

The Ridgway Family

Genealogy

**Based upon notes
from the files of
Sterling Otis,
Tuckerton, N.J.**

Forward

The Ridgway family is an old family in the Little Egg Harbor area. I received the following information from my good friend and fellow genealogist, Shirley Whealton, who currently lives in Little Egg Harbor. It came from the files of Sterling Otis (1896-1989) who lived on South Green Street, Tuckerton, N.J.

Most of the pages were poor quality Xerox copies. I scanned them into a computer and cleaned them up. Hopefully, they will prove helpful to someone working on the Ridgway genealogy.

Peter H. Stemmer
New Gretna, N.J.
June, 2008

The following Ridgway Genealogy was written by W. M. Kern, New York City, New York, in December, 1912. There were numerous handwritten notes on the manuscript. It is unknown as to who and when they were added, although it is probably that they were made by Mr. Kern in the process of developing the final manuscript. The handwritten notes have been transcribed in smaller gray print, as they were difficult to read.

RIDGWAY GENEALOGY

as gathered by W. M. KERN, 507 Willis Ave., New York.

Corrected to December 1912.

The Ridgway family in America is large and has comprized several members of ability and wealth. Family records have been persistently traced by several descendants, and the information noted herein, (previous to the name of Thomas Ridgway of Milford, Pa.) is compiled from information gathered by them, much of it appearing in public records.

Credit is mainly due to Mr. James Ridgway of New York, from whom the most of this early history was received, and whose records have cost him much labor and expense both here and in England, to Mr. Howard Deacon of Philadelphia, a member of the Ridgway family, and a professional genealogist, and to other well informed persons whose information comes to the writer indirectly, and has been copied and inserted.

ESSER or ASSER OF ENGLAND, a Saxon Noble of the time of the Norman conquest, lived in Edinghall in Stafford shire, and possest manors in several shires of England. His grandson William assumed the surname "Ridware" from one of the manors of Stafford shire.

One of his descendants is said to be Thomas Ridgway (great grandfather of Richward Ridgway of Wallingford), who was held in high favor by Queen Elizabeth and King James the first, and to have been an intimate friend and companion of Robert Cecil, son of Lord Burleigh, who became the first Earl of Salisbury, England's famous Prime Minister. Robert Cecil is said to have been godfather to the eldest son of Thomas Ridgway, and given him his own name Robert.

RICHARD RIDGWAY is rumored to have been a near kinsman of the then Earl of Chatham. He appears to have lived in Wallingford, Berkshire, (west of London, on the Thames). He was a tailor and pre-

sumably born about 1655. Elizabeth Chamberlayne, daughter of Robert and Elizabeth Chamberlayne of Wiltshire, was his first wife, and his first child Thomas dates from July 25th, 1677. He came to America with his wife and child on the ship "Jacob and Mary", arriving at the Delaware River August or September 1679. Some accounts have his arrival at the mouth of the River September 12th, and others probably more correct state that he was at Burlington, N. J. on September 12th. He is said to be one of six Quakers sent over before William Penn to look the country over. Going up the River above Bristol, Pa., he bought a plantation of 318 or 218 acres at Crew Corn, now Falls Township, near Penns Manor, Buck County, Pa., and was settled there a year before Penn's arrival.

On April 12th, 1680 he signed a petition to the Governor to suppress the sale of brandy and strong liquors to ye Indians.

May 3rd, 1686 the Governor's Council of Philadelphia recommended him as "A fitt pson for ye keeping an Ordinary".

October 7th, 1690 he bought 600 acres in Maidenhead, west of the province line and running from the Great Meadows at Fort Mercer northward a mile, and lived there several years. His wife died March 31st, 1692, and he married again about February 1693 or 1694, his second wife being Abigail Stockton, daughter of Richard ^{died 1707} and Abigail Stockton, ^{died after 1714} a prominent family ^{who came} from Flushing, Long Island, ^{in 1690 to Springfield Township} to Burlington County, N. J. This marriage "not being to Friends order" the Chesterfield monthly meeting appointed Mahlon Stacey and Robert Wilson to inquire and remonstrate with Richard and Abigail. The result was that on April 25th, 1694 the two sent a paper to the monthly meeting "condemning" their outgoing in marriage.

February 7th, 1697 he purchased a farm from John Hollingshead in Springfield Township, (six miles from Burlington), Burlington County N. J., near his wife's father, and lived there the remainder of his days. He gave one acre to the Society of Friends for a meeting house and burying ground, known as the Old Springfield Meeting House and still standing in 1855.

He was appointed Judge of Burlington County on August 8,
and held this office until April 1720. His will is dated the
the 9th month 1722, and he died January 1723 it is said. His
Abigail died between the 8th of March and 19th of December 1726.

His children by his first wife were as follows:

Thomas, born July 25, 1677; died Aug. 24, 1724 at Little Egg Harbor, N.
Married Ann Pharo probably about 1695, daughter of James of England.
Married Mrs. Elizabeth Titus, daughter of Edward Andrews
Eleven children, see following sheets.

Richard, born Feb. 27, 1680; died before April 1719 near Jobstown, N.J.
Married Mary Willetts Aug. 9, 1702 from Queens County, L. I.
Married Mrs. Mary Crispin or Crespin Nov. 11, 1714, daughter of
Richard Stockton, and also widow of Thomas Shinn and Silas Crispin
Six children, see following sheets.

Elizabeth, born April 17, 1682; died
Married Richard Willetts of Long Island, brother of Mary Willett;
Joseph?

William, born 1685; died young.

Sarah, born 1687; died young.

Josiah, born Sept. 6, 1690 (or July 6); died
Married Sarah

Joseph, born ; died young. This whole item
may be in error.

Children by second wife:

Job, born ; died
Married Rebecca Butcher
One child, see following sheets.

Abigail, born ; died
married Henry Clothier in 1719.

John, born ; died in Virginia.
Married

All his descendants in Virginia.

Mary, born ; died
married _____ Balangee

Jane, born ; died
married Isaac Cutrim (sp?)

Sarah, born ; died

Joseph, born ; died 1762 or 3 at Springfield, N.J.
Married Sarah Butcher
Married Hannah Allen in 1736 or 1737
See following sheets. Twelve to sixteen children.

It is said the memorials in the Ridgway Library, Philadelphia, state that Richard Ridgway of Wallingford, descended from Sir Thomas Ridgway, the first Earl of Londonderry, Ireland. His ^{the Earl's} biography is in "Dictionary of National Biography", and he appears to have been born in the neighborhood of Torrington, Devon shire, England, about 1565, and settled near Agher, Tyrone County, Ireland, in July 1611, remaining until August 1622, when he sold some or all of his estate to purchase the title "Earl of Londonderry." Another Thomas Ridgway born 1593, with his brothers George and John, are mentioned in another book as settling in the same place. He died in London in 1631, and was buried at Tor Mahun, Devon shire, England. He was probably a member of the original family, but the better judgment does not believe him an ancestor of Richard.

