

**A GENEALOGICAL HISTORY
OF THE FAMILY OF
MONTGOMERY, INCLUDING
THE MONTGOMERY PEDIGREE**

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A Genealogical History of the Family of Montgomery, including the Montgomery Pedigree by
Thomas Harrison Montgomery

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THOMAS HARRISON MONTGOMERY

**A GENEALOGICAL HISTORY
OF THE FAMILY OF
MONTGOMERY, INCLUDING
THE MONTGOMERY PEDIGREE**

Genealogical History and Pedigree

or

THE FAMILY OF MONTGOMERY.



Wm. H. Montgomery
Philadelphia
May 1867

A

GENEALOGICAL HISTORY

OF THE

FAMILY OF MONTGOMERY,

INCLUDING

THE MONTGOMERY PEDIGREE.

COMPILED BY

THOMAS HARRISON MONTGOMERY.

It was in truth a noble saying of the late Lord Clarendon, "that birth conveyed no merit, but much duty, to its inheritor."—LORD LINDSAY.

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INTRODUCTION.

THE following pages do not contain the first History of the Family of Montgomery which has been written. Of the four, of which I have any knowledge, the first in order is known as the "Montgomerie MSS," compiled by William Montgomerie of Rosemont, County Down, grandson of Sir Hugh Montgomerie of Braidstane, afterwards Viscount Montgomerie of the Great Ardes. Mr. Montgomerie died in 1706, at the age of seventy-four years; and his History was printed at Belfast, in 1820. The next is that known as the "Broomlands Manuscript," written by Hugh Montgomerie of Broomlands, Ayrshire, not later than the year 1750; he died in 1766 at eighty years of age. This History has not been printed. The third, as the second, yet remaining in manuscript, was written in the early part of this century, and is entitled "A Genealogy of the Family of Montgomerie, compiled from various authorities;" it is by the late Captain John Hamilton Montgomerie, 76th Regiment, formerly of Barnahill, County Ayr. With these I am only acquainted through the pages of Mr. James Paterson's "History of the County of Ayr," where they are frequently quoted when mention is made of certain branches of the family. The earlier portion of the "Broomlands Manuscript" is conjectured, by Mr. Paterson, to have been gleaned from some ancient record of the family, a fragment of which may have escaped the general destruction of the evidents of Eglinton Castle when it was destroyed by fire in 1528.

What authority can be conceded to either of these works as general histories of the family, I cannot say, in the absence of any knowledge of the authorities

consulted by their writers. Their accounts, however, of those branches from which the families of Braidstane, Broomlands, and Barnahill descended, must without further inquiry be admitted as correct; and also, generally, their accounts of the contemporary generations of Montgomery known to them either in Scotland or Ireland. But the Braidstane History, confining itself principally to the Irish branches, gives no place to the Brigend family settled in Ayrshire; and this last is but imperfectly recounted in the Broomlands,—Hugh Montgomerie of Broomlands wrote his manuscript nearly half a century after William Montgomerie of Brigend had left Scotland,—and probably is omitted entirely from the Barnahill History.

The fourth History referred to is entitled "A Genealogical Account of the Family of Montgomerie, formerly of Brigend of Doon, Ayrshire, male and lineal representative of the ancient and noble families of Eglintoun and Lyle," compiled by William Anderson, Esquire, Marchmont Herald, and printed in Edinburgh in 1859. While this Account does not purport to be a history of the entire family, and does not indeed go further back than the beginning of the sixteenth century, it is yet full and complete in those portions relating to that branch of the family of which it treats. Its statement of the generations of that branch has been made after the most patient and diligent search among original documents and records; and each step of its descent is established by some definite authority. Frequent reference has been made to it in the following pages; and I must acknowledge my indebtedness to the able compiler of the Genealogical Account for the many facts of importance and interest drawn from its pages. But one exception can be made to its reliability, and that is, in its want of accuracy in the details of the later generations settled in the United States; but it must be granted that these may not have been within Mr. Anderson's reach at the time of his writing, and were certainly not essential to his argument.

