

THE RECORD OF A FAMILY DESCENT
FROM RALPH DAYTON AND ALICE
GOLDHATCH TRITTON, MARRIED
JUNE 16, 1617, ASHFORD, COUNTY
KENT, ENGLAND

A Genealogical and Biographical Account of
One Branch of the Dayton Family
in America

by

EDSON C. DAYTON



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DAVID DAY DAYTON, M. D.
1811 - 1881

The
Dayton Genealogy

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FOREWORD

The late Sir George Otto Trevelyan in his monumental work on *The American Revolution* remarked, or quoted the remark, "A truthful biography or history is a *rara avis*." The same is true of genealogy. The aim of the writer of these pages has been a real and not an arbitrary and fanciful pedigree. So far as he has gone into the lives of ancestors, the effort has been to give facts properly attested.

Much time and thought have been expended in compiling data, in correlating facts and in relating persons. In presenting the result he is aware that there might be improvement in arrangement and a more finished literary product, but he has not felt free to use his strength in this direction, and hopes the reader will agree with him that the substance is more important than the form, and is not without some real historical value.

More space has been given to an account of the life and character of his father, the late David Day Dayton, M. D., than originally anticipated, but he has been moved thereto by a realization of the fact that the year of the publication of this narrative marks the fiftieth anniversary of the death of that father. That memoir is presented under the form of exemplification. Incidents might have been multiplied but would have been on

the line of those given, and, therefore, would not add to the picture.

Twenty-one years ago, my brother, George D. Dayton of Minneapolis, Minnesota, established what is called "The Dayton Foundation". The initial amount set apart for benevolent purposes, in connection with the Foundation, was \$500,000. The project was launched at a meeting of the stockholders of the Dayton Investment Company, August 3, 1909, when among other resolutions adopted was the following: "That we here record the fact that this action is taken on the anniversary of the death of Dr. David Day Dayton who passed away August 3, 1881, and who with his wife, inspired their son George D. Dayton and Emma W. Dayton his wife, with desires to be of benefit morally to all struggling humanity." The Foundation at the present time has assets valued at over \$3,000,000. This testimonial to our parents is mentioned here partly for the reason that at some future time, if the Foundation continues as it is expected to do, an inquiry may arise as to its inception and history.

It has not seemed best to give a list of sources which would include many legal instruments (wills, inventories and deeds) and a great many volumes of genealogy, local history and town, county and state records. It is only just to mention the constant helpfulness of the writer's wife, Mrs. Amy D. H. Dayton, and their daughter, Miss Caroline K. Dayton. He is glad to acknowledge a special indebtedness to Mr. E. Stanley Welles of Newington, Connecticut, a professional gen-

ealogist, whose conscientious and very able work in his chosen field is carried on in the State Library at Hartford, Connecticut.

EDSON C. DAYTON.

Clifton Springs, N. Y.

Jan. 1, 1931.

ASHFORD REGISTERS

I AM glad to be able at the beginning of this narrative to give a reliable statement of the contents of the old parish registers in Ashford, County Kent, England, in so far as they relate to the Daytons who constitute the theme of this family monograph. It will serve to correct mistakes in names and dates which writers on the subject have unintentionally made, mistakes from which, so far as I know, no one of the many American publications concerning themselves with the Ashford sources, is entirely free. Realizing the interest of other branches of the family than my own in an accurate and truthful account of our common progenitor, I have been the more careful to ascertain and the more anxious to set down the facts established by a painstaking examination, made at my instance, of the Ashford registers. I wish at once heartily and thankfully to acknowledge my obligations in this connection to the Rev. Harry W. Blackburne, M. A., Vicar of the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Ashford, County Kent, England, for his prompt and courteous and satisfactory response to all my inquiries. I shall now quote from my correspondence with this cultivated English gentleman what I am sure will convince the reader of the thoroughness of the search he made and the finality of his report.

"THE COLLEGE, ASHFORD, KENT

Dec. 21st, 1929.

DEAR SIR:

The Verger and I have spent a long time searching the old registers, the writing in many places faint and indistinct, but the enclosed list will show you what we have found. I shall be pleased to look up any further enquiries you may wish to make, but I do not think we shall find more entries. We searched the entries with the greatest care. You will notice that the first entry reads Drayton. All the other entries are Dayton. A mistake when it was entered might easily have been made.

Yours very truly,

HARRY W. BLACKBURNE"

The enclosure in Mr. Blackburne's letter, so far as relevant to the purpose of this narrative, is as follows:

"Copied from the Register

June 16th 1617 Ralfe Drayton and Alice Tritton
widdow both of this Parish were
married

June 28th 1618 Ralfe son of Ralfe Dayton Bap-
tized

May 21st 1620 Alice daughter of Ralfe Dayton
Baptized

Feb. 7th 1624 Samuel son of Ralfe Dayton Bap-
tized

Dec. 3rd 1626 Ellen daughter of Ralfe Dayton
Baptized

Jan. 3rd 1629 Robard son of Ralfe Dayton Baptized

All these entries certified correct from the Parish Registers of Ashford Church.

HARRY W. BLACKBURNE, Vicar"

Dec. 21st 1929

In a second letter from Mr. Blackburne, whom I had asked to check up the spelling of two names in the above list, he remarks: "I have examined the register again with a magnifying glass."

In a third letter I asked him to go back a little further, to 1588, and see if there was an entry giving the baptism of Ralph Dayton, the husband of Alice Tritton. He went back as far at least as 1581 without finding the name. In this reply he again says: "We have made a most careful search in our registers. Many of the entries are very difficult to decipher even with a magnifying glass." The older the entries the more difficult, of course, they were to make out.

Who of the above *complete* family list came to this country? There can be no doubt about the coming of the father and three children: Alice, Samuel and Robard (or Robert). Ralph, the oldest child and namesake of the father, remained in England. It is probable that the mother and Ellen sailed with the others, for the Ashford registers do not record the death of the mother, or the marriage or death of Ellen.

A word or two may be added as to her whom Ralph married. The facts to be given are taken from

a book written by Mr. Ernest Flagg of New York, published in 1926, entitled "Genealogical Notes on the Founding of New England: My Ancestors' part in that Undertaking." I understand on good authority that the preparation of that work included research in England, by a personal representative. On page 299 one will see that the maiden name of Alice Tritton, widow, was Alice Goldhatch. She became the wife of Daniel Tritton, "householder," of Ashford, Co. Kent, England. On page 345 of Mr. Flagg's book is "The account of Alice Tritton, widow and administratrix of Daniel Tritton of Ashford," dated Mar. 1, 1614/15. Daniel Tritton died a month earlier. By her first husband, Alice had a daughter Bennet or Benedicta. This daughter became the wife of Thomas Stanley of Ashford, Co. Kent, England, later of Hartford, Connecticut and Hadley, Massachusetts. Alice Tritton, widow, as the Ashford Register shows, became the wife of Ralph Dayton in 1617. She shares with him the interest of their descendants.

RALPH DAYTON,
Immigrant Progenitor

I use the above heading to associate this ancestor with, and at the same time to distinguish him from, the family group who came over with him. As his children were young, it was probably his spirit that prompted him and carried through the great adventure. That spirit was born of the times and conditions in England and in the world at large. Westward the course of civil and religious liberty took its way. It was a rising spirit and nothing could daunt it: the long and perilous ocean voyage, a harsh climate, a wilderness unsubdued, the severing of family and social ties, the departure from the country of childhood and of forefathers never to return. It was no small matter. We are satisfied in our genealogical inquiry not to go further back than to the generation which gave up England for America in the seventeenth century.

There can be no doubt the subject of this section was of humble origin. He was a shoemaker by trade. The time was coming, however, in the development of "the new world" when Henry Wilson, a Massachusetts cobbler, should become Vice President, and Andrew Johnson, a tailor, should become President, and William L. Dayton, a descendant of Ralph, should be the candidate of a great party for the second office in the

government. Not only is this true, but it is also true that in coming to this country Ralph Dayton accomplished more for himself, for his family and for his neighbors than he could have done by remaining where he was. Frontier life has a marvelous power to develop an admirable self-sufficiency which can take care of almost any situation, no matter how limited the equipment. Fortunately associated as he was with men of high character and unusual ability, he acquired a respectable and useful influence on widening lines until he died.

Perhaps there should be introduced at this point a caution. It is easy to underestimate the standing among their neighbors of Ralph and those who were engaged in the various manual trades. I quote from a friend whose studies of social, political and economic conditions of the colonists have been pursued for many years: "In a body of strong-minded, honest yeomanry, the carpenter, mason and cordwainer (shoemaker) were respected and sometimes honored members of the community." As we go along we shall meet with abundant confirmation of this statement.

In a recent trip through the eastern half of Long Island I stopped at a farm house for directions. A gentleman of large physical proportions and hearty manner, answered my questions in a very simple and intelligible way, and then invited those with me and myself to look at "a few *real things*", as he styled them. He took us to a common farm outbuilding and called our attention to one thing after another of a large col-

lection of ancient implements: wooden moldboard plows, yokes, hand looms, guns, etc., all in working order; largely, perhaps all, identified with the early history of the eastern half of Suffolk County. He reminded us, that what the original settlers had, they made. The machinery, the utensils, the tools, inside and outside their dwellings, all their wearing apparel, were home-made. They had to clear and break the ground. They knew how to use the gun and the axe, though theirs was not "the pen of the ready writer." For two or three generations after the coming of the immigrants there were many who could not sign their names, but resorted to the use of a mark; but without the education that comes from schools, they, nevertheless, observed, they looked within, they thought things out, they took their place in the government of the small state of which they were a real and conscious part. How shall we sum it all up? What in a word gives us a true background, or setting, for a brief account of the colonists? One of our number referred to their hardships. Descended from them, having familiarized himself with all the details of their daily life, with a profoundly sympathetic understanding of his forbears and their fellows, he drew himself to his full height, filled his lungs and then in a low voice but very impressively vented his feelings in two meaningful words: "THEY WORKED."

The writer would like to add for himself that his recent genealogical and biographical studies have increasingly impressed upon him the greatness of the

pioneers, men who illustrated the old Greek phrase: "By Worth and Work."

The men and women we thus honor in our thought came very largely from the great English middle class. That was not the class which a hundred years later sought to oppress us with unjust laws and then to subjugate us in the War of the Revolution. It was the class which after nearly another hundred years, took in the principles at stake in the Civil War, sacrificed its own material interests and welfare, restrained its own government from interference and extended constant moral support to the government at Washington.

I do not know the year of Ralph Dayton's birth, but the year 1588, more often given than any other, probably approximates pretty closely the true date. I do not know the place of his birth. There is no reason to think it was Ashford as his name does not appear on its register prior to his marriage. He may have come originally from the neighboring parish of Maidstone and one might possibly find his name on its register. As Ashford was an early name for Brookhaven, Long Island, where Samuel, one of Ralph's children settled, so Maidstone was an early name for East Hampton, Long Island, where, after a decade in and about New Haven, Ralph and his married daughter, Alice Baker, and her younger brother Robert, finally made their home. Many of the first residents of Brookhaven and East Hampton, came from County Kent, England, from Maidstone and Ashford, and in more than one connection the name of Maidstone persists in the pres-

ent very attractive village of East Hampton. Indeed, in laying out their main street in East Hampton the settlers imitated a street in Maidstone, running it northwest and southeast, "as the hand on the clock points at the hour of eleven."

I do not know the ship on which this English family sailed or the year when they arrived. There are not wanting assertions on these points but they are hardly convincing. It is likely that the port was Boston, and the year between 1635 and 1639.

From 1639 to 1649, Ralph was a member of the New Haven Colony. The last to be settled of the five New England colonies was New Haven. The founders were Englishmen, some of them well-educated and of considerable means, and fortunate was it for the place they made their residence in the spring of the year 1638. The character of these pioneers appears from the fact that "they wished to form a little state by themselves, with no law except that which could be found in the Bible." In carrying out their purpose they adopted what was called "A Fundamental Agreement and Covenant of Habitancy." While Ralph Dayton was not among the original signers, his autograph signature was appended the following year, 1639, upon his arrival in the young colony.