Samuel Ridgway is mentioned in a communication to THE OLD NORTH-WEST GENEALOGICAL QUARTERLY for April 1902, published at Columbus, Ohio, by a contribution from Mrs. Jennie Lindley Ridgway of Winfield, Iowa, as having come to Pennsylvania with William Penn in 1682. He married Polly , and so far as known brought with him two children, Philip and Ausburn. Philip is said to have had eighteen children, of which three were known by the contributor. Apparently Philip lived part of the time either in Virginia or North Carolina, then moved out west. Most of his descendants appear to be in Kansas, Missouri, Iowa or North Carolina. There are a large number of descendants of Samuel, but nothing is known which relates him to Richard, who came to America in 1679.

Printed items of information occur in

American Ancestry, Vol. 5 - 101.

Penn. Magazine of History & Biography, Vol. 12 - 495, & Vol. 17 - 381.

Powers Sangamon County, Ill. letters, page 617.

Prominent men of Philadelphia - see Jacob Ridgway.

History of Monmouth and Ocean Counties - see Ridgway memo.

Old Northwest Genealogical Quarterly of Columbus, Ohio, for Jan & Apr 1902.

History of Warren County, N. J.

History of Pike County, Pa.

Proceedings of Surveyors Assn. of West New Jersey, page 262. Printed 1880.

Letters in Ridgway Library, Philadelphia, concerning Ridgway genealogy.

Mt. Holly Mirror of Aug 1878 - Ridgway article.

Phila. Sunday "North American" (about 1907) - article by Frank Willing Leach

For ancestors of Richard and Abigail Stockton, see

"Genealogy of Christopher Wetherill", and

"The Ancestry of J. William White" in library of Penna. Hist. Soc.

THOMAS RIDGWAY, son of Richard, born July 25, 1677 probably in Wallingford, England, came over with his parents when they came to this country in 1679. He married Ann Pharo, probably about 1695, daughter of James Pharo, who came from England, and later married Mrs. Elizabeth Titus daughter of Edward Andrews. He moved to Tuckerton, N. J., otherwise called Little Egg Harbor, before 1718, remaining there until his death Aug. 24, 1724. His children by his first wife were

Thomas, born Jan. 14, 1701; died 1786.
 Married Mary Ong in 1723.
 Seven children, see following sheets.

Catharine, born ; died in 1721
 Married John Gardner of Juliustown, Burlington County, N. J.

John, born Aug. 28, 1705; died May 21, 1774 at Egg Harbor, N. J.
 Married Phebe Titus in 1728
 Married Phoebe Ballenger or Bellangee.
 Five children, see following sheets.

Robert, born 1708; died 1789.
 Married Hannah Gauntt
 Children were Joseph, a bachelor, and
 Hannah who was born 1752, married Timothy Pharo, and died in 180
 Was mother of Timothy Pharo, Jr., and great great grandmother
 of Eleanor B. Price of Tuckerton.

Ann, born ; died
 Married Ananias Gauntt. Was a Quaker preacher, or her husband w
 children were John, Joseph, Ann & Elizabeth.

Children by his second wife were

Edward, born Aug. 15, 1713; died 1750.
 Married Mary Dilleplaine
 Married
 Three children, see following sheets.

Richard, born 1715; died (1747)
 Married Phoebe Pancoast in 1739
 Children were

Elizabeth, born ; died
 Married Samuel Andrews in 1726. Three children lived to grow up:
 Peter, Esther & Hannah.

Job, born 1719; died 1773 in South New Jersey
 Married
 Children were Daniel and several daughters.

Joseph, born Sept. 20, 1721; died 1771 in Staten Island.
 Married Mary Smith Rogers.
 Six children; see following sheets.

Jacob, born 1723; died 1798 probably at Springfield NJ
 Married Isabel Schooley in 1750.
 Seven children, see following sheets.

RICHARD RIDGWAY, cont. 2.

Mary, born ; died
Married

James, born ; died
Married

Children by his second wife were

None

JOB RIDGWAY, son of Richard was born , probably while his father was living on the Maidenhead Estate. Married Rebecca Butcher in 1719. He died (Will made February 10, 1761)

His children were

Solomon, born Aug. 18, 1723; died

Married Mary Burr in 1747, sister of Jane Burr, and daughter of Robert Burr and Jane Abbott Burr.

He had eleven children.

He bought a large tract of land on the north side of Rancocas River, probably just east of the Creek coming down thru what is known as Charlestown, Burlington County, N. J. He purchased and lived on this tract sometime previous to 1780, and died there about 1788. The property descended to his son Benjamin E., who probably occupied the farmhouse on the farm, south of the turnpike running from Beverly to Rancocas, and his son Benjamin farmed part of the tract located opposite, and on the northerly side of the turnpike. Later, on the death of Benjamin E., the property all came to the possession of the son Benjamin, who then owned about six hundred acres of land in the neighborhood, and disposed of it all about 1866. The farm was known as the Ridgway farm, and appears to have been owned by Henry Worden in the spring of 1870, and was then purchased by J. Ogden Kern, who moved to the property and remained there until 1873, when it was sold to Mr. Henry Oeigg.

Mrs. Mary R. Grundy of Bristol, Pa. is a daughter of this later mentioned Benjamin Ridgway.

One of the children of Solomon was Henry, born 1749, who had ten children, one of them being Solomon born June 23rd, 1760 who had four children, one of them being Richard S., born in 1793, married Mary Winkler in 1816, had fourteen children, and died in 1830. The names of some of his children were

Anna M.,

Charles W.,

George G.,

Henry W.,

Mary A.,

Levinia W.,

Jacob, who was living at Haverford, Pa. in 1910.

Catharine A.,

Richard S.,

Catharine A., married Samuel W. Kennedy, who was mother of Samuel R. Kennedy born in 1847, who married Letitia T.

Jones, and was father of Samuel W. Kennedy born in 1873,

who lives at 230 South Melville Avenue, West Philadelphia.

Jacob Ridgway of Haverford has a daughter Jessie, who married Fred Butterfield of New York, son of the Earl of Cliff castle, Yorkshire, England.

Another son, ^{of Solomon} was William of Burlington, born July 1st, 1755, who married Mary Thomas and had two daughters, -

Mrs. Mary Deacon probably born in 1800, was living in Wayne, Pa. in 1890. Is mother of William R. Deacon, who married

Abigail Collins, and William is the father of Howard Deacon of 3256 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Mrs. ^{the other daughter} Dutton was the mother of E. J. Dutton of Burlington, who married Helen E.

Died March 1905.

