

GENEALOGY
OF THE
ELDERKIN FAMILIES

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

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CHAPTER I.

John Elderkin, the ancestor of the family, the progenitor of all who bear the name in this country, was born in England about 1612. He came to New England, and is first heard of at Lynn, Mass., in 1637. In 1641 he was at Dedham, Mass.; at Reading, Mass., in 1646; at Providence, R. I., in 1648; and at New London, Ct., in 1651. At all these places, it is said, he built a corn mill; and at New London a church. In 1663 he moved to Norwich, Ct., about four years after the settlement of that place, where he built the first mill and church erected in that town. In 1664 he moved to Killingworth, Conn., where he also built a mill on the Manunkatesk river. His lot there he sold to Wm. Wellman February 25th, 1666, and his corn mill to Thomas Stevens October 13th, 1671. He then returned to Norwich, where he died June 13th, 1687, aged 75 years. His life was an active and useful one, and he was evidently a man of energy and ability. His first wife's given name was Abigail; when and where married, and date of her death, is unknown. His second marriage was to Mrs. Elizabeth (Drake) Gaylord, daughter of John Drake and widow of Wm. Gaylord, of Windham,