

*RIGGS
Family*

The Augustan Society, Inc.

Reprint Programme

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1510 Cravens Avenue
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COLONIAL FAMILIES OF THE AMERICAS

LINEAGE NUMBER 8:

RIGGS OF MASSACHUSETTS

HAYWARD CARROLL PARISH, JR.

Descendant of EDWARD RIGGS (1590-1671), who settled at Roxbury, Colony of Massachusetts Bay, in the early summer of 1633.



Biographical notes:

University of California, Los Angeles, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.; Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan, Fulbright Research Fellow.

Officer on active duty, U.S. Naval Reserve, 1943-1946, 1950-1954; promoted to the rank of Captain, USNR, 1 July 1964.

University dean; Lecturer in East and Southeast Asian affairs; business executive (President, Kapa Company; Vice President, Environmental Design Associates).

Member: American Association for the Advancement of Science, Fellow; American College Personnel Association; American Siam Society, President; Asia Society; Association for Asian Studies; Augustan Society, Fellow, and Chairman of the Governing Council; International Institute of Arts and Letters, Fellow; Japan American Society of Southern California, Executive Vice President; Military Order of the World Wars, Perpetual Member; National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, President-Elect; Naval Order of the United States, Life Member; Naval Reserve Association, Life Member; Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, Councillor-General of the General Court; Knight, Royal Yugoslavian Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem; Phi Eta Sigma; Pi Gamma Mu, Chancellor, Western Region; Pi Sigma Alpha; Siam Society [Bangkok], Life Member; Society of the Colonial Wars; Sons of the Revolution; Western Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators, President; Jonathan Club; Episcopalian.

1. EDWARD RIGGS, born in 1590 in England, died the 5th of January 1671 at Roxbury, Massachusetts; married (1st) in England, to ELIZABETH ROOKE, who died in October, 1634, at Roxbury.

EDWARD RIGGS was among the earliest settlers of Roxbury, at that time a Boston suburb. Soon after his arrival he became a member of the Church of Christ, afterwards known as the "First Church in Roxbury," and, subsequently, on 14th May 1634, was made a Freeman and voter. In less than two years, due to the rigors of the environment, he lost his first wife and three of his six children. Three different dates are given for his first wife's death--the above date, August 1635, and October 1635. It seems improbable that his wife could have survived the second winter and the death of her children. EDWARD was successful in accumulating a substantial estate prior to his death at the age of 81.

Francis S. Drake, *The Town of Roxbury* (1878), p. 49; Charles M. Ellis, *The History of Roxbury Town* (1847), p. 17; Henry Ashley May, *Historical Sketch of the First Burying Place in Roxbury* (1905?), p. 122; Samuel Orcutt, *The History of the Old Town of Derby, Connecticut, 1642-1880* (1880), p. 753; *Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926* (1960); *A Report of the Record Commissioners containing the Roxbury Land and Church Records* (1881), pp. 12, 14, 180; Henry Earle Riggs, *Our Pioneer Ancestors* (1942), pp. 1-2; *Vital Records of Roxbury, Massachusetts, to the end of the Year 1849* (1926), p. 624; John H. Wallace, *Genealogy of the Riggs Family* (1901), I, 1-2.

2. Sergeant EDWARD RIGGS, born 1614 in England, died just before January, 1669, in Newark, New Jersey; married 5 April 1635, at Roxbury, to ELIZABETH ROOSA.

EDWARD RIGGS, eldest son of EDWARD RIGGS "the Immigrant," came with his family to Roxbury in 1633 and helped them establish their new home. He showed considerable skill in the use of the musket and, in the Pequot Indian War of 1637, he was awarded the military title of "Sergeant" in recognition of his rescue of his captain and twelve men from ambush. In spite of this achievement, he was unable to vote because he was not a member of the church. This fact may have contributed to his several moves. In 1640 he is recorded as having settled in

