

THE KING FAMILY

The King, or as originally spelled, Kyng or Kinge, Family is English and came from the areas of Devon and Dorset in the south of England. William and Dorothy King and their family came to America very early in our country's history. They came to Salem, Massachusetts in 1635 and it was there that their daughter, Mary King, met and married John Scudder. John and Mary were my seven great grandparents on my father's side.

The earliest records of the Kinge Family date back to the Domesday Book in England. The family seems to have originated in Devon with a Roger Kyng who was living in Devonshire in 1387. Our William King is listed in CROSIERS GENERAL ARMORY as coming from the family originating in Ugborough in Devon.

PHILLIP KINGE

The father of the William King that came to America seems to be Phillip Kinge. There is a manuscript reference in the New England Historical & Genealogical Society that states:

Phillip Kinge, born 1557, died 1636. Inscription in his memory is found at the Church at Lauceston, County Cornwall, England. He married Thor Bethwin and had issue: John, born 1593; WILLIAM born 1595; Phillip, born 1598; Robert, born 1609 and three daughters; Mary, Tylieria and Margaret.

I have no other information on Phillip and Thor. I am not even positive that their son William is our William, but it is something to go on.

WILLIAM KINGE

William Kinge was born in England sometime around the year 1595. Possibly he was born in Devon, Dorset or in Cornwall, I do not know.

In the Register of the Abbey Church of St. Mary in Sherborne, Dorset, England there are numerous entries under the King/Kinge family name. One such entry reads: "1616-17, February 17, Williame Kinge et Dorotheae Hayne nupt." This is most likely the marriage record of William King and Dorothy Hayne. There are no further records of them in Sherbourne, so we assume they moved shortly after their marriage. No one has located the baptism records of their children.

By 1635 they had five children and decided to leave for America. They sailed on the ship 'Abigail'. Their names are found on a listing of 106 passengers, "bound for New England, Weymouth, ye 20 March 1635." This list included William Kinge, aged 40, Dorothy his wife, aged 34, Mary Kinge his daughter, aged 12, Katheryn his daughter, aged 10, William Kinge his son, aged 8, Hanna Kinge, his daughter, aged 6. This listing also helps to establish years of births for the family. There was also another son, Samuel, born about 1633-34, whose name was not on the passenger list mostly likely due to his young age. I have found one history that said Samuel was listed, but either way, Sam was about two years old at the time and with his family.

The passenger list referred to '106 in number of Somersetshire people.' Perhaps they lived there after they were married. That would account for no other record of them being found in Dorset.

Since the King family chose Weymouth, England for their point of departure, they more than likely lived in the south of England prior to coming to America. This ties in with a Dorset, Sommerset or Devon origin.

The King family landed in Salem, a part of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, in the Spring of 1635. William King was made a Freeman on March 25, 1636 and received a grant for 40 acres of land later in that year. His land grant was on Jeffrey's Creek in the area that is now in Manchester, Massachusetts. In 1638 he received another grant for some 30 acres at Royal Side at the head of the Basse River in what is now Beverly. It was here that the King homestead was built.

The King home remained on the land until the early 1800s when it was razed to make way for a state Asylum and School for the Deaf.

The following is taken from the April 1902 issue of the NEW YORK GENEALOGICAL & BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD:

In the deposition of John Weston Senior of Reading, dated 24 February, 1699 - 1700, may be found some interesting facts relating to the disposal of this land by the Widow Dorothy King and her removal from Salem to Long Island.

Captain John Dodge of Beverly, aged about 63 years, testified on 28 June 1700, as to the King property at Royall Side, and described the boundaries as follows: 'On the east upon the river called Basse River, southerly on ye cove that runs to a house formerly Batchelor's and westerly and northerly with the land of John Green, deceased.'

William King's name appears in a list of Salem Grand Jurors in 1637, and also on the roll of members of the First Church of Salem. He took an active part in the religious controversies of the time, and in 1637 he identified himself with the Antinomians, a step which placed him under the ban of the Salem authorities. He was admonished to sever his connections with the sect, under penalty of being disarmed, and by refusing to do so, he was directed to leave his gun with Lieut. Danforth.

William King died intestate in 1650-51 and his widow Dorothy and son William settled the estate at the court in Salem. The estate file listed these children: William, the eldest, Samuel 18, John 13, Mary, wife of John Scudder, Katheryn, wife of John Swazy, Mehitable 15, and Deliverance 9.

Dorothy Kinge, widow, of Salem, bought in 1652, of John Swazey of that place, his dwelling house and land, lying between the lands of Richard Hyde and Daniel Rumball on the South River; also a tract of land in the South Field. In 1653, she sold the same to Thomas Johnson, Thomas Reynolds and Thomas Barnes. In 1658, she is mentioned in the Salem Court Records as 'Doritha King, widow and Relict of William King, Senior,' in the testimony of Michael Shaflyn, aged about 80 years. In 1684, she received commonage of one acre in Southold (long Island), where her daughters Hannah, wife of Lieut. Richard Brown and Deliverance, wife of John Tuthill were then living.

The following were the children of William and Dorothy Hayne King.

MARY KING, born in England about 1623 and who married John Scudder in about 1642 in Salem. This is my line and their lives are told in the SCUDDER FAMILY HISTORY.

KATHERINE KING, born in England about 1625. She married John Swazey of Salem on March 12, 1650. The Swazeys moved to Southold, Long Island and had the following children: John, Joseph, Samuel, Abigail (married John Hallock), Mehitable (married Peter Aldrich), Sarah and Mary.

WILLIAM KING JR., born in England about 1628. He married Katherine Shaflin. In 1659 he became a Quaker and was flogged and banished from the Church in Salem. He died there in 1684. There were no children.

HANNAH KING, born about 1629 in England. She married Lieut. Richard Browne and they moved to Southold, Long Island. They had several daughters.

SAMUEL KING, the last child born in England about 1633. He married Francis Ludlam in 1660 after the family had moved to Southold. He remained in Long Island all his life. Samuel died in Southold in 1721. His children were: William born January 10, 1661; Dorothy born July 11, 1664; Hannah born January 26, 1666; Mary born August 7, 1669; Samuel born April 23, 1675 and Captain John born January 26, 1677.

MEHITABLE KING, was born in Salem and baptized there on October 25th, 1636. She was 15 when her father's estate was settled in 1651. She moved to Southold with others in her family and there she married Joseph Tuthill. They had no children.

JOHN KING, born in Salem and baptized there on September 11, 1638. He married Elizabeth Goldthwait in Salem in September of 1660. He moved to Sutton, Massachusetts where he remained as a farmer for the rest of his life. He died in Sutton in 1719.

DELIVERANCE KING, born in Salem and baptized on August 31, 1641. She moved to Southold with her mother and there married John Tuthill, Joseph's brother, on February 17, 1657. She died in Orient Point, Southold, Long Island on January 25, 1688-9 and John Tuthill died there on October 12, 1717. Benjamin Harrison, the 23rd President of the United States is a direct descendent of this branch of the family.

This brief history carries the King Family up until the time Mary married into the Scudder Family.