



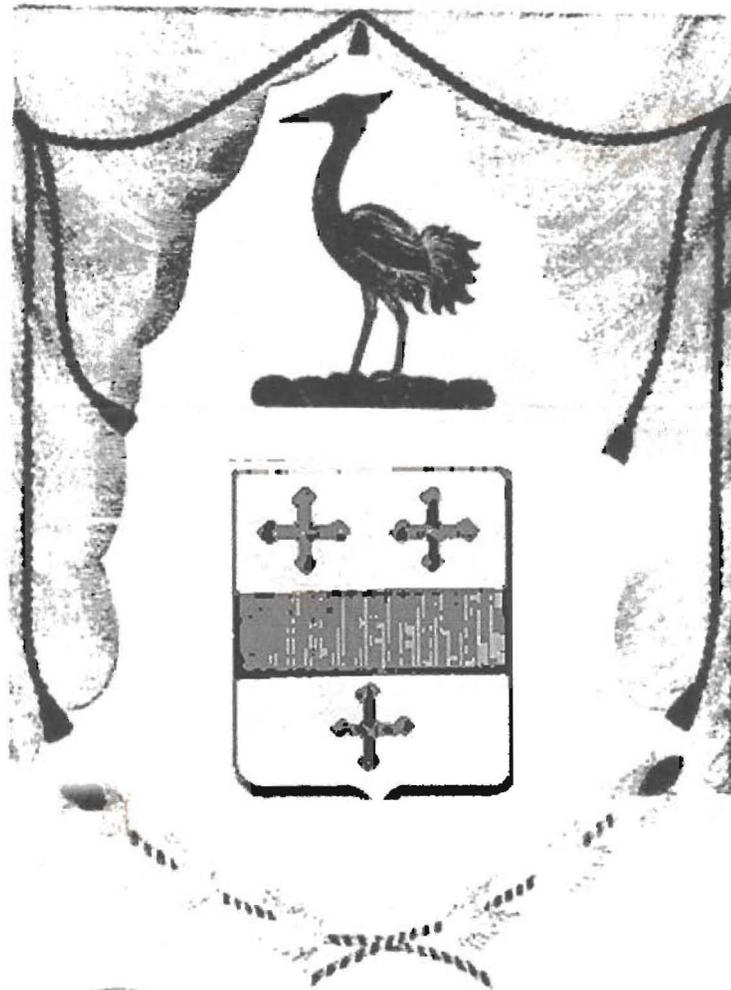
KNOW YOUR ROOTS

A Family That Doesn't Know Its Past Doesn't Understand Itself

Volume IX Issue 2

CRANE

April 2004



The Armorial of the Cranes
Arms

**THIS REPRINT FROM THE 2000 NEWSLETTER COVER ILLUSTRATES
OUR CRANES FROM JASPER TO MARY ANN**

THE REPRINT MAKES IT EASIER FOR YOU TO FOLLOW THE PROGRESSION
OF THE FAMILIES

Beginning with Jasper you can see how the Treat Family, the Meeker Family and the
Schuler Family became a part of our heritage on the Crane side.

**6. MARY ANN CRANE MARRIED ROBERT DURLAND
B 1816**



CRANE FAMILY

Ed. I found this record of THE CRANE FAMILY in the book "The Rockaway Records of Morris County, N. J. written by Joseph Percy Crayon in 1902. I'm printing portions of it for your enjoyment.

"To see ourselves as others see us" I have invited my correspondents to write what they knew of the Crane family. The name is spelled in many ways so that nearly every one can have a choice, and about one half of the members usually prefer a change of name altogether. Some one, not related to the family has said that "the Cranes are noted for their frugality, honesty and piety,"

The Canes were originally from Cheshire county, England. The precise date will never be known as they may have worked out their road tax on the macadam built there by the Romans before the third century. Under the similitude of a dream it may be taken for granted that they all dwelt in castles, of which there are many...

Tradition says they were all great warriors and that each community was well blessed with generals, colonels, majors, and captains, and that each were tagged with a coat of arms. These armorial bearings may have originated by the way that each one made "his mark" with a pointed stick and pokeberry juice...One of our enterprising relatives has traced the family back from General Josiah Crane for thirteen generations, without reaching the end or touching bottom...

