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It details the family history of both  
Alton B. Hastings and his wife, Laura  
A. Cushman

of Hastings were owned by the family that adopted this surname as early as 911, before the Normans were in Gaul. The name is of Danish origin. In one of the early incursions made by the Danes upon that part of England and Scotland bordering upon the North sea, a Danish chief made himself formidable to Alfred the Great by landing a large body of men upon the coast. He took possession of a portion of Sussex, and the castle and seaport were held by the family from the crown for many generations, and when William the Conqueror landed in England, 1066, he found them in possession. It is believed they settled here as early as 871 A. D. The family established itself in nearly every county of England.

(I) John Hastings (born in England), aged twenty-nine, and his wife Susanna, aged thirty-four, embarked at Ipswich, England, April 10, 1634, in the ship "Elizabeth" for New England. He settled in Watertown, Mass.; was admitted a freeman May 6, 1635. He was selectman from 1638 to 1643, and from 1650 to 1671; town clerk in 1671, 1677 and 1680; deputy to the General Court in 1673, and long was deacon. After the death of his wife Susanna, Feb. 2, 1650, he married (second) in April, 1651, Margaret Cheney, daughter of William and Martha Cheney, of Roxbury. He died in 1685, aged eighty. His children were: Thomas, born July 1, 1652, who died July 23, 1712; John, born March 1, 1654; William, born Aug. 8, 1655, who was drowned in August, 1669; Joseph, born Sept. 11, 1657, who died Oct. 7, 1695; Benjamin, born Aug. 9, 1659, who died Dec. 18, 1711; Nathaniel, born Sept. 29, 1661, who died Dec. 25, 1694; Hepsibah, born Jan. 31, 1663; and Samuel, born March 12, 1665, who died in 1723.

ALTON B. HASTINGS, senior member of the firm of A. B. Hastings & Son, bakers and confectioners of Brockton, Plymouth Co., Mass., has proved to be a most enterprising business man during the more than twenty years of his residence in that place. He has built up a thriving trade, and has acquired other interests in Brockton and elsewhere, having placed himself in an independent position by his own efforts.

Mr. Hastings is a native of Maine, born March 21, 1857, in Thomaston, Knox county, in which vicinity his grandfather settled. The name Hasting or Hastings is one of the oldest of surnames; it is older than the Norman Conquest in England. The castle and seaport

(II) John Hastings (2), son of Deacon John, born March 1, 1654, in Watertown, Mass., married in 1679 Abigail Hammond, born June 21, 1656, daughter of Lieut. John and Abigail Hammond. In 1690 her father's assessment was the largest in the town, and she received from his estate what in those days was considered "quite a property." The homestead of Mr. Hastings was in that part of Watertown that became the town of Waltham. He died March 28, 1717-18, aged sixty-four. She died April 7, 1717-18, aged sixty-three. Their children were: Abigail, born Dec. 8, 1679, married John Warren, of Weston; John, baptized Dec. 4, 1687, married (first) Susanna Bemis and (second) Jan. 8, 1706, Sarah Fiske; Elizabeth, baptized Dec. 4, 1687, mar-

ried Hopestill Mead; Hepsibah, baptized Dec. 4, 1687, married (first) Nathaniel Shattuck and (second) Benjamin Stearns; William was baptized July 13, 1690; Samuel, born in 1695, is mentioned below; Thomas, born Sept. 26, 1697, married Sarah White; Joseph, baptized July 10, 1698, married (first) Lydia Brown and (second) Sarah Stearns.

(III) Samuel Hastings, son of John, born in 1695, married May 29, 1719, Bethia Holloway, of Malden. He was a tailor and resided in that part of Watertown now Waltham. He was selectman several years. She died in Lexington June 1, 1774, aged eighty. Children: Samuel, born March 30, 1721, who married Lydia Tidd; Thaddeus, born Oct. 15, 1723; Mary, born Dec. 15, 1725; Abigail, born March 7, 1728, who married Samuel Brooks, of Medfield; Abijah, born May 9, 1730, who married Martha Ingraham; Philemon, born April 2, 1732, who removed to Vermont; Anna, born March 8, 1734; and Martha, born March 23, 1736.

