

WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS  
A HISTORY  
1636-1925

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in 1919, leaving three children: Sylvia, Archa and Bessie. 3. Leila M., who married Dr. E. A. Knowlton in 1920, and has one child: Harriet. 4. George Root, who married Ruby Squier, of Monson, and has two children: George Root and John Archa Osborne.

**WALTER EARL LOVELACE**, manager of the New England Construction Company at its main offices in Springfield, Massachusetts, was born in Richmond, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, April 24, 1886. The name he bears is closely associated with the history of New York State. Two of the British Governors of the province bore the name. The first, Colonel Francis Lovelace, who opened the Boston Post Road and established the first mail routes to Boston and Philadelphia, took office about 1668, and was deposed by the recapture of the city by the Dutch in 1673; John, Lord Lovelace, Baron of Hurley, died from exposure at sea upon his arrival in 1708, and left no imprint on the period, except the little village of Hurley, in Ulster County, derives its name from him. John Lovelace, of the Manor of Hurly, Berkshire, England, the ancestor of these men, died in 1558, leaving a son, Richard Lovelace, of Hurley. Richard Lovelace had a son, Sir Richard (Lord Lovelace, Baron of Hurly), who married (first) Catherine Hill; (second) Margaret Dodsworth, who was the mother of John, the second Lord Lovelace; Francis Lovelace, the namesake of the colonial Governor of New York; Elizabeth and Martha.

Francis Lovelace, son of Sir Richard and Margaret (Dodsworth) Lovelace, had a son William, who married a daughter of William King. John, fourth Lord Lovelace, their son, was the Governor who succumbed to illness after his arrival, May 6, 1709. Colonel Francis Lovelace, the second Colonial Governor, established himself on Staten Island about a year before he took over his official duties, and was sheriff of Richmond County, besides being prominent in local affairs. Certain Indians on April 3, 1670, deeded to him Staten Island and their interests therein. He was arrested for debt on October 11, 1673, after the Dutch occupation. When the British recovered possession of New York, he was examined March 2-9, 1675, by a commission appointed by the King of England to inquire into the circumstances of the surrender. He died before January 21, 1679. Dudley and Thomas Lovelace were ordered to leave the colony by the Dutch. Thomas obtained a stay of six months, and the return of the British led him to remain on Staten Island. These men appear to have transmitted their vigor and their abilities to their posterity, for whenever any one of the name appears he seems able to trace his descent to these pioneers.

Maurice Lovelace, great-grandfather of Walter Earl Lovelace, was one of the sixteen children of Asa (?) Lovelace, of Saybrook, where he was born in 1804. He passed much of his life in Fishkill, New York, but died in Richmond, Massachusetts, in 1869, at the age of sixty-five years. He was engaged in agriculture, and for several years had charge of General Van Wick's estate, where he cared for a thousand head of sheep and many head of cattle. He removed to Richmond, Massachusetts, later. There his son, Walter Allen Lovelace, bought a homestead for him and he engaged in garden-

ing. His brother, Asa, settled in California. Maurice Lovelace married (first) —Bashford, who was the mother of Walter Allen, of further mention, and Stephen B. He married (second) Polly Cargill, and she was the mother of Catherine and Charles Lovelace. Charles became an expert foundryman, engaged in the iron business in De Pere, Wisconsin.

Walter Allen Lovelace, son of Maurice Lovelace, was born in Fishkill, New York, and died in Richmond, Massachusetts, in 1896, at the age of seventy-four years. He received his education in the public schools of his native district, and worked on the farm during vacations and before and after school. After completing his school training he engaged in agricultural activities until he was twenty-five years old. Removing to Richmond, Massachusetts, he entered the employ of the Richmond Iron Works, where he soon became superintendent of the entire plant. He began as an ordinary laborer. He was identified at the same time with the Lanesboro Iron Works, of Massachusetts, and the Fox River Iron Works, of De Pere, Wisconsin. He frequently directed the labors of five and six hundred men, and was regarded as an expert in his line. His short terms at school aggregated but nine months, all told, so that he might be called in the best sense "a self-made" man. Throughout his life, however, he continued to read and study, and it was truly said of him that he was self-educated. He married Mary Emily Shaw, of Nassau, Rensselaer County, New York, who died at the age of seventy-six years, in 1904. She was the daughter of Peter Harrington and Eliza Ann (Waterbury) Shaw, and granddaughter of —Shaw, who came to the United States from the North of Ireland. Peter H. Shaw, father of Mrs. Lovelace, was a friend of John Greenleaf Whittier. He died in 1905 at the age of ninety-five years. Walter A. and Mary Emily (Shaw) Lovelace were parents of Charles Peter, an only child, of whom further.

Charles Peter Lovelace was born in Richmond, Massachusetts, November 15, 1857. He was educated in the public schools of Lanesboro and of Pittsfield. When his school training was completed he went to De Pere, Wisconsin, where he entered the employ of the Fox River Iron Company, as timekeeper and paymaster. After two years in that post he returned to Richmond, where he engaged in general farming for six years. He learned the trade of painter, and for a time combined that occupation with his farming activities. Gaining a large clientele, he gave up farming gradually, and at last devoted himself wholly to his trade. For thirty-five years he was a painter in Richmond and in Keene, New Hampshire. In 1913 he added a general store, which he himself established in Keene, and conducted the business until 1918. He sold paints and varnishes, wall paper and general supplies, and built up a successful and profitable business. In 1918 he became connected with the New England Construction Company with headquarters in Springfield, Massachusetts. In his period of residence in Richmond, he served as a member of the Board of Assessors for twenty-five years, and ever took an active interest in the affairs of the community. He was married, in December, 1881, to Ellen Jeannette Smith, born in Angelica, Allegany County, New York, and died February 12, 1911, aged fifty-one years. She was the daughter of

William and Mary U. (Flint) Smith. They are the parents of Walter Earl Lovelace, of further mention; and of Gertrude Elizabeth, who married James H. Connor, of Keene, New Hampshire.

