THE HAVERHILL EMERSONS, PART SECOND

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The Haverhill Emersons, Part second by Charles Henry Pope

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V.2

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PREFACE

In presenting this Second Part of the Haverhill Emersons, the compiler would ask all readers to note a few points:

Firstly, that he has made use of all available means of gathering and arranging the materials here presented, and assures the family that the book gives no fanciful dreams and ambitious theories, but information sought out with rigid care and presented as simply as possible. He has avoided the long-drawn descriptions and dissertations with which some authors have attempted to impress their readers, and preferred to leave some things unsaid, or very briefly told, which are capable of many words. He has framed the work for generations to come as much as for the first readers.

Secondly, he has found many obstacles in the way of making a perfect genealogy. Some of these are the indifference of hundreds of Emersons to whom circulars and letters have been sent, who have delayed for months or altogether failed to reply; the hasty statements of some whose dates and names have differed from the records of towns and cities and have differed among members of the same immediate family; and, hardest task of all, the difficulty of distinguishing between the two great family groups, the Haverhill and the Ipswich Emersons.

In view of these facts, he begs the consideration and forbearance of those who find what they count errors, and would ask them to hold their indictments patiently till they have gotten full evidence on the points in question. Even printed records of towns and cities may contain incorrect entries, and positive statements of fathers and mothers, husbands and wives, brothers and sisters and children may not be the final and reliable records, but faulty memories and hasty tongues may be involved.

And, in fine, please accept this effort of an honest lover of "folks," painfully aware of his own limitations, who has done all his work in compiling and editing with the same warm, personal feeling and desire to set forth the truth as if he were in fact a member of this noble family, which he has come to regard as one of the finest of the stocks which were transplanted from Old England to New England two centuries and three-quarters ago.

He would hereby record his indebtedness to the excellent genealogy of the Dover, N. H., group of the Emerson family presented in "The History of Durham, N. H.," by Dr. Everett S. Stackpole; to the sketch of a portion of the descendants of Samuel Emerson, of Chester, Mass., in Dr. Linn Emerson's neat volume; and to the contributions of family records by several very helpful correspondents, of the Emerson and other names. The family at large will also keep in grateful remembrance the trio of liberal men who furnished the means for the compiler to obtain the English treasures which are shown in the coat of arms, the views of the ancient church of Cadney, and the records of the family there: Ellius Albert Emerson, of Haverhill; Guy Le Verne Emerson, of Chicago, Ill. and Dr. Justin Edwards Emerson, of Detroit, Mich., are the three who made that research possible.

Please take particular notice of The Additions and Corrections to Part First which are given on pages 17 to 24 of this volume.

THE HAVERHILL EMERSONS

THE ENGLISH ANCESTRY OF THE HAVERHILL EMERSONS

In the introduction to Part First of this work the writer discussed the matter of English Emersons, referring to the valuable book on that subject by Dr. Peter Henry Emerson and the "Genealogy of the Ipswich, Mass., Emerson Family " by Prof. Benjamin Kendall Emerson and Capt. George Augustus Gordon. The records quoted by these authors showed the Ipswich pioneer, Thomas Emerson the baker, to have been son of a currier at Bishop's Stortford in Hertfordshire, named Robert Emberson or Emerson, and gave the baptisms of so many of the children of Thomas who came hither with him as to leave no doubt that the pedigree was well established. But it became necessary for the present writer to point out a serious and gratuitous blunder made in the American genealogy, namely, the statement that Robert Emerson of Haverhill was a son of the Ipswich pioneer! The testimony of Michael Emerson of Haverhill, that he and Robert were brothers, and certain elements in the history of Robert were adduced by the writer to show the entire separateness of the Ipswich and Haverhill Emerson families in their English ancestry.

The writer then brought forward an abstract of a will made by Alexander Emerson of Sereby, in the county of Lincoln, England, yeoman, and gave the suggestion that that region might prove to be the cradle of the Haverhill family.

Later critical inspection of the parish and probate records quoted by Dr. Peter Henry Emerson revealed several entries which appeared to point definitely to the Haverhill men and show their ancestry. A few of the subscribers to Part First were informed of this, and of the fact that Mr. Pope was about to visit England (his tenth season in Great Britain on genealogical research), and could make a side trip to Lincolnshire and obtain full details on this matter.

A fund was contributed for this purpose by the following, who had been subscribers to Part First: Ellius Albert Emerson, A.B., of Haverhill, Mass.; Justin Edwards Emerson, M.D., of Detroit, Mich., and Guy Le Verne Emerson, Esquire, of Chicago, Ill.; and the writer made the visit in September, 1913. Herewith he presents his report.

Beginning at the point where the most essential evidence of connection appears, we will first read the will of the father of the Haverhill settlers, copied from the original in the probate office in the city of Lincoln, England, by the writer:

In the name of God amen, I Thomas Emerson of Howsham in the parish of Cadney in the countie of Lincoln yeoman, Aged and weake in body. But of sound and pfect memorie praised be God for it doe make and constitute this my last Will and testament in manner and forme following, Viz: Impt: I bequeath my soule into the hands of Almighty God my heavenly maker and Redeemer, And my body decently to be buried in the parish church yard of Cadney nere unto the place where my wife was buried, And of my worldly goods I thus dispose, Imprimis I give to Edward Emerson my sonne twentie pounds to be payd to him within three monthes after my decesse, Item I give to my sonne Thomas Emerson twentie pounds to be likewise payed within three monthes after my decease, Item I give to my sonne Michael Emerson five pounds to be payd within five weeks after the demanding of the same. Item I give to my daughter Elizabeth Lilforth and her children four pounds to be likewise payd within five weeks after the demanding of the same, Item I give to Robert Emerson my sonne ffive pounds to be likewise payd within five weeks after the demanding of the same, Item I give to Isabell Grantham my daughter twentie shillings, Item I give to Isabell Grantham my daughter three shillings foure pence in the month to be payd out of my lands and tenements in Howsham for and dureing her naturall life, to begin at my decease, Item I give to Anne Wright my grandchild twentie shillings, All these several sumes I will that they be payd as formerly mentioned And also that they receive them with their own hands in Howsham and there give a discharge to my executor. Excepting

