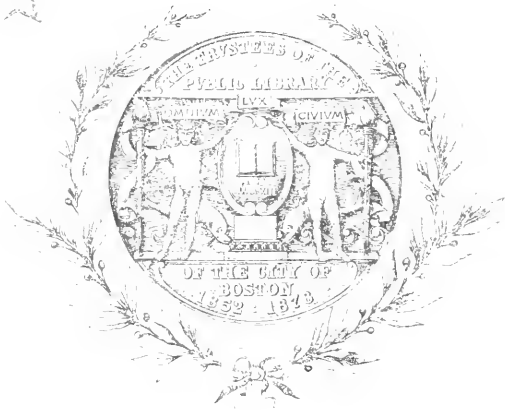


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A

GENEALOGICAL STATEMENT

OF THE

CLARKE FAMILY

OF

BOSTON, MASS.

1731;

WITH REVIEW OF THE SAME.

By ISAAC J. GREENWOOD.

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UNIVERSITY OF  
THE CITY OF BOSTON

## WILLIAM CLARK'S GENEALOGICAL STATEMENT, 1731.

Communicated by FREDERICK LEWIS GAY, of Boston, to the N. E. HIST. AND GENEAL. REGISTER for JANUARY, 1879.

THE following is a copy of a manuscript written by William Clark, of Boston (see REGISTER, vol. xxvi. p. 437). This copy, the date of which is unknown, was in the possession of Elizabeth (Greenough) Lewis, whose grandmother, Martha (Clark) Greenough, was a daughter of the above William Clark (see REGISTER, vol. xvii. pp. 167, 168). There is another copy of this manuscript in the possession of the Historic, Genealogical Society, bearing the date Jan. 1, 1747-8. This date evidently refers to the time when that or a previous copy was made, as William Clark died in 1742. There are many variations, mostly verbal ones. The most important variation is the adding of the words "of Physicians" after "college" in line 14.

Boston, October 1731.

Finding many very good families that through heedlessness have lost their descent and the reasons of their ancestors coming over from England to make settlements in this desert wilderness, though now a well improved and large province, and as my ancestors were none of the least of those that have brought it forward, I am willing to impart to my children their descent.

My grandfather John Clark, Physician, married Martha Saltonstall, of whom was born my father, John Clark, their only issue. My mother's father was William Whitingham, who married Martha Hubbard, of whom was born my mother, Martha Whitingham, and several others, not one of which lived of age to have issue. My grandfather John Clark was a younger brother of a good family in the north of England, had a collegiate education, took to the study of physick, and had from the college a diploma for a practitioner, and on his successful cutting several of the stone he had a separate diploma as to that faculty, which are both with my elder brother's son, John Clark (if not lost), both of which I have seen in parchment, with their seals. He came over here first a bachelor, and liking the country, but the Puritan settlers more, he went back to England, hired several vessels, and brought over a breed of horses and cattle, and the breed of horses were settled in Plymouth Colony, which to this day bear the name of Clark's breed. He settled himself at Rowley, where, and at Ipswich, most of the first gentlemen settled, thinking to make that the principal seat of government, but finding it impracticable for want of a good harbor, and Boston having a good harbor, all the considerable persons of trade removed there, and he with them, where he took a lot of land which he entailed on his family, and which is now held by my elder brother's son.

My grandmother Clark, whose maiden name was Martha Saltonstall, was the only sister of Sir Richard Saltonstall, Knight and Baronet, and was the first English virgin that landed on the spot of ground called Boston, with her brother Sir Richard, one of the principal Patentees. She was about 12 years of age. Her father married a daughter of the noble families of Gordons in Scotland, of whom was born Sir Richard and Martha, and from her grandmother of the noble family of Gordons she received as a present my gold cup, which she called a silver double gilt goblet, which by computation must now have been in the family about 180 years. She died in the 86<sup>th</sup> year of her age, and was a most gracious woman, full of good works.

My grandfather by the mother's side was Wm. Whittingham, a descendant of the famous Dean Whittingham, the Puritan, who left England and went into Holland and Geneva in Queen Mary's persecution, and returned again to England in Queen Elizabeth's reign. Wm. Whittingham, when he came over here in the Laudian persecution in King James the first reign, sold his parental estate some hundreds sterling a year, brought over servants and a retinue, lived as a gentleman, which was wholly spent in the settlements, and reserved to himself £180 sterling a year, which descended to my first cousin-german, Richard Whittingham, who was born here, went for England, settled on the same, being Lincolnshire, near Boston, where he lived and died and was many years Collector or Receiver of the county of Lincoln.

