

THE LIPPINCOTTS.

(CONTRIBUTED BY JAMES S. LIPPINCOTT OF HADDONFIELD, NEW JERSEY.)

Sons of the Quaker sires,
And daughters of a noble race of old,
List! while a love of olden time inspires
The simple story in these pages told!
Here shall ye find the faith that must prevail,
Mighty, through God, o'er every evil thing;
The faith that scorned the scaffold and the jail
Could, e'en in dungeons, hallelujahs sing.
A love of liberty their souls possessed;
Nor sought they freedom for themselves alone;
The truth they brought, their hearts had truly blessed;
And broad and deep their charity had grown.
No servile sycophants to worthless kings,
No semi-Jewish ritualists, were they;
But Christ's true light was their illumining,
And led their spirits by a better way.
The native of the wilds, whose lands they bought,
The swarthy Afric borne across the main—
To those the law of love and truth they taught;
From these they struck the weight of slavery's chain.
No fairer scene can history's page unfold,
No more Arcadian age shall time display,
Than Jersey annals in our "age of gold,"
Ere pure Astræa took her heavenward way.
Sons of the Quaker sires,
And daughters of those worthy ones of old,
Re-ignite, then, the pure and heavenly fires
That warmed your fathers in our "age of gold!"

THE name of Lippincott is one of the oldest English surnames of local origin. It has been traced to Lovecote of the "Domesday book" of William the Conqueror, compiled in 1086. Lovecote still bears its ancient name. It is an estate

lying near Highampton, Devonshire, England. The earliest known name derived from Lovecote is found in the rolls of the king's court of the time of king John, 1195, in which that of Roger de Lovecote is recorded. In the time of Edward I, 1274, the names of Jordamus de Loginggetot and Robertus de Lyvenescot and Thomas de Lufkote appear in the Hundred Rolls. The manor of Luffincott, now the parish of that name, on the west border of Devonshire, twenty miles distant from Lovecote, comprising nearly 1,000 acres, was the property of Robert de Lughencot in 1243, and remained in the family until 1415. This property is also described as having pertained to Robert de Lyvenscot in 1346. The above mentioned names, and many more which we could recite in a modified spelling, are evidently the same upon which the early scribes tried their skill and tested the plasticity of the English language.

Another branch of the family resided at Webworthy, pronounced "Wibbery," in northwestern Devon, where they held extensive estates for three hundred and fifty years. Their name was spelled Luppincott and Luppincott. The last of the line, Henry Luppincott, resided at Barcelona, Spain, and died in 1779. A branch of this family removed to Sidbury in East Devon, about the middle of the sixteenth century, from which descended Henry Lippincott, a distinguished merchant of Bristol, who was made a baronet in 1778 by George III; also his son Sir Henry Cann Lippincott, baronet, whose descendants, Robert Cann Lippincott and his sons, Robert C. Cann Lippincott and Henry Cann Lippincott, are probably the only living male representatives of this ancient branch of the family now residing in England. The residence of the last named is at Overcourt near Bristol. The Lippincotts of England held a good position in the world, as is shown by the numerous coats-of-arms granted to them. No less than eight coats appear to have been bestowed upon gentlemen of the name; some of them probably as early as in 1420, when John Lippincott of Wibbery is found bearing his, from which several others were derived by modification. One style, granted to one whose name was spelled Luffyngcotte, diverges widely from the others, and was probably granted at the time of the Crusades. "A black eagle,

sprinkled with drops of blood, and displayed upon a field of silver," is the description of this remarkable shield.

