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To His Hono^{ble} Gov^r and Council now sitting
May 7th 1677 /

The Petition of Henry Cran

Humbly sheweth that yo^r Petition^r hath^t three
Indians servants (viz) one man a woman and a
Child: which yo^r Petition^r was ordered by yo^r Hono^r
to dispose of, and send away: now by yo^r Hono^r man
hath been at Roddes Island for the space of one
month: and yo^r Petition^r hath not had any
opportunity to dispose of them: since yo^r Hono^r
order: Except he should have given them away
now yo^r Petition^r Humbly craves the favor
of yo^r Hono^r to grant him two months time
that so he may make his best advantage of them
to shall he pray for yo^r Hono^r &c

Henry Cran

HENRY CRANE

OF

MILTON, MASS.,

1654,

AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

COMPILED FOR

MR. ALBERT CRANE, A.B., LL.B.

OF ROCK ACRE, STAMFORD, CONN.

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HENRY CRANE OF DORCHESTER, MASS., AND SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS.

Compiled by Miss EMILY WILDER LEAVITT, of Boston, Mass.

THE Braintree, Mass., Town Records of 1640, state that James Penniman, Thomas Matosan, Stephen Kinsley, Gregory Baxter, Samuel Crane and William Cheseborough were elected to administer town affairs. This is the first association in those records of the names of Kinsley and Crane, and here is all there is of Samuel Crane. Whence he came, whither he went, who can tell?

In 1654, Stephen Kinsley, who was at Mount Wollaston, Mass., in 1639, with his sons-in-law, Anthony Gulliver and Henry Crane, were settled on adjacent farms in that part of Dorchester which was, later, incorporated as Milton.

HENRY¹ CRANE, who was born about 1621, probably in England, had married Tabitha, a daughter of Stephen Kinsley, and had purchased a farm of one hundred and twenty acres of land; with its house standing on the road which was, according to the selectmen's records of Dorchester, of 1. 7. 1654, "on a way laid out through Dorchester woods, from Braintree bounds to Roxbury bounds; beginning near Henrye Crane's house: the way to lie south west of it, on the old, beaten road waye." This was the first road over Milton Hill and was laid out from Braintree, now Quincy. By this we learn that Henry Crane had been settled there for some time; but the date of his marriage and the birth of his first two children were not entered on the town books; the first that we find being the birth of his third child, John, in 1658.

In Massachusetts Archives, vol. 30, p. 239, there is an autograph letter of Henry Crane dated May 7, 1677. It is written in fine, clear, flowing lines, and both composition and spelling show that he must have received some scholarly training. It was a reply to an order from the General Court. "Henry Crane hath three Indian Servants, one man, one woman and one child, which you have ordered to be sent away. The man has been at Noddle's Island for one month; and your petitioner hath not had

any opportunity to dispose of them, unless he should give them away." He then pleads for two months' delay that he may make the best advantage of them.

Shortly after this the General Court summoned Henry Crane to show evidence why lands at "Blew Hills" should not be disposed of at its pleasure.

He was chiefly a husbandman; yet with a tendency to land speculation. In 1683, "Henry Crane, of Milton, bought land of Moses Payn, innholder, at the south end of Boston, which said Moses Payn bought of Henry Phillips, butcher, and was bounded, east by the highway to Roxbury, south by Thomas Smith's land, now Andrew Belcher's, northerly, by the land belonging to Theophilus Frary's heirs; together with the beach, and the flats to the seaward;" whilst his later years were much employed in giving and reducing mortgages on his possessions. He was one of the selectmen of Milton in 1679, 1680 and 1681, and was one of the trustees of the first meeting-house built in Milton.

His first wife, Tabitha (Kinsley) Crane, died shortly after 1681, and she married, second, about 1683, Elizabeth ———, who survived him; he died at Milton, March 21, 1709. His children were:

1. BENJAMIN, b. about 1656; who, when but eighteen years old, enlisted in Captain Johnson's company, in King Phillip's war, and was severely wounded in the battle of Narragansett Swamp, Dec. 19, 1675.
 2. ii. STEPHEN, b. about 1657.
 - iii. HENRY, JR.
 - iv. JOHN, b. at Dorchester, 30. 11. 1658; m. Dec. 13, 1686, Hannah, dau. of James and Hannah Leonard; lived in Taunton, Mass.
 - v. ELIZABETH, b. Aug. 14, 1663; m. 1st in Milton, May 23, 1682, Eleazer Gilbert, of Taunton; he d. March 29, 1701; she m. 2d, April 27, 1705, George Townsend of Taunton.
 3. vi. EBENEZER, b. Aug. 6 (10), 1665.
 - vii. MARY, b. Nov. 22, 1666; m. March 23, 1690, Samuel Hackett of Taunton.
 - viii. MERCY, b. Jan. 1, 1668.
 - ix. SAMUEL, b. June 8, 1669.
 - x. ANNA C. M., b. 1687; removed to Taunton.
2. ii. STEPHEN² CRANE (*Henry*¹), born about 1657; married 1st, July 2, 1676, Mary Denison, who was born 1660; died June 17, 1721; he married 2d, Aug. 13, 1723, Comfort, widow of Samuel Belcher, of Braintree, Mass.; he died July 20, 1738; "widow Comfort Crane died at Milton, Dec. 21, 1745. Children, all by 1st wife:
 1. MARY, b. July, 1680.
 - ii. TABITHA, b. Oct. 7, 1682; d. Nov. 13, 1682.
 - iii. ELIZABETH, b. March 14, 1684; m. Jan. 15, 1718, Samuel Fuller.

- iv. SAMUEL, b. May 23, 1687.
- v. ZERVIAH, b. Nov. 30, 1690.
- 4. vi. BENJAMIN, b. Dec. 17, 1692; m. Abigail Houghton.

3. EBENEZER² (*Henry*¹) CRANE, born Aug. 6, 1665; married Nov. 13, 1689, Mary, a daughter of Thomas, Jr., and Elizabeth (Johnson) Tolman and a grand-daughter of the Thomas Tolman, senior, who came from England in 1635, and was one of the first settlers of Dorchester; both her father and grandfather were prominent and influential citizens in Dorchester, where she was born Nov. 26, 1671.