My grandmother by the mother's side was Martha Hubbard, of the family of the Ipswich Hubbards. The family was very considerable, she being in England brought up at a boarding school and had always her attendants to wait upon her, and in those days wearing her gold watch, which was worn only by persons of distinction. Her elder brother Richard was bred a gentleman, her brother William was bred at a university, and was ordained minister; they sold their real-estate in England, and Richard Hubbard brought over many servants, and had a large tract of land about 4 miles out of Ipswich town, where he lived and gave public entertainment to all comers and goers. William Hubbard some time after his arrival was ordained minister of Ipswich, where he died in the work of the ministry. They (Richard and William) came over in the Laudian persecution, and I have often heard my grandmother speak of her living in England, and the meanness of her living here, though at the very best rate, but would flatter herself that here she had pure worship, which they were deprived of in the land of her nativity.



## A REVIEW OF WILLIAM CLARKE'S GENEALOGICAL STATEMENT.

Communicated by ISAAC J. GREENWOOD, Esq., of New York City, to the N. E. HIST. AND GENEALOGICAL REGISTER for April, 1879.

**D**R. JOHN CLARKE, the progenitor of a prominent Boston family, a gentleman of college education, and holding diplomas as a physician and skilful lithotomist, died during the fall of 1664, being, as we learn from an inscription on his portrait painted the same year, in the 66th year of his age. Sewall's interleaved almanacs (REGISTER, vii. 344) inform us that his widow, Mrs. Martha Clarke, died 19 September, 1680, aged 85. Their only son, the Hon. Dr. John Clarke, of Boston, died in 1690, leaving by a first wife, Martha Whittingham, four children: John, b. Dec. 1667; William, b. Dec. 1670; Elizabeth, b. Feb. 167 $\frac{2}{3}$ ; Samuel, b. Nov. 1677.

The daughter Elizabeth married in 1698, Richard Hubbard, probably a cousin, and, after remaining a widow four years, became in August, 1703, the second wife of the Rev. Dr. Cotton Mather, who speaks of her as "honorably descended and related."

During the year 1731, some three years after his elder brother's decease,\* a full century having elapsed since the first settlement of Boston, one of the three above-named grandsons, viz.: *Councillor* William Clarke, as he was usually termed, gathered together all the loose traditions current in his family, respecting the Clarkes, Saltonstalls, Hubbards and Whittinghams, and committed them to writing for the benefit of his children, as he states. Copies were made by different members of the family, among them one dated "Boston, Jan. 12, 174 $\frac{1}{2}$ ," said to have been drawn up by the surviving brother Samuel Clarke, shipwright, a few days before executing his will. A transcript of this copy, in possession of the writer of this article, differs in orthography, punctuation, and occasionally in phraseology, from the copy printed in the present volume of the REGISTER, pp. 19 and 20, though in other respects essentially the same.† How strangely mixed, after the usual manner of family traditions, had become these recollections of the past, will be very apparent upon reading the printed statement. For instance, William Clarke calls his maternal grandfather "William Whittingham," instead of John. Again, in speaking of his grand-uncles Hubbard, he errs in alluding to Richard as the "elder," whereas there were two older brothers, William and Nathaniel, living at the time of their father's decease in 1670, the first of whom may have been a half-brother. William Hub-

\* Dr. John Clarke, the third, died 5 December, 1728. His daughter Sarah married Prof. Isaac Greenwood of Harvard College, and the name "Clarke" has continued in that family to the present generation. Prof. Greenwood was a nephew of Councillor William Clarke, through the latter's marriage with Sarah, daughter of Robert Bronsden (REGISTER, xiv. 171; xxvi. 437; xxxi. 114.)

† Many valuable papers of the Clarke family are said to have been destroyed by fire in the house of Dr. William Clarke, at Waltham, about the period of his decease, which took place in October, 1793. The grandson of this gentleman, John Saltonstall Clarke, was living a few years since, at Geneseo, Ill., being of the 8th generation and the last male descendant of old Dr. John Clarke of Boston.

bard, the elder brother, H. C. 1642, was ordained minister of Ipswich, Mass., in 1658, and died 1704; to him his father, William Hubbard senior of Ipswich, left an English estate in Tendering Hundred, county Essex. It is possible the family were related to the William Hubbard who, towards the close of the 16th century, owned the Manor of Bovill, called also Devill *alias* Dovell, in the parish of little Clacton, Tendering Hundred, co. Essex.