There may have been some accumulation through allotment and purchases of land and labor expended upon them, in the ten years that followed in New Haven; but it may be the most important event of a family kind was the marriage of Alice to Thomas

Baker, June 20, 1643. Born in England, September 29, 1618, he was enrolled "free planter" November 29, 1639, in Milford, Connecticut. For fifty years, from 1650 to 1700, he was a highly honored citizen of East Hampton, Long Island, rendering valuable service to that community on various lines and leaving behind him an example worthy of emulation. He filled office after office, headed and helped conduct missions, and was a true friend of the family into which he had married.

It may be noted that there exists a list of the people given sittings in the New Haven meeting house, read in court and ordered recorded, March 10, 1646, on which list occurs the name of Goodman Dayton but not that of his wife. Just what significance attaches to the absence of her name the writer does not know. It is believed by persons more familiar with colonial customs, to whose attention he has called this omission, that it does not indicate her death. It is obviously not conclusive of it, and there are certain considerations which look the other way. Among them are the facts that Ralph had a wife in 1655, that there is no record of a second marriage prior to that date and no known reference to the death of Alice. Feb. 13, 1655, Ralph made over the use of certain property to Robert, in which instrument occurs this paragraph: "And after the decease of me Ralfe Daiton and my wife I do give all the other partes of my land, meadowe and housing that be above mentioned to him and his heirs lawfully begotten of his body forever. In witness whereof I set

to my hand." It is probable that the wife to whom he refers soon died, as the middle of the next year he married Mary Haines, the widow of James Haines of Southold. The weight of probability is therefore strongly in favor of Ralph having had two wives and two only, Alice Tritton and Mary Haines. It looks as if Alice was with the family both in New Haven and East Hampton.

Leaving New Haven in 1649, tarrying by the way in Southampton, the same being true of Thomas Baker and his family, Ralph and the Bakers were on the ground in East Hampton, L. I., in 1650. Robert joined them later.

In a recent publication, Ralph has been credited with being "the founder of East Hampton." He was unquestionably one of its early settlers; and he, Thomas Baker and Robert signed "the Original Compact or Civil Combination." It is also true that in 1650, Ralph went by appointment to Connecticut "to procure the evidence of their lands and a code of laws." The report he brought back was adopted.

There was a General Court, so called, and a Court of Three. Ordinary transactions were decided by the Court of Three. Larger matters and matters appealed, were considered and acted on by the General Court. The first three justices were John Mulford, Thomas Baker and Robert Bond. John Lyon Gardiner, descended from Lion Gardiner, the first proprietor of Gardiner's Island, wrote in 1798 an invaluable paper on the early days and happenings in East Hampton. In

that paper he has this to say of a certain official: "The constable was always a reputable citizen and had great authority: he by law moderated the General Court." On the Town Records is this entry: "Oct. 7th 1651 Ralph Daiton is chosen constable for this yere." He was called to other offices and other services as the years went on. He was mentioned, probably the last time, in the Town Records June 24th, 1658. His will is dated July 25, 1658.

He passed away very soon thereafter. "Sept. 22, 1658. At Quarter Court, the will of the late deceased Ralph Dayton was brought into the Court and approved by the magistrates." I have read that document in the original, and in it he remembers his "Son Robert", his "son baker", his "son Samuel" and his "son brinlye's children"; and returns to his wife the portion she brought with her.

The question arising at this point is: What are we to understand by the phrase "my son brinley's children" in the will? I have given a good deal of thought to this question. I suggest the following explanation as possible. A similar phrase immediately precedes the one being considered: "my son Baker." Baker, we of course know, was a son-in-law, the husband of Alice. It is logical to suppose that Brinley was a son-in-law. On that supposition who was Ralph's daughter, wife of Brinley and mother of Brinley's children? Why may it not have been the Ellen whose name appears on the Ashford Registers after Samuel's and before that of Robert? As was said earlier in this monograph, the

Ashford Registers have no entry of her burial or marriage, so it would seem likely that she came with the others. We find the name of Brinley at Southold and on Shelter Island.

It would appear further from the will, signed late in July 1658, that Ralph and his wife were at that time living in the house he owned at North Sea and bequeathed to Samuel. It is therefore quite possible that he died, and he may have been buried, at North Sea.

The late Judge R. P. Hedges, a distinguished citizen of Bridgehampton, descended, however, from one of the first planters of East Hampton, the commemorative orator at East Hampton on the two hundredth and then on the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of its founding and furnishing by request of the committee of editors in charge, the introduction to each of the five volumes of its Town Records, has in one connection this to say of the East Hampton Daytons: "The family has generally a good record for intelligence, industry, purity and worth. Many have achieved eminence."

In that early day and community, there were a number of strong and able men: Mulford, Osborne, Hedges, Ralph and Robert Dayton; but perhaps it would not be invidious in view of their great capacity for service and their marked magnanimity if we assign pre-eminence to Lion Gardiner and Thomas Baker.

On the Main street of East Hampton, in the center

of the street, stands the old "South End" cemetery,—where they laid away the fathers. The most notable monument is that of a recumbent statue erected to the memory of Lion Gardiner, possibly the first Englishman to establish his home within the territory of what is now the State of New York, a civil engineer by profession, of large wealth, of superior intelligence, who turned Gardiner's Island over to his son, removed to East Hampton and identified himself with its people and their interests, social, business, governmental, in the days when it stood in need of such a friend. The descendants of Thomas Baker have erected a stone, which preserves some interesting facts. One item inscribed, states that there is no stone to the memory of Ralph Dayton and none to the memory of his son Robert. Another fact recorded, is that Alice is buried at Amagansett, a hamlet three miles east of East Hampton. Then there is a long list on the stone of the public offices Thomas Baker had held.

There is a well kept rural cemetery at Amagansett, and a stone firm and erect and perfectly legible recalls her who, born in England in 1620, came to this country and lived until 1708, in the 88th year of her age. It is the only stone that marks the burial place of any one of that family group of Daytons who came from Ashford and settled on Long Island. A house, said to have been built by Robert Dayton and now known as the "John Howard Payne Memorial Place," still stands.

The Ashford shoemaker, having migrated to America, became one of the early settlers of New

Haven, an "interpreter to the Indians" and a trusted founder of East Hampton, the progenitor of twelve generations that the writer knows of, of a large number of descendants bearing his surname and carrying it from ocean to ocean and beyond.

RALPH DAYTON'S WILL

Samuel, son of Ralph Dayton, left no will; the will of the other son Robert has been published, but that of Ralph so far as I know, has never been printed. There is a special interest attaching to the will of Ralph as the head of many lines in this country. He had before the making of the will, largely distributed his landed interests.

I am indebted for the copy here presented, to the kindness of Mrs. Charles S. Dayton of East Hampton, Long Island, whose readiness to help me in any way she could, has been one of the pleasant features connected with the preparation of this monograph.

Mrs. Dayton's late husband, Mr. Charles S. Dayton, son of the Hon. Charles R. Dayton, was descended from Robert Dayton, through Beriah.

July 25 1658

This is the last will and testament of Ralfe Dayton.

I will that my sonn Robert shall be executor to administer upon all. My will is that my wife shall have three score pounds sterling according to our agreement to be paid as followeth: 1st that she shall have the house and land that is at Southold which was her owne in part of payment of the three scor poundes and the rest to be paide her out of the goodes she brought with her. Also my will is that my wife shall have her living in this house at Northampton till the time be ought of her owne which is now lett ought for a term which is about a year to come next December after the date hereof. But if she think good to give up this

house before the tyme be expired that she have liberty to live in it that she shal be fied from it when she please. Also my will is that my sonn Samuell shall have this house and land at Northampton and my cart and plow and two chanes and all my sowmaking tooles and cumeing tooles and the sorill horse which I had of Jonas Wood. Also my sonn Robert shall have my mortar and the half of the bees which is between Samuell. Also my will is that my daughter baker the two swarms that comes of Roberts peart of the bees. Also Robert shall have my chest and all that is in it and a feather bead and my littel gunn and the cheayn and a half a beck of lether. Also my will is that my sonn Samuell shall have a flock bead and a pello with a drawer to it. Also two coverlets and one white blanket. Also my will is to give my sonn baker twenty pounds starling to be payd in cattell. Also my will is to give my son brinlye's children twenty poundes starling to be equally devided betwext them if the groat do rise but if it does not, then they shall abate but not to rise. Also that when this groat comes to be valued and devided according to that will above mentioned that whearin the groat fales short of which I have desposed of to my children seavarally they shall abate proportionally according to what seavrall summs they have given to them or if it does rise above so to add proportionally. This is my full mynd and will—in witness hereof I have set to my hand

Ralfe Dayton

In the presence of

John Ogden

Samuel Clark also

J. Cooper—W. Ogden to be overseerr that rong be not done.

SAMUEL DAYTON

Older of two Immigrant Sons

From Ralph, whom I have denominated immigrant progenitor, I now turn to his son Samuel, who came with him and is second in the line of descent, with which our story is concerned. In point of age Samuel was between Alice and Robert. In youth he seems to have been a good deal of a rover. During the family's residence in New Haven, he was now at home and often on Long Island. In 1646, he was much of the time in New Haven. In a meeting of its Court, April 1646, there is this item: "Samuel Daughton wanting all armes, but he being lately come to towne and at p'sent provided, it was passed by." Later in the year, October 6, 1646, "Samuel Daughton absent one squadron day and one Lord's day fined 3s 6d if he can not give satisfyeing answer." To balance these mild reflections upon the juvenile Samuel, in all justice to him, be it here remembered, that when the sons of Ralph kept a herd of cattle one day and a cow on the way home in the dark, got a leg fastened between the roots of a tree, the owner of the cow brought the matter before the Court to recover damages for the loss of his cow. When the evidence was all in, the Court decided that the boys were "innocent," and that the owner should bear the loss himself, "as an afflicting providence of God."

For a brief time Samuel was at Flushing, prior to

1643. October 13, 1643, "It is further ordered (at Southampton) that Samuel Dayton shall be accepted an inhabitant and hath a fifty-pound lot granted unto him provided the said Samuel (being a stranger to us) weare of good approbation in y^e place where he last lived at Flushing and do demeane himself well heare for y^e time of approbation namely six months next to come." Samuel was still a young man only nineteen years of age. In 1649, his name is included in a list of all the townsmen. In June, 1654, at Southampton, Robert Marven acknowledged payment in full by Samuel Dayton for house and lot in Southampton, one of the witnesses to the acknowledgment being Ralph Dayton. In September 22, 1658, he was described in a court action as Samuel Dayton of North Sea, which is in the town of Southampton. That was also the date of the approval of Ralph Dayton's will which gave title of house and lot at North Sea to Samuel. That house and lot were sold eight years later, so his home may have been part or all of that period at North Sea. It was in 1668, May 8, that he purchased a home lot of Richard Smith at Setauket. That event brought him definitely within the Brookhaven township and colony where he was to continue until he died.

I wish to digress for a moment from the main current of our narrative, that there may be a clearer understanding of the local environment in which Samuel was to live through most of his adult life, and then pass away. Suffolk County embraces about two-thirds of

Long Island, extending eastward to Montauk Point and Gardiner's Island. The largest town in the County and on the island was first called Ashford, but permanently Brookhaven. That town is the westernmost division of Suffolk County and sweeps across the island from the sound to the ocean. The first settlement in the town was made in and about Setauket which is on the north side, next to the sound. Setauket was named from an Indian tribe from which the north section of the town was bought. The south section of the town bounded on the south by the ocean was bought from the Patchogue Indians. As one to-day drives along the southern part of the town from west to east, he comes upon a very thriving community called Patchogue, and then in a few miles he finds himself passing through the pleasant hamlet of Bellport, and a few miles further along, another hamlet called Brookhaven. There is the town Brookhaven and there is the village Brookhaven. One of the physical features which in the primitive days distinguished "the north side" from "the south side" was that there was more meadow land near the ocean than there was near the sound, so that the original planters living in or about Setauket, would sometimes drive clear across the island and back again to make and have the hay they needed for their stock, a distance from twenty-five to thirty miles.

