

The
Corbett Family

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IN ENGLAND AND AMERICA

THESE pages are intended to summarize briefly for others, the results of researches made from time to time during busy years, as a recreation and a labor of love for the family name.

¶ Even in democratic America we may properly rejoice in a long line of brave and righteous ancestors; remembering always that "A man's a man for a' that."

¶ But better than this descent of our mortal life, is our true lineage recorded in the words "Beloved, now are we the sons of God." And we will not forget that man's chief end and real nobility is to glorify Him and to enjoy Him now and forever.

Henry R. Corbett
Kenilworth
Illinois
1915

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REFERENCES, AND SOURCES OF DATA.

Burke's Commoners; Burke's Landed Gentry; Shropshire Pedigrees; Shropshire Parish Register; Gentlemen's Magazine, Vol. 79; Lipscombe's Buckinghamshire; Morant's Essex; Eyton's Antiquities of Shropshire; Nichols' Leicestershire; Savage's Early Settlers of New England; Belfour's Milford, Mass. Acknowledgment is also made to Dr. Jeremiah Ringrose of London for assistance and information.

ROGER CORBETT OF NORMANDY.

The house of Corbett (written Corbet by some later descendants) was founded in England by a companion-in-arms of William the Conqueror, Sir ROGER CORBETT, second son of Corbeau, Lord of Pays de Caux, in Normandy, France. Sir Roger was the Conqueror's standard bearer at the battle of Hastings, A. D. 1066. This "ancient and distinguished family," as it is called in the heraldic records, has from that day to this occupied important estates in Shropshire, while branches of the family have acquired seats in other parts of Great Britain, as shown farther on.

ACTON-REYNOLD HALL, SHROPSHIRE:

The senior line, traced directly back to Roger Corbett, the Norman, is now represented by Baronet Sir Walter Orlando Corbet of Acton-Reynold Hall, in Shropshire. The present hall is a splendid castle built in the reign of Elizabeth. This estate has been the subject of many historical notices.

MORETON-CORBETT, SHROPSHIRE:

In the reign of Henry III. (1216-1272) a vast estate known as Moreton Turet, near Shrewsbury, in Shropshire, belonged to Bartholomew Turet, a descendant of the old Saxon nobility. About A. D. 1250 his daughter, Joan, married a younger son of the same Corbett family described above. By this marriage the estate, more extensive than any other of the Corbett name, became known as Moreton-Corbett. Upon it was built Moreton* Castle, whose splendid walls and picturesque ruins stand to this day.

* Moarton and Morton are other forms of Moreton.

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CHILDREN OF JOHN CORBETT:

ADDIE (Mrs. Geo. L. Hassett of St. Louis, Mo.).

ALVIN SIDNEY (died in childhood).

KATE (Mrs. B. R. White of Moberly, Mo.). Her children—*Addie, George, Edna, Allen.*

JOHN (died in childhood).

CHILDREN OF HENRY MARTYN CORBETT:

ARTHUR CHESNUT (died in childhood).

HENRY RICHMOND; married Jennie E. McLain. Children—*Richmond, Paul, Henry.*

VIRGINIA HARBERT, of Ft. Collins, Colorado.

MARY ANNA (Mrs. M. Carl Smith of Ft. Collins, Colorado). Children—*Ralph, Genevieve, Katharine.*

ELLEN ALBERTA (Mrs. Henry Fox, of Nelson, Nebraska). Children—*Fern* (died in childhood), *Virginia, Elizabeth, Henry.*

LINNIE RACHEL (Mrs. Frank G. Willson, of Newtonville, Mass.). Her daughter, *Martha.*

ANNA RICHMOND (died in infancy).

CHILDREN OF MARY CORBETT (Mrs. J. L. C. Richards):

LILLIAN V. (Mrs. Kirk G. Morley). Children—*Ethel, Dean, Earl, Roy, Lillian, Clarence* (Deceased), *Kirk, Jr.* (Deceased), *Herbert.*

WILLIAM P. (married Lora A. Cowan). Children—*Theodore, Bernice, Mildred* (Deceased).

KATIE C. (Mrs. Edward H. Charles). Children—*Pearl, Mary, Lillian.*

JOHN L. C. (married Mildred Waldron). Child—*Aleda.* (Married, second, Katie Threlkell). Children—*Clark, Chester, Harbert.*

MARY H. (Mrs. Adam J. Baskett).

HARRY H. (married Grace Goyer). Children—*Mabel, Carol.*

GUERNSEY A. (married Lulu Smith). Children—*Margaret, John, Vivian.*

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OTHER CORBETT RESIDENCES:

In England—Families belonging to the same line:

Adderley Hall, Drayton, Shropshire. Residence of Maj. Reginald Corbet, descendant of Sir Robert Corbet-Corbet, Baronet.

