

a thorough examination of all the extant books and records of the Company settling Salem for the light they may give on the subject in all its branches. And *Second*: to establish the relation of the first Richard with this William; with their respective descendants and settlements in this country.

For which, besides considerable and numerous private collections: the full records of each Town in Essex and neighboring Counties of Massachusetts, and of the other New England States should be put in service, and their very ample information digested.

*Third*: Similar analytical research, so far as practicable, should be applied, for the record of the several families, in each of the States and Territories: by well organized correspondence or visit, to the best sources, furthered by general and hearty co-operation and all authentic Family Records, relics, or Memorials.

One competent directing mind, employing a few necessary subordinates, could, from this large mass of reliable information; in a reasonably short period: elicit a well ordered and complete Genealogical biography of our very ancient and numerous Family, from its historic origin, down to the most recent descendants.

I confess to an abiding, life-long interest in the subject; whose faint outline, I have concisely, but very imperfectly presented. I cannot doubt of your equal or greater interest. I have tried to refrain from needless Family pride; but I will frankly own that I envy not the man who can affect or feel indifference to the fact; that whatever be his lot in life; he is lineally descended from such an ancient Hero race; from men, who as steel-clad Barons, wrought deeds of valor and renown in Mediaeval Wars for Norman Kings of England; and through the whole long cycle of its history of struggle, and solid though slow advance to true Liberty, took an active part; and that through the emigration of two of its sons to Salem, Massachusetts, has spread over our whole Land; and in each generation, since England first began her American plantations; has achieved just eminence in every position of public and private life, and history.

I am fully assured that when the historic facts of this Memorial, are fully known by the wide spread Kinsfolk of our broad Land, and justly considered; its present purpose, and that of our Assembly; viz: to secure a well digested and complete Genealogical Biography of our very ancient Family, from its historic origin, to the most recent descendants in this country, will meet general and cordial co-operation and early organized success.