The planters began to come into the section known as Setauket about 1655. This number increased until there were fifty-four of them, among whom, according to the historian Benjamin F. Thompson, was Sam-

uel Dayton. In the allotment of lands, one division was set apart for the church or minister, which accounts for

CORRECTION

P. 20, 4th line, "That town is the westernmost division of Suffolk County" should read, "That town is in the western half of Suffolk County."

winder, sent to Jonathan King of Boston his house and home lott at North Sea." The term cordwinder or cordwainer is entirely obsolete, is synonymous with shoemaker, and the record therefore makes it plain that Samuel followed the trade of his father. However, like his father, he came to own land, horses and oxen; and probably, as with the East Hampton people, his property, accumulated by allotments, was principally that of land and his occupation a tiller of the same. Judge Hedges described the planters of East Hampton as "wealthy landowners." Samuel may not have got so early a start in this direction as his relatives further East, but he followed on the same line in the acquisition of land on the north side and where Bellport now stands.

I do not know when he went over to the south side to dwell, but he was undoubtedly attracted by the greater amount of meadow. He is said to have been the first white resident in what is now known as Bellport.

In his relation to his Brookhaven neighbors, I have found nothing suggestive of reproach, but on the other hand, that he was at one time constable, at an-

other, overseer with Richard Woodhull, and repeatedly commissioned to treat with the Indians. I pass over many lesser expressions of confidence.

Turning to his family relations, we consider, first, his marriages, of which there were at least three. The first wife, so far as I know, and the probable mother of the older children, was Medlen Dayton, who with his consent, December 12, 1656, deeded four acres of land in the town of Southampton. In 1666, May 14, he and Mary Dingle were married (O. W. L., Vol. II, p. 134). In Orcutt's Account of Stratford, he states that the first appearance in Stratford of any one of the name of Dayton, was when Goodman Dayton "came over" to look after some horses belonging to the children of Elizabeth Beardsley, whose husband Thomas Beardsley had died in 1667. This Elizabeth Beardsley became the wife of Samuel Dayton. There were born to them two daughters: Elizabeth and Sarah. To the wife and these daughters, Samuel deeded property July 4, 1690, the day before he died. The deed was in effect like a will and couched in terms of affection and solicitude.

There is the tradition of a fourth wife, named Wilhelmina, and that she had Montauk blood. I have found no authority or semblance of responsible statement to substantiate this tradition. Of course, some future investigator may uncover what I have failed to find.

And now the children, of whom there seem to have been at least ten: Samuel Jr., Ralph, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Caleb, Daniel, Robert, Sarah and Elizabeth.

It is possible that Samuel, Junior, was the first-born. He was drowned in Long Island Sound between 1677 and 1680. He and two others took their grain to Connecticut to be ground. On the way back the boat was capsized, their hats found but their bodies were not recovered. The second son, Ralph, named after the grandfather, was the oldest son surviving Samuel and as such, at his own request, was appointed administrator of his father's estate.

It is quite likely that Abraham came next. The relationship is brought out in Book B, Brookhaven Town Records, page 33.

20 day of November 1680

"Samuel daiton have given unto his sonn Abram daiton that piece of land that his house stands upon being fenced in about two akers more or less as alsoe he have given halve (half) his Swamp lott at nue towne and the sayed Samuell daition have sold the other halve to him being fully satisfied for the same I say Samuell daiton have given freely and sould to his sonn Abram daiton his haire and assignes to have and to hould for ever the above said land."

The Town Records of Brookhaven (Vol. I, p. 61) contain the following: "Samuel Daiton have given unto his son (Iseck) daiton a pece of (land) that is of the reare of his home lott lying eastward as it is staked oute by Andrew Miller and Walter Malven and the land is given for part of his portion lying in the towne." —13 September, 1678. The name Iseck is an interpolation, made, I suppose, near the time the record was

written, and supposedly rightly inserted. There is on the Brookhaven Records, at least one other entry of transfer of land by Samuel to his son Isaac, in which the son's name is not an interpolation. Paternal affection is given as a reason for making the gift. Isaac afterward removed to New Haven and married Rebecca, daughter of Jonathan and Rebecca (Belle) Tuttle.

We now come to incidents connected with the children Caleb and Jacob, which suggest the hard necessities of the times in a large family like that of Samuel's, and the solidarity of himself and the relatives in East Hampton. The Town Records of East Hampton yield the following regarding Jacob and Caleb:

"East Hampton, Dec. 25, 1664.

This writing witnesseth y^t I Samuell Dayton have Disposed of my sonne Jacob unto my Brother Thomas Backer and Alice his wife for ffowerteene Years from the Date hereof he finding him sufficient meate Drinke and apparell & to doe for him as his owne During the s^d tyme & if both Die before he is then to be free."

A similar writing disposes of the son Caleb unto Joshua Garlick senior and his wife Elizabeth for the term of sixteen years. This arrangement was probably unsatisfactory, so four years later there was a change made:—

"East Hampton Aug. 26, 1668

This writing witneseth that wee Tho Backer and Robert Daiton being desired by samuell Daiton

have desposed of his son Caleb to John Jushup at Sougthampton and his wife mary for the time of twelve years and foure months from the date here of," &c.

On might reasonably think from the date given in the papers disposing of Jacob and Caleb that Samuel was a widower. It was two years before he married Mary Dingle, his second wife. In that case while he and the older children could work along, it may have seemed imperative that Jacob and Caleb of more tender age should have a home. I infer from the contents of the papers that they were respectively, seven and five years of age, in 1664.

These quotations from the East Hampton records enable us to fix the births of Caleb and Jacob approximately. Jacob afterward married and still later removed to New Jersey. Caleb died in Southampton, 1688, less than a year after Abraham's son Caleb was born, a pathetic association of name, of birth and death. Of Daniel and Robert, we hear in East Hampton. Their activities were of such a date that they can not be confounded with Robert's grandchildren: Daniel and Robert.

I have referred to the good will which existed between the East Hampton and the Brookhaven branches of the Dayton family. The evidence of it is not confined to the interest shown in Caleb and Jacob. In Ralph's will still extant, and in town records of East Hampton, Southampton and Brookhaven there are preserved proofs of cordial interrelation and

friendly offices. An illustration in point is that when an adjudication in the local court was unsatisfactory and an appeal taken to Connecticut, Thomas Baker and Robert Dayton united with Samuel and bound themselves with him in the amount required by the Court. We find the children of Samuel over in East Hampton engaged in different occupations. The house now known as the John Howard Payne Memorial Place is said in the pamphlet there on sale, to have been built by Robert Dayton, Ralph's son, and in 1685 to have been owned by Ralph Dayton who could have been no other than Samuel's son.

A friend who had been recently engaged in reading again his Homer, remarked to me that it had helped him to realize how in ancient times people had the identical feelings we have now. It would speak ill for us if we could read our early colonial history without sympathy and understanding. We feel a oneness, and it is to our credit we do. May we never get above it!

ABRAHAM DAYTON

of

Brookhaven, Long Island

In the preceding account of Samuel I have given proof of the sonship of Abraham, possibly the third son of Samuel and the one to carry on the line I am describing. Abraham's name appears on the 1675 and 1681 rate lists for the town of Brookhaven, and on the Town Records of Brookhaven from 1675 on. The only Dayton names on the 1675 rate list are Samuel and Abraham, on the 1681 rate list Samuel, Abraham and Ralf. Ralf and Abraham appear, one name after the other, as town trustees in 1693. In 1697 Abraham's is the only Dayton name on a list affixed to the call of a pastor. He was twice married, first to Mary Bearsley and afterwards to one Catharine. By the former he had a child called Caleb for Abraham's brother Caleb who died in Southampton in 1688. Two or more years after his second marriage, he bequeathed Caleb to Mr. William and Mrs. Jane Rawlinson of Stratford, Connecticut. In taking this course, I believe Abraham made a great sacrifice for what he thought would be for the good of the child. He was not only placing him in the home of respectable people who must have wanted him and did come to love and esteem him; but he was putting him where probably there were relatives of Caleb's

mother. Our reason for thinking this, is that in a deed signed by Abraham Dayton and his first wife, Mary, and Hannah Hulse and her husband, all four are mentioned as co-heirs and administrators of the estate of Joseph Bearsley; and, therefore, on the inference that Mary and Hannah were sisters, daughters of Joseph Bearsley, it is more than likely that there was relationship to the Beardsleys of Stratford.

I think it must have been a heart-breaking day when he took the child to Stratford, signed the instrument of bequest and parted with his son, probably his only child by his first wife. I will specify four things in connection with the incident or growing out of it and then lay the contents of the document before the reader. The first is, that the contents seem to be the expression on a momentous occasion of a man who realized what he was doing, serious, high-minded, and self-controlled. The second is, that the outcome of the arrangement was happy. The third is, that Caleb must have remembered his father with affection, as, when he was grown up, married and had children, he named his second son after his father, and the name of Abraham persisted in the family for generations. The fourth fact is, that in crossing the island and the sound with Caleb, Abraham was starting the family trek which led from Brookhaven to Stratford, up through Connecticut to Vermont, and then to Western New York and so on.

"Stratford Land Records,
Vol. 2, folio 497.

To al to whom these presents shal come know
y^e y^t I Abraham Dayton of Brookhaven on long
Island in y^e province of New York in America for
divers good and well advised considerations me
thereunto moving Have and do hereby give &
bequeath my son Caleb Daughton unto M^r. Wil-
liam Rawlinson and Mis^t Jane Rawlinson his wife
living in Stratford in y^e Colony of Connecticut in
New England: til y^e said Caleb shal attain to y^e
full & complete age of twenty one yeares being at
this time eight yeares and 5 months old they & each
of them to have & exeresis ful parental power in
educateing instructing imploying improving pro-
viding for & bringing up y^e s^d Caleb in al respects
as if y^e said Caleb was there own natural child
hereby willing & commanding my said son Caleb
Dayton to yield Ready obedience to al their law-
ful commands & to pay from time to time al y^e
Respects & Reverance to y^e above s^d M^r Wm.
Rawlinson & Jane his wife as is a child to his
natural parents thus having freely given & be-
queathed my said son to y^e above s^d M^r Wm. Raw-
linson & Mis^t Jane Rawlinson his wife as above
exprest til he shal arive & attaine to y^e full age of
twenty one yeares. I freely leave him to there pru-
dent care & education no wayes Douting of there
pious care & godly endeavors to bring him up in y^e
feare of God in witness whereof & for confirmation
of al y^e above written I have hereunto subscribed
my name and have fixed my seal in Stratford this
12th day of May in y^e yeare of or lord God 1696.

Signed sealed &
delivered in
presence of vs
Robert bassett
Andrew patterson

The mark of
A D (Seal)
Abraham Daiton

Exactly Recorded from y^e
original assignmt & compared
May 23rd 1707

P^r me Joseph Curtiss
Record^r—

In 1698, Abraham and Katharine deeded property to a party living in New York. In 1712, the Town turned over to Katharine Dayton and "her eldest son Jonathan" certain lands for use as long as either lived. Those lands were at "nue towne," near Setauket. The action of the Town would seem to imply that for Abraham there was a second family of children, that he lived in the Town of Brookhaven until his death, and that he expired before 1712. Dwelling probably during his latter life on the North Side, he was only the width of the Sound from Stratford, the Rawlinsons and his son Caleb.

My attention has been directed to the fact that in 1725, there was an entry made in the Brookhaven Town Records concerning one "Abraham Dayton's Negro Woman". It would appear that one who had been a slave of Abraham, later became a charge on the Town. It is only true to history to admit that Abraham Dayton was not the only Dayton to own a slave in that early time and on Long Island. Slavery was not uncommon

on Long Island, and I am informed that now in that section of our state, as in the South, the names of primitive families are perpetuated among the colored people. Dayton, Smith, Hedges, Brewster, etc., are names to be found among the colored people now living in Suffolk County. I may add that there was also on Long Island, white slavery in those colonial times, just as there was in the South. The principle of class distinction is wrong. It can not be restricted to color. It is not self-limiting.