JOSEPH RIDGWAY, son of Richard, born , apparantly
at his father's farm in Springfield Township, Burlington County, New
Jersey. He inherited this farm from his father, and died there in 1761
1762 or 1763. He married first Sarah Butcher, and later in 1736 or
1737, married Hannah Allen, daughter of Henry and Mary. His will was
dated July 7th, 1760. In the records of the Ridgway Library, he is
said to have had sixteen children, ten of whom lived to marry, and that
he left each son a farm and a negro slave. Children by his first wife
None

Children by second wife

Joseph, born ; died

Married

Had a large farm which he rented to his son Israel, and moved
to Mt. Holly, Pa., where he kept a store. (No. Mt. Holly, Pa.
may mean Mt. Holly, N. J.)

His children were

Israel, unmarried

Coates, unmarried

Mary, unmarried

Beulah, unmarried

Catharine, married

Butterworth

Nancy, married

Married a second time, but had no children by his second wife.

David, born in Springfield Township, Burlington County, N. J., on
; died 1794

Married Jane Burr, daughter of Robert and Jane Abbot Butt.

Apparantly a farmer of Springfield Township.

He moved to Philadelphia in the spring of 1791, where he was
killed in the spring of 1794 by a runaway horse attached to
a cart.

His children were

Abigail, married John Livezey of Wissahickon, Pa., owner
of a large flour mill.

David, went to New York City about 1794, married, and in
1806 moved to Bradford County, Pa. Apparantly he and
his brother Robert were associated in business.

Rachel married John Evans possibly in 1791.

Richard married Sarah Cowell in Bradford County, Pa.,
moved to Harrisburg, Pa., and from thence went west.

Robert, married Eleanor Martin of Wysox, Pa. Was a
tanner and currier; went to New York, and later in
1806 moved to Bradford County, Pa., and set up his
business.

Hannah, married Aaron Middleton, of Philadelphia, Pa.

Sarah, married John L. Johnson, of Germantown, Pa.

JOSEPH RIDGWAY, cont. 2.

Burr, born April 17th, 1780, married October 4th, 1804
Mrs. Alice Moyer, (1779-1858), daughter of Moses
Coolbaugh of Wysox, Pa. In 1803 went to Wilkes
Barre, Pa., and then to Wysox, Pa. Appears to have
gone to farming near Towanda in Bradford County, Pa.
in 1805, and died there August 19th, 1876. He had
five children all of that neighborhood.
(Mr. James Ridgway of New York says David was the
fourth child of Joseph, and but twelve in all. Also
that Burr Ridgway was ninth child of his father David.)
Burr's children were Hannah M. 1805, - David 1806, -
James C. 1808, father of James A. Of Minneapolis, and
great grand father of Charles A. of Dayton, Ohio, -
Lydia A. 1810, - Mary A. 1814, - Nancy J. 1816, mother
of D. J. Sweet of Towanda.

Daniel, born about 1743:

Said to have moved forty miles north of New York.

Henry, born ; died

Married Hannah Burr.

His children were

Rebecca, unmarried

Joseph, married

Henrietta, married

Mary, married Mr.

Coates, daughter of Joseph of Coates-
ville, Pa.

Mood of Chester Co., Pa.

Allen, born ; died

Married Phebe Ridgway, his second cousin, on March 26th, 1776,
a sister of Jacob Ridgway, the millionaire of Philadelphia.

He inherited his father's farm in Springfield Township.

Had a daughter Charlotte who married Benjamin W. Low, a merchant
of Philadelphia, Mother of Mrs. Rowland, the mother
of Charles I. Rowland.

Had a daughter Ahn, who probably died young.

Subsequent to March 1783, he and his wife and two children,
moved to Philadelphia, where he became a prosperous business
man.

He married again and had other children.

Sarah, born Jan. 15, 1748 ; died Nov. 29, 1817

Married Joseph Pancoast, and was mother of the well-known Dr.
Pancoast of Philadelphia.

Abigail, born ; died

Married Josiah Haines, whose father Richard came from England

Mary

Married John Bishop.

Children: Joseph, Ridgway, Lucy, Robert R., Eliza (m. Andrew C. Ridgway,
son of "Gentleman John", Ann.

Married Thomas Pancoast.

JOSEPH RIDGWAY, cont. 3.

.....
Married Solomon Thomas.

The names of his children are given as follows by Miss Eleanor B.
Price:-

Joseph
Hannah
Daniel
Henry
Rebecca
Allen
Jane
Sarah
Abigail
Catherine
Mary

~~He is said to have had sixteen children in the Ridgway Library Records,
ten of whom lived to marry, and that he left each son a farm and a
negro slave.~~

Note: This is crossed out in the manuscript.

THOMAS RIDGWAY, son of Thomas was born January 14, 1701. Married Mary Ong in 1723, and possibly may have married a second wife. He lived all his life at Tuckerton, N. J., and died there in 1786. His children were

Ann, born ; died
Married James Willetts
Children were
Eliakim
Henry
Thomas
Jeremiah
James
John
Phebe
Ann

Sarah, born ; died
Married Caleb Carr of Rhode Island in 1746.
Children were
Job
Joseph
Samuel
and probably others

Jeremiah, born Feb. 12, 1730; died
Went to Ohio before 1800
Married Hannah Hubbs
No children

Thomas, born 1732; said to have died in infancy

John, born Oct. 27, 1734; died
Appears to have lived at Tuckerton, or Little Egg Harbor
Married Susannah Bellinger, sister of Phebe and Ruth.
Children were
James, born Oct. 3, 1762; died after 1795. married Naomi Willits and was wealthy.
Was of Little Egg Harbor (or possibly went to Indiana)
Isaac married Nancy, daughter of Moses Mulliner.
Mary
Jeremiah, born 1770; died ; father of John &
Asa married Martha Willits. Two sons and several daughters. Nathan
Elizabeth
Job, born after 1774
Phebe was second wife to Judge Ebenezer Tucker after whom Tuckerton was named.

Job, born 1737; died in infancy

Job, born 1742; died 1813.
Lived apparently in Tuckerton
Married Ruth Belangee in 1767
Children were
Mercy, Joseph Weterill married in 1789 in New Jersey
Amos, born 1773; died 1803; remained in Tuckerton.
Isaiah
Thomas, born 1788; died 1814 No known children
Samuel, ; left Tuckerton
Most of these children went to Ohio

JOHN RIDGWAY, son of Thomas, was born August 28, 1705 at Tuckerton, N. J. His farm was at Little Egg Harbor, the neighborhood of Tuckerton N. J., and he was an Elder of the Friends Society of Tuckerton. He married Phoebe Titus by whom he had no children, and later Phebe Ballenger or Bellangee, sister of Susanna, by whom he had five children, all born at Little Egg Harbor, and all of whom left. He died May 21st, 1771 at Little Egg Harbor. Mrs. Ridgway made a will in 1783, and died about 1784. His children were

John, born Aug. 14, 1755 at Little Egg Harbor; died 1845.
Was called "Gentleman John".