Ebenezer Crane enlisted in the company which went with Sir William Phips's expedition to Quebec, August, 1690, under the command of Colonel John Withington; and he was one of the twenty-nine men who returned, out of the seventy-five sent by his native town. The Great and General Court granted, to all who enlisted in this war, shares in the northern part of Worcester County, Mass., which was then called "Dorchester Canada," now the town of Ashburnham. "There are many families by the name of Crane in that vicinity who claim descent from an unknown Ebenezer Crane,"* but he himself remained in that part of Braintree which was, later, incorporated as the town of Quincy, and all of his children were born there. These were:

- i. EBENEZER, b. Nov. 21, 1692; m. Nov. 9, 1716, Elizabeth Cock.
- ii. EZEKIEL, b. Nov. 28, 1694.
- iii. DANIEL, b. February, d. March, 1696.
- iv. TABITHA, b. Dec. 27, 1697.
- v. MARY, b. July 11, 1699; m. Robert Swan.
- vi. ELIZABETH, b. Jan. 17, 1702; m. Elisha Faxton.
- vii. LYDIA, b. April 2, 1703; m. Zachariah Alden of Boston.
- viii. EDWARD, b. Aug. 12, 1705.
- ix. HENRY, b. Feb. 29, 1708.
- 5. x. THOMAS, b. May 12, 1710.
- xi. BENJAMIN, b. Oct. 22, 1712; m. May 12, 1737, Anna Brackett.
- 6. xii. ABILAH, b. Nov. 2, 1714; m. 1st, Sarah Field; 2d, Sarah Beverley.

4. BENJAMIN² CRANE (*Stephen*² *Henry*¹), born Dec. 17, 1692; married Dec. 27, 1722, Abigail Houghton. They had children:

- i. JOSEPH, b. Feb. 28, 1724.
- ii. MARY, b. Jan. 23, 1727.
- iii. BENJAMIN, b. June 4, 1728.
- iv. ABIGAIL, b. Aug. 16, 1729.
- v. AMARIAH, b. March 1, 1731.
- vi. SETH, b. July 22, 1732.

* From a monograph by Phineas M. Crane.

- vii. STEPHEN, b. May 19, 1734.
viii. ABIAH, t. Aug. 11, 1736; d. July 4, 1737.
5. THOMAS³ CRANE (*Ebenezer*,² *Henry*¹), born in Braintree, Mass., May 12, 1710; married Jan. 13, 1732, Deborah, daughter of Nathaniel and Deborah (Parmenter) Owen; they were both admitted to the church at Braintree, August, 1732. They had children:
- i. EBENEZER, b. Nov. 12, 1732.
 8. ii. THOMAS, b. Feb. 16, 1735.
 9. iii. JOSEPH, b. Sept. 11, 1737.
 - iv. ELISHA, b. Sept. 21, 1740.
 - v. DOROTHY, b. March 6, 1743.
6. ABIAH³ CRANE (*Ebenezer*,² *Henry*¹), born Nov. 2, 1714; married 1st, March 3 (or May 4), 1738, Sarah Field, who died Sept. 3, 1742; he married 2d, Jan 7, 1743, Sarah Beverley. They had children:
- i. WILLIAM, bapt. at Braintree, May 27, 1737.
 - ii. SARAH, bapt. at Braintree, May 27, 1737.
 - iii. ABIAH, JR., b. —
 10. iv. JOHN, b. Dec. 7, 1744.
 - v. MIRIAM, bapt. Jan. 19, 1750.
7. STEPHEN⁴ CRANE (*Benjamin*,³ *Stephen*,² *Henry*¹), born in Braintree, May 19, 1734, removed to Canton, Mass., where he built a house on the shores of Punkapoag Brook, near its junction with the Neponset river. A short distance below his house, a paper mill had been built in 1730, by a company, one of whom was Daniel Henschman, book-seller and publisher of Boston, which was run for a few years but could not be sustained. "In 1760 the business was again revived by James Boies of Boston, who procured a paper maker from a British regiment then stationed in Boston, by the name of Hazelton, who obtained a furlough long enough to set the mill to work."* This was carried on in rather a small way until the revolt of the colonies threw them on their own resources in this as well as in so many other manufactures.

As business increased many more workmen were called in, amongst whom were two sons of Stephen Crane, Stephen junior and Zenas. After the former became skilled in the work, he went to Newton Lower Falls where he built and managed a paper mill of his own.

Stephen Crane married, Nov. 13, 1762, Susannah, daughter of Nathaniel⁵ and Susannah (Tucker) Badcock, who was born at Milton, Feb. 7, 1742. They had children:

* REGISTER, 1875, page 158.

- i. LUTHER, b. March 10, 1764; m. May, 1806, Jane Morton; d. Oct. 16, 1843.
 - ii. STEPHEN, Junior, b. Jan. 2, 1766; m. Elizabeth Gardner of Brighton, Mass.; d. 1802.
 - iii. PHILEMON, b. Jan. 7, 1769; d. Feb. 12, 1769.
 - iv. SUSANNAH, b. June 7, 1770.
 - v. NATHAN, b. May 15, 1774; m. Oct. 19, 1806, Avis Harrington of Watertown, Mass., who d. March 16, 1813; he m. 2d, Dec. 25, 1813, Susan Hastings of Waltham, Mass., who was born Oct. 18, 1787; d. July 25, 1862; he d. Sept. 21, 1826.
11. vi. ZENAS, b. May 9, 1777.

8. THOMAS⁴ CRANE (*Thomas*,³ *Ebenezer*,² *Henry*¹), born at Braintree, Feb. 16, 1735, early removed to Boston, where he first engaged in trucking, then as a wharfinger. In 1772, he with his wife Ann sell a brick house that stood next the Green Dragon; in 1783, he owned a house on Essex Street; in 1784 Ebenezer Woodward, whom he calls his brother-in-law, deeded a certain portion of a wharf which Ebenezer Woodward had purchased of Leonard Vassall Borland, under the name of Borland's wharf, to Thomas Crane, which was from that time called Crane and Woodward's wharf. Here the two pursued their several avocations, Mr. Woodward as cooper and merchant, and Thomas Crane as wharfinger, with joint partnership in a salt wharf adjoining which they held in common. Just before his decease, Ebenezer Woodward gave a deed of the whole to Thomas Crane. Later this wharf was known as Central Wharf.

Thomas Crane married Ann, probably a daughter of Richard and Ann Pattishall. Richard Pattishall took his degree at Harvard, of B. A. 1735; M. A. 1738; preached occasionally and was also a teacher of a private school in the north part of Boston, "on Hanover Street three houses below the Orange tree, in Mr. Bradford's house."* His father, Robert Pattishall, a wealthy merchant of the city, bought four thousand acres of land above Saco river falls from Major William Phillips, 16. 1. 1667.† His brother, Richard Pattishall, had removed to Pemaquid, Maine, and owned a sloop which plied between that point and Boston. This sloop, as it lay near the bar-bican, in 1689, was that used to convey the trembling fugitives from Pemaquid Fort, after the massacre by the savages, to Boston, although Richard Pattishall himself was slain.

In his will drawn Feb. 8, 1791, probated Sept. 12, 1791, Thomas Crane mentions his wife Ann, his brother Joseph Crane, cordwainer, of Braintree, and his mother-in-law Mrs. Ann Patteshall, but no children.

