

The Cooley Genealogy

The Descendants of
ENSIGN BENJAMIN COOLEY
an early settler of Springfield and Longmeadow,
Massachusetts; and other members of the
family in America

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PART I

THE COOLEY FAMILY

CHAPTER I

COOLEY FAMILIES

EARLY REFERENCES TO THE NAME; FAMILIES IN
NORMANDY, ENGLAND AND IRELAND; THE PURITAN
IN HOLLAND; FAMILIES IN AMERICA

THAT THE COOLEY FAMILY NAME is one of great antiquity is unquestionable. The name, in one orthographic form or another, is said to have existed in England long before the Danish and Norman Conquests, and perhaps even before the Anglian, Saxon or Roman Conquests, since the most ancient seats of the family are said to have been in the Western Counties, least displaced by the Romans, Picts, Scots, Jutes, Angles, Saxons, Danes, Normans and other invaders. One opinion holds that the Cooley family was one of those of the Angles migrating from North Germany to England during the 5th and 6th centuries, perhaps at about the time of the founding of the Anglian kingdom of Mercia and the old "Saxon Heptarchy," about 586.*

*In *The History of Ireland*, by William Dolby (1845), page 43, appears a description of the invasion of Ireland by the sons of Milesius, of Phoenicia and Spain, credited to the year *Anno Mundi* 2735 (1265 B. C.): "These were the sons of Milesius: Donn and Aireach, born in Phoenicia; Heberfionn and Amhergin, born in Egypt; and Ir, Colpa, Aranann, and Heremon, born in Spain. The sons of Breogan, grandfather to these princes, who attended this expedition, were Breagha, who gave the name of Magh-Breagha to his settlement in Meath; Cuala, from whom Sliabh Cuala; Cualgne [Cooley] gave name to Sliabh Cualgne [Cooley], in the county of Down..."

In Dolby a lineage from Noah, through his son Japhet, is given, which makes Breogan, A. M. 2597, the 25th genera-

One of the earliest references to the name is spelled *Cualnge*, and appears in the 7th century when the great Celtic epic, *Tain Bo Cualnge*, or The Cattle-raid of Cooley (County Louth), was first committed to writing. The name *Cualnge* may, of course, have been a place-name, not a patronymic; but many family names are derived from place-names. This great epic is described most completely in the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. It is the chief and lengthiest romance of the Ulster cycle of literature, and has to do with heroes whom Irish annalists and synchronists agree in placing about the beginning of the Christian era. During this primitive Celtic civilization no native coins were in circulation. The land in a pastoral country belonged to the tribe. A man's property consisted of cattle, and cattle-raids were frequent. Hence the greatest Irish epic is of a cattle-raid, the object being for Queen Medb to gain possession of an extraordinary animal known as the Brown Bull of *Cualnge*.

One must not forget that the etymological method of deriving family names is full of pitfalls for the unwary. This dictum applies to names derived from Anglo-Saxon, as well as from the Gothic dialects, old French, Latin, and especially Celtic, since the Celtic is a more ductile language than, for instance, Anglo-Saxon. With the Celtic alphabet of only 18 letters and a series of inflections which may or may not appear

tion from Noah! One of the sons of Breogan was Bille, who succeeded his father; another was *Cualgne* (sp. also *Cualnge*), or Cooley.

"The descendants of these princes in Spain assumed the name of Clana Breoguin, hence the Brigantes. Bille's son Gollamh [called Mile-Espaine, from whom the Irish are called Clana Mile, hence Milesians] with his father's permission sailed A. M. 2650 to Syria with a large number of his followers to help his Phoenician ancestors in their continental wars."

This recalls the lineage of Queen Elizabeth from Adam.

in the text, a "celtomanic" can prove almost any word or name to be of Celtic origin. The Ogam inscriptions, more primitive than the nearly-contemporary Runic inscription on the Thorsbjerg Shieldbuckle of the 4th or 5th century, are found to be made by strokes or notches scored on either side of the edge of an upright stone. The Roman cursive alphabet of the 5th century was introduced by St. Patrick, and the authentic history of Ireland, written first in Latin by the churchmen, may be said to date from this period. There are few if any authoritative Celtic manuscripts earlier than the 8th or 9th century, and the great bulk of Irish literature appears in the manuscripts of the Middle Irish period (1100-1550).

The earlier Irish traditions were highly colored by the *fili* who acted as story-tellers, as judges, and as poets; later, the family bards assumed these functions. When the annalists came they had the choice of many versions. They could not sift folklore from history at a time when Faith and Fable walked hand in hand. As late as 1187, Geraldus Cambrensis (Gerald Barry) of Wales wrote a description and history of Ireland peppered with fabulous and impossible events, some of which he witnessed and all of which he believed. Barring the credulity of the times, his account gives a fair value to the civilization of the time — the period of the Crusades. Much of the fabulous material is traditional, and some of it is from Pliny and other classics. Barry was "an elegant scholar, deeply read in classical and medieval literature," and was graduated at the "university" in Paris "where he rose to great honors." He was, of course, a Latin churchman, and was "one of the most agreeable writers of the Middle Ages." At all events, material relating to a family or place-name in Great Britain prior, say, to the Norman Conquest, is of necessity largely conjecture, and must be so regarded.

In *Domesday Book*, which contains the returns of the census of 1085 taken by William the Norman, embracing 54,813 landowners in Great Britain, the name which probably is that from which Cowley-Cooley derived is spelled *Culege*. It was pronounced Cooley, the "g" being silent as in Burleigh. Some time following the introduction of "w" and "y" into the language, the English name underwent various orthographic metamorphoses. Although the orthography of the name has been modernized, the ancient pronunciation is still retained in England, as it is with Cowper, Cowley, etc. In the United States, a distinction in pronunciation is frequently made to distinguish between "*Cowley*" and "*Cooley*." By substituting the soft for the silent "g," *Culege* probably was also the parent-name of *Coolidge*.

There are almost countless variations in the spelling of the name. Among those noted in early records are the following: *Calley, Cawley, Cayley, Colle, Colley, Collie, Colly, Coley, Coole, Coolee, Cooley, Cooleye, Coolie, Cooly, Coolye, Couele, Coueley, Coueleye, Coule, Couley, Coulye, Cowles, Cowle, Cowlay, Cowley, Cowly, Cowlye, Cualgne, Cualnge, Cuilly, Cuily, Culai, Cule, Culege, Culley, Quillie, Quilly and Quilley*. Of this not exhaustive list, the surviving spelling with which we are chiefly concerned is that of *Cooley*, the spelling adopted by BENJAMIN COOLEY of Springfield, Mass., circa 1640, and used by his descendants.

THE FAMILY IN NORMANDY

Cuily.* from Cuily or Quilly, near Falaise, in Normandy, which formed part of the possessions of the Burdetts.

Robert Bordet, Lord of Cuily, came to England with the Conqueror, but was dead before 1086, when his

**Battle Abbey Roll*, by the Duchess of Cleveland, 1889, Vol. I, page 276.

widow held from Hugh de Grentemesnil in Lincolnshire (*Dom. i 232 b.*). His son, Hugh, had issue: 1, Robert de Cuilly; and 2, Walter de Cuilly. The elder son, Sire de Cuilly, married Sibylla, daughter of William de Chievre, a baron of Devon; and on undertaking to rebuild the city of Tarragona in Spain, and to defend it against the Saracens, obtained the suzerainty, with the title of Prince of Tarragona. He, in 1133, at the head of his Norman chivalry, rescued Alfonso King of Arragon and his army from destruction by the Saracens at the battle of Fraga. William, Sire d'Aguillon, his son, one of the barons in Normandy 1165 (*Feod. Norm.*), lost the principality of Tarragona in consequence of the accidental death of the Archbishop, which was attributed to him. He appears to have been succeeded by Manasser d'Aguillon, his brother, ancestor of the De Cuilys of Normandy.

Hugh de Grandmesnil (as spelled in the Bohn translation of *Ordericus Vitalis*), or Hugh de Grentemesnil (according to the Duchess of Cleveland), was one of the founders of the Abbey of Ouche, known as that of St. Evroult, about 25 miles E.N.E. of Falaise in Normandy. He granted to this abbey "for the good of his soul," the benefices of many of his lands in Quilli. He was an overlord in Normandy, as well as in Leicester. He was a "brave Souldier," and fought stoutly at the Battle of Hastings, and "was that day in great peril: his horse ran away with him, so that he was near falling, for in leaping over a bush the bridle rein broke, and the horse plunged forward. The English seeing him ran to meet him with their hatchets raised, but the horse took fright, and turning quickly round brought him safe back again" (*Wace*, quoted in *Battle Abbey Roll*, Vol. II, page 305). Two years after the battle he was appointed, with others, one of the Justiciars of England during the King's Absence in Normandy. He was Viscount of Leicester and Hampshire, and according to *Domesday Book*, held one hundred and four Lordships, of which two-thirds, with the Honor of Hinckley — in right whereof he was Lord High

Steward of England — were in Leicestershire. He lived to be a very old man, and in 1094, "being grown aged and infirm, he took upon him the habit of a Monk; and within six days afterwards departed this life, whereupon Bernard and David, two Monks of St. Ebrulfe's (the Norman monastery, St. Evroult's, which he had restored and endowed), having seasoned his Corps with Salt, and wrapped it in an Hide, conveyed it to Normandy, where it was honourably buried on the South side of their Chapter-house" (*Dugdale*, quoted in *Battle Abbey Roll*, Vol. II, page 306).

