ENGLISH ANCESTRY OF SAMUEL HEDGE
SON-IN-LAW OF MAJOR JOHN FENWICK
OF SALEM COLONY, NEW JERSEY

By the REVEREND A. H. HORD, Registrar of the Diocese of Pennsylvania

The ancestry of Major John Fenwick and of his two wives, was, for the first time fully presented, with proofs, in The Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography, by Edwin Jaquett Sellers of Philadelphia. Major John Fenwick, Founder and Proprietor of Salem Colony, New Jersey, left issue, by his first wife, Elizabeth Covert, three daughters. Of these daughters, Anna Fenwick married Samuel Hedge, who was Surveyor General, April 30, 1678; Clerk and Recorder of Fenwick's Colony, and a Member of the New Jersey Assembly, in 1682. The ancestry of Samuel Hedge was recently discovered by the writer, and the evidence on which his pedigree is based is as follows:

A lady living in Philadelphia, who is a direct descendant of Samuel Hedge and his wife, Anna Fenwick, inherited and now owns a silver spoon on the handle of which are engraved the coats-of-arms impaled of two families. As to these arms nothing was known by the owner, but Mr. Sellers identified one of them as certainly the arms of the Weld family, described in Burke's "General Armory" as Azure a fess nebule between three crescents ermine. The name of the other family represented in this impalement remained a mystery until sometime later the writer, while looking over the pages of the published "Calendar of Wills, Court of Husting, London," found

1 XLIX. 151, 256; L. 267.
2 To ascertain the date when this spoon was made, the writer took it to the well-known jewelers, The Bailey, Banks & Biddle Company of Philadelphia, where, after careful examination, the spoon was pronounced "a very fine specimen of James 2nd spoon bearing the hallmark of the London Assay Office of 1686-7."
3 Part II., 1388-1688, p. 777.
the will of Elizabeth Weld, dated October 14, 1676, in which she mentions her grandsons, Samuel Hedge and Thomas Hedge, and her granddaughter, Elizabeth Medley. Starting with this knowledge, the pedigree was worked out.

Elizabeth Weld was the wife of "John Weld, Goldsmith," of the Parish of St. Mary Woolnoth, London. "John Weld and Elizabeth Glanfield, both of this Parish," were married, March 4, 1622. Elizabeth Glanfield was probably the daughter of John Glanfield, son of "Francis Glanfield, Goldsmith," as the only reference to the name Glanfield in this parish register is the baptism on December 4, 1597, of "John, son of Francis Glanfield, Goldsmith."

John Weld and Elizabeth his wife, had the following children, whose baptisms are recorded in the Registers of St. Mary Woolnoth:

- Elizabeth Weld, dau. of John Weld, Goldsmith, baptized, August 14, 1623.
- John Weld, son of John Weld, Goldsmith, baptized, July 25, 1624.
- Thomas Weld, son of John Weld, Goldsmith, baptized, December 5, 1628.

Elizabeth Weld, daughter of John and Elizabeth Weld, married Samuel Hedge. The Register of St. Mary Woolnoth records that "Samuel Hedge of St. Peter's the Poor and Elizabeth Weld of this parish" were married, March 4, 1640. Concerning the Parish of St. Peter le Poor, in which Samuel Hedge lived, Stow, in his "Survey of London," writes that it was "sometimes peradventure a poor parish but at this present [1598] there be many fair houses possessed by rich merchants and other."

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5 Ibid., p. 35.
6 Ibid., p. 36.
7 Ibid., p. 38.
8 Ibid., p. 149.
Of the children of Samuel Hedge and his wife, Elizabeth Weld, we know the names of three who are mentioned (as already stated), in the will (1676) of their grandmother, Elizabeth Weld. The names of these children are:

Elizabeth Hedge, who married John Medley. “April 18, 1666, John Medley, of St. Mary Woolchurch, London, Skinner, Bachelor, about 23, and Elizabeth Hedge, Spinster, about 19 daughter of Samuel Hedge of St. Peter’s le Poor, Painter-Stainer.”

Thomas Hedge. He was probably the “Thomas Hedge of St. Saviour’s, Southwark” who married “Mary Johnson of St. Botolph’s, Bishopsgate,” December 20, 1662.

Samuel Hedge, son of Samuel Hedge and Elizabeth Weld, was evidently the Samuel Hedge who came to the Colony of New Jersey with Major John Fenwick, as Shourds states that “Samuel Hedge 2nd was the son of Samuel Hedge, a merchant and citizen of London.”

