

HISTORY  
AND  
GENEALOGY  
OF THE  
EARLES OF SECAUCUS

*With an Account  
of Other*

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN  
BRANCHES

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY  
OF UTAH

15220  
Aug. 1932  
Prepared by

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Printed by  
GUELFF PRINTING COMPANY  
MARQUETTE, MICH.

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## FOREWORD.

**T**HIS book does not purport to be a complete history of the Earles of England and America. It was the purpose of the author to give some account of that branch of the family which, in the person of its founder, Edward Earle, Senior, settled in 1676 on the Island of Secaucus, Bergen County, N. J., known as the New Jersey Earles.

As Edward Earle, as well as the founders of other American branches, was an emigrant from England, it became a matter of great interest to learn something of the history of the family in their original home. And while Part I. is far from being a complete history of the Earles of England, it is the completest that has been published thus far, and may serve to stimulate someone having better access than the writer to the sources of information, to undertake a work that will do justice to the subject. The one man capable of writing the history of the Earles of England is Sir Henry Earle, Bart., of Norton Lodge, Yarmouth, Isle of Wight, who inherited the genealogical researches of his grandfather, Sir Hardman Earle, Bart., of Allerton Tower, Woolton, Co. Lancaster, and has for many years been a tireless searcher for every scrap of information relating to Earle family history. A mass of data has been gathered and charted and carefully filed away. But Sir Henry has not felt led as yet to publish this material, and it may never be made known to the family either in England or America. He is quite ready, however, to let others copy his charts, and we have availed ourselves of this privilege to some extent. Besides receiving a great deal of help from Sir Henry by correspondence, a member of the Secaucus branch, Mrs. Ethel D. Earle, of New York City, paid a visit to Sir Henry at our request, and spent several days at Yarmouth, copying a number of pedigrees, which have been helpful to us in the preparation of the section on the Earles of England.

For much of our information in regard to the Earles of Somerset, Devon and Dorset we are indebted to the standard histories of those counties.

In Part II. the writer has aimed to give what information has come in his way concerning the leading American branches other than his own. In preparing the history of the Virginia branch the first stimulus and inspiration were received from the late Mr. Richard H. Earle of Marietta, Georgia, the historian and genealogist of the Virginia Earles. If his collections had been accessible to us, a much more complete account could doubtless have been given. Latterly, very

valuable assistance has been given by Mrs. Ila Earle Fowler of Frankfort, Kentucky, without whose help this section could not have been prepared. It is hoped that Mrs. Fowler will expand these chapters into a complete and worthy history of this important branch of American Earles.

Our first information regarding the Maryland Earles was received from the late Miss Clara Goldsborough Earle of Easton, Md. Later, Miss Isabel Earle of Baltimore, daughter of Dr. S. T. Earle, has assisted very materially in making out the story of this interesting branch. Miss Earle has given our manuscript a careful revision.

In Parts III. and IV. the writer aims to give the history and genealogy of the Secaucus or New Jersey Earles, as fully as it could be obtained. He has fortunately fallen heir to the researches of several previous investigators, whose work he desires to recognize.

The first attempt at a history of the Secaucus branch was a paper prepared in 1876 at the suggestion of Mr. Abraham Lent Earle, of New York City, by Abraham C. Merritt, a lawyer of New York, who was born on the Island of Secaucus, and whose mother was a descendant of Edward Earle, 3rd. This manuscript, by one who was close to original sources of information, is of great interest, tho it only claims to be an "imperfect sketch of the genealogy of one branch of the Earle family," and contains some very obvious errors.

Some years later, also at the suggestion of Abraham Lent Earle, Mr. John H. Earle, of Brooklyn, N. Y., who possessed great skill as a draughtsman, prepared an elaborate and beautiful chart of the Secaucus family, showing its supposed connection with the Earles of England. The latter is purely fanciful, but the genealogical portion of the chart forms the basis of Part IV. of this book.

General Ferdinand Pinney Earle, of New York City, became very much interested in the work of John H. Earle, and made extensive researches on his own account. His papers, which fell into our hands, had much to do with stimulating our own interest in family history.

We are painfully conscious of the imperfections of this book. Some of the difficulties are such as all family historians encounter. Much of the labor has been performed under serious physical disabilities, which rendered the completion of the work next to impossible.

I. N. EARLE.

Lewisburg, Penna.

1924.