* REGISTER, 1847, page 644.

† York Deeds, Book II., page 172.

Dec. 2, 1803, Hannah, widow of Thomas Crane, who had married William McKean, gives a lease of "Woodward's now Central Wharf, with store, warehouses, etc.,"*

9. JOSEPH⁴ CRANE (*Thomas*,³ *Ebenezer*,² *Henry*¹), baptized at Braintree, Sept. 11, 1737, a cordwainer by trade, resided at Braintree, part of the time occupying the same house with Benjamin Savil. Although he had a family of seven children at the outbreak of the Revolutionary war, he seems to have been keenly alive to the demands of the times, as he served in Capt. Silas Weld's company in Col. William Heath's regiment, April 28, 1775 (Rev. Rolls, v. 56, r. 246); was appointed Sergeant in Capt. Silas Weld's company, Col. Edmund Phinney's Battalion, and was reported as sick in Barracks at Fort George, Dec. 8, 1776 (Rev. Roll, v. 46, r. 6); marched under Capt. Aaron Smith, in Col. Benjamin Gill's regiment, August 15, 1776, to reinforce the Northern Army, and served until Nov. 29, 1777 (Rev. Roll, v. 23, r. 80); engaged Dec. 20, 1777, in Capt. Thomas Nash's company, Major Edward Proctor's detachment, for guard in Mass., and was at Fort Hill, in Boston; served 2 months, 10 days (Rev. Rolls, v. 21, r. 172); engaged under Capt. Ebenezer Everett, in Col. McIntoshe's regiment, in the expedition to Rhode Island, Aug. 1, and was discharged Sept. 14, 1778 (Muster Rolls, vi., r. 206); served at Cambridge from April 2 to July 3, 1778, under Capt. Benjamin Lapham, in Col. Jonathan Reed's regiment (Muster Roll, v. 20, r. 193); enlisted October 6, 1778, marched 12 miles from home, served 2 months, 27 days, under Capt. Abel Richafds, in Capt. Jonathan Cogswell's regiment (Muster Rolls, v. 22, r. 156). At this time his son Joseph Crane, junior, was old enough to serve, and by one of these two, on July 22, 1780, service was given under Capt. Thomas Newcomb, in Col. Eben Thayer's regiment, raised for 3 months, to reinforce the Continental Army, part of the levies stationed at West Point, part at Rhode Island, the service terminating Oct. 10, 1780 (Muster Rolls, v. 21, r. 165); and again a Joseph Crane served in the Forty Days Expedition to Rhode Island, under Capt. John Armstrong, in Col. Gill's regiment, for 27 days, in 1781 (Muster Rolls, v. 17, r. 29). He married, Dec. 20, 1757, Mary, daughter of Benjamin and Mary (Blanchard) Savil, who was born Nov. 24, 1739, died Aug. 1, 1809; he died 1810. They had children:

1. JOSEPH, Junior, b. Aug. 1760; m. Sept. 8, 1782, Ruth Walcs of Dorchester.

* Suffolk Deeds, vol. 207, folio 168.

- ii. LEMUEL, b. 1762.
 - iii. MARY, b. Feb. 19, 1764; m. Sept. 21, 1800, Byron O'Neal.
 - iv. EBENEZER, b. Feb. 23, 1766; m. July 26, 1792, Ruth Ludden; he d. Oct. 1, 1836.
 - v. HANNAH, b. March 27, 1768; m. July 25, 1791, Peter Keating of Boston; d. June 14, 1830.
12. vi. THOMAS, b. May, 1770.
- vii. ELISHA THAYER, b. July, 1773-4; m. Oct. 23, 1797, Rebecca French; d. Sept. 6, 1833.

10. JOHN⁴ CRANE (*Abijah*,³ *Ebenezer*,² *Henry*¹), born at Braintree, Dec. 7, 1744, when only fifteen years old volunteered to serve in the army as a substitute for his father, who had been drafted but was in delicate health.

On his return, John, with his elder brother, Abijah Crane, junior, learned the housewright's trade, and together they bought, in 1767, of Andrew Belcher, a house, land and a shop in Boston, on Nassau Street, now Tremont, near Dr. Byles's meeting-house, and butted by land of Deacon John Eliot, John Withington, and directly opposite what is now Hollis Street, where Joseph Lovering's tallow chandlery stood. Further down Tremont Street, on the part then called Long Acre, near the old Province House, Adino Paddock, a London coach maker, owned a large estate. He had some young elms brought from the Robbuis farm at Brush Hill in Milton, by John Crane and Gilbert Deblois, and they set them out opposite Major Paddock's place before the South or "Grauary" Burying Ground. Paddock was then a captain of a train of artillery composed of mechanics, in 1774, and in that John Crane received his military training.

Both John and his brother Abijah were hot patriots, and it was at their shop that some seventeen men under disguise of Indians, late in the afternoon of Dec. 16, 1773, started for Griffin's (now Liverpool) wharf, where three Indiamen, laden with tea, were anchored. As they went through the narrow, crooked streets, a crowd of men and boys swelled their number to about seventy.

When aboard ships, as John Crane was down in a hold flinging out the tea chests, one of them fell upon him and he was picked up senseless, to all appearance dead. Some of the men carried him ashore and hid him under a heap of shavings in a carpenter's shop near by.

After the passage of the Boston Port Bill, John Crane, finding it hard to support his family in the stagnation of trade that ensued, removed with his partner Ebenezer Stevens, to Providence, R. I.

Soon after, the news of the fight at Bunker Hill roused them; they immediately raised two companies of artillery, marched to Roxbury and joined Colonel Gridley's regiment; when Crane was appointed major and Stevens captain in the Rhode Island Train Band.

From this time until the close of the war, Major Crane was in constant service. July 8, 1775, he, with Major Tupper and a company of volunteers, attacked a British advanced guard on Boston neck and routed them. He commanded a breast-work on the neck during the siege of Boston; January 1, 1776, he received a commission as major in Knox's regiment of artillery, and went with the army to New York. Sept. 14, 1776, a part of one of his feet was shot off whilst he was cannonading a British frigate that was running by Corlaier's Hook, and was thus disabled for a time. Jan. 1, 1777, he received a colonel's rank and raised a regiment in Massachusetts "which was officered chiefly by those who had been trained under Paddock, Gridley and Knox, which was principally employed in the main army near the person of the commander-in-chief and was relied on as an essential auxiliary in the most important battles. No military organization in the army participated in so many eventful scenes or won more laurels; portions of it were with Sullivan in the Rhode Island campaign; with Gates at Saratoga and in the heroic defence of Red Bank on the Delaware; he was brevetted brigadier general, Sept. 30, 1783."* He was a member of the Cincinnati.