Married Elizabeth Wright in 1776.

She was born March 17, 1756, and died in 1843.

Children were

David, born Nov. 5, 1777; died June 20, 1778.

Sarah, born Nov. 8, 1779; died 1871. or 1872?

Married Nicholas Waln, maybe of Walnford, N. J.

Also said to be of Monmouth County.

Caleb, born Dec. 4, 1781; died before 1855, (or by other records, before 1867 in Illinois).

Married Helena Lloyd.

John, born Aug. 23, 1784; died 1842 in Illinois.

Married Rebecca Olden.

Jacob, born Sept. 3, 1787; died 1838, possibly in 1834 in New Jersey.

Married Lydia H. Coate, who, or her husband was buried near Juliustown, N. J.

He appears to have been connected in business in Philadelphia first with his Uncle Jacob the millionaire, and occasionally went up the Delaware River to visit the glass works owned by his Uncle and brother, located just above Port Jervis. Then in partnership with his brother Thomas, and later his cousin Benjamin.

His daughter Caroline married William Deacon.

His son William Coate Ridgway married Mary W. Rossett, and only had a daughter Elizabeth, born August 14, 1836, died Dec. 11, 1878, who married John B. Deacon Of Pemberton, N. J. on Oct. 14, 1857. Another daughter of Jacob, Mrs. Edith H. Lewis, born in 1827, lives at Medford, Burlington County, N. J.

His son Jacob never married; died 1863.

His daughter , married Stockton; had no children.

His daughter , married Jonathan H. Woolman, and is dead, but he and children were in 1906, living in Camden, N. J.

David W., born May 12, 1791; died 1841 in New Jersey, or possibly out West.

Married Sarah Wilmins of Illinois.

Had no children.

Appears to have been partner with ^{his} Uncle Jacob in the glassworks.

Andrew Craig, born Feb. 9, 1793; died 1884 in N. J., (or from other records died before 1855).

Married Eliza Bishop in 1827. daughter of John Bishop & _____ Ridgway

Had daughter Rebecca, unmarried, born 1837. Had a son Craig, who lived at Coatesville, Pa., who had no children.

Died at Contesville? Feb. 7, 1913

Had a daughter , who married Ellis Branson. 14

JOHN RIDGWAY, cont. 2.

Thomas, born May 5, 1797, died 1887.
Married Sarah Pancoast in 1821.
He went to Philadelphia in 1812, lived at 353 Arch Street in 1855, and was father of Dr. Thomas E., lately of Washington, and John J., born 1843, of Philadelphia.
In 1816 was in partnership with his brother Jacob, in the flour and feed business.
In 1821 Jacob retired, and Benjamin a cousin, probably the son of Jacob the millionaire, entered the firm.
He was President of the Girard Life Ins. Society for a long time prior to his death, and the Ridgway family records appear to be the first kept by him.
His wife died in 1888.

Phoebe, born April 16, 1757; died
Married Allen Ridgway her second cousin, who inherited his father's farm in Springfield Township.
Children were
Charlotte, who married Benjamin W. Low, a merchant of Philadelphia, and had a daughter Mrs. Rowland, and a grandson Charles I. Rowland of Philadelphia.

Thomas, born Sept. 12, 1759; died 1798 or 1799.
Was a Sea Captain.
Married Jannette Low, who after the death of her husband married John Rose, and moved to Genesee County, New York, taking her daughter with her.
Children were
Allen, unmarried, died in 1822 in Tuckerton.
Mary, married Gillis.
Jeanette or Ann, said to have settled near Ridgway, Pa.

Ann, born Aug. 11, 1763; was living in 1790, probably ^{had} died by 1795.
Married James Smith, who was a partner with Jacob Ridgway, the millionaire of Philadelphia, under the firm name of Smith & Ridgway.
She had no children.
Her husband married after her death, and died in 1826.

Jacob, born April 18, 1768 at Little Egg Harbor; died April 30, or in May 1843, in Philadelphia.
Married Rebecca Rawle in 1794; previously was living with sister Ann.
He first engaged in business as shipping merchant with his brother-in-law James Smith, later under the title of Smith & Ridgway, and became the noted rich man of Philadelphia, his estate at his death being computed at six million dollars. Part of his business was in connection with a glass works, which he owned from 1814 to 1822, located on the west side of the Delaware River a few miles above Port Jervis.
His history and photographs are in various histories of Philadelphia.

JOHN RIDGWAY, cont. 3.

He lived for several years in England during the war time of 1812, and later represented our Government at Antwerp, as U. S. Counsel. On his return he retired from the firm to look after his real estate interests which were large. He lived on the north side of Chestnut Street, between Fifth and Sixth, and afterward is said to have built a mansion for himself, possibly near Fourth and Spruce. A large part of his wealth finally went to build the Ridgway Library of Philadelphia.

His children were

Susan, who^{first} married Thomas Rotch, afterward Dr. John E. Barton, and had no issue. Was living in 1855.

Phoebe Ann, born Dec. 3, 1799, died Oct. 23, 1857. Married Dr. James Rush. She was a noted woman, and recorded on a separate sheet.

Benjamin, seems to have died young, but may have been a partner with his cousin Thomas from 1821 to 1823.

John Jacob, married Elizabeth Willing.

Moved to Paris in 1851, and died there subsequent to 1855.

His children are Emily E., Comtesse de Ganay, who lived in 1906 at 36 Rue Pierre Charron, Paris, and Henry, also of Paris.

Phoebe Ann Ridgway, daughter of Jacob Ridgway of Philadelphia was born December 3rd, 1799. She married Dr. James Rush October 19th, 1819. He was a son of Dr. Benjamin Rush, famous in Revolutionary times, and was born March 15th, 1786 in Philadelphia, and died there May 26th, 1869. Mrs. Rush in her early days was said to be a Philadelphia belle, and as Mrs. Dr. James Rush she absolutely ruled Philadelphia society; but was not said by her descendants to be a good looking woman. She was years ahead of her time in making herself and her home the social attraction for people of talent, wit and merit, caring very little as to what their antecedents or wealth might have been. Her husband Dr. Rush was inclined the other way in his social distinction. Dr. Rush became an author, writing a number of medical books, some of them, dealing on how to prevent yellow fever, being very opportune, and brought him into notice all over the world, so that he is said to have received tokens of honor from every crowned head in Europe; that from the Czar of Russia being some very valuable jewels. His most famous book appears to have been called "Philosophy of the Human Voice." Some of his family express it however, that he had every sense in an extraordinary degree, except common sense, and that he was almost crazy before he died. The last twelve years of their married life was said to be quite unhappy, so much so that they lived apart in their home and did not speak to each other; his room being a den of books and mementoes, while her apartments could not have been better furnished for any queen. Both of them however, were above making a quarrel out of their differences, and in public or whenever he attended his wife's receptions, the doctor always spoke to his wife the same as any other woman. It is said that at noon each day she regularly went for a walk up and down Chestnut Street, and her summers were always spent at Saratoga, N. Y., and she died there October 23rd, 1857, some eleven and a half years before the death of her husband. After one or two removals she was finally placed alongside of her husband beneath the floor of the Ridgway Library, corner of South Broad and Carpenter Streets, Philadelphia. Dr. Rush provided in his will for the founding of a library, which was to be

