

PREFACE

The present work is the result of eight years of labor by the compiler, and also embraces the researches of many who have kindly placed much valuable information in my hands. When commenced I never thought nor intended putting it before the public in the form of a family history, but started to trace the lineage of my husband that I might give to my grandchildren some knowledge of their Lobdell ancestors. After securing this, as no history of the family had been published, I undertook to put in a permanent form the genealogical history of its different members, taking Simon Lobdell (whose name, with others of the pioneer fathers, hangs in the Town Hall at Milford, Conn.) as the root of this branch of the family. The tradition of the family is, that they came from Wales, but search made by a descendant fails to verify this. Every available source of information has been consulted. Letters of inquiry have been written to every Lobdell descendant to be found, and it seems impossible that any shall escape representation in the book. Although nearly every state in the Union is represented in this work by descendants, Connecticut was the birth-place and last resting place for the majority of the first three generations.

The leading occupation of the male descendants has been agriculture. Three towns in the United States have been named after descendants of Simon Lobdell—viz.: Lobdell, La., a short distance above New Orleans, where, in close proximity, reside the descendants of Abraham, James, and John Little Lobdell, the pioneer Lobdell settlers of Louisiana and Mississippi, for whom the place was named; Lobdell, Clinton Co., N. Y., named after the descendants of Jared Lobdell; Lobdell, Lane Co., Kansas, after the Hon. Charles E. Lobdell, formerly Speaker of the Kansas House of Representatives, who is also a descendant of Jared Lobdell.

In my extensive search I have found an honest, industrious, sober people, many awaiting the revelations of the Lobdell genealogical