

Roger Conant 1623 Immigrant Family History - North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000- B - Bunn - History of the Bunn Family

O

North America, Family Histories, 1500-2000

B > Bunn > History of the Bunn family of America

73

HISTORY OF

114

Rev. Charles Albion Conant, born 28 July 1833 at Temple, Maine. He was a representative of one of the Oldest American families, founded in Massachusetts by Roger Conant in 1623. The first of the name from whom direct line can be traced was John Conant, who lived in the parish of Budleigh, Devonshire England, born about 1520, in Gittisham, some 12 miles northeast of Budleigh. His ancestors were originally of French extraction, residing for many generations at Gittisham, near Honiton. In 1577 John Conant was church warden at East Budleigh, and was buried there 15 March 1596. His son, Richard Conant, born about 1546, probably at East Budleigh, was assessed for lands there in 1588; was church warden; in 1630 was rated at two shillings and sixpence, the second highest in the parish. His property was inventoried at £129,

BUNN FAMILY 74

14s, 4d. He married 4 February 1578 Agnes Clark, daughter of John Clark, Sr., of Collyton.

Roger Conant, youngest of the eight children of the above couple, was baptized 9 April, 1592 in All Saints' Church, East Budleigh. Probably, he was well educated for his time, and his native ability was proven in many ways after he came to America. After 1609 he went to London, where he served an apprenticeship of seven years to the Salters' Company. Afterward he engaged in business, as salter, in the parish of St. Lawrence in London. In 1623 he came to this country, probably in the ship "Ann", which arrived at Plymouth in July of that year. He located first at Nantasket (later the home of Edward Bunn) and soon removed to what is

now known as Governor's Island, in Boston Harbor, first named Conant's Island. He was chosen to manage the affairs of the Dorchester Company at Cape Ann, and in 1626 moved the colony to Salem. He was active in many capacities, and accumulated much land and in 1634 was deputy to the General Court. He died 19 November 1679, and his estate was inventoried at £258, a large sum in those days. He married in the parish of St. Ann's, London, 11 November 1618 Sarah Holton. Their second son, Lot Conant, born about 1624, at Nantasket or Cape Ann, died 29 September 1674 in Beverly, Massachusetts. He was in Marblehead in 1657 and, about 1667 removed to Beverly. He was selectman of Marblehead in 1664, and was dismissed from Salem Church 4 July 1667, to assist in forming a Church in Beverly. He married Elizabeth Walton, who was baptized 27 October 1629, daughter of Rev. William Walton. Their third son, Lot Conant, was born 16 February 1638 in Beverly, where he continued to reside until 1717, when he removed to Ipswich. At the age of 17 years he was a soldier in King Philip's war, and participated in the fight at Fort Narra-

HISTORY OF

gansett, 19 December 1675; was admitted to First Beverly Church 19 July 1702. He was a farmer and bought and sold lands. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John and Mary Pride. Their second son, John Conant, born 15 December 1652, in Beverly, was a farmer and weaver, possessing 60 acres of upland, which was part of a grant made to his grandfather for service in King Philip's war. He died 30 September 1724. He married 7 May 1678 Bithiah, daughter of Andrew and Bithiah Mansfield of Lynn, born 7 April 1658, died 27 July 1720. Their eldest son, Lot Conant, baptized 1 June 1679 in Beverly, settled about 1716 in Concord, Massachusetts, where he died 20 September 1767. He was a party in several land transactions. He married 15 May 1698 Martha Cleaves, who died 15 February 1725 and was buried in Concord, aged 44.