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A SKETCH RELATING TO THE
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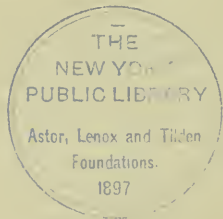
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H. S. Broughton

BOSTON: 1883.

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THE NAME AND FAMILY OF BROUGHTON.

By HENRY E. WAITE, Esq., of West Newton, Mass.

THE name is derived from the Saxon *Broē*, which means brook or broken land, and *Tūn*, the dwelling or town. In King Ethelred's charter to the monastery of Shaftesbury in England, A.D. 1001, Elfwig's boundaries at *Broctun* are mentioned. The domesday book of William the Conqueror, A.D. 1086, describes thirty-four manors of Broctun, variously latinized by the clerks of the records to Brochthon, Brocton, Brotton, Broton, Brogton and Broughton, perhaps according to the pronunciation peculiar to the localities where the manors were situated. Later the orthography of Broughton (*Braw'-ton*) seems to have been generally adopted. There are now twenty distinct parishes, besides hamlets and different localities in England that bear the name, and in America it is locally applied to a small parish in Canada, and to an island in the Alatamaha river in Georgia, while it rarely occurs in either country as a family name.

With few exceptions, all the families that have borne the name in England are traced to the counties of Chester and Buckingham.* The name continued prominent among the knights and sheriffs of England for three or four centuries, until the titular male lines became extinct and their estates passed through female heirs to other families. The following are brief sketches of immigrants to America, viz. :

HENRY BROUGHTON, a passenger in the "Alexander," May 2, 1635, aged 20, of whom nothing more is known.

THOMAS¹ BROUGHTON, a passenger in the "America," embarked at Gravesend below London, June 23, 1635, aged 19, for Virginia. Savage identifies him as of Watertown, Mass.

Thomas Broughton, of Watertown, married Mary, daughter of Nathaniel Briscoe, before 1643, and removed to Boston about 1650, in which year and the next he received grants and made large purchases of land at Salmon Falls, now Berwick, Me., where he erected mills. In 1656 he bought one-quarter of the mills at Dover, and the next year a farm of three hun-

* In the county of Chester the Broughtons descend in the male line from Hugh de Vernon, baron of Shipbrook at the time of the Conquest, whose fourth son, Richard de Vernon, was father of Adam de Napton, county Warwick, whose issue assumed their local name from Broughton in Staffordshire.

In the county of Buckingham, at the domesday survey, the principal manor of Broughton was held by Walter Giffard, earl of Buckingham and cousin of the Conqueror. His subfeudatory was his brother Hugh de Bolebec, whose descendants the Veres earls of Oxford continued to hold it, admitting under them another subfeudatory—supposed to have been a junior branch of the same family—who took his name from the place before the year 1200. [See Ormerod's *Cheshire*, Shaw's *Staffordshire*, *The Norman People*, Lipscomb's *Buckinghamshire*, Ellis's *Antiquities of Heraldry*, Burke's *Peerage*, &c.]

dred acres on the line between Cambridge, Charlestown and Woburn, formerly granted to Increase Nowell; also land on Mystic river in Cambridge, where he had previously built corn and fulling mills; also Noddle's Island, now East Boston. The two following years he was a selectman of Boston, and was then called "a rich and active merchant," but met with severe reverses a few years later. In 1674 he was living at "Center Haven," the north end of Boston; wrote his age in September, 1678, as "about 64 years," and died Nov. 12, 1700. The name of his "brother" *William*, of Watertown, appears upon the court records in 1650, but is not found again. His "cousin" Peter Cole was a merchant at Leadenhall Street, London, in 1657. The children of Thomas and Mary Broughton were:

2. i. GEORGE.²
3. ii. JOHN.
- iii. —, b. at Watertown, March 3, 1643-4; d. in 7 days.
- iv. ELIZABETH, b. at W., Jan. 15, 1616; m. Obadiah Reed. She was a widow in 1726, when she sold 100 acres of land at Salmon Falls granted her in 1671.
- v. MARY, b. at Boston, July 5, 1651.
- vi. THOMAS, b. at B., May 26, 1653; d. Jan. 7, 1654.
- vii. NATHANIEL, b. at B., Dec. 5, 1651. On the tax list there in 1674; master of Barque "Exchange," of Boston, five men, for Antego, Nov. 2, 1688; not living in 1702.
- viii. THOMAS, b. at B., Dec. 23, 1656, and d. there unm. Dec. 4, 1702. He was a gunmaker, and was "Armourer at her Majesty's Fort at Casco Bay," forty-six weeks shortly before his death.
- ix. HANNAH, b. at B., Dec. 28, 1658; m. there, October 12, 1713, John Myrick.
- x. SARAH, b. at B., June 9, 1660; was living there in 1727, unm.
- xi. PATIENCE, b. at B., April 14, 1663; d. there Dec. 28, 1705.

