

Genealogical
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Sketch



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THE NAME AND FAMILY
OF
GREEN AND GREENE

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THE NAME AND FAMILY OF GREEN(E)

The name of GREEN or GREENE is thought to have been derived from the residence of its first bearers at or near a green, that is, a park or village common. It is found in ancient English records chiefly with the prefixes de, de la, and del, meaning "of", and frequently took the form of Grene or Gren. The spellings first mentioned are, however, those most generally accepted both in England and in America today.

One of the most ancient of the numerous lines of the family in England was that descended from Alexander de Boketon or Buckton of Northamptonshire, England, who was living in the late twelfth and early thirteenth centuries, and who is believed to have been of Norman descent. This Alexander was the father of a son named Walter, who had a son named John, who was the father of Sir Thomas. Sir Thomas, it is stated by some authorities, married Alice de Boltesham about the beginning of the fourteenth century and had issue by her of Sir Thomas, who had issue by his first wife Lucy de la Zouch of Sir Henry (de) Greene of Buckton, who married Catherine Drayton and was the father of Sir Thomas, Sir Henry, Margaret, Nicholas, Richard, and Amabila. Of these children, the first was the ancestor of six generations of Sir

Thomases, of whom the last died in 1506 and is believed to have left no male issue.

Sir Henry, second son of Sir Henry (de) Greene of Buckton, became Lord of Drayton and was the father of Ralph and John, of whom the second succeeded his elder brother as Lord of Drayton and was the father of, among others, a son named Sir Henry, who had only one child, a daughter named Constance, who married Lord John Stafford.

The Essex County line of the family in England, which was possibly a younger branch of the Northamptonshire line, descended from Thomas Greene of Essex, who lived in the middle part of the fifteenth century. He was the father of John, father of John, who married Elizabeth Pudsey and had issue by her of Thomas, John, and William, of whom the first married Elizabeth Norton and had Jeremy, Christopher, Ambrose, and numerous others, of whom the first was the father of William, Jeremy, Richard, and four daughters.

About the beginning of the sixteenth century one William Greene resided in Somersetshire, England. He became the father by his wife Dorothy Horsey of Matthew, who married Catherine Fortescue and had, among others, a son named Bartholomew, who had issue by his wife Mary Eyres of, among others, a son named John, who married Sicile Walrond and had issue in the early seventeenth century of Edmond, John, and others.

The Dorsetshire branch of the family, from which it is

believed that many of the American Green(e)s are descended, was represented in the early sixteenth century by one Robert Greene. He is believed by some family historians to have been the son of one Sir Thomas of the Northamptonshire line, but this connection is not certain. Robert of Dorsetshire was the father of Peter, Richard, John, Alice, and Ann, of whom the second succeeded his brother in 1583 and was the father of Richard and Katherine, of whom the first had issue by his wife Mary of Peter, Richard, Robert, John, Thomas, and five daughters, of whom the son John emigrated to Boston in 1635 and will be mentioned again later.

Not without distinction in Great Britain, where many bearers of the name of Green or Greene were of the landed gentry and yeomanry, the family was substantially represented among the earliest settlers in colonial America.

Among the earliest members of the family to come to America and leave issue here were John and Joseph Green(e), who came from London to New England in 1632 and are believed to have been related. John, the elder of these immigrants, settled at Charlestown, Mass., and was the father by his first wife Perseverance Johnson of John, Jacob, and Abigail (all of whom he brought with him from England), as well as probably of another daughter named Mary. He also had a second wife, the Widow Joanna Shotswell, but he had no further issue.

The above-mentioned Joseph, probably a nephew of the immigrant John of Charlestown, made his home at Weymouth, Mass.,

and is thought to have married Elizabeth Whitman about 1657. His children were Joseph, John, Elizabeth, Mary, and Zachary.

About 1633 one Bartholomew Green(e) settled at Cambridge, Mass. By his wife Elizabeth he had issue of Samuel, Nathaniel, Sarah, and Phebe.

James Green(e) was living at Charlestown, Mass., as early as 1634 and was the father by his wife Elizabeth of, probably among other children, two sons, John and James.

The before-mentioned John Green(e) of Dorsetshire, England, who emigrated to Boston in 1635, was a surgeon. He settled in 1638 at Providence, R.I., whence he removed shortly afterward to Warwick, in the same colony. This John brought with him from England six children, John, Peter, James, Thomas, Joan, and Mary, who were his issue by his first wife Joan Tattershall. He is also believed to have married twice after her death but to have had no further issue.

Percival Green(e), who is believed by some authorities to have been the brother of the emigrant Bartholomew mentioned earlier, came to America in 1635 with his wife Ellen and settled at Cambridge, Mass. He was the father of John and Elizabeth, as well as possibly of others.

One Thomas Green(e), who came from Leicestershire, England, to Ipswich, Mass., in 1636, or shortly thereafter, later made his home at Malden. He left issue there by his wife Elizabeth of Thomas, John, Elizabeth, Mary, William, Henry,

Samuel, Hannah, Martha, and Dorcas. He married a second wife, the Widow Frances Cook, but had no further issue.

Another John Green(e) came to America about 1637 and settled on Narragansett Bay, in Rhode Island. By his wife Joan he was the father of John, Daniel, Henry, Edward, James, Robert, Enfield, Benjamin, and possibly others.

As early as 1640 one William Green(e) emigrated from Devonshire, England, to Charlestown, Mass., where he had issue by his wife Hannah Carter of Mary, Hannah, John, and William.

Ralph Greene(e) resided at Boston, Mass., before 1642 and became the father in that year of a son named John, but no further record has been found of this line.