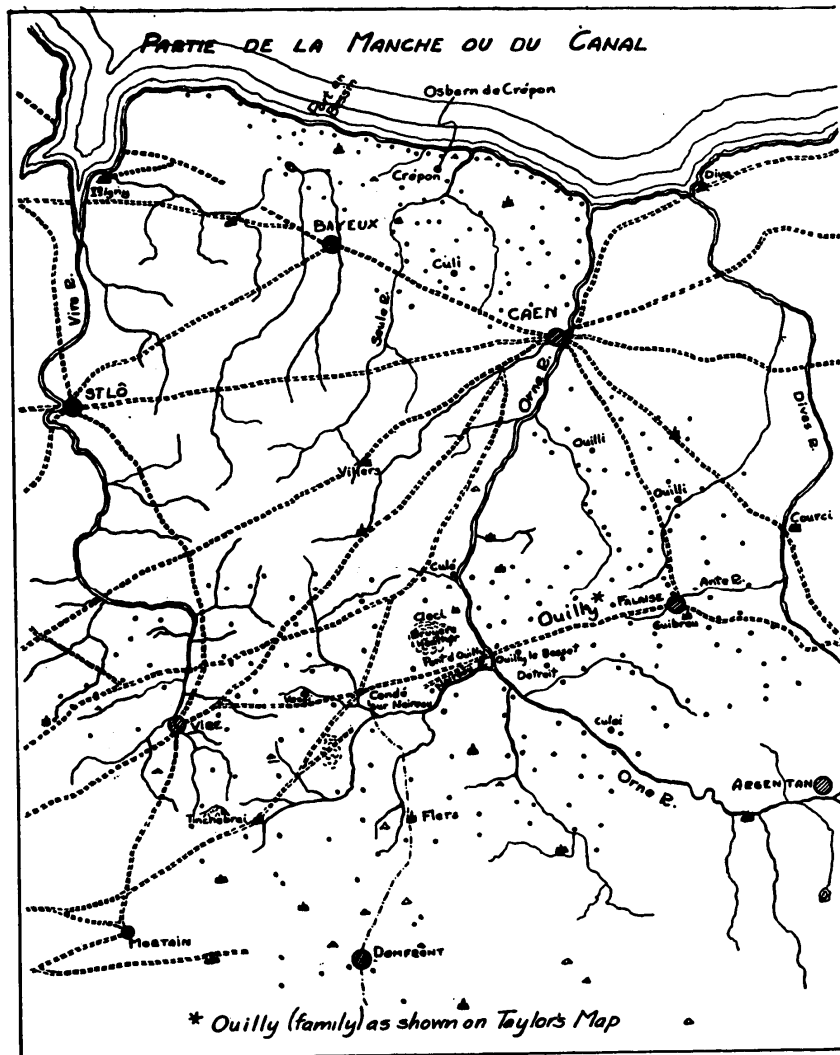
About ten miles N. E. of Falaise there was a place called "Grand Menil," also called "Grandmesnil," or Great Manor, which may well have been the original home of Hugh de Grentmesnil, and which was very near that of the lesser baron, Robert Bordet, Lord of Cuily.

Various maps of Normandy show the home of the Cuillys, and places in Normandy bearing their name. Some of these maps are as follows:

1 *Master Wace his chronicle of the Norman Conquest from the Roman de Rou, etc.*, translated by Edgar Taylor, Esq., F. S. A., 1837. A folding map, page xv, shows the family name *Cuilly* in an area lying between Falaise and the River Orne. The accompanying sketch-map is taken from *Master Wace's Chronicle*.

2 *Atlas de Geographie*, by De Lisle and Buache, 1700-1763, contains a map of Normandy with fields, forests, mountains, roads, monasteries and hamlets, all pictured in detail. This Atlas can be found in the Congressional Library, Washington, D. C. A photographic reproduction of this particular section, showing *Cuilly* and *Cuily* place-names, was taken by the Military Intelligence Division, General Staff, U.S.A., Washington, and is in the possession of Mortimer E. Cooley of Ann Arbor, Mich.

3 *Rambles through Normandy in 1854* contains (pages 395-396) a description of Normandy, and on page 403 states that among the barons who went to England with William the Conqueror in 1066 were "Courcy, Cinglais, D'Ouilly, de Gouvix, and Tournebu (ancestor of the Turnbills), all



SKETCH MAP OF FALAISE, NORMANDY

Sketch map copied from the one found in Taylor's translation of *Master Wace's Chronicle*, showing five place-names in the hill country around Falaise. (p. XV). Drawn by Ernest L. Cooley.

from the district of Falaise," where William the Conqueror was born. Falaise (cliff) is in the hill country; the name *Cuilly* (Cooley) means a ravine or valley with steep sloping sides, in contra-distinction to a canon with precipitous sides. The name *de Cuilly* is a place-name. Barons were called to military service by place-names during the Middle Ages.

COOLEYS IN ENGLAND

WALTER DE CUILLY³, s. of Hugh², grandson of Robert Bordet, Lord of Cuily¹, of Normandy and later of England, was a brother of Robert³, Sire de Cuilly and first Prince of Tarragona. Walter de Cuilly³ witnessed the foundation charter of Canwell, Stafford, in 1142. In 1247, Hugh de Cuilly paid a fine in Warwick. William de Quilly (13th century) held lands in Stafford from Marmion, and also held Ratcliff-Culey, Leicester, from Marmion. Hugh de Culey was Lord of Ratcliffe 1296-99. In 1309 he was Constable of Kenilworth; "and being taken prisoner with the Earl of Lancaster at the battle of Boroughbridge, died of his wounds in Pontefract Castle." The Cuilys continued at Ratcliffe Cuily from the reign of Henry II to that of Richard II.

Their coats of arms (*Sable*, a chevron between three mullets *Argent* pierced of the field) is still blazoned in one of the north windows of the church chancel; and in another opposite is the effigy of a man in armour, kneeling, and bearing on his arms an escutcheon *Cuily*, which is repeated on his surcoat. Another similar figure bears the coat differenced. (*Battle Abbey Roll*, Vol. I, pages 276-277).

Hugh de Culey¹, Lord of Ratcliffe 1296-99, was probably related to the de Cuilly family of Normandy, but the relationship is not known. He had issue, John Culey², who had two sons, Thomas³ (whose daughter and heir married Sir John Stanhope of Rampton) and Richard Culey³ who was living in 1361.

Richard Culey³ had issue, John Cully⁴ of Lubbenham, Leicester, who married a daughter of Sir John Harrington. John Cully⁴ of Lubbenham had issue, William Colley⁵, of Glaston, County Rutland; William Colley had John Colley⁶, who had issue, Anthony, Walter, and Robert Colley⁷. Anthony Colley⁷ was ancestor of all the Colleys, Lords of Glaston, Rutland, said now to be extinct. (*The Norman People*) His brothers, Walter and Robert Colley⁶, are said to have gone to Ireland in the time of Henry VII (*Burke*) or Henry VIII (*Lodge*), and from Walter Colley⁷ descended the Lords of Castle-Carberry, the lineal male ancestors of Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington, whose lineage is given in Chapter II, devoted to Cooley coats-of-arms. The Honfroi de Culai entered on the Dives Roll as the companion of the Conqueror, and a sub-tenant in Domesday, does not appear in this pedigree.

Both Nichols and Dugdale give the descendants of this family somewhat differently from the above. Sir Hugh de Cuily, the Constable of Kenilworth under Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, who, according to Dugdale, "was one of those who had a hand in the murder of Piers de Gaveston," held the manor of Dunton in Warwickshire. "It seems that he made his residence there in these times, for in 8 Ed. II. he served as a knight for this shire in the several parliaments then held at Westminster and York; and was a knight before his death, which hapned at Pomfret (*sic*) Castle in 16 Ed. II. To which Hugh succeeded Roger, who, adhering to his Father in that Rebellion with the Earl of Lancaster, became also a Prisoner at Pomfret, but paying C marks* fine and giving security for future good behaviour, he was enlarged." Thomas, the last heir, was Roger's son, and had two younger brothers, Sir John and Hugh (there is no mention of Richard in Nichols' *Leicestershire*), who married two Irish co-heiresses, the daughters of Oliver de Mandeville. Thomas and Hugh each had a son, and Sir

*A mark was 2/3 of a pound (8 oz. Troy weight) of silver, the value of which in 1322 was about £20 modern money; 100 marks—£2000 sterling. — E. L. Cooley.

John had two, but all of them died *sine prole*, and the daughter of the eldest brother, Elizabeth de Culy, remained sole heiress. She was the wife of Sir John Stanhope of Rampton in Nottinghamshire; and Sir Richard Stanhope sold Dunton in 1422. One of their Warwickshire manors is called Merston Culey to this day" (*Battle Abbey Roll*, Vol. I, page 277).

The foregoing lineages conflict. According to *The Norman People*, the John Cully of Lubbenham, Leicester, was the ancestor of a grandson, John Cooley, who had Anthony, Walter and Robert; Anthony became the ancestor of the Rutland Colley family, and Walter and Robert went to Ireland, where Walter became the ancestor of the Lords of Castle-Carberry, the family to which the Duke of Wellington belonged. According to Nichols and Dugdale, the lineage not only varies in the ancestry of John, but became extinct with the children of John and his brothers, Thomas and Hugh.

The following lineage, starting with John Colly of Lubenham, Leicester, is taken from the 1618-19 *Visitation of Rutlandshire*, and makes no mention of Walter and Robert, brothers of Anthony⁴, given in *The Norman People*.

ARMS: Quarterly 1. Argent, a cross wavy sable. 2. Barry undee of six argent and sable on a canton gule, a crescent or. [The second quarter is taken from the Kebell heiress, acquired by heirs of Anthony Colley⁶, below.]

CREST: A griffin segreant argent, armed or.

*John Colly*¹, of Lubbenham, Co. Leicester; m. a sister of Sir John Harrington, Kt.

*William Colly*², of Glaston, Rutland; m. Anne.

*John Colly*³, of Glaston; m. Isabell, da. William Palmer, of Carlton, Northampton.

*Anthony Colly*⁴ [in this lineage no mention is made of Walter and Robert, said in *The Norman People* to be sons of John Colly³], of Glaston, Rutland; m. (1) Catherin, da. Sir John Skeffington of Skeffington, Leicester, Kent; m. (2) Julian,

da. Cuthbert Richardson of Co. York. The children by first wife: Margery, wife John Flower of Whitwall, Co. Rutland; Dorothy, wife John Cartnell; and Mary; by second wife, —, wife Anthony Andrews of Pisbrooke in Rutland; —, wife Miles Forest of Peterborough; and Mary, wife Edward Forest of Middleham Park, Co. York.

*Mary Colly*⁵, heiress, wife of Edward Forest. Children: Anne, wife John Withers of London; Anthony Colly of Glaston; John Colly of Glaston, *d.s.p.*, m. Bridgett, da. and co-heire of Cuthbert Buercotts of Buercotts, Co. Nottingham.

*Anthony Colly*⁶, of Glaston, co. Rutland; m. Elizabeth, da. and heire of Henry Keble of Humberston in Co. Leicester; and had Anthony Colly; Elizabeth, wife Richard King of Ashley, Co. Lincoln; Jane; and Anne, wife John King of Somonby, Co. Lincoln.

*Anthony Colly*⁷ [adding Keble arms of his mother], m. Anne, da. William Turpin of Knaptofte in Co. Leicester, and had William, 2 years old in 1618; Anne; Elizabeth, wife Sanderson of Moulton in Co. Northampton [from a later *Visitation*]; Jane, and Frances [*Harleian. Soc.*].

References to this Rutlandshire family are found in Wright's *History and Antiquities of Rutlandshire*. Since the *Visitation* provides no dates, these references are helpful in determining the approximate dates of individuals in the foregoing lineages.

1508, Johannes (John) Colly was Sheriff of Rutlandshire.

13 Henry VIII (1521/2), John Colley, deceased, held the manor and advowson of Glaiston of Edward, Duke of Buckingham, and as of his castle of Okenham by Knight's service.

15 Henry VIII (1523/4), Anthony Colly was his son and heir.

1547-1632, Anthony Colly, Armiger [grade below knight] was sheriff of Rutlandshire.

1632, Anthony Colly was listed as a milles [knight].

