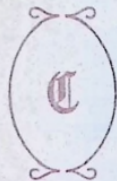
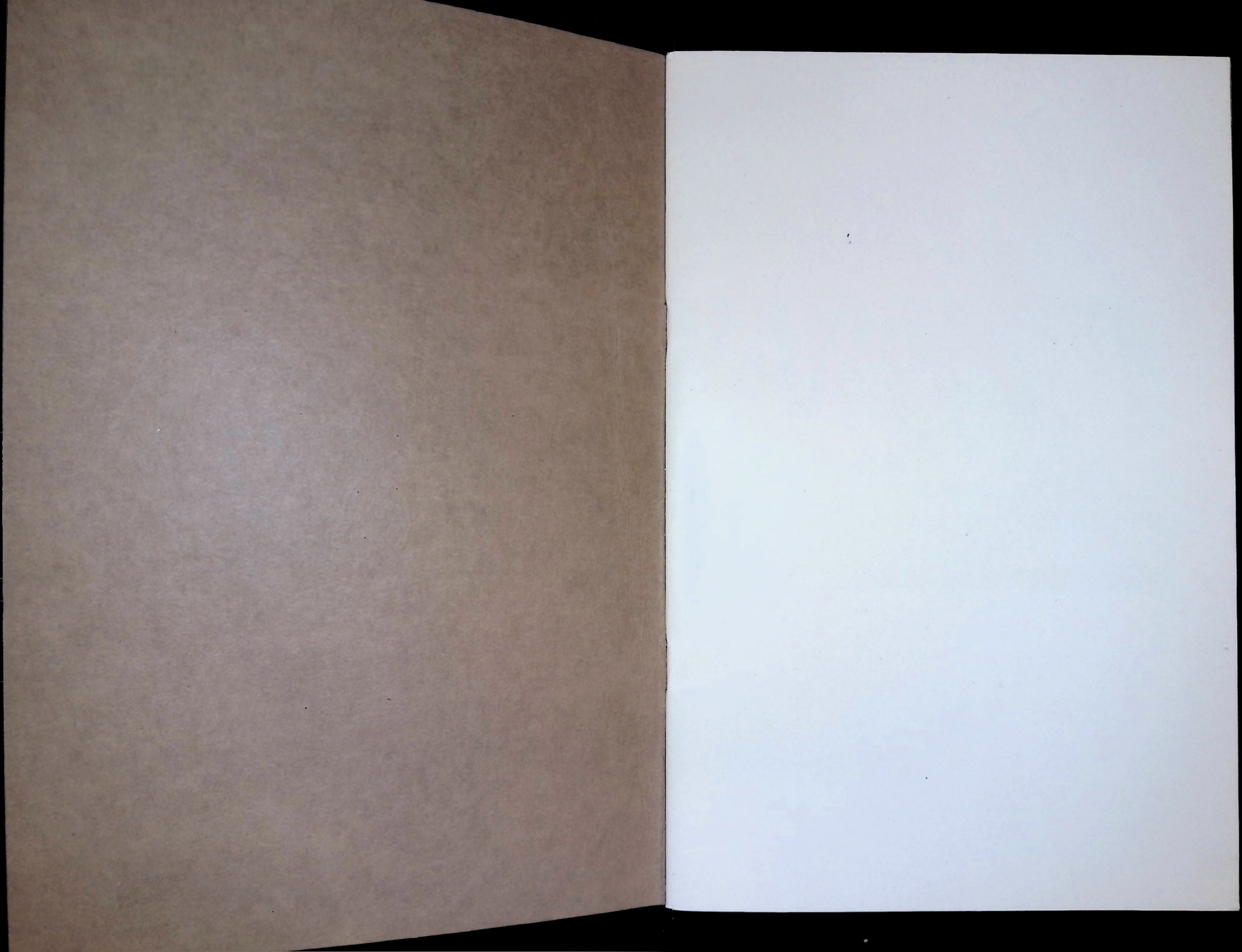


The
Biography and Ancestry
of
Hon. George Henry Catlin
Scranton, Pennsylvania



with
Notes on Genealogy





THE "LITTLE STONE SCHOOLHOUSE"
SHOREHAM, VERMONT
(See Page 5)

Note: For description of the Catlin Coat of Arms, see page 25.