Sometime before 1643 Henry Green(3) was living at Reading, Mass. He was the father there by his wife Frances Stone of Joanna and Nathaniel.

In 1647 yet another John Green(e) was living in Rhode Island. He made his home at Newport, where he had issue by his wife Mary Jefferay of an only son named John.

Another Thomas Green(e) of Malden, who was not related to the before-mentioned Thomas of Malden, married Margaret Call shortly after 1650 and had issue by her of Thomas, John, Ephraim, Mary, and Elizabeth.

Another emigrant John Green(e) was residing at New Haven, Conn., before 1651. He had issue in that year of a son of the same name.

Sometime before 1655 a John Green was living in Virginia. According to extant records, he was joined in that year by his wife Katherine and his son Richard.

In 1661 James Green(e), whose ancestry is not certain, was married at Dorchester, Mass., to Rebecca Jones, who gave him seven children, Elizabeth, James, Rebecca, Richard, John, Esther, and Samuel.

William Green(e), who was living at Groton, Mass., before 1665, was the father by his wife Mary of William, Ann John, Eleazer, Elizabeth, and Hannah.

Another William Green(e) of Devonshire, England, emigrated to Plymouth, Mass., shortly before 1683 and left issue by his wife Elizabeth Warren of an only son named William.

Sometime between 1712 and 1717 Robert Green, son of William Green of England, came to Virginia and settled in Orange County. There he married Eleanor Dunn and was the father of six sons, William, Robert, John, Nicholas, James, and Moses.

The descendants of these and later lines of the family in America have removed to every State of the Union and have contributed as much to the furtherance of American civilization as their ancestors did to its first establishment on this continent. They have been characterized in general by tenacity of purpose, imagination, and an interest in their fellow men which has led some of the family into the fields of literature, law, and statecraft.

Among the Green(e)s who fought as officers in the War of the Revolution were Captain Berryman and Colonel John, of Virginia; Captain Ebenezer, of New Hampshire; Surgeon James W. and Captain William, of North Carolina; Captain Joel, of Massachusetts; Captain John, of Georgia; Captain Timothy, of Pennsylvania; Captain William, of Connecticut; and Colonel Christopher and Major General Nathaniel, of Rhode Island.

Thomas, John, Nicholas, Henry, Richard, Robert, Joseph, James, Samuel, Nathaniel, and William are some of the Christian names most favored by the family for its male progeny.

A few of the many members of the family who have distinguished themselves in America in more recent times are:

William Henry Green (1825-1900), of New Jersey, Presbyterian theologian.

Samuel Dana Greene (1840-1884), of Maryland, naval commander.

Daniel Crosby Greene (1843-1913), of Massachusetts, Congregational missionary.

Francis Vinton Greene (1850-1921), of Rhode Island, military officer.

Homer Greene (b. 1853), of Pennsylvania, author and lawyer.

Fitzhugh Green (b. 1888), of Missouri, naval officer and author.

Theodore Francis Green (b.1867), of Rhode Island, Governor of Rhode Island.

Thomas Edward Green (b. 1857), of Connecticut, Congressman and Judge of the Court of Claims of the United States.

One of the most ancient and frequently used coats of arms of the

English family of Greene or Green is that described as follows (Burke, General Armory., 1884):

Arms. -- "Azure, three bucks trippant or."

Crest. -- "Out of a ducal coronet a buck's head, all proper."

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Green

WHY YOU HAVE A FAMILY NAME AND WHAT IT MEANS

Primitive personal names doubtless originated soon after the invention of spoken language, in the dark ages long preceding recorded history. For thousands of years thereafter first or given names were the only designations that men and women bore; and at the dawn of historic times, when the world was less crowded than it is today and every man knew his neighbor, one title of address was sufficient. Only gradually, with the passing centuries and the increasing complexity of civilized society, did a need arise for more specific designations. While the roots of our system of family names may be traced back to early civilized times, actually the hereditary surname as we know it today dates from scarcely more than nine hundred years ago.

A surname is a name added to a baptismal or given name for the purposes of making it more specific and of indicating family relationship or descent. Classified according to origin, most surnames fall into four general groups: 1) those formed from the given name of the sire; 2) those arising from bodily or personal characteristics; 3) those derived from locality or place of residence; and 4) those derived from occupation. It is easier to understand the story of the development of our institution of surnames if these classifications are borne in mind.

As early as Biblical times certain distinguishing appellations were occasionally employed in addition to the given name, as, for

instance, Joshua the son of Nun, Azariah the son of Nathan, Judas of Galilee, and Simon the Zealot. In ancient Greece a daughter was named after the father, as Chryseis, daughter of Chryses; and a son's name was often an enlarged form of his father's, as Hieronymus, son of Hiero. The Romans, with the rise of their civilization, met the need for hereditary designations by inventing a complex system whereby every patrician took several names. None of them, however, exactly corresponded to surnames as we know them, for the "clan name", although hereditary, was given also to slaves and other dependents. This system proved to be but a temporary innovation; the overthrow of the Western Empire by barbarian invaders brought about its end and a reversion to the primitive custom of a single name.

The ancient Scandinavians and for the most part the Germans had only individual names, and there were no family names, strictly speaking, among the Celts. But as family and tribal groups grew in size, individual names became inadequate and the need for supplementary designations began to be felt. Among the first employed were such terms as the Hardy, the Sterns, the Dreadful-in-Battle; and the nations of northern Europe soon adopted the practice of adding the father's name to the son's, as Oscar son of Carnuth and Dermid son of Duthno.