1640, Sir Anthony Colly, Knight, then Lord of the Manor of Glaiston, together with his son and heir apparent [not named], transferred land and advowson in Glaiston to Edward Andrews of Bisbroke [Pisbrooke, probably].

It is naturally impossible to evaluate the various and conflicting evidences of descendants of these first

known Cooleys in England. The lineages of the Duke of Wellington start with a Walter Cowley in Ireland from England; although it is quite generally assumed that this Walter Cowley emigrated to Ireland from Rutlandshire, 1485-1509, or 1509-1547, there is evidence to the contrary, as given in that portion of this chapter dealing with the family in Ireland.

MEANING OF THE NAME

- Cowley* (Local). The cow-pasture. (*Arthur*)
Colley (Local), *Coll-lle*. Welsh, denotes the place of hazel; *cil-lle*, the place on the back or neck of the hill; from *cil* or *col*, the back or neck. *Coille*, Gaelic, a wood. (*Arthur*)
Coill (Gadhelic). A wood. (*Blackie*)
Cuil, *cuille* (Gadhelic). The corner. In Ireland, *Cool-boy* (yellow corner); *Coolderry* (at the back or corner of the oak wood), *Cooleen*, *Cooleeny* (little corner), etc. (*Blackie*)
Cowley. Cow meadow. (*Bowditch*)
Cowley. House in Gnosall, 6 m. S. W. of Stafford. The original nom. form in Anglo-Saxon would be *Cue-leah*, the Cow lea, or cow pasture. The terminal *ley* often appears in Mid. Eng. as *le*. (*Duigman*)
Cow. Old English (Anglo-Saxon), indicating a pastoral site. Ex., *Cowley* (Middlesex), the cow's place. (*Edmunds*)

Anglo-Saxon	Ger.	Liber Vitae	English Surname
Colingas	Cholinga	Colla	Coll, Collie, Colling, etc.
Culingas	—	—	Cull, Cooling (Ferguson, <i>Surnames</i>)

Cole, *Coly* (Gael.), *Caol*. Straight, narrow. (Ferguson, *River-names*)

- Colley, Collie, Colly*, see *Coley*; *Coley* (Eng.). 1. Cole, plus the E. dim. suff.-y. 2. Dark-complexioned (O. E. *colig* - *col*, coal, charcoal). 3. Dweller at (probably) the Black Lea. There is a Coley in Yorkshire, and a Coley Park in Berkshire. (*Harrison*)
- Cool, Cooley*. 1. A var. of *Cole*. 2. The A-Sax. pers. name, *Cul(a)*. Rare. (*Harrison*)
- Cowley* (Eng.). 1. Dweller at the cow-lea. 2. A form of *Coley*. (Celt) abbreviation of *MacAulay*. (*Harrison*)
- Cooley, Colly, Cowley. Cuchullin* (Ossian's hero), Dog of Ulster. (*Long*)
- Cowley* (when English). Cow field. (*Long*)
- Colley (Cibber)*. Dark a-vised man; nickname for a swarthy person. (*Long*)
- Coley*. The same as *Colley, Cooley, Cowley*, etc. (Lower, *Patronymica Britannica*)
- Colley*. The original surname of the Marquis Wellesley, the Duke of Wellington, etc., was written *Cowley*, temp. Henry VIII. (Lower, *Pat. Brit.*)
- Cooley*. Probably a corruption of *Cowley*; the ancestors of the Duke of Wellington, prior to their assumption of the name of Wesley or Wellesley, wrote their name indifferently *Colley, Cowley*, and *Cooley*. (*Times*, 15 Sept. 1852). So Cooper was anciently Cowper. (Lower, *Pat. Brit.*)
- Cuillean*, hence *O'Cuillean*. This name, which is often corrupted to *Cullen*, and anglicized to *Collins*, signifies *catullus*, whelp. (*Ulster Journ. of Arch.*, No. 2.) The tribe or clan of *Cullen* took their name from *Cuillean*, an Irish tribe of the VIIIth century. (*O'Donovan*) (Lower, *Pat. Brit.*)
- Coley*. The French pronunciation of *Colet*. (*The Norman People*)
- Colley*. From *Cuilly* or *Quilly*, near Falaise, Normandy. (*The Norman People*)
- Colley-Wellesley*, from *Cuilly*. *The Norman People* gives the lineage, etc., which is reproduced in *Battle Abbey*

Roll, and quoted here in connection with the family in Normandy, and in England, above.

Cooley. From *Culey* or *Cuilly*. See *Colley-Wellesley*. (*The Norman People*)

COOLEY WILLS

The records of the Prerogative Court of the Archbishop of Canterbury embrace wills in every part of England and Wales from 1383 to 1858 in unbroken sequence. The records of some of the Local Courts are housed in Somerset House, London. All of these records were searched for the years 1605-1649, inclusive, and other miscellaneous years, by a London firm, Hardy & Page, employed in 1915 by Mortimer E. Cooley, in an attempt to locate reference to Benjamin Cooley, in Springfield, Mass., *circa* 1640. In 1938/9, Anthony R. Wagner, Esq., Portcullus, College of Arms, London, supplemented these researches by a search of the wills of the Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans, the parish given by Col. Banks as the birth-place of Benjamin Cooley.

The following is a *chronological* list of references to wills of Cooleys found in these various searches. The wills, in *alphabetical* order, for those marked with an asterisk, are given following the list of references.

- 1 1541. John Cooll of Sampford, Magna, 169^b Sargant. (*Archdeaconry of Colchester, Local Courts*)
- 2 1545. John Coole of Litelbury, 75^b Roberts. (*Archdeaconry of Colchester, Local Courts*)
- 3 1567. Nicholas Coole of Sampford, Magna, 30^b Hore. (*Archdeaconry of Colchester, Local Courts*)
- 4 (Years not given, but between 1585 and 1619). Elizabeth Colle, 22 Lawrence; John Colle, 224 Adams; William Coole, 40 Cooke; and Stephen Coole, 82 Cole. (*Archdeaconry of Colchester, Local Courts*)
- 5* 1608. Walter Cowley, Citizen and Ironmonger of London. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)

- 6 1609. *Anne Colly*, widow, St. Catherine Creechurch, 25 Dor(e)set. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 7 1610. *William Colly*, Marton, Lincs., 68 Wingfield. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 8 1610. *Richard Colly*, Ware, Original Will. (*Commissary of London, Essex and Herts, Local Courts*)
- 9 1612. *Margaret Colly*, widow, Wantage, Berks., 110 Fenner. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 10 1615/16, 22 Feb. *William Coole* of Eastmersey (near Colchester), in the diocese of London, "seafaring man." Usual committal; to *Margaret*, daughter, 40 s., to *William*, son, 40 s., "residue of estate to *Annis*, my wife, sole executrix." Will proved 30 April 1616. (*Original Will, Register Cooke, No. 40, Archdeaconry of Colchester, Local Courts*)
- 11 1617, 22 July. *Stephen Cole* the elder, of Boxsted, in County Essex; usual committal, "desire to be buried in the churchyard of Boxsted among my auncestors." Legacies to wife *Ann*, to sons (eldest), *Stephen, John, Richard*, and *Stephen* the younger; mentions daughters *Mary* and *Sarey*. Proved 9 Jan. 1620/1. (*Original Will, Register Cole, No. 82, Archdeaconry of Colchester, Local Courts*)
- 12 1619. *Richard Collie*, yeoman, Basingstoke, 86 Parker. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 13 1623. *Thomas Colly*, Winslow, Parish of Bromyard, Hereford, 1 Swann. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 14 1626. *Francis Colly*, vicar of Bushbury, Staffs., 139 Hale. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 15 1631/32. *Robert Colly* of Standsted, 10. (*Commissary of London, Essex and Herts., Local Courts*)
- 16 1634/35. *Samuel Coole* of Colchester, 78. (*Commissary of London, Essex and Herts., Local Courts*)
- 17 1636, 29 April. *William Colley* of Ross, Hereford, 35 Pile. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 18 1638, 25 June. *Robert Cooly*, then of London, but who had at the time of making his will come recently from Hadleigh in Suffolk. The will is recorded as late of Hadley, Co. Suffolk, now of Lether Lane in the parish of St. Andrew, Holborn, yeoman; usual committal, mentioning relatives; brother-in-law *Samuel Smith* and his children; brother-in-law *John Cannon* and his wife *Grace*; cousin *Thomas Kettle* and his wife *Mary*, and a few friends. No mention

- of wife or children of his own. (*Register Lee 141, Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 19* 1638/39, 21 Jan. *William Culley*, deceased abroad, 3 Harvey. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 20* 1643, Apr. 18. *Joseph Cooley* of Tring, Co. Hertford, yeoman. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 21* 1644, Sept. 10. *John Colly*, 62 Rivers. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 22 1649, 11 April. *Thomas Colly* of Wotton, Underwood, Bucks., 45 Fairfax. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 23* 1654, 17 March. *Clement Cooley* of Lambeth, Co. Surrey, Citizen and Clothworker. (*Prerogative Court of Canterbury*)
- 24* 1654, 17 Jan. *Walter Cowley* the Elder, of Town of St. Albans, Co. Herts., baker. (*Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans*)
- 25* 1666/7, 20 March. *Mary Cowley* of Town of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, Widow. (*Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans*)
- 26* 1683, 22 October. *Walter Cowley* the Elder, of Town of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, baker. (*Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans*)
- 27* 1684, 6 May. *Anne Cowley* of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, seamster. (*Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans*)
- 28* 1688, 22 September. *Joan Cowley* of Town of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, widow. (*Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans*)
- 29* 1690, Nov. 14. *Abraham Cowley* of Town of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, mercer. (*Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans*)
- 30* 1693, Jan. 9. *Thomas Cowley* of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, Gent. (*Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans*)

ABRAHAM COWLEY (No. 29)

(Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans)

Will of Abraham Cowley of Town of St. Albans, Co. Hertford,
Mercer

1690, Nov. 14

My body to be buried on the west side of the "Ewe" tree in St. Peter's Churchyard in Boro' of St. Albans.

To my wife Hannah my Inn in Colney called the George with barns, yards, orchards, etc. belonging, now in tenure of Thomas Hodiam & pasture adjoining called Coney Clapper containing about 5 acres, close called Morey Mead adjoining containing about 6 acres, my house in St. Albans called the

Antelope now in tenures of the Widow Carter and Mr. Thomas Clark, the Widow Johnson, John Watts and myself also 2 tenements in road situate in Fish Poole Street in St. Albans afsd. near an Inn called the Beare, my 2 tenements in St. Stevens now in tenure of Henry Feild with appurts., to hold to my said wife Hannah for life, also the use of all household goods, etc.

