

**CHRONICLES OF THE BOIT  
FAMILY AND THEIR  
DESCENDANTS AND OF  
OTHER ALLIED FAMILIES**

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Chronicles of the Boit family and their descendants and of other allied families by Robert  
Apthorp Boit

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**ROBERT APTHORP BOIT**

**CHRONICLES OF THE BOIT  
FAMILY AND THEIR  
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OTHER ALLIED FAMILIES**





MRS. ARTHUR HUNNEWELL  
NÉE JANE HUBBARD BOIT

CHRONICLES  
OF THE  
**BOIT FAMILY**  
AND THEIR  
DESCENDANTS  
AND OF OTHER  
ALLIED FAMILIES  
BY  
ROBERT APTHORP BOIT  
OF  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

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A. D. 1915



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THIS BOOK is lovingly dedicated to the  
oldest and dearest friend of my long  
life — Mrs. Arthur (Boit) Hunnewell.

ROBERT ARTHUR BOIT

April 29, 1915.

*Handwritten:* 26 Sept. 15





## Preface

THIS book is written primarily for the sake of my children who know little or nothing of their ancestry, and to them it is addressed. But it is also intended for my grandchildren and those who may follow them — especially those of the name of Boit if such there be.

If they read these pages they will learn that very few of their ancestral relations, on my side of the house, have distinguished themselves in public life, but that they have been respectable and well-educated ladies and gentlemen with good positions in the communities in which they have lived.

Many of them have shown literary and artistic tastes, and some few have been well-known writers and painters.

So far as I have studied them I have found little to condemn and much to praise in their refined and simple lives. Some have been rich and some poor, but I have failed to discover records of any who were not respectable and respected.

Of all among them there is little doubt but that John Boit, of Boston, master-mariner, led the most adventurous and exciting life. He proved himself to be a brave and intelligent man — able to cope with man and circumstance — and full of that literary taste so often found among his descendants. I hope when my children and their children have read what I have written

of him, they, too, may feel a little of my own pride in him and his career.

Mere sequences of genealogy make dull reading. Therefore I have tried as much as possible, by anecdote and incident and personal reflections to lighten up my story.

Judging from my own feelings about my own ancestors, I suppose some day, here and there, a descendant of mine may wish to catch a glimpse of what my own life was. Indeed, I have loved my life, and taken a keen interest and enjoyment in many things. I have included herein a brief synopsis of it. If in so doing I may seem to have over-exalted or been too praiseful of myself, I have failed in my purpose, for I fully appreciate the fact that my interests have been too diversified for me to have achieved real success in anything. However, I have entire confidence that however I may have written, I shall be criticized by my readers as they see fit.

My facts and fancies have been taken from family legends and manuscripts, from old Boston records and from incidents within my own personal knowledge.

At the end of the book I have given a list of references and many genealogical tables. For the tables of the Sturgis and White families I am much indebted to Mr. Francis S. Sturgis of Boston, and Mr. Howard Sturgis of Windsor, England; for those of the Mercer and Griffin families of Virginia, to my sister-in-law Mary Stuart (Mercer) Walker of Morristown, New Jersey.