A more important point, however, exists in the statement made by William Clarke that his "grandmother Clarke, whose maiden name was Martha Saltonstall," was "the only sister of Sir Richard Saltonstall, Knight and Barouet." Briefly considering the antecedents of Sir Richard Saltonstall, Knight (who never received the rank of Baronet), we find that his grandfather was,

Gilbert<sup>1</sup> Saltonstall, of the Rooks, co. York, gent., who in his will, dated Nov. 24, 1598, proved at York, Jan. 7, 1598-9, mentions his wife Isabel and daughter Mary Savill, to whom he leaves £10 each; residue of goods and chattels to his son and executor Samuel Saltonstall. Mr. Wm. Ramsden, of Longley, and his brother-in-law Samuel Ashton, of Bissett, supervisors. No allusion is made to any other children, and it does not seem possible that he could have been the father of Sir Richard Saltonstall, the Lord Mayor of London, &c., as has been stated in Thoresby's *Ducatus Leodienses*,\* seeing that the age of Sir Richard is given as 80 years† at the time of his decease in March, 1609. In June, 1590, grant was made to Gilbert Saltonstall, the elder, Samuel his son, and Gilbert son of said Samuel, of the parsonage of Arkesey, near Doncaster, co. York, for the term of their lives.

Samuel<sup>2</sup> Saltonstall, of Kingston-upon-Hull, esquire, left will, dated 31 December, 1612, proved at York, 22 July, 1613. It is a long will, and the testator was evidently a gentleman of wealth and position; he mentions his wife Elizabeth, and all his children then living, viz.: Richard, to whom he gives his gold signet ring (and Richard's wife Grace, and daughter Rosamond); Samuel, still in his minority; John, Thomas, George, Ann, Elizabeth, Margaret, Mary and Barbara. Other kindred and friends named are: Mr. John Lister, Mrs. Aune Lister, Mrs. Margaret Graves, Mrs. Jane Chapman, daughter-in-law Elizabeth Lister,‡ and her children, Samuel Ashton, brother Stephen Hogge, kinsmen Mr. Richard Sunderland,§ of Coley Hall, Sir Richard Beamond, and brother-in-law William Rawson, esquire.

He was thrice married; first to Anne, daughter of John Ramsden, of Longley, esquire, ancestor of the Baronets Ramsden of Longley, and father of Elizabeth, who married at Almondbury, 16 October, 1571, Edward Beamond (or Beaumont), of Whitley Beaumont, esquire, their only son being the Sir Richard Beamond, Knight and Baronet, alluded to in the will; second, as is stated, to Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Thomas Ogden; third, to Elizabeth, widow of Hugh Armine, Mayor of Hull.

Of the daughters of Samuel Saltonstall, Mary, styling herself "of Hnntwicke Grange," by a nuncupative will, of 18 March, 162½, proved at York 9 May, 1622, leaves all to her brother Sir Richard Saltonstall, Knight.

Richard<sup>3</sup> Saltonstall, whose baptism at Halifax is given as 4 April, 1586, was afterwards knighted, and was one of the principal undertakers for the

\* Stowe's Survey of London (4 Edit. 1633), also makes him son of Gilbert S., of Halifax, county York.

† Chitterbuck's History of Herts; this work does not give his parentage.

‡ Probably a daughter of testator's third wife, Elizabeth Armine, widow.

§ Richard Sunderland married a daughter of Sir Richard Saltonstall, Lord Mayor.

Massachusetts Bay Plantation. He was a widower with six children, Richard, Robert, Samuel, Henry, Rosamond and Grace, when in 1630 he came out to New England. Some servants and five of his children accompanied him, of whom were his two daughters and his eldest son Richard. He returned to England, during April of the succeeding year, with his daughters and his younger son; Richard,<sup>4</sup> the eldest son, followed in a few months, but revisited the colony in 1635, together with his wife and an infant daughter. His wife, Muriel Gurdon, daughter of Brampton Gurdon, esquire, of Assington, co. Suffolk, and Letton, co. Norfolk, he had married July 4, 1633, at Allhallowes, Honey Lane, Cheap Ward, London. This Richard was for some years a commissioner of customs, excise, and sequestrations in Scotland, and upon his resignation was recommended to Secretary Thurloe, 11 March, 1655<sup>5</sup>, by Lord Broghill, President of the Council. He died at Hulme, co. Lancaster, 29 April, 1694, aged 84: of his sons were Nathaniel, called the "Father of Haverhill, Mass.;" Richard, a merchant tailor of London, who died s. p. in 1667, leaving a will; and probably Gurdon, of London, on whose estate administration was granted in 1662.

The three other sons of Sir Richard<sup>3</sup> Saltonstall were all subsequently in New England, that is prior to 1642, viz.: Robert, to whom reference will be made hereafter; Henry, a graduate of Harvard College, and a physician, who returned to the mother country, but whose ultimate fate is unknown; and Samuel, of Watertown, Mass., who died at an advanced age, 21 January, 1696, and whose estate was administered upon by his nephew Nathaniel Saltonstall, esquire, of Haverhill, Mass.

