend relative means Sir William, father of the first lord. That he is often confused as to his own belief on the subject, these various quotations from his writings sufficiently prove.)

before the summer of 1645; a few months later he was certainly at the Pequot Plantation, now New London, and he returned to England in December, 1646); that he did not found an academy in Saybrook which later became Yale College, nor did he die after the restoration of Charles II; neither did he "bequeath his library"* to that College, all his books being left in his will to his only son, John.

That the Revd. Samuel Peters, while in England, did actively interest himself in the family pedigree is evident from the following letter†: but he did not possess an exact mind, and as years accumulated his impressions, at least upon this subject, became greatly confused, until we finally come upon this astonishing statement: "Therefore King William in 1666, gave Sir John Peters, his secretary of State, this motto in his Coat of Arms, Sans Dieu rien!" (Letter from the Revd. Samuel Peters, dated Harsimus, July 6, 1822.)

Another tradition, emanating from Mary Peters, daughter of Col. John and Lydia Phelps, and wife of

* *History of Connecticut*, p. 51.

† HARLYN, 26th August, 1776.

DEAR SIR:—Your last favor I received and am much obliged to you for your friendly invitation sent. As I find you are not so happy as to enjoy a good state of health perhaps a journey into Cornwall may be of service to you and I will do myself the pleasure of meeting you on any part of the Road to conduct you to my house where you may be sure of meeting with a sincere welcome. I live in the country on my Estate which is situated on a dry healthy spot near the sea. I am a young man and had the misfortune of losing a very good father in January last. My Mother and six sisters live with me and I have a brother at a Latin school. I have made all the inquiries into our ancestors and make not the least doubt but that you and myself came from Padestow as five of the most capital Estates in that Parish were in the possession of the Peters, viz., Treator, Trenarse, Tregewin, Trengho and Trebouza. The latter is my possession and a Mr. William Peters lives at Treator; the three other Estates are not in the family. I see by a deed dated the 2nd year of the Reign of Queen Elizabeth [which would be in 1560] wherein Mr. John Peters conveys Trebouza to

Joseph Hosford of Thetford, Vt., is incorrect from end to end, and is not worth quoting. It is said she left to each of her children a paper entitled "Genealogy of the Ancestors of Molly Gillette by her mother and written by her own hand in the 66th year of her age."

his father John Peters of Trenara. My father's name was William and I had three uncles named Samuel. There was a family in the Parish (St. Merryn) there were four brothers John, Hugh, Walter and William Peters and they are extinct. My mother and sisters join me in best comp'ts to you and am, Dear sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HENRY PETERS.

To the Revd. Mr. Samuel Peters.

A somewhat curious paper in the handwriting of the Revd. Samuel and inscribed "Veritas March 25, 1792, London. Kipha Bar Iona Cedras Libani Galilae" gives his pedigree as follows:

1736 Samuel Peters Hebron. 1696 John Peters, Hebron, Conn.

1640 William Peters, Boston, N. E. 1598 William Peters, Fowey, Cornwall.

1574 William Peters, Fowey, Cornwall. 1550 John Petre, Exitor, Deron.

HAVING shown in tradition what does not exist in our family history, we now come to what does: this is soon disposed of. We know nothing whatever of the antecedents of Andrew Peeters, barring certain safe inferences. From the date of his death and of a deposition made in Salem, we find him to have been born in 1634 or 1635. He came to this country a young man, well educated, as his will shows,—somewhat remarkably so for those days, in fact; for if, after a life of farming and distilling (some sixteen years of these being largely taken up with fighting Indians), his hand and mind were still so docile to the pen as to write and spell as he does in his will, it seems probable that he possessed a liberal education. It is also evident that he came to this country well provided with money and that he possessed, or acquired, a social position which gave him the title of *Mr.*, a word of meaning in those days. Inferences point to a residence in Holland; some have consequently inferred him to be Dutch. It is safe, flatly, to contradict this theory. If in law a man is judged innocent until he is proved guilty, so among the early settlers of New England it is safe to assert that a man is English until he has been proved a foreigner. Were he the latter he would be referred to as the Dutchman, would not be *persona grata* among his neighbors, and his spelling and writing—arts which he would be little called upon to exercise after his emigration—would assuredly not be of the character found in his will. His education was certainly all European, whether Continental or British. The spelling of his name, Peeters, is or, was, a recognized one in the west of England. It is by no means impossible, as Miss Charlotte Abbott suggests, that he came to New England from New York, from Virginia, or even from the West Indies, and not directly from Europe. The compiler is of the opinion that, being

a distiller by trade, he would probably be a member of that guild in England, and that his ancestry might thereby be traced on the other side of the water. Being unable to contradict the Revd. Samuel Peters' statement that Andrew (or his father) was the fourth son of John Peters, or Peter (Knt., or otherwise), of Devon, this or something approximate may be found to be correct, and those of the family who now yearn for a coat-of-arms may be blessed with satisfied, and, what is more, justified, aspirations. We may be entitled to a coat-of-arms, even to that so long used by some branches of the family, but the compiler has done her best to produce a correct and exact history, based only upon facts known and proved to be such. Some one—probably the Revd. Samuel—is responsible for a number of colored engravings of Peters coat armor, all made at the same time, and which have spread from Maine to California. It will be hard for many of the family to part with these should they be proved to be incorrect; but there is no trace of arms until our reverend relative gave his attention to the subject. Old Andrew's seal is a very different affair, and to the compiler's mind is far more interesting and valuable than any number of European crests. An American heraldry we might surely have; then why not take his seal, which the compiler believes to mean so much, and to tell of that terrific fight in the Narragansett country and of long years of border warfare,* and make that the father of a new heraldry—a heraldry all our own?

* During his residence in Andover Andrew appears to have been certainly once, perhaps twice, burned out by the Indians. (Page 22.) "1692 Mr Andrew Peeters (now an inhabitant in Andover), being lately burnt out by ye Indians." This may have occurred in 1689, or it may have been more recent, but certainly his son Samuel was too young to be his partner at that time, and he says in his will: "whereas I was Burnt out bij ye heathen Enemy hee ye said Samuall Peeters hath been mij Copartner Euer Since." This second burning may have been the one referred to in 1698 (see note at foot of page 28).

CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

- P. 8 (line 8), quarter musters, not quarter masters.
 P. 23 (note), 24 (line 5), 26 (note), Carleton, not Carlton.
 P. 23 (line 8), John Aslebe was great-great-uncle, not great-grandfather.
 P. 36 (lines 15, 16), Andrew Allen was bróther, not father; this is proved by reference to the "widdowe Allen."
 P. 54 (line 19), 25, not 55 miles.
 P. 60 (line 24), 4/, not 44/.
 P. 67 (line 13), July, 1780, not July 17, 1780.
 P. 104 (line 14), Nancy Carney died in 1865. Her first husband is said to have been drowned at sea. She was married to Andrew Peters Oct. 14, 1798.
 William (216 VI) died in Oakland, Cal., June 15, 1885; md. in Parish of Portsea, Hampshire, Eng., 1835.
 Cicely, dau. William Silver, and Frances Nyren, his wife; she died in 1839.
 Cicely Frances (226), born in Le Hâvre, was md. in Washington, D. C., to Francis Boarman. No children.
 Andrew Vincent died in Eugene, Ore., 1901.
 Mary Harriet, born in Ingouville, France, died unmd.
 Ignatius Kemble, born in Georgetown, D. C., died Jan. 12, 1901, in Eugene, Ore.; md. in Eugene, Ore., Eudora, dau. Richard Henderson. No children.
 Joseph Chrysostom, born in France, living 1903; md. in San Francisco, Cal., Alice, dau. Edward Cain and Alice his wife, born in Eng. and had 9 children.
 Arthur Silver, born in Lavana, N. Y.; md. in San Francisco, Cal., Agnes, dau. Lucas Lancaster, and had 7 children.
 William Bonaventure, died in Oakland, Cal., 1875; md. in Washington, D. C., 1864, Margaret, dau. John Major, born in

NEW ENGLAND



INCREASE SUMNER.

Engr'd for the New Eng. Hist. & Geneal. Reg.

THE
PETERS FAMILIES
Possible Relatives
NEW ENGLAND

10-22-90

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Henry II. grievously punished them for corrupting his coin.

Richard I. forbid Jews and women to be present at his coronation, for fear of enchantments; for breaking of which commandment many Jews were slain, who being assembled to present the king with some gift, one of them was stricken by a Christian, which some unruly people perceiving, fell upon them, beat them to their houses, and burnt them therein, or slew them at their coming out. Also the Jews at Norwich, St. Edmundsbury, Lincoln, Stamford, and Lynne, were robbed and spoiled; and at York, to the number of 500, besides women and children, entered a tower of the castle, proffered money to be in surety of their lives, but the Christians would not take it, whereupon they cut the throats of their wives and children, and cast them over the walls on the Christians' heads; and then entering the king's lodging, they burnt both the house and themselves.

King John, in the 11th of his reign, commanded all the Jews, both men and women, to be imprisoned and grievously punished, because he would have all their money: some of them gave all they had, and promised more, to escape so many kinds of Torments, for every one of them had one of their eyes at the least plucked out; amongst whom there was one, which being tormented many ways, would not ransom himself, till the king had caused every day one of his great teeth to be plucked out by the space of seven days, and then gave the king ten thousand marcs of silver, to the end they should pull out no more. The said king at that time spoiled the Jews of 66,000 marks.

The 17th of this king, the barons broke into the Jews' houses, rifled their coffers, and with the stone of their houses repaired the gates and walls of London.

SOME ACCOUNT OF THE PETERS FAMILY.

THE following letter of the REV. THOMAS PETERS may throw some light on the early beginnings of our country. It has never been printed (to our knowledge) before. Concerning its author we know very little, as he continued but a short time in New England, or, about six years. It would however be inferred from Farmer's Register, that he did not arrive in the country till 1646, which inference would be incorrect, as will appear by this article. The passage of Mr. Farmer concerning him was probably drawn from that book of Samuel Peters, "a work," in that careful author's language, "which it is hazardous to quote," and is as follows. "Thomas was a brother of HUGH PETERS, was a minister in Cornwall, England, from whence he was driven by Sir Ralph Hopton in the time of the civil wars. He came to New England and commenced a settlement at Pequot River with John Winthrop [jr.] in 1646. He remained here but a short time, being called back to his people, to which he returned in 1647."

When an individual has become a memorable point in history, whether from his good or bad fortune, or good or bad qualities, (by the present standard of men's judgments,) there is a natural desire to know some

thing of his kindred or family. The course pursued by the *Rev. Hugh Peters* in aid of those opposed to the arbitrary rule of *Charles the First*, and the fate he met with at the restoration, place him among those conspicuous points in history. He came earlier to America than his brother, but continued here nearly an equal length of time. The family seat of the Peters appears to have been at Fowey, in Cornwall, and here *Hugh* was born, as probably were his brothers, if he had more than one. The family had long been of considerable note when *Hugh* came upon the stage, and as late as the time of *Warburton*, one of the family attracted his attention by his literary productions. This was the *Rev. Charles Peters*, A. M., rector of Bratton-Clovelly, in Devon, and afterwards of St. Maybin, in Cornwall. To form an estimate of the literary abilities of this gentleman, we must look elsewhere than in the "Divine Legation." A historian of Cornwall, Dr. Polwhele, gives him a fine character, as well literary as moral. He was born in 1691, and died in 1775, a. 84.