2. GEORGE² BROUGHTON (*Thomas*¹) was at Salmon Falls in 1657; afterwards a merchant at Boston, and in 1667 of the Artillery Company there. In 1670 he bought a wharf at Charlestown, and the next year was granted one hundred acres of land at Salmon Falls; was a captain of soldiers there, and in October, 1675, wrote to Major Waldron for help against the Indians. He was licensed at Boston in August, 1689, as a "retailer out of doors," and had been killed by Indians before May, 1690, when his widow petitioned for a continuance of his license. He married Perne, daughter of Edward Rawson, secretary of the colony. She was born in May, 1646, and seems to have been a subject of much uncertainty in the two histories of the Rawson family and Savage's Dictionary. The children of George and Perne Broughton, born at Boston, were:

- i. JOHN,³ b. Jan. 22, 1667. Killed by Indians, April 20, 1689.
- ii. RACHEL, b. Sept. 1, 1670.
- iii. MARY, b. Aug. 10, 1672. Living at Boston in 1701, unm.
- iv. EDWARD, b. Oct. 12, 1673. Was perhaps the schoolmaster of that name at Lancaster, Mass., in 1723; husband of Martha, daughter of Josiah Wheeler; and who purchased land at Farmington, Conn., in 1729, then a merchant, and was dead in 1744, leaving children, Sarah, Copia and Patience.
- v. PERNE, b. June 15, 1677.
- vi. SARAH, m. — Johnson, and was a widow in 1700.
- vii. REBECCA, m. at Boston, April 10, 1707, Edward Cowell, of Truro, Mass. In 1701, she with her sisters Mary and Sarah sell their father's grant of one hundred acres at Salmon Falls.

3. JOHN² BROUGHTON (*Thomas*¹) married Abigail, daughter of the Rev. John Reyner, of Dover, N. H. He was granted one hundred acres of land in 1671 at Salmon Falls, was a captain of soldiers, and was killed by In-

dians, June 19, 1689. His widow sold their homestead in 1690 and removed to Woburn, Mass., where she married, March 30, 1696, Thomas Kendall, and died, Dec. 31, 1716. Their children were:

- i. ELIZABETH,³ b. at Boston, Sept. 22, 1677; d. March 22, 1703-4, unm.
- ii. NATHANIEL, was witness to a bill of exchange drawn at Salem on London, Oct. 21, 1707; of Boston in March, 1710, when he sold his father's grant of one hundred acres at Salmon Falls. If he left descendants they were possibly the Broughtons of Portsmouth, N. H.*
- iii. MARY, m. at Woburn, Nov. 3, 1701, Jacob Fowle.
- iv. ABIGAIL. In 1751 Sarah Callighan, of Portsmouth, N. H., granddaughter of Capt. John Broughton, sells twenty-four acres of land near Great Falls.

JOHN¹ BROUGHTON, a passenger in the "Thomas," embarked at Gravesend in August, 1635, aged 20, and may have been the planter of that name at Windsor, Conn., who married, Nov. 15, 1650, Hannah, daughter of Thomas Bascom, of Windsor, and soon after removed to Northampton, Mass., where he died March 16, 1662. Their children, born at Northampton, were:

- i. JOHN,² b. 1654; m. Oct. 29, 1678, Elizabeth, daughter of Matthew Woodruff, and again Nov. 19, 1691, Hannah "Alice." He was in Capt. William Turner's company in February, 1676, and removed to Windham, Conn., about 1696, where he d. Jan. 5, 1731. His children, b. at Northampton and Windham, were:
 1. A son,³ d. March 24, 1679.
 2. A daughter, b. 14th, d. 16th Feb. 1680.
 3. John, b. Jan. 7, 1680-1; m. at Windham, May 10, 1709, Tabitha Kingsley, and had: Mary, June 12, 1710. Tabitha, Jan. 9, 1712. Amos, May 23, 1718. Elizabeth, March 9, 1720. Phebe, March 15, 1722.
 4. Samuel, m. at Windham, May 2, 1711, Martha Lilly, and had: Samuel, Dec. 15, 1711. Martha, June 15, 1715. John, June 16, 1717; m. Abigail Dean. Atkinson, Aug. 21, 1719. Sarah, January 27, 1722. Margaret, Oct. 6, 1724. William, March 20, 1727. Zerviah, July 5, 1729.
 5. Mary, d. Northampton, Oct. 7, 1690.
 6. Ebenezer, b. Aug. 26, d. Sept. 6, 1692.
 7. Mary, b. and d. Oct. 1693.
 8. Hannah, b. April, 1695; m. Nov. 6, 1717, Humphrey Ballard, of Andover.
 9. Mary, b. at Windham, June 19, 1697; d. 1707.
 10. Esther, b. Feb. 10, 1700.
 11. Mehitable, b. March 8, 1703.
 12. Abigail, b. April 5, 1705.
 13. Thomas, b. Aug. 8, 1707; m. at Windham, Nov. 15, 1738, Adrie Crane, and had: Eunice, 1739. Joanna, 1741. Lydia, 1742. Keziah, 1744. Delight, 1747. Prudence, 1749. Jenima, 1751. Alice, 1753, and Ebenezer, who removed to Irasburg, Vt.
- ii. MARY, m. Northampton, Feb. 18, 1674, James Bennett.
- iii. HANNAH, b. Oct. 1656; d. July, 1657.
- iv. SARAH, b. August, 1658.
- v. THOMAS, b. March 30, 1661; settled at Deerfield, Mass., and was killed by Indians with wife and three children in June, 1693.

THOMAS BROUGHTON, living at or near Charleston, South Carolina, as early as 1699; was on the list of proprietors' deputies as the representa-

* For the early Broughtons of Portsmouth, see lists from records of Hon. Joshua Peirce, published in the REGISTER, vols. xxiii. to xxvii.

Boston Records. "Jemima, dau. John & Phebe Broughton, b. July 4, 1697. Sarah, dau. Randal and Sarah Broughton, b. Jan. 12, 1698."

tive of Lord Carteret in 1702; colonel of one of the royal regiments in 1704; councillor and collector of customs, 1708; surveyor general, 1709; speaker of the House of Assembly, 1716, and 1725 to 1730, then lieutenant-governor, and finally governor of the province from May, 1735, until his death in 1738. He married a daughter of Sir Nathaniel Johnson, General of the Leeward Islands and one of the early governors of South Carolina. His son Nathaniel Broughton, in 1733, was one of the trustees of a free school erected at St. John's Parish.

SAMPSON SHELTON BROUGHTON, "a barrister of long standing in the Middle Temple, London," was appointed attorney-general of the province of New York before June 21, 1700. Sailing from Gravesend, April 26th, he landed at New York, July 24th, 1701. He was a member of the governor's council in 1703, and died in the winter of 1704-5, leaving a wife Mary. His son Sampson studied with his father in the Middle Temple, and was called to the bar in 1700, but came with his father to New York; succeeded him as attorney-general, and was commissioned naval officer, May 16, 1711. He was granted license to marry Mary Ravaud, Dec. 24, 1705, and received grants of land in Dutchess County.

JOHN BROUGHTON, a sea-captain and merchant of Marblehead, Mass., in 1720, like many living there at that time, doubtless came as a mariner from the south of England or the Channel Islands, and possibly by way of the Barbadoes, the Carolinas or Virginia. He was progenitor of a race "who seemed like descendants of the ancient sea-kings." Through four generations for over one hundred years every male member of his family was master of a vessel, and every female member the wife of a sea-captain. His family arms, transmitted by his son Nicholson to a granddaughter now living, were: "Argent, a Chevron between three Mulletts Gules."*

The following is a facsimile of his signature:

On the third of December, 1718, he married Sarah, daughter of John and Sarah (Maverick) Norman, and granddaughter of Lieut. Richard Norman, of Marblehead. She inherited their residence from her grandfather Moses Maverick, one of the "proprietors" of the town, and was a widow when admitted to the First Church, July 5, 1741. Their children, born at Marblehead, were:

- i. ANNE.² b. July 26, bapt. Aug. 9, 1719; m. Dec. 9, 1736, Capt. Jonas Dennis, Jr.
- ii. SARAH, b. Nov. 6, bapt. Dec. 3, 1721; m. Aug. 14, 1741, Capt. Richard Webber.
- iii. JOHN, } twins, bapt. Sept. 13, 1724. John d. in infancy.
2. iv. NICHOLSON, }
- v. NORMAN, bapt. April 9, 1727; d. young.

