FAMILY MEMORIAL: PART 1. GENEALOGY OF FOURTEEN FAMILIES OF THE EARLY SETTLERS OF NEW ENGLAND; PART 2. GENEALOGY OF EPHRAIM AND SARAH THAYER, WITH THEIR FOURTEEN CHILDREN

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ELISHA THAYER

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Trieste

FAMILY MEMORIAL. PARTI.

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GENEALOGY

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FOURTEEN FAMILIES

OF THE

Barly Settlers of New-Bugland,

OF THE NAMES OF

ALDEN, ADAMS, ARNOLD, BASS, BILLINGS, CAPEN, COPELAND, FRENCH, HOBART, JACKSON, PAINE, THAYER, WALES AND WHITE,

FROM THEIR FIRST SETTLEMENT IN THIS COUNTRY, TO ABOUT THE MIDDLE OF THE LAST CENTURY.

WITH OCCASIONAL NOTES AND REFERENCES, BIOGRAPH-ICAL SKETCHES, MEMOIRS OF SOME DISTINGUISHED INDIVIDUALS, EPITAPHS, &c.

COLLECTED FROM

ANCIENT RECORDS, MANUSCRIPTS, AND PRINTED WORKS.

All these families are more or less connected by marriage, and most of them of late generations, the descendants of JOHN ALDEN.

PART II.

GENEALOGY

OF

DIPIHIRANN AND SARAH THATDR.

WITH THEIR

FOURTEEN CHILDREN; FROM THE TIME OF THEIR MARRIAGE TO 1835, WITH NOTES OF REFERENCE, &c. AS IN PART FIRST.

> BY ELISHA THAYER, DIDEAN, SIM.

"Aye, thus it is, one generation comes, Another goes and mingles with the dust, And thus we come and go, and come and go, Each for a little moment, filling up Some little place--and thus we disappear In quick nuccession, and it shall be so Till time in one wast perpetuily Be moallowed up."-ANON.

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THE publication of the following pages was designed to perpetuate to future generations the Record of these ancient families, and enable them to trace their genealogy, in a direct line, back to their Pilgrim Fathers. The history of the settlement of the Old Colony, in 1620, and of the Massachusetts in 1630, is familiar to a large portion of the present generation, being taught in their schools and read by their firesides; the trials they endured on their first arrival and for a number of years afterwards, by sickness and death, by want of provisions, by terror by night and day from the howlings of savage beasts and more savage men, will not cease to be interesting to their descendants to the latest period of time.

It may not be uninteresting to give a short sketch of the Ecclesiastical History of the first settlers of New England, in which not only they were concerned but all their posterity to the present day.

"The first settlers of the Plymouth Colony, (1620) were called *Separatists*, having separated from the Established Church of England, some years previous to their settlement in this country."

"In 1596, they (the Separatists,) published their Confession of Faith with the grounds of their separation; reprinted with their Apology in 4 to 1604.

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But their sufferings and writings soon increased their numbers, and more of the warmer Puritans embraced their Doctrines, left the public churches, and met in private houses for a purer worship. But then they lost the name of Puritans, and received that of the Separatists, the far greater part of the Puritans remaining still in the church, writing with zeal against the separation; and as Sprint on their behalf in 1608 expresses it :--- A separation we deny not from the Corruptions of the church wherein we live, in Judgment, Profession, Practice ; for which so many of both parts, (or Parties, i. e. of Puritans and Separatists,) have suffered and do suffer so many things. But the difference is, We (i. e. the Puritans,) suffer for separating in the church ; you, (i. e. the Separatists,) out of the church."-Prince's Annals, 1, 235.

And those of the Massachusetts Colony, (1630) were called Puritans, as the same author says, p. 239. "Of these English Puritans were the greater part of the Massachusetts Colony. They had been chiefly born and brought up in the National Church, and had hitherto lived in Communion with her. As their Ministers had been ordained by her Bishops, they had officiated. in her Parochial Churches, and till now had made no Secession from them."

