

C H A P T E R O N E

T H E N A M E

I

-ooOoo-

ORIGIN

-ooCoo-

ITS MANY SPELLINGS

THE PRESENT SPELLING of the name is not ancient. Old records have it spelled anyway and everyway except C-O-X. In the church and town records of Dorchester Massachusetts - where down to 1750 the name appears more than 200 times - it is not once spelled C-O-X. My great-grandfather, Benjamin Cox, and his brothers and sisters were baptised, and their births recorded under the names of COCK and COCKS. In the records of New England, the name is written not less than ten different ways. In my researches, I have found the name spelled some 50 or 60 different ways - nearly half of which begin with a "K". Some languages, like the Greek, have no letter "C" in their alphabets. Those not acquainted with this aspect of the name, may wish to know some of the different spellings. Here are some 30 which I have found in different English books:

Coc	Cocius	Cockis	Cookes	Cox	Kocho	Kok
Coca	Coccus	Cocks	Co. . .	Coxe	Kocke	Kuke
Cocc	Cock	Coke	Cooks	Koc	Kockke	Le Cok
Cocceius	Cocko	Cokken	Cooke	Koch	Koghe	Le Coq
Coccis	Cockin	Coock	Coque	Kocho	Kogghe	Le Coque

Cocceus and Cocceius occurred often in Roman history, where the name was common a century before Christ. The Roman emperor Nerva, was a grandson of Nerve Cocceius* who lived in Christ's time. Rome had its celebrated family by the name of Gallus, which is Latin for Cock. The Germans have had Hahns, and the French their Coces, both of which signify "cocks." COX is not therefore a modern name.