Primitive conditions made for close contacts. There was of necessity much in common. Each settlement, generally speaking, was shut out from the world and shut in to itself. This very intimacy of life and interdependence in so many directions, occasioned not infrequently sharp differences. In a word, the situation was fraught with provocations peculiar to itself. Friction was not uncommon. Harsh words would be spoken, from which liability neither sex was exempt. Retraction was not easy. Conciliation did not always succeed. So it came about that cases of slander feature the early court proceedings. As time went on those cases became fewer and fewer. Samuel's first wife, in their Southampton days, was found guilty of defamation and he was obliged to pay a fine on her account. Hannah Hulse, for a hasty word regarding another's honesty, made a very humble retraction before the Brookhaven Court. The standards and the courts of that day were more strict and reached down into the daily conduct in a more exacting way than later on. Human nature

was the same then as now. We of this day probably go further in condoning its lapses and excesses.

CALEB DAYTON
of
Stratford and Newtown, Connecticut

Caleb was eight years and five months old, as we have learned from the foregoing paper, when he passed into the hands of the Rawlinsons. I think there is every reason to believe that they accepted this charge with a deep sense of responsibility, that they were respectable, intelligent, substantial members of the community in which they lived. Two years later, in 1698, they had the child baptized, by whom I do not know. I infer that they had been of the Church of England. Mr. Rawlinson, or he and others, petitioned the Bishop of London for a minister. There was, of course, a strong feeling in all New England against the Episcopal form of government. The leanings of the Rawlinsons may have prejudiced to some extent his fellow townsmen against him. He and a few others at one time resisted the levy for supporting the local church and were temporarily jailed. We, who are not Episcopalians, can understand the desire of the colonists for a homogeneous community but can also see and admit that Mr. Rawlinson, in the stand he took, was on the side of civil and religious liberty. I think Caleb must have been impressed favorably with the character of those by whom he was brought up and with their independent and ecclesias-

tical attitude, and that he handed down to his children this feeling; for, while the Episcopalians were for a long period in disfavor, at least one of Caleb's sons was among the few who on a certain occasion declared his preference for the Episcopal order. That Caleb was dutiful and affectionate toward these foster parents and loved by them, is proven by Mr. Rawlinson's will, which I quote in part. It is obvious that the Rawlinsons had no children of their own who survived them, and that Mrs. Rawlinson pre-deceased her husband.

"District of Fairfield

Probate Records, Vol. 5. 1702—1718—1750, P. 204.

Will of William Rawlinson of Stratford

Dated Feb. 13-1712

Sworn to March 15, 1711/12

Recorded May 19, 1712

"I freely give an Bequeath unto Elizabeth Beardsly for her Care an kind Service an Labour two Cowes and my bed I Lye upon an furniture to it to be paid by my Executor hereafter named.

"Item my Will is and I do hereby make and ordaine my Loveing Adopted Son Caleb Daughton Soul heir an Executor of all my whole Estate not given and disposed of by this my Will."

Inventory presented March 3, 1712.

Total amount £483 - 04 - 02

One item reads, "to Land called Quaker's Farm 150^u"

Mr. Rawlinson died in 1712; Caleb was married to Mary Foote, December 10, 1713, and the names of their children were: Josiah, Abraham, Jonah,

Daniel, Amos, Mary, Phebe. A quotation from Caleb's will seems desirable.

Extract from the will of Caleb Dayton of Newtown, Connecticut, dated November 12, 1730.

"Item to My Beloved Children, Josiah, Abraham, Jonah, Daniel, Amos, Mary & Phebe after the Payment of My Debts as Above Expressed (and Save the Improvement As Above Given to My Beloved wife) I Bequeath and will all My Remaining Real Estate to be to them Equally Divided Except ten pounds As Money w^c I give to My Eldest Son Josiah Over and Above his Brethren and Sisters and My wifes third part, after her Decease to be divided among the Surviving Children by y^e Same Rule as above."

The inventory of Caleb Dayton's estate was taken January 18, 1730/31.

No footing, but he had a

"1 bible	0-10-0
1 grate book	0-15-0
and	
2 other book	0- 8-0"

The oldest child of Caleb and Mary (Foote) Dayton was Josiah and he will be the next link in our family chain; but before taking him up a reference to three others of their children may have some interest. The second son of Caleb was named Abraham. Having married Abiah Beardsley of Stratford, April 14, 1743, he and his wife settled the next year in New Milford, and later, about four miles from New Miford near the Northville cemetery. He had a sawmill and a gristmill

on his property which was near the burying ground, and his was the first interment in the Northville cemetery. The marker at his grave still stands and reads:

"Abraham Dayton d. 1780 aged 66

'My friends I am here
The first that came
And in this place
For you there's room' "

It is a rural cemetery in good condition, and the inscription prompted and has kept alive an effort to preserve the identity of location and person. It may help some other tracing his own pedigree to know that the children of Abraham and Abiah were: Eunice, Abraham, Elizabeth, Josiah, Elizabeth, Reuben, Friend. The first Elizabeth died Oct. 20, 1757.

The third son of Caleb, Jonah, is buried in the beautiful Newtown cemetery. The daughter Phebe died when young. On Dec. 31, 1735, "Mary Dayton of Newtown and Ebenezer Baldwin of New Milford were married." This was undoubtedly the widow of Caleb. The Baldwins had a daughter whom they named Phebe, in memory of Phebe Dayton who had died. The removal of the mother from Newtown to New Milford tended to draw her children after her, and thus to continue the northward trend of the line contemplated in our sketch.

Thus far, in succession, that line has given us: Ralph the progenitor immigrant, his son, Samuel, Abraham of Brookhaven and Caleb of Stratford. Be-

fore passing to Josiah, the son of Caleb, I am inclined to recall references, heretofore made, connecting the Daytons of Long Island with the Beardsleys of Stratford, Connecticut, and the Bearsleys of Long Island. I assume a relationship between those who in Stratford spelt their name Beardsley and those who on Long Island spelt it Bearsley. Samuel, son of Ralph had an interest in the Stratford Beardsleys, marrying Elizabeth, the widow of Thomas Beardsley; Samuel's son, Abraham married Mary, probably the daughter of Joseph Bearsley, and was associated in business with one Thomas Bearsley; Elizabeth Beardsley of Stratford cared for Caleb's foster father, William Rawlinson, in his last sickness; and Caleb's second son, Abraham, married Abiah Beardsley of Stratford. The interest Samuel was the first to have, seems to have been handed down and these two families to have been interlinked by marriage and other associations for at least four generations.

JOSIAH DAYTON

of

Newtown and New Milford, Connecticut

Josiah Dayton was the oldest child of Caleb and Mary (Foote) Dayton. He was born September 20, 1714, in Newtown, Connecticut. He died in New Milford, Connecticut, May 18, 1758. He saw service as a private in the French and Indian War.

He married (1) CATHERINE , who died January 31, 1743

(2) HANNAH L. BOARDMAN, who was born January 12, 1717/18, and who died May 25, 1758

Probate Files at the Connecticut State Library, Hartford, give the following information:

Estate of JOSIAH DAYTON late of New Milford, deceased.

Persons named:

1. CALEB, eldest son
2. ISAAC DATON
3. PHEBE BUCK
4. JOSIAH DATON
5. DANIEL DATON
6. ELI DATON
7. KATHARINE DATON
8. SARAH DATON

There was also a daughter, Hanna. Josiah Dayton, his second wife and the child, Hanna died within a few days of each other. They may, or may not, have been victims of an epidemic. The father and mother were in middle life, respectively 44 and 40 years old. Hannah (Boardman) Dayton's father, Rev. Daniel Boardman, a graduate of Yale College, 1709, was the first settled minister at New Milford, Connecticut.

CALEB DAYTON

of

New Milford, Connecticut, and Arlington, Vermont

Caleb Dayton was born January 19, 1735, the oldest child of Josiah and Catherine Dayton. He married Sarah Taylor, April 19, 1759. The three children born to them in Connecticut were:

JOSIAH, born June 28, 1761, in New Milford

THOMAS, " Jan. 11, 1767, " " "

DANIEL, " Feb. 14, 1769, " " "

In 1760, Caleb and neighbors living in New Milford, applied to the Governor of New York for a tract of land, probably in the territory now known as the State of Vermont, but then in dispute of ownership between New Hampshire and New York. It is assumed that the grant was not made. Between 1765 and 1780 there were a number of families in New Milford and thereabouts, which removed to Arlington, Vermont. Among them, Caleb Dayton, about 1770, made this change. I give this date because Daniel, as above, was born in New Milford in 1769, and in 1771 occurred the birth of a son Abraham in Vermont. The children born in Vermont were:

ABRAHAM DAYTON, born Feb. 16, 1771, in Arlington

SARAH DAYTON, born June 6, 1773, in Arlington

PARTHENA DAYTON, died Aug. 14, 1777, in Arlington, aged 3 years

CALEB DAYTON, born Mar. 18, 1778, in Arlington

PARTHENA DAYTON, born Jan. 28, 1781, in Arlington

ISAAC NOBLE DAYTON, born Nov. 11, 1784, in Arlington

QUICYANNOCE DAYTON, born Jan. 23, 1787, in Arlington

In the West Arlington cemetery, there are six graves. From the stones we learn:

CALEB died Mar. 31, 1813

SARAH " Nov. 19, 1801

(son) THOMAS " Feb. 16, 1813

(daughter) PARTHENA " Aug. 14, 1777, in her 3rd year.

Two children of son DANIEL:

SABRINA died April 24, 1807, aged 11 mos. and 3 days.

REUBEN, Aug. 10, 1803, in his 6th year.

The stones are marble slabs, erect and firm, and inscriptions legible. The name is spelled indifferently with or without Y.

The Adjutant General of Vermont has sent me, under seal, the following as a transcript from the records on file in his office:

"Extract: Caleb Dayton

Service as a Sergeant in Capt. M. Lyon's Company for one day for an alarm in March, 1780, and for nineteen days for an alarm in Oct., 1780.

Vt. Rev. Rolls—page 172.

Service for thirteen days as a Sergeant in Capt. Jacob Hinds' Alarm List Company in Col. Ira Allen's Regt. of Militia for service done at Castle-ton, in Oct., 1781.

Vt. Rev. Rolls—page 456."

This limited military service has greater significance than the record suggests. The early presence of the Church of England in Arlington accounts for an almost equal number of Tories and Revolutionists in the community. The former fled to Canada. Caleb Dayton, as we view it, was at least on the right side, and left a record of service sufficient to entitle such of his descendants as so choose, to a place among the sons or daughters of the American Revolution. That record might have included further service but for an event, for which he was in no wise responsible.

I wondered how it could be that, having seen service and being so near the scene of engagement, he was not at the battle of Bennington. Arlington is only eight or ten miles from the village of Bennington. The battle of Bennington was not fought in Vermont, as popularly believed, but across the line in what is the State of New York; but was fought to prevent the British capturing military supplies stored at Bennington. Why was Caleb Dayton not present? A satisfactory explanation was found when I came to take in that his little child, Parthena, the first Parthena, died two days before the battle occurred. She died August 14, 1777. The battle took place August 16, 1777. There came later another daughter and they named her after their first Parthena. Had Caleb Dayton been in the battle of Bennington, he might have met Col. Benjamin Bonney, who was there from Chesterfield, Massachusetts, whose daughter, Hannah, Caleb Dayton's son, Isaac, was to marry thirty-two years later.

I have not mentioned the further fact concerning Caleb Dayton, that he was the administrator of his father Josiah's estate. He gave deed as such executor, May 8, 1759. (New Milford Town Records, No. 8, p. 410).

ISAAC NOBLE DAYTON

of

Arlington, Vermont, and Henrietta, New York

Isaac was one of the younger children of Caleb and Sarah (Taylor) Dayton. He was born in Arlington, Vermont, amidst beautiful mountain scenery, in a country unpromising from an agricultural point of view. It is exceedingly attractive for summer homes, but not for lumbermen as in his father's day, or tillers of the soil. Jan. 18, 1809, he married Hannah Day Bonney, daughter of Col. Benjamin Bonney of Chesterfield, Massachusetts. She was born in Chesterfield, January 28, 1784, one of the youngest of a family of at least thirteen children. Among her brothers was one called David Day and another Benjamin. Her two sons were named after these brothers. She herself was named after her mother. Her husband and she, the year of their marriage, removed to Western New York, settling in the town of Henrietta, just south of Rochester, and in the same county. The settlement of the village of Henrietta preceded that of Rochester. They had four children and in the following order: David Day, Harriet, Benjamin Bonney and Sarah H. August 19, 1829 the mother died, her oldest child only eighteen years of age. Possibly frontier life was too hard for her, perhaps she had been too energetic and ambitious.

