

HISTORY OF THE BRADLEY FAMILY

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History of the Bradley Family by Samuel Bradlee Doggett

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SAMUEL BRADLEE DOGGETT

**HISTORY OF THE
BRADLEY FAMILY**

HISTORY
OF THE
BRADLEE FAMILY,

WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE

DESCENDANTS OF NATHAN BRADLEY,

OF

DORCHESTER, MASS.

COLLECTED AND ARRANGED BY

SAMUEL BRADLEE DOGGETT.



BOSTON:
PRESS OF ROCKWELL AND CHURCHILL,
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1878.

P R E F A C E .

As the number who take much interest in genealogical researches is so small, there are but few persons who are aware of the difficulties and perplexities of collecting and arranging the genealogy of a family. Some families have but few records, others none at all; lists of names are found without dates, and in some instances dates of birth are purposely withheld. The following records are divided into two parts. The first part gives but glimpses of the name, without the connecting links, from 1183 to 1670 (the object being to trace the name of Bradley as far back as possible); while the second part gives an accurate record from 1631 to the present time.

The name was originally spelled Bradlcy, the change to Bradlee being made by Samuel Bradlee, who was recorded in the Dorchester records as the son of Nathan and Lydia Bradley, born Oct. 5, 1707, and on the monument erected to his memory, in the Dorchester burying-ground, as Mr. Samuel Bradlee, died July 7, 1768, aged 62, the *y* giving place to *e*. Family tradition has it that the Bradleys in Dorchester were so numerous that mistakes were made, to obviate which Samuel Bradley changed the final letter to *e*. The change in spelling applies also to John Bradley, the brother of Samuel, whose name is recorded on his tombstone as Bradlee.

The posterity of Samuel Bradlee, who are living, and bear the name at the present day, still retain this mode of spelling it. Other alterations were made about the same time, such as Breadley, and Bradly. In the second part I have endeavored to arrange what facts I could gather together of the descendants of Nathan Bradley, of Dorchester, Mass., so that they might not be entirely lost. In this endeavor I have been supported and encouraged by

the assistance of my father, Nath'l B. Doggett, whose collection of dates of family history have been a stepping-stone to the following facts.

It will be seen that many families are but partially sketched, some errors, both in fact and date, may be found, and omissions detected, but as a whole the work may be relied on as substantially correct. For this correctness in a number of cases I am indebted to Mr. Nath'l J. and Rev. C. D. Bradlee, who have seconded the idea of a family history, and exerted themselves to make it as perfect as possible.

Mr. Wm. T. Eustis has also given me many facts; for which I would express my thanks.

Any additional information or correction will be thankfully received and preserved for the benefit of posterity.

SAMUEL B. DOGGETT.

BOSTON, MASS., May, 1878.

HISTORY
OF THE
BRADLEE FAMILY.

—o—o—o—
When two numbers occur before a name, they refer to the same two numbers reversed,
following which whatever else that may be known of the person will be found.

—o—o—o—
PART I. 1183—1670.
—o—o—o—

THE earliest mention in England of the name of Bradley, which has come to my knowledge is in the year 1183, at the feast of St. Cuthbert, in Lent, when the Lord Hugh, Bishop of Durham, caused to be described all the revenues of his whole Bishopric.

This survey of Hugh Pudsey, called Bolton Buke, mentions in Wolsingham, which contains three hundred acres, Roger de Bradley, who holds forty acres at Bradley, and renders half a marc, besides forest service, to wit: forty days in the fawn season, and forty in the rutting season.

In 1437 there is mention made of Bradleys, of Bradley. In the will of Ralph Snaith, which was proved March 23, 1472 or '73, he mentions a farm had of Bradley. Again, in 1475, the will of Sir John Pilkington, Knight of Yorkshire, bequeaths to his brother Charles a place named Bradley. The name seems to have been applied to places in England

at a comparatively early date; but from what source they sprung I have been unable to ascertain. At the present time there are in England a number of townships which bear the name in Cheshire, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, Southampton, and Staffordshire, which is about the largest, containing three thousand three hundred and seventy-six acres.

There are also Great and Small Bradley parishes in Suffolk, and Lower and Upper, or Bradley Both, in Kildwick, Yorkshire.

