

**MEMORIAL OF THE
BAXTER FAMILY:
FROM DATES AND
MINUTES COLLECTED**

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Memorial of the Baxter Family: From Dates and Minutes Collected by Joseph Nickerson
Baxter

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JOSEPH NICKERSON BAXTER

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FROM DATES AND MINUTES COLLECTED BY

JOSEPH NICKERSON BAXTER,

OF BOSTON.

*Harvard, A. B., A. M., 1875; Boston University Law School, L. L. B.,
1876; Massachusetts and Boston Bar, 1876.*



BOSTON:

PRINTED FOR THE FAMILY.

1879.

~~76385.30~~

US 42027.21

1880. July 27,

My

Friend N. Baxter,
of Commission, etc.
(H. U. 18-5.)

BOSTON:

PRESS OF W. L. DELAND AND SON,
4 Post-Office Square.

ADDRESS.

SOME two years since we undertook the task of collecting material for a Baxter Genealogy. Our friend, Henry J. Martin, of New York city, who had been collecting, for twenty years, towards a Martin-Baxter Genealogy, gave us warning and encouragement at the same time, for which we thank him; better than that, he has repeatedly sent us data.

It is next to impossible to get answers to letters, even when we enclose a stamp for return. Some persons imagine we are scheming lawyers, about to get some property in England or Prussia away from them, the heirs,—of course the property is valued at millions,—and they take no notice of our appeals for data. We have thought that the production of this pamphlet, loaded down with errors as it is, which you will please correct, will show how much, or rather how little is known, and give the "oldest inhabitant" a chance to tell what he knows and the author don't know. We hope that some juvenile Baxter will take a note book in hand, and when the "o. i." opens his or her mouth note everything said, and send the same to Boston direct.

It is a shame that this matter has been so neglected! In one case we were able to give a Baxter two bits of information: first, that his mother was married twice; second, that his father had fifteen children, five more than he ever heard of before. We verified our information by records, and he came to the conclusion there was "something in a genealogy after all."

We would call attention to the fact that blanks are to be filled up, and also, that to find *all* that is known about any person, it will be necessary to refer to the small numbers as well as the capitals. The only way in which any approach to accuracy can be made is by each one sending corrections to the author, who will preserve and note the same with the view of producing a large, finely bound, and illustrated BAXTER GENEALOGY. That these fragments do not amount to such we are well aware. We hope that kind consideration will remember that the author's profession makes such demands on his time that what is given to outside matters is either stolen, or taken from the hours sacred to Morpheus.

We would express our hearty thanks for the aid and encouragement afforded us by Col. J. H. Baxter and M. L. Baxter, of Washington, D. C.; Dr. Edwin C. Baxter, of Albany, N. Y.; Henry J. Martin, of New York; Gen. H. H. Baxter and J. N. Baxter, Esq., of Rutland, Vt.; Miss Shattuck, daughter of Lemuel Shattuck, Esq., late deceased, of Boston; Hon. James P. Baxter, of Portland, Me.; William T. Davis, Town Clerk of Yarmouth, Mass., and Right Hon. William Edward Baxter, M. P., of Forfar, near Dundee, Scotland.

We have several coats of arms and escutcheons in our possession, but have thought it best not to publish them till in the larger work.

A word as to the origin of the name, and we have done.

William Baxter, nephew of Rev. Richard Baxter, of England, derives Bagster, Backster (so spelled in Fox's Roll of Marian Martyrs) or Baxter, "from the word *Baecester* (baker), the sign among the ancient Britons of high nobility." *Pier's Plowman* speaks of "baksteres and brewsteres." I find "Elias, le Baxter," Ralph, le Bakster," and "Geliana, le Bacster." Capgrave, B. C., 205, uses the word *Baxter*, a female baker.