Under 1646, Governor Winthrop mentions that "a plantation was begun at Pequot river, by *Mr. John Winthrop, jr.*, *Mr. Thomas Peter*, a minister, (brother to *Mr. [Hugh] Peter*, of Salem.") And in a letter which Winthrop wrote to his son, dated, "Boston, 16(9)46," he says, The Rainbow went hence the 10th of this present with 80 passengers, but *Mr. Peters* is resolved to go by Malago with Captain Hawkins. (The same Capt. Thomas Hawkins, probably, who arrived at Boston in October, 1646.) Hence it is fair to infer that *Mr. Peters* sailed for England towards the close of 1646, and from a passage in Dr. Trumbull's History of Connecticut there can be little or no doubt that he came over in 1639. The interesting passage from Trumbull is as follows. "About midsummer [1639,] *Mr. George Fenwick*, with his lady and family, arrived in a ship of 250 tons. Another ship came in company with him. They were both for Quinipiack. *Mr. Fenwick* and others came over with a view to take possession of a large tract upon the river, in behalf of their lordships, the original patentees, and to plant a town at the mouth of the river. A settlement was soon made and named Saybrook, in honor to their lordships, Say and Seal and Brook. *Mr. Fenwick*, *Mr. Thomas Peters*, who was the first minister in the plantation, *Capt. Gardiner*, *Thomas Leffingwell*, *Thomas Tracy*, and *Capt. John Mason*, were some of the principal planters. Indeed the *Huntingtons*, *Baldwins*, *Raynolds's*, *Backus's*, *Bliss's*, *Watermans*, *Hides*, *Posts*, *Smiths*, and almost all the names afterwards to be found at Norwich were among the first inhabitants of Saybrook."

Thomas Peters was probably influenced to return to England from the circumstance of the conspicuousness of his brother *Hugh*, who was now or about this time at the zenith of his popularity. Probably Capt. Hawkins brought over the great and important news of the "death-blow given to royalty in the west of England," in the signal defeat at Torrington in Devonshire. It was there that *Hugh*, then chaplain to the Parliament's forces, exhorted them to exertion in the cause with great effect. Torrington surrendered to Gen. Fairfax on the 17th of

February, 1646, and only one month previous Dartmouth had surrendered under similar circumstances. Here too "the celebrated *Hugh Peters*" was equally conspicuous. *Sir Thomas Fairfax* having prepared to storm the place, Peters exhorted the soldiers in a manner and tone which ensured them to do their duty, and success crowned their arms at every point.

We have given a much longer preface to our short letter than we had any idea of when we commenced it. There is no date to the letter, but it is pretty certain that it was written in 1646, and perhaps early in that year. A war was kept up between the Mohegans and Narragansets, and messengers were often passing from Boston to the Indians in Connecticut, and it is probable that this letter was brought to Boston by a messenger of that kind.

It may be proper to add, that there seems to have been a relationship between the *Peters* and *Winthrop* families, other than that formed by the marriage of John Winthrop, jr. to *Elizabeth*, the daughter of *Hugh Peters*. Gov. Winthrop of Boston, writing to his son John of Connecticut, 26(8)46, mentions the arrival of Capt. Hawkins, "upon the last day of the week at evening, in a ship of 220 tons," and that, "there came no more in her but my sister, *Peter*." Again, he writes, 7(9)48, (to his son,) "we have now received full and certain intelligence from England by Capt. Hawkin's ship, (God was pleased to change his voyage and send him to heaven by the way.)" In this letter he speaks of the news from the contending armies, and adds, in a sort of postscript, "My brother *Peter* took the Duke of Hamilton prisoner."

No attempt at explanation appears in Winthrop's history, where these letters first appeared in print, under the editorship of Mr. Savage. Perhaps he did not wish to commit himself by any conjecture; but we plead ignorance and ask for information. Did *Hugh Peters* marry a sister of Gov. Winthrop? *Hugh Peters* was at the taking of the Duke of Hamilton in Preston fight, and if Winthrop means *him*, the rumor that *Peters* "took the duke prisoner," proved unfounded; and if he did not mean *him*, who did he mean? That *Peters* was in the bloody battle at Preston there can be no question, and we are told by some, that he encouraged the men by his presence, mounted, and, with a drawn sword, inspired the soldiers to firmness.

There is among the English Pedigrees, one of *Peters*, from which we take the following:

The Lady Alice Pole, in the reign of Henry III., (1216—1272,) gave the manor and castle of Compton, in Devonshire, to one of the family of *Peter*, whose posterity afterwards took the name of the place. Another branch settled at Torr-Newton, in the adjacent parish of Torr-Brian, of which was

JOHN PETER, who lived in the reigns of Richard II. (1377, &c.) and Henry IV. (1399, &c.) and who by his wife Alice, left issue, two sons,

I. JOHN, his successor.

- II. NICHOLAS, who succeeded to his mother's estates at Bakebeare, in Dorsetshire, and Milton, in Hants, and was M. P. for Shaftesbury, 28 Henry IV. (1450;) he d. s. p.
JOHN (I.) the elder brother, inherited his father's estates in Devonshire, and left issue
WILLIAM, who it appears was 24 years of age in 1475, (14 Edward IV.). At which time he came into possession of his father's estates, and also those of his uncle, who d., as before mentioned, s. p. He had issue
- I. JOHN of Torr-Newton, who m. Alice, dau. of John Collins, Esq., of Woodlands, and was father of Sir William Peter, or Petre, principal Secretary of State in the reigns of Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary, and Elizabeth, and ancestor of the Lords Petre of Writtle, in the co. of Essex.
- II. WILLIAM, who succeeded to his father's estates in Dorsetshire and Hants, and further increased his patrimony by his marriage with Joan, only dau. and heiress of Sir Roger Arundel of Calwoodly, co. Devon, by whom he had issue, three sons,
- I. ROGER, who d. young.
- II. WILLIAM, who succeeded his father, and d. s. p., 37 Henry VII., (1522.)
- III. JOHN, of Bowlay, near Exeter, and was M. P. from that city, time Philip and Mary. He m. Wilmot. dau. of John Peter, Esq., his cousin, of Torr-Newton, and sister of Sir William Peter, Secretary of State, and d. 1579, leaving a large family, among whom were
- I. JOHN, who was a member of the first Parliament of Philip and Mary for Dartmouth, (the same Parliament in which his father was a member for Exeter,) but d. s. p. in the lifetime of his father.
- II. OTHO, who succeeded to the estates of his father in Devonshire, as well as to those of his mother's brother, John Peter, custumar of Exeter, in other lands possessed by him in the same county, and was seated at Bowhay. Of this branch of the Peters family, is the present Earl Bathurst of Bowhay. There is in Exminster church near Exeter, a long latin inscription, commemorative of OTHO PETER, Esq., which OTHO was father of the last male heir, who m. Frances, dau. of *Thomas Southcote, Esq.*
- III. THOMAS, to whom his father gave divers lands in Cornwall, (which lands had been acquired of William Peter, his grandfather, by marriage with Joan Arundel,) m. Agnes, dau. of Thomas Godolphin, of Godolphin, Esq., (by his 2d wife. dau. of the noble house of Granville,) and was succeeded by his eldest son, ROBERT, who was bred a soldier, and served with distinction under Sir Edward Poynings at Havre, and in the Low Countries. In

