

PENNSYLVANIA

A HISTORY

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With Introduction by

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(The Coleman Line).

Arms—Per fesse argent and sable, a cross patonce between four mullets counterchanged.

Crest—A greyhound's head sable, gorged with a collar and ring argent charged with three mullets sable.

Many widely differing origins of the name of Coleman have been suggested in the effort to trace it to its source. One student of nomenclature believes that "gold" and "man" contributed to form the name, running through the various changes of Goldman, Gouldman, Coultman, Coltman, and Coleman. Another takes the word "coal" as the foundation, "coalman," a dealer or worker in coals. The name may have been derived from the old Saxon word "ceol" which meant a ship or boat, and in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle are found such names as Ceolwulf, Ceolnoth, and Ceolred. A genealogist of one branch of the Coleman family states that the name came from the Latin word "colles," a hill or mountain, that the family were hill men or mountaineers, and that "Collesman" is a spelling found frequently in old records. Be the origin what it may, the name is found in Germany as Kohlman, Kohlmann, and Old German, Coloman; the English forms are Coultman, Coloman, Colman, or Coleman, and the French, Collman.

Coleman appeared prominently in history in A.D. 664, as the name of a noted Scotch bishop who was of Lindisfarne, or Holy Island, on the northeast coast of England, and who, because of violent disputes, retired and built successively three island monasteries, one off the west coast of Scotland and the others west of Ireland. Another Scotch bishop of this name was killed in Austria in the eleventh century while on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem, and was made a patron saint in 1015. The Roman calendar still names the eighteenth of October as this saint's day. The County of Hertford appears to have been the home of a branch of the Coleman family through several centuries. Before 1426 Nicholas Coleman and his wife Alice had lands in Picotts Manor in Bishop Stortford; Alice Coleman, widow, in the parish of Estbornet, is named on the subsidy rolls of 1545; in the seventeenth century members of the family are found in St. Albans, Hemel Hempstead, and the parish of St. Michaels, all in Hertfordshire, while the burial of Mary Coleman, of the parish of Northaw, is recorded on December 15, 1729. Other branches of the family are on record in Devonshire and Kent County.