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By
S. FLETCHER WEYBURN
Genealogist
Scranton, Pennsylvania

Lackawanna Historical Society
Series Number Thirteen

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GEORGE HENRY CATLIN, LL. D.

Mr. Catlin is a lineal descendant of the Catlins of the County of Kent, England. For several generations this family were seated at Leyburn in that part of the county made famous in English history. With its historic and maritime towns it has always been one of the most outstanding counties in England.

Not far from the ancestral home of the Catlins is the popular springs of Tunbridge Wells, known to tourists throughout the world. Mr. Catlin has on several occasions visited these springs and "taken the waters," which perhaps accounts for a long and successful life. He is now at this writing, fourscore and four years, hale and hearty.

From this romantic county came Thomas Catlin to America in 1644 or 1645 and settled in Hartford, Connecticut, and from this family sprang the subject of this sketch.

Samuel Catlin, a grandson of Thomas Catlin, with others of the family early removed to Litchfield, Connecticut, where they resided for several generations as shown by the genealogical records of that place.*

In 1800 Ashbel Catlin, Jr., the grandfather of George Henry Catlin, married and removed to Shoreham, Vermont. Here Lynde, his son, and George, his grandson, were born; and thereafter it became the home of that branch of the family. George, the last living descendant, now owns the old homestead and there is still standing the old one-story stone schoolhouse which his grandfather built on the property and where he first learned his three "R's."

Shoreham is a fine New England town. The homestead, with its thousand feet of frontage on a beautiful paved avenue, commands a view of the old Congregational Church where his father was deacon during the pastorate of Rev. Dr. Morton, father of the late Hon. Levi P. Morton,† Governor of New York and Vice-President of the United States.

Here George was born August 26, 1845, and began his successful career. His first schooling was at Newton Academy at Shoreham, then at Vermont Episcopal Institute, Rock Point, near Burlington,

*"Residents of Litchfield, Conn., 1720-1800," by Woodruff.

†Mr. Morton was born in Shoreham in 1824, while his father was pastor of the church. Governors Jenison and Ormsby, of Vermont, were also born there.

Vermont, and later entered Phillips Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, in the Class of 1863.

The hour had now arrived when a decision should be made whether to enter a business or professional career. As there had always been a close companionship between father and son, the first thing George did was to take counsel with his father. With ample means to provide for the education of the son, it was easily settled that George should adopt the profession of law. The father's first choice was Harvard College, but the son having gained the friendship of a Professor Clark, a teacher in Union College and Albany Law School, the decision was made in favor of Union College and he was graduated there with honors.

Following his graduation at Union College he was invited to go to New York City, and while there formed the acquaintance of Pope and Thompson, prominent lawyers at 17 Nassau Street, and in a short time became a partner under the title of Pope, Thompson & Catlin, with whom he remained two years. During these years he had formed business and social relations with several prominent Scranton families. One family, especially, attracted his attention, and our record shows that the seal of approval was placed upon it when on September 4, 1867, he married Miss Mary Wodrow Archbald, daughter of James Archbald, Sr. After an extensive wedding trip and as soon as he could arrange his affairs in New York, he chose Scranton, in 1870, as his permanent home, residing at Ridge Row and Monroe Avenue. He became at once a prominent figure in the financial life of the city, and from that day to this his counsel has been sought by bankers and business men of the community.

The one financial institution of Scranton that has claimed his undivided attention from its inception, in 1872, is the Third National Bank, now the Third National Bank and Trust Company. He was one of its organizers and its first Vice-President, which office he filled continuously for many years. He was also director of the former Scranton Savings Bank until its consolidation with the Dime Bank.

Mr. Catlin is a master of language; a prince of entertainers. His personality, benefactions, and business ability will perpetuate his name in the annals of Scranton. The following tribute to him by his fellow banking associates on his eighty-fourth birthday is but one of the many paid him:

"In the year 1872 when the business of banking in this city and valley was, to a very large degree, in its infancy, and when Scranton

In a personal survey of the life of Mr. Catlin we find him a modest and polished gentleman of the old school, with a kindly heart for the unfortunate, and a generous giver to worthy causes. Many of his benefactions are not known; however, his benefactions to his home town, Shoreham, Vermont, must be mentioned to his credit. He has maintained his old home there as a beauty spot; given memorial windows to the Congregational Church in honor of his father, mother, sister, and his first wife, Mary Wodrow Catlin, and has placed a large Seth Thomas clock in the tower of the old church.