At any rate she succumbed to tuberculosis. In a letter I still have her older son, a man of few words, described her as "an excellent mother."

The children grew up and were married. Harriet married Mr. Dwelle M. Clapp of Adrian, Michigan, August 20, 1853, and Sarah married Mr. Carlos Ladd of Henrietta, October 12, 1843. The younger son Benjamin Bonney, read law, removed to St. Louis, applied himself untiringly to the study and practice of his profession, married Mary Frances Jennings of Philadelphia, September 25, 1845, became the partner of H. S. Geyer, who followed Thomas H. Benton in the U. S. Senate. He was of impressive appearance and manner and sincerity, which gave him great influence with a jury; a good business man, handling the business interests of the firm and accumulating a considerable estate for that day; in middle life, November 1, 1855, a victim of the Gasconade Bridge accident, which took the lives of thirty-seven of the most prominent men in the city of St. Louis, and plunged that city in sorrow and gloom. He was thirty-eight years of age. Judge Bates, Mr. Lincoln's Attorney-general, said: "Benjamin was like a son to me"; and, in the formal eulogy he delivered before the Bar Association, extolled him on the basis of his own knowledge of him, both socially and professionally. So profoundly moved were those who listened to Judge Bates that it was said at the time that the address would be remembered by those who heard it as long as the event which called it forth.

The older son, David, father of the writer, will conclude the chain we have been forming.

I wish now to recall, before turning to an account of David, one incident in the life of Isaac Dayton. He died three years before I was born. He was, as I have always understood, modest, unassuming, unaggressive, but high-principled, well-read, and much respected by the community in which he lived nearly fifty years. He took at one time into his home a girl, cared for her as if she were his own, and when grown up she married. He lived with her and her husband for a period of years, paid them for what he received at their hands as they went along together, but took no receipt for those payments. Artless himself, he was unsuspecting of others, and entirely off his guard with reference to the one he had befriended and her husband. Suddenly they presented him with a large bill for services they had rendered. He had no evidence to show that he had paid them. He was in advanced years and, because of the nature of the trouble, greatly distressed. My father went at once to his assistance. He presented the facts to Judge Selden of Rochester, one of the ablest lawyers in the western part of the state. Judge Selden advised a counter-claim on the basis of grandfather having reared the young woman, and having been at considerable expense; but grandfather with his admirable delicacy of feeling, couldn't bring himself to do that, as his care for the girl had been a labor of love and, of course, absolutely gratuitous. My father then employed Elbridge G. Lapham of Canandaigua, a man in

the prime of life, whose reputation was rapidly growing, and who was later first a representative in Congress, and afterward a United States senator from the State of New York. Suit was brought against grandfather. He had absolutely no defence except that of character. On that basis, Mr. Lapham addressed the jury. The jury found in grandfather's favor, and it was said that no jury could have been drawn in that section where he was known, that would have returned a verdict against his unsupported word. I have heard my father say that for years afterward, when Senator Lapham and he met, Mr. Lapham would say: "I never had another case like it."

I have introduced this incident here, and so sought to preserve it, for its effect on any descended from him. It has always seemed to me more valuable as a family inheritance than any heirloom or legacy, or remembrance of ancestral achievement on any of the various lines of human ambition and endeavor.

John Noble is said to have been first on the ground where is now New Milford, Connecticut, and his surname was not uncommon in its early history; and it is probably on account of former associations and respect for some one or more of that name that the father Caleb, long a resident of New Milford, selected it for the middle name of his son Isaac Noble Dayton.

The remains of Isaac Dayton and Hannah his wife lie side by side in a cemetery near Henrietta.

Their son DAVID DAY was born June 9, 1811, and died August 3, 1881.

Their daughter HARRIET was born August 12, 1813,
and died April 14, 1876.

Their son BENJAMIN BONNEY was born March 30,
1817, and died November 1, 1855.

Their daughter SARAH H. was born December 7,
1819, and died December 13, 1877.

DAVID DAY DAYTON

of

Henrietta, Lima and Geneva, New York

Dr. Dayton was the oldest, as we have seen, of the four children of Isaac Noble and Hannah (Bonney) Dayton. His mother died when he was eighteen years of age. His father told him he would require no more of him if he would pay his mother's last doctor's bill which was for the amount of fifty dollars. In those days, one hundred years ago, the obligation seemed to him quite large but he met it fully. The physician took the last cent. I think the boy felt the doctor might have thrown off a little but he didn't; and I have thought further that it may have had a beneficial effect upon the lad, as all through a long life he seemed to have a special interest in the young, a readiness to help them. How much better that was than if it had made him bitter.

In the early half of the 19th century, a young lawyer was converted, turned to the ministry and then to evangelism. I refer to Charles G. Finney. He had a piercing eye, a solemn manner, a legalistic training that enabled him to impress the law of God upon the conscience, so that the Holy Spirit made use of that effect to convict men and women, and they would in some instances prostrate themselves before the Lord and before others, in honest supplication for His for-

givenness, and obtain it. The influence of Mr. Finney's preaching twice swept Rochester and Western New York, and was felt for years after, in the general high character of the communities it had touched. East of Rochester a few miles was the village of Pittsford, older than Rochester. In company with my father when I was a boy, he pointed out to me a barn in Pittsford in which he underwent one of the greatest struggles of his life. It was born of that revival time with which the name of Mr. Finney, afterward President Finney of Oberlin, was associated. All alone in that barn, there came into his mind the petition "Thy Will be done," and with it, some idea of the necessity and meaning of giving up his own will, and accepting the divine Will, if he would come into right relations with his Maker. I do not know that the struggle was prolonged, only that it was intense and resulted in his honestly making the required sacrifice of his own to the divine Will. The offering God accepted. The commotion was over, and in its place peace with God and a sense of forgiveness, and the joy of the Lord filled his soul. It was a great moment, a turning point, a landmark, to which he could go back, to which he could testify for the benefit of others and to the glory of God, and undoubtedly influenced not only his young manhood but his whole after life. It prepared him to be drawn to her who was to be his life companion, and who was to be a helpmeet in spiritual things, commanding his confidence, as did no other immediate religious influence, down to his last earthly consciousness.

He read medicine in Pittsford, Monroe County, and in Palmyra, Wayne County, and then for two years attended lectures in Fairfield Medical College, graduating in 1834.

Youth is an impressionable age, and it was fortunate for students in "Old Fairfield," in the early thirties of the 19th century, that there were in the faculty two professors of admirable ability and character: Drs. Hadley and Delamater. The former was at the same time professor of Chemistry at Hamilton College. He was of the distinguished Yale family of Hadleys. The latter was "a surgeon of great eminence in Central New York." Years after my father's death, the late Dr. Henry A. Nelson published an incident which reveals the character of Dr. Delamater, and my father's appreciation of this preceptor. The incident is intrinsically worthy of permanence, an object lesson of more value than many a lecture:

"Sixty years ago or more a surgeon of great eminence was living in Central New York, named Delamater. One of his pupils at that time was my neighbor and friend about twenty years ago, after he himself had been a useful physician many years. Dr. Delamater's eminence in his profession was such that sometimes he was called to considerable distances, to give counsel and to perform difficult surgical operations. In one such instance, his pupil (my friend, Dr. Dayton) accompanied him, and witnessed what he afterwards related to me as follows:

The patient was a young woman suffering from

a diseased condition of the lower jaw, from the fatal result of which Dr. Delamater judged that an extremely difficult and painful operation might possibly save her. The flesh of the chin must be carefully separated from the bone beneath it, and a considerable section of that bone removed. If this could be successfully done, and her system had sufficient vigor, a cartilage might be formed which would fill the cavity thus made in the bone, and restore the chin to its proper form. The parents having been thus informed by the surgeon, left the daughter to decide whether she would submit to the operation. The surgeon clearly stated and explained the case to her, making no concealment of the unavoidable pain (this was before the days of anesthetics), or of the uncertainty of the result, between which and the certainty of a fatal alternative she must choose. His own clear apprehension and tender sympathy made the tears flow down his strong face as he spoke. The patient desired him to proceed with the operation, which he did with complete success, and then left her to the care of the local physician, and returned to his own home. Months afterwards, one who witnessed the operation, having occasion to be near the home of the patient, called to see her, and found her in good health. Remembering the affecting scene at the time of the surgical operation, the visitor asked, 'How could you possibly make the decision you did, when you saw the surgeon himself weeping as he told you what you must undergo?' She replied: 'That was exactly what enabled me. Those tears assured me that the doctor was as tender as he was strong and wise. I could trust such a man.' "

My father first decided to accept an opening in Syracuse, but on account of the damp and marshy conditions there and his own liability to tuberculosis, he reconsidered the matter of location and settled at Hopewell Centre, Ontario County, and entered upon a country practice in which he was to continue for some ten years. After the first hard year, he became physician at the County Home only two miles away, which added to his income and gave him observation on certain lines that might not have come to him under ordinary circumstances, for years; and a physician, six miles distant, removed to the West and turned over to him his practice, so in a comparatively short time, he came to have an extensive ride. It was during this period, too, that making use of his medical knowledge and following out in the most scrupulous way the best course he knew, he felt he overcame, for himself and any children he might have, a tendency to tuberculosis. In clothing, in diet, in all directions he was careful and self-denying; and for those intelligent, persistent and successful efforts how can any one of the beneficiaries thereof fail to honor him?

At this point, I am inclined to introduce part of a letter written nearly sixty years ago, and relating circumstances of importance which occurred in the early part of his life in Hopewell. The letter was addressed to a daughter and reads almost like an extract from a Puritan's journal. The communication runs:—"This letter may reach you on Tuesday the last day of this month, the anniversary of the marriage of your father

and mother, thirty-five years ago, a day somewhat memorable to all our family but more especially to your mother and myself. In 1834, June, I went to Hopewell, a frail young man, poor in goods and with no acquaintance to help me. I had favorable letters of introduction which soon brought me friends. I attended in the main the M. E. church at what was called 'The Father Benham's Meeting House,' now all passed away. Here I worshipped with those who were accustomed to assemble from Sabbath to Sabbath, and frequently I staid in 'class meeting' after the sermon and found the means of grace, pleasant and profitable. In the class meeting when I staid, I was accustomed to hear the voice of a young friend, whose exercise and experience especially interested me. Being a young man I did not feel at liberty to inquire who this young lady was. The hats of that day were such and the position she assumed relatively to where I usually sat, that I did not see her face or learn her name for months. In this interval, a desire, I think, sprang up in my own heart to know more of this friend as a young Christian. My unsettled condition, my poverty &c. totally forbade any further desire to enter my heart for the first part of my professional life. Thus the first six months of my residence in Hopewell passed away, when I received the appointment of Physical Director of the Ontario Co. Poorhouse. This placed me where I saw my way clear to remain, if life and health were spared, in Hopewell for a few years at least. On the evening after this appointment, I had an invitation to take tea

at a friend's home, a young married family, by the name of George Dunkle. I accepted and invited the young friend (a younger sister of Mrs. Dunkle) who had so often interested me in the class meeting, to accompany me. Thus commenced my intimacy with your mother. In the following two years, I generally spent every other Tuesday evening with her till nine o'clock, except when she was at Lima at school, when we wrote to each other once in two weeks. The 28th day of Feb. 1836, we were married and the following April, commenced housekeeping as a family fully organized." What a parentage!

They were married on a Sunday evening at the church, February 28, 1836. After the ceremony he took his bride back to her father's house, and didn't see her again for three days, in attendance upon a patient critically ill. There were no trained nurses in that day. It is also true there were no laboratories, and all his powers of observation and the logical processes of the mind were, therefore, on the part of the honest physician, in almost constant use.