True surnames, in the sense of hereditary appellations, date in England from about the year 1000. Largely they were introduced from Normandy, although there are records of Saxon surnames prior to the Norman Conquest. During the reign of Edward the Confessor

(1042-1066) there were Saxon tenants in Suffolk bearing such names as Suert Magno, Stigand Soror, Siuward Rufus, and Leuric Hobbesune (Hobson); and the Domesday record of 1085-1086, which exhibits some curious combinations of Saxon forenames with Norman family names, shows surnames in still more general use. By the end of the twelfth century hereditary names had become common in England. But even by 1465 they were not universal. During the reign of Edward V a law was passed to compel certain Irish outlaws to adopt surnames; "They shall take unto them a Surname, either of some Town, or some Colour, as Blacke or Brown, or some Art of Science, as Smyth or Carpenter, or some office, as Cooke or Butler." As late as the beginning of the nineteenth century a similar decree became effective compelling Jews in Germany and Austria to add a German surname to the single names that they had previously used.

As stated above, family names fall into four general classes according to their origin. One of these classes comprises surnames derived from the given name of the father. Such names were formed by adding a prefix or suffix denoting either "son of" or a diminutive. English names terminating in son (or the contraction s), ing, and kin are of this type, as are also the innumerable names prefixed with the Gaelic Mac, the Norman Fitz, the Irish O, or the Welsh ap. Thus the sons of John became Johnsons; the sons of William, Williamsons or Wilsons; the sons of Richard, Richardsons or Richardses; the sons of Neill, MacNeills; the sons of Herbert, FitzHerberts; the sons of Reilly, O'Reillys; and the sons of Thomas ap Thomases (ap has been drop from many names of

which it was formerly a part). There are also German, Netherlandish, Scandinavian, and other European surnames of similar formation, such as the Scandinavian names ending in sen.

Another class of surnames, those arising from some bodily or personal characteristic of their first bearer, apparently grew out of what were in the first instance nicknames. Thus Peter the strong became Peter Strong, Roger of small stature became Roger Little or Roger Small, and black-haired William or blond Alfred became William Black or Alfred White. A few examples of names of this type are Long, Short, Hardy, Wise, Good, Gladman, Lover and Youngman.

A third class of family names, and perhaps the largest of all, is that comprising local surnames-names derived from and originally designating the place of residence of the bearer. Such names were employed in France at an early date and were introduced into England by the Normans, many of whom were known by the titles of their estates. The surnames adopted by the nobility were chiefly of this type, being used with the particles de, de la, or del (meaning "of" or "of the"). The Saxon equivalent was the word atte ("at the"), found in such names as John atte Brook, Edmund atte Lane, Godwin atte Brigg, and William Atwood, and Atwater; in other cases the Norman de was substituted; and in still others, such as Wood, Briggs and Lane, the particle was dropped. The surnames of some of the Pilgrim Fathers illustrate place designations. Winthrop, for instance, means "of the friendly village"; Endicott, "an end cottage"; and Bradford, "a broad ford". The suffixes

"ford", "ham", "ley", and "ton", denoting locality, are of frequent occurrence in such English names as Ashford, Bingham, Burley and Norton.

Commencing about the time of Edward the Confessor a fourth class of surnames arose -- names derived from occupation. The earliest of these seem to have been official names, such as Bishop, Mayor, Alderman, Reeve, Sheriff, Chamberlain, Chancellor, Chaplain, Deacon, Latimer (interpreter), Marshall, Sumner (summoner), and Parker (parkkeeper). Trade and craft names, although of the same general type, were a slightly later development. Currier was a dresser of skins, Webster a weaver, Wainwright a wagonbuilder, and Baxter a baker. Such names as Smith, Taylor, Barber, Shepherd, Carter, Mason, and Miller are self-explanatory.

Some surnames of today which seem to defy classification or explanation are corruptions of ancient forms that have become disguised almost beyond recognition. For instance, Troublefield was originally Tuberville, Wrinch was Renshaw, Diggles was Douglas, Sinnocks and Snooks were Sevenoaks, Barrowcliff and Berrycloth were Barraclough, and Strawbridge was Stourbridge. Such corruptions of family names, resulting from ignorance of spelling, variations in pronunciation, or merely from the preference of the bearer, tend to baffle both the genealogist and the etymologist. Shakespeare's name is found in some twenty-seven different forms, and the majority of English and Anglo-American surnames have, in their history, appeared in four to a dozen or more variant spellings.

In the United States a greater variety of family names exists

than anywhere else in the world. Surnames in every race and nation are represented. While a substantial number are of English, Scotch, Irish, Welsh, and Western European origin, brought to this country by scions of families that had borne these names for generations prior to immigration, many others have come from Central and Southern Europe and the Slavic countries, where the use of surnames is generally a more recently established practice. Some families had no fixed surname until after their arrival in America; and in other cases emigrants from Continental Europe or their descendants have translated or otherwise modified their names. These factors contribute to the difficulties encountered by students of etymology and family history.

Those Americans who possess old and honored names -- who trace their surnames back to sturdy immigrant ancestors, or beyond, across the seas and into the mists of antiquity--may be rightfully proud of their heritage. While the name, in its origin, may seem ingenious, humble, surprising, or matter-of-fact, its significance today lies not in a literal interpretation of its initial meaning but in the many things that have happened to it since it first came into use. In the beginning it was only a label to distinguish one John from his neighbor John who lived across the field. But soon it established itself as part of the bearer's individuality; and as it passed to his children, his children's children, and their children, it became the symbol not of one man but of a family and all that the family stood for. Handed down from generation to generation, the surname grew inseparably associated with the

achievement, the tradition, and the prestige of the family. Like the coat of arms--that vivid symbolization of the name which warrior ancestors bore in battle--the name itself has become a badge of family honor. It has become the "good name" to be proud of and to protect as one's most treasured possession.

