

**GENEALOGIES OF THE MALE
DESCENDANTS OF DANIEL DOD,
OF BRANFORD, CONN., A NATIVE
OF ENGLAND. 1646 TO 1863**

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Genealogies of the male descendants of Daniel Dod, of Branford,Conn., a native of England.
1646 to 1863 by Bethuel L. Dodd & John R. Burnet

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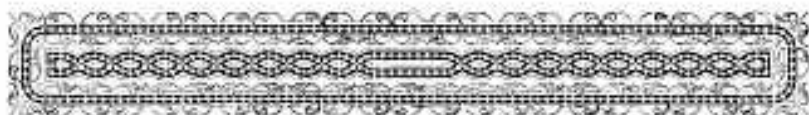
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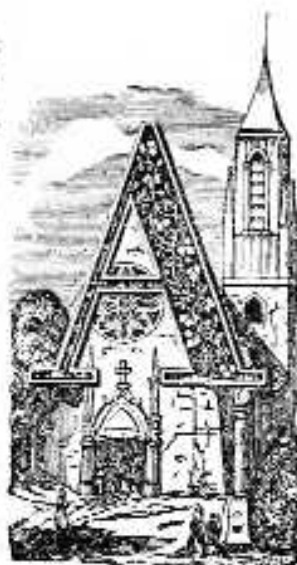
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DODD GENEALOGIES.



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P R E F A C E.



DESIRE to know something about our ancestry is natural to mankind, and has the sanction of divine authority. Several chapters of the Bible, both of the Old and New Testaments, are occupied with genealogies, in which many names are given, not because the persons were distinguished above their fellows, but merely to trace out unbroken lines of descent. Matthew gives the genealogy of Christ, on the side of his reputed father, from Abraham down; and Luke, on the side of his mother up through David and Abraham to Adam. The tracing of such a long line of descent was only possible among a people who hold it a religious duty to preserve from generation to generation their family records.

The practice of preserving at least the names of ancestors is common to widely separated races. We are told that in China there are descendants of the celebrated philosopher Confucius, who can exhibit an authentic genealogy, through more than sixty-five descents, up to that celebrated man. The Arabs, it is said, rival the ancient Hebrews in their attention to genealogy. But usually it is only where wealth and rank depend on descent

that the record, if kept at all, is kept with adequate care beyond a few generations. While every man admits that the preservation of his own Family Record is a duty that he owes to his children, too many neglect to transcribe the records of their fathers and grandfathers, so that when the originals of those records become lost in the lapse of time, the only evidence of descent that remains is most likely that found in old wills and deeds; evidence, valuable in many cases, but apt to be imperfect, as men are liable either to die without wills, or else to omit the naming of all their children in their wills.

The laws of the early settlers of New England prescribed that births, deaths and marriages should be entered on the town records, and these records are now precious to the genealogist. Unfortunately no such registry was prescribed in New Jersey till within a recent period; and it is even now but very imperfectly carried out. If our ancestors, when they first came to Newark, voluntarily kept town or church records of births, deaths and marriages, those records have long since been lost.

In England there have long been kept Parish Registers of marriages, births, and, I believe, also of deaths. In many cases, probably, these registers date back two or three centuries; though many of them must have been destroyed in the civil wars, or have perished from the mere lapse of time. It may be that in some of these registers, if we knew where to look for them, we might find some account of our origin, before our ancestors came over the Atlantic. But as there are ten thousand parishes in England, and but few of us know exactly from what parish our ancestor came, the project of crossing an ocean to make such a search is not, upon the whole, a very feasible or promising one.

Most of us, therefore, must be content with such conjectures as we can make from the name transmitted to us, aided by the very uncertain light of tradition. Thus it happens that most of our American genealogies necessarily begin with one of the early settlers of New England. And surely we need not seek a more honorable beginning. Nay, from the want already mentioned of early public records of births, marriages and deaths in New Jersey, and the loss of too many family records, the descendants of many of our old Newark families are unable to trace back their ancestry with any degree of certainty, even to the first settlement of Newark. It is due chiefly to the early labors of the late Rev. Stephen Dodd, (as we shall duly acknowledge in the proper place,) that the descendants of Daniel Dod are more favored in this respect. The little work of Rev. Stephen Dodd was published in 1839. It was hoped that he would be able to revise and enlarge it before his death, but that hope was frustrated by the failure of his eye-sight, and his other infirmities.

