

was not identical with the Richard Stockton, son of John and grandson of Owen, who is mentioned by Mr. J. W. Stockton, a conclusion led to by investigations which he made in England during his visits to that country. The Richard Stockton (son of John) previously referred to as being baptized in 1606 was not the son of John Stockton, of Keddington, it being clearly proved, by two separate visitations of the county, that in 1613 his "eldest sonne et heire" was Thomas, then aged 4 years. It appears, however, by the registers of the parish that a John Stockton of "higherwich in ye p^{sh} of Malpas" had a son Richard, baptized June 20, 1606, but the compiler cannot identify him with the immigrant.

The Stocktons of Cheshire were undoubtedly a very ancient family, and are proved to have been established in the Parish of Malpas, where they were at one time lords of the manor, for at least 400 years prior to the seventeenth century, when the most important branch of the family still owned lands at Stockton and Keddington, in that parish, other branches being settled in the parishes of Acton and Barrow. The compiler has made what he believes to have been a very thorough investigation of all the sources of information in London, including the wills, etc., of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, besides examining the parish registers, local wills, and records of marriage licenses in Cheshire, and finally, as a last resource, advertising in the newspapers for the record of marriage of Richard and Abigail Stockton, but unfortunately without success, as the marriage probably took place some time between the years 1640 and 1656, during the troublesome times of the Civil War, when the parish registers and records of marriage licenses were very much neglected.

The names of Richard and John were great favorites with the Cheshire Stocktons long before Richard Stockton immigrated to this country and perpetuated them among his distinguished descendants. Considering this, and the fact that the arms of the Stocktons of Keddington were used by their American cousins at an early stage of their history, the compiler is able to say that he fully agrees with Mr. J. W. Stockton in claiming a connection between the English and American families. He even feels justified in assuming that Richard Stockton, of Flushing, etc., was