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THE NAME AND FAMILY
OF
RICKS AND RIX

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THE NAME AND FAMILY OF RICKS OR RIX

The name of RICKS, and in many cases that of RIX, is derived from the nickname Rick, for the personal or baptismal name of Richard or Rickard, which means "Wealthy, Powerful, Mighty", together with the genitive suffix son, shortened to s. This name appears in ancient English and early American records in the various forms of Rick, Rickson, Rixon, Rixe, Rickes, Ricks, and Rix, of which the two spellings last mentioned are those most frequently in evidence in America in modern times.

In some cases, too, Rix is derived from the residence of its first bearers "at the rix", from rix, a reed or rush. Illustrative of this local origin of the name are records found in the Hundred Rolls, in which the name is prefaced by the French de la, signifying "of the". According to one writer, "'At the reeds' would seem to be meant by: John de la Rixe, County Somerset, 1273 (A.D.); Osbert de la Rixe, County

Ricks

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Somerset, *ibid*; unless 'ricks' (i.e. small stacks) is meant."

A family of the name was early resident at Brancaster Castle, County Norfolk, England. Robert Rix, Earl of Offord, a member of this family, served with the English forces in the Battle of Flodden's Field, A.D. 1513. Of the same line was Sir Thomas Rix, Earl of Offord, who was beheaded at the order of King Henry VIII in the early sixteenth century. His son, Sir John or Sir John Thomas Rix, Earl of Offord, married Margaret Bruce, by whom he had at least one son, named John. This son is said by family historians to have been the father of Robert Rix, of Canninghall, County Norfolk, England, the father of William and Thomas Rix, who emigrated to America in the early seventeenth century and will be mentioned again.

Among the many later records of the name in England are those of Elizabeth Rix, of London, who was married at St. James, Clerkenwell, in the year 1701 to Richard Instance; Cecil Rix, of London, who was married to Grace Bennett at St. George, Hanover Square, in 1789; and Samuel Wilton Rix, a solicitor at Beccles, County Suffolk, who was married at Yarmouth, England, in 1833

to Eliza Charlotte Shelly. To the last-mentioned union were born ten children, Edith Shelly, John Shelly, Frederick Shelly, Mary Wilton, Henrietta Margaret Sherriff, Edward Wilton, Richard Avery, Grace Wilton, Francis Meadows, and Mary Elizabeth Rix.

William Rix, before-mentioned immigrant from Canninghall, England, was living at Boston, Mass., before the year 1645 and probably resided at Ipswich, Mass., as early as 1640. By his wife Grace, whose surname is not known, he had five children, Elisha, Mary, John, Thomas, and Ezekiel, of whom the last died young. The son Elisha died in 1672 or 1673, evidently unmarried.

John, son of the immigrant William, left issue at Boston by his wife Charity, whom he married before 1674, of Mary, John (died young), Solomon, Elizabeth, Thomas, William, Charity, John, and Benjamin (died young). The records of the descendants of this branch of the family are not complete.

Thomas, son of the immigrant William, had issue at Boston, Mass., by his wife Sarah of at least one son, named Elisha, but his records are also incomplete.

Thomas Rix, brother of the immigrant William, came

from Canninghall, England, to Salem, Mass., before 1649. He first married the Widow Margaret Ward, who died in the year 1660, leaving five children, Remember, Sarah, Esther, Thomas, and James. By his second wife, Bridget Musket, whom he married in 1661, Thomas was the father of a son named Theophilus.

Thomas, eldest son of the immigrant Thomas, married Susannah Marsh, but is believed to have died without progeny, since no record of his descendants is in evidence.

James, second son of the immigrant Thomas, removed from Salem, Mass., to Wenham, in the same colony, but returned to Salem and later settled at Preston, Conn. By his wife Margaret, he was the father of Abigail, James, Sarah, Margaret, Thomas, Lydia, Mary, and Elizabeth.

James Rix, elder son of James and Margaret, of Massachusetts and Connecticut, married Anna Herrick in 1711. The children of this union, born at Preston, Conn., were Abigail, Nathaniel, and Anna. By his second wife, Mehitable Palmer, whom he married at Mendon, Mass., in 1752, James had no further issue.

Nathaniel, the only son of James and Anna (née Herrick), was married in Concord, N.H., in 1743 to

Mary Peters. His children, born in Concord and Boscawen, N.H., included James, Peter, Sarah, Nathaniel, and Christopher, of whom the last probably died unmarried.

Of the last-mentioned brothers, sons of Nathaniel and Mary (née Peters), James was married before 1768 to Miriam Clement, by whom he had issue at Haverhill, Mass., of Nathaniel, Timothy, James, Lydia, Anna, and Peter Rix; Peter possibly died unmarried; and Nathaniel left issue at Littleton, N.H., by his wife, Esther Clark, whom he married before the year 1777, of Nathaniel, Esther, John, Ebenezer, Polly, George, Ruth, Clark, Hale, Margaret, and William Rix, some of whom resided in Stanstead, Canada.

Thomas Rix, the younger son of James and Margaret, of Massachusetts and Connecticut, made his home at Preston, Conn. In 1718 he married Jerusha Tracy, who gave him eight children, Deborah, James, Thomas, Jerusha, Sarah, Margaret, Theophilus, and Daniel.

James, eldest son of Thomas and Jerusha (née Tracy), married Hannah Safford in 1754 and had issue by her of Jerusha, Rufus, Ephraim, Bridget, James, Thomas, Stephen (died early), Jemima, Hannah, and Sibyl.

