GENEALOGY OF THE DESCENDENTS OF JOHN FERGUSON: A NATIVE OF SCOTLAND, WHO EMIGRATED TO AMERICA BEFORE THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

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Genealogy of the Descendents of John Ferguson: A Native of Scotland, Who Emigrated to America before the Revolutionary War by Arthur B. Ferguson

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ARTHUR B. FERGUSON

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COMPILED BY
ARTHUR E. FERGUSON, PH. B., M. D.

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PREFACE.

John Ferguson, the son of Peter and Isabel Ferguson of Duns, Berwickshire, Scotland, who emigrated to America and settled in Newport, Rhode Island, was the progenitor of a large family and the only one of his father's family who had male descendants to perpetuate his name. The following genealogy contains a record of his descendants down to the present time. It is a fact worthy of more than passing notice that his descendants are scattered all over the face of the globe. They are found in the United States from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast, in South Africa in goodly numbers, in China, and a record of one marriage in Australia. It is one purpose of this book to bring together and unite in one large family, the present and succeeding generations of his descendants who may feel a just pride in bearing his name.

The opening chapter contains extracts selected from the "Records of the Clan and Name of Fergusson or Ferguson" published by the Clan Ferguson Society of Scotland

To Mrs. Heman B. Allen (Margaret Eddy Ferguson) of Meriden, Conn., whose interest, helpfulness and intimate knowledge of the different branches of the family, past and present, has been of inestimable value, is here expressed my heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation, in bringing this work to a successful completion.

ARTHUR B. FERGUSON.

Salem, Mass.

Sept. 26, 1911.

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EARLY NOTICES OF THE NAME OF FERGUS, FERGUSON OR FERGUSSON.

Tradition has it that the clan and name Fergusson or Ferguson is among the very oldest of the Highland septs, and that in conformity with the name the race owed its origin to King Fergus. The traditionary pedigrees of the royal house of Scotland, handed down by the mediaeval historians, and associated with the warfare waged with the 'auld enemies of England" by the pen as well as with the sword, place the first Fergus, "the founder of Scotland's monarchy," whose legendary death by drowning off the Irish coast gave its name to Carrick Fergus, as early as three hundred years before the coming of our Lord. Modern research has, however, conclusively established that this Fergus is a mythical personage; but it has as certainly confirmed the fact that the first substantial settlement of the pure Scottish race in Scotland was led by a Fergus who was of royal blood, and whose house had for generations enjoyed regal dignity in Ireland, and was destined to produce, in St. Columbia, the founder of the Celtic Church in Scotland. The arrival on the Scottish shores of the real King Fergus-Fergus Mor MacEarca-took place in the year 498 A. D. He was the true first of the long line of Scottish kings, the attachment of their people to whom is so quaintly expressed by the old Covenanter Baillie:- Had our throne been void and our voices taken for the filling of Fergus's chair, we had died ere any other had sitten down on that fatal marble but Charles alone."