

WHITTAN FAMILY.



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James Whittan purchased property in Mannington the latter part of the seventeenth century, adjoining lands of Richard Woodnutt on the west, lands of Wheoeby on the east. He and his wife, Sarah Whittan, had two children—Ann, their daughter, was born in 1707, and their son, Joseph Whittan, was born in 1709; he died a minor.

James Nevell and Richard Tindell died about the year 1703 or 1704. Nevell was a lawyer, and acted as agent for William Penn in disposing of his lands lying in Fenwick's tenth. It appears that Penn had implicit confidence in his ability and integrity. The settlements he made with the proprietor for lands he disposed of for him fully justify that opinion. Richard Tindell was considered in his time to be remarkably correct in his surveying and in his calculations; so much so, that I have been informed the surveyors at the present time have no difficulty in following the various lines of the numerous tracts of land that he run and calculated more than one hundred and eighty years ago. I call the attention of the reader to one tract of meadow and swamp Richard Tindell re-surveyed by an order from James Nevell in 1685, it being the town marsh which was given by John Fenwick to the inhabitants of Salem town in 1676, and was surveyed by Richard Hancock the same year. Some five or six years ago the present owners of said meadow agreed to have a general survey of it again. They employed Belford Bonham, of Cumberland county, who is considered one of the most correct surveyors in this part of the State. The number of acres that Belford made of the meadow was about the same that Richard Tindell surveyed one hundred and eighty years ago, it being 560 acres. After the death of these two eminent men, Nevell and Tindall, James Logan, the faithful secretary of William Penn, took upon himself the task of disposing the lands that belonged to the proprietor within the boundaries of Fenwick's tenth. He accordingly appointed Benjamin Acton, Jr., to be his surveyor. The said Benjamin Acton resided in Salem, on the property formerly belonging to

his father. The property was on East Broadway, opposite Johnson street. Benjamin Acton, Jr., built a large brick house on the lot of ground in 1727. The foundation is still remaining. George Rumsey rebuilt it a few years ago.

After somewhat of a digression, I now come back to the Whittan family again in 1712. James Logan gave an order to Benjamin Acton to survey 100 acres of meadow for James Whittan, the said marsh being over the creek, opposite said Whittan's plantation, for which he paid £20 pounds, new currency. James Whittan, I think died in 1730, leaving his estate to his daughter, Ann Whittan. She married Benjamin Cripps, and their son, Whittan Cripps, became the owner of the real estate of his mother, Martha Huddy.

William Cripps married and had two children—Benjamin and Mary. Mary married Peter Andrews. He was a native of Egg Harbor. Soon after their marriage they purchased a farm of Robert Johnson, being part of the Pledger property in Mannington. Clark Lippincott is the present owner. On that farm Peter and his wife resided. Whilst they lived they had four children. Their names were Clara, Martha, Isaac and Thomas Andrews. After the death of Peter Andrews his widow and daughter, Clara, lived in Salem. Both of them died there at an advanced age. Martha Andrews' husband was William Shourds. They left four children—Rachel, Mary, Benjamin and William Shourds. They all reside in Philadelphia except Rachel, her home is in Mount Holly. Isaac married the daughter of John Woodside, of Mannington. They subsequently removed to the State of New York, near Rochester. Thomas Andrews, likewise, went to the same neighborhood with his brother. He, I believe, studied law, and afterward located himself and family in the State of Michigan. Whittan Cripps was considered above mediocrity as to his native talent. At the breaking out of the war of the American Revolution he left the Society of Friends, of which he was born a member, and devoted all his energies in assisting to carry it on in this part of the county, and at the close of the Revolution he became an active politician as a member of the Republican party as it was then called, but afterwards known as Jeffersonian Democrats and was considered to be the leader of that party in this county. He was elected two or three times in succession to the office of Sheriff. During his last term of office a law was passed by the Legislature of this State, prohibiting any person holding the office of Sheriff more than one term in succession, and his son, Benjamin Cripps, was chosen Sheriff at the next election.