* These arms are found in "Fuller's Worthies," published at London in 1662, borne by *John de Broughton*, sheriff of Bedford and Bucks, 48th and 50th Edward III. *John Broughton*, sheriff of Bedford and Bucks, 13th Henry VI., and sheriff of Cumberland, 14th and 25th Henry VI.

Nicholas Broughton, sheriff of Devonshire, 24th Henry VI.

John Broughton, sheriff of Bedford and Bucks, 38th Henry VI. and 5th Edward IV.

2. NICHOLSON² BROUGHTON (*John*'), bapt. at Marblehead, September 13, 1724; married September 26, 1749, Sarah, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Martin) Pedrick.

He received such educational advantages as could be imparted at his native town, and developed much vigor of character. Accustomed to the sea, and residing at a port distinguished as the nursery of mariners, he became a skilful and intrepid ship-master before he was thirty years of age. For several years he was associated with Captain Robert Girdler in enterprising and successful commercial ventures,—despatching fishing sloops to the banks of Newfoundland and merchant vessels to foreign countries. He was one of the leaders of the revolutionary movement at Marblehead in 1774, and the next year was chosen a captain in the famous “marine” regiment commanded by Col. John Glover. At Cambridge, Mass., Sept. 2, 1775, he was directed by Washington to execute the first naval commission,—three days later, with a detachment of the army in the schooner “Hannah,” fitted out at the continental expense, he sailed from Beverly “to defy the proud navy of England,” and on the 7th instant captured the British ship “Unity,” laden with supplies for the ministerial army. He also received the second naval commission, October 16th of the same year, and on the 20th instant sailed from Beverly in the schooner “Lynch,” as commodore, with seventy men, and Captain John Selman in the schooner “Franklin,” with sixty-five men, for the river St. Lawrence, under the special order of Congress to intercept two transports from England with supplies for Quebec. They reached their destination after a long passage “through the stormy paths of the Northern seas,” being detained by adverse winds and weather, only to find that the transports for which they were in search had escaped. They, however, captured ten other vessels, and also the British recruiting officers at the island of St. Johns, and returned in December to find their prizes and prisoners released, and to be reproved by Washington for exceeding the letter of his instructions, the spirit of which these zealous commanders interpreted as set forth by Chief Justice Marshall, who, in his life of Washington at this period says: “Though general letters of reprisal were not immediately granted by Congress to their continental cruisers, a measure of equal efficacy but less hostile in appearance was adopted. Their ships of war were authorized to capture all vessels employed in giving assistance to the enemy in any manner whatsoever; and the forms used in their resolution were such that no capture could be made which might not be construed to come within it.”

Feeling keenly the reproof, after the many hardships and privations they had undergone, when Washington reminded them that the year of enlistment had nearly expired and requested them to take their command again in the Marblehead regiment, they replied that they would not.

On the 14th of February, 1776, Captain Broughton was commissioned by the Provincial Congress at Boston, as Second Major of the Fifth Regiment of Essex County militia under Col. Jonathan Glover.

He was a prominent and active member of the First Church at Marblehead until his death. The inscription upon his monument reads as follows: “On August the third 1798, was translated from this World to the Region of Spirits, the Immortal part of Nicholson Broughton Esq. aged 73 years and 7 months, A man whose life and conversation shed lustre on his religious profession and furnished an example every way worthy of imitation.” The children of Nicholson and Sarah Broughton were :

- i. SARAH,³ b. 1752 ; m. Capt. Daniel Lisbrel.
- ii. MARY, b. 1755 ; m. Capt. John Devereux.
- iii. NICHOLSON, b. 1757 ; d. young.
- iv. ANNE, b. 1759 ; m. Capt. Joseph Proctor.
- v. ELEANOR, b. 1762 ; m. first, Capt. Thomas Williams, and second, Capt. Samuel Horton.
3. vi. NICHOLSON, b. 1764.

The christian name of the head of this family is variously written. Upon the baptismal register of the First Church at Marblehead is the following record, under the date of Sept. 13, 1724, in the handwriting of the Rev. John Barnard, viz.:

“ John } Twin } John }
 Nicholson } inf. of } Sarah } Broughton.”