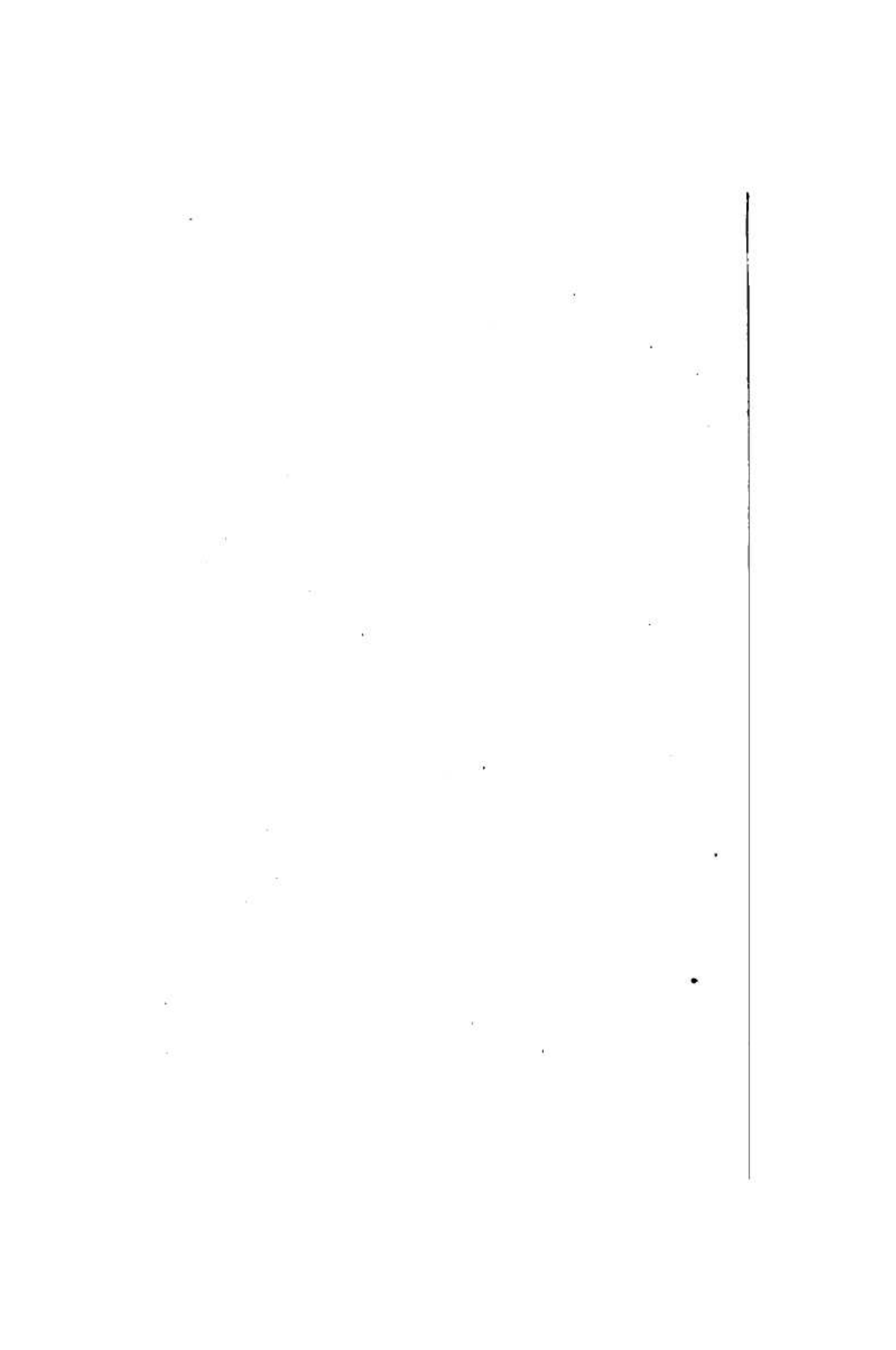
The several branches of the family are not connected because of the obscurity of the antecedents of the "Three Tolland County Baxter brothers, in Connecticut." The Baxters from Cape Cod went to Tolland and vicinity, in revolutionary war times, and Thomas Baxter, over a century before, in 1653; described as of New London and resident in Connecticut, settled at Yarmouth, on Cape Cod, about 1670. The Rutland, Vt., Baxters came from Nova Scotia, and, revolutionary times, ran to Nova Scotia in 1777.

From the connection of these families with the Quincy, Mass., Baxters, it is seen that the "missing link" is not far away. Trusting we shall receive a deluge of correction and information,

We remain,

THE AUTHOR.

120 Boylston Street, Boston.
January 1, 1879.



MEMORIAL.

THE BAXTERS of England have been often raised to rank, and held noble positions of honor and trust; and inasmuch as those of the name, both in England and America, have very often been rich and educated, it seems strange that no one has undertaken the task of giving the family the benefit and stimulus of a history or genealogical record.

QUINCY, MASS., BAXTERS.

The first charter of Massachusetts Bay was granted by Charles I, and bears date March 4, 1629. It recites letters patent of James I, dated November 3, 1620, granting to the Council established at Plymouth, in the county of Dover, for the planting, ordering, ruling, and governing of New England in America, all that part of America, from latitude 40° to 48°, from sea to sea.

In 1625 Capt. Wollaston, with thirty persons, settled Mount Wollaston, near Braintree, but abandoned it; and Morton, whom the people seized and sent to England from Plymouth, called it Merry Mount.

In 1654 the inhabitants of Boston met and chose seven men to divide the Town Lands among them; on September 8, 1634, the General Court at Newton decided to add Mount Wollaston and Rumney Marsh to Boston.

In 1636 grants were made to settlers at Mount Wollaston, which was incorporated in 1640 as the Town of Braintree. Among the grantees of 1636 was Henry Adams.