After the war was ended, Colonel John Crane formed a partnership with Major Lemuel Trescott and removed to Maine, where they engaged in the lumber trade on Passamaquoddy Bay.

John Crane married, 1767, Mehitable, daughter of Samuel Wheeler, who was born 1746; he died at Whiting, Maine, Aug. 26, 1805. They had children:

- i. JOHN, Junior, b. 1768.
- ii. ALICE, b. 1770.
- iii. MEHITABLE, b. 1771.
- iv. ABELAH.
- v. ISAAC.
- vi. CHARLOTTE, b. 1782.

11. ZENAS⁵ CRANE (*Stephen*,⁴ *Benjamin*,³ *Stephen*,² *Henry*¹), born May 9, 1777; living so near the mill, where much of the activity of the town centered, must have passed many of his boyish days in wandering about its yard and watching the different parts of the work, and

* Massachusetts Society of the Cincinnati, p. 151.

thus gained knowledge which prepared him to enter his brother's mill at Newton; thence he went to a mill in Worcester, Mass., which was under the control of a very exact and efficient manager, General Burbank.

Having perfected himself in the work and its principles, and studied its needs, in the summer of 1799, he, being in a position to establish himself independently, left Worcester, and searched for a fitting site for his project to build a mill for himself. Crossing the Hoosac mountains, he reached the "waters of the upper Housatonic river and its branches. Here he passed his first night in Berkshire; sleeping at a small, wayside inn near the border line between Dalton and Pittsfield.

"He had reached a region of superb natural beauty * * * * * In the town of Dalton, near the centre of the famous Berkshire hills, lies a sheltered valley through which flows the largest of the eastern branches of the Housatonic, affording in its rapid descent several fine water powers."*

Here, Dec. 5, 1801, a deed conveyed to Henry Wiswall, Zenas Crane and Daniel Gilbert over fourteen acres of land with a paper mill, in which, up to this time, there had been a daily production of one hundred and twenty-five sheets of paper, and which became known as the "Old Berkshire Mill." Here the partners worked together until 1807, when Zenas Crane sold his share and tried a venture in mercantile life; but, in 1810, he resumed the paper making interest, first as superintendent and chief manager of a firm of four partners, of which he was one; then, in 1820, buying out the others and taking sole control.

Hampered by the strong prejudice for foreign products, he toiled steadily on, overcoming many obstacles, studying the improvement and perfection of his processes until 1842, in which year he transferred his interests to his sons, Zenas Marshall and James Brewer, who, favored by conditions and circumstances, held the "Old Red Mill," as it was termed, until it was burned in 1870, when they built a finer and larger mill of stone, and became the bank-note paper makers of the United States; their specialty being the making of paper for government purposes, bonds, certificates, treasury notes and bank bills.

"In 1846, Zenas Marshall Crane was much inclined to inventing methods of improving and raising the art It occurred to him at that time that the introduction into the fibre of silk threads repre-

* Pioneer Paper Making in Massachusetts. By J. E. A. Smith, pp. 15, 16.

senting the denomination of bills by their number would prevent counterfeiting Conservative men discouraged Mr. Crane, so that he did not apply for a patent Nearly twenty years after practical men at the head of financial affairs of the nation deemed it expedient to adopt essentially the plan devised by Mr. Crane An Englishman appeared at Washington with a claim as patentee.* But Mr. Crane's claim was fully established by some of the home banks which had retained copies of their trial of his design.

Zenas Crane married Nov. 30, 1809, Lucinda, daughter of Gaius and Lucretia (Babcock) Brewer, of Wilbraham, Mass., who died May 2, 1872, aged 84 years; he died June 20, 1845. They had children:

- i. LUCINDA, b. March 19, 1813.
- ii. ZENAS MARSHALL, b. Jan. 21, 1815; m. 1st, Aug. 29, 1839, Caroline E. Laffin, of Lee, Mass., who was b. May 31, 1818, d. Jan. 16, 1849; he m. 2d, April 2, 1850, her sister, Louise F. Laffin, who was b. July 1, 1830. They had children:
 1. Zenas, b. Dec. 6, 1840, m. June 17, 1873, Ellen J. Kittredge, of Hinsdale, Mass., and had children: (1) Francis K., b. April 20, 1875; (2) Zenas Marshall, b. March 5, 1878; (3) Winthrop, b. Oct. 6, 1879, d.; (4) Charles K., b. Aug. 28, 1881; (5) Douglas, b. May 13, 1883; (6) Lawrence L., b. Nov. 10, 1889, d.
 2. Kate F., b. Oct. 17, 1843.
 3. Caroline L., b. April 26, 1851.
 4. Winthrop Murray, b. April 23, 1853; m. Feb. 5, 1880, Mary Benner, of Astoria, L. I., who d. Feb. 16, 1884, leaving one child, Winthrop Murray Crane, Jr., b. Sept. 12, 1881.
 5. Clara L., b. March 13, 1886.
- iii. JAMES B., b. April 31, 1817.
- iv. LINDLEY MURRAY, b. March 17, 1822.
- v. SEYMOUR, b. Sept. 16, 1826.

Mr. James Brewer Crane bequeathed \$20,000 to the town of Dalton. Mr. Zenas Crane and Mr. W. Murray Crane added an equal sum to this, and caused to be built a Town Hall of blue granite, pressed brick and Longmeadow brownstone, which contains, besides town offices, a museum, a spacious library, to which the Crane family gave "the entire collection of books now in the Crane library, to be catalogued and used by the free public library,"† and a beautiful upper hall fitted with stage scenery and accoutrements, while in the basement is a large hall for public purposes.

* Pioneer Paper Making, pp. 42, 43.

† Pittsfield Paper, Feb. 9, 1893.

12. THOMAS⁶ CRANE (*Joseph*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Ebenezer*,² *Henry*¹) was born at Braintree, Mass., May, 1770. Shortly after his marriage he removed to George's Island in Boston Harbor; an island bought, as valuable for its timber and grazing lands, by James Pemberton, as early as 1632. Its second owner was Samuel Greenleaf, whose daughter Hannah inherited it, and sold it to Elisha Leavitt of Hingham, Mass., in 1765; from him it passed to Caleb Rice, its owner when Thomas Crane took his abode there. On the sea side is a high bluff which was protected by a fine wall before Fort Warren was built upon it. Here Mr. Crane lived with his little family, but, in 1810, bought a farm near his boyhood home on Quincy Point in "Old Fields," lying by Fore river and a stream still known as Crane's Brook.

Like many another New England farm of the period, it was self centered; the house standing aloof from the main travelled road, here a half a mile distant, but lying so in the heart of its acres that the thrifty farmer was in the midst of his fields and woods, and thus saved much wear and tear of body and machinery. Thus advantaged Mr. Crane became a prosperous, successful man; but died before he had completed fifty years of life.