Of the last-mentioned brothers, Rufus is said to

have settled at Grafton, Pa., but his records are not complete; Ephraim, who resided at Preston, Conn., was the father by his first wife, Martha Brown, whom he married in 1790, of a son named Russell, and by his second wife, Susannah Stanton, had Martha Lucella, Betsey Chapman, Ephraim Bishop, and Mary Esther Rix; James married Hannah Preston in 1793 and had issue at Griswold, Conn., of James, Joseph, Hannah, Aaron, Prentice, Daniel, Sibyl, Joel (of New York), and Asa Rix; and Thomas married Phebe Harris before 1797 and settled at Petersburg, N.Y., where he left two daughters, Phebe Maria and Hannah Mary Rix.

Thomas, second son of Thomas and Jerusha (née Tracy), married Eunice Kimball, of Stonington, Conn., in 1740 and had issue by her at Preston of ten children, Esther, Eunice, Patience, Louise, Sabra, Thomas Tracy, Ethan Allen, Stephen, Betsey, and Ruby.

Of the last-mentioned brothers, sons of Thomas and Eunice (née Kimball), Thomas Tracy married Mary Jennings in 1802 and had issue by her of nine children, Henry Jennings, Thomas, Mary Ann, Betsey, Nancy, Sarah, Charles Allen, Phebe Maria, and Eunice Rix; Ethan Allen removed to Cheshire, Mass., and married Polly Bennett, but had no

progeny; and Stephen died unmarried.

Theophilus Rix, third son of Thomas and Jerusha (née Tracy), married Lydia Kimball in the year 1759 and had issue at Preston, Conn., of twelve children, Nathan, Molly, Phebe, Thirza, Lydia, Lucy, Elizabeth, Salla, Deborah, George, Peggy, and Theophilus.

Of the last-mentioned brothers, sons of Theophilus and Lydia (née Kimball), Nathan died unmarried; George married States Benjamin, but the names of his children, if any, are not available; and Theophilus was married about 1810 to Polly Hutchinson, by whom he had issue, chiefly at Fairfield, in Herkimer County, N.Y., of Ralph D., Lucy, Mary, Maria, Nathan, Frances Eliza, Lydia, Sarah, Chester, Harriet, Emma, and Alma Rix, some of whom removed with their parents to Belvidere, Ill., in 1857.

Daniel Rix, youngest son of Thomas and Jerusha (née Tracy), married Rebecca Johnson in 1762. His children, born at Preston, Conn., and at Royalton, Vt., were Susa, Garner, Joseph Johnson, Rebecca, Daniel, Elisha Lee, and Jerusha.

Of the last-mentioned brothers, sons of Daniel and Rebecca (née Johnson), Garner married Betsey Lyman in 1790.

and had issue at Royalton of eleven children, Ebenezer, Rebecca, Levi, Lucinda, Heman, Calvin, Florinda, Daniel, Mary, Joseph (died young), and Eliza Rix; Joseph Johnson married Cynthia Bingham, of Royalton, Vt., in 1796 and was the father by her of Johnson, Henry, Ira, Cynthia, Oel, Lucy Maria, and George Rix, of whom the last, at least, was born in Alexander, N.Y.; Daniel married Anna Cleveland about 1800 and was the father by her at Royalton, Vt., of Marshall, Jerusha, Filander, and Lyman Rix; and Elisha Lee was married in the year 1801 to Elizabeth Flynn, who gave him nine children, Almira, Lewis (died young), Emily, George, Charles (died in Alabama, unmarried), William, Lucy Flynn, Susan Durkee, and Edward Rix, all of whom were born at Royalton.

Theophilus, third and youngest son of the immigrant Thomas, was married in 1709 or 1710 to Hannah Foster. He resided at Wenham, Mass., and was the father there of at least two children, Samuel and Hannah, of whom the former settled in Prince Edward's Island. However, the records of this line are not complete.

One Richard Rix, who may have been another brother of the before-mentioned immigrants, William and Thomas, was living at Salem, Mass., in 1676, but evidently died

Ricks

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unmarried; and one Thomas Rix was living at Wethersfield, Conn., at an early date, dying there in 1690, but is thought to have left no male progeny.

Two of the name, evidently of German descent, came to Pennsylvania in the eighteenth century, landing at Philadelphia. These were Johann Christian Rick, who came over in 1750, and Johannes Rick, who came in 1764. However, nothing is definitely known of the immediate descendants of these immigrants.

John Rick, a German, son of Andrew and Christine (née Nohrbass) Rick, came to America in 1848 and landed at New Orleans, whence he removed, first, to Evansville, Ind., and, later, to Clarksville, Tenn. In 1853 he married Christena Hekel, a native of Alsace. Their children, born at Clarksville, in Montgomery County, Tenn., were John T., Henry A., Charles B., Frank E., and Julia J. Rick.

The Rix family of Arkansas is descended from one George Rix, who was born in New York, probably a descendant of one of the before-mentioned New York lines, and later made his home at Kalamazoo, Mich. George married Olive Northup before 1843 and had at least one son, Charles N. Rix, who settled in Arkansas.

Isaac Ricks, who, according to family tradition, was born in England in 1638, a descendant of the ancient Norfolk County family of Rix, settled in Virginia before 1669. He was a Quaker and a member of the Quaker Church at Chuckatuck, in what is now Nansemond County, Va. In early records his name is frequently written Rickesis. By his wife Kathren or Katherine, he was the father of Isaac, William, John, Abraham, Jacob, Robert, Benjamin, Kathren, Richard, Jeane, and James.

