

MEMORIAL
OF
MRS. ADELAIDE L. WRIGHT
AND
HISTORY OF THE
HENRY AND HOOKER FAMILIES

1713—1913

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This family history is privately printed to carry out the wishes of Mrs. Adelaide L. Wright, my wife, to whom those who will receive it are indebted for many of the valuable records which it contains.

With best wishes for the living and cherished memories for the dead, I am,

Faithfully yours,

RODNEY P. WRIGHT.

IN MEMORIAM.

The purpose of the following pages is to trace through eight generations the history of a branch of the Henry family, with a view to make a permanent record of the lineage of many, living and dead, who, bearing many different family names, have descended from a common ancestor, an immigrant to America in the days of its early history.

In doing this the compiler has had the aid of one whose labors have ended, who took a deep interest in gathering and arranging the material here presented. "Aunt Addie" was happy with the thought that copies of the book would be distributed among her kindred and handed down to posterity. In some ways it is a memorial of her, and I feel that no excuse is needed for placing first in this record the name of her with whom I lived twenty-seven years in the dearest of human relationship, or for paying her my tribute to the qualities which won for her, in my heart, and in the hearts of many others, abiding and precious memory.

By her artistic temperament she was attracted to things which appealed to her highest nature. She was a reader of good books. She was passionately fond of good music, and was a member of the Handel and Hayden Society for fifty years. She was happy in beautifying her home. Her house-keeping was filled with little kindnesses for her husband, of whose tastes and needs she was ever thoughtful.

One of the secrets of her attractiveness was her quiet musical speaking voice in which her beautiful character found expression. When he, who afterwards became her husband, first heard her speak she was not visible to him, but he soon sought an introduction. Her voice, then and always, brought calm, peace, rest and courage. It deeply impressed others. Men, women, children and animals all felt the magnetism of her modulated tones. Each sentence was a caress, however dignified the words might be.

In all the relations of life she was thoughtful and considerate of others,—wholly unselfish and helpful in good things; but her greatest happiness was in her love and devotion for her husband and home.

RODNEY P. WRIGHT.

FOREWORD.

During the year 1718, before the great tide of emigration from the County of Ulster, Ireland, had set in, a party of three hundred Presbyterians sent a petition to the Hon. Samuel Shute, Governor of New England, asking permission to make a settlement in New Hampshire. The original copy of that petition is still preserved. It shows that four of the signers were surnamed Henry. No. 121 on the list was Robert Henry. No. 144 was Robert Hendry. No. 247 was Robert Hendry and No. 229 was William Hendry.

Many who then emigrated appear to have been brothers, or near of kin. It therefore is suggested that a search be made in the north of Ireland for records of those emigrants who were heads of the several Henry branches in America. Among such progenitors were Robert, Hugh, John, William and Malcolm Henry.

“Robert Henry (our progenitor) sent to Londonderry, Ireland, for Miss Charity Thompson, who was his destined bride” (see page 11) and this may be taken as a clue to Robert Henry’s birthplace.

The Scotch-Irish people in America have ever been noted for their thrift and integrity. In every part of our land may be found distinguished representatives of this rugged and forceful race. Among the illustrious names in New England we find General John Stark and General Henry Knox

of the Revolution, and General George B. McLellan of the Civil War, and Matthew Thornton, the signer of the Declaration of Independence, and Horace Greeley, the editor, and Asa Gray, the botanist, and John Lothrop Motley, the historian, all scions of Scotch-Irish migration.

Further south were other figures, Patrick Henry, Governor Edward Rutledge, Vice-President Calhoun, President Andrew Jackson, President William McKinley and last but not least, President Woodrow Wilson.

THE HENRY FAMILY.

A review of our branch of the Henry Family in America shows that one Robert Henry bought land in Leicester, Mass., of Daniel Denny, in 1728. He probably came from the north of Ireland in 1718-20, with the Londonderry, N. H., colony. We have the names of 317 Irish petitioners for this colony to Gov. Shute of N. E., asking permission to settle at Londonderry, N. H., and among this list is the name of Robert Henry, which may have been the signature of our first American ancestor in the Henry line.

But these emigrants from the north of Ireland did not all settle in Londonderry. A considerable number settled in Boston where they first landed, and were chiefly noted here as manufacturers of linen goods.

There was another large settlement in Worcester, and as Leicester was a part of Worcester, Robert Henry probably belonged to that division. These emigrants were called Scotch-Irish. The question now arises, Who were the Scotch-Irish People?

