

father, the first Hananiah, who purchased it in the year 1690. The above said John Mathis' son married the above named Zebulon Gauntt's daughter. In the year 1735 Robert Ridgway, son of Thomas Ridgway, of Little Egg Harbor, married Hannah, daughter of the first Zebulon Gauntt. Robert Ridgway had two children who lived to grow up, Joseph and Hannah. Joseph died a bachelor and Hannah married Timothy Pharo, Sr., who was the father of the late Timothy Pharo, of Tuckerton. All of Timothy Pharo, Sr.'s posterity are of the Gauntt blood, viz: Samuel Pharo's descendants, Robert Pharo's descendants, Timothy Pharo 2d's posterity, Japhet Leeds' do. and James Collins' do.

In the year 1743, Daniel, son of John Mathis, Sr., married Sophia, daughter of Zebulon Gauntt, Sr. Tradition says that the above said Sophia Gauntt was one of the greatest beauties of her time. Daniel Mathis was a sea captain, and followed the West India trade, and sometime after his marriage he settled in North Carolina, where he has a numerous posterity, many of them people of wealth and distinction. It is probable that when Captain Daniel Mathis went to reside in the Carolinas, his brother-in-law, Zebulon 2d, and his family, and Israel, who must have been a brother of Zebulon, all emigrated together, and very likely they all embarked in Captain Mathis' vessel.

After Robert Ridgway's wife's death, her sister, Mary Gamble, or Gambo, as it is written in the Egg Harbor Monthly Meeting books, came to keep house for Robert Ridgway, where she remained until her death. It is said that she owned a farm at Barnegat, and that she gave it to her nephew, Samuel Pharo.

THE CRANMER FAMILY.

I have tried to form a complete genealogical list of the Cranmer family, but I have found it an impossibility. There were at least four original branches of the Cranmers of Ocean and Burlington counties, whose descendants are so numerous and are so much mixed up by inter-marriage of "Cranmer with Cranmer" that at this late day there is no such thing as untangling the intricate web of their kinship.

Mr. Salter says that in the year 1681 there was a William Cranmer living on Staten Island, and further, that he had sons, Josiah, William, and John, who settled in New Jersey.

I have seen records that established the fact that there was also a Thomas Cranmer who settled in New Jersey as early as the year 1716, for in that year Thomas Cranmer and Abigail Willits laid a proposal of marriage before the Monthly Meeting of Friends at Little Egg Harbor. This is the first marriage recorded in the Monthly Meeting books. And another record goes on to say that two years after the above date Thomas Cranmer was living in that locality. I do not think that Thomas Cranmer remained in Egg Harbor many years after

his marriage. The supposition is that he settled somewhere in the lower part of Ocean county (then Monmouth county); in 1728 Thomas Cranmer and Mary Ridgway married. This might have been the above named Thomas Cranmer, who married a second wife, or else the son of William Cranmer the first, who came from Staten Island.

In the year 1729 there was an addition to the first colony of Cranmers, who settled in Ocean and Burlington counties; this was Stephen Cranmer and his wife Sarah, who brought their certificates to the Friends' Meeting of Little Egg Harbor, and settled at Bass River. A venerable lady whose mother was a daughter of the first John Cranmer, told me that her mother said that Stephen Cranmer came from the same place that the other Cranmers did, but that he was not a near kinsman of theirs. The Cranmers of New Jersey claim to be the descendants of Thomas Cranmer, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who was burned at the stake for his devotion to Protestantism by order of Queen Mary, at Smithfield, England, May 21st, 1556. I believe the Cranmers are right in claiming descent from Archbishop Cranmer, for I have seen a likeness of him, and I have seen many Jersey Cranmers who possessed a striking resemblance to the Archbishop.

The Cranmers do not all spell their names alike—some have it Cranmer, and others Cramer, and still others Crammer, but the variation is easily accounted for. In old times most people had but little if any learning, and orthography suffered in their hands. Give half a dozen persons a name to spell that could be spelled a half a dozen ways, and it would be pretty sure to be accomplished, each one having spelled it in his own peculiar style, and thus it came about that there are so many ways of spelling one name.

William, Josiah, and probably Thomas Cranmer, were the forefathers of the Cranmers of Ocean county, N. J., and John and Stephen were the ancestors of the Cranmers of Burlington county, they having settled at Bass River.

The Cranmers are noted (especially former generations) for being partial to family names. I have heard it said that many years ago there were six Josiah Cranmers, all residing within a short distance of each other; and in order to distinguish one from another they were denominated thus: Old Josiah and Young Josiah; Big Josiah and Little Josiah; Over-the-creek Josiah and Poplar Neck Josiah.

I believe there has been a score or two of John Cranmers. I have heard the distinguishing titles of several of them which are as follows: John's John and Semor's John; Long John and Short John; Poplar Neck John and Beach John; Over-the-Plains John and Patty's John; Captain John and Bank John; Neddy's John and Bass River John.

There has been a large number of William Cranmers and also several Thomas Cranmers.

The present race of Cranmers are many of them successful seamen. There is a large number of Captain Cranmers, in some cases all the male members of a family are captains.

It appears that the first generations of Cranmers belonged to the Society of Friends. In the books of the Monthly Meeting of Little Egg Harbor are recorded the marriages of the following members of the Cranmer family :

In the year 1716 Thomas Cranmer and Abigail Willits were married.

1721 John Cranmer and Mary Andrews were married.

1726 the above-named John Cranmer married a second wife, she being Rebecca Stout, of Shrewsbury, N. J.

1728 Thomas Cranmer and Mary Ridgway were married.

1728 Timothy Ridgway and Sarah Cranmer, daughter of the first William, were married.

1737 Thomas Havens and Sarah Cranmer were married.

1743 Levi Cranmer married Esther Horne. Levi, son of the first William.

1746 Anthony Morris and Sarah Cranmer were married.

1747 William Cranmer, Jr., was married. The son of the first William.

1758 Caleb, son of Stephen Cranmer, Sr., of Bass river was married. This was his first marriage. He had three wives.

1758 Abraham Cranmer and Abigail Birdsall were married.

William Cranmer's Family.—Mr. Salter states that William and Josiah Cranmer first settled near New Egypt, and soon traded their place for lands and privileges near Cranmertown, between Mannahawkin and West creek, in Ocean county, and that William then moved to the vicinity of Waretown. I cannot agree with him about William living at Waretown, for the following record does not favor such a statement. In an old book that once belonged to Edward Andrews' son, Samuel, it is recorded on one of the fly leaves (among other important records) that William Cranmer, who had settled at Barnegat, was the first proselyte that Edward Andrews was instrumental in making, after his own conversion, and also that the above-named William Cranmer used to walk from Barnegat (twelve miles) to the Little Egg Harbor (Tuckerton) meeting, where Edward Andrews often preached to the edification of those assembled. The substance of the above record is also a tradition among the Friends of Egg Harbor. If William Cranmer had lived at Waretown, he would have had to walk sixteen miles to Egg Harbor. Some authors say that the Little Egg Harbor Meeting was established in the year 1704. In 1712 William Cranmer signed his name as a witness to the will of Edward Andrews. And about the same time he made locations of lands in Little Egg Harbor, one tract being salt marsh on the bay shore.