



WICKHAM.

[This brief genealogical sketch is herein first published through the courtesy and patronage of Messrs. H. J. and C. H. Wickham, Hartford, Conn., who commissioned the writer to make the original researches and to prepare the manuscript.]

C. A. HOPPIN, JR.

December, 1899.

FOREWORD.

The accessible and discernable history of the Wickhams, of England, begins at the period where Macauley, the eminent historian, commences his "History of England"—the time of the Norman Conquest. William, Duke of Normandy, entered Britain with an army of knights, and by the battle of Hastings accomplished the conquest of the Britons, in 1065. He was crowned King of England the following year, and has been known since as "William the Conqueror."

It does not appear in published records whether the first of the Wickhams was a resident of Britain before the conquest or came over from Normandy with the invaders. The nationality of the name of the founder, "Walchelin," is unknown to the writer. It is just as probable, as far as records show, that Walchelin was a Norman, as that he was a Briton. This question, however, heretofore unsettled, can likely be decided by an incident occurring in the reign of Henry III, to wit: Robert Wykham, seventh in descent from Walchelin, married a daughter of Sir Reginald Waterville. Waterville fought at the battle of Northampton against Henry III, as hereinafter shown. The Britons regained the throne from the successors of William the Conqueror; therefore, if Henry III was a Briton, then Waterville or Robert must have been Normans.

Waterville was, no doubt, of Norman origin. The fact that Robert married his daughter would lend

strength to the belief that Robert was of the same political or military party as Waterville, and possibly, though not necessarily, of the same Norman origin.

The fact that Robert, son of Walchelin, is mentioned in the Domesday book still further inclines the researcher to believe that these Wickhams were of Norman ancestors.

PEDIGREE OF THE WICKHAMS OF ENGLAND.

The first three names are not traced by legal evidence as belonging to the Wykeham family, but there is strong ground for believing them to have been of that blood. From Richard de Stokes the proof is complete. He probably took his name from the hamlet of Stoke or Stoch, near Wykham, mentioned in the Domesday Book, but not in Rot. Hund.

WALCHELIN.¹

ROBERT², son of Walchelin, mentioned in the Domesday Book, about 1080.

1080. WALTER³, son of Robert, granted 30 acres at Shipton to Bruerne Abbey, about the time of its foundation, 1147.

1147. RICHARD DE STOKES⁴, called also Magiste Ricardus de Swalcliffe, as witness to two charters amongst Eynesham papers. (See Dugdale's Monasticon). He granted 30 acres of land at Swalcliffe to Bruerne Abbey, 1147-66, and confirmed other lands, probably those above, as no others answer the description.

1238. ROBERT DE STOKES⁵, called Radulphus de Wykham, 1238, in Papers of Eynesham Monastery, preserved at Christ Church, Oxford.

[Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica. Vol. III.]

Radulphus is mentioned in a plea-roll of the twenty-sixth year of the reign of Henry III, contained in a Mss. in Bodleian Library, dated 1241-2. "Robert gave the monks of Eynesham the titles of the whole estate of

Wykham (see Dugdale's Monasticon. Vol. III., p. 16, cited by Beesley, p. 62) thus proving the identity of the estate and of the family."

[C. Wykeham-Martin, Esq., M. P., May, 1868, in Herald and Genealogist.

1242. SIR ROBERT WYKHAM⁶, Knight, sued for lands at Stoke 1242, living 1279, married Anne ———.

ROBERT⁷ married Maude, daughter of Sir Reginald Waterville, who was taken prisoner at the battle of Northampton by Henry III and exchanged for some prisoners at Lewes.

1297. SIR ROBERT WYKHAM⁸, Knight, served against Scotch 1301 and beyond sea 1346. The History of Somersetshire states, was "Knighted first by Edward III at Bristol, 1327." Married, 1291, Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Sir John Lesore or de Lisures. Sir Robert died 1327, widow living 1333.

1382. THOMAS WICKHAM⁹, living 1382, died about 1385, married Katharine ———.

[Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica. Vol. III.

1386. THOMAS¹⁰, in possession of Swalcliffe, 1386; married Isabel, daughter of Wm. D'Oyley.

1465. THOMAS¹¹, will made 1465, married Agnes—.

JOHN¹², married Alice Ligyard, Lidyard or Lidyatt, of Glimpton Oxon (conjectured descent of the Wickhams of Abingdon and Garsington).