In a Poem written by ROGER WOLCOTT, Esq., published in the Mass. Hist. Coll. 4, 263, are the following curious lines:

- "But if you ask to gain intelligence
- "What were the reasons why they went from hence, "What straits they met with in their way and there?
- "These facts I think I'm able to declare,
- " Religion was the cause : Divinity !
- " Having declared the gospel shine (light) should be
- " Extensive as the sun's diurnal shine ;
- "This moved our founders to this great design."

17

A vast fund of information relative to the Political and Ecclesiastical state of our ancestors may be collected from the Plymouth Memorial and other Histories of that Colony, and from Winthrop's Journal of the Massachusetts, Hutchinson, Prince, Holmes, &c. But after all there is still an increasing desire "to know," as Mr. Farmer says, "something respecting those who have preceded us in the stage of action; and there has begun a curiosity among many of the present generation to trace back their progenitors, in an uninterrupted series, to those who first landed on the bleak and inhospitable shores of New England. And it is not improbable that the arrival of the puritan fathers of New England will form a more memorable epoch in history, than the conquest of England does in that country ; and that posterity, a few centuries hence, will experience as much pleasure in tracing back their ancestry to the New England colonists, as some of the English feel in being able to deduce their descent from the Normans."

"There is a satisfaction in recognizing our first ancestor from the European continent; in knowing from what part of Great Britain he came; where he settled, and the circumstances and condition of his family. Owing to the trials and hardships endured by the first settlers of New England, the uncertainty of their remaining in the country, and the little time afforded them for recording family data and genealogical facts, there are but few families, who have full and complete satisfaction in each of these particulars. But some facts, even at this late period, might be known of almost every individual who settled in any of the colonies, if suitable patience, research, and industry were employed in collecting them. Our earliest records and Memorials are

full of information, and in regard to minuteness and accuracy will bear a comparison with those of modern date; and it is somewhat remarkable that so large a portion of them have escaped the many perils to which fire and the aboriginal wars exposed them."

These records are in a gradual state of decay, and many of them in a very shattered condition, many names and dates have already become obliterated, some portions lost, and probably lost forever; every effort should therefore be made to rescue these precious relics of antiquity from the ruins of time.

The materials of the First Part were principally collected by the personal labour and research of the author, from authentic, original sources; some small portion from tradition, and some from the written communications of persons interested in the work.

A large portion of the Second Part was collected and arranged by DR. SAMUEL W. THAYER, of Thetford, Vt. more than twenty years ago, to which large additions have been made from time to time, by STEPHEN W. JACKSON, Esq. of Boston, and others ; but nearly all the dates of births, marriages, and deaths, prior to 1760, and even later, with very many additional names, (and numerous corrections of errors,) were extracted from town records with the utmost care and precision. Many acknowledgments are however due to several distinguished individuals for their contribution of Materials, and for their encouragement and patronage towards its publication, of whom are Rev. TIMOTHY ALDEN, of East Liberty, Pa.; JOHN FARMER, Esq. of Concord, N. H.; Hon. JOHN Q. ADAMS of Quincy; Z. B. ADAMS, M. D. ; ISAAC PORTER, M. D., and STEPHEN W. JACKSON, Esq. of Boston ; Rev. JONATHAN FRENCH of N. Hamp-

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ton, N. H.; Hon. NAHOM MITCHEL of Bridgewater; many Town Clerks, who have generously given free access to their records, or furnished extracts therefrom, and others too numerous to specify.

EXPLANATIONS.

A. B. C. D. &c. denotes the successive generations from the first progenitor of each family. A. denotes the first generation, B. the second, C. the third, &c. in the first part. In the Second Part, consisting of fourteen branches corresponding with the same number of families, in Part I. the Progenitor of each branch is numbered 1, and *their* generations designated by the same characters, A. B. C. &c.

In the early records it will be observed that the dates were specified by numerical figures in many instances, as 23 day, 2 month, 1640, or 12 month, 3 day, 1657, see Bass No. 11, first part, &c. which method of computation was continued until 1752, the year beginning on the 25th of March, which was called the 1st month, February the 12th, September, October, November, and December, then having the numerical rank agreeably to their Latin etemology, which is now done away.

To the dates of births, marriages, deaths, &c. recorded prior to 1752, eleven days should be added, to make the old style correspond with the new. (Compare No.