John Bradley was Bishop of Shaftesbury in 1539.

In 1578 Alexander Bradley lives in the see of Durham, and about the same year Cuthbertus Bradley is curate of Barnarde Castle. The Bradleys of Acworth are the first who had their arms and pedigree preserved, and that by a visitation of the County of York by Wm. Dugdale, Nuroy King of Arms, in 1665 or '66.

The arms are, "Or—a fess azure, between three buckles gules," and are proved by the visitation of Berkshire. The first one mentioned in the pedigree is John Bradley, of , in County Ebor, an ensign in King Henry the Eighth's army, on his expedition to Bulloigne in France; then follows the pedigree, which may be seen in one of the publications of the Surtees Society.

His grandson, Thomas Bradley, was Doctor in Divinity and chaplain to King Charles the First, afterward prebend in the cathedral Church of York, and rector of Ackworth in County Ebor. He was 67 years, 7 months in August, 1665.

His son, Savile, was Fellow of Magdalen College in Oxford, and another son, Thomas, a merchant in Virginia. About this time the persecutions in England led many to emigrate to America, and this emigration so increased that a tax was levied on all those who left the country; but this, instead of decreasing the number of emigrants, led many to slip away by stealth, and thus leave no record of their departure. Among the original lists of emigrants, religious exiles, etc.,

I find no record of Bradleys who can be traced to our ancestors, although a number are mentioned as having embarked for America. These lists of course are very imperfect, and there are still many unpublished documents, which, when brought before the public, may help to mend the broken links in many family histories.

Among the early settlers of New England we find a number by the name of Bradley, who are probably descended from a common ancestor, as the same names are often repeated.

The following are the heads of a number of families of this name who settled in New England, the first mentioned being the only one the date of whose departure from England is known: —

DANIEL was born in 1615, in England, and came to this country in the ship "Elizabeth," from London, in 1635.

He married, May 21, 1662, Mary, daughter of John Williams, of Haverhill, where he resided; was killed by the Indians, Aug. 13, 1689. He had 7 children, one of whom, Daniel, married Hannah, and had children; Mary and Hannah, who were killed by the Indians, Mar. 15, 1697.

JOHN lived in Salem, married Catherine, moved to Dedham, then to Dorchester, where he had one child, Salathiel, who was born Mar. 16, 1642, and died at 6 weeks.

He died, June, 1642, and left a will, in which his wife and brother-in-law, William Allen, were mentioned.

One family of Bradleys, five brothers and one sister, settled in New Haven.

They were: —

1. WILLIAM, who married, Feb. 18, 1645, Alice Prichard, perhaps daughter of Roger, of Springfield. He had 8 children, and numerous descendants. Died in 1691.
2. ELLEN married John Alling.

3. DANIEL was sworn Freeman 1657, had wife but no children, and died Dec., 1658. His estate went, after the widow's portion, to his brothers and sister.
4. STEPHEN GUILFORD, at New Haven, sworn Freeman 1660, and married, Nov. 9, 1663, Hannah, daughter of George Smith, of New Haven, by whom he had 7 children.
He married for a second wife Mary, widow of William Leete, and died June 20, 1702.
5. JOSHUA was married, and had only Joshua, born Dec. 31, 1665; perhaps removed.
6. NATHAN lived at Guilford, married Esther , and had 6 children.

There were also in Connecticut:—

- PETER, a mariner, who lived at New London in 1654. He married Eliza, believed to have been daughter of Jonathan Brewster, and had 3 children. Died in 1662.
- FRANCIS, of Fairfield, the Freeman of 1664, was of Branford, 1660, and, removing to F., married Ruth, daughter of John Barlow, of the same, by whom he had 6 children. He died the latter part of 1689.
- ISAAC, also of Branford, 1667, removed to New Haven in 1683, where his name was long continued by a multitude of descendants.

To return to Massachussetts, we find:—

- RICHARD, of Boston, who married Ann ; had Ann, born Dec. 16, 1651; Deliverance, Apr. 3, 1655; and John; who died at Liverpool, 1678, leaving a widow Mary.

There was also JOSHUA, of Rowley, in 1663; and WILLIAM, of Dorchester, in 1664.