

THE BURRAGE MEMORIAL.

CHAPTER I.

THE name of BURRAGE first appears in the town and county records of England in the sixteenth century. As a surname, it has undergone many orthographic changes. It is found written in the earlier records, Burgh, Burough, Borough, Borage, Bearadge, Bur-rish, Beridge, Burridge, Burrage, etc., etc. Respecting its origin, there is room for considerable speculation; but we are inclined to accept the theory of the late H. G. Somerby, who was an expert in such matters, having devoted the greater part of his life to genealogical investigations. We are indebted to him for most of the items in these pages gleaned from English records. In a letter, dated Dec. 4, 1858, he says, "The name of Burrage, anciently written Burgh, is local, and derived from the village of Burgh, in the county of Norfolk, from which place, at an early period, branches of the family removed and settled in various parts of the country, where they appear in ancient records as considerable landholders."

In a previous letter (dated in London, April 2, 1858),