Milford, Connecticut, and is credited with being the first of the "principal after-planters." Church members were accorded the status of "free planters." A lot assigned him appears on the town's first map. In 1653, Sergeant Riggs and nine other Milford men bought claims to lands on the Naugatuck (Paugasuck) River, some ten or twelve miles above Milford, and established a plantation there which, later, became known as Derby. Before any formal division of the land was consummated, Sergeant Riggs secured an excellent location on a hill one mile east of what became Derby Village. He built his home there and constructed a stockade around it as protection against hostile Indians. Up until 1901, at least, that area was known as "Riggs' Hill." It was in this house that, in 1661, Whaley and Goff, two members of the English Parliament that condemned and executed Charles I, first found temporary refuge from their pursuers. In 1665, Sergeant Riggs and some of his associates visited the newly created Province of New Jersey and were so impressed by the area that they decided to establish a plantation on the Passaic River which became the town of Newark. On the 21st of May 1666, Sergeant Riggs became a member of the first Town Committee and, with the signing of the Fundamental Agreement on the 24th June 1667, he became one of the town's 63 founders. His wife, ELIZABETH, was the first woman among the colonists to spend a summer there. He arranged for two of his sons, EDWARD and JOSEPH, to be designated "planters," that is, original proprietors. In January, 1668, Sergeant Riggs was one of two men chosen as Fence Viewers. An unenviable position, it required considerable tact and an even temper. An annual inspection was made as soon as the frost disappeared from the ground in spring and visits were made at other times when the need arose. This office persisted for 80 years until almost all public and private properties were partitioned by stone walls. In May, 1669, Sergeant Riggs was one of five persons elected to the first body of Town's men and, in June of the same year, he was appointed to command one of the two companies of planters organized to carry out public projects. He must have passed away after having accepted the latter appointment, but in any case, prior to 1671 when his widow, a "healthy and well-preserved woman," remarried.

Drake, *The Town of Roxbury*, p. 95; Federal Writers Project, *History of Mil-*

ford, Connecticut, 1639-1939 (1939), pp. 8, 10; *A History of the City of Newark, New Jersey* (1913), pp. 65, 124, 129; Orcutt, *The History of the Old Town of Derby*, pp. 753-754; *Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926*; David L. Pierson, *Narratives of Newark, 1666-1916* (1916), pp. 11, 34, 59, 67; *The Register of the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of California* (1957), p. 37; Riggs, *Our Pioneer Ancestors*, pp. 3-7; *Vital Records of Roxbury, II*, 342; Wallace, *Genealogy of the Riggs Family, I*, 204.

3. EDWARD RIGGS, born 1636 in Roxbury, Massachusetts, died sometime after 1700, probably in Newark, New Jersey; married MARY ___, who bore him ten children.

EDWARD RIGGS, the eldest son of Sergeant EDWARD RIGGS, married about 1660/1. He arrived in Newark late in 1667, was listed as a "planter," and was described as "energetic and successful in accumulating property." He owned land in Derby, Connecticut, as well as in Newark. He was active in civic affairs between 1770 and 1791 when he sold his home lot.

Orcutt, *The History of the Old Town of Derby*, p. 759; *Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926*; Pierson, *Narratives of Newark*, p. 67; Riggs, *Our Pioneer Ancestors*, pp. 5-11; Wallace, *Genealogy of the Riggs Family, I*, 4, 5.

4. JOSEPH RIGGS, born 1675 in Newark, New Jersey, died the 11th of September 1744 in Orange, New Jersey. He was the father of eleven children.

JOSEPH RIGGS was the third son of EDWARD RIGGS. Some time after the turn of the century, he moved from Newark to Orange. He is said to have been active in the first church organization in that town called the "Mountain Society."

James Hoyt, *"The Mountain Society," A History of the First Presbyterian Church, Orange, New Jersey* (1860), p. 28; *Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926*; Riggs, *Our Pioneer Ancestors*, pp. 10-13; Wallace, *Genealogy of the Riggs Family*, pp. 8, 9; Stephen Wickes, *History of the Oranges in Essex County, New Jersey, from 1666 to 1806* (1892), pp. 46, 48.

5. GIDEON RIGGS, born in 1713 in Orange, New Jersey, died the 23rd of January 1786, in Morristown, New Jersey; married REBECCA (or REBEKAH), who was born in 1771, and died the 17th of May 1785 in Morristown.

GIDEON RIGGS was the fourth son of JOSEPH RIGGS. About 1746/47, he moved from Orange to Morristown where he became active in the Presbyterian Church. On the 31st of August 1752 he was listed as one of some 450 freeholders in that city. Riggs and others have claimed that he served in the New Jersey Militia. Since he was 63 at the outbreak of the Revolutionary War and no record of his service can be found, it is doubtful that he performed such service.

Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926; *Record of the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown, New Jersey*, pp. 21, 119, 127; Riggs, *Our Pioneer Ancestors*, pp. 13-16; Andres M. Sherman, *Historic Morristown, New Jersey* (1905), p. 66; Wallace, *Genealogy of the Riggs Family, I*, 9, 14.

6. JOSEPH RIGGS, born 1743 in Orange, New Jersey, died between the 23rd and the 27th of August 1814, in Amity, Washington County, Pennsylvania; married about 1770, at Morristown, New Jersey, to HANNAH COOK.

JOSEPH RIGGS was the oldest child of GIDEON RIGGS and was known as "Joseph Riggs of Amity." On the 30th of August 1770 he became a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown. In 1778 he served in the Revolutionary War as a private in Captain JOHN LINDSAY's Company, Colonel SILVANUS SEELEY's Regiment of the New Jersey Militia. In 1794 he moved to Washington County, Pennsylvania, with his family, and on the 10th of February 1795, he purchased 198 acres on Ten Mile Creek in Amwell Township. He was an elder in the Ten Mile Church.

D.A.R. *Lineage*, Vol. 58, p. 266; *New Jersey Archives, 1st Series, XXXVII*, 297-298; *Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926*; *Record of the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown*, pp. 20, 100, 126; Riggs, *Our Pioneer Ancestors*, pp. 17-19; William S. Stryker, *Official Register of the Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Revolutionary*

War (1872), p. 734; Wallace, *Genealogy of the Riggs Family*, I, 14, 20.

7. Reverend CYRUS RIGGS, born the 15th of October 1774, in Mendham, New Jersey, and died the 14th of February 1849 in Washington County, Illinois; married the 25th of July 1797, in Amity, Pennsylvania, to MARY ROSS, daughter of EDWARD and PHEBE ROSS of Washington County. The Ross family had come to Pennsylvania from New Jersey at the same time as the Riggs Family. MARY (ROSS) RIGGS died the 17th of August 1845 and was buried at Elkhorn, Illinois.

CYRUS RIGGS was the second son of JOSEPH RIGGS of Amity. At an early age, he decided to follow the cloth and, shortly after coming with his father to Amity, he entered the Canonsburg Academy. However, his father suffered financial reverses and CYRUS withdrew, married, and moved to Mercer County to carve out a home in the wilderness. Later, he was persuaded by the Reverend Dr. JOHN McMILLAN to sell his home and enter Jefferson College (the new name of the Canonsburg Academy) where, in 1803, he graduated with the college's second class. He stayed on to teach there while studying theology. In 1805 he was licensed to preach and, in 1807, was ordained as pastor of the Presbyterian churches at Fairfield and Mill Creek. In 1810 he was living in Sandy Creek Township in Mercer County. On the 6th of April 1814 he was installed as pastor of the churches at Scrubgrass (The Stone Church) and West Unity (Harrisville). On the 27th of June 1815, Cyrus, his wife "Polly" and his brother, Stephen, sold the property they had inherited after the death of their father for a handsome amount. In the fall of 1835, he came to Macomb, McDonough County, Illinois, and, in the summer of 1838, moved to Elkhorn (now Nashville), Washington County, Illinois. He preached throughout the region and, among other accomplishments, established the Galum Church in Perry County. He was stricken suddenly while preparing a sermon for the following Sunday and died at the age of 75.

S. J. M. Eaton, *History of the Presbyterian Church of Erie* (1868), pp. 51, 256-260; A. T. Norton, *History of the Presbyterian Church in the State of Illinois* (1879), I, 264-266; *Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926; Record of the First*

Presbyterian Church of Morristown, p. 166; Wallace, *Genealogy of the Riggs Family*, I, pp. 20, 39, 40.

8. DANIEL COOK RIGGS, born the 5th of April 1806 in Pennsylvania, and died the 24th of July 1868 at St. Joseph, Missouri; married to MARY ANNE STEWART, who was born in Pennsylvania and died the 24th of January 1847 at Rock Island, Illinois.

DANIEL COOK RIGGS was the first son of the Reverend CYRUS RIGGS. He probably came to Illinois with his father and, according to the Federal Census records, he was in that state in 1840. Sometime after 1860 he is said to have moved to Fremont, Nebraska, to live with his son, JOHN FINDLEY RIGGS, and, after 1866, to have moved with them to St. Joseph, Missouri, where he died.

Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926; Wallace, Genealogy of the Riggs Family, I, pp. 40, 59.

9. LEANDER STEWART RIGGS, born in 1832 in Scrubgrass Township, Venango County, Pennsylvania, died the 14th of February 1892 in Chattahoochee, Florida; married (1st) on the 6th December 1853, at Rock Island, Illinois, to MARY EVA FERRIS, born the 25th of April 1838 in Penn Yan, Yates County, New York, and died the 18th of May 1904, at Clarinda, Iowa. She was the daughter of BARTON PARKS FERRIS and ROSETTA MOTT, both of whom were born in New York of parents born in that state.

LEANDER STEWART RIGGS was the first son of DANIEL COOK RIGGS. He came west with his family and, according to the Census of 1850, was living in Rock Island, Illinois, in that year. Although his occupation was given as "tinner," he was highly versatile and is reputed to have developed an improvement on the process for refining sugar which he sold for a small fortune. The proceeds of this sale were invested in Ozark lead mining shares which became worthless. LEANDER served two years in the Union Army in the Civil War. He enlisted first on the 23rd of April 1861 at Knoxville, Illinois, as Musician in Company D, 1st Illinois Cavalry Volunteers. In August, he was transferred to Field and Staff as leader of the band. In October, 1861, he was mustered out and was reenlisted in Company H. Later, he served

with the 1st Brigade of the 6th Division in the Army of the Tennessee. He received a medical discharge on the 1st of April 1863 for ailments which incapacitated him for the remainder of his life. After the war, LEANDER and MARY were divorced and he remarried twice. He lived in Doniphan County, Kansas, and in St. Joseph, Missouri, before removing to Florida.

Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926; Wallace, Genealogy of the Riggs Family, I, 59; National Archives letter of 13 February 1939 detailing genealogical information (WC 404 276) addressed to Carroll Parish, Jr.; Leander Stewart Riggs Declaration for an Original Invalid Pension dated 17 March 1884; and General Affidavit, signed by his brother, John F[indley] Riggs, dated 4 January 1887. Marriage license was filed in Book A, page 69 in the County Clerk's Office of the County of Rock Island, Illinois.

10. ALFRED PARKS RIGGS, born the 25th of February 1858 in Galesburg, Illinois, died the 23rd of January 1908 in Clarinda, Iowa; married the 28th of November 1888, at Shenandoah, Iowa, to FLORA BELLE MARTIN, who was born the 11th of June 1867, at College Springs, Iowa, and who died the 19th of September 1960, at Los Angeles, California. She was a daughter of ISAIAH NOAH MARTIN, born in Martinsburg (Bruin), Butler County, Pennsylvania, and MARY ARVILLA JOHNSON, who was born in Canada, whose mother's family, the ROSES, fled north from New York during the Revolutionary War.

ALFRED PARKS RIGGS was the second son of LEANDER STEWART RIGGS; the oldest son drowned early in his youth. He was a railroad engineer and, in this capacity, travelled widely in the United States and Mexico. His versatility was unusual in that he gained notice as an inventor, musician and actor. Previous to his marriage, he was living in California. Early in 1888, he was in Santa Monica, but, in his wedding certificate, his residence is listed as Needles. In 1890, he lived in Colorado City, Colorado, and it was there that he received a patent for an automatic brake and slack adjuster device. The invention was conceded to be a valuable one and was used in the Midland Railroad. He invented a pen that would write "a thousand words"

without a refill. Whether this latter was one of the "two important inventions" mentioned in the press of the day is unknown. He is said to have played the oboe in John Phillip Sousa's band and acted on the stage with Mary Anderson and Minnie Maddern Fisk. He was in Chicago in 1893 and in Redlands, California, in 1898. He spent almost seven years in San Luis Potosi, Mexico, and was a member of Columbia Lodge #3 of the Knights of Pythias there. MRS. FLORA B. RIGGS studied three years at the Shenandoah Normal College, and, after her husband passed away, earned two diplomas in nursing at the State Hospital at Independence, Iowa. In 1918, she returned to Shenandoah to become Superintendent of the newly-opened Hand Memorial Hospital. About 1920, she moved to California where she was active in the Order of the Eastern Star and was a charter member of Artaban Shrine No. 1, Order of the White Shrine of Jerusalem.