General Josiah Crane was in the service of King James and for his services was rewarded with a coat of arms and a goodly estate. It is said that some of his descendants went to the north of Ireland, some to Germany and later Jasper...to America. (*Jasper is our ancestor.*)...

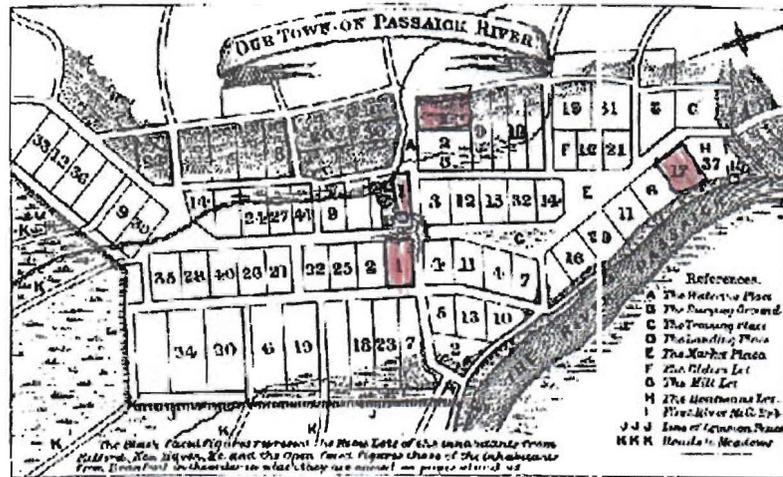
Jasper may have settled at Shawmit, now Boston, Mass., as early as 1630, ... We learn of Jasper in Boston June 21, 1640, as agent for Mr. Roe, of London, regarding house lot and three acres of land, lying in Boston... This theory would prove that he may have been in Boston as an agent for a London Company previous to this date. As surveyor and land agent it is quite probable that he dealt largely in real estate and building lots...

The date of the birth of Jasper Crane is quite uncertain. Authorities give dates 1590, 1605, 1610. His will dated at Newark 1678... was proved 1681.

The Cranes are not noted for longevity and seldom reach the 80th year. They are generally "grown up" at fourteen and fifteen, sow a small patch of wild oats, marry at 16, 18, and 20 and settle down to a quiet life and piety. It is possible to crowd four and five generations in a century. They become prematurely old at 40 and 50, and it is recorded of some families who have married, raised large families, and died at 25 and 30. In the early settlements early marriages were encouraged and the hardships and privations encountered, made them old men and women at 40 and 50. (*Mary Ann Crane Durland was 91 when she died.*)

The Newark settlers are not above the ordinary statue. [Sic] have very dark hair, dark hazel eyes and decidedly brunette. The hair turning gray in early life, and almost white at middle age.

Town Lots of the First Residents of Newark, New Jersey



**SW - NW
SE - NE**

This map was originally drawn by Samuel H. Conger.

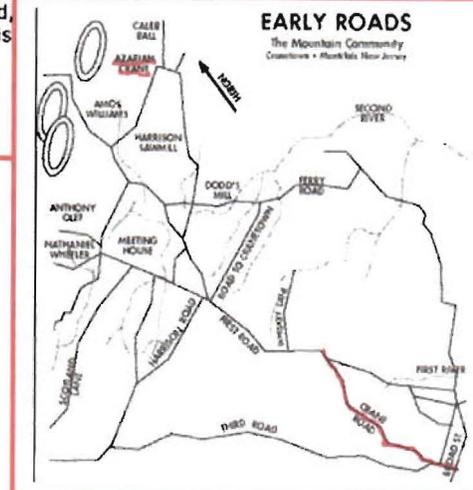
NORTHEAST SECTION: 4 - Deacon Lawrence Ward, 11 - John Catlin, 4 - Samuel Kittchell, 7 - Josiah Ward; 5 - Jeremiah Peck, 13 - Robert Kittchell, 10 - John Rogers; 2 - Obadiah Bruen; The Seaman's Lot; Thomas Richards, 16 - John Harrison, 20 - Aaron Blatchly, 11 - Stephen Davis, 6 - Samuel Plum; 17 - John Crane; The Boatman's Lot; 37 - Robert Lymon, John Davis.