- To my son John Cowley the remainder after my wife's decease, also my 4 closes of arable and pasture ground at Shenley called Shenly Heaths & Galley Mead containing about 40 acres, my wife to take profits until my said son be 21 years of age. Whereas John Briscoe and Beatrix his wife did formerly surrender into the hands of the then Lord of the Manor of Shenley Hall als. Salisbury in said Co. Hertford all that messuage or tenement called Whites & 3 closes of land about 10 acres in Shenley called Whites to use of my said wife & daur. Mary for their lives & after to whom I should appoint, I devise same to lawful heirs of my said daur. & for default then to my said son John and daur. Hannah and their heirs equally.
- To my said son John £600 when 21 years, and to my daur. Mary Cowley £600 when 21 or on marriage.
- To my daur. Mary & my daur. Hannah Cowley all my plate, household stuff, etc., after my wife's decease.
- To my daur. Hannah Cowley £600 when 21 or on marriage.
- To Mr. Jonathan Grew £10. To my nephew Nathan Sowthen son of my sister Martha Sowthen of Hemsted my Inne at Colney called ye George & land (if my children die without issue) also my house in St. Albans called the Antelope to Thomas Marsham son of Martha Marsham my niece, & his heirs.
- The 2 tenements & land in St. Stephens End to Thomas Richards son of Thomas Richards of St. Albans.
- To Mary & Joane daurs. of my sister Sowthen and to the 9 children of my niece Mrs. Elizabeth Cox wife of Mr. Thomas Cox of Beamonds to each £100.
- £5 to poor of the Abbey parish where I now dwell.
- Rest of my personal Estate to my said wife Hannah Cowley. If my sd. wife happen to be with child at my decease then £400 to such child when 21. To my maid servant Anne Bradwyn £5. To my niece Mary Kentish £10 to put her out apprentice. To Thomas Jones my weights & scales, etc.
- I make my said wife sole Executrix, and my said nephew Thomas Marsham of Luton, my brother in law Mr Nathaniell Russell

of Town of Lewis, Co. Sussex, and my friend Mr. Joseph
Eles of Town of St. Albans, Overseers.

Witnesses: William Nicholls, Geor. Brigg, Richard Burditt.

Proved at London 5 April 16 3 by Exix. named.*

ANNE COWLEY (No. 27)

(Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans)

Will of Anne Cowley of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, Seamster

1684, 6 May

To Thomas Cowley my brother one 22/- piece of gold.

To Abraham Cowley my brother my silver salt.

To Mary Cowley daur. of my brother Abraham Cowley afsd.
£50 and piece of gold worth about 40/- and my silver sivett
box.

To Martha Sowthen my sister my Trunk marked with S. C.

To Mary Kentish daur. of my sister Mary Richards deceased, £10.

To Robert Kentish son of said Mary Kentish £20, part when ap-
prentice and part when 21 years of age.

To Mary Kentish daur. of said Mary Kentish £20 on marriage
or when 21 years.

To Thomas Nash £20, to William Nash £20, the 2 sons of Sarah
Nash the daur. of my sister Mary Richards afsd. deceased,
one part to be paid when apprenticed & the other when 21
years of age.

To Sarah Nash daur. of said Sarah Nash £10 on marriage or when
21.

To Nathan Sowthen £50 and to Martha Marsom £100 equally
between her children. To said Martha Marsom my seller
of glasses. To Mary Sowthen £60 and to Joane Sowthen

*This will states no relationship to Abraham Cowley the poet,
who lived 1618-1687. It is altogether possible that the poet
was related to the St. Albans family, however. Abraham
Cowley was a royalist; strongly influenced by reading Spenser
he produced a volume of poems in 1637, four years before he
entered Cambridge, where he was a distinguished scholar.
His royalist sympathies lost him his Cambridge fellowship
in 1643, and he spent 12 years in the service of exiled royalty.
He was tremendously popular in his own day. For informa-
tion, see his *Biography* by A. H. Netherot (1931). Hannah
Cowley, another English poet, 1743-1809, achieved reputation
under the pseudonym Anna Matilda.

£50, and my cabinet & what is in cabinet to be divided equally between said Nathan Sowthen, Mary Sowthen, and Joane Sowthen, the children of my sister Martha Sowthen afsd.
 To Rebecca Grover £5. To Anne Richards daur. of Thomas Richards £21 when 21 years.
 To John Scott son of Thomas Scott £5.
 To my aunt Anne Scott £10 and in event of her death before, then to Anne Scott her daur.
 To the 8 children of my cousin Cox 1 gn. apiece.
 To the 3 children of my cousin Gape 1 gn. apiece.
 Rest of my goods etc. unto Abraham Cowley my brother and to Martha Sowthen my sister afsd. jointly, whom I make Executors.

Witnesses: Will. Gibson, Nicholas Bradwin, Alice Mott.

Proved at St. Albans 1 Aug. 1684 by Exor. Abraham Cowley; power reserved to other Exor. (*Arch. St. Albans, Hickman fo. 210*)

CLEMENT COOLEY (No. 23)

(Prerogative Court of Canterbury)

Will of Clement Cooley of Lambeth, Co. Surrey,
 Citizen & Cloathworker

1654, March 17

To my daur. Elizabeth Axtell wife of Captain Thomas Axtell, the profit of an Indenture of Lease granted from M^{rs}. Marie Moore, Mr. Samuel Whitwick & Mr. John Winterbourne.
 To my daur. Marie Granger, wife of Christopher Granger, another Indenture of Lease granted to me from the Committee of the City of London, of 2 tenements in St. Giles Cripplegate.
 To my daur. Elizabeth Axtell shall pay unto my sister in Law M^{rs}. Neelder 4/- a week during term of aforesaid Lease.
 To poor of the Bishops Liberty & Princes Liberty in Lambeth 40/-.
 To my 2 daurs. Elizabeth Axtell & Marie Granger the lease of my dwelling house in Lambeth and household goods, etc., equally.

I appoint my daur. Marie Granger sole Executrix.

Witnesses: Ralph Olliver: Thomas Perkins, Cler.

Proved at London 19 Nov. 1656 by Exix. named. (*P. C. C. 407 Berkeley*)

JOAN COWLEY (No. 28)

(Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans)

Will of Joan Cowley of Town of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, Widow
1688, 22 September

My body to be buried in Churchyard of St. Peter's "on the West side of the Youghtree."

To my eldest son Thomas Cowley a ring that his father used to wear marked M. R.

To the 3 children of my son Abraham Cowley, namely Mary, John and Hannah, £10 apiece. To my grand daur. Mary Cowley afsd. daur. to my said son Abraham Cowley my silver bowl marked IWM.

To my grand daur. Joane Southen £80 also silver porringer and 2 silver spoons.

To my grand daur. Mary Southen £60 and silver tankard.

To my grand daur. Martha Marsom £60.

To my grand son Nathan Southen silver bowl.

To Thomas Richards son of my grandson Thomas Richards £10, to Anne Richards daur. of my said grandson Thomas Richards £5, both sums to be delivered to my grandson Thomas Richards for him to improve for said children when 21 years or on marriage. To the 2 children of my grand daur. Mary Kentish late deceased, namely Robert & Mary, £10 apiece when 21 or on marriage.

To the 3 children of my grand daur. Sarah Nash, namely William, Sarah, & Mary, £10, £5 and £5 respectively.

To Isaac Scotts 2 children £5 to be kept by their aunt Anne Scott towards their apprenticeships.

To John Scott son of Thomas Scott, cutler, £5.

To Anne Scott the elder, widow, £10.

To Anne Scott the younger, daur. of said Anne Scott the elder, now living with me, £20.

To the 9 children of my grand daur. Elizabeth Cox, to each 20/- apiece.

To the 6 children of my grand daur. Susannah Gape 20/- apiece.

To the 4 children of my grand daur. Martha Marsum 20/- apiece.

To the 2 children of my grandson Nathan Southen 20/- apiece.

To poor of the Abby parish in St. Albans £5.

To Rebecca wife of John Grover £5.

Rest and residue unto my afsd. son Abraham Cowley & his heirs, and I appoint him sole Executor.

Witnesses: Tho. Jones, Will. Gibson, Tho. Clark.

Proved at St. Albans 29 Dec. 1688 by Exor. named.

(*Arch. St. Albans, Eling fo. 18*)

JOHN COLLY (No. 21)

(Prerogative Court of Canterbury) 62 Rivers. John Colly.

1644, Sept. 10

To Nicholas Marten I give all my clothes.

To George Scampe 20/-. Mr. Borrens, chirurgion, 20/-.

And for the rest of my goods and wages due to me for my service, served in the ship John, I leave it to the care and disposing of George Scampe according to my Order as followeth: The remainder of my wages and goods wholly to be delivered when it shall please God to send the said George Scampe home in safety to my father by name William Colly or his wife Ellen Colly if living, if not to my brother and three sisters to be equally divided.

For the above said Nicholas Marten I freely forgive him all differences of money between us, his goods as followeth, Roof stones, for looking glasses three cases, sixteen bundles of Lutestringe, 5 chests of drinking glasses, etc., etc., in ready money 32 pieces of Eight.

The aforesaid George Scampe to be Executor.

Witnesses: Hugh Wilson, Edw. Barnes, Samuel Silghman, mark of And. Carew.

Proved at London 15 April 1654 by Executor named.

JOSEPH COOLEY (No. 20)

(Prerogative Court of Canterbury)

Will of Joseph Cooley of Tring, Co. Hertford, Yeoman

1643, April 18

To Joseph my son the drawing table cupboard and stools belonging to the table in the Hall of dwelling house where I now live. . the mill and stones belonging to said mill, to Joseph my son.

To Agnes my wife & Sarah my daur., cattle, etc.

To Sarah my daur. ½ acre land in Parkill Field in Tring afsd. in Middle furlong the land of John Dagnall north & land of John Geary south.

To said Joseph my son my Messuage at Thernho als. Totrenho, Co. Bedds., with appurtenances & lands belonging, to him & his heirs.

To poor of upper part of parish of Tring 10/-.

Rest of my goods to sd. Joseph my son whom I appoint Executor.
My friends Richard Smyth of Tring & Thomas Elliott, Overseers.

Witnesses: Richard Smyth, Thomas Elliott.

Proved at London 2 Aug. 1660 by Exor. Joseph Cooley, son.
(*P.C.C. 169 Nabbs*)

MARY COWLEY (No. 25)

(Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans)

Will of Mary Cowley of Town of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, Widow
1666/7, 20 March

To my sister Liddia the wife of Martyn Clement my featherbed
which now lyeth upon the trundle bed in the Little Parlour
at the Whitehorse where I now dwell.

To my grand daur. Mary Scholfeild the daur. of Godfrey Scholfeild my Jack and bedding.

To my grand daur. Mary Cowley the daur. of my son John Cowley
silver tumbler.

I release unto my son Jeremiah Cowley one bond wherein said
Jeremiah stands bounden to his father my late husband
Walter Cowley deceased in sum of £40 for payment of £20.

Residue of all my goods & chattells divided into 5 equal parts,
one-fifth to my son Walter Cowley, one-fifth to my son John
Cowley, one-fifth to my son Jeremiah Cowley, one-fifth to
my daur. Mary now wife of said Godfrey Scholfeild, one-fifth
to my daur. Anne now wife of Richard Cheshire.