THOMAS, married Joyce, daughter of — Hanbury. Conjectured descent of Wickhams of Yorkshire: the most authentic authority believes that the Wickhams settled in Yorkshire not far from 1400.

1595. This (Yorkshire) branch produced William Wickham, Bishop of Lincoln, who died 1595, and who preached, as Dean of Peterborough, the funeral sermon of Mary, Queen of Scots, beheaded by authority of her sister queen, Elizabeth, of England.

[Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica. Vol. III.

Sixteenth Century. Further traces of this line are absent in English histories and genealogies. It is herein seen, however, that they leave this branch of the family in Yorkshire two generations after 1486, or pretty well into the sixteenth century.

C. A. H.

Other branches of the Wickhams, descending from the Swalcliffe line, the representative families, all descendants of the original and the same source, through several branches—people bearing practically the same coats-of-arms, although some have used other than the original Wickham Arms by virtue of marriage. Of these, there are representatives living at present (1899):

WYKHAMS, of Abingdon, County Berks.

WICKHAMS, of Somersetshire, at Frome Hill House, Horsington; descending through John Wycomb, of Bristol, 1346.

WYKEHAMS, of Tythrop House, County Oxford.

WICKHAMS, of Yorkshire. Henry W. Wickham, of Bradford, County York, m. p. 1800, was of this Yorkshire branch, and he claimed to have been a descendant of William of Wykham, the founder of Winchester College, and of New College, Oxford, and who was "the great luminary of the family," as Burke puts it in "Landed Gentry." C. A. H.

REV. EZEKIEL ROGERS OF ROWLEY, YORKSHIRE, ENGLAND, 1638, AND HIS COMPANY.

1638. In 1638, the Rev. Ezekiel Rogers formed a group of about twenty families in Rowley and vicinity, Yorkshire, England, to sail for America. He and his company reached the Massachusetts Bay Colony, 1638-9. There being no plantations in the colony then unoccupied he sent his company to New Haven, while he began seeking for a site for a plantation. He found a place on the Merrimack River, near the coast, northeast of Salem, which property had not been taken up by any white man. He then sent a pinnacle to New Haven for his people, who came back to Salem or thereabouts, and with some forty more families, which joined with them under the preacher, reached the place selected 1638-9. Rowley was named the same year after Rowley in England. The Great and General Court of Mass. officially confirmed the name.

[C. A. H., from facts gleaned from Gage's History of Rowley and other reliable sources.]

1638. Gage's History of Rowley states that the company of Rev. Ezekiel Rogers and Mr. John Phillips "had granted them by the General Court, March 13,

1638-9, eight miles in every way into the country, where it may not trench upon the plantations of others already settled." Rowley was so named July 7, 1639.

No complete list of the passengers composing the original "twenty families," which left Yorkshire, England, with the Rev. Rogers, appears at the present time. No Wicom or Wickham is quoted in a partial list, now preserved in the Rowley town records (Mass.) as among either the "original twenty" or subsequent "sixty families." However, it does appear (as appended hereinafter) that one "Richard Wicom" went to Rowley, Mass., and at the time of the first survey, 1643—or four years after 1639—was holding as much land in Rowley as others, who were known to have gone there with Rogers in 1639. The position of Richard's land indicates (as hereinafter recorded) that he was in Rowley at the start in 1639. He probably *was* there. The logical inference is, that he went to Rowley with Rogers, and that his was one of the "sixty families." It is quite probable as well that his family consisted of himself, wife Ann, and children, Thomas, who died July 6, 1660 (birth not given), John, his son (mentioned in Essex deeds), Daniel, a son (mentioned in Essex deeds). These sons, not being recorded in Essex Institute Collections as having been born in this country, were probably born in England, came over with Richard and Ann, and were among Roger's company when it left Yorkshire. There appears nothing in the American records to disprove this.

