HISTORY OF THE SCRIPPS FAMILY.

I.—ORIGIN AND ANTIQUITY OF THE NAME.

The records of the College of Heralds, London, recognize as identical, or of common origin, the names Crip or Cripp, Crips or Cripps, and Crisp or Crispe.

Mark Antony Lower in his work on surnames, London: 1849, assigns these names as derivatives or corruptions of Crispin, and conjectures that their earliest bearers were shoemakers.*

Charles Wareing Bardsley in his English Surnames, their Sources and Signification, London: 1875, attributes the name Crisp to the peculiarity of the hair of the first bearers of the name.

A member of the family† who has interested herself in the subject suggests:

"As the name was doubtless originally 'Crips,' I should fancy its first possessor was a cripple, for cripple (literally a creeper) is derived from the same root as 'creep,' the kindred roots of which are:

Anglo-Saxon	Creopan.
Dutch	Kruipen.
Latin	Repo.
Greek	Herpo.
Sanscrit	Srip.

* St. Crispin is the patron saint of shoemakers. He was a native of Rome, and accompanied St. Denis to France, towards the close of the third century, for the purpose of planting Christianity in that country. While prosecuting his mission he supported himself by his trade of making shoes. He was ultimately beheaded, A. D. 287, after having been subjected to cruel tortures.

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