In La Follets' "The Making of America" is an article by Prof. John R. Commons on the American People. He says: "It is a paradoxical fact that the Scotch-Irish are very little Scotch and much less Irish. They do not belong mainly to the so-called Celtic race, but they are the most composite of

all the people of the British Isles. Scots because they lived in Scotia. Irish because they moved to Ireland.

“ * * * A mixed race through whose veins run the Celtic blood of the primitive Scot and Pict, the primitive Briton, the primitive Irish, but with a larger admixture of the later Norwegian, Dane, Saxon and Anglo. * * *

“The Scotch-Irish came from that south-west part of the lowlands which bulges out toward Ireland, north of the Solway Frith. In this lowland pocket of territory, no larger than a good sized American county, was compounded for 500 years this remarkable amalgam race.”

Macaulay, in summing up the character of the Scotch-Irish people, says:—“On the same soil dwell two populations, locally intermixed, but morally and politically sundered. The difference of religion was by no means the only difference. They sprang from different stocks. They spoke different languages. They had different national characters, as strongly opposed as any two national characters in Europe.”

It is a notable fact that when the Scotch-Irish people of Ulster County colonized in America, the change of environment did not change their character. They were Presbyterians, but they did not mingle or intermarry with the English colonists until long after the war of the Revolution.

GENEALOGY OF ROBERT HENRY.

- 1 **Robert Henry**, immigrant, bought land of Daniel Denny in Leicester, Mass., 1728. He d. 1748, and his estate was administered by his widow. He married Charity Ash Thomson; marriage intentions published March 7, 1730. She d. in Rutland, Mass., 1809. We have a sidelight from Eaton's History of Candia, N. H., which shows what troubles Robert Henry was destined to undergo in getting his bride. Here it is—"It is said that Robert Henry, the grandfather of Capt. William Duncan, sent to Londonderry, Ireland, for **Miss Charity Thompson**, who was his destined bride. The captain on arriving at Boston, although he had received his passage money, sold her into service, pretending that he had received no pay. After a time, the news reached the ears of Mr. Henry, the expected wife was found, and the perfidious commander **did not escape punishment.**"

Children.

- i. Robert, b. 1732; m. Susannah Young, 14 March, 1765, at Worcester.
- ii. David, b. 1734; m. 1761, Hannah Watson of Leicester; d. at Rutland, Mass.
- iii. William, b. 9 May, 1735; m. Apr. 1760; Margaret Wilson of Leicester; d. 1814, Barre.
- iv. Hannah, b. 1739; m. 1762, John Duncan of Londonderry, N. H.
- v. Adam, b. April 27, 1741; m. Mary Wilson of Barre, 3 July, 1766.

- 2 **Robert Henry, Jr.**, son of Robert and Charity Henry, born at Leicester, Mass., 1732; m. Susannah Young, daughter of William Young, of Worcester; int. published Jan. 12, 1765; died in 1794. It is said that he removed with all his family to Charlestown, N. H., in 1794. As most of his children settled later in Vermont, it seems probable that he died in Vermont. While in Leicester he was an extensive land holder. The deeds of Worcester Co. show 14 sales of land by Robert Henry and Susannah, his wife. He was a soldier of the Revolution; Sergt. in Capt. Loring Lincoln's Co. at Bennington; member of Committee of Correspondence for Leicester, 1774.

Children born in Leicester.

- i. Hannah, b. Jan. 6, 1766; m. Ezra Sylvester, Nov. 1, 1787.
 - ii. Adam, b. Sept. —, 1767.
 - iii. Robert, b. Apr. 14, 1772; unmarried; rem. West.
 - iv. Mary, b. Aug. 5, 1774; m. Samuel Pratt.
 - v. Martha, b. Mar. 14, 1777; m. John Gilky.
 - vi. William Young, b. July 6, 1779; m. Fanny Cox at Barnard, Vermont; she d. Feb. 17, 1847, in Barre, Mass. Her granddaughter, Mrs. Helen Nye Rupp, resides in Monmouth, Ill.
 - vii. Elizabeth, b. Jan. 14, 1782; m. William Caryl.
 - viii. Capt. Foster, b. —, 1784; m. Theodosia Cheney. He commanded a company in the war of 1812.
 - ix. Susannah, b. ———; m. Peter Foster.
- 3 **Mary Henry**, daughter of Robert and Susannah Henry; born Aug. 5, 1774; married May 5, 1799, Samuel Pratt of Sterling, Mass. Samuel Pratt was born Oct. 19, 1772, at Lancaster, Mass.