NORTHWEST SECTION: 3 - Lieutenant Samuel Swaine, 12 - Sergeant Richard Harrison, 13 - Edward Ball, 32 - John Morris in 1688, 14 - John Ward, Sr.; 5 - Matthew Camfield, 2 - Abraham Pierson, Jr., 1 - Jasper Crane, 9 - Thomas Pierson, Sr., Benjamin Baldwin, 19 - Thomas Huntington, Alexander Munrow; The Elder's Lot; 10 - John Ward, Jr. the turner, 21 - Deacon Richard Laurence, 19 - Delivered Crane, 31 - Hans Albers; Samuel Rose, The Miller's Lot, Samuel Dod, Daniel Dod, The Corn Mill.

SOUTHEAST SECTION: 35 - Martin Tichenor, 28 - William Camp; 40 - Joseph Biggs, 26 - Nathaniel Wheeler; 21 - George Day, 22 - Thomas Johnson, 25 - Robert Denison, 2 - Abraham Pierson, Sr., 1 - Captain Robert Treat (later Azariah Crane); Seth Tompkins, 34 - Ephraim Pennington, 20 - Jonathan Tompkins, 6 - Deacon Micah Tompkins, 19 - John Baldwin, Jr.; Thomas Staples, 18 - John Baldwin Sr., 23 - John Curtis, 7 - Stephen Freeman; The Tailor's Lot, 9 - Thomas Pierson, Jr., Samuel Harrison, 36 - John Browne, Jr., 12 - Edward Riggs, 33 - Hugh Roberts.

SOUTHWEST SECTION: The Meeting-house; Captain Treat's extra; 14 - John Brooks, Thomas Ludington, 24 - Ephraim Burwell, 27 - Zachariah Burwell, 44 - Stephen Bond; 9 - John Browne, Sr., The Parsonage Home Lot, John Johnson, 1 - John Treat; Thomas Lyon, Joseph Johnson, John Gregory, 8 - Henry Lyon, Joseph Walters, Samuel Camfield, Lin

In past issues of the newsletter there were stories about Jasper Crane settling New Haven and Branford. There were also stories about Robert Treat settling Milford. This is a story about Robert Treat in New Jersey and Jasper Crane following him to Newark. In Newark, Azariah Crane, son of Jasper, married Mary Treat, daughter of Robert.



ROBERT TREAT AND JASPER CRANE

Colonists from Branford and Milford, on account of differences of opinion in matters of civil and religious liberty, began to seek a locality where they might serve God and enjoy both civil and educational liberty. They had no definite results until 1665 when King Charles II appointed a Governor of what now constitutes New Jersey.

After negotiations with Robert Treat of Milford, arrangements were made to take possession of the new territory they had agreed upon. In the spring of 1666, led by Robert Treat, 41 families settled in the area now known as Newark. In this group was Azariah Crane, son of Jasper Crane.

That spring in 1666 twenty-three heads of families from Branford headed by Jasper Crane also settled in Newark.

They met with decided opposition from the Indians but in 1667 the settlers obtained title to all the land. The consideration for this extended tract was fifty double hands of powder, one hundred bars of lead, twenty axes, twenty coats, ten guns, twenty pistols, ten kettles, ten swords, four blankets, four barrels of beer, ten pairs of breeches, fifty knives, twenty hoes, eight hundred and fifty fathoms of wampum, two anders (about thirty-two gallons) of liquor and three trooper's coats.

In the government of the new colony, both Robert Treat and Jasper Crane were leaders and the first elected magistrates. Robert was given an extra two acres in recognition of his services in negotiating the settlement.

Robert Treat and Jasper Crane evidently were the first white settlers in this part of the township, now Montclair. Eventually a neighborhood adjoining it would be known as Cranetown.

In 1682 Robert Treat deeded his land to his son-in-law Azariah Crane who married his daughter Mary. Then Robert moved back to Milford. After a long career there which included the job of governor of the State of Connecticut, he retired. He died in Milford where he is buried with his wife Jane Tapp Treat.

Although Robert Treat is known as the Founder of Newark in the history books, Jasper Crane was also a very prominent figure in its early settlement. He not only represented Newark in the New Jersey General Assembly but he also was chosen a Magistrate under the short resumption of Dutch rule. Then in 1675 he was again chosen as a Deputy to the Assembly and was appointed the Magistrate in Newark.