Thomas Crane married Nov. 6, 1796, Sarah, daughter of Daniel and Prudence (Spear) Baxter, who was born at Braintree, 1771, died Aug. 19, 1824; he died Sept. 25, 1818. They had children:

- i. MARY, b. Oct. 20, 1798; m. Sept. 28, 1818, James Sherburne, Jr., of Quincy, who was b. April 19, 1797, d. Aug. 14, 1833; she d. May 15, 1859.
- ii. JOSEPH, b. Feb. 24, 1801; m. July 2, 1826, Parmelia (Young) Adams, widow of Charles Adams of Quincy, who was b. May 28, 1798; he d. at Bowling Green, Ky., Sept. 21, 1863.
- iii. THOMAS, JR., b. Oct. 18, 1803.
- iv. SARAH, b. March 12, 1806; d. Aug. 2, 1843.
- v. ELIZABETH P., b. June 4, 1808; d. Aug. 28, 1836.
- vi. CAROLINE BAXTER, b. Dec. 23, 1811; m. Jan. 8, 1833, Bryant B., son of James and Lucy (Baxter) Newcomb, who was b. March 11, 1810, d. May 12, 1857; she is still living at Quincy.

13. THOMAS⁶ CRANE (*Thomas*,⁵ *Joseph*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Ebenezer*,² *Henry*¹), born on George's Island, Oct. 18, 1803, well nurtured by the happy, healthful life at the Island and at Quincy Point, was a sturdy, well developed, resolute lad of fifteen years when his father's death changed the course of the family living. The "district school" had been four miles away from his home; its advantages were but limited. He supplemented the lessons of its "cyphering school" with ideas of his own, and invented for himself a book of problems which is

held by his family; its pages lined with exactness and filled with carefully developed examples.

A change from the active, vigorous, open air life of a farmer's son to any indoor occupation could but be trying to him, and, naturally enough, he, a Quiney boy, saw his road to future fortune lying through the granite quarries, he directly began its foundation by learning the stone cutter's trade. But while his hands were thus busied, his mind was striving and searching. Of a deeply religious nature, he wrought out for himself a system of theology which could find its best exposition in the liberal thought of the Universalist creed.

The nearest place where he could hear the discourses that were in sympathy with his conception was the church on School Street, Boston, where Rev. Hosea Ballou weekly stirred his adherents with his hearty, lively enunciation of his humane precepts. This church was some nine miles distant, and there was no public conveyance between the two towns at that early period. This did not deter Thomas Crane. Each Sabbath he quietly walked these nine miles; then, when the day was ended, had this long distance to cover before he could return to his weekly labors. Small wonder that such a youth should soon find his village home too narrow for his tireless energies. That was quickly outgrown, and an occasion offering, he removed to New York city in 1829, where he immediately began work on stone.

He soon joined an association of his craftsmen, and together they bought a stone-yard. His talents speedily carried him beyond his associates who could not appreciate his advanced ideas, and they made the whole yard over to him, as sole proprietor. As he became known in his profession, large contracts were given to him. He furnished the granite for the 42d Street Distributing Reservoir, the New York Custom House, St. John's Freight Depot, and the Grand Central Depot. This not only interested him in public constructions, but made him familiar with the city. He studied it attentively, and bought lands where he foresaw its spread. This followed as he divined, and his capital increased rapidly, with it his power of development.

But his own advancement was only one motor. The public well-being was his interest too. He became an active and efficient member of the Universalist Church to which Horace Greeley belonged, and Mr. Crane's sympathy with his advanced opinions and outspoken convictions led to a firm friendship between these two

strong men. At that time an anti-slavery man was not caressed by society, but Mr. Crane sturdily stated his fullest acceptance of the principles of that party and labored with it resolutely and unflinchingly.

When the Universalists agitated the subject of establishing a college for their own special tenets, he favored the project and gave substantial aid in founding Tufts College at Medford, Mass., accepting the office of Trustee, in which duty he spent much time, thought and money all the rest of his life.

As his clear judgment, sagacity, practical skill, shrewdness and mental strength became known to his fellow citizens, he was sought for in various councils. He was elected in Banks, Street Railways and Insurance Companies, and was an important man in financial circles.

He ever kept a warm interest in his Quincy home, and although he developed a beautiful summer residence at Stamford, Ct., still he was fond of returning to the seashore where his healthful, happy boyhood was spent. In sympathy with this sentiment and in unison with his regard for the highest interests of his fellow-beings, after his decease, his widow and two sons, Benjamin F. and Albert, gave to the town a beautiful library, known as the Crane Memorial Hall. There on the main street it stands, one of Richardson's finest designs, with its smooth, grassed approach, "in itself an education in art," as Mr. Charles Francis Adams so aptly said in his address at its dedication. A beautiful building, with spacious, sunny rooms, illuminated by windows in which are some choice specimens of La Farge's works, where the books are fitly placed that are to be freely used by all who choose to call for them. A most fitting memory of the man who so highly employed all the advantages the homely village afforded his own youth, that the "pot hooks and trammels" of his early teachers became a graceful, flowing, bold writing of his own, and the "simple rule of three" advanced him to the mastery of higher mathematics applied to religious living.

Thomas Crane married 1st, in New York city, in 1832, Sarah S. Munn of Gill (now Greenfield), Mass., who lived but little more than a twelve-month; he married 2d, in Boston, Mass., Nov. 23, 1836, Clarissa Lawrence Starkey, who was born in Troy, N. H., March 3, 1813; he died in New York city, April 1, 1875. They had children:

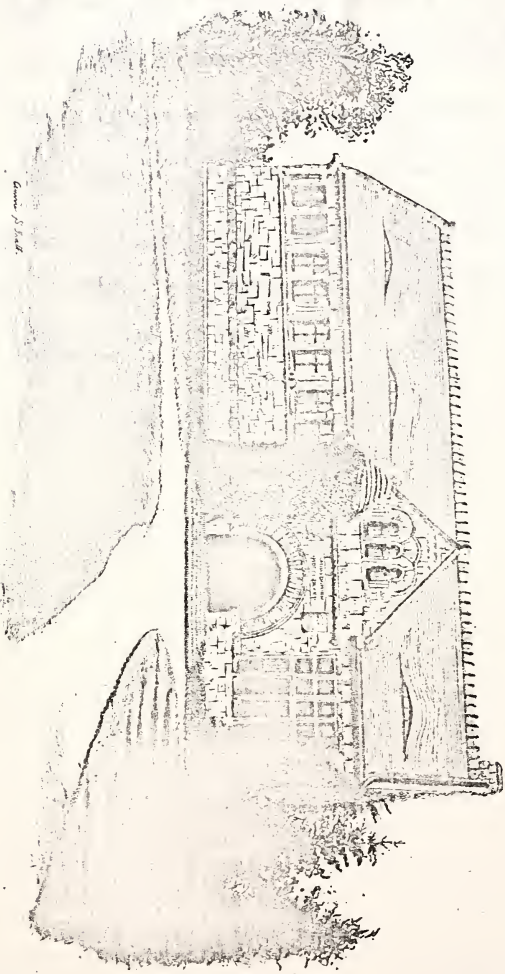
- i. THOMAS, b. Aug. 21, 1837; d. Jan. 26, 1875.
- ii. BENJAMIN F., b. Feb. 14, 1841; d. Oct. 12, 1889.