Children born in Sterling.

- i. Samuel Henry Pratt, b. Feb. 7, 1800; d. Feb. 14, 1866; m. Aug. 16, 1827, Mary Blanchard.
 - ii. Mary Foster Pratt, b. Feb. 24, 1802; d. Oct. 13, 1864; m. Feb. 9, 1826, George W. Burnham.
 - iii. James Paris Pratt, b. May 14, 1804; d. Aug. 13, 1806.
 - iv. Morella Weston Pratt, b. Aug. 24, 1806; d. Apr. 15, 1891. Almeda Young Pratt, b. June 22, 1809; d. Jan. 23, 1841; m. Sept. 17, 1835, David Boutelle.
 - v. James Ozro Pratt, b. Feb. 26, 1812; d. Aug. 23, 1841; m. Almira Sleeper. He was a noted principal of the Chester Academy.
 - vi. Robert Wellington Pratt, b. Dec. 7, 1814; d. Feb. 1, 1817.
- 4 **Mary Foster Pratt**, dau. of Mary (Henry) Pratt born in Sterling, Mass., Feb. 24, 1802; died Oct. 13, 1864; married Feb. 9, 1826, George W. Burnham; he born July 29, 1806, son of Joseph and Polly Burnham of Hartford, Conn.; d. Feb. 28, 1888.

Children.

- i Mary Augusta Burnham, b. in Montpelier, Vt., March 30, 1827; m. Oliver B. Lothrop, May 2, 1858.

Mrs. Mary Augusta Burnham died Sept. 23, 1913, at the home of her niece, Mrs. Charles A. Pope, 41 Granite Street, aged 86 years and 6 months. Old age was the principal cause, while she was an invalid since the fracture of a hip from a fall two years before her death.

She was a native of Montpelier, Vermont, resided for many years in Boston, up to 1889, when she suffered a fracture of the skull from contact with a boy's double runner sled as she was leaving Park Street Church, of which she was a member. She never fully recovered from the accident. During the next 22 years she made her home with her sister, Mrs. Rodney P. Wright, at 47 Granite Street. Mrs. Burnham had a very lovable disposition and was notably patient during all her invalid years.

- ii. Ellen Elizabeth Burnham, b. in Homer, N. Y., Feb. 23, 1831; d. May 2, 1892; m. Stephen W. Richardson, Nov. 27, 1883.
 - iii. Abby Whiton Burnham, b. May 29, 1833; m. Charles K. Hooker, Oct. 18, 1857.
 - iv. Adelaide Lucella Burnham, b. in Chester, Vt.; March 26, 1841; m. Rodney Prescott Wright, Sept. 15, 1891. She d. Apr. 25, 1918; buried in Cambridge Cemetery.
- Died Dec. 24th v. 1927 at Rye, N. H.*
- Florence Merton Burnham, b. Aug. 14, 1847; m. Joshua Bradley Estey, b. Hillsboro, N. H., July 1, 1846.
- Joshua B. Estey died Jan. 8, 1919.*
- Children,
- (c.) Ida M. Estey, b. Aug. 3, 1868; m. George B. Rogers, April 24, 1894.
 - (c.) Eva Augusta Estey, b. July 1, 1870; d. Jan. 24, 1875.

Hooker Family.

- 5 **Abbie Morris Whiton Burnham**, dau. of George W. and Mary (Pratt) Burnham; born in Antrim, N. H., May 29, 1833; died in Cambridge, Mass., March 22, 1910; married Charles K. Hooker, Oct. 18, 1857.

“Mrs. Hooker was a helpful woman and a good home-keeper, but the excellent care she gave to her own did not prevent her from many other activities. In her day she was prominent in all the work of Pilgrim Church, promoting its temporal and spiritual interests by her efforts. She was a motherly woman. Young people loved her; those who had cares and troubles came to her for counsel. She was thoroughly unselfish; always thoughtful for others and will be

missed more than most women of her age." (Cambridge Chronicle.)

Mr. Charles K. Hooker died Nov. 16, 1893; he was born Sept. , 1835, in Danville, Vt.; son of Franklin 4, (John Parker 3, Henry 2, Henry 1); lived thirty-five years in Cambridge where he was a well known steam fitter and contractor; being remarkable for his energy and rugged constitution. He served during the Civil War in the 23rd Maine Regiment at Edward's Ferry, Md., on the Potomac. The records show that he was mustered into service Sept. 29, 1862. He then gave his place of residence as Lewiston, Me. He was a loyal member of Pilgrim Church in Cambridge for many years.

