

**AN ACCOUNT OF
SOME OF THE
DESCENDANTS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649434930

An Account of Some of the Descendants by Thomas Brattle

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

www.triestepublishing.com

THOMAS BRATTLE

**AN ACCOUNT OF
SOME OF THE
DESCENDANTS**

AN ACCOUNT
OF
SOME OF THE DESCENDANTS OF
CAPT. THOMAS BRATTLE

COMPILED BY
EDWARD-DOUBLEDAY HARRIS.
1867.

45 42035.6

*

1858. Mar. 6

Gift of
the compiler,
of Cambridge.

BOSTON : PRINTED BY D. CLAPP AND SON.

TO THE MEMORY OF
MRS. CATHERINE-BRATTLE BASCOM
THIS MEMOIR OF HER ANCESTORS
IS
AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED.



INTRODUCTION.

THE surname of Brattle is familiar to all who have made a study of the annals of our early colonial times. We know of but three distinct families in New England of the name: the first, that of Captain Thomas Brattle, an account of whose descendants forms the subject of the following pages—the second, that of William Brattle, who seems to have been of Wethersfield, Connecticut, in 1743,* and of whom we know nothing more than is recorded by Hon. R. R. Hinman in the Genealogical Register, xvi. p. 135—and the third, that of Col. Ebenezer Brattle, who seems to have been alone in Boston, a member of the Ancient and Honorable Artillery Company in 1786; it is possible that he may have descended from the Connecticut, he certainly did not from the Boston family; how long he remained in this city or where he ended his days, we have not ascertained.

Nor does the name appear to be common in England. It does not occur in Burke, nor in such directories and county lists of the present century as we have had opportunity of examining.

The forefather of the Boston family was, at his death, accounted the wealthiest man in the colony. He occupied positions of honor and trust in the community, and was undoubtedly possessed of superior qualifications as a business man. Two of his sons

* He married Sept. 21, 1743, Mary Wright, and had issue: Sarah, b. July 11, '44; William, b. Aug. 29, '45; Elizabeth, b. Jan. 13, '47; Mary, b. July 25, '48; John, b. Aug. 11, '50; James, b. Nov. 23, '51; Martha, b. Feb. 22, '53; Ann, b. Aug. 15, '55.

were educated at Harvard, and in after years ranked in scientific and intellectual attainments among the very first in the country. Of his four daughters, all formed highly respectable alliances.

Though we have no information concerning the family prior to the coming of Thomas Brattle to New England, it is only reasonable to believe that he was descended from an educated and intelligent line. Only four generations bearing the name have existed here, and it is a notable circumstance that all the male representatives of those four generations were men of remarkable powers and distinguished abilities.

The history of the armorial device, a cut of which precedes this Account, we have been unable to obtain. Whether it was borne by Captain Thomas Brattle or not, is a matter open for conjecture. It was certainly used by at least two of his sons previous to the year 1713. It is described by Gore in his roll of armorial bearings, prepared in the early part of the last century, and possibly owes its existence to his fertile imagination, though we are inclined to think that it is of more ancient derivation. An elaborate specimen of needle work, dated 1742, whereon is emblazoned the combined arms of the Brattle and Saltonstall families, gives for the Brattle crest the armored arm and battle axe, whilst the ancient seal of the Treasurer Brattle, now in the possession of J. P. Gannett, Esq., gives us only the profiled helmet.

THE BRATTLE FAMILY.

FIRST GENERATION.

THOMAS BRATTLE, born about 1624, merchant of Boston in 1656, was a member of the Artillery Company in 1675, captain in the militia, and commander of several expeditions against the hostile Indians. He was one of the founders of the Old South Church; a non-resident Representative for Lancaster in 1671-2, for Concord in 1678-9; one of the Commissioners to King Philip at Taunton in 1671; Selectman of Boston in 1679, and Treasurer of Selectmen in 1680.

He was early and largely interested in the purchase of lands on the Kennebec River. In 1670 he purchased of John Payne an interest in certain iron works, foundry, etc., at Concord, and so far augmented his possessions there by subsequent purchases, that at the time of his death they formed no inconsiderable portion of his estate.*

July 14, 1671, he bought of Kanepatund and Patatucke, Indians, two thousand acres of land "in the wilderness," on the west side of the Merrimac, between the river and Mashapogag pond, on the Chelmsford line, the land having been formerly the property of Cuttah-huno-amuck.

His son Thomas was appointed administrator of his estate April 12, 1683. The first division was made March 13, 1683-4, wherein two eighths of the whole were set off to son Thomas, while Nat.

* Suffolk Deeds, May 13, 1682, there is recorded an indenture of co-partnership with Simon Lynde, of Boston, for the carrying on of these works.