

**SUPPLEMENTAL TO
SPRAGUE FAMILIES
IN AMERICA**

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Supplemental to Sprague families in America by Frank H. Sprague

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FRANK H. SPRAGUE

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FOREWORD

This booklet is intended to serve as a supplement to *SPRAGUE FAMILIES IN AMERICA*, published in 1913 by Dr. Warren Vincent Sprague, of Chauncey, Ohio.

I have undertaken to give herein original data relative to the descendants only of *SILAS SPRAGUE* of the *SIXTH* generation from *FRANCIS*, nearly all of whom Dr. Sprague was unable to get trace of in his compilation. In order that those interested in this branch of the family-tree may have some knowledge of the previous generations in America, the direct line of descent from Francis¹ to Silas⁶ is reproduced from *SPRAGUE FAMILIES IN AMERICA*, with credit to that publication.

There seems to be a well-defined conclusion that the Spragues came into England from Holland about the fifteenth century. However, little or nothing seems to have been brought to light regarding the ancestry of *FRANCIS SPRAGUE* in England.

Some five years after Francis' arrival in America, three brothers, Ralph, Richard and William, sons of Edward Sprague of Upway, county of Dorset, England, came to Salem, Mass. A genealogy of Ralph's descendants was published by Dr. Edward G. Sprague of Barre, Vt., in 1913. Richard died without issue. William's descendants appear in *SPRAGUE FAMILIES IN AMERICA*.

I am under obligation to many members of the family for assistance in furnishing the data, which has been arranged to harmonize with that in the volume published by Dr. W. V. Sprague.

FRANK H. SPRAGUE.

Grafton, North Dakota,
June first, 1915.

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FRANCIS SPRAGUE

of Duxbury, Mass.,
AND HIS DECENDANTS.

1. FRANCIS SPRAGUE came in the "good ship Anne" which sailed from London, England, and arrived at Plymouth, July, 1623. He was one of those "passengers" who, as Morton writes, "seeing the low and poor conditions of those that were before them, were much daunted and dismayed, and according to their divers humours, were diversely affected. Some wished themselves in England again; others fell to weeping, fancying their own misery in what they saw in others; others some pitying the distress they saw their friends had long been in, and still were under. In a word, all were full of sadness; only some of their old friends rejoiced to see them, and it was no worse with them, for they could not expect it should be better, and now hoped they should enjoy better days together. And truly it was no marvel they should be thus affected, for they were in a low condition, both in respect of food and clothing at that time." Governor Bradford, in allusion to the passengers who came in the Anne and the James, says: "The best dish we could present them with is a lobster or a piece of fish, without bread, or anything else but a cup of fair spring water; and the long continuance of this diet, with our labors abroad, has somewhat abated the freshness of our complexion; but God gives us health." (New England's Memorial, Davis' edition, p. 102, and Young's Chronicles of the Pilgrims, p. 353.)

He m. in England, Lydia ————— (Gen. Dict. R. I. 69), who with their daughter came with him.

1623, Autumn. He shared in the division of lands with those who came in the Anne.

1627. At the division of cattle he gives the names of his children as Ann and Mary.

1627, July. Signed an agreement with William Bradford and others pertaining to the carrying on of the fur trade. (Gen. Gleanings from England, 1901.)

- 1632-3, Jan. 2. Was taxed at Plymouth, being assessed for 18 shillings.
1632. About this date he settled in the N. E. part of Duxbury, near the Nook, so called.
- 1637, June 17. Admitted Freeman of the Colony.
1637. Licensed to sell spiritous liquors.
1640. Owned land on North River.
- 1644, Apr. 1. Deeded to his son-in-law William Lawrence 50 acres on South River.
- 1645, Was one of the original proprietors of Bridgewater, but he nor any of his family came to reside there, says Mitchell. He was one of the original purchasers of Dartmouth.
- 1659, Oct. 26. Deeded land to his son-in-law Ralph Earle of Rhode Island.
- 1666, Was an Inn Holder up to this date and owned considerable property. Mr. Sprague did not adhere strictly to the enactments of the civil code of the Puritan Fathers and was several times brought before the court for what they considered departures from the strict line of duty. His ardent temperament and great independence of mind did not fully accord with the principles of the Puritans, but considered from the present standards of estimating the characters of men, he must have been a person of worth and great respectability. We know that he was the head of a most honorable and respected family of descendants. Further mention is made of him in "The Pilgrim Republic," 1888, Goodwin, pp. 362, 596.
- 1669, His son John succeeded to his business of "keeping an Ordinary" or tavern, where spirituous liquors were sold, and it is presumed that his death occurred shortly before.
1662. The Court admonished good wife Tubbs (his dau. Mercy) for "mixed dancing"; she left her husband and 1668 the court granted him a divorce. They had a son, William Tubbs, Jr., who m. 1691, Judith, wid. of Isaac Baker. (Ref., Savage's Gen. Dict.; Sprague Memorial, 1847, Soule.)

CHILDREN.

- i. Ann. }
 ii. Mary. } One of these m. Robt. Lawrence.
 iii. Mercy, m. Nov. 9, 1637, Wm. Tubbs.
 2. iv. John.
 v. Dorcas, m. Oct. 26, 1659, Ralph Earle, son of Ralph and Joan
 (.....) settled in Dartmouth. (Earle Gen. p. 21.)
 (Sprague Families in America, pp. 9-10-11.)

2. JOHN² SPRAGUE (Francis¹) b.——; m. in 1655 Ruth Basset, dau. of William and Elizabeth (Tilden) Basset. They resided for a time in Marshfield, as the birth of their daughter Ruth is recorded there.

This John, more likely than John² of William¹, was a Counsellor of Sir Edmund Andros, mentioned in Hutch, i, 354. He was slain in Pierce's fierce fight in Pawtucket in Philip's war, Mch. 26, 1676. His estate was appraised in 1676 and was sworn to by the widow Ruth Sprague. She afterwards married ——— Thomas, (Plymouth Co., Mass., Probate.)

(Ref. Sprague Memorial; Winsor's Duxbury; Doggett's Attleboro; Dux. V. Rec.)

CHILDREN.

3. i. John, ? b. abt. 1656.
 ii. William.
 iii. Ruth, b. Feb. 12, 1659-0; m. Aug. 12, 1686, Elizer Smith of Dartmouth.
 iv. Eliza.
 v. Desire, b. abt. 1665; m. Nov. 24, 1696, John² Gifford (John¹, William²) of Sandwich, Mass.
 vi. Samuel, b. abt. 1670.
 vii. Dorcas, b.——; m. Jan. 10, 1710, Joseph Hatch of Falmouth. (Sprague Families in America, p. 11.)

3. LIEUT. JOHN² SPRAGUE (John², Francis¹) of Lebanon, Conn., b. ab. 1656 in Duxbury, Mass.; d. Mch. 6, 1727-8; m. (1) Lydia ———, who d. July 18, 1725. He m. (2) Mch. 21, 1726-7 Lois Abel, who survived him. (Lebanon's Old Rec. p. 278.)

"John Sprague of Duxbury In ye County * * of New Plymouth, Weaver, being Grandson to Francis Sprague decd & eldest son & heir to John Sprague also deceased both formerly of ye aboved town County and Jurisdiction having by lineal Descent a Real Right * * to One half of a purchase of Land Lying in * * Dartmouth * * now in the * occupation of my