(IV) Thaddeus Hastings, son of Samuel, born Oct. 15, 1723, married March 29, 1763, Mary Stratton. He settled in Lexington, where he and his wife died, leaving two young sons, who left town, one being Thaddeus by name.

(V) Thaddeus Hastings (2), son of Thaddeus, became a resident of Union Common, near Thomaston, in the State of Maine. He married Hannah Vaughan, of Carver, Mass. Among their children was a son Thaddeus Matthew.

(VI) Thaddeus Matthew Hastings, son of Thaddeus, born in 1823, died Feb. 23, 1861. He grew to manhood at Union Common, Maine, his native place, and received his education in the local school. He learned the trade of carpenter, which he followed throughout life, also engaging in farming. He made his home in Thomaston, where he died while still in the prime of life, and was buried there. On Jan. 10, 1853, Mr. Hastings married Abby O. Trull, daughter of John B. Trull. After Mr. Hastings's death she became the wife of William Sawyer, and they reside at Peabody, Mass. Mr. and Mrs. Hastings had three children: Caroline T., born April 12, 1854, married C. F. Hathaway and resides in Cambridge, Mass.; Alton B. is mentioned below; Samuel Everett, born in 1860, died young.

(VII) Alton B. Hastings attended the schools of Bath, Maine, where he removed with his mother after his father's death, and at the age of sixteen years shipped as a sailor before

the mast on the "Northampton," a full-rigged ship commanded by Captain Murphy, engaged in the merchant service. Later he shipped on the "Caledonia," Captain Stinson, engaged in the same service, and he was second mate on this vessel, which plied between New Orleans and Havre, France. The next vessel upon which he was mate was the "Scotia," sailing from New Orleans to San Francisco, around the Horn. After giving up marine life he returned to his old home and entered the employ of George Moulton, in a machine and repair shop at Bath, Maine, remaining there one year, after which he accepted a position as stationary engineer with G. P. Richardson, in his mill, where he was employed for some time. He was next engaged by Hobart & Hathaway, bakers, of Bath, Maine (Mr. Hathaway being his brother-in-law), for whom he drove team and did various work for a year, when Mr. Hathaway retired from the firm and Mr. Hastings assumed charge of the business for Mr. Hobart, continuing another year as manager. He then engaged in the business on his own account, buying a bakery in Bath which he conducted for several months, finally selling out to Mr. Hobart. Removing to Marblehead, Essex Co., Mass., Mr. Hastings opened a bakery for his brother-in-law, C. F. Hathaway, which he carried on successfully for three years, until the establishment was destroyed by fire. In 1889 he came to Brockton, where he has since been located. Opening a store and bakery, on Perkins avenue, in Campello, he prospered so steadily from the very beginning that five years later he was able to erect a new building, extending from Perkins avenue to Market street, containing a bakery, stores, etc. His business has now attained such proportions that he gives employment regularly to over sixty hands, and fifteen delivery teams are required to distribute the product, which is sold throughout Brockton and in the surrounding towns. In 1896 Mr. Hastings opened a store on Main street, opposite the "Belmont Hotel." The confectionery branch of his business is one of considerable importance. The number of his employees gives a fair indication of the growth of the business, which has been brought about by the most careful management and satisfactory products which win custom wherever they are introduced. In 1908 Mr. Hastings took his son Arthur C. into the business as partner, the firm being A. B. Hastings & Son. Mr. Hastings has a high reputation for business probity as well as for ability. In addition to his main interest he has become interested to

some extent in real estate in Brockton, and he is a stockholder, director and president of the Best Baking Company, a Boston corporation.

