

**HOMES OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS
ANCESTORS OF MAJOR
GENERAL JOSEPH HOOKER**

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Homes of the Massachusetts ancestors of Major General Joseph Hooker by Isaac P. Gragg

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ISAAC P. GRAGG

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MAJOR GENERAL JOSEPH HOOKER.

FROM PORTRAIT BY J. HARVEY YOUNG, NOW IN THE HOPKINS SCHOOL
AT HADLEY, MASS.

*Library of Harvard University
with Compliments of the author.*

HOMES

OF THE

MASSACHUSETTS

ANCESTORS

OF

Major General Joseph Hooker

BY

ISAAC P. GRAGG

BREVET CAPTAIN, U. S. VOLS.

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HOOKER'S ANCESTRY.

"New England, mother stern and harsh
Couched in the frozen North,
Blest in thy daughters and thy sons,
Thou bringest heroes forth;
Here Stark and Putnam bravely fought,
And Warren nobly fell;
And here, in boyhood, Hooker roved
Through every shady dell."

CAPTAIN W. H. NELSON.



THE magnificent tribute to the patriotism and military ability of Major General Joseph Hooker, made by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 1896, in the unanimous vote of both houses of the Legislature appropriating \$50,000 for an equestrian statue of the General, to be placed upon the State House grounds, has led to a deep interest among the citizens of the State in everything that pertains to the history of this branch of the Hooker family.

Until recently it was the supposition that the General's ancestors were of the Connecticut Hookers; this was not surprising as persons of that name moved from Connecticut up the valley and settled in the region where the Town of Hadley is located and where the General was born.

The Hooker celebration held at Hadley in 1895, under the auspices of the Third Army Corps Union, led the writer of this article to become deeply interested in the General's ancestry and the result of his research has been to gather up the broken links of records and tradition and establish the correctness of the following historical and genealogical story.

It is a most interesting fact that the direct ancestors of General Hooker, for five generations back to the probable emigrant ancestor to these shores, were all named *Joseph* Hooker, and more singular still, that among all the other Hooker families of New England, as far as research has developed, there has not been another Hooker by the name of Joseph, so that the name for the present, ceases with the General, he leaving no descendants.

It cannot be established as yet where the emigrant Joseph Hooker came from, but it seems probable that he came from the south of England or from the Isle of Jersey; some of the settlers at Marblehead and other fishing stations along the north shores of Massachusetts Bay were from the Isle of Jersey; there was a family of Hookers residing at Marblehead in the early days, of whom little is known.



(Old Well.)

SITE OF THE HOOPER HOUSE IN WEST WENHAM, MASS. HOUSE BUILT IN 1699.