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Children.

- i Mabel Weston Hooker; b. Feb. 8, 1859; m. Charles Augustus Pope Dec. 29, 1881 (son of John S. and Betsy T. Pope); b. Dec. 2, 1851. Child, Nettie May Pope (adopted) b. Mar. 6, 1898; m. Dec. 28, 1917, Harold Gardner Russell; occupation, electrician for the Western Union Co. Enlisted in the U. S. Army in 1918.

Charles Augustus Pope of 41 Granite Street, Cambridge, died at his summer home in Winnisquam, N. H., September 28, 1917, of heart disease induced by diabetes. He was born in Boston, December 2, 1849. His father, John S. Pope, and his mother Betsy (Pope) were descendants of the pioneer, Thomas Pope, of Plymouth, through Major Isaac Pope, of Revolutionary fame, major of the Mass. 3d and member of the staff of Gen. John Sullivan, who removed to Wells, Me., after the war.

Charles Pope was educated in the public schools of Cambridge; became a reed maker in Mason & Hamlin's organ fac-

tory; then went into the laundry business, sometimes for himself, sometimes for others. He was straightforward and upright in business, courteous and making many friends. He was a member of Pilgrim Congregational Church. He was buried in Eastwood Cemetery, South Lancaster, by the side of his parents and sister.

- ii. Alice Morrill Hooker; b. Oct. 28, 1860; m. Allen Munroe Green, Apr. 29, 1886 (son of John S. and Mary E. Green); b. Aug. 10, 1856. Mr. Green is paymaster for the Walworth Manufacturing Co.; — Deacon of Pilgrim Church. **Child**, Helen Green, b. May 10, 1892; a student in Maryland College, Lutherville, Md.
- iii. Mary Foster Hooker; b. March 14, 1865; m. Walter Scott Coburn, Jan. 5, 1888. Mrs. Coburn for several years was a bookkeeper for Conant and Stockwell of Cambridge. **Children** (7) Harold Hooker Coburn, b. April 11, 1889; m. Mary Virginia Wilkinson, June 12, 1913, of Raleigh, North Carolina. She b. Sept. 23, 1892; dau. of Robert Watson Wilkinson.

Harold Coburn in his boyhood manifested a decided mechanical turn of mind. In 1908 he graduated from the Rindge Technical School at Cambridge. He became draughtsman and assistant engineer for the Packard Motor Car Co. of Detroit. In 1912 he obtained a position as instructor in the State Engineering College at West Raleigh, N. C. In 1916 he became Director of shops in the Wellesley Public Schools, at Wellesley, Mass., which position he now retains. They have one son, Robert Chester Coburn, b. Nov. 18, 1918.

(7) **Marguerite Coburn** (sister of Harold Coburn) b. Dec. 7, 1890; m. Henry Francis Dolliver, Sept. 11, 1915; **Child** (8) Marguerite Elizabeth Dolliver, b. April 29, 1917. Marguerite, the mother, graduated from the Latin School of Cambridge, June, 1909, and became a bookkeeper and stenographer. Mr. Dolliver graduated from the Mass. Inst. of Technology, Class 1911. He is a concrete engineer.

- iv. Grace Burnham Hooker, b. July 21, 1867; bookkeeper for Shepard & Wyeth, of Cambridge.

- v. Helen Pratt Hooker, b. Jan. 29, 1870; m. June 21, 1901, George Stanley Whitehead; b. in Boston, Feb. 4, 1874; son of George and Elizabeth (Hardcastle) Whitehead, b. in England.

Mr. Stanley Whitehead was a draughtsman in the engineer's office of Brookline, Mass., for many years. Now resides in San Mateo, California. **Children**, (7) Gertrude Elizabeth Whitehead; b. Oct. 29, 1902, Cambridge; d. March 29, 1904. (7) Gordon Hooker Whitehead; b. May 13, 1904. (7) Richard Stanley Whitehead; b. July 11, 1907.

- vi. George Franklin Hooker; b. Oct. 19, 1878; m. Jessie Leora Wilde, Sept. 4, 1901; dau. of Joseph and Susan Emily Wilde; b. Nov. 16, 1879. **Child** (7) Kingsley Wilde Hooker; b. March 3, 1906.

Mr. Hooker has been a Civil Engineer for the city of Cambridge for many years and still retains that position.