Richard Lippincott, the ancestor of the family in America, emigrated from Devonshire, England. He was probably nearly connected with the branch settled near Sidbury, which early inclined towards Puritanism. He associated with the settlers of the colony of Massachusetts Bay, and was made a freeman by the court of Boston, May 13th, 1640. In 1641, Richard and his wife Abigail resided in Dorchester, near Boston, when their eldest son Rememberance was born and baptized in the seventh month of that year. They removed to Boston, where a son John was born in 1644; also a daughter Abigail, who died in infancy, in 1646. In 1651, having become influenced by other Christian views, he withdrew from the Church and was excommunicated therefrom, fifth month 6th, 1651. Thus this conscientious man, having obtained a deeper insight into the nature of the gospel of Christ, was preparing to accept the views held by the Friends, though no books by the teachers of that sect had yet been issued. In 1652, he returned to England, and in the next year his son, Restored, or Restore, was born at Plymouth. This name was, no doubt, bestowed in commemoration of his restoration to his native land and to the communion of more congenial spirits. With these he early associated, was a partaker with them in suffering for his faith, and was imprisoned in the jail near the castle of Exeter in February, 1655. His offence appears to have been his assertion, "that Christ was the word of God and the Scriptures a declaration of the mind of God." His home was now at Plymouth, where he was not a quiet spectator of the wrongs inflicted upon the Friends, for, in May, 1655, as stated in Sewell's history of the Quakers, he, with others, testified against the acts of the mayor and the falsehood of the charges brought against them. In the same year a son, Freedom, was born, doubtless, so named in commemoration of his release from "durance vile." A daughter, Increase, was added to his family while residing at Stonehouse, near Plymouth, in the tenth month, 1657; and a son Jacob in the year 1660, at the same place, who died in 1689. In the latter year, he was again imprisoned by the mayor of Plymouth for his faithfulness

to his religious convictions, having been taken from a meeting in that city. His release was brought about by the solicitations of Margaret Fell and others, who influenced the newly restored king (Charles II.) to grant the liberation of many Friends. The colony of Rhode Island offering to the Friends freedom in the exercise of their mode of worship, Richard Lippincott again removed to New England, where he sojourned for a time. Having been preserved from persecution and the perils of the sea, he named his son Preserved, who was born here upon Christmas day, 1663, but who died in infancy. The names of the surviving children of Richard and Abigail form the words of a prayer, which needed only the addition of a son, Israel, to have been complete; thus: *Remember John, Restore Freedom, Increase Jacob and Preserve (Israel)!* This arrangement was doubtless accidental, having never been premeditated by the parents, though inclined to ways in fashion among the Puritans at that day.

A new charter having been granted by the king (Charles), incorporating the Rhode Island and Providence plantations, in 1663, and the New Netherlands having come into possession of the English in 1664, and a patent having been granted to a company of Friends from Long Island in 1665, who first bought the land of the natives,—Richard Lippincott was induced, with others from Rhode Island, to become a patentee with the residents on or near Shrewsbury river. He thus became a member of the first English colony in New Jersey, in which he was the largest shareholder. He was an active officer of the colony. In 1669, he was a deputy and overseer, and, in the next year, an overseer of Shrewsbury town. In 1670, the first meeting for worship was established by the Friends, which was visited by George Fox in 1672, who was entertained by Richard Lippincott. His residence was on Passequeneiqua creek, a branch of South Shrewsbury river, three-fourths of a mile northeast of the house of his son-in-law, Samuel Dennis, which stood three-fourths of a mile east of the town of Shrewsbury.

It is probable that Richard Lippincott made another voyage to England, and was there in 1675, when John Fenwick was preparing to remove to West New Jersey; and that he then

obtained a grant of 1,000 acres of land in Fenwick colony, having advanced the purchase money to aid that colonist. In 1676, the title was conveyed, the consideration being twenty pounds with a royalty, or quit rent, of two bushels of wheat, annually. This tract of land Richard conveyed to his five sons in 1679, but it was never occupied by them. Having at length found a fixed place of residence, Richard Lippincott lived an active and useful life in the midst of a worthy family, in the possession of a sufficient estate, and happy in the enjoyment of religious and political freedom. Here he passed the last eighteen years of his life of varied experience, and here he died on the 25th of the ninth month (November, old style), 1683.

The Dutch proprietors of New Amsterdam had long been engaged in the slave trade, and, at the surrender in 1664, the colony contained many slaves; some of whom were owned by the Friends. As early as in 1652, members of this society at Warwick, Rhode Island, passed a law requiring all slaves to be released after ten years' service, as was the manner regarding English servants. The court of Shrewsbury colony also made a law against trading in slaves, in 1683. These are the earliest instances of legislation in behalf of these oppressed bondsmen. Richard Lippincott was owner of several slaves, some of whom were set free under the will of his widow Abigail, who deceased in 1697, leaving to her children and grandchildren much real estate and considerable bequests in money.