WHITON, WHITTON, WHITTUN, or WHITTEN, ENOCH, Hingham, s. of James of the same, m. 11 Jan. 1688, Mary, d. of Stephen Lincoln of the same, had Mary, b. 21 Sept. 1690, d. soon; Mary, again, 5 Nov. 1692; Bethia, 30 Jan. 1695; Abigail, 8 Sept. 1697; Enoch, 25 Sept. 1699; and Margaret, 28 Jan. 1702; and d. 5 May 1714. His will was of 29 Sept. 1708, and his wid. d. 2 Oct. 1716. JAMES, Hingham 1648, by w. Mary, d. of John Beal the first, m. 30 Dec. 1647, had James, b. 10, bapt. 15 Apr. 1649, d. next yr.; James, again, bapt. 13 July 1651; Matthew, 30 Oct. 1653; John, 16 Dec. 1655, d. young; David and Jonathan, tw. b. 22 Feb. 1658, both d. in few wks.; Enoch, 8 Mar. 1659; Thomas, bapt. June 1662; and Mary, 29 Apr. 1664. He was freem. 1660. His w. d. 12 Dec. 1696, and he d. 26 Apr. 1710. Mary m. 3 Jan. 1689, Isaac Wilder. JAMES, Hingham, s. of the preced. by w. Abigail, had Hannah, b. 4 July 1678; James, 17 Feb. 1680; John, 1 Apr. 1681; ano. ch. 5 Sept. 1683, d. at 12 yrs.; Samuel, 12 Nov. 1685; Joseph, 27 Mar. 1687; Judith, 6 May 1689; Rebecca, 6 Dec. 1691; Benjamin 21 May 1693; and Solomon, 10 June 1695; and d. 20 Feb. 1725. His wid. d. 4 May 1740, aged 85. MATTHEW, Hingham,

br. of the preced. m. 27 Dec. 1677, Deborah, wid. of Daniel Howard, had Mary, b. 25 Sept. 1678; John, 10 Jan. 1680; David, 5 June, 1681; Matthew, 28 Nov. 1682; Eliz. 31 Mar. 1685; Susanna, 14 Nov. 1686; Lydia, 2 Apr. 1693; and Isaac, 25 Mar. 1696; and d. 22 July 1725. His wid. d. 19 Sept. 1729, aged 76. THOMAS, came in the Elizabeth and Ann from London, 1635, aged 36, Audry, 45, perhaps his w. and Jeremy, 8; but where he sat down is not heard. THOMAS, Hingham, youngest s. of the first James of the same, m. 26 Jan. 1690, Joanna Gardner, writ. in rec. Garnett, wid. of Francis of the same, d. of Samuel May of Roxbury, had Joanna, b. 27 Jan. 1691; Jael, 12 Feb. 1693; Leah, 4 Apr. 1695; Thomas, 10 Feb. 1698; Rachel, 12 July 1700; Jonathan, 5 Mar. 1703; and Eleazer, 15 Nov. 1706, and d. 17 Sept. 1708. His wid. m. 23 Mar. 1711, Nathan Farrow. The sound of this name having its first syl. short or long, at the whim of some of the descend. who prefer. the long, easily slid into Whiting in the fourth or fifth generat. as they spread into various towns.

According to the accounts we have, men were much more easily excited in politics the latter part of the last century, during the organization of the government, and party feeling was more acrimonious than it has been since. It was during one of the strongly contested elections, Jacob Hufty was a candidate for the office of Sheriff on the Republican side. A person on the opposite side of politics being at the polls at the time of voting, asked what Mr. Hufty done with his broad-axe, he being a ship carpenter. Whittan Cripps, who was within hearing, quickly said that Hufty had buried it under the walls of Quebec, where such a coward as you dare not show his head. After Whittan's death the property in Mannington was left to his son, and he, not having the management of his father, became intoxicated with politics, neglected his business, and it is said, became involved in debt, and that fine estate was put in market. John Denn that time followed his trade in Salem, he being a hatter. By industry and frugality he had accumulated a sufficient amount of money to warrant him in buying it and in a few years he had the property paid for. He was likewise one of the best meadow men that was ever in this county.

Nathaniel and his wife, Grace Cripps, came to America in 1678, and settled in Burlington county. By tradition he was the founder of Mount Holly. Nathaniel and Grace Cripps had six children—John, Benjamin, Samuel, Virginia, Theophila and Hannah Ann Cripps. John, the eldest son, married Mary Eves, of Haddonfield. Benjamin, the second son, married Mary Hough; their children were Whittan, who in 1759 married Martha Huddy; John; their second son, died a minor; Hannah married Samuel Mason, of Mannington, in 1756, son of Thomas Mason, of the same place. Whittan Cripps and his wife settled on the landed estate of his great-uncle, James Whittan, in Lower Mannington, Salem county. He and his wife had two children—Benjamin and Mary Cripps. Benjamin married the daughter of Peter Carney, of Upper Penn's Neck, and Mary married Peter Andrews, a native of Egg Harbor.