Isaac Ricks Jr., son of the immigrant Isaac, had issue, either in the Isle of Wight (now Nansemond) County, Va., or in North Carolina, by his wife, Sarah McKinnie, whom he married before 1698, of William, Isaac, Jacob, Benjamin, Robert, Richard, Abraham, Alice, and Elizabeth. Isaac Jr.'s will was executed in Edgecombe County, N.C., in 1748.

William, eldest of the last-mentioned brothers, married Esther Long and had issue by her in Edgecombe County, N.C., of Martha, John, Isaac, Mary, Richard, Robert, and Abraham. Of these, John left issue in Halifax County, N.C., by his wife Elizabeth of six children, Abram, Robert, Sarah, Elizabeth, Ann, and Mary Ricks; while Isaac was married in 1788 to Olive Fort and had issue by her in

Halifax County of twelve children, Martha, Orrin, Charlotte, Abram, Isaac, Richard, Mary, John Sherrod, Elizabeth, Benjamin Sherrod, Pheribee, and Robert Ricks, most of whom were the progenitors of families of the name in Alabama, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Texas.

Isaac, second son of Isaac Jr. and Sarah (née McKinnie), married Sarah Burke and removed with her to Edgecombe County, N.C., about the year 1752. Their children were James, John, Charity, and Jonah. Of these, James married Phebe Horn and had issue by her of ten children, Ann, Judith, Morning or Mourning, Rhoda, Robert, Josiah, Henry, Ely, Charity, and Jethro Ricks; John married Mary Holton and had issue by her, chiefly in Guilford County, N.C., of Isaac, John, Richard, Lewis, Jacob, Gideon, and Redmond Ricks; and Jonah or Jonas left issue in Guilford County, by a wife whose name is not known, of at least one son, named Jonas Ricks.

Benjamin, fourth son of Isaac Jr. and Sarah (née McKinnie), married Patience Helty and resided for a time in Lunenburg County, Va., but later removed to Edgecombe County, N.C. His children were Jacob, Joel, Lewis, Benjamin, Molly, Thomas, William, Josiah (died unmarried), Meridith (died unmarried), John (no surviving issue),

Abram, Sarah, and Patience. Of these, Jacob had issue by his wife, Bedie Whitefield, of Josiah, Esther; Rachel, Archibald, Marmaduke, Micaiah, Wilson (settled and left progeny in Georgia), Mary, Rufin, and Patience Ricks; Joel was the father by his wife, Rhoda Barns; of at least two sons, David and Amos Ricks, and had several children by an earlier marriage, all of whom died young; Lewis married Nancy Ann Joiner about 1768 and had issue in Guilford County, N.C., of Charity, Jonathan, Mourning, and Michil Ricks; Thomas was married in 1755 to Priscilla Williams, who gave him three children, Alexander, Urbin, and Wila or Willey Ricks; William had issue by his wife, Lydia Brantley, of David, Rhoda, John, Dickerson, Richard, Martin (died in infancy), Elizabeth, Mourning, and Malany Ricks; and Abram was married in 1763 to Rachel Bunn, who gave him nine children, Ely, Wila, Exurn, Isabel, Isaac, Duncan, Whitmer, Drucilla, and Nancy Ricks.

Robert, fifth son of Isaac Jr. and Sarah (née McKinnie), settled near Jerusalem, in Southampton County, Va. By his wife Mary, he was the father of Richard, Robert, Edwin, and Milley. Of these, Richard married Julia Wilkinson before 1782 and was the father by her of Joseph, George Wilkinson, Arnold W., Oswin, Deborah, and

Alfred Ricks; and Robert left issue in Southampton County, Va., of at least two sons, Robert and Edwin Ricks.

Richard, sixth son of Isaac Jr. and Sarah (née McKinnie), also settled in Southampton County, Va. The name of his wife is not certain, but his children were Martha, Elizabeth, Mary, Ann, Morning, Richard, and Thomas. Of these, Richard married Ann Garret in Quaker Meeting in 1751, and Thomas married Elizabeth Cornwe in Quaker Meeting in 1767; but the records of the descendants of these unions are not available.

According to some historians, one Joel Ricks, of German ancestry, was living in Kentucky before the year 1828 and was the father in that year by his wife, Elinor Martin, of that Thomas E. Ricks, from whom the numerous families of the name in Idaho are descended. There seems to be little, if any, doubt that this Joel was descended from the North Carolina family of the name.

Other early, though fragmentary records of the name in America include those of the Maryland lines. Among these are the records of John Ricks, of Anne Arundel County, Md., who died about 1678, naming in his will his mother, Elizabeth Ricks, of Suffolk, England, and his

wife Mary, but no progeny; Abigail and John Ricks, of Dorchester County, Md., in 1713; and John Rix, of Dorchester County, Md., who died about the year 1749.

Outstanding characteristics of the Ricks and Rix families of America include, in some lines, business acumen and the ability to accumulate wealth, enterprise, imagination, and resourcefulness, while, in other lines, recurrent traits include serious-mindedness, tact, quiet and retiring disposition, and, religious devotion.

Among those of the name who served with the Colonial forces during the American Revolution were Christopher Ricks, of Massachusetts; Christopher, James, Nathaniel, and Peter Rix, of Massachusetts; James, Lewis, and Nathaniel Rix, of New Hampshire; Daniel Rix, of Vermont; Benjamin, Edmund, Joseph, and Lewis Ricks, of North Carolina; William Rix, of North Carolina; Christopher Ricks, of Pennsylvania; William Rix, of Pennsylvania; and Benjamin, George, Henry, John, and Peter Rix, of Pennsylvania.