His wife, Caroline Wesley Draper was born in the Town of Phelps, Ontario County, New York, October 8, 1815. Her father, Gideon Draper was born December 18, 1780 at Dover, Dutchess County, New York. Her mother, Elizabeth Cronise was born August 1, 1796, at Frederick, Maryland. They, Gideon Draper and Elizabeth Cronise, were married at Newark, Wayne County, New York, June 28, 1812. She died

December 5, 1861; he, December 8, 1861, at Clifton Springs, New York.

Gideon Draper, had been a Methodist minister, a Presiding Elder, and having a competence, being retired and of a hospitable disposition, his home was the gathering place for leaders in the Methodist denomination, editors and bishops, and my father profited by the conversation of these older and more experienced men. Not long after he was married, Mr. Draper came to him and said: "Doctor, I think this orchard which adjoins you would make a good addition to your place." My father replied: "Father Draper, I think we will pay for the home first." The reply pleased Mr. Draper, he was a man known for natural shrewdness and for good business judgment, and, having tested father out, he returned in a few days with a deed to the orchard and handed it to his son-in-law.

Father was himself a member of the Presbyterian church and continued in that connection.

In his first home he had his apothecary shop and the post office. Certain papers, edited by William Goodell, coming to the office, attracted his attention; he read them, became an abolitionist, though never adopting the extreme views of Mr. Garrison regarding the government and the constitution, and his home was a station on "the underground railroad." About the same time he became a teetotaler, notwithstanding the fact that his clerical father-in-law kept wine on his sideboard. He was not opposed to the use of alco-

hol as a medicinal agent honestly prescribed. Thus in his young manhood and almost alone, he took advanced moral positions, from which he never receded.

Five or six miles from his home, there lived Gehazi Granger and his son Julius, who married respectively the mother and sister of Stephen A. Douglass. To this family, father was introduced by the physician who turned his practice over to him before removing to the West. Mrs. Julius Granger was, when father became their physician, very seriously sick. I will relate the facts as I heard them told by her forty years and more later, when she came to attend his funeral in Geneva, New York, and to ride with us twelve miles to his burial in Clifton Springs. He looked the case over, and then said to her and to her friends, that he had had a similar case at the County Home, that he had tried an experiment which had proven successful, that it would subject her to a certain chemical bath, that she might pass away in the bath, but it was the only thing he knew to suggest. He then left it to her and the friends to talk it over and decide upon the course to be taken. They decided favorably to the treatment he had suggested. The result was her recovery. What interested me in her statement was not only that she believed he saved her life, but her oft repeated exclamation: "*He was so honest,—he was so honest*, he told us just how it was." As the family was a prominent family and the incident rather marked, no doubt, confidence in the young physician was increased and his practice helped.

A few years ago, more than forty years after my

father's death, I happened upon a daily paper in one of our smaller cities, on the front page of which I noticed an article concerning the family reunion of a large connection. Most of the article, three pages in length, was taken up with an autobiographic letter written by a man named Crozier, signed on his eighty-third birthday, ten years before his death, and twenty years before its publication. It was the story of an orphan boy indentured to a farmer, and then turned over to a blacksmith to learn the trade, his cravings for an education and how he secured it. While he was living at the blacksmith's, he says, "I also began reading history and studying geography and grammar by myself, at leisure moments, mostly early in the morning on the hearth by the firelight long before others were up. Dr. Dayton hearing what I was doing—I never knew how—spoke to me about it and offered to help me in my studies two evenings in a week, if I would come to his house. With Mr. Forman's (the blacksmith's) consent, I accepted his very kind offer. He had a large practice, but always kept his engagement with me, and did it cheerfully and freely. He was well educated and did me a great deal of good. I have always remembered him with deep gratitude." I had never heard of this man who thus paid his tribute of gratitude to my father.

There were three occurrences connected with the Hopewell life that I feel like recalling. The first was a disappointment which may look almost trivial and hardly worth recording, but must have been a severe

trial to one who was making every effort to get a start by honesty and industry. He bought on going to Hope-well a horse on the instalment plan. The morning after having made his last payment he went out to the barn to care for it, but found the floor had given way during the night and there his horse hung by the halter, dead. I think he must have been glad it was paid for.

The other events were more far-reaching in their significance so far as he was concerned and so far as others were concerned, to whom he may have related them. One evening when I was a boy, I climbed on his lap and said, "Papa, won't you tell me a story?" I was almost afraid when I asked it lest he might tell me something that would haunt my dreams. He had no fairy stories to tell, or disposition to respond in that way. His life almost from the beginning, had had to do with the serious realities of life, how to meet them and how to help others to meet them. This was the substance of his story and the boy never forgot it. He was called to the County Home, to see a man whose leg had been injured. Examination proved the necessity for amputation. The table was made ready. The man took his place on it. It was, of course, before the day of anaesthetics. The next thing in order, was to bind the man so he could not move during the operation. The man at that point looked up into father's face and asked him if he would be willing not to bind him, that he would promise in that case not to flinch or make any trouble. My father consented. What led him to consent? How many physicians in a like situation

would have consented? With the incision of the knife the man began calmly to pray aloud, and never ceased to pray audibly until the work of the surgeon was done. He kept his promise. I think that victory by faith over the body must have made a permanent impression on the young surgeon.

The third reminiscence I never heard my father recall publicly, but one who did assured me that it was done with profound effect. He had as a next door neighbor in Hopewell, one Squire Moore, an avowed atheist, and as such, more or less of an affliction to the community. Squire Moore had a son, Jonathan. One day the son was driving along the highway and having occasion to stop at a house, did so without fastening his horse. Possibly the reason was, that there was tied to a post in front of the house, a horse bridled and saddled. When he saw his own horse starting up the road he ran to the other horse, unfastened it and sprang into the saddle with the intention of overtaking and stopping his horse. A few rods up the road, there was a lane into which the horse was accustomed to turn, and coming to it, turned as usual. The action was entirely unexpected by the young man, and he was thrown violently to the ground. My father was sent for. On arriving, he perceived the young man had been instantly killed. It then fell to his lot to inform Squire Moore. As he approached the gate, he could see Squire Moore walking back and forth on his front porch apparently much agitated. As father approached the house, Squire Moore turned to him and asked him: "Doctor, is my

son Jonathan dead?" Father asked him if he wouldn't walk into the house with him. He replied: "No, Doctor, tell me, is my son Jonathan dead?" When he heard the truth, he cried out: "My God, is Jonathan dead and not *one moment to pray?*"

On his death bed, when an elderly unbelieving physician called to pry into my father's attitude under the circumstances, toward the Christian religion, his immediate answer which put a stop to all further inquiry was: "I settled those questions long ago."

I have given these incidents connected with the early Hopewell life, revealing as they do, the influences which surrounded him and the characteristics which distinguished the subject of this sketch, all the way through, from young manhood to the end of life.

From Hopewell to Lima, he moved in 1844, uniting two drug stores and continuing to practice medicine. Lima was then a Methodist centre having both a seminary and Genesee College. During the eleven years he resided in Lima, his earnings and his savings were probably larger than at any other period. It was while there, he received an honorary diploma from Western Reserve Medical College. His simple and direct way of doing business may be illustrated. He took into the drug store and into his practice, a younger man, Dr. Alfred Mercer, who subsequently studied abroad, and then became a professor and treasurer of Syracuse Medical College, and for many years, health officer of Syracuse. Dr. Mercer invested for a number of years through my brother in the Northwest. After

Dr. Mercer was ninety years of age, in a letter to this brother, having acknowledged receipt of a remittance, he added that when he was with Dr. Dayton in Lima, having occasion to make out an unusually large order for goods, he gave the reasons for the size of the order, made quite a long letter of it; and, being pleased with his performance, turned it over to Dr. Dayton to read. The senior partner read it and then returned it with the quiet remark: "I think I would just order the goods."

And in Lima as in Hopewell, he was ever doing for others. A woman dying from tuberculosis, whose husband was a drunkard, exacted from father a promise that he would find homes for her six children. This promise he faithfully kept. One of them, he took into his own home and drug store. Then he secured a place for him in a wholesale drug store in New York, at the same time calling the attention of a brother-in-law, who was at the head of the largest denominational book concern in the country, to him. It was not long before the office of Treasurer in the concern was vacated by death and the young man was invited to take the office which he filled for nearly fifty years, generally respected and beloved. Another of the six married a gentleman who became mayor for more terms than any other, before or since, in one of the largest cities of the state. I know not how the others fared, but I never heard that any one of them made shipwreck. I could thus multiply instances of beneficence that have come to my knowledge, from one source and another, but

I do not remember ever having heard this father speak of what he had done for another.

Two or three years after his death, a professor in Syracuse University spent the evening in our Geneva home. I had never met him before, but was interested by one of his reminiscences. Soon after he had entered the seminary or the college at Lima, he was not feeling well and consulted my father. He said the conversation which ensued had been a benefit ever since. In a kindly way, the sudden change from the active, hearty farm life to the sedentary, studious seminary life was pointed out, and the necessary adaptation in exercise and diet to the new situation.

Last year, motoring through New Hampshire my family and I came to Dartmouth. There were two things I had in mind to look up, in connection with the college. About the time my father went to Lima, two young men from Western New York, entered Dartmouth. One was a brother of my mother, the other a young man whom father knew quite well. At the end of the Sophomore year, the young man wrote to father that he had exhausted his patrimony, and would not be able to complete his course. My father, at once, wrote him that he would see him through. One of the things I thought I would like to do at Dartmouth, was to find out what the standing of this young man had been. It was a pleasure to know that he was graduated with high honors.

My father's identification with his patients was almost complete. He made their interests his own, and

I have heard an older sister relate, how depressed he would seem, when his efforts failed and how, when he could arrange it, he attended the obsequies of the dead and sat with the family. If he went into a neighbor's home and made no prescription, it was nothing; if he made a prescription, fifty cents; if he went to the country, one dollar. She told me of a night in Lima when he was out on a call, and a knock came at the door. She responded and asked what was wanted. His services were needed as soon as possible, so she kept awake to let him know when he returned, and before he put his horse out. Three times during that night, long to her as well as to him, the same thing occurred. And even when at home and in the night, he would be thinking of those patients. I once heard the late Dr. John W. Mears, professor of Mental and Moral Philosophy in Hamilton College, deliver a lecture on dreams in the course of which he said that my father had told him that prescriptions would now and then come to him in his dreams. He could endure pain better than some. I have seen him when he had cut through the side of his foot, take a basin and a sponge, cleanse the wound thoroughly, and then with needle and thread, sew it up. He was deeply affectionate but not demonstrative. He would rather have suffered pain than inflict it. I can remember his saying to me: "I would gladly bear it for you." And when some act of surgery was to be performed, a tumor removed, in those days before chloroform had come into use, every muscle and nerve he had, were made contributory to the one pur-

pose, the professional purpose of a successful operation, with the least suffering possible to the patient. The wear and tear of such a life on a constitution not over rugged, led him, after he had been eleven years in Lima, to sell his store and practice and remove by way of Clifton Springs to Geneva, New York, where he lived the remainder of his life, partly in the drug business and partly in retirement. In passing from further reference to his professional life, I would like to quote a sentence written by a sister twenty years my senior, dead for a number of years, but more familiar than I with her father's early life, by reason of her own observation: "As a practitioner he was cautious but not timid, decided but not rash, and always kindly sympathetic."

Stopping briefly in Clifton Springs during his transition from Lima to Geneva, he went one day over to Geneva on business, and having transacted it, stepped into a reading room. He took up a daily paper, on the front page of which, was emblazoned a report of the Gasconade Bridge Accident in Missouri, and read the account of it. The Missouri Pacific Railroad had completed the first lap of its ambitious transcontinental program, that is, from St. Louis to Jefferson City, the capital of Missouri. There was to be a celebration of the event in Jefferson City, at which my uncle was to be one of the speakers. An excursion train was to take a delegation of prominent men from St. Louis. As the engine pulled on to the bridge over the Gasconade River, there was a crash, the engine went down and six

of the passenger cars followed. On the sixth car, Dr. Henry Bullard, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of St. Louis, and my uncle, Senior Warden in St. Luke's Episcopal Church, sat together, and after the accident their bodies were found with a truck across their breasts. They had been instantly killed. My father's eye caught the name of his brother, third in the list of the dead. In a few days, he received a letter from Judge Samuel F. Treat of the U. S. Court, describing the fearful disaster and closing: "Benjamin was like a brother to me." By the terms of the will, my father was trustee of a part of the estate, and so continued for over twenty years, until he asked the court to relieve him of the burden, and order distribution of the part involved. The fulfilment of his duties of trusteeship took him often to St. Louis, where he was always welcome, always entertained by the friends of his brother.

