THE THAYER FAMILY OF BROCKWORTH ACCORDING TO THE RESEARCHES OF REV. CANON WILLIAM BAZCLEY

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The Thayer family of Brockworth according to the researches of Rev. Canon William Bazcley by Luis Thayer Ojeda

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LUIS THAYER OJEDA

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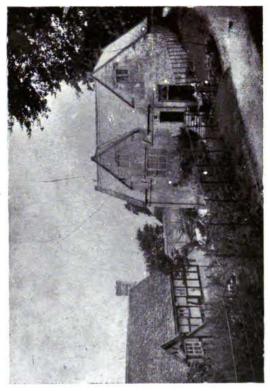
Rev. Canon William Bazcley

LUIS THAYER OJEDA

Always ahead



SANTIAGO DE CHILE
IMPRENTA MODERNA
2015, MONEDA, 2015
1907



The oldest home of the Thayer family at Brockworth, Oloucestershire, know as "Cooper's Hill (15th and 17th centuries).



THE THAYER FAMILY OF BROCKWORTH

Always ahead.

The Thayer Family of Brockworth, in the county of Gloucester, is settled there prior to 1542, probably in the fifteen century came from the East or South the first of the name; but no documentary evidence, no positive proof exists of the fact.

We know there were two lines of the same family: Joan Theyer (1) and Thomas Theyer the

elder (40).

Joan Theyer was a widow in 1545. She mentions in her will a son, Thomas Theyer and several persons of her family. We think her children were: the mentioned Thomas Theyer the younger (2), of

Brockworth; John Theyer the elder of Brockworth (45); Walter Theyer of Churchdown (70); and William Theyer of Hucclecote (92), all heads of families.

Thomas Theyer the elder of Brockworth (40) died in 1542 or 1543. He was married second time Agnes (will 1547). He mentions his son John as a minor in his will dated 31 July, 1542. Other children unknown.

The Theyer family settled afterwards at Church down (*), Hucclecote (†), Warpley, Whittington, Sandurst, Walton, Stinchcombe, Uley, Frocester and other villages and hamlets of Gloucestershire.

It is not improbable that the Thayer family settled at Thornbury (1) prior to 1558, were another line of the family of Brockworth.

The origin of the Thayer name, as far as we have been able to look, is of German procedence, and it seems probable that the ancestors of Brockworth's family took their name of the word Their, that the German pronunciation is like teir. In the English

^(*) Churchdown is a village only two or three miles from Cooper's Hill, where Theyer's of Brockworth resided.

(†) Hurcherote is a bamlet in the parish of Churchdown.

^(‡) Thornbury is in the western part of Gloucestershire, 25 miles southeast of Brockworth.

registers of the 16th century the Thayer name was spelled in different ways: Their, Theyr, Theyre, Theyer, Theire, Thaire, Thayr, Tair, Tayer, Tawer, Tawier Tawer and other. (*)

Tawier, Tawyer and other. (*)

It is the common way Theyer, and so we can see some signs in Gloucestershire's manuscripts, of the 16th and 17th century. In the beginning of the 17th century we find the name spelled Thayer. The way Theyre is also very common (†).

The old Theyer's homes remain at Churchdown,

Hucclecote and Cooper's Hill.

Rev. Canon Bazcley with Dr. Oscar Clark did take a photograph of the oldest home of the Thayers, known as Cooper's Hill. There are two houses, a fifteenth-century half-timbered house and adjoining a little to the southeast, an early-seventeenth century house, built in the time of King James I [1603-1625]. Originally the 15th century house was built partly of oak frame, which was filled in with strips of oak bark and covered with mud or plaster known in the locality as wattle and dab. In later years the wattle and dab has been taken away and bricks substituted.

Rev. Canon Bazeley found, in an upstairs bedroom, in the wall two stone faces of an animal,

^(*) The registers of the Parish of Winehcombe commence in 1539. Between the years 1608 and 1621 are several names spelled Tirer and Tyrer.

⁽t) Mr. Henry Ernest Woods, A. M., says that "the root of 'he family name, from 'taw' to dress skins is made clear in the earlier spelling of the name at Thornbury. The letter 'h' was added soon after the emigrant came to New England." In Thornbury, frequently we find the ways of Tawer, Tawier, Tawyer, Tayer.

partly covered with paper. These he believes are crest or badge of the Thayer family (*).

The second house seems to have been built as a home of a second branch, perhaps by the father of John Thayer the Antiquary (†).

The next is a copy of an important manuscript

relative to him. "John Thayer, senior. Inquisition taken at the city of Gloucester 20th September, 8, Charles I (1632) before Toby Bullock, Esq., Mayor and Escheator, George Raymond, Esq., Feodary, after the death of John Thayer, senior, late of Coopers in the parish of Brockworth, by the vath (?) of John Heyward, Thomas Hill, Henry Matheu, Richard Elliotes, Robert Dobbes, John Reak, William Kent, Henry Robbins, Nicholas Wesse, Richard Caggley, Robert Tayloe, William Bond and Roger Davis, who say that John Thayer, senior, was seized of 2 messuages ortchener's in Brockworth, one thereof is called Coopers and the other Hampen, and of all the lands, meadows, pastures, feedings and cornlands to the said messuages belonging; also of one portion of the tithe of hay growing in the meadow called Hampen Meade in Brockworth. So seized the said John

^(*) Arris of Thayer of Thaydom, Essex. Per pale, ermine and gules 3 talbots' head erased counterchanged. Crest a talbot's head erased. Pet lerse ermine and gules.

^(†) In 'Anthony Wood's Ahenia Oxonierses, volume II, page 519, is a sketch of John Thuyer. He was an author and his works were enumerated by Wood. He died 25 August, 1678, leaving a library in which there was about 800 manuscripts, collected principally by himself. These are now in the British Museum.

Thayer by indenture dated 16 June, I, Charles I (1625) on consideration of the love which he has towards John Thayer, junior, his son and heir apparent and of the sum of £ 400 paid to him by the said John, granted him at the said premises: to hold to him and his heirs. The two messuages aforesaid are held of the king-in-chief by knight's service, but (?) by what part of a knight's fee the jurors know not, and we (?) worth per annum clerk 20s."

John Thayer, senior, died at Brockworth 22nd April, 7, Charles I (1631) John Thayer is his son and heir and was then aged 32 years and more. He took all the profits of all the premises from the death of his father (ap. (?)) to the taking of this Inquisition. Inq. p. m. v. o. 8 Charles I, No. 20.

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Rev. Canon William Bazcley, secretary of the County Archaelogical Society of Gloucester, has been successfully collecting informations of the Thayer family of Brockworth. The amount of labor required to examine and to extract the old wills and other manuscripts has been considerable. His labor, condensed in this pamphlet, has been printed to serve as a beginning of a large study, to get the connection of every family of the name Thayer in England, that we believe are of the same origin.

It may be some errors of interpretation of ours, and we beg compilers to send us their observations. Address: Luis Thayer Ojeda, Casilla 1572, Santiago

de Chile, S. A.