I appoint my said son Jeremiah Cowley & my said son in law
Godfrey Scholfeild Executors.

Mark of Mary Cowley

Witnesses: Abraham Cowley, Tho. Richards

Proved at St. Albans 15 Oct. 1667 by Exors. named
(*Arch. St. Albans, Hickman fo. 76*)

THOMAS COWLEY (No. 30)

(Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans)

Will of Thomas Cowley of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, Gent.

1693, January 9

To poor of St. Albans where I now live £5.

To poor of parish of St. Peter in or near the Town of St. Albans
40/-, and to poor of St. Michael in or near Town of St.
Albans 40/-.

To my wife Elizabeth all my messuages, lands, tenements & hereditaments for life & after as follows.

To Elizabeth Cox my daur. my great messuage or Tenement wherein I now dwell with orchards & gardens, etc., my messuage & shop next to said messuage where I now dwell now or late in tenure of Thomas Jones, also messuage in place called the Abbey Orchard in St. Albans now or late in tenure of John Hawgood, close called Abbey Orchard about 10 acres now or late in tenure of Mary Loft widow, close in parish of Redbourne Co. Herts in tenure of John Beech, 2 other messuages in St. Albans in tenures of Robert Scott & Gilbert Kinder, to my said daur. Elizabeth Cox and her heirs, and if she die before my said wife, then to Anne Cox, Elizabeth Cox, Thomas Cox, Mary Cox, Susan Cox, Margaret Cox, & Martha Cox, children of my said daur. Elizabeth Cox, & their heirs.

To my daur. Susan the wife of my son in law John Gape the younger, Esq., my closes & lands in parishes of St. Stephen & St. Michael near the Town of St. Albans in several tenures of James Tristram and Wilson, and close of land in parishes of Saundridge & St. Peter after decease of my said wife Elizabeth unto my daur. Susan & heirs.

To my said wife Elizabeth use of my plate, household goods, etc., for life & after to my daur. Elizabeth Cox.

Rest and residue of my real and personal Estate to my said wife Elizabeth, whom I make Executrix.

Witnesses: Tho. Bolton, John Leigh, Tho. Jones.

Proved at St. Albans 16 Nov. 1695 by Exix. Elizabeth Cowley, relict; power reserved to Elizabeth Cox daur. & other Exixs.

Proved 27 Sept. 1700 by Exix. Elizabeth Cox.

(*Arch. St. Albans, Eling fo. 85*)

WALTER COWLEY (No. 5)

(Prerogative Court of Canterbury)

Will of Walter Cowley, Citizen & Ironmonger of London

1608, 5 Oct.

To be buried at discretion of my Executor.

All my goods to be divided into 3 equal parts. 1 part thereof to my wife Mabel Cowley, 1 other part to my children Samuel, Robert, Katherin, Judith, & Elizabeth, & such children as it please God to bless me with before my decease, according to custom of City of London as they severally attain ages of 21 or be married, and the other part I reserve to myself.

I give to my poor kindred I have in Staffordshire to be distributed by my brother Edward Cowley, £10.

To poor of parish of St. Margaret in New Fish Street whereof I am a parisoner, £10.

To Company of Ironmongers of London whereof I am a brother a piece of plate value £10.

I forgive my said brother Edward Cowley debts he oweth me.

I forgive my brother John Cowley debts he oweth me.

To my mother in law the Lady Godard 40/- for ring.

I give to my uncle (*sic*. No bequest is stated in register copy).

To my cousin Elizabeth Draper £3 for ring.

To my sister Hayes £10. To my Brother Hayes £3 for ring.

Rest and residue of my goods chattles etc. to my afsd. children equally when 21 years or on marriage.

If it so happen that all my children die before 21 years of age then to my wife £200, to Company of Ironmongers £100 to be lent out from tyme to tyme for 4 years to 2 young men, and the residue amongst my 3 brethren, John, Edward & Thomas Cowley and to my said sister Hayes equally.

I make my wife Mabell Cowley sole Executrix.

I desire my brother Hayes & my uncle William Cutt to be Overseers.

Concerning lands I am now seized of situate in Co. Sussex, my said wife to have the Dower and 3rd part of all such lands for life.

To my two sons Samuell Cowley & Robert Cowley & their heirs my messuage, land, etc., in parish of Warbleton Co. Sussex, & fields in same parish called Sterts about 14 acres & other land in Warbleton 15 acres, Croft 4 acres called Juyons, land about 20 acres & 3 fields about 14 acres there, which premises I late purchased of Thomas Stolion the elder, Gent in the name of my late brother Richard Cowley & heirs upon trust to use of me & my heirs, unto my said sons Samuel Cowley, Robert Cowley & heirs.

To my 4 daurs. Anne, Katheryne, Judith & Elizabeth Cowley & their heirs, my lands in said parish of Warbleton called Lucocke and Auncetry lands about 90 acres which I lately also purchased of said Thomas Stolion, my said wife to take rents during minorities of my children towards maintenance education etc.

Witnesses: Charles Yeoman, Scr., Thomas Stead, Richard Palfreman, Thomas Wayt servant to said Scr.

Proved at London 29 Aug. 1620 by Executrix named.

(*P.C.C. 83 Soame*)

WALTER COWLEY THE ELDER (No. 24)

(Archdeaconry of St. Albans)

Will of Walter Cowley the Elder, of Town of St. Albans, Co. Herts.,
Baker

1664, 21 Jan

To be buried at discretion of my Executrix.

To Mary my wife my messuage, tenement or Inn wherein I now dwell in St. Albans aforesaid, with gardens, orchards, etc., belonging, to hold to her for life & after to Walter Cowley my son and his heirs for ever. But my meaning is that if Walter Cowley my son shall allow Mary my wife for her life the little parlour there that Mr. Crosefeild held and pay to her £8 a year then he shall enjoy said messuage or inn after my decease.

To said Mary my wife that messuage in St. Albans in occupation of Richard Preston & after her decease to John Cowley my son & his heirs.

To said Mary my wife that messuage in St. Albans in occupation of Widow Wellin and after her decease to Walter Cowley my son.

All my goods and chattels to said Mary my wife whom I make sole Exix.

Mark of Walter Cowley

Witnesses: Tho: Cowley, Tho: Richards, John Charnocke Scr.

Proved 27 May 1665 by Exix. named.

(*Arch. St. Albans, Hickman fo. 35*)

WALTER COWLEY THE ELDER (No. 26)

(Archdeaconry Court of St. Albans)

Will of Walter Cowley the Elder, of Town of St. Albans, Co. Hertford, Baker

1683, 22 October

Whereas I lately for the better maintenance of Mary my now wife in case she outlive me have settled my messuage, tenement or inn called the Whitehorse within the Burrough of St. Albans afsd. where I now inhabit during her life and after her decease to Walter Cowley my eldest son to him and his heirs.

I bequeath those 2 tenements one in St. Peters Street in occupation of Zachariah Fitch, baker, and the other in Sopewell Lane

in occupation of Jeremiah Hopkins & late of John Wanlocke,
to my 3 sons, Walter Cowley, William Cowley, & Thomas
Cowley, & their heirs to be them sold.
To Mary Carpenter daur. of my now wife, bed & bedding which
her grandmother Ruth now useth.
To my daur. Mary now wife of John Hatchett of London, dyer,
silver bowl & gold ring worth 20/- and £10 in money.
To my said son Walter Cowley my boulting Mill, sacks, weights
and scales, etc.
To my 2 sons Walter & Thomas all my Stock in the yards & barn
equally between them, all my wearing apparel, and the rest
of my goods chattels and moneys to my said 3 sons, Walter,
William and Thomas equally and I appoint them Executors.
Witnesses: Jeremiah Cowley, John Cowley, John Barnard.
Proved at St. Albans 4 Dec. 1683 by Exors. named.
(*Arch. St. Albans, Hickman fo. 202*)

WILLIAM CULLEY (No. 19)

(Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 3 Harvey)

William Culley

This is my last Will and Testament in the Name of God Amen.
To the boswine eight shillings nine pence to be paid in England
or to the Cuper two shillings to be paid in the Countrie.
Mickell Richson a cote a paire of shoes and a shirt.
All the rest of my thinges to Benjamin Borman, and all the wages
due to me I give to Benjamin Borman.
Disposed this Ninth December 1636.

The marke of Wm. Culle.

William Culley. Richard Sweting. Jane Bgauley.
(21 January, 1938, computation according to Church of England,
Commission issued to Benjamin Bourman, principal legatee)

TOPOGRAPHICAL LIST OF COOLEYS IN ENGLAND

The following is an attempt to make up a topographical list of all references to Cooleys in England at the time most interesting to American descendants of Benjamin Cooley; i.e., 1600-1650. Some earlier and some later references are also included. The list is, of course, far from exhaustive. The sources of the references are indicated.

Berkshire. Margaret Colly, widow, Wantage, 1612 (*Wills*).

Buckinghamshire. Subsidy Rolls, 1620. George Cowley, Buckingham; George Cowley, Leekhamstead; George Cowley, Tingwick; Frances Cowley, Ivinghoe; Richard Cowley, Stukeley (*Banks*). Thomas Colly of Wotton, Underwood, 1649 (*Wills*).

Cornwall. 1601, two families by name of Colly, 32 by name Coolen (*Hitching*).

Derbyshire. 1601, four families by name Cowley (*Hitching*).

Essex. Chelmsford Parish; see *Parish Registers* below.

Colchester: William Coole, Margaret, William Jr., Annis, Stephen Cole (*Banks*), John Coole, 1545; Littelbury: John Cooll, 1541; Nicholas Coole, 1567; Sampford, Magna (*Wills*), 1585-1619, Stephen Coole, John Colle, Elizabeth Colle, Samuel Coole (1634/5) (*Wills*).

Essex & Herts. Commissary of London: 1610, Richard Colly, Ware; 1631/32, Robert Colly, Standsted; 1634/5, Samuel Coole of Colchester (*Wills*).

Gloucestershire. Subsidy Rolls: Shinbridge, William Cowley; Estington & Alkerton, Ansel Cowley (*Banks*).

Herefordshire. Thomas Colly, 1623, William Colley, 1636 (*Wills*).

Hertfordshire. In the *Col. Charles E. Banks mss.*, on which his *topographical dictionary* (1937) was based, this statement appears: "St. Albans Parish, Benjamin Cowley (Cooley) who settled in Springfield. Memorandum: Only County where Cooley is found; perhaps in St. Peters (St. Albans)." This statement accounts for the very thorough search of St. Albans records, given above under *Wills*, and below under *Parish Registers*.

Huntingdonshire. Lay Subsidy Rolls, St. Neots, Toseland Hundred, Thomas Cooley (*Banks*).

Kent: 1601, four families by name Coley (*Hitching*).

Lancashire. 1601, three families by name Cowley (*Hitching*).

