

BROOKS FAMILY RECORDS

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Brooks family records by J. Montgomery Seaver

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J. MONTGOMERY SEAVER

**BROOKS FAMILY
RECORDS**



(PHOTOGRAPH BY BACHENACH)
J. MONTGOMERY SEAVER
Compiler of the
"BROOKS FAMILY RECORDS"



BRIG. GEN. W. T. H. BROOKS



PHILLIPS BROOKS



MAJOR GENERAL HORACE BROOKS

"I have ever had a pleasure in obtaining any little anecdotes of my ancestors."—Benjamin Franklin.

"He only deserves to be remembered by posterity who treasures up and preserves the history of his ancestors."—Edmund Burke.

Brooks Family Records

By

J. MONTGOMERY SEAVER



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PHILADELPHIA

BATTLE HYMN OF BROOKS

(Tunes: "Battle Hymn of the Republic")

There's something strong and mighty in a good old family name;
The name of Brooks shines very high upon the scroll of fame;
For nearly all the Tribe of Brooks pursue a lofty aim.
The clan goes marching on!

Chorus: Glory to our grand old family,
Virile, worthy, brave and loyal!
"Ut Am-nis vi-ta la-bi-tur!"
The clan goes marching on!

William, Henry, Thomas, James were fathers of our clan;
Posterity of David and Nathaniel never ran;
Samuel Brooks was virile, Maurice was a sturdy man.
The clan goes marching on!

David was a hero and of Washington a friend;
Phillips was a wise man whom the world could comprehend;
William fought and gave his life, his country to defend.
The clan goes marching on!

The Clan of Brooks is mighty with two hundred thousand strong;
In seventy-six, five hundred kinsmen fought to right a wrong;
Twenty towns now bear our name. Sure, let us sing that song—
The clan goes marching on!

When danger threatened country or a battle to be won,
Or righteous causes need defenders or work to be done,
Brave sons of Brooks were there, and never did a kinsman run.
The clan goes marching on!

The sons of Brooks have courage any task or foe to face;
Our daughters all are lovely with their beauty, charm and grace;
The heaven of our family is a blessing to the race.
The clan goes marching on!

In England, Wales and Scotland, and the Emerald Isle as well;
In U. S. A. and Canada, in city, plain and dell;
Where English tongue is spoken—that is where our kinsmen dwell.
The clan goes marching on!

PRESENTED TO

BY

DATE

U. S. A. and Canada, in city, plain and dell

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(A) INTRODUCTION



THE Brooks Family is among the forty-nine "best families" selected by the American Historical-Genealogical Society for whom the Society has published family histories during the past few years.

The Brooks Family has been prominent in the British Empire and in the United States, its members having played important roles in war and in peace. Family pride is a commendable trait and should be cultivated. All Brooks have just cause to be proud of their family history and traditions.

In references No. 3, No. 10 and No. 14 we find the following regarding the origin and meaning of the name Brooks:

The surname, Brooks, originally referred to one who lived by the brookside. In the very far-away days there were a variety of prefixes employed with it, such as *de la Broke*, *ate Broke*, *ad le Broke*, *apud Broke*, etc. The "s" is a customary addition to short spot-names, such as this one.

The name is common to all parts of England, and is especially one of the great surnames of Yorkshire. In the Hundred Tolls the word *Broke* is quite extensively used in the description of names, as *Henry le Brok*, *Laurence del Brock*, etc. The Anglo-Saxon form is *Bruc* or *Bruckyse*; the Flemish, *Broeckx*; the German, *Brucks*; the Dutch, *Broeke*.

Among ancient records, there are mentioned *Richard atte-Brook*, vicar of *Horseford*, 1419, and *Marlin Brookes*, to whom a marriage license was issued in 1616. The *Brosokes* of County Suffolk, England, were descended from *William de la Brooke*, owner of the *Manor of Brooke* in Somerset County, who died in 1231.

The data in this volume is gathered from reliable sources. We have selected what we consider the most important material. Many of the daughters, and sons for whom no issue was shown, have been omitted from the pedigrees. A missing symbol indicates that a name has been omitted. Those desiring further information are advised to consult the volumes mentioned in the list of References.

The compiler hopes that, in producing this volume, he is bringing to the Brooks Family information which will be of interest and value to them, and that he is rendering an important service to the public. He and his associates will be glad to give their co-operation to members of the family who are interested in having a complete genealogy of the family published.

Unless otherwise plainly shown, the persons in this volume whose names are accompanied by three figures are children of the immediately preceding persons bearing immediately preceding numbers. All persons in each group bearing the same letter as a part of their numbers are directly related. The generations of the descendants of those bearing numbers of three figures are

represented as follows. However, some of our material is published as copied from various records without rearrangement according to this system.

Generations	1st	2:d	3:d	4th	5th
Symbols	(1), etc.	(A), etc.	(a), etc.	1, etc.	A, etc.
Generations	6th	7:h	8th	9th	10th
Symbols	a, etc.	(1), etc.	(i), etc.	1, etc.	i, etc.

Abbreviations: add., address; b., born; ch., children; coll., college; d., died; d. y., died young; d. w. i., died without issue; dau., daughter; grad., graduated; l., lives, lived; m., married, moved; s., son, succeeded; d. s. p., died without issue; d. v. p., died before father; univ., university.

Compiler.

(B) THE BROOKS COAT OF ARMS



COAT of Arms is an emblem or a device which is displayed by titled persons, persons of royal blood, and their descendants. Coats of Arms were originally used for purposes of identification and recognition on the field of battle as well as in civil life.

It is claimed by some writers that Coats of Arms, in a crude form, were used by Noah's sons after the flood. There are records of other Coats of Arms, in one crude form or another, at different periods of ancient history. Heraldry, however, as we know it today, did not become of much importance until soon after the invasion of England by William the Conqueror, A. D. 1066. Heraldry became of general interest at about the time of the Crusades.

The Brooks Coat of Arms shown in the front of this volume is the Arms of the Brooks of Flixwick Manor, co. Bedford, whose pedigree is contained in this book. Coats of Arms very similar to it are used by several other Brooks families. Numerous branches of the family have Coats of Arms resembling it.

This is the most widely used of all Brooks Coats of Arms and has been in existence for many centuries. It is described in BURKE'S GENERAL ARMORY, BURKE'S LANDED GENTRY, BURKE'S PEERAGE AND BARONETAGE and other reliable works on Heraldry, in some cases accompanied by illustrations and pedigrees. It has been used for generations by many American branches of the Brooks family.

	HERALDIC LANGUAGE	ENGLISH DESCRIPTION
<i>Arms</i>	Or, a cross [X] pale gules and sable.	A golden shield bearing a cross, half red and half black.
<i>Crest</i>	On a mural crown an otter proper.	A mural crown (wall-like) on which is an otter, in natural colors.
<i>Motto</i>	Ut annis vita labitur (Latin).	Life glides away like a river.

Sir Bernard Burke, of Herald's College, London, said: "Heraldry is prized by all who can show honorable ancestry or wish to found honorable families."

Besides its family significance this Coat of Arms makes an excellent mural decoration and inspires the admiration and comment of all who see it.

It is quite appropriate that members of the Brooks family who have a pride in their ancestry should display the family Coat of Arms, in proper colors.