Samuel Hedge, senior, was evidently a man of considerable prominence. He was “Master” (1663) of the Painter Stainers Company, which is described as “an old gild of painters of heraldic emblazonments.”

To be elected to the office of “Master”—the highest dignity in a London Company—was at that time quite an honor in the city of London. Samuel Pepys, Secretary of the Admiralty and noted diarist, was, as a mark of distinction, elected Master of the Clothworkers Company. Samuel Hedge probably belonged to an old London family, as the names of Christopher Hedge (1568) and John Hedge (1570) appear in a “List of Scholars of St. Peter’s College, Westminster who were elected to Trinity College, Cambridge.”

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8 Marriage Licenses issued by the Vicar-General of the Archbishop of Canterbury, 1660 to 1668, p. 172.
9 Ibid., p. 225.
10 History and Genealogy of Fenwick’s Colony, p. 13.
12 Century Dictionary.
13 Compiled by Joseph Welch.
The pedigree given identifies the two families whose arms are impaled on the spoon of 1686. According to the laws of heraldry, the impalement of two arms necessarily signifies the marriage of two families. The marriage of Samuel Hedge and Elizabeth Weld is thus represented in the engraving on the spoon. The engraving of the Weld arms on the spoon corresponds in every respect to the Weld Arms as delineated in various books on British heraldry and as described in Burke’s "General Armory." Moreover, Thomas Weld of the parish of St. Mary Woolnoth, London, who seems to have been nearly related to "John Weld, Goldsmith," of the same parish, signed his pedigree in the Visitation of London, 1664, thereby proving his right to these arms.¹⁵

The arms of Hedge engraved on the spoon are described in the language of heraldry as Ermine, three lozenges conjoined in fess argent, within a bordure engrailed sable. These arms are not found in Burke’s "General Armory," but it is a well-known fact that the arms of some old English families were never recorded in the College of Heralds. The writer is acquainted with several of these unrecorded arms that do not appear in Burke—among them being the arms of a distinguished prelate of the time of Charles II., which are carved on a monument in the Poet’s Corner in Westminster Abbey, recorded in the archives of the Abbey, and impaled with the arms of another family on a tablet in an old English church. That the arms impaled with the Weld arms on the silver spoon are those of the Hedge family is further indicated by the fact that they are what are described in heraldry as "Canting Arms"—that is, they are "such as have an allusion to the name of the bearer."¹⁶ Thus, the

¹⁵ Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica, New Series, I. 113.
¹⁶ See "Dictionary of Terms used in Heraldry" in Burke’s General Armory.
name Hedge is canted in the arms on the spoon (1) by three lozenges arranged point to point in a horizontal line, or in fess, across the center of the shield like a fence or hedge; and (2) by the engrailed bordure, or border around the shield, which may also represent a hedge. It is reasonable to assume that Samuel Hedge, "Master" of a guild of painters of heraldic emblazonments, was entitled to the arms engraved on his silver.

"John Weld, Goldsmith," of St. Mary Woolnoth Parish, London, grandfather of Samuel Hedge of New Jersey, was descended from an ancient and honorable family. The pedigree of the Weld family is traced to Edric, nephew of Edric, Duke of Mercia, husband of Edina, daughter of King Ethelred 1003 A.D. Among his descendants may be mentioned William Weld, Sheriff of London, 1352; Sir Humphrey Weld, Lord Mayor of London, 1610; Thomas Weld of Lulworth Castle, Dorset, created a Cardinal of the Roman Catholic Church in 1829, and Mary Weld (granddaughter of Thomas Weld of St. Mary Woolnoth, London, who signed his pedigree in the Visitation of 1664), who married John Kennedy, Earl of Cassilis.

The family to which these persons belong bore the same arms that are engraved on the silver spoon, now two hundred and forty-six years old, which was owned by Samuel Hedge of the Colony of New Jersey. Samuel Hedge, therefore, on his mother's side was descended from a family that was equal in the antiquity of its descent to the family of Fenwick. John Fenwick made "his friend William Penn, one of his executors and trustee for his three eldest grandsons"—one of whom was Samuel Hedge, Jr.

17 Burke, Commoners of Great Britain, 1836, I. 197; II. 677; III. 334.
18 Ibid., I. 198.
19 Ibid., I. 197.
20 Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica, New Series, I. 114.
21 American Historical Register, III. 221-223; Shourds, History and Genealogy of Fenwick's Colony.