Leicestershire. See the notes on the family in Leicestershire, mentioned at the beginning of *The Family in England*. 1601, two families by name Cowley (*Hitching*). Nicholas Cowley, 1481/2, of Leicestershire. See *Northamptonshire*, below.

Lincolnshire. William Colly, 1610 (*Wills*).

London & Middlesex.

The name Cowley appears in Middlesex as a place-name (*Johnson*, and *Banks*).

Walter Cowley, b. Staffordshire, had Ann, Samuel, Robert, Judith, and Catherine; resided in London in 16th century (*Wills*).

Walter Cowley res. London in 17th century (*Banks mss., London Householders 1638*).

James Cowley had a son, John, b. 1656 (*Banks Mss.*).

Thomas Cooley married Rebecca Barton in 1620 (*Banks mss., London Marriages 1605-1626*).

John Cooley, Mr. Cooley, Thomas Cooley, and Widow Cowley, householders in 1638 (*Banks mss., London Householders 1638*).

Basingstoke: Richard Collie, 1619 (*Wills*).

Robert Cooley, from Hadley in Suffolk; 1638 (*Wills*).

Stepney, 1640. Edward and Hugh Cowley lived in Stepney (*Banks*).

Northamptonshire. Nicholaus Cowley, 1481/2 in Leicester, "owned the manor together with the advowson of the church of Yelvertoft, the manor of Slyford in Northamptonshire, and messuages, mills, and lands, at Swinford Stamisworth and Catthrop in the Co. Leicester" (*Calendar Inquisitiones, Post Mortem*, Vol. IV).

Oxfordshire. The name Cowley appears as a place-name (*Banks*). Alexander de Coueley was here in the 13th cy., as was Roger de Couele (1273) (*The Norman People*).

Rutlandshire: Crozier says that Benjamin Cooley of Springfield, Mass., came from Rutland. See the notes on the family in Rutlandshire at the beginning of *The Family in England*, above.

Shropshire. Crozier, in his work on arms of American families, assigned arms to Benjamin Cooley of Springfield, whose original home was given as Co. Rutland. These arms were checked (1937) by the College of Arms, London, and were found to have been granted in 1597 to Robert Cowley, "grandson of John Cowley, gentleman, descendant of a younger house of that auncient familie," of Shropshire. No other references to Cooley names in Shropshire have been found. The relationship of Benjamin Cooley to Robert or John Cowley of Shropshire is not known (*Crozier; and College of Arms*).

Somersetshire. 1601, 18 families by name of Coolle (*Hitching*).

Staffordshire. 1601, 16 families by name of Collie (*Hitching*).

Francis Colly, vicar of Bushbury, 1626 (*Wills*).

16th century: John Cowley had sons Walter and Edward;

Walter went to London (*The Norman People*).

Suffolk. 1638. Hadley: Robert Colly was from there; d. 1638 (*Wills*).

Surrey Co. Subsidy Rolls, 1620-1628; S. Olaves Parish, Widdow Cooly (*Banks*).

Wiltshire. Subsidy Rolls, 1605-1628; Walter Cowley, Widow Cowley (*Banks*). In 1601 there were 12 families by name of Coule (*Hitching*).

PARISH REGISTERS

After a study of the Prerogative and Local Courts, etc., has yielded localities likely to warrant further research, it is customary to have local parish registers studied. Since too many parish searches were indicated, a thorough search was impossible. Only two Parish Registers have been searched. The first, Chelmsford Parish, Springfield, Co. Essex, was searched because it was from this Parish that William Pyncheon of Springfield came, and it was thought that Benjamin Cooley's original home may have been in the same place. This search proved fruitless. In the 1937 *Topographical Dictionary*, by Col. Banks, the statement is made that Benjamin Cooley of Springfield, Mass., came from St. Albans Parish, co. Hertford. Thus in 1938 a detailed search of all parish registers of St. Albans Parish was made by Anthony R. Wagner, Esq., Portcullis, College of Arms. While this search did not yield the much-wanted evidence of Benjamin Cooley's birth, parentage and marriage, it does indicate the basis for Col. Banks' statement that Benjamin Cooley came from St. Albans Parish, for the records are full of Cooleys at the time covered.

CHELMSFORD PARISH REGISTER, 1600-1637, CO. ESSEX

Baptisms

- 30 Sept. 1626, Elizabeth, da. Robert and Ann Schooling.
- 25 January 1628/9, Thomas, s. Mr. John Coole and Mary his wife.
- 20 January 1629/30, John, son of John Coole and Mary his wife
(buried the next day).
- 26 March 1631, John, son of Robert and Ann Schooling.

Marriages

- 29 July 1631, Richard Midletun of St. Edward's in Cambridge and Maria Coole of Chelmsford.
 7 Nov. 1631, Matthew Stucke, "chamberlyn at the Cocke," and Elizabeth Schooling.
 24 Jan. 1632/3, William Safford of London, gentleman, and Elizabeth Colle of Ipswich.

Burials

- 29 April 1602, Rebecca, da. William Coole.
 22 Aug. 1626, James, son of Robert Schooling of Chelmsford, a gardener, and of Ann his wife.
 16 Sept. 1623, Katherine Schooling, widow, victualler.
 12 Feb. 1629/30, Elizabeth, da. Frances Coole, widow.
 11 April 1634, William, son of Edward Coole of Chelmsford, baker, and his wife Anne.

ST. ALBANS PARISH REGISTER, 1588-1689, CO. HERTFORD

Baptisms

1564. 14 July. Thomas Cowlie sonne of John.
 1567. 12 Oct. William Cowley son of John.
 1568. 9 Oct. Richard Coolie sonne of Robert.
 1587. 18 Oct. Jane Coolie dough: of Thomas
 1588. 4 April. *Beniamin* Cowland sonne of Thomas.
 1589. 6 April. Thomas the son of Thomas Coole.
 1592. 27 Nov. John sonne of Thomas Coolie.
 1594. 22 Sept. Thomas sonne of Thomas Coole.
 1595. 22 April. Walter sonne of Thomas Coolie.
 1596/7. 6 Feb. Alice doughter of Thomas Coolie.
 1597/8. 12 Feb. Jeremie sonne of Tho: Coolie.
 1614/5. 5 Feb. Thomas sonne of Thomas Cowley.
 1617. 31 Aug. Thomas sonne of Thomas Cowley.
 1619. 12 Dec. Anne doughter of Thomas Cowley by Joane his wife.
 1620. 5 June. John sonne of John Cowley by Elizabeth his wife.
 1621/2. 13 Feb. Abraham sonne of Thomas Cowley by Joan his wife.
 1623. 18 May. Jeremiah sonne of John Cowley by Elizabeth his wife.
 1623. 9 Nov. Walter sonne of Walter Cowley by Marie his wife.
 1624. 27 Dec. Marie doughter of Thomas Cowley by Joane his wife.

1625. 27 Nov. Elizabeth daughter of John Cowley by Elizabeth his wife.
- 1625/6. 4 Feb. Marie daughter of Walter (Cowley?) by Marie his wife.
- 1626/7. 4 March. Martha daughter of Thomas Cowley by Joane his wife.
- 1627/8. 23 March. Mary daughter of John Cowley by Eliz^t. his wyf.
1628. 11 June. Jeremy son of Walter Cowley by Mary his wyf.
1629. 9 Aug. *Benjamin* son of John Cowley by Eliz^t. his wyf.
1629. 29 Nov. Willame son of Thomas Cowley by Joane his wyf.
1630. 22 Aug. John son of Walter Cowley by Mary his wyf.
1630. 15 Dec. Thomas son of John Cowley by Eliz^t. his wyf.
1632. 9 April. Samwel son of M^r Thomas Cowley by Joane his wyf.
- 1632/3. 17 Feb. Anne ye daug: of Walter Cowley et p. Marie vx.
1633. 2 June. Marie ye daug: of Thomas Crowly (altered from 'Cowly') by Marie his wife.
1633. 14 June. Martha ye daug: of John Cowley & by Elizabeth his wife.
- N. B. 1634/5. This page has been much mutilated in binding; many surnames are missing.
1635. 7 June. Anne ye daug: of M^r Tho: Cowley et p. Joane vx.
1635. 21 June. John ye sonne of Walter Cowley et p. Marie vx.
1636. 30 March. Jeremy ye sonne of John Cowley et p. Eliz^t. vx.
- 1636/7... (between 1 and 5) Jan. Sarah ye daug: of M^r Tho. Cowley et p. j....
- 1637/8. 21 March. Joane ye daug: of M^r Tho: Cowley et p. Joane vx.
1638. 19 Aug. Tho: ye sonne of Walter Cowley.
1641. 30 Nov. Susan ye daug: of Tho: Cowley iun. et p. Eliz^t. vx.
1649. 8 May. Martha ye daug: of Abram Cowley et p. Ester vx.
1651. 27 May. Thomas ye sonne of Abraham Cowley & by Ester vx.
- 1651/2. 29 Jan. Susan ye daug: of M^r Thomas Cowley & by Eliza vx.
1653. 23 Aug. Hester ye daug: of M^r Abraham Cowley & by Hester.
- 1653/4. 27 Jan. Eames ye sonne of M^r Tho: Cowley iun. et p. Elizabeth vx.
1655. 28 Sept. Abraham so. of Abraham Cowley by Hester his wife.
1657. 4 May. Thomas son of M^r Thomas Cowley per Elizab... .
1658. 1 Dec. John so. of John Cowlie per Anne.

1659. 15 Dec. Samuell so. of Abraham Cowley per Hester.
 1660. 18 Sept. Henrie so. of John Cowlie per Ame.
 1660/1. 1 March. *Beniamin* so. of Abraham Cowlie per Hester.
 1661. 22 Oct. Anne da. of John Cowlie per Anne.
 1663. 6 Dec. Mary the Daughter of John Cowly by Anne his wife.
 1665. 19 Nov. Marie da. of Abraham Cowley by Marie.
 1669. 27 May. John son of John Cowlie per Anne.
 1671. 9 May. Anne da. of John Cowlie per Anne.
 1673. 21 May. John son of John Cowlie per Anne.
 1681. 30 June. Thomas so. of Abraham Cowlie.
 1682. 9 Sept. Marie da. of Abraham Cowlie.