John, Thomas, William, Richard, Benjamin, James, Nathaniel, Theophilus, Peter, Ephraim, Daniel, Joel, Joseph, Stephen, Charles, Henry, Nathan, George, Ebenezer, Samuel, Robert, Isaac, Abraham, Jacob, Jonas, Josiah, and

Elisha are some of the masculine Christian names frequently recurrent in the annals of the Rickses and Rixes.

Bearers of the name who have been prominent in America in comparatively recent times include the following:

Richard Henry Ricks (1820-1858), of Alabama, lawyer and planter.

Robert H. Ricks (b. 1839), of North Carolina, soldier and financier.

Augustus J. Ricks (1843-1906), of Ohio, soldier, lawyer, and jurist.

Charles N. Rix (b. 1843), of Michigan and Arkansas, banker.

James Benjamin Ricks (1852-1906), of Illinois, lawyer and jurist.

Nathan Ricks (b. 1853), of Idaho, bank president.

Thomas E. Ricks (b. 1855), of Idaho, mayor and bishop.

Hyrum Ricks (b. 1858), of Idaho, probate judge.

Hiram Lambert Ricks (b. 1859), of California, business man.

William Benjamin Ricks (b. 1866), of North Carolina, Arkansas, Kentucky, and Tennessee, clergyman.

Alfred Ricks (b. 1870), of Idaho, business man.

Leonard Eugene Ricks (b. 1871), of North Carolina, physician.

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Jesse Jay Ricks (b. 1879), of Illinois and New York, business executive.

Hiram L. Ricks (b. 1890), of California, lawyer.

John Rick (nineteenth century), of Tennessee, shoe manufacturer.

Glenn A. Rick (twentieth century), of California, city planning engineer.

An ancient Rix (Ricks) coat of arms is described in heraldic terms as follows (Burke, Encyclopaedia of Heraldry, 1844):

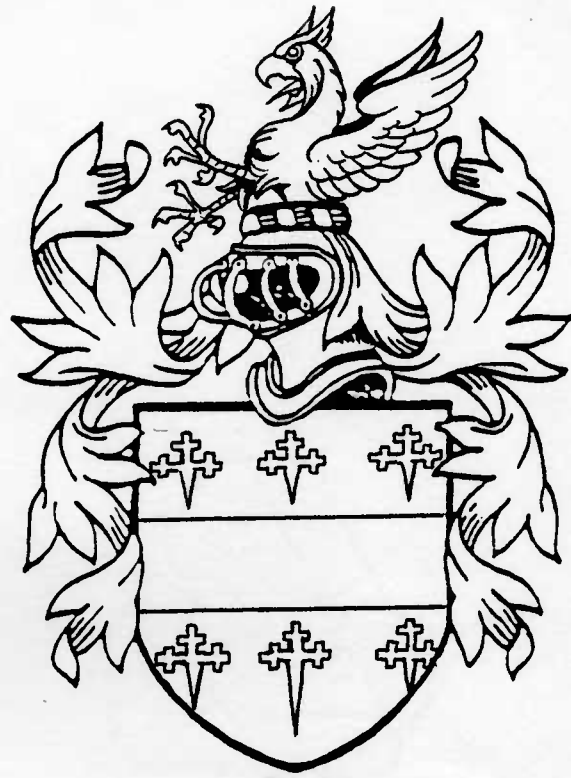
Arms.--"Gules, a fesse between six crosses crosslet fitchée argent."

Crest.--"A demi griffin proper."

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Ricks

WHY YOU HAVE A FAMILY NAME AND WHAT IT MEANS

Primitive personal names doubtless originated soon after the invention of spoken language, in the dark ages long preceding recorded history. For thousands of years thereafter first or given names were the only designations that men and women bore; and at the dawn of historic times, when the world was less crowded than it is today and every man knew his neighbor, one title of address was sufficient. Only gradually, with the passing centuries and the increasing complexity of civilized society, did a need arise for more specific designations. While the roots of our system of family names may be traced back to early civilized times, actually the hereditary surname as we know it today dates from scarcely more than nine hundred years ago.

A surname is a name added to a baptismal or given name for the purposes of making it more specific and of indicating family relationship or descent. Classified according to origin, most surnames fall into four general groups: 1) those formed from the given name of the sire; 2) those arising from bodily or personal characteristics; 3) those derived from locality or place of residence; and 4) those derived from occupation. It is easier to understand the story of the development of our institution of surnames if these classifications are borne in mind.

As early as Biblical times certain distinguishing appellations were occasionally employed in addition to the given name, as, for

instance, Joshua the son of Nun, Azariah the son of Nathan, Judas of Galilee, and Simon the Zealot. In ancient Greece a daughter was named after the father, as Chryseis, daughter of Chryses; and a son's name was often an enlarged form of his father's, as Hieronymus, son of Hiero. The Romans, with the rise of their civilization, met the need for hereditary designations by inventing a complex system whereby every patrician took several names. None of them, however, exactly corresponded to surnames as we know them, for the "clan name", although hereditary, was given also to slaves and other dependents. This system proved to be but a temporary innovation; the overthrow of the Western Empire by barbarian invaders brought about its end and a reversion to the primitive custom of a single name.

The ancient Scandinavians and for the most part the Germans had only individual names, and there were no family names, strictly speaking, among the Celts. But as family and tribal groups grew in size, individual names became inadequate and the need for supplementary designations began to be felt. Among the first employed were such terms as the Hardy, the Sterns, the Dreadful-in-Battle; and the nations of northern Europe soon adopted the practice of adding the father's name to the son's, as Oscar son of Carnuth and Dermid son of Duthno.