called the Ridgway Library His will is said to have been a rather crazy document, and was fought all the way thru the courts by his relatives, and after it was sustained it was an open questions with the Philadelphia authorities whether they would accept the money and build the library in accordance with the restrictions mentioned in his will. One of these restrictions was, "That no newspaper under any circumstances was to enter the Library". For a considerable part of their life Dr. and Mrs. Rush lived alongside of her father on the north side of Chestnut Street between Fifth and Sixth, on the spot now occupied by #517 Chestnut Street. Her father is said to have afterwards moved and built a mansion for himself, which possibly is the one located in the neighborhood of Fourth and Spruce Streets.

Dr. and Mrs. Rush later lived on the south side of Chestnut Street, near 19th Street, and their residence later was enlarged and is now the Aldine Hotel.

EDWARD RIDGWAY, son of Thomas, born August 15, 1713. Apparently
was a resident of Tuckerton, N. J. Was twice married, and died

1750. Our records show that he moved to Long Island.

Married Mary Dilleplaine in 1732.

Children were

Job, born 1738; died

Married

His son Jacob born Oct. 20, 1761.

Was father of Job born September 21, 1797, who was father of
Jacob E., born April 10, 1827, President of Quaker City
National Bank, Philadelphia.

Edward, born 1745.

No record of marriage or children.

....., (a son).

JOSEPH RIDGWAY, son of Thomas, born September 20th, 1721; died
on or before 1755 and his residence was occupied by his descendants for 100 years or more.
1771. He moved to Staten Island, and married Mary Smith

Rogers, who was born in 1718, and died in 1771. His children were

Joseph, born July 16th, 1750; died 1786.
Married Sarah Lawrence, who was born 1759, and
died 1823.

His children were

Joseph, born October 4th, 1779; died 1837
who was the father of James L., born 1804, who
was father of James Ridgway, born 1829, U. S.
Commissioner, 116 Nassau Street, New York City.

Mary
Ann
James
Elizabeth

Elizabeth, born
Married Peter Praul of Staten Island previous to 1790.

Thomas, born 1747; died 1782.
Seems to have married Elizabeth Jones, probably of Staten
Island, and had quite a family.

Ann,

Keturah,

Sarah, born ; died
Kept house for Mr. James Smith of Philadelphia, after the death
of her cousin Ann, his wife, in 1826 returned to Staten Island when
Mr. Smith married again. If she ever married
it was after her return.

JACOB RIDGWAY, son of Thomas born 1723; died
1798. Appears to have lived in Springfield Township. Married
Isabel Schooley in 1750. His children were

Phebe, born 1753; died

Married Eliakim Willits, Sr.

Susanna, born 1755; died

Married Joseph Brown

Jacob, born ; died
Married in 1780.

Children: Ellis, Aaron, Susannah, Sarah Ann and others.
They lived on a farm in Salem County, N. J.

Samuel, born ; died

Married _____
Had a son, Samuel.

Andrew or Andress, born Nov. 21, 1762; died Oct. 15, 1837.

Lived in Salem Co., or Gloucester County, N. J.

Married Lydia Clark August 21, 1788; she died September 4, 1804

He married later, Mary - , about 1806.

Children were

Clark, born Dec. 6, 1789; the father of Lydia, Ann, Allen
Samuel, and Elizabeth, and was grandfather of Miss Emma
Tomlin, Woodbury, N. J.

Elizabeth, born May 2, 1791.

Samuel, born June 6, 1792.

Joseph, born April 29, 1795; of Tuckerton, and father of
Joseph T. Ridgway of Tuckerton, who was father of Dr.
George M. Ridgway who died at Trenton October 8, 1911,
and his brother Theodore. He was also grandfather of
Henry W. Ridgway of Swedesboro, N. J.

Andress, born October 8, 1797, a sailor of Chester, Pa.,
and father of A. Ridgway, born May 10th, 1832 of
Delanco, N. J.

John P. and Lydia, twins, born March 16, 1801.

Thomas C., born April 16, 1803.

Jacob, born Dec. 28, 1807.

Benjamin, born July 18, 1807.

Elizabeth, born ; died

Married George Craft.
Children: Ann, born 1793, and Deborah.

Mary, born ; died

THOMAS RIDGWAY of Milford, is a descendant of Richard, and appears related to Jacob Ridgway. His birth apparently was between 1755 and 1760. He married Martha Matthews in 1779 or before, who appears to have lived in the lower part of Huntington County, N. J., probably a few miles above Trenton, near the River. There is tradition that he was first a tailor in Trenton, but the earliest known is that he was in Morristown, N. J. as a tailor from about 1790 to 1802 or 1803. He then moved with Mathew his eldest son, and his family, to Milford, Pa. where he and Mathew were tailors. Sometime after 1813, he left his family ostensibly to see his relatives and never returned. His family believe that he deserted them, but the reasons therefor, or justification if any, are not known. His subsequent business career and death could appear in another locality. He was a tall and well proportioned man.

Several of his grandchildren have been seen by the writer and all testify that he was closely related to Jacob Ridgway the millionaire of Philadelphia. That Jacob Ridgway owned glass works on the Delaware River just about twelve miles above Milford, and that he and a younger Jacob, evidently a nephew, and David W., also a nephew, were up the river more or less on business and called at various times at their house. Also that Mrs. Rush, daughter of Jacob, past thru there once and visited them at a hotel kept by one of the children at Columbia, N. J. That this visit would probably date between 1820 and 1840, and the grandchildren distinctly remember that they were told that they were relatives. They also believe that Jacob's son visited once at Columbia, and describe him as being clean shaven, medium height, brown hair. This visit would probably have taken place in 1839 or later.