In Newark, besides his public duties, Jasper was a merchant, and had obtained permission to make and sell spirits.

When he died in 1681 he may have been buried in the "old burial ground" of Newark which was taken over for business use in 1888. There is no record of his stone or marker.

These two men Robert Treat and Jasper Crane were builders of our colonies in their days: Robert in Milford, Connecticut and Newark, and Jasper in New Haven and Branford, Connecticut, and Newark. They both were prominent as Magistrates at the same time. They both were leaders of strong religious beliefs and political affairs. Their families were brought together with the marriage of Mary Treat and Azariah Crane making both men our ancestors of considerable repute historically. Their son John follows in the succession of our heritage.

PHOEBE MEEKER

Another New Jersey Ancestor

For background I urge you to read pages 4 and 5 of the year 2000 Crane issue. In that issue I introduced you to our Meeker family but wrote little about the original William Meeker, the patriarch of our branch of the family. It is not known when he and his brother Robert came to the colonies although they took the oath of fidelity to the King in New Haven in 1644.

Prior to that time I do not find that he is listed as an owner of land in New Haven in 1641. In 1646 or 1647 he married Sarah Preston, daughter of William Preston, who was a landowner at that time. All of his six children were born in New Haven but William must have left New Haven with his family to establish the first English settlement in New Jersey namely Elizabethtown. There he acquired a six-acre town lot.

However, in helping to oust an obnoxious governor he was forced to leave his home when it was confiscated along with all his property on the premises.

William had to appeal to his neighbors for help and in 1676 many contributions had been collected in Newark that at least in part repaid him for his loss. In the History of Essex of New Jersey, land was donated by the people of both Newark and Elizabeth for his new home. The home was likely built in 1776/7, a brick structure, and in 1913 was known as the oldest house in New Jersey.

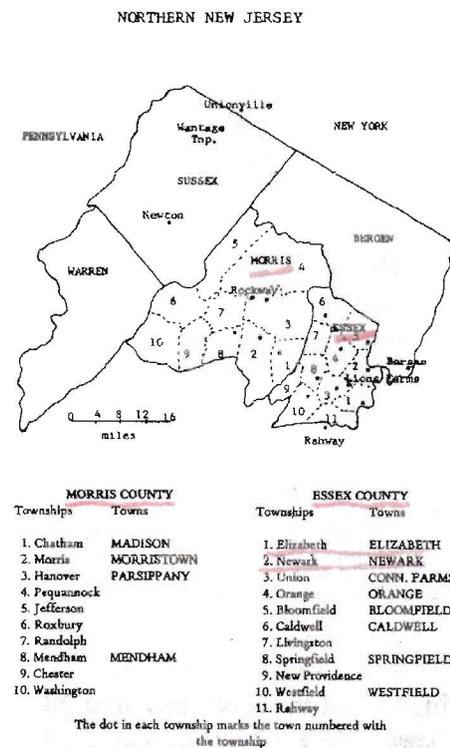
William also had the honor of being on the first jury of New Jersey sitting in 1771 and was also appointed constable of Elizabeth Township. When William died he was buried in New

Jersey. His children all stayed in Newark.

This is where we find Phoebe who was a child of Stephen Meeker Sr. She was born in Newark in 1743 and it is there she married Benjamin Crane, also of Newark in 1764/65. Through this marriage, the family of Meeker became part of our heritage.

All the children of Benjamin and Phoebe were born in Newark, including their son Obadiah Meeker Crane who is the father of Mary Ann Crane.

Obadiah moved westward from New Jersey and with that move our Crane ancestors in New Jersey ceased. The following map illustrates the proximity of Morris County and Essex County and completes our New Jersey history.



WHAT IS A PALATINE?

What is a Palatine and what does it mean in our heritage? The more I look into our ancestors the more surprises I find. In the 2003 Crane issue I briefly mentioned the Palatines.

Elizabeth Schuler (Shuler), who was married to Obadiah Meeker Crane, is the one in our background who would be considered a Palatine descendant. Not only is her father George Shuler but her mother Margaretha Barbara Ratenauer is listed on the roster of immigrant Palatine families.

For that reason for the family history, it is important for you to know about the Palatines.