1645. The only other Wickham, who could have been in this country as early as 1645 was a THOMAS WICKHAM, who was in Wethersfield, Conn., and who was there as a freeman in 1658. As this Thomas Wickham was not one of Thomas Hooker's Company which reached Hartford about 1635, and as Rev. Ezekiel Roger's Company was at New Haven in 1638-9, the logical conclusion in regard to Thomas Wickham is that he came from England with Richard of Rowley, in

Roger's Company, and left the company at New Haven and journeyed to Wethersfield, instead of returning to Mass. Bay. It is also possible, but not so probable, that Thomas journeyed overland to Connecticut from Salem. Richard and Thomas may have been brothers or relatives. Family tradition reports "brothers as coming from England." Tradition, however, is not altogether reliable. The general fact of the "brothers" is accepted as correct by the present Wickhams, the descendants of Thomas, of Wethersfield.

The names of the sons of Richard and Thomas are family names, which strongly suggest relationship. The given names of the Wickhams in America are identical with those given to the Wickhams in England for 300 years.

WICKHAMS IN ROWLEY, MASS.

1639. In the book used in Rowley for recording general affairs of the town from 1639 to 1672 (the records in which are *now* mutilated and in places unintelligible previous to 1647) the following entries appear. This was the first book of records in Rowley, and dates from the arrival of the first settlers. (It needs be stated here that some 65 years ago copies of some parts of these records were then made, and it is from these copies that some of the earlier entries are ascertained.)

1663-4. RICHARD WICOM. Had wife and three children; buried January 27, 1663-4. (This means that Richard died at that time.) "The survey of the Towne of Rowley taken the tenth of the eleaventh Anno Dni, 1643. A register of all house Lotts in such severall streets as formerly mentioned in the booke." This appears to mean Lotts that were held before this survey was ordered. This survey reports as follows: "To Richard Wakam one house Lott containinge one acree and halfe, bounded on the North Side by Custins Crosbys house lot, the East end by the streete." (This street was then called Wethersfield Streete.)

1643. *Again*: "A Regester of the first division of plantinge Lotts, in the severall fields knowne by their several names above mentioned in the booke"—"To Richard Wakam four acres and halfe of upland lying upon the North Side of Custins Crosby; the East end butting upon John

Remington's house lott." (Date of this first division of "plantinge lotts" not given, but it was no doubt at the very start of the settlement. This is proof of Richard being of Rev. Rogers' Company.

Again: "A regester of the first division of fresh Meadows knowne by their several names aforementioned in the book"—"To Richard Wakam an acre of Meadow, lying North Side of Thomas Barkar's Meadow; the West End butting upon the aforesaid brooke: the north east side Joyning to the upland."

Again: "A regester of the first division of the salt Marsh;" "To Richard Wakam, one acre lying on East Side of George Kilbornes Marsh; butting as aforesaid."

(The foregoing four *first divisions* of land were all that were divided as "first divisions." No dates are given of last three divisions, but the inference is that the four divisions were all made at about the same time, and this time was no doubt at the beginning or before 1643.

C. A. H.

SECOND DIVISIONS OF LAND.

No dates given in book, but these entries appear under the general head of the 1643 survey.

"A Regester of the second division of Salt Marsh:" "To Richard Wakam, one acre, lying on the East side of Thomas Leavers Marsh; butting as aforesaid."

Again: "A Regester of the second division of fresh marsh, commonly called the first division of Rough Meadows"—"To Richard Wakam one acre, lying on the North west side of George Kilbornes Meadow, the West end butting upon the upland, the East end upon Custin Crosbyes Meadow."

Again: "A Regester of the second division of upland, laid out in the field called the Marsh field." "To Richard Wakam, one hundred and seven rods, lying on the north side of George Kilbornes upland; butting as aforesaid."

Richard Wakam not mentioned so far as the records now show in the "Third Division of the Salt Marsh."

Again: "Uplands laid out in the field called Bachelor's Plaine"—"To Richard Wikam, three acres lying on east side of George Kilbornes land, abutting as aforesaid."

1648. "Towne Meeting, 20 of November, 1648." "R. Wica; 1/1 wants one." (This entry is in a list of cattle owners, being a tax list, as the settlers were assessed for live stock. C. A. H.)

Also at same meeting: "Ordered that there shall be Eight Good and sufficient Bulls provided by the town."

(Then this entry follows in a list, showing the arrangement by and with whom the bulls should be provided or used)—"with R. Wicome one from John Pickerd to and with Thomas Barker."

"Bulls are to be provided before the 16 of March next * * * by the several companies aforesaid * * * bulls not to be younger than two years old nor kept till above five years old * * * in case any company fail in the due observation of thes order they shall pay for every month neglect, 19 shilling, 6 pence."