- 14. iii. ALBERT, b. Dec. 30, 1842.
- iv. FRANCES ADELAIDE, b. May 2, 1846; d. Feb. 11, 1849.
- v. SOPHIA ANGELA, b. Nov. 1, 1847; d. Aug. 18, 1852.
- vi. HENRY CLAY, b. April 22, 1850; d. Dec. 30, 1869.
- vii. IDA AUGUSTA, b. July 2, 1852; d. Aug. 21, 1853.
- viii. ELLA FLORENCE, b. Jan. 14, 1856; d. July 26, 1857.

14. ALBERT⁷ CRANE (*Thomas*,⁶ *Thomas*,⁵ *Joseph*,⁴ *Thomas*,³ *Ebenezer*,² *Henry*¹), of Rock Acre, Stamford, Fairfield County, Conn., born in New York city, Dec. 30, 1842, was graduated at Tufts College, Medford, Mass., with the degree of A.B. in the Class of 1863; at the Law School of Columbia College, New York city, with the degree of LL.B., and admitted to the New York Bar in 1866.

He married Jan. 24, 1884, Ellen Mansfield, daughter of Col. Mansfield and Martha M. (Brooks) Davies, of Fishkill-on-Hudson, N. Y. Mrs. Crane died Jan. 5, 1893, leaving no children.

Mr. Crane is a life member of the New York Historical Society, life member of the New York Oratorio Society and of the New-England Society in New York, lately a director of the New York Symphony Society, and resident member of the New-England Historic Genealogical Society of Boston, Mass.; and this contribution to a history of the Crane Family has been prepared by his direction and under his personal supervision.



Cranz

Cranz Memorial Hall
Quincy, Mass

NOTES.

Question is asked in beginning of book
 whether name Samuel Crane or whether
 went. It is probably true that
 was a brother or near relative
 'Henry' as Henry named one of his
 sons Samuel, and one of his grandsons
 the name and in the Washington
 H. record, the name is handed down
 the 7th Gen.

ANCESTRAL LINES
OF
THOMAS CRANE,
OF ROCK ACRE, STAMFORD, CONN.



J. A. Wilcox, Boston

Thos Crane

ANCESTRAL LINES OF THOMAS CRANE.

THE individual is but the union of forces, physical and mental, and such myriad influences combine in his structure that the fiercest advocates of heredity must doubt when he gathers the threads of generations into the bundle that bears but one of the names of the many progenitors. Who dares say how much of Thomas Crane was simple personality, how much transmission, as he reviews the lines that concentrated in his being?

First came Elder Stephen Kinsley, one of the earliest and largest land-holders of Braintree, the first elected ruling elder in the church, October 13, 1653, and one of the most prominent men. He gave his daughter, Tabitha Kinsley, to the younger settler, Henry Crane, whose farm adjoined his own, and thus the foundation of the family was laid. Her mother's name we have not, nor the time when the ceremony was performed that united the young pair.

Next stands Thomas Tolman, said to have come in the ship *Mary and John*, who arrived in this country about the year 1630. On his settlement in New England he bought a whole district, his land extending from the seaside to Dedham line, and including what are now the towns of Canton, Stoughton and Sharon.

When his son Thomas Tolman, junior, was arrived at adult years he gave him land and built a house on Tolman's Lane, now Ashmont street, Dorchester, Mass., about 1695, which land was always owned by descendants. Thomas Tolman, senior, died June 8, 1690, in his 82d year. (Tolman Genealogy in the N. E. Hist. Gen. Register, 1860, p. 247.) By his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Johnson of Lynn, Mass., Thomas Tolman had a daughter Mary, born 26, 9, 1671, who married December 13, 1687, Henry Crane's son Ebenezer.

Unto Ebenezer and Mary (Tolman) Crane, there was born a son Thomas who married January 13, 1731, Deborah Owen, born in Braintree May 9, 1715, a daughter of Nathaniel Owen who had married in April, 1714, Deborah, daughter of Joseph and Mary Parmenter of Braintree. Nathaniel Owen died November 12, 1728, and we establish his place in the Owen line by the settlement of his estate, February 12, 1730, by his brothers Benjamin and Joseph Owen. His widow, Deborah Owen, died December 23, 1728.

His death was closely followed by that of his father Nathaniel Owen, senior, while his mother, Mary Owen, died February 14, 1732-3. The father's will was drawn April 20, 1733; in it he gave his son Joseph twenty acres of land of his own homestead and "my part of the house," etc., on condition that Joseph pays the charges "of my wife's funeral, lately deceased" and the doctor's bills.

To his son Benjamin Owen, he bequeathed fifteen acres of land on the west side of Furnace Brook, which were bounded in part by Samuel Savel's land, and a legacy is given to the "children of my son Nathaniel Owen, deceased." (Suffolk County, Mass., Probate, file 5678.)

On the printed Braintree records we find "A son to William Owen, born 6. 1. 1667," and this was seemingly the date of the birth of the elder Nathaniel Owen, the fourth child of the William Owen who was the first of that surname of whom we have any knowledge. William Owen was elected freeman 1657, married 29, 7, 1650, Elizabeth Davies, and died January 17, 1702, one of the sterling yeomen of the town.

The next ancestor, William Saville as the name was oftener spelled at first, which spelling follows that of the prominent Saville family of England and thereby suggests its origin, in company with Deacon Samuel Bass, Edmund Quinsey, Gregory Belcher and Joseph Crosby, on January 15, 1665, bought of the four daughters and co-heirs of Captain William Tyng the whole of Salter Farm lying in Braintree (Suffolk Deeds, Vol. V., 1. 229).

