

**GENEALOGY OF THE
ROBERDEAU FAMILY,
INCLUDING A BIOGRAPHY OF
GENERAL DANIEL ROBERDEAU**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649591831

Genealogy of the Roberdeau Family, Including a Biography of General Daniel Roberdeau by
Roberdeau Buchanan

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Cover @ 2017

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ROBERDEAU BUCHANAN

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GENEALOGY
OF THE
ROBERDEAU FAMILY,

INCLUDING A BIOGRAPHY OF

GENERAL DANIEL ROBERDEAU,

OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ARMY, AND THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS;
AND SIGNER OF THE ARTICLES OF CONFEDERATION.

By ROBERDEAU BUCHANAN.

PRINTED FOR PRIVATE DISTRIBUTION.

WASHINGTON:
JOSEPH L. PEARSON, PRINTER.
1876.

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1876, by ROBERT DEAU BUCHANAN,
in the office of the Librarian of Congress, at Washington.

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To the Memory

OF

GENERAL DANIEL ROBERDEAU,

OF THE

REVOLUTIONARY ARMY AND THE CONTINENTAL CONGRESS,

AND TO

COLONEL ISAAC ROBERDEAU,

OF THE

UNITED STATES ARMY, AND CHIEF OF THE TOPOGRAPHICAL
ENGINEER BUREAU,

This Book

IS AFFECTIONATELY INSCRIBED BY THEIR DESCENDANT,

THE AUTHOR.

PREFACE.

A word may not be out of place in respect to the reasons for publishing a book on family history. The principal of these reasons is that the writer, having in his possession very many facts in relation to our ancestors, and knowing there to be among the members of the family an universal desire for such information, considers it a duty he owes to others to impart his knowledge to them, especially considering that these facts will not only be more valued by each succeeding generation, but will become, also, more difficult to be obtained.

The writer has from boyhood been interested in this subject, and this book is the work of leisure hours. Robert Cunyng- ham's manuscript of the family, written in or before 1740, being the nucleus around which the rest has collected. Many facts having accumulated from time to time, the writer, in 1872, began more thoroughly to search for information, and in June, addressed a circular letter to such members of the family as he then knew of. And by this means the descendants have all been ascertained by a correspondence with each branch or family.

The publication was at that time looked forward to only as a contingent possibility. But the replies to the circular and to other letters being far more encouraging than the writer had hoped, he now offers the work to the family. But *two hundred* copies have been printed, and are offered at a price that will merely cover the cost. The original design, that the work should be kept in the family, is adhered to, no copies being offered for public sale, but a few have, however, been placed in some of the public libraries.

The latter and main portion of the book is the genealogy of the family. Of this the biographies of General Roberdeau, Colonel D. C. Clymer, and the genealogical charts, &c., have been compiled from historical works, aided by family records.

The remainder has been written almost wholly from information received from members of the family, or from other manuscript records, none of which has before appeared in print, save two or three individual facts or biographies.

And here the writer takes the opportunity to recommend the reader to study the system upon which it is written, being that now usually adopted by genealogists. The whole family is classified into generations, and with but one exception, arranged in strict order of primogeniture. The numbering, 1, 2, 3, 4, &c., running through this portion of the book, shows that those names opposite to which it is placed, appear first, as children, and, are repeated further on in the book, as parents. By following these numbers the reader may trace his pedigree, upwards, or his descendants downward.

(Just before the main genealogy is a short one of Robert Cunyngham's descendants abroad, arranged upon another system, which is rather the clearest and best for a few names, but impracticable when there are many names or long biographies; the other, must then be resorted to.)

The writer regrets that more extended biographies of some members of the family have not been furnished, but each correspondent in this matter having properly suited his own pleasure, the writer has inserted just the facts received by him, and as nearly as possible in the same wording. Some few omissions yet remain unsupplied by correspondents that it is not deemed advisable longer to wait for. Some few discrepancies of names and dates have been observed in the matter furnished by different persons, but none of much moment. Where they could not be reconciled or corrected, the writer has given that which seemed most probably correct; hence may appear some apparent errors.

Each line has been followed down until it ended in unmarried persons or young children. There is thus hardly a possibility of any one having been omitted, unless it be that of some infant who died young. So that in respect to names, the book may be considered as *complete*.

The writer has endeavored throughout to record the details and dates of facts and events, for those are the soonest lost and most difficult to be recovered, while the general fact may be still well known.