Mr. Catlin has reared substantial monuments in Scranton and Shoreham that will endure and keep green the memory of his kindly heart and generous benefactions.



THE CATLIN GENEALOGY

From Leyburn, County of Kent, England.
Settled in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1644-5.

1. **THOMAS CATLIN**, of Hartford, Connecticut, was born———
Married in 1646.
Children:
 John (2), born 1647.
 Mary, baptized 1649.
2. **JOHN**, son of Thomas Catlin, of Hartford, Connecticut; married
 July 27, 1665, Mary Marshall.
Children:
 Mary, born July 10, 1666.
 Samuel (3), born November 4, 1673, removed to Litchfield.
 John, born April 27, 1676, died at sea.
 Thomas, born August 27, 1678.
 Benjamin, born February 1, 1680, died 1765.



Looking West
From Homestead



The Old Homestead



Looking Toward
the Homestead

THE CATLIN HOMESTEAD AT SHOREHAM, VERMONT

3. **SAMUEL**, son of John Catlin, of Hartford, Connecticut, born November 4, 1673, married Elizabeth Norton of Farmington, January 5, 1702. Removed to Litchfield, Connecticut. Died August 4, 1724.

Children:

John (4), born October 20, 1703.
Thomas, born February 17, 1705-6.
Samuel, Jr., born March 27, 17—, married Sarah Nichols Webster (?).
Isaac, born November 11, 1712, died January 5, 1803.
Abijah, born April 6, 1715, at Harwinton.
Mary, born March 26, 1717.
 A daughter born September 17, 1719, died September 27, 1719.
Ebenezer, born July 25, 1724.

4. **JOHN**, son of Samuel Catlin, born October 20, 1703, married Margaret (Seymour) Gross, August 25, 1731. He died about 1768.

Children:

John, born July 30, 1732.
Eli, born January 22, 1733-4.
Theodore, born October 16, 1735.
Alexander, born January 6, 1738-9.
Margaret, born November 4, 1741.
Ann, born October 12, 1743.
Ashbel (5), born September 10, 1745.
David, born April 21, 1747.
Roswell, born July 30, 1752.

5. **ASHBEL**, son of John Catlin, born September 10, 1745, married ——— Palmer, daughter of Rev. Solomon Palmer.

Children:

John B.
Theron.
Nancy.
Sally, married Captain Seth Landon.
Ashbel, Jr. (6), married Sylvia Leonard, February —, 1809.
Margaret.
Ditha.
Arianda.

6. **ASHBEL, JR.**, son of Ashbel Catlin, of Shoreham, Vermont, born _____, married Sylvia Leonard, of Alwell, Vermont, February —, 1809. He settled in Shoreham, Vermont, in 1800.

Children:

Albert L.

Edgar S.

Lynde (7), married Amelia Harriet Moore.

David S.

Miner B.

7. **LYNDE**, son of Ashbel (Jr.) Catlin, born August 19, 1813, died February 27, 1899. Married Amelia Harriet Moore, daughter of Samuel Moore, born April 17, 1822, died October 10, 1872.

Children:

George Henry (8) born in Shoreham, Vermont, August 26, 1845, married (1) Mary Wodrow Archbald, of Scranton, Pennsylvania, September 4, 1867. Removed to Scranton in 1870. The first Mrs. Catlin died April 26, 1902. Married (2) Helen Walsh, of Carbondale, Pa., June 1, 1904.

Ella Amelia, born in Shoreham, Vermont, December 21, 1853, died January 29, 1913.

