

October 14, 1975

Mrs. Elaine Ramsten Wells

Wells family Research Bulletin (no longer in business-WMW, Jr.)

Drawer, 220, Grandview Texas 78050.

Dear Mrs. Wells,

The following I have obtained from Alumni Cantabrigienses (Cambridge University, England), by J. &JA. Vonn (1927) , part I : t c 1751, in volume 4, page 364:

WELLES, William. Matric(ulated) sizar (3rd rank), from St. John's (College) Mich (aelma)s 1575.

WELLS, William, Matric. Sizar St. John's Michs. 1579. B(orn) at Cambridge. B.A. 1583-4; M.A. 1587; B.D.1600.. Ord(ained) deacon (London) Dec. 21, 1588 age 24. R(ector) of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich 1598-1620. R(ector) of Intwood & Keswick , Norfolk, 1602. R(ector) of Heyden 1602-3. Preb(endary) of Norwich, 1613-20. Died May 26, 1620 age 54. Buried at St. Peter Mancroft. M. I. (monumental inscription). Father of William (1620-1). (Blomefield IV; 188.) (I also found that he was Curate of St. George Colgate, Norwich in late 1590s.)

WELLES, William. Adm (itted) sizar (age 16) at Caius (College) Feb. 12, 1620-1. S(on) of William (1579), B.D. (born) at Norwich. School: Norwich (Mr. Stoneham). Matric. 1620-1: Scholar 1621 -5: B.A.1624-5; M.A.1628; Ord(ained) deacon & priest(Norwich) Dec. 18, 1625. R(ector) of Bawdeswell, Norfolk 1647. perhaps V(icar) of North Elmham,1659-80. Buried there Oct. 16,1680. (Venn 1:252.)

The above William WELLSES father arid son, priests of Norwich, Norfolkshire, England, disprove the ancestry of William WELLS of Southold, L.I. being the son of Rector and Prebendary William WELLS, - as per chapter 1 of the book William Wells of Southold, by C. W. Hayes (1878) .

Where did William WELLS of Southold come from? Immediately probably, from Lynn Massachusetts, where Richard and George WELLS may have been his relatives. His vocation in legal matters on Long Island suggests that he may well have had a legal education in England before he emigrated. Could he have attended Inns of Court in London (possibly Lincoln's Inn or Gray's Inn), where barristers (and solicitors) get their education?

Very truly yours,

John L. Cobb,
3751 Lowell Road,
Cleveland Heights, Ohio 44121

(Copied verbatim WMW,Jr.)