Marriages

- 1562/3. 26 Jan. John Cowley & Joan Bridg.
 1566. 26 Aug. Robert Coolie & Agnes Earle.
 1573. 4 May. Michael Cullet and Alice Cooley.
 1579. 20 Sept. Roger Beeche & Grace Cowley.
 1589. 24 Nov. Robert Wright & Grace Cowell.
 1613. 3 May. Thomas Cowley & Joane Chopping.
 1616. 2 Oct. John Davis & Anne Cowley, widow.
 1617. 5 May. John Cowley and Elizabeth Anterbus.
 1622/3. 19 Jan. Walter Cowley and Marie Oneey.
 1655. 1 Oct. (As witness) Richard Harrod, 30, & Elizabeth Hayward, 30, both of St. Mickels. Pub. Aug. 26, Sept. 2 & 9, before Mr. Ed. Eames. Wits: Mr Tho: Cowley, Willson Arnold.
 1655. 24 Dec. (As witness) Mrs. Eliz. Cowley.
 1655/6. 30 Jan. (As witness) Mr Tho: Cowley & Abr. Cowley.
 1657. 28 March. Jo: Cowley was a witness.
 1657/8. 6 Jan. John Cowlie, 22, & Anne Trender, 22, both Albans. Pub. Dec. 19, 27, Jan. 3. Before Mr. Will. Rechford. Wits: Georg Preston & Jo. Streat.
 1666. 3 June. Walter Cowlie & Marie Carpenter.
 1666. 18 July. Thomas Cox Esq. & Mis^r Elizabeth Cowlie.

Burials

(In parish church of St. Albans and at St. Peters)

1558. 29 Nov. Isabel Coolie.
 1578. 25 Sept. Joane Cowley.
 1579. 24 April. Margerie Cowley.
 1593. 13 July. Joane Colie.
 1612. 10 Sept. Thomas Cowleye clarke of this parish church.

1616. 30 Sept. Thomas sonne of Thomas Cowley.
 1620. 24 Oct. Anne doughter of Thomas Cowley.
 1624. 16 June. Jeremie sonne of John Cowley.
 1629. 5 Sept. *Benjamin* son of John Cowley.
 1633. 1 Oct. John ye sonne of Walter Cowly.
 1636. 12 Nov. Jeremy ye sonne of John Cowley.
 1641. 23 Dec. Samuel ye sonne of M^r Tho: Cowley et p. Joane vx.
 1643. 23 April. Will. Cowly.
 1657. 8 Aug. Hester Cowley.
 1659/60. 20 Jan. Samuell Cowley.
 1661. 25 Dec. *Beniamin Cowlie*.
 1662. 2 April. Abraham Cowlie.
 1662. 8 Aug. Hester Cowlie.
 1663. 2 April. John Cowlie.
 1664. 23 May. Mary Cowly.
 1664. 22 Sept. Thomas Cowly.
 1664. 26 Dec. Allice Cowly.
 1664/5. 29 Jan. Walter Cowly.
 1666. 26 March. Sarah Cowlie.
 1666. 7 Oct. Anne Cowlie.
 1666. 28 Dec. Thomas Cowlie.
 1666/7. 10 Feb. John Cowlie.
 1668. 9 May. Joane Cowlie.
 1669. 25 June. John Cowlie.
 1671. 20 June. Anne Cowlie.
 1672/3. Mr Thomas Cowlie, alderman. 18 Feb.
 1673/4. 4 Jan. John Cowlie.
 1674/5. 4 Jan. Eames Cowly.
 1677. 9 Dec. Anne Cowly.
 1677/8. 6 Feb. Thomas Cowly.

COOLEYS IN IRELAND

Walter Cowley, an English gentleman, was sent into Ireland during the reign of Henry VII (1485-1509) to watch the conduct of Gerald, 8th Earl of Kildare, then Lord Deputy of Ireland (*Burke*; see the lineage of the Duke of Wellington given in Chapter II). According to Lodge, the Cowley, Cooley or Colley family in Ireland derives its origin from the County of Rutland, whence they removed into Ireland in the reign of Henry VIII (1509-1547), in whose 22nd year (1531)

His Majesty granted to Walter and Robert Cowley of Kilkenny, Gents., during their respective lives, the office of Clerk of the Crown in Chancery. According to *Lodge*, the 7th in descent from this Walter Cowley assumed the title of Earl of Mornington on Oct. 5, 1747, and was the father of Arthur Wellesley, Duke of Wellington; according to *Burke*, the Cowley who assumed the title of Earl of Mornington was 10th in descent from this Walter Cowley.

At any rate, Walter Cowley resided at Drogheda, where he acquired property, and left a son, Robert Cowley. By Royal Patent dated July 2, 1619, Sir William Colley got his lands created into the manor of Edenderry, otherwise Cowleystown, King's Co. This grant was further confirmed on the 8th of June, 1635.

A little known paper on the Cowley family of Kilkenny, by John G. Prim, was published in the *Proceedings of the Kilkenny Archeological Society*. Prim holds a most contradictory opinion towards the beginning of the family in Ireland, and presents evidence that the Cowley family in Ireland either came from England much earlier than is generally supposed, or was originally an Irish family.

Prim cites references to Cowleys in Ireland, and probably in Kilkenny, at least 70 years before the earliest date given for the removal of Walter and Robert Cowley from England (*Burke*, after 1485; *Lodge*, after 1509). In 1407 Walter Cowley was one of two portreeves of Kilkenny. In 1425, John Cowle was ordered to take army provisions to James Butler, Earl of Ormonde. In 1496 (12 Henry VII) John Cowley was granted the office of gauger in Ireland during the Royal Pleasure. In 1505, Robert Cowley was appointed customer (keeper of the customs) of the Port of Dublin, and still held that office in 1520. This Robert Cowley appears to be the same one, of Kilkenny, who was appointed Clerk of the Crown in Chancery, the date

of the appointment being given by Lodge as the 22nd year of the reign of Henry VIII (1530-31), and according to Prim the 26th year of the reign of Henry VIII (1534/35).

In the reign of Henry VIII, the time given by Lodge for the removal of the Cowley brothers from Rutlandshire, government officials speak of Walter Cowley as an "Irishman, and a worthy example to the other natives," so he could hardly have been a newcomer to Ireland at this time. The 1425 order appointing John Cowle to take up provisions for the use of James Butler, Earl of Ormonde, and his army, was dated (the 11th of May) at Drogheda, thus pointing to a residence of Cowleys at that place long before the earliest date given for the removal of members of the family from co. Rutland to Ireland.

The Cowleys of Kilkenny seem to have been fairly well-to-do. They disappeared from public view about 1650. The last-mentioned of them was appointed to conduct negotiations with Oliver Cromwell (1653?-1658).

Prim's exhaustive work upon the Cowleys of Kilkenny points to possible inaccuracy in other authorities, who indicate unanimously that Walter and Robert Cowley of Ireland removed there from Rutlandshire, England, between 1485 and 1547. *Dugdale* lends some evidence that Prim's conclusion is correct; i.e., that the family did not come from Rutlandshire to Ireland. For *Dugdale* indicates that the Rutlandshire line early became extinct, and fails to include Walter and Robert Cowley in his records of the Colley family of Rutlandshire, as does the 1618/19 Visitation.

In his study, Prim indicates no knowledge of any migration by the Irish family to New England.

Mr. Joseph Carvill, an Irishman from North Ireland, reported to Hollis Moseley Cooley in 1920 that a famous golf course known as "Cooley Point" is

located near Greenore, Ireland, in the vicinity of Carlingford Lough which lies between Belfast and Dublin. Near Cooley Point is the "Townland of Cool-ey." In Ireland the name is spelled and pronounced the same as in the United States; i.e., C-o-o-l-e-y.

THE PURITAN IN HOLLAND

In seeking English ancestry for early immigrants to America, one likely source is often overlooked; hence we call to attention that many of the very early American settlers came to America by way of Holland.

Surprise is occasionally expressed that the attempt at self-government, which in England under the Commonwealth failed so ignominiously, should prove successful in New England. Douglas Campbell, in his book entitled *The Puritan in Holland, England, and America*, gives an explanation which he feels is fairly simple. New England received the great mass of its early settlers between 1630 and 1640, before the outbreak of Civil War in England. After hostilities had begun immigration was less frequent. Preceding and during this period, Puritanism was at its height. The party (for such was the Puritan organization) was under persecution and hardship, and did not attract the "camp-followers" who, attracted by Cromwell's success, flocked to its banners and brought with them some measure of disgrace to the term Puritan.

A select few Englishmen were just beginning to appreciate fully the conditions and events existing in their country. They began to feel that their native land was beyond hope of improvement. Some of them (and by no means the worst, but rather the best of them) set forth to try out their ideas, and eventually founded a "new" England across the ocean. It should be borne in mind that these men were not *typical* Englishmen of their time. The non-conformists were

driven out of England by the persecutions of Elizabeth, James and Charles (who ruled, successively, from 1557 to 1649). They were unusual men, intellectually; most of them could read and write at a time when the mass of their countrymen were wholly illiterate, and many of them were graduates of the highest schools of the day. They seem unquestionably to have been actuated solely by principle. There was small reason for hypocrisy.

It was the exceptional character of the men who eventually founded New England, as well perhaps as their experience with republican government in Holland, that made the experiment of self-government succeed in New England while it failed at home.

But it was not only the Puritan and non-conformist who left England. Changes in the industries of England had unsettled social conditions and social relationships. The middle and lower classes, engaged largely in agricultural pursuits, were worse off than ever before. Yet notwithstanding their natural desire to better themselves, few would have left home for that reason alone. It was the combination of their economic difficulties and dissatisfaction with the state of religion, politics and morals in their country, which determined them to leave England.

The number of non-conformists who left England between 1560 and 1650 is not known, and cannot be reliably estimated. Historians have said that they went to Holland "in great numbers." Their choice of Holland is wholly understandable. The country had, in 1579, succeeded in freeing itself from outside control which it had suffered for several centuries. By the Union of Utrecht, it had become a part of the republic of The Seven Provinces, with William the Silent, founder of the house of Orange, as leader and hereditary stadtholder. Holland was already largely protestant in religion.

The most famous group of non-conformists emigrating to Holland from England was of course the Separatists, who went there in 1609 with their pastor, John Robinson, the founder of the Puritan settlement at Leiden. Robinson supported the projected emigration to America, and would have sailed on the Mayflower in 1620 had a majority of his congregation sailed. A majority were willing to join the Pilgrims who landed at Plymouth, but money for the expedition could not be raised.

This 1609 Leiden settlement was only one of many similar English settlements in Holland. After 1581 a large number of Englishmen, not only for religious and political purposes, but to develop the textile industry under newly negotiated trade agreements between Holland and England, removed to Holland. In 1617 there were English textile trade establishments in twenty-two different cities of Holland. At the time of the early settlements in America there was hardly a town of prominence in the Seven Provinces that was without a Scottish Presbyterian or an English Puritan preacher, ministering to its English residents.

While some of the English emigrants doubtless went with the Dutch to New Netherlands (or New Amsterdam), and lost their identity as Englishmen through the Dutch records, a great many of them emigrated directly to the English settlements, and resumed life with their fellow-countrymen.

It is altogether possible that Benjamin Cooley, and perhaps other Cooley immigrants, may have come to New England from Holland, rather than directly from England. Supporting this possibility are these facts: (1) None of the available ship passenger lists from English ports to New England during the 17th century gives the name of *any* Cooley, yet several Cooleys were in New England at early dates. (2) A good many English families moved into Holland not

only for political and religious reasons, but to engage in the textile business, which by 1617 flourished in at least 22 cities in Holland. (3) Benjamin Cooley was a weaver by trade.

