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Bills

This family is reputed to have been of Newtown, Long Island. The first of the name in Monmouth

THIS OLD MONMOUTH OF OURS

County was Thomas, who is said to have sojourned first, for a time, in Burlington County. The name itself, one of those pithy Saxon names that does not show its vigor until translated into modern English, is from the Anglo-Saxon word *Bill* or *Bill*, meaning a sword. It was in use as a family name as early as the time of Edward the Confessor, and is found among the landholders of England in the Domesday-Book, compiled about 1080.

THOMAS BILLS (1), by occupation a weaver, bought land in Shrewsbury Township in 1697, of John Starkey. He sold one half of this purchase in 1707 to David Killie, his son-in-law. Thomas died in Shrewsbury 2-2-1721. His wife was named Johanna, who died 4-4-1723. He is said to have had a sister, Johanna, who was married to John Scudder (son of John and Mary King), who was born in 1645. It is quite certain that there were other members of the family who came to Monmouth, and who appear, from time to time without traceable connection. His children were Thomas (3); Johanna (4), died Apr. 1, 1728, married 11-27-1708, George Williams; a daughter (5), whose name may have been Johanna, tho' called Anna, who married, before 1700, David Killie; Nathaniel (6); and Mary (7), who married John Scott, of Gravesend born 11-9-1769 died 1736. It is thought that there were other children.

THOMAS BILLS (3), son of Thomas (1), died in 1729, leaving real-property in Shrewsbury and in Fairfield, New England. He married, Content Woolley, daughter of Edward and Lydia, who was born 9-9-1694. She married, secondly, in 1736, Isaac Hance. The children of

Thomas and Content were: William (8); Silvanus (9), a mason, who married Rachel Lippencott; Thomas (10), a mason, who died at Squan, 1755, leaving it is supposed, a son, Thomas (23); Johanna, who may have married, 1741, Isaac Hance, Jr.; Lydia (12), said to have married either Moses Mount or Peter Tilton; Elizabeth (13), born 1723, married, first, Aug. 17, 1745, Samuel Corlies, of Shrewsbury, and, secondly Sept. 20, 1749, Thomas Cox; and, supposed, Content (14).

NATHANIEL BILLS (6), son of Thomas (1), died at Shrewsbury in 1729. He is thought to have been the elder brother. His children were: Thomas (15); Gershom (16); Daniel (17); Mercy (18); Catherine (19); Joanna (20); Elizabeth (21); and, supposed, Nathaniel (22), who married Mary ———, and died in 1755.

WILLIAM BILLS (8), son of Thomas (3), died in 1753. He married, 1735, Mary, daughter of Francis and Mary Borden, who was born 6-21-1717. There was one child, Mary (22½).

GERSHOM BILLS (16), son of Nathaniel (6), died in 1766. He was a cordwainer. He married, first, in 1736, Sarah Gardiner. He is supposed to have married, secondly, Margaret ———. His children were: Hannah (24), said to have married William Jackson, Jr.; Daniel (25), who was of age 1761; Rebecca (26); Rachel (27); Sarah (28); Silvanus (29); Thomas (30); and, Elizabeth (31).

DANIEL BILLS (17), son of Nathaniel (6), was not yet of age in 1729. He had at least one child, William (32), for whom a guardian was appointed in 1769, he being a minor.