

pened to the Fairthornes which happened to many children of English race whose people had made no mark in the older land.

From the time John Fairthorne landed in Pennsylvania the Fairthornes became and remained people of signal importance. In every generation some one of them rose to distinctive place. They had a hand in every war and in time of peace won success at the bar or in the ventures of East Indian commerce. They were notably few in number, long lived, and well-built, handsome folk. Calmly assured of their own position, they were generally sensitive as to familiar approach, and had been, perhaps because of a certain gravity and good sense, fortunate in their marriages. In early colonial days they were of Penn's council. Later they became rebellious subjects of the crown; still later, staunch Federalists, and when the great Civil War broke out they were sturdy republicans. John and Mary were favored names among them, but no one of them was ever known as Jack or Molly.

John, the eldest of the few Fairthornes left in Pennsylvania—for they had scattered widely—was a man who had added largely to inherited wealth. This John married, when young, a wife who, dying, left him childless. As sometimes chances, one of the minor qualities of a strong breed rose in his case into disabling power, so that, as life went on, his dislike of democratic familiarities and close contacts with men gradually caused his withdrawal from all forms of public usefulness. He became a self-centered man, uselessly learned, and with a fondness