COOLEYS IN AMERICA

The earliest immigrants to New England came from England and from Holland. The Swedes settled in Delaware in 1636, but no names suggesting Cooley appear in the records of the Swedish colony. There were Cooley-Cowley immigrants to Virginia and the Barbadoes during the 17th and 18th centuries.

Of the early 17th century Cowley-Cooley immigrants to New England, only two are known to have left families to carry on the name, one as Cooley, the other as Coley. The first is used by the descendants of Benjamin Cooley of Springfield, Mass., *circa* 1640. The family, now comprising the 8th to 12th generations in this country, is large and widely scattered. It was for the purpose of uniting the family, and completing partial records of the descendants of Benjamin Cooley, that *The Cooley Family Association* was formed in 1936, and to contribute towards that end this book is now being published.

The other Cooley immigrant to New England known to have left descendants was Samuel Coole, who took the name of Coley. He settled in Milford and Fairfield, Conn. No attempt has been made to prove a relationship between Samuel Coole-Coley and Benjamin Cooley. In support of at least an acquaintanceship, and perhaps a blood relationship between them, is the fact that their daughters married brothers in 1664 (Abileneh, daughter of Samuel, m. Japhet Chapin; and Bethia, daughter of Benjamin, m. Japhet's brother, Henry Chapin). A record of the descendants of Samuel Coley is being compiled by Mrs. L. S. Porter of Oshkosh, Wis.

The following is a list of Cooleys in America at an early date:

1 *Benjamin* (b. about 1617), in Springfield in 1642/3, with his wife Sarah (*Savage*).

2 *Bryan Cowley*, sailed to the Barbadoes (*Drake*, pages 113, 114).

3 *Charles*, prob. related to Henry, lived in Boston; he and his wife Mary had a daughter Elizabeth, b. Aug. 23, 1689, Boston, and son Ezekiel, b. Aug. 27, 1688 (*Vital Records*).

4 *Dennis*, in Stonington, d. 1683 (*Savage*).

5 Goodman Coole had 12 acres, 60 pools, and 6 shares, in Exeter, N. H. (*Early Settlers in Exeter, N. H. between 1639-1643*, N. E. H. G. R.).

6 *Henry*, in Boston in 1670, was a cooper, and died before 1677 leaving a widow Rebecca (*Savage*). Henry and Rebecca had Rebecca, b. Nov. 25, 1669; Mary, b. Feb. 24, 1671, and Henry, b. July 27, 1676, Boston (*Vital Records*).

7 *John*, b. about 1615, was in Ipswich in 1638, removed to Salem, and d. there Mar. 30, 1654 (*Savage*).

8 *Richard*, in Hatfield, Mass., before 1648 (*Media Pub. Co.*).

9 *Robert Collie*, ae. 20, imbarqued in the Hopewell to the Barbadoes (17th cy., date not known) (*Drake*, page 100-101).

10 *Roger Cowley*, Esq., owned 88 acres of land, 1 hired servant, 2 bought servants, and 7 slaves, in St. Michael's Parish, the Barbadoes. He and his wife Susannah had a daughter Elizabeth, baptised 27 Feb. 1678. His younger son Roger was buried 9 Oct. 1678 (*Hotten*, pages 430, 452).

11 *Samuel*, b. about 1610, freeman in Mass. Bay Col. in 1631, and was here in 1630. He was one of the original settlers of Milford, Conn., and established his family there and in Fairfield, Conn. His descendants spell the name Coley (*Savage*).

12 *Thomas Colley* owned 10 acres of land and 4 negroes in Christ Church Parish, Barbadoes, 22 Dec. 1679 (*Hotten*, page 476).

13 *Tobias* and Sarah Cowley were in Northumberland, Va., in 1650 (*Media Pub. Co.*).

14 *William Cowley* settled in Northampton, Va., in 1647 (*Media Pub. Co.*); ae. 20, sailed to "Virginea" 23 June 1635 (*Hotten*, page 95).

15 *William*, b. about 1604, was in Mass. Bay Col. in 1634. The word "Felt" appears after his name. He was a mariner

of New London, 1642, and alive in 1664 when he gave his age as 60 (*Savage*).

16 *Willson* Cowley was a passenger on the ship *America* which sailed to Virginia in 1635 (*N. E. H. G. R.*, Vol. IV, page 190; and Hotten's *List of Immigrants*).

18th Century

17 *James* Cooley, b. Ireland, emigrated to America at an unknown date, prob. around 1745; he lived in Dutchess Co., N. Y. His descendants have been compiled and appear in *The Rathbone Genealogy*.

18 *William* Coole (b. 1753), ae. 21 in 1774, sailed from Port of London 28 Aug. 1774, on the ship *Rebecca* to Maryland; he was from Dublin (*N. E. H. G. R.*, Vol. LXIII, page 17).

19 *Peter* Cooley (b. 1736), aged 38 in 1774, a *weaver*, sailed Feb. 1774 from the Port of London on the ship *Planter* to Virginia; he had with him three sons, Peter, Jr., aged 18, John, aged 16, and Joseph, aged 12 (*N. E. H. G. R.*, Vol. LXIII, page 17).

GENERAL COMMENTS

The purpose of this chapter has been to set down the miscellaneous information regarding Cooleys which has accumulated in the records of searches made or authorized by Mortimer E. Cooley and his brother, Ernest L. Cooley,* deceased. These brothers made every effort to secure, in all instances, accurate facts, without regard for their predilections in any way.

This chapter has no thesis; it is an attempt to correlate facts and conjectures (made clear when it is conjecture) regarding the Cooley Family in Normandy, England and Ireland; a memorandum regarding the possibility of Cooleys in Holland; and a summary of all known first-generation Cooleys in America during the 17th, and in a few cases, the 18th, century. No attempt has been made to exhaust the number of 18th century immigrants, since the chief concern of the

*See also the letter from Ernest Linwood Cooley, No. 486, to his brother, Clarence Elmer Cooley, No. 484, in the genealogy.

research undertaken has been to establish, so far to no avail, the parentage and ancestry, and the date and place of birth and marriage, of Benjamin Cooley of Springfield, Mass., together with like facts for his wife, now known only as Sarah.*

To secure information prior to the first records of Benjamin and Sarah Cooley in 1642 in Springfield, Mass., seems to members of the family to be of primary importance. In order to avoid duplication of material already accumulated, and in order to clarify that information, as much as possible, this chapter has been prepared.

* Lyman Weeks gives Sarah's maiden surname as Tremaine. A thorough search of the Tremaine genealogy, and for Tremaine data in contemporary records, has yielded no proof of this statement. Another suggestion is that she may have been Sarah Colton. See Chapter IV.

SECTION I

BENJAMIN COOLEY¹

1 BENJAMIN COOLEY was born about 1617, place unknown, and died August 17, 1684, in that part of Springfield, Massachusetts, which became Longmeadow. His wife's name was Sarah, and she died in Springfield August 23, 1684.

Benjamin and Sarah Cooley had eight children, all born in Springfield. There were three daughters and five sons. One of the sons, BENJAMIN COOLEY II, had no male issue. For the four remaining sons, OBADIAH, ELIAKIM, DANIEL and JOSEPH COOLEY, separate sections of their descendants have been compiled. This section takes up, in order, the daughters of Benjamin and Sarah Cooley, and their son, Benjamin Cooley, Jr.

8 Children², b. Springfield:

- * i BETHIA, Sept. 16, 1643. *See below.*
- 2** ii OBADIAH, Jan. 27, 1646/7. *See OBADIAH LINE, SECTION II, page 200.*
- 3** iii ELIAKIM, Jan. 8, 1648/9. *See ELIAKIM LINE, SECTION III, page 386.*
- 4** iv DANIEL, May 2, 1651. *See DANIEL LINE, SECTION IV, page 445.*
- v SARAH, Feb. 27, 1653/4; m. Jan. 15, 1679, Jonathan Morgan², s. of the immigrant Miles Morgan¹ and his wife Prudence (Gilbert). Miles Morgan emigrated to America from Bristol, England, in

Note: Boldface Arabic numerals indicate names of sons who are carried forward as heads of families and in consecutive order. Stars indicate daughters who are heads of family, and whose data immediately follow. Because, until 1752, March 25 was the beginning of the new year, and March was the first month, double-years are given when doubt exists as to which year is meant. Other double-dates indicate conflicting sources.

1636, and settled at Springfield. Jonathan Morgan² was b. Sept. 16, 1646, Springfield; d. there 1730. For additional information see the Morgan Lineage in *Colonial Families of the U.S.A.*, by Mackenzie.

- * vi BENJAMIN II, Sept. 1, 1656, had no male issue. *See below.*
- * vii MARY, June 22, 1659. *See below.*
- 5 viii JOSEPH, Mar. 6, 1661 /2. *See JOSEPH LINE, SECTION V, page 811.*

i BETHIA COOLEY²

da. Benjamin and Sarah Cooley, No. 1 above, b. Sept. 16, 1643, Springfield, Mass.; d. there Dec. 9, 1711, in that section which became Chicopee. She m. Dec. 5, 1664, Henry Chapin, Sr., s. Deacon Samuel and Cicely (Penny), b. 1630, d. Aug. 16, 1718, Springfield (Chicopee).

Deacon Samuel Chapin¹ came to Springfield from Roxbury, Mass.; he was in Springfield in 1642. He took a prominent part in all affairs of the town, both religious and civil. In 1648, he was a member of the Board of Selectmen on which Benjamin Cooley first served. Deacon Chapin conducted religious services in the absence of the minister. Following the departure of Mr. Moxon from the Springfield church, he preached alternately with Henry Burt and John Pyncheon until Mr. Moxon's successor, Peletiah Glover, arrived. Deacon Samuel Chapin had four sons and three daughters; all but the youngest child were born before he came to Springfield.

Henry Chapin², s. Deacon Samuel and Cicely (Penny), was a Deputy to the General Court in 1689, and served for eleven years as selectman. He and his brother, Japhet Chapin (who m. Abileneh Coole², da. of Samuel Coole-Coley¹ of Milford, Conn.), were the first settlers in Chicopee, which was the "old fifth parish" of Springfield. Henry Chapin's house was near the west end of what is now Exchange Street in Chicopee Center. He was living there by 1675.

Henry and Bethia (Cooley) Chapin had 5 children³: CHAPIN: 1, Mary; 2, Sarah; 3, Bethia; 4, Henry; and 5, BENJAMIN. For further data on the descendants of Bethia Cooley, see *The Chapin Book*, by Gilbert W. Chapin, and *The Chapin Genealogy*.

Benjamin Chapin³, s. Henry and Bethia (Cooley), b. Feb. 2, 1682; d. Mar. 27, 1756; m. Nov. 9, 1704, Hannah Colton, da. Isaac and Mary (Cooper), b. Longmeadow, d. Mar. 5, 1739.