ALFRED PARKS RIGGS (1858-1908)

Order of the Founders and Patriots of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926; United Mutual Life Insurance Company of Indianapolis, Indiana, Certificate of Insurance #99898; Certificate of Death, State of Iowa--Department of Vital Statistics. "A.P. Riggs. Page County, Iowa. January 23, 1908." Marriage Record, License #133, Page County, Iowa.

11. GERTRUDE ISABELLE RIGGS, born the 18th of August 1890, at Colorado City, Colorado, died the 18th of January 1946, at Los Angeles, California; married the 6th of June 1917, at Long Beach, California, to HAYWARD CARROLL PARISH, who was born the 25th of March 1896, at The Dalles, Oregon, and died at Darling Point, New South Wales, Australia, the 23rd of December 1968.



GERTRUDE ISABELLE RIGGS PARISH
(1890-1946)

GERTRUDE ISABELLE RIGGS PARISH was the oldest child of ALFRED PARKS RIGGS. The family followed the peregrinations of the father from Colorado City to Chicago (1893), to Redlands, California, to San Luis Potosi, Mexico, and return to Iowa (1907). She graduated from Drake University and from Iowa State Teachers College and, about 1914, came to Southern California where, until her marriage, she taught at elementary schools in Redondo Beach and Long Beach. In 1921, she taught school in McFarland, California. In 1925 she received the Life Certificate for elementary school teaching in California. In 1926, prior to her departure for Australia to join her husband, she attended the University of California, Southern Branch. HAYWARD CARROLL PARISH was the only child of ULYSSES DINSMORE PARISH (1869-1944) and GRACE EDNA RIDDELL (1870-1947). DINSMORE PARISH was a grandson of POWHATTAN BOLIN (1814-1846) of Virginia, who claimed descent from JAMES ROLFE and POCAHONTAS. GRACE PARISH's grandfather, JOSEPH ELMER HAMILTON (1819-1884) brought his family and a threshing machine, the first in Oregon, over the Old Oregon Trail in 1847. He was a Representative in the Oregon State Legislature from Linn County. Her colonial ancestors lived in New Jersey and New Amsterdam; her great-grandmother, ELIZABETH HAYWARD (1771-1821), claimed descent from ANNEKE JANS BOGARDUS of New Amsterdam, and her great-great-grandfather, DANIEL HAYWARD (1724-1777) of Morristown, New Jersey, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War. HAYWARD CARROLL PARISH was educated in Long Beach and served in World War I, enlisting the 14th September 1917 at San Diego, California, and honorably discharged as first lieutenant, Aviation Section, Signal Reserve Corps, the 15th of January 1919. He was a flying instructor, and, when the Armistice was signed, was in charge of the experimental department at Taliaferro Field, Fort Worth, Texas. On the 19th of April 1919, he opened the Service Garage at 52-58 Green Street in Pasadena, California, and, several years later, opened the first radio store in the area in the Mayland Hotel on Colorado Boulevard in that city. In 1923, he made a world tour to install radio broadcast stations in such places as Sydney, Australia, and Canton, China. At the end of the tour, he returned to Sydney where he was a pioneer in radio, motion pictures, and television.

of America, 2nd Supplement to Register of 1926; War Department, The Adjutant General's Office, Statement of Service WWD-feb/H-249 (2.20-39) WW dated 9 March 1939; Marriage License in Los Angeles County Recorder's Office, Box 277, p. 306, 9 June 1917.

12. HAYWARD CARROLL PARISH, JUNIOR, born the 13th of February 1920, in Pasadena, California; presently residing in Santa Monica, California. Twelfth in descent from the Colonial Immigrant EDWARD RIGGS of the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

Certificate of Birth No. 93, Division of Vital Statistics, Pasadena, California.

Dr. H. Carroll Parish, Jr., bears for arms:

Arms: *Per pale dimidiated: Dexter; Gules, three unicorns' heads coupéd argent (for Parish), Sinister; Ermine, on a bordure sable eight martlets argent (for Bolling), overall a chief chequy azure and argent (for Stewart).*

Crest: *A unicorn's head erased argent, between a thistle dexter and a rose sinister, both stalked and leaved proper.*

Mantling: *Azure doubled argent.*

Motto: *Qui maneat vincit.*

Drawing by Chevalier T. A. Keith-Hill.



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