Walter Earl Lovelace was educated in the public schools of Richmond, Massachusetts, his birthplace, and of Pittsfield. His first employment was with the Bush Terminal Company, New York City, where he remained two years. In 1907 he left the Bush Terminal and entered the employ of the New England Construction Company in Pittsfield, Massachusetts, as a laborer. He is now general manager and member of the board of directors. The concern is engaged in general railroad construction work, and specializes in the building of bridges for railroads. Its activities extend throughout New England and New York State, and it regularly employs about five hundred men. He is a member of Sherwood Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, of Springfield; of Morning Star Royal Arch Chapter; Springfield Council, Royal and Select Masters; Springfield Commandery, Knights Templar; Connecticut Valley Consistory, and holding the thirty-second degree, Ancient Accepted Scottish Rite. He also is a member of Melha Temple, Ancient Arabic Order Nobles of the Mystic Shrine; also of the Tekoa Country Club of Westfield; of the Springfield Chamber of Commerce; the Lions Club, of Springfield; the Western Massachusetts Engineering Society; the New England Railroad Club; and the Memorial Church.

Mr. Lovelace was married, November 24, 1919, to Jessie A. Wheeler, daughter of Frank Wheeler, of Canaan, New York, and Mary (Stone) Wheeler.

The Wheeler family, one of the oldest and most noted in New England, appears to have had its original American home at Concord, Massachusetts. There Joseph Wheeler, Obadiah Wheeler and Thomas Wheeler, all doubtless related closely, settled about 1640. The family is of ancient English ancestry. John Wheeler, of Salisbury, was related to George Wheeler, of Concord. Isaac Wheeler, of Charlestown; Richard, of Dedham; Thomas, of Salem; Thomas, of Boston, and Timothy, of Watertown, all before 1650, were possibly of the same family. Timothy removed to Concord. William A. Wheeler became vice-president of the United States in 1877. Another was among the pioneer producers of the sewing machine. The name is scattered to every part of the United States.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Earl Lovelace are the parents of a son, Warren Earl, born June 24, 1912. The business address of Mr. Lovelace is No. 274 Main Street, and his home address No. 164 Maple Street, Springfield, Massachusetts.

**DOUGLAS CROOK** was born in Eastbourne, England, September 15, 1883, the son of Herbert and Louisa M. (Avery) Crook.

He was educated privately in the City of London School, and in various institutions of higher education in England. In 1904 he received the degree of Civil Engineer; and in 1910 that of Bachelor of Laws. In 1916 he received the degree of Master of Laws (*cum laude*) from Boston University. After being admitted to the bar of the United States District Court, Circuit Court

and Circuit Court of Appeals in 1910, he was for a time associated with the law firm of Phillips, Van Everen & Fish, in Boston. In 1911 he was admitted to the Massachusetts bar and became associated with the law firm of Ropes, Gray, Boyden & Perkins, of Boston, where he remained until 1917. In that year he removed to Springfield, having been appointed a trustee of and counsel for the Ellis Title & Conveyancing Company of that city—which position he still holds. In 1922 he was appointed instructor of the law of real property in Northeastern University School of Law, where his clear-cut manner of thinking and his terse and vigorous delivery made him a popular lecturer. In his younger days Mr. Crook was in the British Army; and during the World War was a member of the Legal Advisory Board of Springfield. He maintains an active membership in the American Bar Association, and the Massachusetts Conveyancers' Association. He is a Mason, a Knights Templar, a member of the United States Revolver Association; his club is the University, of Springfield. He is a Republican in politics; an Episcopalian in church affiliation. His favorite diversions are horseback riding, revolver shooting and sailing.

Douglas Crook married, in West Newton, Massachusetts, January 1, 1914, Marian Bell, only daughter of William Gibson and Mary (Whitney) Bell. There is one daughter, Mary Louise.

**WILLIAM McCORKINDALE**—Considered one of the greatest experts in this country in the production of high-grade ledger and bond papers, Mr. McCorkindale has reached his high standing in the paper manufacturing industry as the result of a lifetime of hard and continuous work, all of which was devoted to this one industry. McCorkindale is an ancient Scottish name mentioned by Scott in his "Heart of Midlothian." William McCorkindale was born in Greenock, Renfrewshire, Scotland, June 5, 1851, a son of Edward and Margaret (Lion) McCorkindale. His mother was born in Elderslie, Renfrewshire, Scotland, in 1821, a daughter of Roger and Margaret Lion, and lived to the great age of ninety-one years, dying in Holyoke in 1912. His father, a son of Duncan McCorkindale (who lived and died in Scotland) was born in Dalmuir, Dumbartonshire, Scotland, in 1825, and died in Holyoke, Massachusetts, in 1890. He learned and followed the blacksmith's trade in Scotland until 1870, when he came to the United States, locating in Holyoke, Hampden County, where he was employed as a millwright until his death, at the age of sixty-five. Mr. and Mrs. Edward McCorkindale were the parents of four children: 1. Edward, deceased. 2. Elizabeth, married William King; she died in January, 1926. 3. William, of whom further. 4. Duncan L., born in Scotland in 1854, a resident of this country since 1870, and like his older brother, an expert in the manufacture of paper. He is also a resident of Holyoke, married in 1881 Martha McKay, of Troy, New York, and has three children: Ralph; Roy, and Charlotte, who died in February, 1926.

William McCorkindale attended the middle parish school in his native city until he was ten years old. At that time, in 1861, he started on his career in the paper industry, becoming an employee of Brown, Stewart &