Several of the sons of Thomas were lumbermen and rivermen, and frequently visited Philadelphia, and called on these Ridgways, and kept the family informed about them. One of the great-grandsons of Thomas states that about 1845 to 1849, when he was a boy of from ten to four-

THOMAS REDGWAY, cont. 2.

teen, he was taken to Philadelphia by his father and was there about a week visiting some Ridgways, who lived in grand style in a large brick house with grounds and a stable, and a brick or stone gateway. That they were relatives, and that he remembers the eldest child of the house, then apparently about twenty years old, was called Phoebe. Also that the children in the house used to tease this older sister and tell her she was like her Aunt Phoebe. He says further that his father used to speak of Jacob Ridgway as "Uncle Jacob", and spoke of his owning the glass works. Some of his grandchildren thought that Thomas of Milford and Jacob of Philadelphia were brothers, while others thought that they were cousins, but not more distantly related.

A brief sketch of the children of Thomas is as follows:

Mathew, born October 20, 1780; died October 25, 1820.

A tailor, and Justice of the Peace, at Milford, Pa., and died there.

James, born _____; died Sept. 2, 1845.

Kept a hotel at Columbia, N. J., and later a farm near there.

Rebecca, born _____; died March 26, 1808.

Married Jesse Finch of Milford, Pa.

Charles B., born Dec. 4, 1790; died Sept. 15, 1851.

Was a shoemaker and settled at Lackawaxen, Pa.

Gertrude, born April 10, 1792; died September 13, 1864.

Married John Kern, a farmer of Hainsburg, N. J.

Sarah, born _____; died June 5, 1820.

Married William Cameron of Milford, Pa.

Permelia, born _____; died _____

Married Jacob Helms of Milford, but moved later to Wisconsin.

Thomas Jefferson, born November 29, 1800; died September 29, 1896.

Went to New York City about 1816, and to Norwich, Conn. in 1821, where he kept a shoe store.

To what family does the following belong?

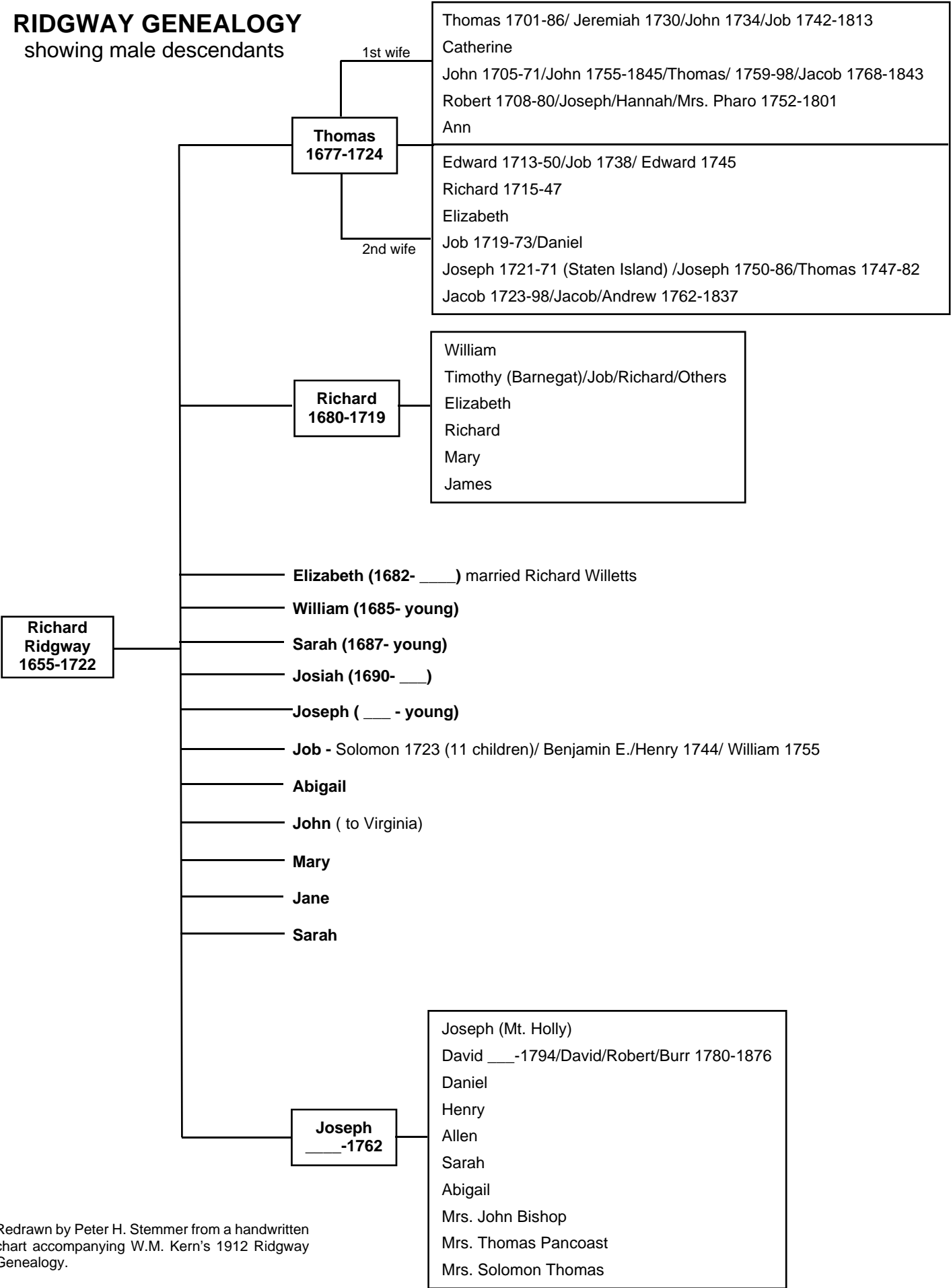
JOHN W. RIDGEWAY, born in Tuckerton, probably in 1824. Went to California in 1849 where he was a merchant. Reported to be a millionaire and large land owner. Died October 9th, 1909, aged 85, in Laporte, Indiana.

The only Ridgway in Cal. that I know of is (or was) a Jerimiah Ridgway, 3rd, descended from John, son of Thomas Ridgway, 2nd, and closely related to the James Ridgway of Indiana. He Jerimiah, lived in San Francisco and was said to be very wealthy.

To what family does the following belong:

JAMES RIDGWAY, who was said to have been with Washington at the crossing of the Delaware, then with him later at West Point, and after the war settled at Mt. Carmel, N. Y. He had a son named James, apparently the same place, and his son was Alonson M. Ridgway of Mt. Carmel. Alonson M. appears to be father of Newel Chamberlain Ridgway, and grandfather of Miss Harriet E. Ridgway, 1340 Pine Street, Philadelphia, who would like to learn to what line she belongs.

RIDGWAY GENEALOGY
showing male descendants



Redrawn by Peter H. Stemmer from a handwritten chart accompanying W.M. Kern's 1912 Ridgway Genealogy.