* This king appointed Sir William Peter one of the overseers of his will, 1546. There is, in Prince's *Worthies of Devonshire*, a long and exceedingly interesting life of Sir William Peter, knight, and a pedigree of the family, not much differing in import from this we give from Burkes.

the 13th Elizabeth he was M. P. for Fowey, in the 14th for Penryn, and in the 28th of the same reign, for Dartmouth. He m. Thomasine, dau. of John Kestell of Kestell, co. Cornwall, Esq., and left issue two sons,

- I. HENRY, his heir,
- II. JOHN, of Treverran, who m. Elizabeth, dau. of William Thoms, of Devonshire,

HENRY (the heir,) M. P. for Fowey, in the 1st Parliament of James I., m. in 1609, Deborah, dau. of John Treffrey, Esq. of Place, a lineal descendant of Sir John Treffrey, who for his gallant services in France, particularly at Crecy and Poitiers, was created Knt. Banneret by the Black Prince, and permitted by Edward III. to quarter the royal lilies of France alternately with the arms of his own family. This HENRY PETER d. in 1619, leaving issue by his wife Deborah,

THOMAS, b. 1610, who m. in 1632, Elizabeth, only daughter and heiress of Henry Michell, Esq., of Harlyn, co. of Cornwall. Having been an active royalist in the civil wars between Charles and his Parliament, THOMAS PETER was for a long time imprisoned by Cromwell, but obtained his release on the 2d Feb., 1653, through the influence of his maternal kinsman, the celebrated HUGH PETERS. He d. in 1675, leaving three sons and a dau., m. to Henry Vincent, Esq. The successor of THOMAS PETER was his son GREGORY, Esq., of Harlyn.

The English genealogist here makes the following mystifying note, and in a confused manner, without intention probably, gives us the clue to the genealogy of HUGH PETERS.

"HUGH PETERS was of a family which had been driven from Antwerp on account of its religion. He was the s. of Thomas Dikewood Peters, a merchant of Fowey, by Martha, dau. of John Treffrey, Esq., of Place. The name of Peters was first assumed by Thomas Dykewood, the grandfather of Hugh."

We will close our present account by a brief extract from the Life of HUGH PETERS, by the Rev. Samuel Peters, LL. D., on the genealogy of the family, although it may be less satisfactory even than that we have already given; but as he claims kindred to HUGH, and consequently to Thomas, we ought certainly to let him be heard. This is his account:

"Mr. Hugh Peters was born of a rich family, but was made poor by Archbishop Laud by fines in the star chamber court, for his non-conformity to the ceremonies of the Church of England; and he gloried in his poverty, in his stripes, and imprisonment. The family of which he had his descent came from Normandy, with William the Conqueror, in 1066, and John Peters was knighted by Henry VIII., and his grandson, John, was created baron by James I., in 1603.

"The genealogy of Lord Peters in the Herald's office, points out a curious circumstance respecting the mode of spelling the name. The name of the oldest son is wrote *Petre*; the name of the second son,

Petres; that of the third, *Peter*, that of the fourth, *Peters*, and the fifth is *Petrie*. William Peters was the fourth son of Sir John Petre, Knt., of Exeter, in Devonshire. He m. Miss Elizabeth Treffry of Fowey, in Cornwall, a family of great antiquity, which yields not in gentility to any in Cornwall, and which resides in the same place and house to this day [1807]. Said William Peters was a merchant at Fowey, and had many sons and daughters by Elizabeth his wife. At present only three of these sons will be named. They became eminent puritan characters in Old and New England. WILLIAM was the oldest son. THOMAS, [the author of our letter,] and Hugh."

It is said,* that while at Saybrook, Thomas Peters established a school, which eventually became the foundation of Yale College. The Rev. Samuel Peters, LL. D., from whose Life of Hugh we have here extracted, was descended from WILLIAM, who settled near Boston in 1634, and whose posterity have now become quite numerous in Connecticut. There are no descendants of Thomas in this country, but of Hugh there are, in the female line. We may hereafter give a regular genealogy of the descendants of WILLIAM PETERS.

Sir,

Y^r letter to so unworthy a creature gave no small refreshment, let these of mine testify my reall and cordiall thanks. No man icyes [rejoices?] mo^r at y^r iron mines* successe than my selfe who publish it as [a] very mercy of God in this nicke of times and help o [on] wth my prayers y^r still it may psp [prosper] and answer y^r and our desires. Sir, M^r ffenwicke and his Lady present their due respects vnto you, giving thanks for the shoot instruments; but her rabbets are most ded — not past two alive. Some vermine having devoured them. Neithr can I heare of any in these pts as yet. Nor will I cease to inquir. I humbly beseech you to inclose this to my brother to be sent safely to him by some friend of yors. For til this 18th letter I haue sent him, and so to my wife, yet neuer could receiue one sellable frō either. We heare of 2 Bristoll ships wth you. I feare their cōing [coming] is not for good. The Lord guide y^r counsell and give yo^r hands full of zeale for his hono^r. Wee haue death of our Indian friends in Neanticot on oure side, slaine by the Naragantzets, and the death of English on tother side at Stamford, that calle for action; for vp and be doing frō such as a^r in the Lords stead heare. These parliaments dilections† braught most of Englands miseries on y^m saints. Y^e Lord help y^r spirits to be stirring betims. And with his owne spirit of power and wisdō. Let my due service be tendred to y^r godly yoakfellow, y^r son and his and all y^r. To Mr. Cotton, Mr. Wilson and all theirs, and

* Preface to a new edition of a History of Connecticut, by Rev. Samuel Peters, LL. D.

† The "iron mines" here referred to were at Lynn; they were not wrought at Braintree until the early part of 1652, though the same company seems to have been interested in both. Mr. Lewis has, in his *History of Lynn*, cleared up this important and neglected matter, as to Lynn; and we hope ere long an historian of Braintree will do as much for the Iron Works of that place. We will engage to help him, whoever he may be.