At some unknown period, William Saville had taken unto himself, either in England or Braintree, a wife whose given name was Hannah. She may have been a sister of Deacon Samuel Bass, since, in his will, William Saville terms him "my brother Bass." Their eldest child recorded on the town book was Samuel, born 30, 8, 1643. This is followed by the births of Benjamin, Hannah, William. Mrs. Hannah Saville died 14, 4, 1650, and Deacon Saville married as a second wife the widow of Thomas Gannett of Duxbury, whose maiden name was Sarah Jarmill. In his will drawn February 8, 1668, Deacon Saville mentions his wife Sarah, his brother Samuel Bass, and his children John, Samuel, Benjamin, William, Hannah and Sarah. He died 2, 6, 1669, and his widow married for her third husband, September 5, 1670, Thomas Faxon, whilst his youngest son William Saville married Deborah Faxon, which mixture of family relation and names brought much difficulty in the disentanglement of the line.

His son Samuel Saville, whose name stands second in his will, and thus makes it probable that John was the eldest child, married April 10, 1672, Hannah Adams, born in Braintree November 13, 1652; a daughter of Joseph Adams who was born about 1626, and is called the eighth son of that Henry Adams whose flight from the dragon in England and descent into Braintree

with his eight sons is duly chiselled on the tall granite column which looms greyly in the dim and mossy church-yard of the venerable town of Quincy, Mass.

By his wife Abigail, daughter of Gregory and Margaret (Paddy) Baxter, who was born in Roxbury, Mass., September, 1634, and married in Braintree November 29, 1650, he became the progenitor of the line of illustrious men by whose talents and life-long services the country was steered through the perilous times of the Revolution, and guided in the difficulties and dangers that followed. Joseph Adams died December 6, 1694, aged about 68 years; his wife, Abigail (Baxter) Adams, died August 27, 1692, aged 58 years.

Samuel, son of Samue' and Hannah (Adams) Saville, born about 1683, married April 25, 1707, Mary French, born March 30, 1684, a granddaughter of John French, who was born in England about the year 1612. As early as 1646 he had a grant of forty acres of land from the town of Boston at Braintree for his family of five persons. His first wife, Grace, was the mother of his children. She died February 8, 1680, aged 59 years. He married, 2d, July 8, 1683, Eleanor, widow of William Veazie; he died August 6, 1692.

Their son Dependence French, born March 7, 1648-9, married about 1683, Mary Marsh, born February 21, 1659, a daughter of Lieutenant Alexander Marsh, a yeoman of Braintree, who was made freeman May 3, 1654, married 1st, December 19, 1655, Mary, daughter of Gregory and Catherine Belcher (Genealogy of the Marsh Family, pp. 1-2). With his father-in-law, Lieut. Marsh, bought in 1670, of Thomas Savage, the Braintree Iron Works with two hundred acres of land; "but he did not keep it long." (Vinton Memorial, p. 293.) In his will he mentions his wife "Bathshua" and his son-in-law Dependence French. The latter died October 12, 1732.

The estate of Samuel Savel (which form of spelling was last used) was administered May 29, 1761 (Suffolk Probate, file 2713) by his brother, Elisha Savel; in it mention was made of his widow Ann (but another form of writing Hannah) and legacies were paid to Benjamin Savel and Joseph Crain. Benjamin, son of Samuel and Mary (French) Savel, was born June 8, 1711, married January 17, 1738, Mary Blanchard. Their daughter Molly married September 28, 1759, Joseph Crane.

There was a double descent from Gregory Baxter, who is thought to have come in Winthrop's fleet in 1632. He was a member of Rev. John Eliot's First church in Roxbury, Mass., on whose books the name was written "Gregorie." He married Margaret, sister of Deacon William Paddy, the first treasurer of Plymouth, Mass.; he removed to Braintree in 1640 and

settled at Ruggle's Point, now in the town of Quincy. In 1643, "Goodman Backster" was empowered by the selectmen of Boston to buy the overplus in the Three Hill meadow. He was contemporary with Rev. Richard Baxter, and by some affirmed to have been a connection. (Baxter Genealogy, p. 8). He was prominent and influential in the town and church affairs at Braintree, where he died 21, 4, 1659; his wife, Margaret (Paddy) Baxter, died February 13, 1662. His will was drawn June 2, 1659; in it he mentions his present wife; appoints his son John Baxter executor; mentions his son Joseph Adams "and my daughter his wife;" his son Deering. (Suffolk County Probate, Book 1, f. 345, 323.)

John Baxter, born in Roxbury, Mass., December 1, 1639, was a farmer, "noted for his high moral character." (Baxter Genealogy, p. 10.) He interested himself largely in the military affairs of Braintree, and was elected lieutenant, "an officer of high distinction at that time." (*Ibid.* p. 10.) He lived to be eighty years old and died April 20, 1729, having married June 24, 1659, Hannah, daughter of Thomas White of Wemouth, Mass., who is reported to have been of the same line with Rev. John White of Dorchester, England, one of the compilers of the Assembly Catechism.

Their son, John Baxter junior, born February 14, 1667, married January 24, 1693, Huldah, daughter of Jonathan and Sarah (Thayer?) Hayward, who was born in Braintree, 23, 3, 1672; John Baxter died March 21, 1747.

Their son, John Baxter third, born January 10, 1698, married March 12, 1728, Mehitable Willard, whose illustrious ancestor, Major Simon Willard, of Horsemonden, County Kent, England, married for his first wife Mary, daughter of Henry and Sarah (Field) Sharpe of Horsemonden. They embarked for New England April, 1634, in company with his sister Margery and her husband, Captain Dolor Davis, and settled at Cambridge, Mass. But wishing to be near the Rev. Mr. Bulkeley, Simon Willard obtained from the Great and General Court a grant of land six miles square at Musketaquid on condition that he should settle twelve families thereon; he removed there in 1635.

Then he launched into a busy, active, vigorous public life; became an extensive trader with the Indians; Clerk of the Writs, Surveyor of Arms, deputy, military commander, commissioner, Judge of the County Court, major, sergeant-major, second in office only to the sergeant-major general, assistant. He was commander-in-chief of the Massachusetts Bay force sent against the Nianticks, a tribe of Narraganset Indians under the Sachem Ninigret, whose chief seat was the corner of Rhode Island which bordered on Connecticut.

He sold his estate in Concord, Mass., in 1659 and removed to Lancaster, where he was established in 1660. But about 1671 or 2, Major Willard

made another removal to a large farm at Nomacricus, now the town of Ayer, Mass., but then comprised in the jurisdiction of Groton. His dwelling house there was the first which was burned by the Indians in their onslaught of March 13, 1676.

On August 2, 1675, Major Simon Willard, who had been in command of a Middlesex County regiment for the long period of twenty years, at the head of forty-six dragoons, with Captain Parker of Groton, marched to the rescue of Brookfield, Mass., where the Indians were ravaging and massacring the defenceless inhabitants. Thence the troops made their toilsome way to Hadley, Mass., and did not return to headquarters at Boston until the very last of August.