Appendix

James Ridgway wrote a letter on February 2, 1856 asking Joseph Ridgway, Esquire, of Little Egg Harbor for information that Joseph may have on the Ridgway family. Unfortunately, Joseph's response was not in the files. A typed transcript of James request and James' response to Joseph's answer follow.

C O P Y)

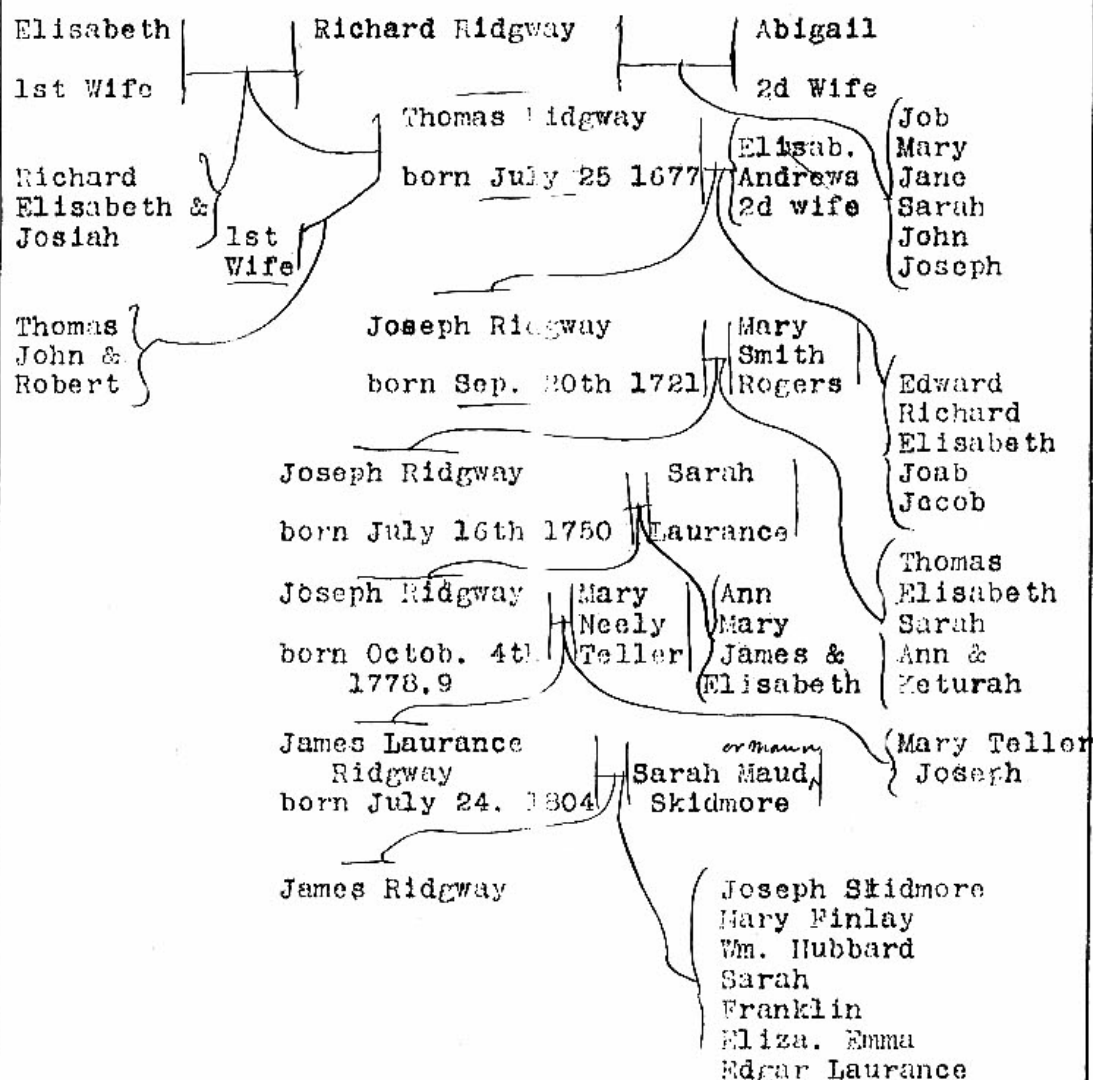
New York, Febry 2d 1856.

Dear Sir

Having spent some time in making out the history and pedigree of the Ridgway family, & being desirous of perpetuating the different branches, may I ask of you the favor, to furnish me with such information as you may have upon the subject. I have trac d back for 400 or 500 years when the family was settled in Devonshire, Engband, & possessed of large estates. The main branch of th family for four generations, from 1622 to 1713 held the titl of Earl of Londonderry, Robert Ridgway the 4th Earl dying on 1713 without male issue.

The progenitor of all the Ridgways in America (as you are possibly aware) was Richd Ridgway who arrived with Elizabeth his wife and Thomas his only child (then an infant of 2 years and 2 months old) in the Delaware River, in the Ship Jacob & Mary of London, from Wallingford, Berks Co, England - in the 7th Mo. 1678. He established himself in Bucks County Pa. where he remaind until about 1690, when he removed to West Jersey, and ultimately settled at Springfield, where he made his Will Septr. 21st, 1722 and died soon afterwards. His eldest son Thomas (in all probability your Ancestor as well as mine) settled at Little Egg Harbor, when he made his Will 19th day of 6th Mo. 1723 = 4 and died the 24th of the same month, most of his children remained there after his death. Do you know whether the house in which he lived is yet standing. Are there any old family relics yet remaining Richard was a friend as were all of his children and Grand children.

The following is my pedigree up to the first arrival of the Ridgway's in this Country.



It will afford me great pleasure, to hear from you, anything which you may be able and willing to communicate.

Believe me My Dear Sir

Joseph Ridgway Esq.

Your Obed't Servant

Little Egg Harbor

James Ridgway

N. J.

P. S. I became acquainted with your name and address, through an announcement in the Newspapers, regarding a matter connected with your office.

J. R.

Please give me the name of your Ancesters as far back as you know them, together with the names of their brothers and sis-

New York, Febr. 16th 1856

My dear Sir – Your esteemed favor of the answer to mine of the 2d was received and gave me great satisfaction to learn that Thomas' house was still standing. I have a profound reference for old ancestral mansions & we still own and occupy in the summer season the old stone house on Staten Island which was purchased by Thomas's son Joseph, my great-great Grandfather. He & my great Grandfather Joseph are buried in the family burying ground on the farm. So great is my desire to look at the old house you mention that I shall if possible go down to Tuckerton the early part of next summer & it will be no small pleasure to call upon you - & also say that you have seen in the Friends Library the name of the Ridgway family long before they emigrated to this Country. Dozon [sic] mean that the name was merely alluded to or is a pedigree stated. I have been quite busy or I should have answered your letter before & now prompted to throw business aside for a little while to answer a second letter from you post marked the 14th. Rec'd within the past hour. Your extreme kindness I appreciate very highly [sic]- I shall be most happy to receive from you (as you suggest) whatever you may be pleased to communicate.