The times that led up to and included the American Civil War, were times that tried the souls of loyal men and women. An almost overwhelming sense of responsibility came upon those who accepted posts of honor and duty. There were those pressed into the public service, who naturally and very greatly preferred private life. One such man was Edward Bates of Missouri, who, without any seeking of his own, had been projected by friends into candidacy for the presidential nomination, alongside of Mr. Seward and Mr. Lincoln, and later on, was prevailed upon by Mr. Lincoln to accept the attorney generalship in his Cabinet. My father at once wrote him expressing satisfaction and

congratulation. His reply reveals the man, the spirit of many like him, and would make a fitting companion piece of Mr. Lincoln's parting words to his neighbors at Springfield. It is dated Jan. 24, 1861, and reads thus:

"Dear Sir:

I acknowledge with pleasure the receipt of your kind letter of the 21st, and I do it now because my engagements are so urgent that if I neglect it now, its turn may never come again. I thank you for your kind remembrances and good wishes. But you need not have congratulated me upon my acceptance of Mr. Lincoln's invitation to aid him in the administration. Perhaps I am better entitled to your commiseration, for be assured, Sir, that I have not taken this step with any hope of pleasure or profit for myself. I have only obeyed a lawful call to a dangerous post, for the discharge of a painful duty. And I go to it in the fear of God and in the hope of being able to do good service to my country.

Very respectfully your friend,

Edward Bates."

A gentleman of the old school, learned in the law, there was in all the Border States, no finer patriot and more faithful public servant than Edward Bates of Missouri.

My father would have offered his services as a surgeon to the Government, only his health and strength would have rendered him unacceptable. He was among the first to buy government bonds for himself, and as a trustee, justifying his course on the grounds that if government was unsafe nothing was safe and that

it was in the line of duty to stand by the government; and those who criticised his action as a trustee were glad afterward to profit from the premium.

When the stock of drugs on hand rose by reason of the war, as time and again was the case, I have understood, that he would share the increase with his customers. He was always ready to express his fealty, and on sufficient provocation, with self-possession but with great incisiveness.

One day in the year '65, a middle-aged man approached father in his drug store and addressed him thus: "Doctor, you don't know me." Father shook his head, and then the man added: "Doctor, I'm your rebel boy." It was the one whom he helped to complete his course at Dartmouth. He had gone South and finally entered the confederate army. His home on Lookout Mountain had been destroyed by the battle, he had lost all and, in coming North, had donned a long linen duster to hide his confederate uniform. He was taken home, and the next day, to church. Leaving his pew at the close of the service, father crossed the aisle and asked a friend if she would like to see "a live rebel," to which she instantly replied: "I would rather see a dead one." The feeling was intense, and there was reason, but the war was over.

There was in Geneva from an early day a colored settlement. Its members had come originally with masters from Virginia. My father took much interest in them in various ways, encouraging them to save, where couples had come up from the South without any legal

relation, to be married, advising them also in sickness. I remember going with him once on such a visiting round. He went into one home where there was sickness, made some suggestion and left a small sum, then into another home where there was sickness and left a small but different sum. That difference puzzled my young brain. Why did he make it? And that leads me to say that he always in such matters seemed to be doing what he had considered in advance or felt clear about. And how those people whom he thus befriended, did appreciate his thoughtfulness and kindness! I am about to relate an incident which I think, though I never heard him refer to it, must have touched him as much as any recognition he ever received for favors done. He collected a fund and erected a building to house what was called the "Union Sunday School." Of this Sunday School for the colored people he was superintendent for a number of years. At their Christmas gathering 1864, they gave him a large Bible. Their spokesman was a Mr. Jackson, an unpretentious but very intelligent and highly respected colored man. I quote his words which I ran on recently, pasted on the inside of the cover of the Bible. I think I never read more eloquent words.

Colored Sunday School, Geneva, N. Y.

In presenting this Bible to Dr. D. D. Dayton, December 25th, 1864, Mr. Jackson said:—

"For your labors among us as Superintendent of this School, for your visitations to us in sickness, kindly administering spiritual and physical com-

fort, sometimes to our dying ones, for your help in burying our dead, for your love and good works in behalf of our afflicted race in the darkest days of the past, we tender to you the tribute of grateful hearts, and in our deep poverty now present to you this Bible, as a heartfelt expression from each and from all, praying it may be your solace in declining life, a light to your pathway in the future, even to Glory, to Heaven and to God."

And how quick he was to discern conditions, modes of approach, just what would be effective of good. A fellow member of the grand jury came to me and introduced himself, following it up with the remark: "Your father saved me from a drunkard's grave."

"How was that?" I asked.

He replied: "When I was young I was quite wild. I had been on a spree and, coming down the street, I met your father in front of his home. He looked at me, took in my condition, and calling me by name said: "Let us go in the house and talk this over with your Father and with mine." And they went in and knelt down together.

As I was about to board a train, a friend introduced me to a gentleman who lived in Lima. There was just time for him to utter a single sentence: "Your father was a man who never shrank from doing his duty." I can not make so sweeping a statement as that. I do not see how one could be sure of it. I do believe that the sense of duty was the predominating element in his character. If he shrank it was inwardly, it did not ap-

pear outwardly, it did not deter or weaken him in the discharge of duty.

There was one direction in which he was absolutely unsparing of himself. Few have gone through life on less sleep. The daily acts that seemed so simple and so sure, the reasonings and conclusions which carried so great weight with associates, were often preceded by intense and persistent reflection when he should have been asleep. He admitted this in his last sickness, when he confided to his daughter that if he had realized the danger of paralysis, as in early life he had that of tuberculosis, he might have warded it off by not taking his cares with him into the night. So we know what those simple, logical judgments lucidly expressed cost him. When living, he was one of a local body composed of twelve able and upright men. One of them remarked to me in regret at having lost his counsels, that he did not think that on any matter of importance they would have acted against his judgment.

For eight months prior to his death, my father was confined to his bed, or lifted to a chair and drawn to a porch which looked out on Seneca Lake, a very beautiful body of water. He understood perfectly well his condition, and, while he lingered beyond the expectation of physicians and friends, he would often say: "There must be an end to all this." He knew that medicine could not help him and long before his sickness, had said to his daughter, in anticipation of just such a time: "I wish you to protect me from drugs." A son and his wife, both still living, were constantly

within call during the entire sickness. An older son and wife were frequent visitors. He had the best of care; and grateful for it and for the benefit of others would say: "If your mother and I had not economized when we were young, we would not have these comforts now"; or, "I have observed that people generally have to economize either at the beginning or at the end of life." There was not only a simplicity and dignity and wisdom to what he said but a kindly way or form of expression, so that admonitions were received and treasured; as the memory of his words to the writer: "I have great confidence in your second judgment," has been for fifty years the balance wheel of an impulsive disposition. A dressmaker observed, "He is the only person who ever told me I didn't charge enough." At the other end of society, a gentleman, whose ancestral estate adjoined that of one, known so long as the most distinguished citizen of Oyster Bay, visited him in his sick room and in true Dutch fashion bent over him and kissed his forehead; and when all was over, meeting me on the street, remarked: "I feel as if I had lost a father." He was the same to everybody. In his estimation of others it was not circumstances and accidents, but it was character that counted.

This hurried sketch of my father draws to an end. I conclude it with recalling a life-long relationship between him and a cousin, greatly prized by both. Miss Mary L. Bonney, a first cousin, was a pupil of Mrs. Emma Willard at Troy. After finishing her course of study there she went South and taught for a few years.

Her cousin David, always a kind and faithful friend where he was a friend, wrote her expressing a hope that her residence in the atmosphere of slavery would not impair her New England principles. She came North intending to start a young ladies' seminary in New York, Boston or Philadelphia, deciding upon the last-named city and locating the seminary at 1615 Chestnut Street. The school greatly prospered, drawing pupils from many of our larger cities, East and West. While there was no effort on her part to that end, her patrons came in greater proportion from families of wealth. She thought it was a class not to be neglected and accepted the situation as it shaped itself. For thirty-three years, she conducted the school on Chestnut Street. During that period she became both a noted educator and a reformer. It was with her that the thought of The Women's National Indian Association originated and from means contributed by her, that the thought materialized. Definite ameliorative congressional action resulted in the Dawes Indian Severalty Bill.

Toward the end of the thirty-three years, Mr. Jay Cooke, the financier of the Civil War, came to see her. He had recovered to some extent from the failure of his banking house, but he was now inclined to retire largely from business and lead a more quiet and circumscribed life. He had a home with a hundred guest rooms, and he proposed to Miss Bonney and her associates, that they should move the school from its historic site on Chestnut Street and occupy a new nucleus for

their seminary, his palatial home. He made the terms so favorable that they were accepted, and thus was launched on its way the celebrated school at and called Ogontz.

Miss Bonney was a woman of sterling worth. I remember her as frank, honest, high-minded. I propose in conclusion to quote a few sentences from her pen out of two letters, one written when she heard of my father's illness and the other after his death.

"And is it so that my beloved and revered Cousin David is nearing the port. All day yesterday as I went from place to place, I thought of him as a patriarch full of days, of wisdom and spiritual enlargement, leaving behind him service of rare moral worth and power and blessing, the wife of his youth and the children they have trained so conscientiously and well. Holy place! I was there in spirit and felt the inspiration of the scene. Earth dwindles—eternity enlarges. How small the things that have once been large and how large the ones that have been small. Such a glimpse into the beyond corrects our vision . . . In returning to Philadelphia I find a Rochester paper awaiting me announcing the death of Cousin David. And he is really gone—lingering long with disease, he has finally passed the stream and landed where sickness never enters. Surely we may congratulate *him*. Cousin David was a rare man. His integrity, his moral and religious conviction and principles, his interest and active participation in all reforms, his immovableness from his own ideas of right and justice, gentle, firm,

straight-forward and earnest, he was a moulding power. Few men I so revered. Few men so deserved reverence, and few so universally received it from all who knew him. Such a character grows in men's minds and will grow, as men are more capable of appreciating moral worth. I congratulate you, my cousin, that you had such a husband and your children that they had such a father."

APPENDIX

1. The list of the Ralph Dayton family taken from the Ashford Registers differs from all lists hitherto published in this country in three particulars. The first is, that the woman whom Ralph married is described as a widow. The second is, that her name is Alice Tritton, where in our prints it has invariably been given as Alice Wilton or Alice Walton. The third particular is the mention of a daughter Ellen.

Papers like the New York Mail and Express and the Boston Transcript (on its weekly genealogical page) have added the names of other sons, but this attempted mode of accounting for persons hard to place, is disposed of by the authentic list Mr. Blackburne has furnished and certified.

2. It is affirmed by one author that Ralph came over a widower, but he offers no reason for thinking and saying so. On the other hand, the Magazine of American Genealogy in its account of Thomas Baker, represents his wife, Alice as the daughter of Ralph and Alice (Wilton) Dayton of New Haven, Connecticut and East Hampton, Long Island. The statement in the text seems more carefully made than the unqualified assertions on either side of the question, of the wife coming with the other members of the family. If we knew beyond a doubt the name of the boat on which they came, and had a list of the passengers, one could speak positively.

3. The author, who asserted that Ralph came to this country a widower, also affirmed that "about 1649,"

he married Dorothy Brewster, by whom he had a son, Brewster Dayton. Again the author gave no proof. Ralph died in 1658. There was no mention in his will of a son, Brewster Dayton. There were Brewster Daytons, father and son, sixty to eighty years later, in Stratford, Connecticut, who came originally from Long Island. I think it likely that the Brewster Daytons of Stratford followed Samuel Dayton's descendants there and were of that line. Among the first settlers of Brookhaven were two Brewsters, one the first pastor of the Setauket church, the oldest ecclesiastical organization in the town. It is also interesting that one of the Brewster Daytons in Stratford had for his first wife, a Beardsley. While I would not contradict the author who made the positive statements I have referred to, I think he was mistaken.