February, 1676, despite his advanced age, Major Willard raised a force of troopers and dragoons, and was actively engaged in scouting and in protecting the defenceless frontier towns until, while at Charlestown, Mass., he took the prevailing epidemic cold, of which disease he died April 24, 1676, in his seventy-second year.

After the death of his first wife, Mary Sharp, he married, 2d, Elizabeth Dunster, sister of President Dunster of Harvard College, who did not long survive their union. After her death, he married, 3d, Mary Dunster, a close connection of his second wife. Of these unions there were born unto him sixteen children, of whom the thirteenth was a son Daniel, born at Concord, Mass., December 29, 1658.

Daniel Willard seems to have inherited the roving propensities of his father, since he resided successively in the towns of Concord, Sudbury, Chelsea, Charlestown and Boston; at which latter place he was a merchant, also a keeper of the gaol, and where he died August 23, 1708. He married, 1st, Hannah, daughter of John and Mehitable Cutler of Charlestown, Mass., who died February 22, 1690-1; he then married, 2d, January 4, 1692-3, Mary, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Shove) Mills, who was born in Braintree April 1, 1670.

Their daughter Mehitable, born in Boston January 12, 1715-6, married March 12, 1728, John Baxter, "father of Daniel Baxter and grandfather of the Hon. Daniel Baxter of Boston, whose daughter married Lemuel Shattuck." (Thayer Memorial, p. 366.) Mehitable Willard's younger sister, Sarah Willard, married William Hope of the Craighall Hope family of England, and bore two children, Henry and Harriet. These were left with their uncle and aunt Baxter when their parents sailed for a visit to their English relations. They both died at sea on their return voyage. Harriet Hope lived at Quincy until the time of her marriage to an English gentleman by the name of Goddard, and then removed to London.

On attaining manhood, Henry Hope entered a banking house in London; in 1760 he sailed for Amsterdam to visit his uncles, who were of the banking house then of Hope Brothers. "Finding favor in their eyes," he remained with them, and eventually the "whole of that vast concern devolved upon Henry Hope, who died, unmarried, in London February 25, 1811, leaving an estate of £5,800,000." (Willard Family, p. 381.)

Daniel, son of John and Mehitabel (Willard) Baxter, born in 1733, by trade a clothier, bought a farm at Chelsea, Mass., but not succeeding as well as he desired, became disheartened, sold the place and returned to Quincy to the farm at Hough's Neck, which had been given to his wife at the time of their marriage, September 19, 1755. Her maiden name was Prudence Spear, and she was a great granddaughter of George Spear, who is supposed to have come from Yarmouth, England, to Dorchester, Mass. He was made freeman 1644; resided in Braintree, and was the founder of Speartown, now in Quincy.

Among the freeholders of Braintree in 1647, we read the names of Lieut. John Baxter, Benjamin Savel, Nathaniel Owen, Henry Crane and Samuel Spear. This last, son of George and Mary Spear, was born in Braintree 15, 8, 1652. He inherited a part of his father's estate, and added greatly to his possessions, whereby, at the time of his demise, his property was valued at the unusually large sum (for those days) of £1,118 10s. 00d. He married June 5, 1694, Elizabeth, daughter of John and Dorothy (Badcock) Daniels of Milton, Mass., and granddaughter of William and Catherine (Greenway) Daniels of Dorchester and Milton. He died December 14, 1713, aged 55 years, as his gravestone at Quincy, now in good preservation, states.

His son, John Spear, born April 10 (or 8) 1710, was one of the privates in Captain Ward's company of soldiers sent for the reduction of Canada in 1758. He married about 1736, Mary Arnold, and died July 5, 1776, in his 66th year (gravestone). His daughter Prudence, as we have above noted, married Daniel Baxter; their daughter, Sarah Spear, married Thomas Crane, and died August 18, 1824, aged 55 years; Thomas Crane died September 25, 1818, aged 48 years, and in their son Thomas Crane concentrates all these sterling New England ancestors, all of them sprung from sturdy English stock and from the stalwart men who came to create homes founded on strong religious faith, and rigid adherence to codes of honor, integrity and probity. Grave Puritans they, who in their toil and concern to establish strongholds of noble political and civil life could not unbend to light enjoyments, but wrought at their self-appointed, God-given tasks with knit brows, and close set lips, weighted with sense of personal responsibility and dignified by their labor.

Mary. Mercy. Samuel. Anna M. C.

Deborah Owen. Be
m. Jan. 13, 1732.

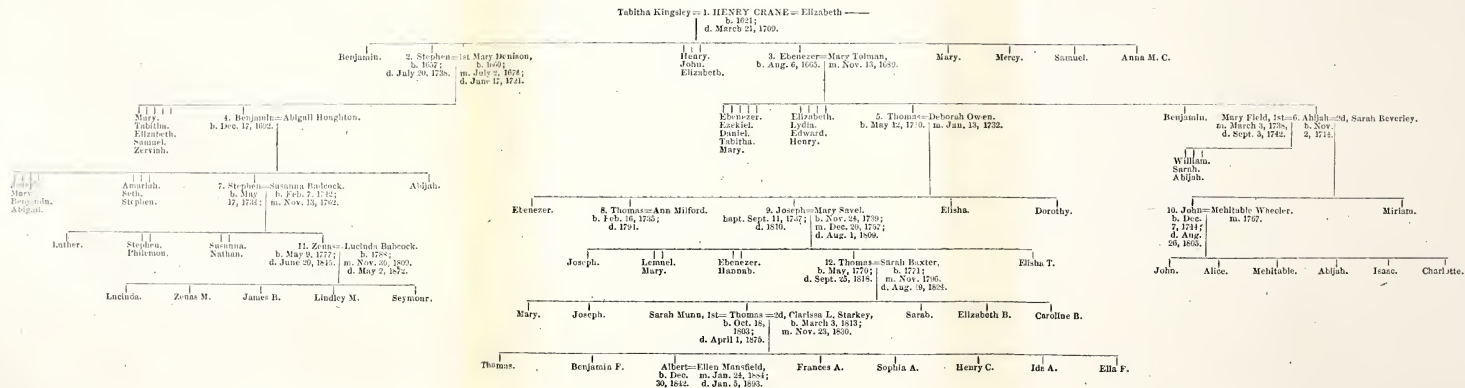
Elisha. Dorothy.

axter, Elisha T. Johr
1786.
1824.

rah. Elizabeth B. Caroline B.

Henry C. Ida A. Ella F.

CRANE CHART.



(To be pasted on the Chart in Miss Leavitt's book entitled: "Henry Crane of Milton, Mass., and Some of his Descendants.")

For "Ellen Mansfield," read "Ellen Mansfield Davies," see page 16.

Mrs. Clarissa L. Crane died April 22, 1895.

1819