1653. In a list of cattle in 1653: "Richard Wickam, cows 4, heifers 1." "Paid heardsman for twelve weeks kepeing, 1s-4d."

1660. R. Wickam in town record: "fined for defective bounds at new Plaine."

No further mention of Richard. He died 1663.

1665. "At Towne Meeting February 14, 1665, Vxor Wicome, widow, fined 1s. 4d. want of gates." Vxor Wicome was Ann, wife of Richard, deceased.

1668. "April 16, 1668, R. Wickam, 67 acres." (This means estate left by Richard. C. A. H.) (Estate again mentioned in land records, 1679, under entry, "R. Wicom.")

1661. Feb. 4, 1661, in first record made in town book of transfers of property from 1639 to 1661, "since beginning of the said Towne." "Daniell Wicom purchased of Thomas Lambert two Gates."

Again: "Daniell Wickam purchased of Thomas Remington, two Gates." *Again:* "Daniel Wickam purchased of the Towne two Gates."

"Towne Meeting 19 June, 1662" in "town charges for yeare 1662, Dan. Wickam, 10s. 0d. Another entry: "0-08-6 Daniell Wickam."

1661. Child born to Daniel Wickham. (Entry in father's name only.)

1672. Town meeting report, 14 March, 1672 or '73. John Wickam mentioned as holding land. (First mention of John, who was son of Richard and had this land from his father.)

(Following from town records given by Gage's History of Rowley.)

1661. "At a Legall Town meeting, held the 17th of February, 1661. It was agreed and votted that there should be laid out a certain proportion of land according to the Gates or particuler Commonage as they are at this time belonging unto the several inhabitants, and the divisions to be to every one Gate, one acre of land."

Then follows: "To Daniell Wickam two acres, be it more or less, lieing one the south part of Mrs. Mary Rogers land on the south side of Hunsley hill, the east side and the south side buting against the towne common, the west side bounded by John Boynton's land."

1666. "Publick charges for 1666. * * * To Daniel Wicome for a hundred nails for meeting house."

1667. "May 20, division of hog lland upland and mars." "Daniell Wickam received a percell of marsh," twice.

1676-7. From town records as quoted in Gage's History of Rowley: name "Daniell Wicom" is signed to a deed of John Spofforth.

FOLLOWING FACTS FROM GAGE'S HISTORY OF ROWLEY.

1670. 17 January, 1670, Daniell Wickam elected overseer for west end of town; re-elected 1671.

1672. 21 Feb., 1672: "Daniell Wickam chosen one to consider which might be the best way to Repair the meeting house."

1691. Taxes 1691. Capt. Daniel Wicom 4£ 10s 0d, Daniel Wicom Jr. 1£ 10s 8d, John Wicom £0 3s 10d.

1680. Daniel, Sr., was a "tytheing man" "to have the inspection of certain families."

1685. 7 July: Daniel Wickam on committee to divide town of Rowley from village of Rowley.

1689. Daniel Wicom elected to the Colonial Court of Massachusetts. Again in 1699.

1667. Nov. 2, 1667. Daniel, Sr., one of a committee to see "that the Sabbath is duly observed in town."

1692. Indictment against "Margaret Scott, widow, for bewitching Frances Wycomb, single, both of Rowley." Daniel Wycomb, her father, was deponent against Margaret Scott. (Text of Daniel's deposition in Gage's History of Rowley, p. 171-2 Deposition of Frances Wycomb, page 175.) Margaret Scott was put to death at Salem.

1641. No mention of a Wickham as a freeman, in Massachusetts state records to 1641, which goes to show that no Wickham could have been settled anywhere much previous to 1641.

[The foregoing facts from the Rowley records are given as furnishing the proofs that the Rowley Wickhams remained in Rowley and did not come to Connecticut.]

THE WICKHAMS OF WETHERSFIELD, CONNECTICUT.

