

THE SANDERS FAMILY.

Of the Sanders family into which Samuel Loree and Jonathan Reeve, the oldest and youngest sons of Col. Silas Axtell, married, we have no ancient dates, nor any positive information regarding its nationality.

It was the tradition among the older members of the family that they were of English descent; and as history mentions an English Admiral of that name, it would appear that the tradition was not without foundation.

The farthest back we have been able to go, reliably, in the Sanders genealogy, is to Joseph Sanders, who married Jerusha Pennington who was a daughter or a grand-daughter of Ephraim Pennington who was one of 41 (forty-one) men who, in the beginning of 1667, migrated from the towns of Branford, Milford and Guilford, Conn., and settled on the Passaic river, in the province of New Jersey, and founded the City of Newark. Wm. S. Pennington, a descendant of Ephraim Pennington, was Gov. of the State of New Jersey in 1813.

Joseph and Jerusha Sanders were the parents of a large family. One of their sons was named Ephraim, and he married Kezia, a daughter of Stephen Dod, 2nd; known in the "Dod Genealogy" as "Stephen, of Mendham," who was born April 4th, 1703, and was the father of Lebbeus, Thaddens, Daniel, Parmeneas, Ucal, Elizabeth, Kezia, Deborah, Sarah, Hannah and Abigail.

This family, and some of their descendants, were celebrated for their ingenuity and skill as machinists and workers in brass and iron, makers of clocks and mathematical instruments, and civil engineers.

Ephraim and Kezia (Dod) Sanders were the parents of nine sons and two daughters, viz: Beniah, Simeon, Daniel, Sarah, Stephen, Cyrus, Asa, Ephraim, Ziba, Azuba and Jeduthun.

All these children lived to grow up and become the heads of families.

Ephraim was apprenticed to one of his mother's brothers to learn the blacksmith's trade, and went with his uncle into the western part of Pennsylvania, where he resided until he attained his majority in 1791, when he returned to Mendham, N. J., and was married about the beginning of 1792 to Sarah Byram Rodgers, a daughter of Jedediah Rodgers, to whom he was engaged before he went to Penn., and commenced working at his trade in the village of Mendham. He became noted throughout that region for his skill in working iron, especially in making edge-tools and the irons for spinning wheels. After exchanging property a number