Rememberance of Shrewsbury, eldest son of Richard, married Margaret Barber of Boston, and died in 1722, aged eighty-two years. He was a prominent man in the affairs of the colony, and an opponent, as were his brothers, of George Keith, in his attempt to seduce the Society of Friends from its faith. He had received a gift in the ministry which was usefully exercised. His friends sum up his life in a few words: "Rememberance Lippincott was a clerk of our Monthly and Quarterly Meetings many years, a diligent attendant of our meetings for worship; his labour was acceptable to Friends." He had four sons and eight daughters, four of whom died in infancy; they were Joseph and Elizabeth (twins), Abigail, Richard, Elizabeth, Joseph, William, Abigail, Sarah, Ruth, Mary and Grace.

The descendants of Rememberance through his sons, Richard and William, were numerous. Some of these who derive their descent from Jacob, son of Richard, have resided in Chester township, Burlington county, N. J., and have inter-married with the families of Clemenz, Rudderow and Matlack. Those derived from William, son of Rememberance, claim their blood through Wilbur, Samuel and Darius. Richard, one of the sons of Wilbur, removed to Philadelphia, and married Mary Scull, daughter of Jasper of Reading, Pa. From Samuel a numerous posterity has descended: first, through his son Joseph, who married Elizabeth Engle and lived for several years at Haddonfield, where he practiced the art of a silversmith, and acted as town clerk from 1777 to 1788. His children were Mary, born 1769, and married to Turner Risdon; Elizabeth, Hannah; and Samuel, born 1778, who married Elizabeth Edwards. Samuel resided in Philadelphia and Mauch Chunk, Pa., and was, for thirty-three years, associated with the business of the Lehigh Navigation Company.

Samuel, the son of William, the son of Rememberance, had several sons, some born after he removed to Westmoreland county, Pa. Many of their descendants now reside in Pittsburg and other western cities.

John Lippincott, yeoman, of Shrewsbury, second son of Richard, was born 1644, and married Ann ——. She dying in 1707, he married Jennett Austin, three years after, and died in 1720. His first wife left him eight children,—John, Robert, Preserved, Mary, Ann, Margaret, Robert and Deborah. Their numerous descendants reside chiefly in Monmouth county, N. J.; Green county, Pa., and in the city of New York.

Restore Lippincott of Shrewsbury, afterwards of Northampton, Burlington county, New Jersey, third son of Richard, was born in 1653, and married Hannah Shattock of Boston, in 1674. She deceased, and he married Martha Owen in 1729, and died in 1741. By his first wife there were three sons and six daughters; namely: Samuel, Abigail, Hannah, Hope, Rebecca, James, Elizabeth, Jacob and Rachel. Restore Lippincott was a useful citizen, exemplary in all the relations of life, and much respected by the community on account of his

regard for truth and justice. In 1703 and 1705, he was a member of the governor's council of West New Jersey, to which he had removed in 1692. In that year, he bought of Thomas Olive five hundred and seventy acres of land in Northampton, Burlington county, N. J., upon which he settled. About 1698, he made, in company with John Garwood, a further purchase of 2,000 acres, lying to the east of the present town of Pemberton. Restore had many descendants. Of those from his own son Samuel and the latter's son Samuel, who married Mary Arney, some now reside upon the first purchase, between Mount Holly and Pemberton. Among the most active have been James, the Rev. Caleb A., a methodist preacher, and his son the Rev. Joshua A., now professor of mathematics in Dickinson College, Pa., and Isaac K. of Freehold and Philadelphia, deceased.

The descendants of James, who married Anna Eves, have resided in Northampton, in Evesham and in Philadelphia. Among the latter and most noteworthy, are Joshua B., the distinguished publisher, Benjamin H., for many years a public man in Burlington county, and Aaron S., a successful cotton manufacturer in Philadelphia.

The descendants of Jacob, who was born in 1692, and married Mary Burr, daughter of Henry, in 1716, are numerous, living chiefly in Gloucester and Salem counties. Among them, however, was Joshua of Philadelphia, at one time a director of the Bank of the United States and president of the Schuylkill Navigation Company.