Within a few years a zeal for genealogical research, in which Mr. Dodd was one of the pioneers, has become rife in New England; and among the descendants of New Englanders, the number of published genealogies may now be reckoned by hundreds. The emulation reached New Jersey, and several of our old Newark families have been awakened to the importance of collecting, before it was too late, their scattered records and traditions.

However inviting the subject, as concerning a man's own immediate ancestors, the task of compiling a full genealogy of so large a family as the one here attempted, was sufficiently formidable and forbidding to intimidate most men from undertaking it. One man was, however, found—Dr. BETHUEL L. DODD, of Newark—who had

all the energy and patience which an enthusiastic love for the work could inspire; but with a very large medical practice on his hands, his leisure would have been insufficient to enable him unaided to digest and arrange the multitude of scattered items of information, which his unwearied diligence during four years had collected; and so the chief part of this necessary work was assigned to one, who was known as having some skill and experience in genealogical research, acquired during diligent labors extending at intervals through several years, in collecting materials for an account of the descendants of his own maternal ancestor, Edward Ball, and others of the first settlers of Newark.

Many others have also lent their aid in collecting the materials for the work. Next to Dr. Bethuel L. Dodd, the reader who here finds his genealogy, is most indebted to the zeal and liberality of Daniel Dodd, Esq., of Newark. Dr. Isaac D. Dodd and Amzi Dodd, Esq., of Bloomfield, ought also to be mentioned, as having rendered valuable aid. Our obligations to others are recorded in the proper places.

The possession of a genealogical record, such as but few families can show, is adapted to subserve other purposes than those of mere family pride. In reply to the question of utility, it is enough to point out the obvious advantage, in case some childless man of the name should leave a fortune seeking heirs. Here is an advantage, not more to the few who may be able to trace their title by the information given in this work, than to the far greater number, who, without such a guide, might suffer loss of time and money, and bitter disappointment in the end, which the certain knowledge of their descent found in this volume would save them at once.

But there is a higher and more certain utility than this; the

utility of knowing, that many men of the same descent with ourselves, have risen by honorable and upright conduct before God and man, and by diligence in their respective callings, to positions of high respectability and usefulness. That pride of ancestry is surely both useful and laudable, which shall prompt us to emulate the many virtues of our Puritan ancestry,—their fortitude, industry, benevolence, temperance, honesty, and piety. While there are degenerate and unworthy members of all families, we would fain hope that so far as this volume has any influence, its effect will be, to make the numerous family whose lineage it records, still more worthy of their descent and their connections.

It formed no part of our original design to include any descendants in the female line: since to include them all would swell the work to an inconvenient and expensive bulk. But in the course of preparing the work, the temptation often presented itself to insert notes giving the names of descendants in the female line, especially of the first generation. And these notes are suffered to stand, from an opinion that to erase them would materially diminish the usefulness and attractiveness of the book.

And when such information was readily accessible, we have given brief notes of the descent and connection of a few other families that intermarried with the Dodds,—as the Conditts, the Williams, the Baldwins, &c. If these notes add to the interest and value of the book, they require no apology. There are other families who have equal claims on our attention, but as it was manifestly impracticable to notice all, we adopted the simple rule of giving such information as came first to hand. Those who may find their families very briefly noticed, or not at all, in this book, may, it is hoped, be induced to prepare and publish full genealogies of their own.

As the value of a work like the present depends so largely on the correctness of its names and dates, great care and solicitude have been exercised to secure the highest practicable degree of accuracy in those respects. If any errors shall be discovered, the reader is asked to remember, that of the multitude of Family Records of which use has been made, we had the opportunity of copying directly from but few. In most cases, we had to rely on copies made by third persons; and in some cases, these, perhaps, copied two or three times. These copies, we believe, were generally made with much care; but some of them very probably contained errors, which we had no means of detecting.

We earnestly and respectfully beg all readers of this work, who may discover errors in names, dates or facts, or who may have authentic information for supplying omissions, to send the same to Dr. Bethuel L. Dodd, of Newark, that it may hereafter be printed, if of sufficient importance, in a SUPPLEMENT.

J. K. R.