On March 21, 1881, Mr. Hastings married, at Bath, Maine, Laura A. Cushman, who was born in Maine, daughter of Job S. and Mary Ann (Carvell) Cushman. They have had a family of five children. (1) Arthur C., born April 22, 1884, was educated in the common and high schools of Brockton and when ready to commence work entered the employ of his father, learning all the details of the business, in which he is now interested as junior partner. He is a young man of enterprising and progressive ideas, and has proved an able assistant. He is a prominent member of the Masonic organization, having attained the thirty-second degree, and is identified with the Republican party in politics. (2) Alice M., born Jan. 2, 1886, attended the common and high schools in Brockton, and Mount Ida Seminary, of Newton, Mass., where she was graduated in 1903. She was for a time engaged as assistant teacher in the Girls' School on Arlington street, Boston. She married June 28, 1911, Clinton J. Porter, Jr., of Bowling Green, Ky., and they reside in Brockton. (3) Carolyn B., born April 28, 1889, received the same educational advantages as her sister, graduating from Mount Ida Seminary in 1908, after which she took a course in domestic science at the Garland School in Boston. (4) Edna R., born Nov. 4, 1891, received her education in the Brockton schools, graduating from the high school in 1911, and is now a student at Miss Wheelock's School, Boston. (5) Alton B., Jr., born June 18, 1897, is a student in the Brockton high school. The family attend the South Congregational Church. Mrs. Hastings is a member of the Woman's Club of Brockton. Mr. Hastings is a member of St. George Lodge, A. F. & A. M., of Campello. He is a Republican in political sentiment, but takes no part in party affairs or public matters beyond the interest which every good citizen feels in the general welfare.

**CUSHMAN.** The Cushman family, to which Mrs. Hastings belongs, is one of old standing and prominence in the annals of New England. Her line is traced back to Robert Cushman, the first of the name to emigrate from the Old World, from whom she is a descendant in the ninth generation. We have the following record:

(I) Robert Cushman, a wool carder, who was of Canterbury, England, was married at

Leyden, Holland, June 3, 1617, to Mary, widow of Thomas Chingleton, of Sandwich, England. He was associated with William Brewster as agent of the Leyden Church in negotiations for removal. He came to New England in the "Fortune," in 1621, bringing with him his only son, Thomas. He returned to England on business of the Colony, and died there in 1626. He left his son Thomas in the care of Governor Bradford.

(II) Thomas Cushman, son of Robert, born in February, 1608, in England, accompanied his father to Plymouth in 1621 in the ship "Fortune." He became an important man here in church and colony. He married about 1635 Mary Allerton, of the "Mayflower," 1620; and they lived together the long period of fifty-five years, she surviving him nearly ten years. Mr. Cushman was chosen and ordained elder of the Plymouth Church in 1649, and was forty-three years in that office. He died Dec. 11, 1691. The children of Mr. Cushman and wife were: Thomas, born in 1637; Sarah; Lydia; Isaac, born in 1647-48; Elkanah, born in 1651; Fear, born in 1653; Eleazer, born in 1656-57; and Mary.

(III) Thomas Cushman (2), son of Elder Thomas, born Sept. 16, 1637, married (first) Nov. 17, 1663, Ruth Howland, daughter of John, of the "Mayflower," 1620, and (second) Oct. 16, 1679, Abigail Fuller, of Rehoboth. Mr. Cushman lived on the west side of the highway that leads from Plympton meeting-house to the north part of the town, and "Colchester Brook" ran through his farm. He died Aug. 23, 1726, aged eighty-nine, and his remains were interred in the Centre burying ground in Plympton. His children were: Robert, born Oct. 4, 1664; Job, born probably about 1680; Bartholomew, born in 1684; Samuel, born July 16, 1687; and Benjamin, born in 1691.

(IV) Robert Cushman (2), son of Thomas (2), born Oct. 4, 1664, was twice married, his first wife, Persis, dying at Kingston Jan. 14, 1743-44. When about eighty years of age he married (second) Prudence Sherman, of Marshfield. He died in Kingston Sept. 7, 1757, aged ninety-two years, eleven months, three days. His children were: Robert, born July 2, 1698; Ruth, born March 25, 1700; Abigail, born July 3, 1701; Hannah, born Dec. 25, 1704; Thomas, born Feb. 14, 1706; Joshua, born Oct. 14, 1708; Jonathan, born July 28, 1712.