Freedom Lippincott, fourth child of Richard, described as a tanner, lived by Rancocas creek, where the king's highway crossed the same, about where Bridgeboro now stands. Having sold his Salem land, he located two hundred and eighty-eight acres in 1687, whereon he settled. To the trade of a tanner he probably added that of a smith, and could shoe a horse or "upset" the axes of his neighbors with some skill. However that may have been, we find that, in the summer of 1697, while shoeing a horse, he was killed by lightning. His widow and five children survived him, the oldest being but thirteen years of age. The children's names were Samuel, who married Hope Wills; Thomas, who married Mary Haines; Judith, who

married Joseph Stokes; Mary, who married Edward Peake; and Freedom, who married Elizabeth Wills.

The descendants of Freedom, through his sons, Samuel, Thomas and Freedom, are most numerous in the western townships of Camden and Burlington counties. Judith, who married Joseph Stokes, became the ancestor of many of that name. The descendants of Samuel, through his youngest son Aaron and the latter's son Samuel, who married Theodosia Hewlings, have resided in Evesham, near Marlton, Burlington county. Those now living and bearing the Lippincott name claim their descent through Samuel's sons, Samuel and Jacob.

Thomas, second son of Freedom, purchased in 1708 a tract of one thousand and thirty-four acres, extending from Penisaukin creek to Swedes' run, joining the No-se-ne-men-si-on tract, reserved to the Indians; from which the name, Cinnamonson, is derived. The village of Westfield stands upon the northern border of the Lippincott tract. The name was originally given to the meeting-house which was erected in 1800, in Thomas Lippincott's western field.

Thomas Lippincott was an active and useful man in the business affairs of Chester township, in which his lands were then included. The first house, built by him about 1711, stood where Samuel L. Allen now (1877) resides; and his descendants occupied the same and a second, built upon its site in 1800, for one hundred and thirty years. The first meeting of Friends in this district was held in his house, and there continued to be held until 1800. He married Mary Haines in 1711. Their children were Nathaniel, who married Mary Engle in 1736; Isaac, who married Hannah Engle; Thomas, who married Rebecca Eldridge in 1745; Abigail, who married Thomas Wills; Esther, who married John Roberts; Mary, who deceased; and Thomas, who married Mercy Middleton. Thomas had three daughters, namely: Patience, who married Ebenezer Andrews in 1742; Phoebe; and Mercy, who married Ephraim Stiles.

Nathaniel Lippincott, son of Thomas, settled in Goshen, Chester county, Pa., about the year 1737, where his two eldest children were born. Thence he removed to a farm on the road

leading from Haddonfield to Milford, now owned by Aquilla S. Hillman and brothers, in Camden county, N. J. The descendants of Nathaniel, through his sons, John, Caleb and Seth, are numerous. Those from John, through his son Thomas, settled in Chester township, Burlington county, N. J., in Philadelphia, and in the State of Illinois; General Charles Ellet Lippincott, now auditor of the latter State, being the most distinguished. Caleb and Seth have representatives living in the vicinity of Moorestown and Haddonfield.

The descendants of Thomas through his son, Isaac of Westfield, are also numerous through the latter's sons, Thomas, Isaac and Samuel; all of whom settled on part of their grandfather's tract in Cinnaminson and Chester townships, Burlington county, and in Philadelphia. Among them may be noticed Joshua, a cloth merchant, and Samuel R., a director of the National State Bank of Camden, N. J.

Although Freedom, youngest son of the first Freedom Lippincott, settled early in Cropwell, Burlington county, N. J., but few of his descendants are now found there. His son Solomon, born in 1720, removed to Upper Greenwich, Gloucester county, N. J. His name is commemorated by "Solomon's Meeting," which he built in that township. Another son Samuel, a member of Pilesgrove Meeting, Salem county, N. J., was a minister among Friends. Descendants of the younger children are now living in Evesham and Haddonfield.

Increase, only daughter of Richard and Abigail Lippincott, married Samuel Dennis, and removed from Shrewsbury and settled in Salem county, N. J. Some of their children married among the Mickles and Tindalls, and were members of the old Newton Meeting in Gloucester county, N. J. The name of Dennis has not been known hereabout for many years, and no trace now remains of this branch of the family.