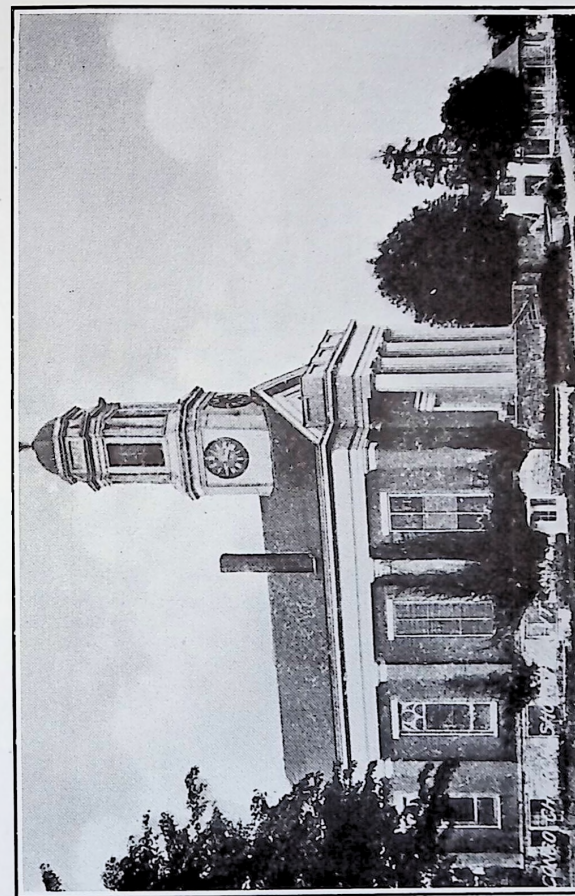
8. **GEORGE HENRY CATLIN** is still living and only surviving descendant.

NOTE.—GEORGE CATLIN, Celebrated Indian Artist (related to this family), was born in Wilkes-Barre, in 1796; died in 1872. Removed to New York City and became a portrait painter, specializing on Indian life and types. Joined John Jacob Astor and Stephen Girard in their fur trade among the Indians of North and South America.

Returning after several years he put on canvas many of his Indian types and in 1840 went abroad to exhibit them to the European Courts. These paintings were so full of individual action and dramatic quality that he met with widespread enthusiasm.

Several of these wonderful paintings are now in the Smithsonian Institute, at Washington, D. C.

Mr. George H. Catlin is a proud possessor of his celebrated Indian portfolio published in London in 1848.



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT SHOREHAM, VERMONT

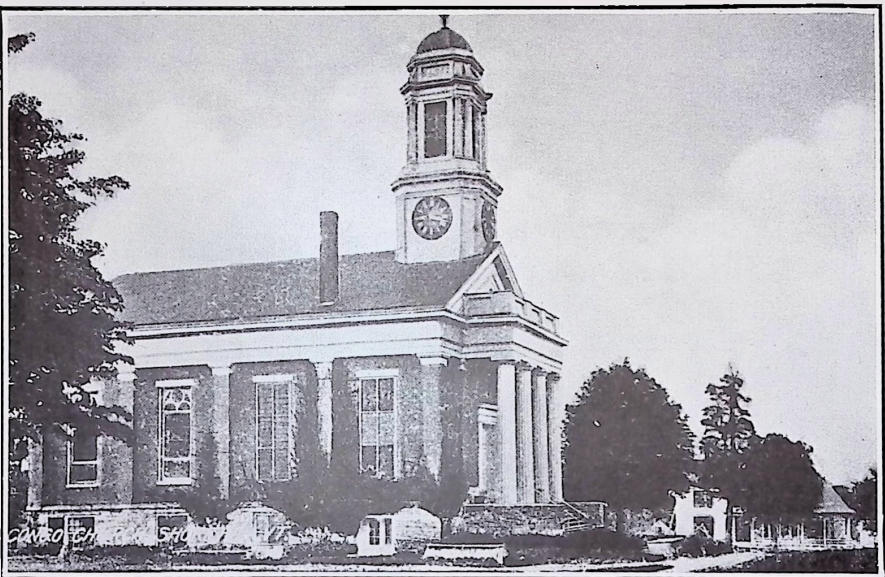
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THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT SHOREHAM, VERMONT

GENEALOGY OR AIDS IN WRITING A FAMILY HISTORY

By S. Fletcher Weyburn

After years of study and research in the science of genealogy, my conclusions, which have already been given in part, in the columns of the public press, I am assured may now appear in a more permanent form.

These conclusions are based, also, upon the fundamental facts and suggestions outlined in the publications of such noted authors as the following:

- "Foundations of Genealogy" by William Stowell Mills.
- "Hereditary Genius" by Francis Galton.
- "The Symbolism of Heraldry" by W. Cecil Wade.
- "Outline of Genealogy" by Frederick J. Haskin.
- "Outline of Genealogy" by Florence E. Youngs.
- "Outline of Genealogy" by John Alfred Longford.
- "Outline of Genealogy" by W. P. W. Phillimore.
- "Heraldry" by Sir Bernard Burke.
- "Practical Heraldry, Etc." by Charles Worthy, Esq.