Sir Richard<sup>3</sup> Saltonstall has been represented as being an Ambassador from England to Holland, during the year 1644, but I think Mr. Walter Strickland was the English agent at that time and subsequently. However, Sir Richard was granted a pass by the House of Lords, 11 February, 1642<sup>2</sup>, to go to Holland with three servants, and was there in 1644, together with his son Henry. In 1649 he appears to have been one of the contractors in the Act respecting the Crown Lands. Hutchinson states that, by his will in 1658, he left a legacy to Harvard College, but the writer had evidently in view the donation sent out from England, the following year, by the son Richard Saltonstall, esquire. To this latter gentleman Letter of Administration was granted, 25 October, 1661, on the goods of his late father Sir Richard Saltonstall, of Wrexham,\* co. Denbigh, and Crawford (Crayford), co. Kent, deceased.

Like his father, Sir Richard<sup>3</sup> was thrice married; all his children, however, were by the first wife Grace, daughter of Robert Kaye, of Woodsome, esquire, ancestor of the Baronets Kaye; the second wife is said to have been Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas West, Lord Delaware; the third, Martha Wilford, evidently a widow, survived him. In her will, dated October 15, proved November 11, 1662, Mrs. Martha Saltonstall desires "to be buried near her dear husband;" she bequeaths to the poor of Crayford and of the place where she may be buried; mentions her son Welford and his two children Frank and Tom; leaves the bulk of her personal property to her daughter Tuckney, in trust for her grandchild Martha Wilford, and appoints as executor her friend Col. John Twisleton, ancestor of the Lords Say and Seale.

\* A few miles to the south of Wrexham was Chirk-Castle, purchased in 1595 by Sir Thomas Middleton, fourth son of Richard M., of Denbigh. Sir Thomas M. was a grocer of London, and Lord Mayor in 1613; he married about 1580, Hester, daughter of Sir Richard Saltonstall, Lord Mayor.

Robert<sup>4</sup> Saltonstall, son of Sir Richard, was in England, 1633, and his brother Samuel in New England.\* He returned to the Colony, and in 1649 was witness on a deed of land in Newbury, from Dr. John Clarke. His will, dated 13 June, and proved 15 August, 1650 (REGISTER, vii. 334), mentions his father Richard, his brothers Richard, Samuel and Henry, and sisters Rosamond and Grace. He leaves a certain amount towards releasing *Aunt Clarke's* son from Captain Middleton, in the Barbadoes, and appoints Uncle John Clarke and George Munninge as executors; the former gentleman renouncing this trust on the will of "his cosen R. Saltonstall."† This will appears to be the only contemporary allusion to any kinship between Martha, wife of Dr. John Clarke, and the Saltonstall family, but, unfortunately, it leaves us in uncertainty as to whether Mrs. Clarke was a sister of Robert Saltonstall's father, or of his mother, Grace Kaye, or of either of his two step-mothers, Elizabeth West and Mrs. Wilford. The late Mr. H. G. Somerby, of London, who made some researches for me on the subject in 1871, says, referring to Samuel, the father of Sir Richard, "he may have had a daughter Martha, who was married to Doctor Clarke, but I have no evidence of it." Moreover the widow Martha Clarke, who died in 1680, aged 85, could not have been the young maiden "about 12 years of age," who "landed (in 1630) on the spot of ground called Boston, with her brother Sir Richard."

As to the legend of the Gordon family, it may easily have arisen, through lapse of time, from the fact of the younger Richard Saltonstall's marriage with Muriel Gurdon, coupled with their subsequent residence for some years in Scotland. This legend has been already alluded to in the REGISTER (vol. xxvii. 138), though the writer errs in making the wife of Councillor William Clarke to have been his cousin Mary Whittingham. That lady married another William Clarke of Boston, who died in 1710; subsequently she became the wife of Gov. Gurdon Saltonstall of the Connecticut Colony, and died in 1730, aged 68. She is highly spoken of in the Boston Gazette of January 31, and the New England Weekly Journal of January 26. The latter paper mentions her descent from the Dean Whittingham of Durham, a story which is repeated in the Clarke genealogical paper under discussion. She was the grandmother of Richard Clarke, the father-in-law of Copley the artist, and the grandfather of the late Lord Lyndhurst.

\* Massachusetts Historical Society Coll., 4 S. vi. 494.

† On the map which accompanies Ligon's description of Barbadoes, 1647-50 (published London, 1673), we find the house of a Mr. Saltonstall on the west side, near Spykese Bay, and on the east side, at the head of Clarke's Bay, the dwelling of a Mr. Clarke.



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