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## TO THE READER.

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These brief Memoirs were first printed in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register. They have now a more enduring form than that of manuscripts in the hands of an individual or individuals. But a small portion, however, of what we have gathered as worthy of interest in connection with the three generations of John and Walter Deane is here given, as our space was necessarily limited. Material exists, much of which we now have, for a very much extended notice of these and later generations of the family, and other families and individuals of the name in this country, not descendants of John or Walter.

In our incidental notices of the English Deanes, and remarks upon the origin of the name, we have referred mostly to Rev. John Bathurst Deane, M. A., F. S. A., of London. We quote but a small fraction, however, of the extended MS. information he gave us, and we cannot too strongly express our obligation to him for the free and generous manner in which it was offered. We would here express our thanks to all who have aided us heretofore, and hope that this foundation may incite others to make more complete and perfect what is here only an attempt or beginning.

A Genealogical Index will be found on the last page.

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From *Den* or *Dene* have been derived two other names, in addition to those of Deane and Denne, as mentioned in the following pages, namely, *Dennett* and *Denny*. "The Sussex family of Atte Denne inverted the syllables of their name, and made it Dennat or Dennett."\* "Denny is an attempt to Anglicize a French version of 'de Dene,' witten 'Dend.' The Dennys are of Hertfordshire, and in the time of Edward I and down to Henry IV, were 'de Denes' of St. Albans, as I think I shall be able to prove."† *Dane*, though often confounded with Deane, appears to have had a different origin ‡

\*Lower, English Surnames, 72. †Rev. J. B. Deane, F.S.A., MSS. Letters. ‡Ibid.

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