‡ This word seems to be used here more according to its old Latin signification, than to any meaning attached to it by either early or late English lexicographers. It is pretty evident the writer thought too much charity had been extended towards the king and his party.

Not reliable

See Edmund
Frank Peters
"Peters of New
England"

all my good friends in Boston. Begging y^r and all their helping prayers to the throne of mercy.*

Frō y^r unworthy servant
THO: PETERS.

[Superscribed.]
To the wor^d his much honored
freind John Winthrop
Esquire at his house
in Boston these
present.

THE FIRST SETTLERS OF BARNSTABLE, MS.

Copied for publication from the original Records, by Mr. DAVID HAMBLÉN, of Boston, member of the New England Historic, Genealogical Society.

1640.

Anthony Annable,
Abraham Blish,
Thomas Shave,
John Crocker,
- Dollar Davis,
Henry Coxwel,
William Bills,
Robert Sherly,
Thomas Hatch,
John Cooper,
Austin Bearse,
William Crocker,
Henry Bourn,
Henry Coggin,
Lawrence Litchfield,

James Hamblin,
James Cudworth,
Thomas Hinckley,
Isaac Robinson,
Samuel Jackson,
Thomas Allin,
Mr. John Mayo,
Mr. John Bursley,
John Casly,
William Casly,
Robert Lynnel,
Thomas Lathrop,
Thomas Lombard,
Mr. John Lathrop,
John Hall,

Henry Rowley,
Isaac Wells,
John Smith,
George Lewes,
Edward Fitzrandle,
Bernard Lombard,
Roger Goddspeed,
Henry Cob,
Thomas Huckins,
John Scudder,
Samuel Mayo,
Nathaniel Bacon,
Richard Foxwell,
Thomas Dimocke,
Samuel Hinkley.

PERSONS ADMITTED TO INHABIT, 1662 TO 1666.

Joseph Hollet,
John Phinney,
Gdd. Otis,
Samuel Fuller,

Nicholas Bonham,
John Howland,
Daniel Stewart,
Thomas Ewer,
John Serjant,

Joseph Benjamin,
Samuel Hicks,
Edward Coleman,
Samuel Norman.

FAMILIES OF THE FIRST SETTLERS.

ANTHONY ANNABLE m. 1st. Jane ———; children, Sarah, Hannah. He m. 2d. Anna Clarke, March, 1645; children, Samuel, b. 22 Jan., 1646; Ezekiel, b. 29 April, 1649; Desire, b. Oct., 1653. Wife Jane d. ab. Dec., 1648.

* We may possibly have mistaken some words in this letter, as it is altogether the most difficult specimen of old Chirography we ever undertook to decipher, though our trials in this way have not been small. Not but that we have had worse MSS. to deal with, owing to their having been so long exposed to dampness, and become obscure in that way, but this letter of Peters is as fair and legible as if he had his hand upon it.

Mr. THOMAS ALLYN had a son Samuel, b. 1 Feb., 1643.

AUSTIN BEARSE, children, Mary, b. 1640; Martha, 1642; Priscilla, 10 March, 1643; Sarah, 28 March, 1646; Abigail, 18 Dec., 1647; Hannah, 16 Nov., 1649; Joseph, 25 Jan., 1651; Hester, 2 Oct., 1653; Lydia, Sept., 1655; Rebekah, about Sept., 1657; James, July, 1660.

NICHOLAS BONHAM m. Hannah Fuller, 1 Jan., 1658; children, Hannah, 8 Oct., 1659; Mary, 4 Oct., 1661; Sarah, 16 Feb., 1664.

JOSEPH BENJAMIN m. Jemima Lombard, 10 June, 1661.

NATHANIEL BACON m. Hannah Mayo, 4 Dec., 1642; children, Hannah, 4 Sept., 1643; Nathaniel, 5 July, 1645; Mary, 12 Aug., 1648; Samuel, 25 Feb., 1650; Elizabeth, 28 Jan., 1653; Jeremiah, 8 May, 1657; Mercy, 28 Feb., 1659; John, June, 1661. (?)

CORNELIUS BRIGGS m. Mehetable Annable, 6 May, 1683.

THOMAS BILLS m. Anna Twining, 3 October, 1672.

WILLIAM BARDEN m. Deborah Barker, July, 1660; children, Mercy, 1 Nov., 1662; Deborah, 28 June, 1665; John, 17 March, 1667-8; Stephen, 15 April, 1669; Abraham, 14 May, 1674; Joseph, Sept., 1675; Anna, 26 Aug., 1677.

JOSEPH BODFISH m. Elizabeth Besse, June, 1674; children, John, 6 Dec., 1675; Joseph, Oct., 1677; Mary, 1 March, 1679-80; Hannah, May, 1681; Benjamin, 20 July, 1683; Nathan, 27 Dec., 1685; Ebenezer, 10 Mar., 1687-8; Elizabeth, 27 Aug., 1690; Rebecca, 22 Feb., 1692-3; Melitiah, 7 April, 1695; Robert, 10 Oct., 1698; Sarah, 20 Feb., 1700.

THOMAS BOURNAN m. Hannah Annable, 10 March, 1645; children, Hannah, May, 1646; Thomas, Sept., 1648; Samuel, July, 1651; Desire, May, 1654; Mary, March, 1656; Mehitable, Sept., 1658; Tristram, August, 1661.

JOHN BARKER m. Desire Annable, 18 Jan., 1676; children, John, 4 May, 1678; Desire, 22 Sept., 1680; Anna, 26 August, 1682, d. 22 Nov., following; Anna, 1 Nov., 1683.

ABRAHAM BLISH m. Anna, who d. 16 May, 1651; m. Hannah Barker, who d. 16 Feb., 1657; m. Alice Derbe, 4 Jan., 1658; children, Sarah, 2 Dec., 1644; Joseph, 1 April, 1648; Abraham, 16 Oct., 1654. ABRAHAM (Sen.) d. 7 Sept., 1683.

JOHN BURSLEY m. Elizabeth Howland, Dec., 1673; children, Elizabeth, Oct., 1674, d. Oct., 1675; Mercy, Oct., 1675, d. April, 1676; John, 1 March, 1677-8; Mary, 23 May, 1679; Jabeze, 21 August, 1681; Joanna, 29 Nov., 1684; Joseph, 29 Jan., 1686; Abigail, 27 August, 1690; Elizabeth, 5 August, 1692; Temperance, 3 Jan., 1695.

