

He went to London from a country district in England and engaged in the business of merchant tailoring and dealer in cloth. It is said he did remarkably well in the business, and he must have been a very successful business man, for he acquired the means to enable him to give up merchandising and prosecute his literary labors. He gave his numerous children the benefits of the best education, for they were educated at Oxford.

His long life was spent in literary toil, and his labors were appreciated by his cotemporaries, as well as by later generations. His descendants are now numerous in England. Among them have been many excellent and accomplished men. Several have published books on special topics. Adam Speed wrote a treatise on agriculture entitled, *Adam Out of Eden*. It was published in 1659. Edward Speed published a book of poems in 1590. William Speed published a treatise on surveying.

All the Speeds in England are descendants of the historian, John Speed. Some of them, in their letters, speak of him as Sir John Speed. It may be possible he was given that title, but the present writer has no positive information as to the fact.

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#### DR. JOHN SPEED.

One of the sons of the historian was named John. He was born in 1595. He was an Oxford graduate and had conferred on him the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Medicine. He is spoken of in the books as an "eminent physician," and also as a "gifted writer." He wrote a medical treatise in Latin and dedicated it to Archbishop Land. It relates to two skeletons prepared by himself and presented to the library of St. John's College, Oxford. He also wrote a play which was acted in the theaters of that day. He died in 1640 and was buried in the chapel of the college. His wife was a daughter of Dr. Bartholomew Warner, the author of a history of Ireland. He left two sons, John and Samuel. Samuel became a minister and was installed canon of Christ church, May 6, 1674. Afterwards he was Vicar of