A. 1624

THOMAS WICKHAM¹, the founder of the Wethersfield family, was admitted a freeman at Wethersfield in 1658, owning land there at that time, and he acquired land in a part of the town known as Eastbury in 1673, at the time of the second grant of sixty acres to each earlier land owner. By his wife Sarah he had issue—Thomas, William², Samuel, Joseph, John and one daughter. *Sarah*

WILLIAM², the second son, was born in New Haven. Conn., 1657. He became the first holder of land in Glastonbury, which was set off from Wethersfield in 1690. His son,

WILLIAM, Jr.³ born previous to 1690, had issue, three sons and one daughter, one of these sons, named

JONATHAN⁴, living in 1723, when the second division of land in Glastonbury was made, was born previous to

1713, as land was given him at that time. He was a school teacher in 1739. His son

HEZEKIAH Wickham⁵, of Glastonbury, was born 1725, and received land from his father in 1749. He held the offices of Society Clerk and deacon in Eastbury for many years, and was a man of character and importance. His tombstone, still standing, is inscribed upon as follows :

Blessed are the Dead that die in the Lord.

Sacred to the Name and Memory
of Deacon Hezekiah Wickham,
of Glastonbury, who Departed this
life November 9th, A. D. 1792,
In the 67th Year of his Age.
He was a Deacon of the Church
of Christ in this Society for about
26 Years, he lived According to
his Christian Profession and died
in Joyous hopes of a Blessed
Immortality through the merits
of Christ our Exalted Redeemer.

While I Lie Buried Deep in Dust
My Flesh shall bee thy care,
these withering limbs with God I trust
to raise them Strong and Fair.

“The Glastonbury Centennial,,” an historical work, states that Hezekiah Wickham was one of those who at the alarm following the battle of Lexington, April, 1775, marched to the “relief of Boston.” The record of the Revolution shows that a “John Wickham of the Town of Glastonbury,” also was among those who in 1775 promptly rallied at “the alarm,” and with gun in hand hastened to the support of the minute-men of Massachusetts, in their resistance to British tyranny. Hezekiah Wickham’s son,

HEZEKIAH⁶, was born 1756 and died in 1800. In 1801, seven months after his death, his wife gave birth to a posthumous son named

JOHN Wickham⁷. He married Melinda Culver, daughter of Benjamin Culver of Manchester. He died there in 1865. His wife survived him many years, dying at Bloomfield, Conn., 1881, at the ripe age of eighty-one years.

HORACE J. Wickham⁸, of Hartford, Conn., son of John and Melinda, born April 1, 1836, married Fylura Sanders in 1857, and had

CLARENCE H. Wickham⁹, of Hartford, Conn., born Jan. 12, 1860, at New Haven, Conn.

WICKHAM.

CREST AND ARMORIAL BEARINGS.

The Bull's head crest and shield, "allowed by Camden Clarenceaux, King-at-arms, and confirmed by all the officers of armes under the seale of their office."

Nichols' Collectanea Topographica et Genealogica. Page 199.

1320. Wickham Arms in glass window in Swalcliffe church, 1635; five different coats, showing marriages, and use of other styles by Wickhams from having acquired right to other arms through legal means. Windows were built in 1320 and 1350.

Wickham arms seen in St. Martyn's church, Oxford. Same arms again on tomb of Rector John Wickam of Rotherfield.

1377. William of Wykham bought Broughton Castle, 13 miles from Swalcliffe, County Oxon. Castle still held by descendants.

ARMS. Argent, a chevron sable, three roses, gules, seeded, or

CREST. A bull's head sable, barbed, or

MOTTO. Manners maketh man.

HELMET. A Knight's helmet, of steel, full-faced, visor open.

Tankerville Arms. Wickhams, descendants of William of Wykham, are entitled to use another coat-of-arms; some families did so in fourteenth century; at least one family does to-day. These arms are the "Tankerville arms, and acquired by marriage of Sir Robert Wykham, Knt., in early fourteenth century to Elizabeth de Lisures, heiress of Sir John de Lisures, whose wife was an heiress of Tankerville." This coat was "field ermine, bordered gules, charged with mullets, or"—. Tankerville was a court chamberlain to the King, and his arms are used the Chamberlain family, England.

C. Wykeham-Martin, Esq., M. P., May, 1868,
in *Herald and Genealogist*.

"No coat but that of William of Wykham has ever been known as a Wykham coat."

Wickham "arms seen in church of Thame, Oxford, Sept. 6, 1636, by Wm. Wykeham of Abingdon and his son John, in middle window on north side of the boddie or middle ile of said church."

Testimony of Legal Proceedings, as given in Nichol's *Collectanea*.

Fourteenth Century. Seal of William of Wykham (the bishop) shows the Wickham arms.