PETER BLOSSOM m. Sarah Bodfish, 21 June, 1663; children, Mercy, 9 April, 1664, d. 1670; Thomas, 20 Dec., 1667; Sarah, 1669, d. 1671; Joseph, 10 Dec., 1673; Thankful, 1675; Mercy, August, 1678; Jabeze, 16 Feb., 1680. PETER, d. July, 1706.

JOHN BAKER m. Annah Annable, 14 Oct., 1696; children, Annah, 8 Sept., 1697; Mercy, 18 August, 1699; John, 14 June, 1701; Rebeckah, 8 Sept., 1704; Samuel, 7 Sept., 1706; Mary, 25 March, 1710; Mehitable, 7 May, 1712; Abigail, 1 Feb., 1713; John, 1 Dec., 1716; Hannah, 24 March, 1718.

THOMAS BUMPAS m. Phebe Lovel, Nov., 1679; children, Hannah, 28 July, 1680; Jean, Dec., 1681; Mary, April, 1683; Samuel, Jan., 1685; Thomas, May, 1687; Sarah, Jan., 1688; Elizabeth, Jan., 1690; Abigail, Oct., 1693; Benjamin, 27 March, 1703.

HENRY COB m. Patience ———, who d. 4 May, 1648; he m. 2d. Sarah Hinkley, 12 Dec., 1649; children, John, 7 June, 1632, at Plymouth;

WENG5

PETERS Families
Pub. owned by Henry Peters

16-22-92

THE
REFUGEES
of 1776 from
LONG ISLAND
TO
CONNECTICUT

By

FREDERIC GREGORY MATHER

Compiler and Editor of "New York in the Revolution" and "New York in the Revolution—Supplement"

Member of the Sons of the Revolution in the State of New York; the New York Historical Society; the Connecticut Historical Society; the Long Island Historical Society; the Suffolk County, N. Y., Historical Society; the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society; the New England Historic Genealogical Society; and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities; President of the Stamford, Conn., Historical Society

ALBANY, N. Y.
J. B. LYON COMPANY, PRINTERS
1913

the goods of the enemy on L. I. Sound. (Pages 218, 222. Also D. 48) On Nov. 6, 1778, he took dry goods from David Howell, near Southold. (Onderdonk's "Suffolk Co.," p. 77) In 1781, he complained that he had been plundered. (Page 205) Once in Conn., Dec. 18, 1776, he became a member of the Committee to raise Volunteers for the Army (Mr. Henry H. Landon); and, on July 5, 1779, he acted as Capt. of the Militia in the New Haven Alarm. (G. 93)

He was b. Oct. 30, 1743; m. Oct. 18, 1763, Rebecca dau. of Dr. Nathaniel Ruggles, of Guilford; d. May 15, 1782. (Steiner's "Guilford &c.," p. 138)

David Landon

LANDON JONATHAN 3, MAJ. (Samuel 2, below; Nathan 1; twin brother of Capt. David, above)—From Southold to Dutchess Co., N. Y.; where he served in the 2d and 6th Regts., both as private and Maj. (G. 64, 68) He was a Member of the 2d N. Y. Council of Safety, in 1777; and Lt. Col.

He was b. Oct. 30, 1743; m. ———, Isabella Graham; d., at Pine Plains, Dutchess Co., ——— 1815. Some of his descendants are there now; but only in the female lines. He had: Richard Montgomery 4; Rebecca 4; Mary 4; and Arabella 4, m. Amos Ketcham. (Miss Lucy D. Akery)

He was not the Capt. Jonathan whose dau., Rebecca, m. Henry Peters, of Southold; and who was named as the executor of said Peters. (Suffolk Co. Wills, Lib. B. p. 447)

LANDON SAMUEL 2, JUDGE (Nathan 1; father of Capt. David, above, and Maj. Jonathan, above)—From Southold to Guilford. In Sept. and Oct., 1776, he was brought over, with 10 passengers and effects, by his son Capt. David. On Nov. 27, 1777, his claim was paid to his son-in-law, Samuel Brown. (C. 164, I. 2) On May 8, 1780, he petitioned the Gen. Ass'y of Conn. for permission to return to L. I. with his family, stock etc.; which was granted. (E. 72, 73) In 1781, he suffered from a raid on Shelter Island. (Clinton Pap., 7. 343-346. Also Chap. 22)

He signed the Association, in 1775. (H. 10, 12)

He was Judge of Suffolk Co., 1764, 1771 and 1775. (Bayles' "Suffolk Co.," p. 292) He also acted as Justice of the Peace. (Page 292. Also Griffin's "Journal," pp. 207, 208)

Census of 1776: Males—above 50 years, 1; above 16, 2; under 16, 2. Females—above 16, 1; under 16, 2. (A. 55) He was b. May 20, 1699; d. at Guilford, ——— 1782. He m. (1) Bethia, dau. of Henry Tuthill; (2) Mary Youngs. His children who lived to maturity, were: Capt. David 3 and Maj. Jonathan 3, above; Hannah 3, m. in 1747, Samuel Brown, of Guilford (I. 2); Nathaniel 3, said to have m. ——— Terry, and removed to Wyoming, Pa., where some of his family were massacred; Samuel 3, d. s. p.; Bethia 3, b. Jan. 4, 1730, m. Sept. 20, 1750, Peter 4 Vail, d. Feb. —, 1816 (Vail Gen., p. 47. See also Vail); Jared 3, m. (1) Martha Hutchinson, (2) Deborah Reeve, (3) Christian Conkling. Judge Jared 3 was the only son who remained at Cutchogue, in Southold, where he has descendants in the female lines. (Miss L. D. A.) He was a Member of the N. Y. Ass'y, 1789-1790; 1796-1802; and 1804-1806. (Civil List) His will, proved Mar. 15, 1816, named dau. Mary 4, wife of William Hubbard, of Guilford; dau. Bethia 4; son Henry 4; grandson Samuel Hutchinson. (Suffolk Co. Wills, Liber D., p. 20) He had a son, Capt. Elijah 4. (Griffin's "Journal," p. 148) Samuel Hutchinson, above, was probably intended for Samuel Hutchinson Landon. Henry 4, m. Mehitable Reeve (see Reeve), Wid. of John Griffin. (Miss L. D. A.)