I am also glad that you have called for some stir at the families & gathered of their intelligence. Your allusion to an Estate in England belonging to the family is something entirely new to me. I never before heard that there was any reason for believing so. If any such exists you would be more likely to know than the Ridgways here as you are in the old settlement. What is the tradition concerning the Estate you mention? How far back was it in the family? The only Estate in which my father is interested that we know of is the Trinity Church property in this City through my grandmother, Mary Neeley Teller, the wife of grandfather Joseph Ridgway & the Townley Estate in England through my great-grandmother Sarah(?) Lawrence, a descendant of the Townleys, the wife of great-grandfather Joseph Ridgway. Both of these Estates I have looked into & I have to receive them one of these days. In fact I think it not improbable that I shall go to England about the Townley Estate this year. If there is an Estate belonging to the Ridgways I should like to know all about it. I would take immediate measures to attempt it's recovery - They say that Thomas had a brother Richard – that Richard was the first Ridgway born in America- having been born in the province of Pennsylvia [sic] April 27, 1680 – his parents Richard & Elizabeth & Elder brother Thomas having arrived in the Delaware river

from Walling Ford Berksles, England in the ship Jacob & Mary of London in the 7th mo. 1679. Thomas then being 2 years & 2 months old – After Richard was born Elizabeth – February 17, 1682 who married Richard Willits & then Josiah. These four were Elisabeth Ridgway's children – after her death Richard her husband married Abigail & had Job, Mary, who married Ballinger, Jane who married Isaac Antrim, Sarah, John & Joseph, making ten children of the first Ridgway family in this country. Richd Ridgway Sen remained in Pennsylvia [sic] until about 1690 when he moved to Jersey living at Maidenhead Piscataway & lastly at Springfield. Records of them facts I obtained at considerable cash from Bucks Co Pa & from Trenton. One branch of the Ridgway family for 4 generations were Earls of Londonderry & peers of the realm. The first Earl Thomas Ridgway married one of Queen Elizabeth's maids of honor Cicily MacWilliam the daughter of an Irish Chieftain and was sent by that queen unto Ireland with a military command & by her orders planted the first Protestant Colony in Ireland. The title became extinct upon the death of the 4th Earl Robert Ridgway March 7, 1713 as he left no son – He had two daughters the Eldest Lady Lucy married the Earl of Donegae & died without children. The youngest Lady Frances married the Hon Thos Pitt uncle to Mr Pitt the Great Earl of Chatham. Because of his marriage with Lady Frances Earl of Londonderry & his two sons Ridgway Pitt & Thos Pitt were successively Earls of Londonderry but both died unmarried & the title again became extinct. I have a short historical account of the family prior to that time extending back to Stephen Ridgway who was one of the Stewards of the City of Exeter 6th of Edward 4ths reign (1466) and Mayor of the same city (both offices of great dignity & honor in that day) in 7th year of Henry 7ths (1472) I have the arms & crests of the early Ridgways & of the Earls & much other information which I will be but too happy to communicate to you when I shall see you. I shall always be happy to hear from you.

Very Truly yours

James Ridgway

To
Jos Ridgway Esq
Tuckerton N.J.

The following is a transcription of a January 15, 1973 letter from Leah Blackman to Richard S. Ridgway in response to his request for information regarding the Ridgway family. The date and creator of the transcription is not known.

From Leah's comments and the date of the letter, this information was provided prior to the 1880 publication of her book the History of Little Egg Harbor Township in the 1880 West Jersey Surveyor's Association Journal.

A 16 page typed transcript of Leah's response to Richard S. Ridgway's request is available but not provided here, as much of the information may be found in Leah's History of Little Egg Harbor Township which was republished in 1963 by the Great John Mathis Foundation, New Gretna, N.J.

Tuckerton, 1st mon. 15th, 1873.

Friend Richard S. Ridgway.

In answer to thy communication I must state that I have not had my Historical sketches put into book form. I have completed the sketches and intended to have had an edition printed but have been disappointed in carrying out my designs. Many have urged me to bring them out in book form, but if I should do so, I should need to have a sufficient number of subscribers to pay the expenses of an edition. If I could get six or seven hundred names it would pay the expenses but I have been so situated that I could not undertake the task of obtaining subscribers, I reside on a farm and like many other farmers wives have my hands full and in many respects I have had more to attend to than the usual class of farmers wives. I have lost my husband and am going to leave off cares of a farmers wife, and it is probable I may have more time to devote to literary pursuit.

I have thought of having my sketches published in the New Jersey Ent rprize, a paper published in Burlington City, N. J. I have seen several historical pieces in that paper, but I have not as yet consulted with the editor about it. Almost every family in Burlington Co., ought to be interested in my genealogical account, for in ancient times the people of upper Burlington Co., and the people of Little Egg Harbor, were nearly connected by blood or marriage. I am descended from the Shroever and Ellis's of Springfield and Mansfield and am likewise connected with many other families of those and the adjacent sections.

I have a genealogical list of over sixty families, each one of a different name.

I have ^{copied} ~~confined~~ the account of the Ridgway family which ^{Enclosed} thee will find ~~endorsed~~ within this wrapper. I have frequent-

copied.
 ly, such matters for people, but copying is an arduous task
 and my eyes are somewhat weak, and will not bear long contin-
 ued writing. I never have made any charge for copying, yet
 some people have remunerated ^{me} ~~one~~ of their own free will, and
 now I am left to rely on my own resources. I have had a great
 desire to examine the ancient monthly meeting books of Burling-
 ton, Mansfield, Springfield &c., for knowing what I do I could
 trace out a great deal of genealogy. I have traced up genealo-
 gy until I feel as though I was familiar with many people who
 died a century or more before I was born. Genealogy &c., has
 become a kind of ^{passion} ~~possession~~ with me, and my greatest enjoyment
 is conversing with people who feel an interest in such things.
 I have many correspondents like myself, people whom I never
 saw, and I likewise have many visitors who come to hear some-
 thing about their ancestors. Farmers wives ought not to dabble
 in literary affairs, for their ordinary tasks are more than
 many ^{men} ~~women~~ are capable of enduring. Nature formed ^{me} with a
 thirst for knowledge, but circumstances have forbidden my fol-
 lowing the ^{heart} ~~hew~~ of my inclinations. I have a long account
 of the business career of Jacob Ridgway the millionaire of
 Philadelphia but I cannot spare the time to copy it. Write and
 let me know how thee like my account of the Ridgway family.
 I will answer any genealogical questions that I can.

Thy Friend,

Leah Blackman.