First of all, the term “palatinate” or “palatine” comes from the title given a Roman official, “Palatine,” who was sent by Caesar to govern the southwestern section of Germany after the conquest of Gaul in the first century.

Over the years through wars and devastation, the Rhineland was reduced to a desert. The Palatine immigrants to the U. S. came from that area of the Palatinate on the Rhine River.

In 1709 thousands of Palatines sneaked though their homeland to get to Holland. Many went to England and embarked from there for America.

They had to pay many various fees and charges and before boarding the ship these Germans were made to sign a contract. The contract was in English and many couldn't have read it even if it were in German. They were told by mouth that they would be required to give a time of service in the colonies at their destination. They did not know that the contract was for a certain amount of money to be paid at their disembarkation

Even if a man or woman died on board, the spouse was obligated to pay for the passage fees of the deceased.

When the ship reached a harbor, the ones who could pay the disembarkation fees were allowed to leave the ship immediately. Those who could not pay and who were healthy were kept on the ship until a person called a “redemptioner” paid the fees.

One can liken this to slavery because many families were separated. The sick ones were auctioned off for whatever price they could bring.

I cannot find a record of whether or not our ancestors, the Shulers and the Ratenauers came into this country in this manner because neither was born in New York but they are on the list of Palatines.

We do know that fifty families purchased land for \$300 Spanish money from the Mohawk Indians to make a permanent settlement in the Mohawk and Schoharie Valleys in New York. It is in this area in Loonenburg in 1764 that George Shuler married Margaretha Barbara Ratenauer. They both are buried in the Shuler cemetery near Amsterdam, New York

Obadiah Meeker Crane, who had been born in Newark, New Jersey, must have met Elizabeth in this New York area for he married Elizabeth, the daughter of George and Margaretha, in Amsterdam, New York in 1804. Most of their eleven children were born in Amsterdam but our ancestor, their ninth child Mary Ann, was born in Ohio.

There is much more to be written about the Palatines but space doesn't permit. Suffice it to say, you are now introduced to this aspect of our history. Read the story of the Shulers in the Crane 2003 issue

MARY'S MESSAGES



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Well, I'm happy to report Andrew Cuda is off to a flying start with his college education. He has just been advised that he is receiving the "Martin Benjamin-Bruce L. Miller Award for the Outstanding Undergraduate Student at an Early Stage of the Philosophy Major." Not only does this award give Andy a special honor but it also entails a monetary stipend. Congratulations to Andy and his family.

I just learned through the Colonial Dames of the 17th Century of which I am a member, that in 1776, German lost out by one vote of being the official language of the new democracy!

In the same report I learned that in the Ballroom of the Headquarters of the Society there is a Crane Coat of Arms with many others. It isn't the one on the cover of this Newsletter because that is a composite I made up.

There are many rules to get your family Coat of Arms displayed. Of course you have to prove the relationship. When that is approved then you have to have it painted according to strict guidelines. Then you have to pay to have it hung. Believe me there are many who have done this.

Suffice it to say that all the information regarding the Crane and

Treat families has been well documented. In fact my records are getting so voluminous I have to keep buying more notebooks.

Particularly in the 2003 issue of the Cranes you were told about Robert Treat and Jasper so I refer you to that issue. However, in the past Crane issues their names have appeared along with the story of the Meekers. Phoebe Meeker was the grandmother of Mary Ann Crane. I hope you can follow that on page 2 of this issue.

The reason I included the items that were paid to the Indians for Newark is because I myself found them extremely interesting. They give us an insight to what was considered valuable at that time.

Also in the Crane 2002 issue there was information about Elizabeth Shuler (Schuler). I think you might want to review that story. She was the mother of Mary Ann Crane but Elizabeth's mother was Margarethe Ratenuer, a Palatine. She is the one referred to in the Palatine story.

I often wonder if any of my readers refer to past issues. Joan Larkin keeps the issues page by page in a loose-leaf notebook divided by families. Then it is easy for her to thumb through for past references.

Update on the HED booklet: I have received the material and photos from Flora I was waiting for but there is one record more I have to wait for before I can start compiling every thing.

I just received word from her mother that Rebekah Ford is on the Dean's List at the University of California in Santa Cruz. She switched her major to Psychology from International Relations. I wish her the very best. I know her mother Deborah and her grandmother are very proud of her.