In the North Branford, Conn., Ch. Rec. are these entries: Baptized, North Branford, March 23, 1777 Elijah & Mary—Grand Children to Sam^l Landon Esq^r. were Baptized on their Grand parents account. They being Refugees from Long Island—Upon account of the trouble of an army. Died, March 1777 Coll^m Sam^l Landon he belonged on Long Island. Came over here wth his father upon the account of How's Army having possession of Long Island. [Col. Sam^l, above, was probably Samuel 3, who d. s. p.]

LATHAM—William 1 came over in the "Mayflower." His son, Cory 2, was early in New London and Groton, Conn. He had sons: Thomas 3;

Sam^l Landon

PERRY ELIAKIM—From Southold to Conn., five in the family and goods, in Sept. and Oct., 1776, by Capt. John Vail. (C. 177) He signed the Association, in 1775. (H. 10, 12) He probably served in Conn. (G. 96) Census of 1776: Males—above 16 years, 2; under 16, 2. Females—above 16, 1; under 16, 1. (A. 55)

PETERS—Andrew came to Andover, Mass., in 1657. One branch of the family went to Conn., and thence to L. I. (Mr. William R. Peters) Dr. Charles 1 was living in Hempstead, in 1720; he d. about 1732. He had sons: Dr. Charles 2, d. in 1766; Valentine H. 2, b. in 1716, d. in 1786; John 2, b. in 1721, d. in 1806; Edward 2, b. in 1723, d. in 1780; and George 2, b. in 1726, d. in 1782. (Peters Gen.) So far as I know, there is no connection between the Peters of New England and those of L. I. (Mrs. Eleanor McClure Peters)

PETERS THOMAS—From Smithtown, or Huntington. He served in Col. Smith's Regt. (G. 7, 32); and was paid one-half of his bounty, in 1777. (Page 90) He also served in the Navy. ("N. Y. in the Rev'n.," p. 269); and in Conn. (G. 96)

It is probable that he came from the Conn. branch.

PHILLIPS—Rev. George, first Minister at Watertown, Mass., son of Christopher Phillips, was b. at Rainham, St. Martins, near Ronyham, in the Hundred of Gallow, Norfolk Co., Eng., in 1593. (From the Matriculation Books of Grenville and Cain's College, made for William Phillips, 12 Feb., 1848, and sent to the author of the Salisbury Genealogies, by Mr. Wendell Phillips—See also Wood's "First Settlements on L. I.," pp. 49, 50. Also Phillips Gen.)

Rev. George 1 was the common ancestor of the Family in America. He left Eng., in 1630. He was b. in 1593; preached at Watertown, Mass.; d. July 1, 1644. His son, Rev. Samuel 2, b. in Eng., in 1625; m. in 1651. Sarah, dau. of Samuel Appleton; d. Apr. 22, 1696. He was the Minister at Rowley, Mass. His dau., Elizabeth 3, m. Rev. Edward Payson. Rev. Samuel 2 had six sons, of whom Rev. George 3 was the first to live on L. I. He was b. at Rowley, June 3, 1664; graduated at Harvard, in 1686; settled at Setauket, 1697, and remained there until he d., June 17, 1739. (H. 39) He m. Elizabeth Hallett, and had sons: John 4, Daniel 4, George 4, William 4, and Samuel 4. George 4 settled in Islip; and, later, in Smithtown. William 4, d. b. —; m. Oct. 27, 1737. Sybil, dau. of Richard Smith; d., at Smithtown, Jan. 1, 1778. His wife d. Oct. 31, 1767. William 4 had several children, of whom: William 5 and Ebenezer 5 were the Refugees, below. (Thompson's "Long Island," 2. 459, 460. Also Phillips Gen., p. 38)

PHILLIPS EBENEZER 5, LT. (William 4, Rev. George 3, Rev. Samuel 2, Rev. George 1; brother of Lt. William, below)—From Smithtown to Norwalk. He signed the Association, in 1775. (H. 32) He served in Col. Drake's Provisional Regt. (G. 10); possibly in Harper's Levies (G. 56); and probably in Conn. (G. 96)

He was b. July 15, 1753; m. Jan. 17, 1782, Mary Benedict, of Norwalk, Conn.; d. at Norwalk, Aug. 5, 1829. He had: Esther 6, d. y.; Esther 6, b. Apr. 17, 1788; Sally 6, b. Dec. 11, 1790; and Elizabeth 6, b. July 9, 1798. (Phillips Gen. p. 38)

PHILLIPS WILLIAM, JR., 5, LT. (William 4, Rev. George 3, Rev. Samuel 2; Rev. George 1; brother of Lt. Ebenezer, above)—From Smithtown to Milford, probably in 1777. He was overseer for Col. William Floyd. On June 10, 1779, he petitioned for leave to go to L. I. and to bring from thence his effects, those of Col. Floyd and those of Ezra L'Hommedieu. (D. 30) He was a Prisoner, in 1780. (Page 120) He signed the Association, in 1775. (H. 32)

He declined the appointment as 1st Lt. of the 5th Suffolk Co. Company in the 3d Line, July 15, 1775 (G. 45); for which the Prov'l Cong. had issued a warrant, on June 29. (G. 1) But, afterward, he may have served as a private in the 1st Line (G. 43); in the 3d Line (G. 46); in the 2d Dutchess (G. 64); and in Conn. (G. 96) He was one of Col. Josiah Smith's executors. (See Smith)

It was probably his father, William 4, who, as "Esq.," signed the Association, from Smithtown, in 1775 (H. 23, 32); and who appeared in the Smith-

NEWS

PETERS FAMILIES

11-22-92

No connection
Came to Long Island, NY

A PETERS LINEAGE

FIVE GENERATIONS OF THE
DESCENDANTS

OF

DR. CHARLES PETERS

OF HEMPSTEAD

COMPILED BY

MARTHA BOCKÉE FLINT

PETERS.