4. One writer has given the name of Wilhelmina as that of the wife of Samuel at the time of his death, but the deed executed the day before he died, contains the names of his wife, Elizabeth and their two daughters, Elizabeth and Sarah. There is on record the sale of a "lot of meadow" by Mr. Wetherby which came into his possession as part of his wife's portion from his father-in-law, the late Samuel Dayton of Brookhaven. Date of the transfer, April 11, 1699. He must have married Elizabeth or Sarah.

5. In September 1930, the writer had an interview with Mr. R. M. Bayles, Middle Island, Long Island, a surveyor and local historian, very feeble, in his eighty-fifth year. He died about two months later. It is doubtful if any other person has known so well the history of the town of Brookhaven. It was in an article contributed by him nearly fifty years ago, to a Munsell publication on Long Island, that I ran on the statement

that "Abraham Dayton was probably the son of Samuel Dayton", and on the basis of that suggestion have kept looking for documentary evidence which has come to hand just in time to include it in our sketch of Abraham, and so make the chain of the Dayton line perfect from beginning to end, on the basis of indisputable public records. When Mr. Bayles became thoroughly aroused in the interview, he swung into a very informing discourse on the past of Brookhaven, which must have continued for about two hours. He expressed the opinion, quite contrary to what some historians have held, that in the original occupation of Brookhaven by white men, there was not a community in 1655; but that stragglers, individual pioneers and families, came along from time to time, and that it was well past 1660 before there was any considerable number of settlers in and about Setauket. I think he was right. Although Samuel Dayton's name appears in the early lists of the Brookhaven planters, it is doubtful if he made his permanent residence there before 1668, when he purchased a home lot in Setauket.

The mantle of Mr. Bayles seems to have fallen upon his younger friend Mr. Osborn Shaw of Bellport. Mr. Shaw, though not a professional genealogist, has a thorough knowledge of the town of Brookhaven, geographically and historically. His residence and that of his ancestors in Brookhaven, and his study of the old records as "official Editor" of same, have made him a full and ready reservoir of information. The narrative of Abraham is more complete than I could have made it without his help.

6. I give here the children and grandchildren of Robert, brother of Samuel, and the generally accepted dates for the same, so one can readily distinguish the

children of Samuel from the children and grandchildren of Robert. Robert himself married Elizabeth Woodruff, daughter of John Woodruff of Southampton. They had three children: Samuel, born 1665, Beriah, born 1674, and Elizabeth. For the foregoing names and dates we might refer the reader to the "American Monthly Magazine", August 1900. Robert died 1712. The grandchildren of Robert, offspring of his two sons, were: Samuel, son of Robert, had Robert, born 1692; Daniel, died 1768; Joannes; Nathan, born 1699, died 1764; Jonathan, baptized 1701; Samuel, baptized 1707, Elizabeth, wife of William Osborne. Beriah, son of Robert, had children: Rachel, born 1700; John, baptized 1700; Martha, baptized 1702, wife of Brown; Mary or Maria, wife of Cornelius Conklin; Beriah, baptized 1709; Esther, wife of Brown; Jeremiah, baptized 1716; Jane, baptized 1720; Mary, baptized 1722. It is plain on the basis of these dates that there is no conflict between them and what has been said of Samuel's children. For instance, the writer has assigned to Samuel of Brookhaven, a son Robert. There was one Robert Dayton Jr., who in November, 1689 was herding sheep in the vicinity of East Hampton. Robert, the brother of Samuel Dayton and brother-in-law of Thomas Baker, had no son Robert and his grandson Robert was not born until 1692. After the same manner we distinguish Daniel, son of Samuel of Brookhaven, and Daniel, the grandson of Robert of East Hampton. There is no confusion if the dates commonly given for Robert's children and grandchildren are correct or nearly so.

I think a complete statement with reference to Robert's children requires a careful consideration of

Robert's last will and testament, made the year preceding his death, and a codicil made fourteen months after the signing of the will. There is in neither paper any allusion to a daughter Elizabeth. There is in the codicil the expression: "my daughter Alice Edwards." Alice, it will be remembered was the name of the mother of Robert and the name of his sister, Mrs. Baker. The surname Edwards will still be found in East Hampton. As Elizabeth was the name of Robert's wife and as, when genealogical lists include that name as if there were a daughter so-called but without date of birth or death accompanying it, and those lists do not mention the name of Alice Edwards, my own inclination is to accept the mention by Robert in his codicil of a daughter, Alice Edwards at face value, and to hold the fact of a daughter, Elizabeth in abeyance for documentary confirmation.

7. The Rev. Samuel Orcutt was a pioneer in the Connecticut genealogical field. His volumes represent a vast amount of labor, on the whole very accurate so far as single facts and statements are concerned. Having had occasion to verify and relate separate items and statements concerning the Daytons, I have found him mistaken only once, and that an error easily explained. In giving a list of Caleb's children, he heads the list with the name of Joseph. It should be Josiah as an examination of Caleb's will in the State Library at Hartford makes plain. The error was probably due to the similarity of the two names, the first three letters in each and the last letter being the same.

8. Isaac Dayton's wife, Hannah was the daughter of Col. Benjamin Bonney of Chesterfield, Massachusetts, and he was in direct line of descent from Thomas Bonney, shoemaker, who came from Sandwich, Kent.

England, in the ship "Hercules" in 1634/5, and settled in Duxbury. The family remained continuously in Massachusetts until 1809. The ancestry of David Day Dayton, his brother and sisters, was therefore strictly New England in origin and type.

The narrative now concluded rests for its reliability on public records as to the line of descent and almost entirely as to the associated dates and facts. Undoubtedly it will not be without errors, but they will be, it is believed, few and comparatively unimportant.

DESCENDANTS OF DR. DAVID DAY AND MRS. CAROLINE WESLEY DAYTON.

1. Infant son, born Feb. 11, 1839; died March 18, 1839.
2. JOSEPHINE ELIZABETH, born March 28, 1840; died Sept. 13, 1925; married Sept. 14, 1865, Rev. John Easter, born March 1, 1834; died April 18, 1921.
3. EDSON DRAPER, born April 30, 1845; died Feb. 2, 1846.
4. EDSON DRAPER, born April 28, 1848; died Aug. 28, 1850.
5. CAROLINE AMANDA, born Dec. 1, 1850; died May 4, 1867.
6. BENJAMIN BONNEY, born April 5, 1854; died Aug. 8, 1887; married Dec. 3, 1878, J. Anna Hay, born Dec. 3, 1859; died June 19, 1921.
 - I. CHARLES HODGE, born May 13, 1881; died Sept. 2, 1918; married June 21, 1916, Grace Martin.
 - II. HOWARD HAY, born Aug. 30, 1884, married Aug. 19, 1912, Helen Thrall, born Sept. 28, 1887.
 1. BENJAMIN BONNEY, born Feb. 25, 1914.
 2. HOWARD HAY, JR., born July 9, 1915.
 - III. BENJAMIN BONNEY, born Dec. 30, 1887; married July 20, 1922, Anna Kemper.
7. GEORGE DRAPER, born March 6, 1857; married Dec. 17, 1878, Emma W. Chadwick, born Jan. 9, 1856; died Jan. 19, 1931.
 - I. DAVID DRAPER, born June 13, 1880; died July 25, 1923; married Dec. 17, 1903, Louise Winchell, born March 29, 1881.
 1. AVIS LOUISE, born Jan. 20, 1906; married April 5, 1928, Harlow James Heneman.
 2. GEORGE DRAPER II, born September 21, 1907; married June 26, 1928, Marion Harriett McDonald.
 - I. GEORGE DRAPER III, born June 13, 1929.
 3. WARD WINCHELL, born April 26, 1911.
 4. DOROTHY, born Dec. 25, 1912.
 5. DAVID DRAPER JR., born Oct. 19, 1919.
 6. RICHARD VAUGHN, born Sept. 11, 1921; died Sept. 13, 1921.

7. LEONARD VAUGHN, born Sept. 11, 1921.
- II. CAROLINE WARD, born Feb. 5, 1883; married June 25, 1913, William Frederick Hayden.
 1. MARIAN FLORA, born May 15, 1914; died May 15, 1914.
 2. WILLIAM FREDERICK, JR., born May 7, 1915.
 3. HELEN LOUISE, born June 12, 1916.
- III. GEORGE NELSON, born Aug. 3, 1886; married Oct. 1, 1912, Grace C. Bliss, born Feb. 15, 1890.
 1. DONALD CHADWICK, born Aug. 13, 1914.
 2. ELIZABETH, born May 24, 1915; died May 24, 1915.
 3. BRUCE BLISS, born Aug. 16, 1918.
 4. WALLACE CORLISS, born March 12, 1921.
 5. KENNETH NELSON, born July 20, 1922.
 6. DOUGLAS JAMES, born Dec. 2, 1924.
- IV. JOSEPHINE, born April 26, 1889; married Dec. 29, 1913, Rev. Frederic Howes Blair.
 1. ALICE HOWES, born Aug. 11, 1915; died Jan. 30, 1922.
 2. BONNEY WILLARD, born Nov. 8, 1917.
 3. DAVID DAYTON, born May 3, 1921.
 4. FREDERIC DRAPER, born Nov. 16, 1923.
8. EDSON CARR, born May 8, 1860; married Sept. 12, 1888, Amy D. How, born Nov. 19, 1865.
 - I. DOROTHY, born Aug. 12, 1891; died Feb. 23, 1929.
 - II. EDSON CARR, JR., born Sept. 13, 1893; died Feb. 27, 1919.
 - III. JUDITH, born Aug. 2, 1897; married June 12, 1916, Albert M. Van Voorhis, born Nov. 18, 1875.
 1. CHARLES SHETTLER, born Feb. 26, 1918.
 2. NELLIE DAYTON, born April 27, 1919.
 3. MARGARET, born July 24, 1924.
 - IV. CAROLINE KIRKHAM, born Dec. 7, 1902.

ADDENDA

Heredity and environment and the use made of them determine character, ability and influence. The background of the generation to which David Day Dayton and his brother Benjamin Bonney Dayton belonged may be set forth in a few sentences. Inheriting the migratory, pioneering spirit of his ancestors their father removed in early manhood to what was in 1800 a wilderness, the wilderness of Western New York. That was the year in which Colonel Nathaniel Rochester first saw the ground on which the city of Rochester, now third largest city in the state of New York, was to stand. Subsequent visits and purchases by him led in a few years to the establishment of a community. Eight miles to the south-east and ten miles to the south of the site Col. Rochester bought were settlements which antedated that of Rochester; the settlements of Pittsford and Henrietta.

To Henrietta came in 1809 with his bride, Isaac N. Dayton, a New England school teacher. The first school in the town of Henrietta dates from that year. In 1816 he with others, each contributing an equal sum, organized a public library. A few years later he gave what was no doubt a modest amount to a fund to be used for the establishment of an educational institution in Geneva, N. Y., subsequently known as Hobart College. And here I quote from an historian of Monroe County, a county which includes Rochester, Pittsford and Henrietta, a few words written between fifty and sixty years ago: "Isaac Noble Dayton probably left the

greatest impress upon the earliest infancy of the town. He was from Vermont and married his wife, a lady of exalted worth, in 1809, the year he settled in Henrietta. A man of culture and a large reader and thinker, he was foremost in every movement for the intellectual advancement of the new community. He died universally respected in 1857. Dr. David D. Dayton of Geneva, N. Y., is his eldest son, and was born in a log cabin in the woods of Henrietta, June 9, 1811. Another son Benjamin Bonney Dayton, rose to eminence at the St. Louis Bar."

When the author of this volume concluded his work, he had not seen the words quoted above, he did not know that his father was born in a log cabin, he did not realize to the full the humble but honorable beginnings of that father, nor, how near he himself was to the pioneer log cabin period in Western New York.

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