No one can really enjoy the study of science, history, art or genealogy unless he is a lover of books and endowed with a passion for research.

The science of genealogy is a legitimate study and has been most honored in literature. It goes back to the remote past as evinced by the pedigrees of the Patriarchs of the Old Testament and the Kings of Israel and has been supplemented by secular history up to the present time. The secondary function of genealogy is biography, therefore, genealogy is a study of individuals of various characters and temperaments, and is dependent largely upon the hereditary processes. The analysis of these strains is as important as any historical event of a political cast.

The study of genealogy in America is of recent date. Sixty years ago only a few family histories in America were written, but just preceding the late World War hundreds of such books had appeared and its development had just begun while the number of diligent students had increased by scores.

In every branch of literary endeavor the student needs the best helps and the most available aids he can obtain. As the skilled workman needs the most up-to-date tools and appliances to insure accurate and valuable results so the genealogical student needs every available assistance possible, including time and money.

The ignorance of how to commence such researches has discouraged some, while others have been compelled to forego the pleasure of building a reliable family history because of the lack of time or money, or both. The fees of the experts are beyond the means of a vast majority of students, and hence we have today many uncompleted histories.

The importance of historical evidence, the use of heraldry, the records of English and American libraries, magazines and court and chancery proceedings, all of which cover a wide field of historical endeavor, may be acquired if one has the love and time for such research.

Tradition plays an important part in solving the mysteries of genealogy and it should not be ignored. Many a genealogist is called upon to find a missing link in building a family tree. The loss of records, by fire or neglect, has baffled hundreds of students. This is especially true in America, as our ancestors were too busy to devote time or means to record their history. Such records may be found, however, in the old registers of enlistments, church registers and on tombstones, while in England we find carefully preserved records in the chancery proceedings, parish records of births, baptisms and deaths, and the Domesday book.

I cannot urge too strongly the study of genealogy; the necessity of first considering the important bearing which this science will have upon future history.

"We Americans are beginning to realize the historical significance of genealogical foundations. If we cannot rely upon the record of our homes for individual character, we cannot expect to reap in the finest sense a patriotic citizenship."

"The work of compiling a genealogy of a family, or of tracing the lineage of an individual serves a double use. It furnishes future generations with records that might otherwise never have come to light, thus helping to equip the historian of the future, and, as a compensation for the time and labor involved, it broadens the compiler's outlook on the field of history."

All hope of the future is builded on the past and the study of the individuality of our ancestors and people is what gives to genealogy a greater significance than we imagine. Lineage is evolution of personal characteristics, and here the student will find an open door to a clearer understanding of history and literature. The time to do this is before the memory begins to fail and many of the sources of information have vanished forever.

In the study of genealogy the science of Heraldry is often neglected but is now becoming more and more popular because of the widespread of education. The study of Heraldry makes practical the acquired knowledge of antiquarian literature. The manners and customs of the past may be turned into channels of personal interest and enlist our sympathy in historic research. There can be no more delightful work to one who is studiously inclined than ancestor hunting. The degree of certainty one finds in the English records is proof that genealogical foundations are permanent. Where ancestry abroad is established peculiar interest will be found in travel to the homes of the ancestors, even though they be humble. Much of the American Revolutionary stock can boast of a pedigree covering a period of two or three hundred years which increases the interest in this study.

"If no member of the family," says William Stowell Mills, "takes pride in collecting and putting into permanent form its history, the work can never be done with that art which is born of affection." Again he says, "To appreciate more fully the close alliance of genealogy and history we must

look far beyond the beginning of American institutions. These were transplanted here."

The time is not far distant when genealogy will be used in schools to increase the love of our country and her history. The organization of such societies as the Daughters of American Revolutions, the Mayflower Society, the Colonial Dames, etc., is proof of the fact that a descent from a Pilgrim Father gives added charm to one's ancestral line.

Therefore, we must admit there will arise eventually the question of historical environment. All cannot pursue a systematic study of history in connection with the study of genealogy, yet, to gain a comprehensive viewpoint, it is well to follow the lines of investigation wherever they lead, for all essential historical incidents and evidence form an important background.

