

**DERBY GENEALOGY: BEING A  
RECORD OF THE DESCENDANTS  
OF THOMAS DERBY, OF STOW,  
MASSACHUSETTS**

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Derby Genealogy: Being a Record of the Descendants of Thomas Derby, of Stow, Massachusetts  
by Viola A. Derby Bromley

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**VIOLA A. DERBY BROMLEY**

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# DERBY GENEALOGY

BEING A RECORD OF THE  
DESCENDANTS OF THOMAS DERBY  
OF STOW, MASSACHUSETTS

BY  
VIOLA A. DERBY BROMLEY

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1905

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## PUBLISHERS' NOTE

This volume makes no attempt to trace all the Dabys, Darbys, and Derbys in America. It is limited to the descendants of Thomas Derby, of Stow, Massachusetts. The genealogy of another Derby stock has been compiled by Professor Samuel C. Derby, of Columbus, Ohio, but has never been printed. His manuscript, we believe, has been deposited in the Boston Public Library, where it may, no doubt, be consulted by those who do not find their names or those of their ancestors in the present volume. But there were still other Derbys established in America at an early date, some of whom are referred to in the Introduction, which, however, makes no attempt to be exhaustive.

The arrangement adopted in this book is simple. An individual number is given to every descendant of Thomas Derby mentioned in the book, the treatment of persons who died unmarried or in infancy not differing in this respect from that of heads of families whose descendants are traced further. This is logical and scientific, permitting further references to any persons mentioned in the work by these numbers. It permits future critics simply to say, for example, that "55, Derby Genealogy, unaccounted for; married and died at such and such a time, and had this and that child," or that "100, Derby Genealogy, did *not* die young, as has been supposed."

In certain systems such numbers are given only to those whose descendants are traced further, and are thus family and not really individual numbers. In the present work, children who become heads of families, which are noticed further on, are distinguished by the words "See Family —, page —," while each family in turn appears under the caption, "Family —, *see page* —."

The page references are for the sake of the many who complain of difficulty in tracing out their lineages in numbered genealogies, in spite of the supposed scientific character of current standard systems and their undoubted simplicity to the initiated. In the present book the name of every child whose descendants are traced further is followed by the number of his own family

and of the page of the book on which it appears, while the caption above each family is a reference back from the head of that family to the page where he or she appears as a child in his or her parents' family. Those who find difficulty with current systems need, in the present case, only to look up in the Index the page on which appears their own name, or that of parent or grandparent, as the case may be, from which point the lineage is easily traced both up and down by means of the family numbers and page references.

This system has been adopted at the suggestion of The Genealogical Department of The Grafton Press, which has also devised the Owner's Lineage at the end of the book. By means of this arrangement the owner of any copy of this book need trace out his ancestral line but once, writing the name of each ancestor in the proper space, with the ancestor's individual number, and the pages of the volume where the ancestor's name appears. Every feature of his personal lineage is thereafter indexed for convenient reference.

FRANK ALIABEN,

Director Genealogical Department, The Grafton Press.

## INTRODUCTION

The antecedents in England of Thomas Derby, of Stow, Massachusetts, have never been ascertained. An ancient Lincolnshire family of Darby or Derby bore *arms, argent, a chevron between three garbs, sable*.

The first notice of the Darby family which we have met with, says Thompson, in his *History and Antiquities of Boston, England*, is in a pedigree of the Tamworth family, where it is stated that Nicholas Tamworth, of Tamworth, married Jane, the daughter of — Darby, of Leverton. This was about the year 1200. Ralph de Darby, of Bennington, occurs in 1346, Thomas in 1346 and 1353, and Robert in 1357. Roger Darby, of Leverton, married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Strauge. Their son Ralph married Alice, daughter of John Read, of Wrangle. This Ralph Darby is mentioned by Dugdale as residing at Leake in 1517. His son, Thomas Darby, of Bennington, is mentioned in 1536, 1539, 1540 and 1544. Alicia, or Alice, his wife, daughter of John Langton, is mentioned in 1547. William, son of Thomas and Alice, was alive in 1571. His son, William Darby, was living about 1620. We find mention of Thomas Darby, of Leake, in 1597, 1602 and 1642. He died in 1659.

A Thomas Darby, of Leverton, occurs also in 1642.

There are several memorials of the Darby and Gilbert families in the floor of the chancel of the church at Leake.

At a short distance from the Moat House is a large ancient building called Darby Hall, which was the residence of the family of that name who were considerable proprietors in this and the adjoining parishes for several centuries, and allied by marriage to the Dymocke family.

Darby Hall is partly in Leake and partly in Leverton. It is now the property of the heirs of Oldfield. We do not know whether the chief branch of the Derby or Darby family resided at Bennington or at the house above mentioned, standing partly in Leake.

Ralph Darby resided in Leake in 1517, William Derby in 1571,