True surnames, in the sense of hereditary appellations, date in England from about the year 1000. Largely they were introduced from Normandy, although there are records of Saxon surnames prior to the Norman Conquest. During the reign of Edward the Confessor

(1042-1066) there were Saxon tenants in Suffolk bearing such names as Suert Magno, Stigand Soror, Siuward Rufus, and Leuric Hobbesune (Hobson); and the Domesday record of 1085-1086, which exhibits some curious combinations of Saxon forenames with Norman family names, shows surnames in still more general use. By the end of the twelfth century hereditary names had become common in England. But even by 1465 they were not universal. During the reign of Edward V a law was passed to compel certain Irish outlaws to adopt surnames; "They shall take unto them a Surname, either of some Town, or some Colour, as Blacke or Brown, or some Art of Science, as Smyth or Carpenter, or some office, as Cooke or Butler." As late as the beginning of the nineteenth century a similar decree became effective compelling Jews in Germany and Austria to add a German surname to the single names that they had previously used.

As stated above, family names fall into four general classes according to their origin. One of these classes comprises surnames derived from the given name of the father. Such names were formed by adding a prefix or suffix denoting either "son of" or a diminutive. English names terminating in son (or the contraction s), ing, and kin are of this type, as are also the innumerable names prefixed with the Gaelic Mac, the Norman Fitz, the Irish O, or the Welsh ap. Thus the sons of John became Johnsons; the sons of William, Williamsons or Wilsons; the sons of Richard, Richardsons or Richardses; the sons of Neill, MacNeills; the sons of Herbert, FitzHerberts; the sons of Reilly, O'Reillys; and the sons of Thomas ap Thomases (ap has been drop from many names of

which it was formerly a part). There are also German, Netherlandish, Scandinavian, and other European surnames of similar formation, such as the Scandinavian names ending in sen.

Another class of surnames, those arising from some bodily or personal characteristic of their first bearer, apparently grew out of what were in the first instance nicknames. Thus Peter the strong became Peter Strong, Roger of small stature became Roger Little or Roger Small, and black-haired William or blond Alfred became William Black or Alfred White. A few examples of names of this type are Long, Short, Hardy, Wise, Good, Gladman, Lover and Youngman.

A third class of family names, and perhaps the largest of all, is that comprising local surnames-names derived from and originally designating the place of residence of the bearer. Such names were employed in France at an early date and were introduced into England by the Normans, many of whom were known by the titles of their estates. The surnames adopted by the nobility were chiefly of this type, being used with the particles de, de la, or del (meaning "of" or "of the"). The Saxon equivalent was the word atte ("at the"), found in such names as John atte Brook, Edmund atte Lane, Godwin atte Brigg, and William Atwood, and Atwater; in other cases the Norman de was substituted; and in still others, such as Wood, Briggs and Lane, the particle was dropped. The surnames of some of the Pilgrim Fathers illustrate place designations. Winthrop, for instance, means "of the friendly village"; Endicott, "an end cottage"; and Bradford, "a broad ford". The suffixes

"ford", "ham", "ley", and "ton", denoting locality, are of frequent occurrence in such English names as Ashford, Bingham, Burley and Norton.

Commencing about the time of Edward the Confessor a fourth class of surnames arose -- names derived from occupation. The earliest of these seem to have been official names, such as Bishop, Mayor, Alderman, Reeve, Sheriff, Chamberlain, Chancellor, Chaplain, Deacon, Latimer (interpreter), Marshall, Sumner (summoner), and Parker (parkkeeper). Trade and craft names, although of the same general type, were a slightly later development. Currier was a dresser of skins, Webster a weaver, Wainwright a wagonbuilder, and Baxter a baker. Such names as Smith, Taylor, Barber, Shepherd, Carter, Mason, and Miller are self-explanatory.

Some surnames of today which seem to defy classification or explanation are corruptions of ancient forms that have become disguised almost beyond recognition. For instance, Troublefield was originally Tuberville, Wrinch was Renshaw, Diggles was Douglas, Sinnocks and Snooks were Sevenoaks, Barrowcliff and Berrycloth were Barraclough, and Strawbridge was Stourbridge. Such corruptions of family names, resulting from ignorance of spelling, variations in pronunciation, or merely from the preference of the bearer, tend to baffle both the genealogist and the etymologist. Shakespeare's name is found in some twenty-seven different forms, and the majority of English and Anglo-American surnames have, in their history, appeared in four to a dozen or more variant spellings.

In the United States a greater variety of family names exists

than anywhere else in the world. Surnames in every race and nation are represented. While a substantial number are of English, Scotch, Irish, Welsh, and Western European origin, brought to this country by scions of families that had borne these names for generations prior to immigration, many others have come from Central and Southern Europe and the Slavic countries, where the use of surnames is generally a more recently established practice. Some families had no fixed surname until after their arrival in America; and in other cases emigrants from Continental Europe or their descendants have translated or otherwise modified their names. These factors contribute to the difficulties encountered by students of etymology and family history.

Those Americans who possess old and honored names -- who trace their surnames back to sturdy immigrant ancestors, or beyond, across the seas and into the mists of antiquity--may be rightfully proud of their heritage. While the name, in its origin, may seem ingenious, humble, surprising, or matter-of-fact, its significance today lies not in a literal interpretation of its initial meaning but in the many things that have happened to it since it first came into use. In the beginning it was only a label to distinguish one John from his neighbor John who lived across the field. But soon it established itself as part of the bearer's individuality; and as it passed to his children, his children's children, and their children, it became the symbol not of one man but of a family and all that the family stood for. Handed down from generation to generation, the surname grew inseparably associated with the

achievement, the tradition, and the prestige of the family. Like the coat of arms--that vivid symbolization of the name which warrior ancestors bore in battle--the name itself has become a badge of family honor. It has become the "good name" to be proud of and to protect as one's most treasured possession.

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