

THE CONKLINGS IN AMERICA

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The Conklings in America by Ira B. Conkling

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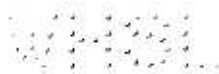
**THE CONKLINGS
IN AMERICA**



Ira B. Conkling, of Washington, D. C.,
son of Judge Zela Conkling, of Missouri.

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1913

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AFFECTIONATELY DEDICATED

TO MY CHILDREN

IRA B. CONKLING



Sarah Frances Brown Conkling,
wife of Ira B. Conkling.

INTRODUCTION

WHAT is herein published has been obtained after years of research. Civil records do not give much assistance in detail to the genealogist. But few perform service for the State, and fewer still perform service of so conspicuous a nature as to attract the attention of the civil historian. Hence it is that the histories of families is frequently lost. In preparing this book much credit is due to church records of Salem, Massachusetts; East Hampton and Southold, Long Island, and to the First Presbyterian Church of Morristown, New Jersey. Most of the ancestors mentioned in the pages of this book were church people—principally Presbyterians—and fairly complete records were kept of births, marriages, and deaths. To Rev. Timothy Johnes, who was pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Morristown from 1742 to 1794, much is due for the completeness of records. Credit is also due to the history of the "First Settlers of Passaic Valley, by John Littel, Esq., 1852." In compiling this volume I am under obligation to Rev. Andrew M. Sherman, of Morristown, New Jersey, author of "Historic Morristown," which gives the most complete and reliable story of the camp life of the American Army at Morristown during the tragic years of 1777, 1778 and 1779-'80 that has ever been written. He is the author of other histories of thrilling interest also, which place him in the forefront of American historians. Mr. Sherman is a lineal descendant of the Puritans that landed at Plymouth, and his family has contributed a good share of vitality to the purity, strength and manhood of American life. Through his paternal grandmother he descended from Edward Doty, John Aiden, Priscilla Mullen and Captain Miles Standish, all of whom were among the emigrants from Old England in 1620. Mr. Sherman's great-great-grandfather, Ebenezer Sherman, carried a musket in the Revolution—while he is a

veteran of the "unpleasantness" of 1861-5. We involuntarily doff our hat to such men. Yet Mr. Sherman is a modest man and has refrained from uniting with the many societies organized to perpetuate events of our history. Interesting characters deserve to be remembered, and without solicitation we give a photograph of him elsewhere.

Invaluable assistance has been obtained from the "Combined Register of First Presbyterian Church, Morristown, New Jersey, 1742 to 1891." By the kindness of relatives in Illinois, much of interest is added to this book. Mr. Edward Graham Conkling, of Seymour, Ill., and Mrs. Grace Heaton Conkling Leaverton, of Springfield, Ill., have given all assistance possible. Judge Thomas Jefferson Conkling, of San Jose, Cal., has contributed much interesting information in detail of early life in Missouri. He has always wielded the pen of a ready writer, and his scholarly attainments are well known.

Mr. Homer Caples Conkling, of Titusville, Fla., and Mr. D. H. Conkling, editor and publisher of "West Palm Beach County," Florida, have given valuable assistance.

The following publications have been consulted: History of East Hampton, by H. P. Hedges, of New York, 1897; The Conkling Prosch Family, by Thomas Wickham Prosch, 1909, Seattle, Wash.; Salem and the Conkling Family, by Frank J. Conkling, Brooklyn, N. Y., 1894; Lamb's Biographical Dictionary, 1900; Life and Letters of Roscoe Conkling, by Alfred Ronald Conkling, 1889; Savage's Genealogical Dictionary of New England; New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, 1896-'7; The Jones Family of Long Island, New York, by John H. Jones, 1907; extracts from the Salmon Records, giving marriages and deaths in Southold, Long Island, and elsewhere, from 1683 to 1811.