

**BRADBURY MEMORIAL. RECORDS OF
SOME OF THE DESCENDANTS OF
THOMAS BRADBURY, OF AGAMENTICUS
(YORK) IN 1634, AND OF SALISBURY,
MASS. IN 1638, WITH A BRIEF SKETCH OF
THE BRADBURYS OF ENGLAND**

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Bradbury Memorial. Records of Some of the Descendants of Thomas Bradbury, of Agamenticus (York) in 1634, and of Salisbury, Mass. In 1638, with a Brief Sketch of the Bradburys of England by John Merrill Bradbury & William Berry Lapham

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JOHN MERRILL BRADBURY & WILLIAM BERRY LAPHAM

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OF

AGAMENTICUS (YORK) in 1634

AND OF

SALISBURY, MASS., in 1638

WITH

A BRIEF SKETCH OF THE BRADBURYS OF ENGLAND

COMPILED CHIEFLY FROM THE COLLECTIONS
OF THE LATE

JOHN MERRILL BRADBURY

OF

IPSWICH, MASS.

BY WILLIAM BERRY LAPHAM

PORTLAND
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1890

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PREFACE.

It was nearly forty years ago that the late JOHN MERRILL BRADBURY, of Ipswich, Mass., began to collect materials for a Genealogy of the Bradbury Family. That his purpose was to make it one of the most complete and exhaustive family histories ever published, is abundantly shown by his correspondence, and had he lived there is little doubt that his intentions would have been fully carried into effect. But his health failed and death supervened before his self-imposed task was half accomplished. He died nearly fifteen years ago, and since that time until quite recently, his collections have remained undisturbed in the hands of his executor.

The venerable Hon. James W. Bradbury, of Augusta, had been for sometime intending to have compiled a limited sketch of his family, embracing only his own line, but after more mature deliberation and a correspondence with the executor of the late John M. Bradbury's will, who cheerfully offered to place the collections of his brother at his disposal, Mr. Bradbury concluded to modify his first intention so far as to utilize all the material attainable, with certain limitations as to the time of publishing the work. The expense of compiling and making additions within reasonable limits, is borne entirely by Mr. Bradbury, while it is hoped that the sale of books will be sufficient to meet the cost of publication.

The late Captain William F. Goodwin, of the United States army, who was connected with the Bradbury family, on the maternal side, was also interested in the history of his ancestors, and had collected more or less material bearing upon the subject, a portion of which—that relating to the York County families of this name—had been printed in Dawson's Historical Magazine. The extent of Capt. Goodwin's collections, and what disposition he intended to make of them had he lived, are entirely unknown to the compiler. The printed portion is all that has been accessible to him.

After the death of Capt. Goodwin, there was some correspondence between his family and the late John M. Bradbury, looking to a union of the two collections, and the only obstacle in the way appeared to be the unsettled condition of Mr. Goodwin's estate, but nothing was accomplished before Mr. Bradbury's death. In all probability the larger portion of the Goodwin material is duplicated in the collections of Mr. Bradbury, since the sources of information were equally open to each, while both were able and industrious investigators, and enthusiastic in the work they had taken in hand.

The compiler has been able to fill up many important omissions in the way of names and dates, and has added a considerable number of families, though none prior to the sixth generation. The personal sketches and notes on allied families, are all the work of the compiler, and also the arrangement of the entire materials. In its incomplete state, the collections of Mr. Bradbury are meager in personal history, being confined mostly to names and dates, while that portion of his correspondence which has come into the compiler's hands, throws but little additional light upon the personnel of the family. This defect has been remedied so far as has been possible in the brief time allowed; but very many of Mr. Bradbury's correspondents have gone to join him, while their families have grown up, are scattered abroad and are not easily accessible.

As a whole, the work as published is unfinished, and in some directions only fragmentary, but it contains valuable material representing no little labor and expense, and some future representative of the family may be induced to utilize it for the production of a more complete and comprehensive work. It is not claimed by the compiler that the work is free from errors. Accuracy in a work of this kind would be a novelty indeed, but it is hoped that not more than the usual number of mistakes will be found herein. Such as it is, the work is respectfully submitted to the charitable and discriminating consideration of those who are interested in its contents.

WM. B. LAPHAM.

AUGUSTA, January, 1890.

BRADBURY MEMORIAL.