The English family of Peters is presumably of French descent, but immediately derived from Flanders. "Roger Petrus, the Flamand," is named in the Domesday Book, 1085-6. It is probably he, also, who is called Roger de Pistre in the list of men accompanying Duke William to England, preserved in the Church of Dives, Normandy, and in the Roll of Battle Abbey, 1066.

The name appears variously as Petrus, Pistre, Petre, Peter and Peters. The family was early established in Cornwall and Devon. In the reign of Henry II., 1216-72, the Manor of Compton was given by Lady Alice Pole to Petre of Tor-Brian, and this spot seems to have been a centre of dispersion. In the latter part of the fifteenth century, John Petre and his wife Alice Colin, were living at Tor-Newton in the Parish of Tor-Brian. They were the parents of (1) *William Petre*, Secretary of State under Henry VIII., Edward VI., Mary and Elizabeth, from 1543 to 1571; (2) of *John Petre*, who remained in Devon, the male line of his descendants becoming extinct in the seventeenth century; and of (3) *WILMOT PETRE*, who married her kinsman, *PETRE OF BOWAY*, Parish of Stillingford near Exeter, with issue,—*Otto*, whose male line became extinct before 1700; and *THOMAS*, whose grandson, *HENRY PETRE*, married *DEBORAH TREFFEY* and settled in Cornwall about 1600. He represented the borough

¹ Sir William Petre received from Henry the estate of Ingersfield in Essex. His son, Sir John was made Baron of Writtle, in 1603. From him is descended the Essex family of Petre.

To this line belonged the Reverend Richard Peters, 1704-76, Secretary of the Province of Pennsylvania. He came to Philadelphia in 1735 as the Assistant Rector of Christ Church. Two years later, he was made Proprietary Secretary in charge of the Land Office. He was Provincial Secretary and Clerk of the Council from 1762-75, and rector of Christ Church and of St. Peter's, Philadelphia.

See Dorr's *History of Christ Church*. For the Philadelphia family of Peters, his descendants, see the *Sharpless Genealogy*.

of Fowey in the first Parliament of James I. His son, Thomas Petre, married Elizabeth Mitchell, of Harlyn, Cornwall, where their descendants continue to live under the name of Peter. This Thomas Peter was a zealous royalist during the Great Rebellion. When imprisoned by Cromwell, it was recorded that he was "released through the influence of his maternal kinsman, Hugh Peters."

The Devonshire family, being Protestants, are said to have added the "s" to the name to distinguish themselves from their Catholic cousins, the descendants of Lord Petre. It is also said to have been assumed during a sojourn in Wales, and then adopted by the family in Cornwall. This statement of Burke accords with traditions of Dr. Charles Peters's descent, surviving in distinct lines of his descendants;—the one, that he came from Wales, intercourse with sisters there being maintained during his life, and the other that he was from Penzance, Cornwall. The fore-name, Charles, recurs in successive generations of the Cornish family.

The arms of our family are those of the above families of Essex, Cornwall and Devon, namely:

Shield, gules; two escallops argent; between, a bend or, charged with a Cornish chough¹; sable proper, between two cinque-foils argent.

Crest: two lions' heads erased and endorsed; the dexter, or, collared azure; the sinister, azure, collared, or.

Legend: SANS DIEU RIEN.

For matter relating to the family in England, see as follows:

Harleian Society Collections, vol. xiv. *Visitation of Essex*, Part I., pp. 89, 264; Part II., p. 693.

Prince's *Worthies of Devon*, p. 529.

Polwhele's *History of Cornwall*, vol. v., p. 1789.

Burke's *Peerage*.

Burke's *Landed Gentry of England*, vol. II., p. 1264.

Burke's *Commoners of England*, vol. I., p. 31.

¹ Originally, a martlett; replaced by a raven when the family settled in Cornwall, on lands descended from Agnes Godolphin.

DR. CHARLES PETERS.

Our own family was planted in America by Dr. Charles Peters. There are but few traces of his life here, and no evidence exists fixing his English home or parentage.

Scattered but authentic mention of him is found in official documents. The first occurrence of his name discovered, is in the census of New York for 1703, entered as follows:

"Dr. Peters: Family, 1 male, 1 female, 1 female child."¹

He married Mary Hewlett, with known issue reaching adult life, of five sons and three daughters. His son, Valentine Hewlett, was born in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, August 18, 1716; but careful search of the Proprietors' Records finds no trace of Dr. Peters's residence there. He was living in Hempstead, Long Island, February 2, 1720.² His will is dated Hempstead, February 17, 1731, and was probated at New York April 3, 1733.³

The house of Dr. Charles Peters is still standing in Hempstead, on Fulton Street, the second house from Main Street. It is owned by Mr. Thomas Henry Clowes, whose grandfather bought it in 1770, from James Peters, son of Valentine Hewlett Peters. Until within a few years, the rear of the house was unchanged, shingled to the ground, and containing two low-studded rooms with heavy beams, great fire-places about the central chimney, low mantels and chimney closets. These old rooms were removed in 1890, but there still remain the floor-timbers and one mantel, while the parlor floor, Mr. Clowes asserts, is that "our ancestors walked over." In the garden, a gnarled grapevine covering a long arbor, is probably as old as the house itself. The land attached, and sold by James Peters, was

¹ See *Documentary History of New York*, vol. I., p. 611.

² See *Town Book of Hempstead*, Book D, p. 441, for Record of Sale of Land. He is there named as Charles Peters, Surgeon.

³ See Copy of Will, Appendix I., p. 149.

NEWS

10-22-92

RICHARD PETERS
HIS ANCESTORS
AND DESCENDANTS

1810

1889

EDITED AND COMPILED BY
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1904

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NEHGS

10-22-92

EDWARD DYER PETERS

(1849-1917)

A MONOGRAPH

BY

ELEANOR BRADLEY PETERS
(MRS. EDWARD McCLURE PETERS)

The Knickerbocker Press
NEW YORK
1918

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NEWS

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PETERS FAMILIES
BIRTH AND
German or Swiss
Come to Pa.

MAY 21 1935

1072-92

History

OF THE

Peter Family

WHICH ORIGINALLY SETTLED IN

Heidelberg Township, Northampton,

now Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.



COMPILED BY

W. K. PETER

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1908

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