

THESE papers are sent out for the purpose of gathering information to be used in the publication of a general Genealogical History of the Nickerson Family. With very few exceptions all the Nickersons in the United States and Canada are descended from William Nickerson, who coming from Norwich, England, landed in Boston on the 20th day of June 1637. He afterwards bought land of the Indians in what is now Chatham, which forms the elbow of Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and is the homestead town of the Nickerson Family from which the army of our kindred has gone forth. It must appeal to the patriotic impulses of all Nickersons in this country, that the family should have a record of its members preserved, and all bearing the name should hasten to do their share toward this preservation, now that the opportunity offers. The family roll call is one of which to be proud both as regards quality and quantity.

Please to take the interest to fill out this blank to the best of your ability, and remember, that even if you do not feel especially interested in the subject now, you may do so in the future; and further, others are very much interested, and a failure on your part to comply, disappoints them and makes the task of compiling the family records more difficult and laborious. Do not delay in the matter, for a task postponed becomes constantly more irksome in contemplation. Make out your own blank as fully as you can, and never mind that a near relative may duplicate much of your information. One paper will serve to check off another. Above all do not be discouraged if you do not happen to know much about your family history, but be sure and put down what you do know. It may prove all that is necessary when combined with the information given by others, and may supply a missing link. If you are not quite sure of a statement, but have good reasons to believe it, put the mark "?" after it. Should you consider anything given quite doubtful, use a double mark "??". If you have more information than this blank has space for, either in the matter of going further back, relating to other branches of the family, or otherwise, please write it out on separate sheets.

Kindly send to the undersigned the names of any Nickersons or descendants of such, whom you may have any reason to suppose have not received a form similar to this, giving their names and addresses as fully as possible, and also, if convenient, their family connections. If you should spoil or disfigure this blank form in any way, so that you do not feel like sending it, simply apply for another, which will be cheerfully furnished. Write as plainly as you can, for names if not legibly written cannot be successfully guessed at. Also be careful about the spelling of names, and avoid abbreviations as much as possible, giving middle names in full. If you cannot ascertain dates exactly, simply say "about such a year." If parties mentioned have been more than once married make a note of the fact. It is well to state the occupation of male members of the family or connections, as Physician, Clergyman, Lawyer, Merchant, Sea Captain or any public office held by such. This often serves a good purpose in tracing descent and in distinguishing between individuals of the same name.

If all you know of an Uncle, Aunt, Cousin, Nephew or Niece is merely the name, do not fail to give that, with any facts you may remember which might lead to locating the person. If you do not even remember the names but know that there were such persons, state what you can about them.

If a correction is to be made after filling out, the proper entry may be written on a slip of writing paper and pasted over the erroneous one.

Any anecdotes or adventures of striking interest, military or other services of a public character connected with our ancestors will be welcome.

Do not put off this work, but fill out this blank as well as you can and return it at your earliest convenience to the subscriber. Please do not fail to acknowledge the receipt of this paper in order that it may be known that it has not gone astray.

Yours fraternally,

WILLIAM EMERY NICKERSON,

P. O. BOX 2576, BOSTON, MASS.