Many years since, my attention was drawn to the examination of the records and doings of the generations of the Montgomerys, immediately preceding that one which came to America. This was due chiefly to the perusal of the documents and papers brought from Scotland to this country by the first one of the family who crossed the ocean. William Montgomerie of Brigend, now more than one hundred and sixty years ago, came with his wife and children, and

settled in the province of East New Jersey, on lands of his father-in-law who was one of its largest proprietaries. He brought, with much care, many valuable manuscripts relating to his ancestry, the majority of which are preserved by his representative at this day; many are undoubtedly missing, as no special regard seemed to be paid to their preservation by his descendants until within the last twenty years. They were documents which seemed to the first American Montgomerys, engaged in founding new homes, of perhaps but little moment; but which their father must have deemed of some importance, if not to himself at least to those who should succeed to any of his possible claims, else would he not have burdened himself with them on his voyage to a new country.

The papers referred to, joined with the traditions which we inherited, were sufficient to cause a desire to look further into the history of our ancestors, than these sources supplied. The examination into that history was an agreeable task; but at all times has it been to me the work only of leisure hours. Two of my kinsmen, however, have made those portions of it relating particularly to the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, a subject of special examination; and as the result of patient labor, and persevering industry, have been the means of so elucidating the history of the family at those periods, as to have laid all their relatives under obligations to them for their successful researches. Thanks to the care and foresight of our ancestor, by means of the manuscripts referred to, we have been enabled to establish authoritatively his connection with the main line of the family whose history is here set forth, and to show that in his line is to be found at this day, the male representation of that family.

A Manuscript History of the Family of Montgomery, written by me a few years since, embodying the results of all the researches into that history made up to that time, has been much enlarged by later examinations. This having been seen by such members of the family as take an interest in the history of the actions of their forefathers, the request was made by some to put the same in print. This I agreed to do, should a sufficient number of copies be subscribed for by members of the family, to whom alone the plan should be proposed. And as the project was a matter not of general, but only of special interest, none but these were addressed on the subject. The response having been sufficient to warrant the printing of this Genealogical History, it is now submitted

to the consideration of all those who claim a share in the inheritance which such an ancestry as is here recorded, may be found to confer.

Compiled as this has been, away from the homes and contemporary records of our ancestors, it must necessarily be in many particulars incomplete. I trust it will be found, however, that good use has been made of all the authorities within my reach on this side of the Atlantic, which in any degree bear on the History of the Montgomerys. And I hope, that at some future period, some member of the family with more time and opportunity than myself, will not only supply all that may in this be found lacking, but will also write a full history of the family in all its branches, to which I will be well content that this effort should serve but as an introduction.

All the statements made in the following pages are referred to their proper authorities. The precise words of the authors quoted have always been followed, in order that the statements they may make may still stand in their own language. A list of the principal works consulted and referred to is here appended. For the accounts of the present generations settled in this country, I am indebted in each case to a copy of the family record, or, where this is wanting, to the statement of some one of each family whose personal knowledge of the members of the same entitles his statement to entire credence. To such of my relatives who have thus aided me, I will here express my thanks for their kindness: especially would I mention Miss Esther W. Montgomery, of Trenton; Mrs. Bennington Gill, of Eglinton; Harvey F. Montgomery, M.D., of Rochester; Mrs. William M. Biddle, of Carlisle, and her brother Commodore John B. Montgomery of the United States Navy; J. Montgomery Woodward, of New Haven; and J. Forsyth Meigs, M.D., of Philadelphia.

I desire also, in this place, to express my obligations to those friends and relatives who have aided me in the general researches into the Montgomery history. In this number are first to be named, William H. Montgomery, of Paris and Richard R. Montgomery, of Philadelphia, my kinsmen before referred to, whose investigations through a course of years into our common history have been attended with such satisfactory results: I would also mention Mr. Nathaniel Chauncey, of Philadelphia; Rev. Henry E. Montgomery, of New York; Sir G. Graham Montgomery of Stanhope, Baronet; and Rev. William Ferrie, of