Chilton Moor, County Durham. Residence of Vincent Charles Stuart Wortley Corbett.

Cotonhurst, Shrewsbury. Residence of Thomas Corbett, J. P.

Donnington House, Camberley, Surrey. Residence of Hon. Emily I. Corbett, daughter of Baron Sherborne.

East Stonehouse, Plymouth. Residence of Wm. Edward Corbett, J. P.

Elsham Hall, Elsham, Lincolnshire. Residence of Sir Francis Edmund George Astley-Corbett, descendant of Baronet Corbett of Everleigh, Wiltshire.

Kinnersley House, Shrewsbury. Residence of Dowager Lady Caroline A. Corbet.

Linslade, Buckinghamshire. Descendants of Sir Andrew Corbett.

London. Home of Sir Vincent Edwin Henry Corbet.

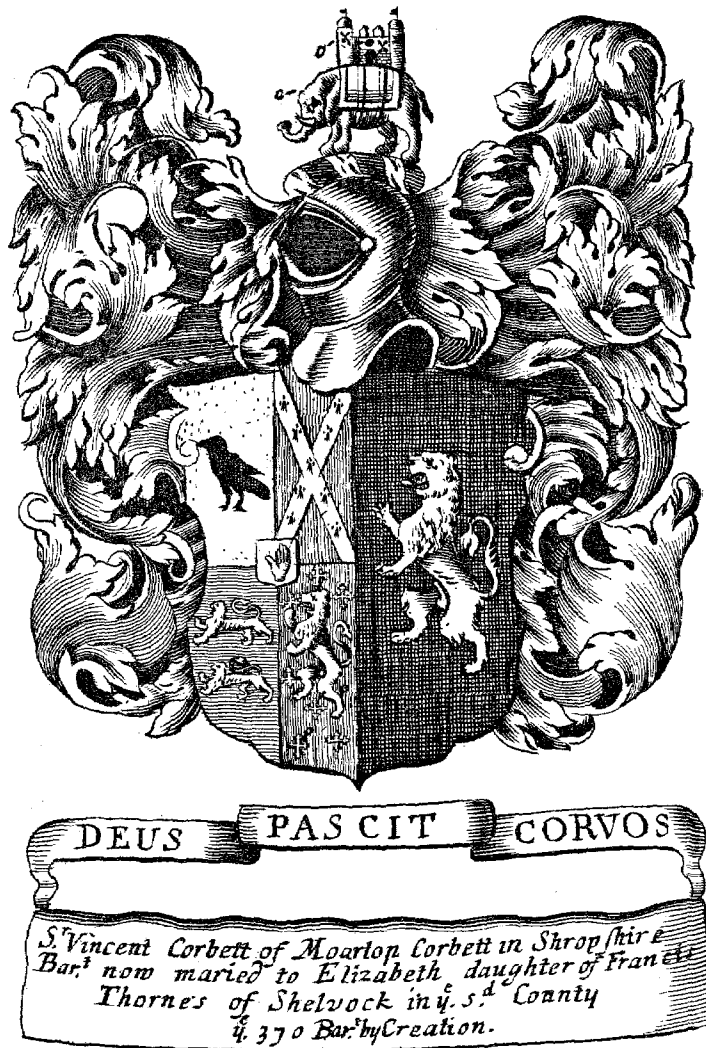
Longmore, Chaddesley Corbett, Kidderminster. Residence of Edward Corbett, J. P.

Longnor, Leebotwood, Shrewsbury. An estate held continuously by the Corbett family for five centuries. Residence of Edward Corbett, J. P.

The Old Granary, Cambridge. Residence of Lady Georgina Corbett.

Radmore, Dorrington, Shrewsbury. Residence of Edward Richard Trevor Corbett, J. P.

Sundorne Castle, Shropshire. A handsome Gothic structure of lace-work battlements and towers, near Shrewsbury, long occupied by Corbett descendants.



SIR VINCENT CORBETT'S "TOTEM POLE"

Ancestral emblems and honors are displayed by the Alaskan natives on the family totem pole. Our Anglo-Norman predecessors blazoned theirs on the Coat of Arms! In this old print the different family emblems and achievements are arranged according to the heraldic usage of the time.

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The present manor house dates from about 1650. It was begun by Sir Richard Corbett and completed by his brother, Sir Vincent Corbett, who was created a baronet. His name appears on the old print of the coat of arms, which is presented herewith, and which dates back to this period. Sir Vincent married first, Elizabeth Thorne, and second, Sarah, daughter of Sir Robert Monson.

ROBERT CORBETT OF MASSACHUSETTS.