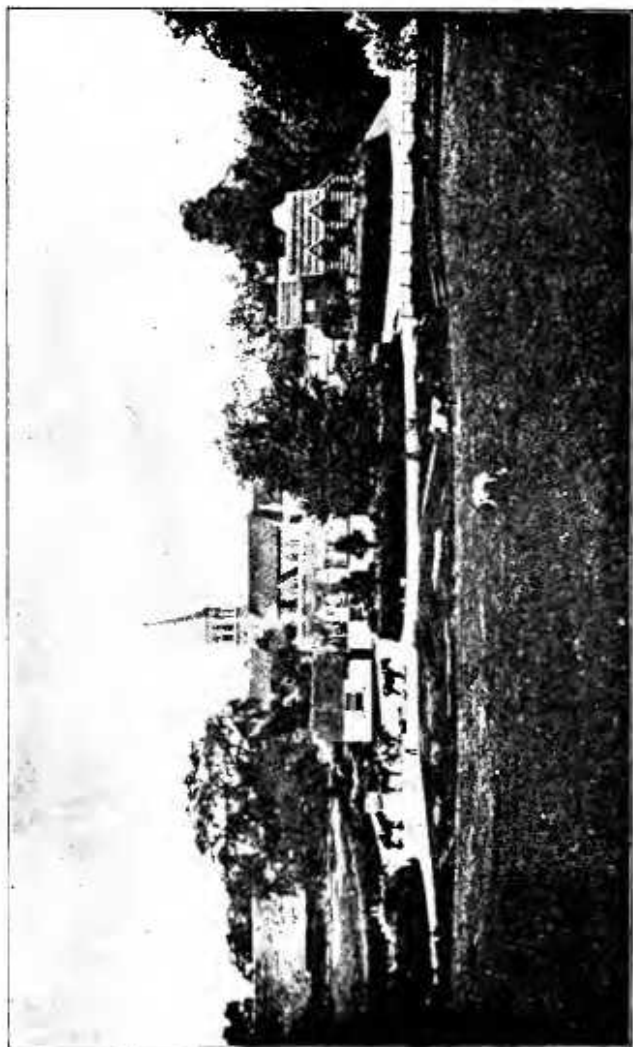
THE BRADBURY FAMILY IN ENGLAND.

THE name BRADBURY is of Saxon origin, and of the class styled "local." Its components are *Brad*, meaning broad, and *Bury*, which is variously defined, as a house, a hill, a domain, and a town. It is found variously spelled in English records, as *Bradberrie*, *Bradberrye*, *Bradberry* and *Bradbury*. The latter is the orthography adopted by the emigrant Thomas, and followed by his descendants generally. Unlike most local names, it never had a wide diffusion in England, and tracing it back through two centuries previous to the settlement of this country, it seems to have narrowed its limits and finally to have confined itself to a single parish in Derbyshire. The radiating point seems to have been Ollerset in the parish of Glossop, in the northerly part of the county of Derby. No mention of the name has been found prior to 1433, when there were living among the gentry at Ollerset, Roger de Bradbury and Rodolphus de Bradbury. The connection between these two persons is not known, nor the length of the time they had resided at Ollerset. But the interest of the American Bradburys centers in the line of which Robert is the head, and of whom

but little is known. We know that he must have been born as early as 1400, that he lived at Ollerset, and that he married a daughter of Robert Davenport (written also Dampoite), and that he had a son William, who settled at Braughing, county of Hertfordshire, and married Margaret, daughter of Geoffrey Rokell, spelled also Rockhill. From him are said and believed to have sprung the Bradburys of Littlebury and Wickham Bonhant, generally written at the present day, Wicken Bonant. They were a landed family, and from the Herald's Visitations and Inquisitions post mortem, quite easily traced, though the pedigrees that have been constructed and in some cases printed, are strangely unlike. In the report of the Visitation in Essex in 1558, William Bradbury, said to have married Jane or Joan, daughter of Sir John Fitzwilliam and widow of Thomas Bendish or Bendyshe, is placed at the head of the line; while in that of 1612, and also the pedigree published in the *East Anglian* in 1862, the head of the family is given to Sir Thomas Bradbury who was Lord-Mayor of London in 1509, and died while in office. The fallacy of both these pedigrees is shown in the fact that William Bradbury of Braughing was only ten years of age when Joan, widow of Thomas Bendish died, while Sir Thomas Bradbury died without issue, and William Bradbury, son of his brother Robert, was his heir. It also states what is probably correct, that William Bradbury was afterward of Littlebury, and "descended from ye Bradburys of Ollerset in ye West Country," etc.

In the Visitation of Hertfordshire in 1634, Robert Bradbury of Ollerset, county of Derby, is made the head of the family and the father of Sir Thomas. Now while absolute reliance cannot be placed upon pedigrees based upon the reports of these Visitations, yet it is the best and only evidence that can be obtained without original research, and is probably in the main correct. Robert Bradbury must have flourished in the time of King Henry the Sixth, and is the earliest ancestor of the family that can be relied upon with any degree of certainty. The pedigree here given is based upon the reports of the several Herald's Visitations, upon probate records and other public documents, and must be taken for what it is worth. The late Captain William F. Goodwin, whose mother was a Bradbury, employed Miss Harriet Bainbridge, then considered a reliable English genealogist, to inquire into the Bradbury pedigree, and she furnished him with one which she claimed was the result of her own original investigation, but which is now known to be incorrect in several essential points. There are professional genealogists in England who will write up a pedigree and furnish a coat of arms for any one who is able and willing to pay for them, and their customers are, for the most part, Americans. There are doubtless those who do honest work, but a majority of them are cheats, and fill their orders without regard to facts.

The branch of the Bradbury family from which the New England family claim their descent, settled at Wicken Bonant in the county of Essex, about the year 1560, and a brief sketch of this parish is compiled



WICKEN BOXANT, COUNTY ESSEX. VILLAGES INN, SCHOOLHOUSE AND CHURCH.