As a further example, the writer would suggest one brief outline of genealogical inquiry, among the many evidences which have appealed to him in the line of his own researches. Take for instance, the Pilgrim Fathers, the Puritan movement, from whom many, these days are claiming descent. Would they for a moment neglect the careful reading of English history bearing upon the times of the Puritan movement, and its subsequent evolution, the influence that led them to separate from all their old associations and seek a new world for religious freedom? To gain a clear conception of such a stupendous movement they surely should read the many books on this subject for it is only when we study the genealogical relationship connecting one country with another that we get a firm grasp of history.

Local records lend color to genealogical research and those who have in mind the family strain should not neglect this. Whatever cause brought our forefathers to the rock-bound coast of Massachusetts or the sunny slopes of Virginia, whether of Puritan or Chevalier stock, there will always be that historical environment with its fullness of local or national coloring.

From a personal experience I desire to show the importance of historical environment to the study of this science. Having found that my English ancestors were possessed of several abbeys and manors I began to investigate how they became possessed of the same. This led me to study of the times of Henry VIII and the English monasteries and his acts in suppressing them and their final lease or sale to individuals. This was very interesting, indeed.

Again having located my great grandfather in Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, after the Pennamite War, where he married and raised his family and later migrated to New York State about 1789, I turned to the study of General Sullivan's expedition against the Six Indian Nation in New York State in 1779, and the large migration from Pennsylvania into that region after the Indians had been expelled and the territory opened up to settlers. New York State had set aside a large tract of this land for her soldiers of the Revolution, a tract of land covering what is now known as the counties of Onondago, Thompsons, Seneca, Cayuga, and parts of Oswego and Wayne divided into townships named after famous generals and statesmen of the ancient world. As this land was not all taken by the soldiers parts were settled by the settlers from Pennsylvania including my great grandfather and

family. He located on Cayuga Lake and my immediate ancestors finally settled near Geneva at the foot of Seneca Lake in Ontario County, which was also part of the land occupied by the Indians.

HERALDRY.

"Heraldry must really be associated with the feudal system of the middle ages. The defensive armor then in use so entirely concealed the wearer, that some special cognizance was absolutely necessary to identify the knight and his immediate following. And the necessity of such a distinction began to be especially felt about the time of the Holy Wars.

"It was early in the thirteenth century that Heraldry became possessed of a regular system, and acquired a language of its own which still survives. It had by that time obtained a firm hold upon the hearts of the people, it was daily becoming more systematic, and began to be ranked by them among their most treasured possessions.

"The science of Heraldry teaches us, in the first place, how to describe in proper phraseology everything pertaining to armory, or to use technical words, how to blason coats of arms, and how to dispose or marshal them in a shield with proper regularity."

Some Americans, put too much stress upon the use of Heraldic emblems in pedigree building. It has its purposes, however, in an historical sense, and care should be taken in attempting the assumption of family coat-of-arms and crests.

Some of the ancient and historical facts are of very little use to the family today, unless a direct line of descent can be obtained, and then its use in America can be questioned.

The study of heraldry is a very different thing and can be made a source of profitable investigation for establishing direct or collateral lines of descent, and for the knowledge it affords of the times and circumstances of the early families in England.

While these notes pertain exclusively to England the same general knowledge may be acquired of other countries and therefore are important to the genealogical student.

Hence I am outlining some technical genealogical knowledge necessary to assist in further investigation.

The English people were divided horizontally into four ranks, gentlemen, citizens, yeomen and laborers, viz.:

"Gentlemen—Sovereign, Prince of Wales, Dukes, Marquises, Viscounts, Barons, Archbishops and Bishops; below them were Knights and Esquires bearing arms, lawyers, physicians and clergy.

"Citizens—Freemen of cities and boroughs (competent to vote and sit in the lower House of Parliament, and successful merchants.

"Yeomen—Freemen who from their own land had income of £6 annually.

"Laborers—Petty merchants having no free land, copyholders, artificers, poor husbandmen and day laborers, and lower down non-industrious and criminal, (this latter class had no voice or authority in the commonwealth).