About the same time, probably about 1660, a younger member of the same family named Robert Corbett, emigrated to New England. While he may have been impelled in part by religious zeal or by love of adventure, it seems probable that the political changes following the death of Oliver Cromwell in 1658, may have supplied the immediate motive for taking up his residence in the new world. It is known that the Corbetts were for the most part on the side of Cromwell in the Civil War, and had reason to fear the vengeance of Charles II. Hon. Miles Corbett was one of the judges that sentenced Charles I., and was executed with others at Charing Cross after the Restoration, meeting his fate with calm defiance.

Little is known of Robert Corbett except that he fought bravely in King Philip's War (Savage's Dictionary of the Early Settlers of New England, Vol. I, Page 457). This war ended in 1676.

NOTE—The fact and the citation just given entitle all his descendants to membership in the "Society of Colonial Wars."

DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT CORBETT:

In 1682 he married Priscilla Rockwood at Weymouth, Mass., (afterward Woodstock, Conn.). His son, Daniel, born 1694, married Sarah Jones in 1717. He was known in the records of the time as "ELDER DANIEL CORBETT," and was perhaps a clergyman. His son, Daniel, born 1720, was known as "DEACON DANIEL CORBETT;" whose son, JOHN CORBETT, born October 22, 1746, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War (Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors in the Revolution. Vol. III, Page 996.

NOTE—This fact and the reference given, will entitle his descendants to membership in the Societies of the Sons (and Daughters) of the American Revolution.

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LATER DESCENDANTS

PENUEL CORBETT, OF JERSEYVILLE, ILLINOIS.

John Corbett married Lydia Cheney April 6, 1786. They lived at Milford, Mass., where their son, Penuel Corbett, was born March 8, 1789. He graduated from Harvard College and married Mary Ann Bourne, daughter of Shearjashub Bourne of Rhode Island. Mr. Corbett became a teacher and taught in Prince Edward County, Virginia, where his first four children were born. He returned to New England and conducted an academy at Bristol, Rhode Island, where four more children were added to his family. Later he removed to Jerseyville, Ill., where he again engaged in teaching. This place continued to be the family home for many years.

After the death of his wife he married Mrs. Charlotte Bourne Sanford, widowed sister of his first wife. One daughter, Mary A., was born to them in Jerseyville.

DESCENDANTS OF PENUEL CORBETT:

SHEARJASHUB BOURNE, born Virginia, January, 1822; died unmarried, in Missouri, aged twenty-nine.

JOHN, born Virginia, September 1823; married Albacinda Gaston, and lived at Jerseyville, Ill.

SUSAN, born Virginia, 1825; died in infancy.

VIRGINIA, Born Virginia, July 31, 1826, and named for her native State; married Isaac Harbert, 1856.

KATHARINE NEAL, born Bristol, R. I., August 14, 1828; married John A. Chesnut, 1855; lived at Springfield, Ill.

RACHEL BOURNE, born Bristol, R. I., December 14, 1830; married Abner C. Hinton, 1854, who died in 1877; married Edwin S. Wells of Lake Forest, Ill., December 14, 1891.

HENRY MARTYN, born at Bristol, R. I., December 14, 1832; married 1860 to Melinda E. Richmond; died at Nelson, Neb., 1886.

CYRUS A., twin brother of Henry M.; died in infancy.

MARY A., born Jerseyville, Ill., February 12, 1836; married John L. C. Richards of Jerseyville in 1860; died 1894.



Coat of Arms Complete



Shield and Crest Only

PRINTS FROM OLD HERALDIC CATALOGS

PARTS OF THE COAT OF ARMS:

Shield—The part with a colored surface or background (the "*Field*") upon which the "*Charge*" (the device painted on the Field) is blazoned.

Helmet—Different colors, forms, attitudes, and protecting bars of the helmet indicate the rank and achievements.

Wreath—Commonly surrounding the Shield and Helmet.

Crest—The upper portion or device surmounting the Helmet and Wreath.

THE CORBETT COAT OF ARMS:

Shield—A Raven on a Field of Gold.

Crest—An Elephant bearing a Castle.

Mottoes—Above the Crest, "*Virtutis Laus Actio*" (Deeds are the Praise of Virtue). Below the Shield, "*Deus Pascit Corvos*" (God Feeds the Ravens).

COLORS:

On these prints, colors are indicated according to heraldic usage, as follows: DOTS, "Or," (gold); FINE VERTICAL LINES, "Gules," (red); FINE HORIZONTAL LINES, "Azure," (blue); VERTICAL LINES CROSSED BY HORIZONTAL, "Sable" (black).

On the Crest, the Elephant is silver or white; the Castle, gold; the Trappings, sable and gold.