(V) Robert Cushman (3), son of Robert (2), born July 2, 1698, married (intentions published April 17, 1725) Mary Washburn.

He died about 1751, and by will proved in September of that year gave all his property to his wife. Their thirteen children were: Lydia, born Sept. 29, 1726; Jerusha, born Jan. 15, 1727-28; Rebecca, born April 9, 1730; Mercy, born June 5, 1731; Hannah, born July 2, 1732; Thankful, born March 10, 1733-34; Ruth, born Dec. 22, 1735; Abigail, born April 3, 1737; Robert, born Oct. 27, 1738; Elkanah, born Dec. 29, 1740; Martha, born Sept. 14, 1742; Isaac, born March 10, 1745; and Job, born Jan. 27 and died Jan. 28, 1750.

(VI) Robert Cushman (4), son of Robert (3), born Oct. 27, 1738, married in 1759 Martha Delano. He occupied the old Cushman homestead at Rocky Nook, in Kingston, Mass., having purchased the interests therein of his brothers and sisters, and there all excepting two of his children were born. He sold his farm in 1781 and with his family removed to Maine, in company with his brother Isaac and his family. He died at Woolwich, Maine, in 1799. His wife died in 1820, aged eighty-two years. Their children were: Robert, born April 11, 1761; Mercy, Dec. 17, 1762; Hopedill, Sept. 2, 1764; Joshua, Aug. 26, 1766; Martha, May 12, 1769; Beza, June 24, 1771 (died young); Kenelam, 1773; Job, 1774; Leomisa, 1778; and Francis, Dec. 4, 1781.

(VII) Francis Cushman, son of Robert (4), born Dec. 4, 1781, married (first) Dec. 29, 1803, Betsy McKenney, who died Dec. 23, 1824, and he married (second) Dec. 19, 1826, Lydia Honnewell. He lived on the homestead of his father in Woolwich, Maine. His twenty-two children, eleven born to each wife, and in Woolwich, Maine, were: Sarah, born Dec. 22, 1804; Martha Delano, April 13, 1806; Joshua Delano, Nov. 3, 1807; Rebecca, Nov. 12, 1809; Susan, Sept. 2, 1811; Francis Ford, Jan. 12, 1814; Eliza, Oct. 24, 1815; Robert, Nov. 2, 1817 (died Aug. 24, 1819); Ebenezer, Sept. 7, 1820 (died Sept. 1, 1847); Adeline, Jan. 28, 1823; Margaret B., Dec. 10, 1824; Lydia J., Sept. 13, 1827 (died Dec. 17, 1829); James, Feb. 16, 1829 (died Dec. 7, 1829); James H., May 19, 1830 (died July 18, 1835); Mary O., March 10, 1832; Job S., March 22, 1833; Sarah Ann, June 23, 1834 (died Oct. 5, 1840); Wales H., May 1, 1836; Marcella, Sept. 15, 1837; Lydia Frances, Feb. 28, 1839; Llewellyn, May 6, 1841; and Wyman B., April 17, 1843.

(VIII) JOB S. CUSHMAN, son of Francis, born March 22, 1833, died in 1892. He made his home at Arrowsic, Maine, where he fol-

lowed farming and lumber manufacturing, and where he died. He was a man faithful to every duty in his various relations, a good citizen and deeply beloved in his family. He married Mary Ann Edgecomb, widow of William Carvell, and she survived him several years, dying in 1900. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Cushman: Charles, who resides in Boston, Mass.; Laura A., wife of Alton B. Hastings, of Brockton, Mass.; Thomas Alvah, who is engaged in the baking business at Whitman, Mass.; Joel F., who resides in Bath, Maine; and William, who lives in Boston, Massachusetts.