

Preface

Philip and Martha, Their Sons and Daughters has evolved directly from the Cody convention in Flint Michigan in 1961 at which time members present instructed the new secretary, Aldus Cody, that it was the desire of the family that female lines, as well as male lines, be followed.

This was a reaction to the publication of *The Cody Family, Massachusetts 1698*, which was produced through the generosity and persistence of Lydia Cody of Cleveland and Babson Park. Professionally produced under the direction of Emma B. Hawley, the work included females born with the Cody name, but not their offspring.

Very little was accomplished under the new rule, except to continue the files compiled by Ernest William Cody, the previous secretary, and which followed female as well as male lines.

Philip and Martha was published first in paperback form and it was intended that the original type forms would be used for the hardback edition, with perhaps footnotes or addenda to clear up any deficiencies and correct any errors.

First off, an effort to produce an index for Philip and Martha founded in pencil and paper (or even typewriter) technology and it became clear such a task should be handled by computer. Mailing lists were already committed to computer and it became evident that eventually the Cody records should be maintained in a computer database.

Since the work of preparing the copy for the original paperback edition consumed four years of typing, pasting and proofreading, the new task could have been expected to require another two years. But since volume two had been computer-typeset on floppy disks it was hoped that complete rekeying of the book would not be required.

As a matter of fact computer magic was employed to facilitate proofreading, eliminate duplicate records, and provide proofs to be mailed to members.

But records in the computer began—as did the directories of Ernest William Cody—with the sixth generation. As the Lydia Cody book had been out of print for years, there was a need for something besides a wall chart to tell the story of the first five generations.

Thus this companion volume which is a reprint of the first part of the Lydia Cody book, and which also includes pertinent addenda including "Piercing of the Veil" which details our possible connection with the Isle of Jersey.

These two books now make it possible for anyone to trace their ancestry back to the original Philip—or to establish their relationship to Col. William F. Cody "Buffalo Bill" if they choose.

Financing of these two books has been made possible by the generosity of more than 100 Codys who believed in the work enough to commit themselves to buy one or more copies of the permanent edition of Philip and Martha.

The kind words of hundreds—in the form of brief notes accompanying their annual dues—and the support of the late Therald Cody, immediate past president of The International Cody Family Association, the enthusiastic encouragement of Gerald Cody, who succeeded Therald, and the presence of a supportive and patient wife, have also played their part.

Aldus Morrill Cody
25 March 1986