"An Inquisition Post-Mortem was held on the death of every tenant in capite, that is to say, of those who held the lands directly from the crown and

not of the "Messne" lord, in consequence of the rule of feudal tenure that the heir before he could take possession of his ancestors' lands must pay a "relief" and do homage to the king. "These inquisitions were taken by an officer in each county called the escheater and covered the following points:

"First—What lands the tenant died seized of.

"Second—The services by which the lands were held and their yearly value.

"Third—The date of the tenants' death.

"Fourth—The name and age of the next heir.

"Parish registers originated in an order by Thomas Lord Cromwell in 1538, but few of that date now exist. The majority being about half a century later. During the time of the troubles in the seventeenth century the registers were kept very irregularly until the Restoration in 1660."

SOME SUGGESTIONS.

Study the Quakers who settled in Pennsylvania; the Catholics in Maryland, the Scotch-Irish in Pennsylvania, and the Huguenots from Holland.

The sentiment of patriotism is an important part of this science.

Cultivate brevity with clearness.

Work from the known to the unknown—first find out all you can of your own family and kinsmen.

Keep historical and local coloring always in view.

Seek all statistical information possible.

Develop the personal side of your subject.

Avoid too high coloring of personal history.

Make family lines as distinct as possible so that the individual branches may follow clearly.

Consult freely all books of reference on the subject.

If possible visit the leading historical and genealogical libraries.

Examine the records of record and probate courts.

Consult the books of vital statistics which are now being published.

Trace the various spellings of the family name.

Study, search, and do not be discouraged.

Remember that descendants may be traced backward or upward, or vice versa that no recorded genealogy of an individual or family can be complete.

Sound judgment is necessary: "Without the power to weigh historical statement, a worker is sure to produce unreliable results."

A relentless memory is necessary. Cultivate the memory of events in their order.

If you are interested in this science and wish to develop your family tree you will find here an incentive to further study.

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 NORTHUP, R. M.
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 RUTH, W. M.
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 RIPPLE, COL. EZRA H., JR.
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 ROSE, VANDLING D.
 RUSSELL, W. D.

STURGE, DR. E.
 SANDERSON, JAMES GARDNER
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 SCOTT, F. E.
 SURDAM, TRUMAN A.
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 SCHOOLEY, STANLEY C.
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 SHAW, W. M.
 SPECK, M. L.
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 SCRAGG, HAROLD A.
 SUTTON, C. O.
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 TYLER, L. B.
 THOMAS, MORGAN
 TAYLOR, MRS. GEORGE D.
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 VAN NORT, CHARLES F.
 WATRES, L. A.
 WATRES, MRS. L. A.
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 WARREN, EDWARD
 WHITE, DR. J. NORMAN
 WEYBURN, S. FLETCHER
 WEYBURN, MRS. S. FLETCHER
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ENDOWMENT FUNDS

LACKAWANNA HISTORICAL SOCIETY*

NOW LOCATED IN THE EVERHART MUSEUM BUILDING
NEEDS PERMANENT ENDOWMENT FUNDS

PERPETUITY OF FAMILY RECORDS ASSURED**

In looking over the records of other historical societies the writer has been impressed with the support given by the citizens of the various localities, chiefly the provisions made for the perpetuity of their society by means of endowments.

This fund is to be kept intact, and the interest to be used only for the purchase of books, for lectures, and for publishing their records, etc. To meet the growing needs of our society it is suggested that the attention of our members and friends be called to this most worthy way of helping the society.

Let your lawyer or Trust Company incorporate in your will the following bequest:

"I give and bequeath to the 'Lackawanna Historical Society' the sum of.....
for the said society absolutely."

*The Society gratefully accepts books, histories, maps, deeds, and family records.

**It is important that the history and biography of prominent families of the Lackawanna Valley be perpetuated and handed down to posterity.

Armorial Bearings of the Catlin Family

SIR ROBERT DE CATLIN was ennobled at Argencourt in the province of Calais, France, on October 25, 1415, by Edward, the Black Prince, for valor shown at the famous battle there between the English and the French.

The arms bestowed were: "Per Chevron Azure and three lions passant guardant in pale counterchanged and crest, a lion sejant guardant or between two wings endorsed barry of six or the first and azure." The motto "Placidus semper nunquam timidus," "Always courageous, never timid."

In 1470 these arms were renewed and granted to William Catlin of Leyburn, County Kent.

(Vide, Grant of Arms at Heralds College and Harleian M. S. 1359, Folio 5).