Until 1775 he wrote his name,

Nicholas Broughton

and afterwards :

Nicholason Broughton

His son wrote his name, in 1797 :

Nicholason Broughton

and afterwards :

Nicholson Broughton

And his grandson's signature in 1825 was :

Nicholson Broughton

There are found no indications of relationship with the early Nicholson family of Marblehead, or esteem for Sir Francis Nicholson, who heads the list of the founders of St. Michael's Church there ; nevertheless, accepting the baptismal name as correctly recorded, the variations of orthography, indulged in by those who have borne it, are suggestive of its original use as a patronymic to designate “the grandson of Nicholas.”

3. NICHOLSON³ BROUGHTON (*Nicholson*,² *John*¹), born at Marblehead, Oct. 29, 1764 ; married April 17, 1788, Susanna, daughter of Gen. John Glover, and died at the island of Martinique, June 21, 1804. With the advantages of education, energy and affluence, he began his career under the most favorable auspices. Imbued with the intense patriotic spirit of

his native town that during the Revolution "won for herself a renown which is still recognized as a brilliant chapter in American history," he enlisted as a soldier at thirteen years of age, and served at Winter Hill and Cambridge during the winter of 1777-8. Before he had reached manhood he was commanding one of his father's vessels, and was afterwards engaged in the West India trade with Col. William Raymond Lee and his son William Lee, and occasionally commanded different vessels in their joint interest during the war between England and France that began in 1793, the cruisers of both powers constantly committing depredations upon American commerce. Within the following six years his cargoes were confiscated three times by the French, and his vessel captured by the British in 1797, and again in 1799, when she was run ashore and burned at Monte Christo, a French port under the administration of the colored statesman and military chieftain, Touissant L'Ouverture. His claims for reimbursement, with those of others, the United States government volunteered to collect, and used in the year 1800, to discharge the burdensome stipulations in the treaty of alliance entered into with France in 1778, thus originating the well-known "French Spoliation Claims."

Of his four sons, all sea-captains :

- i. NICHOLSON,³ the eldest, born in 1790, was sailing-master of the privateer "Tomahawk" in 1815, when she was captured by the English 74-gun ship "Bulwark"; afterwards a captain and supercargo in the China trade for several years, then a merchant, and finally, from 1825 to 1835, he had built for him at Newburyport, by Jackman & Currier, thirty-two ships, brigs and schooners, and most of them sailed from his wharf at Marblehead with cargoes for foreign countries. He was twice married, each time to a daughter of the late Hon. Nathaniel Hooper, of Marblehead, and died at West Newton, Mass., in 1873.
- ii. JOHN, b. in 1792; was a privateer in the war of 1812; captured by the British and imprisoned at Dartmoor. He was afterwards master of vessels sailing from Marblehead to foreign countries.
- iii. NORMAN, b. in 1794; was lost at sea in 1825.
- iv. GLOVER, b. in 1796; was, with his brother John, a privateer and imprisoned at Dartmoor. After a long experience as sea-captain, he was town clerk of Marblehead for many years, and died in 1869.

WILLIAM¹ BROUGHTON, a mariner, and perhaps brother of John, married at Marblehead, August 13, 1720, Elizabeth Oakes. She m. again, Feb. 1, 1750, Israel Mark, of Great Britain. Children :

- i. JOHN,² m. Dec. 31, 1740, Elizabeth Gross. She m. again, Jan. 1, 1765, Samuel Stevens, of Marblehead. Children :
 1. *Benjamin*,³ bapt. Aug. 4, 1748.
 2. *Benjamin*, bapt. May 5, 1750.
 3. *John*, bapt. June 21, 1752. His widow Rebecca, m. Oct. 11, 1770, Manuel Saunders, of M.
 4. *Thomas*, bapt. Feb. 6, 1757; m. June 9, 1805, Margaret Doak, who m. again, Sept. 7, 1813, William Allen, of M.
- ii. WILLIAM, m. first, Jan. 28, 1746, Margaret Neal, of Marblehead, and second, Aug. 27, 1760, Hannah Horton. Children :
 1. *Margaret*, bapt. Feb. 28, 1748.
 2. *Marlin*, bapt. July 1, 1750; m. Aug. 16, 1772, Hannah Savage. She m. again, Oct. 3, 1790, James Dennis, of Marblehead. Children :
 - i. Hannah, bapt. Nov. 8, 1778; m. Jan. 10, 1804, Joseph Brown.
 - ii. William, bapt. Oct. 5, 1783.
 3. *Margaret*, bapt. April 29, 1753.
 4. *William*, bapt. Nov. 2, 1755.
 5. *Sarah*, bapt. Nov. 6, 1757; m. June 27, 1778, Samuel Vickery.
- iii. ELIZABETH, m. Feb. 1, 1750, James Vinson.

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