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THE HICKLING CONNECTION CONTINUED... .

by Carlos Guilherme Ivens Ferraz de Mesquita

Our last Annual Report carried an article by James Henry Hayes on the alliances and misalliances of the Hickling family, from which he is descended. Mr. Carlos Guilherme Ivens Ferraz de Mesquita traces his branch of this complicated family tree back to William and Mary Anne Ivens, and we are pleased to publish his comments and corrections.- Ed.

I can confirm most of the data submitted by Mr. Hayes, give and take one child here and there, and the romantic description of the arrival of the Williams (Burnett and Ivens) to S. Miguel. The additional comments I have are:

1. Thomas Hickling (1735-1834) was from Boston and not from South Carolina, the son of an English emigrant from Nottinghamshire, and, despite the faithfulness of his father to the mother country, shared ideals of independence. To stay out of trouble he went abroad, ending up in S. Miguel, leaving in Boston his wife and two sons, one of whom would become the father of the distinguished American historian William Hickling Prescott.

As his first wife (Sarah Green) died in 1778, he married Sarah Falder, daughter of a navy captain who had come to Ponta Delgada. Sixteen children resulted from this second marriage, with two sets of twins, one of which could have been Sarah and Elizabeth Flora (married respectively to Burnett and Ivens).

Arthur Hickling Ivens, son of Elizabeth Flora and William Ivens, married Elizabeth Burnett, daughter of Sarah and William Burnett, starting the English branch of the Ivens with which I still am in touch.

Thomas Hickling was appointed in 1776 American Vice Consul in S. Miguel by George Washington. In 1806, President Jefferson appointed John Bass Dabney, who had settled in Faial in 1809, consul in the Açores outranking

Mr. Thomas Hickling and his successor Thomas Hickling Jr. (1781-1875). I do not know when Thomas Hickling became the Russian consul.

We all know that he was The Hickling who built the now Hotel S. Pedro, started the Parque Terra Nostra in Furnas and had another residence in Rosto do Cão.

2. The Ivens

Upon the death of Elizabeth Flora, William Ivens married her younger sister (by 17 years) Mary Anne, and, as far as I know, they had only daughters, among whom were my great-grand mother Catherine, and Harriet who married Richard Seeman.

The fourth son mentioned in the text, Thomas Edward, after the death of his wife Henrietta Carew, married Maria de Medeiros (the cook?), and their daughter Henrietta married Jacomo Correia (not Carriera) and their descendants still have a beautiful residence (with the convent) in Agua do Pau and another in Ponta Delgada, right next to the church of S. Pedro and hotel of the same name.

I believe the surname Ivens is no longer carried in the Açores and, with the possible exception of the descendents of my great uncle João Ivens Ferraz, who went to Moçambique at the turn of the century and married three times, will become extinct in the "Continente" with my generation, in the branch started by William and Mary Anne

But there are Ivens in England (branch Arthur Ivens and Elizabeth Burnett); one of them, my cousin Walter Ivens, points out that since William Ivens was born in 1778 and William Burnett in 1783 it makes them rather young to be shipwrecked in 1790.

Also W. Ivens was married in 1805 and W. Burnett in 1806.

3. Coat of Arms of the Ivens

Towards the end of the reign of George III, in 1816, William Ivens was knighted and given a coat of arms.

4. Roberto Ivens

This is the only real historical error of the text.

Ten years ago Portugal commemorated the centenary of the crossing of Southern Africa (1884-1885) by two naval officers, Hermenegildo Capelo

and Roberto Ivens. A lot was written then so it is easy to confirm what follows.

The father was Robert Breakspeare Ivens and the mother a young woman of Ponta Delgada, Margarida Julia de Medeiros Castelo Branco, whom Robert never married. She died of consumption in 1853, three years after the birth of the future explorer.

Robert Breakspeare Ivens assumed in 1582 the paternity of young Roberto, but, in the official documents the name of the mother is omitted.

Roberto Ivens was born June the 12th 1850, in a house at 24/26 Rua do Meio in Ponta Delgada, not far from Hotel S Pedro.

His father eventually married Luisa Borralho in May 1854 and in 1858 moved to Faro and then to Lisbon, taking with him his son Roberto, who never returned to the Açores.

As I mentioned earlier his life is quite well documented so I need not go any further. One more minor correction - Rua Ivens, in Lisbon, is more Chiado than S. Mamede.

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