



# Claiborne Society Newsletter

The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants



Fall 2016

## Message from the President

It is always with sadness that we learn of the deaths of two of our members: Frances Claiborne Guy and Ann Claiborne Pierce. Frances was instrumental in major efforts for the preservation of Mount Vernon and was a contributing author of the 1962 book "Homes and Gardens in Old Virginia." Ann was an original member of the Claiborne Society, formed in 1988, and traces her ancestry to Pocahontas. Yet at the same time, we can celebrate a new birth, a son born to Mary Ann Gilman's daughter Ellen.

We begin to prepare for the 2017 Nashville reunion with Clai Bachmann and Patricia Clayborn delving into Tennessee history in search of Claibornes. Clai begins with the first, William of Virginia, moves to 6th generation 3rd cousins, Thomas A. and Thomas B. Patricia picks up the thread giving Thomas B.'s launch into Tennessee government. This historical romp continues with a page from the Confederate Veteran magazine about Thomas B's son, who was Confederate Col. Thomas. Member Linda King newly searching, is trying to extend her connections into Hickman County. Our Tennessee reunion should be replete with more stories to tell.

If in addition to our uncovering history, we wish to carry a memento, read the Inventory of heritage pieces being offered by a great-grandson of Dr. John Herbert Claiborne, the surgeon in charge of all hospitals in Petersburg during the Civil War.

Deb Peabody and Pam Meiring have stories of their documentation of family connections through the National Society Colonial Dames. And lastly if you wish to expand your knowledge as you probe the Chesapeake region of Maryland and Virginia in the 1600s, Heath Claiborne Boyer offers a bibliography of interesting reading.

Susan W. H. Rura  
President, Claiborne Society

OFFICERS 2015 - 2017	
President	Susan W.H. Rura
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Publications	Patricia Clayborn
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[www.claibornesociety.org](http://www.claibornesociety.org)

## New Members

We are delighted to welcome the following new members to our Clan:

Haden Duane Claiborne of Boise, Idaho  
David Patrick Claiborne of Boise, Idaho  
Robert Berry Kean of Colorado Springs, Colorado

## 2017 ANNUAL DUES

Our membership year runs from October 1st to September 30th. The Annual Dues for the Claiborne Society are \$10. In addition, a lifetime membership is available for \$200 for current members. Plans are under way for our 2017 Reunion in Nashville, Tennessee. To continue to receive newsletters and reunion mailings, please send your check in the amount of \$10 payable to The Claiborne Society to our Treasurer: Clai Bachmann, 137 William Richmond, Williamsburg, VA, 23185

## MEMBERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send updated contact information to our Registrar:  
Frank Rura, 3052 Rogers Ave. Ellicott City, MD, 21043  
E-Mail: [frank9111@verizon.net](mailto:frank9111@verizon.net) Ph: 410-465-4778

## Congratulations! Welcome to a New Cousin

The Claiborne Society is so happy to be informed of the birth of Mary Ann Gilman's first grandson: Axel Gilman Balfrey was born to Mary Ann's daughter Ellen and son-in-law David on December 12, 2015. Baby Axel weighed in at 9 lbs. 6 oz. Here is hoping that we can meet Axel at the next reunion in Nashville!



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## Virginia Claibornes, Leaders in Early Tennessee

### William Charles Cole, Thomas Augustine and Thomas Burnell Claiborne

By Clai Bachmann

Research into my (Claiborne/Cliborn) ancestor's immigration to 19<sup>th</sup> Century Nashville unearthed some very intriguing information on another Claiborne immigrant into the Nashville area. This particular individual, a Thomas Claiborne, was in Nashville by 1807 and contributed significantly in government service for both the new State of Tennessee and its city, Nashville.

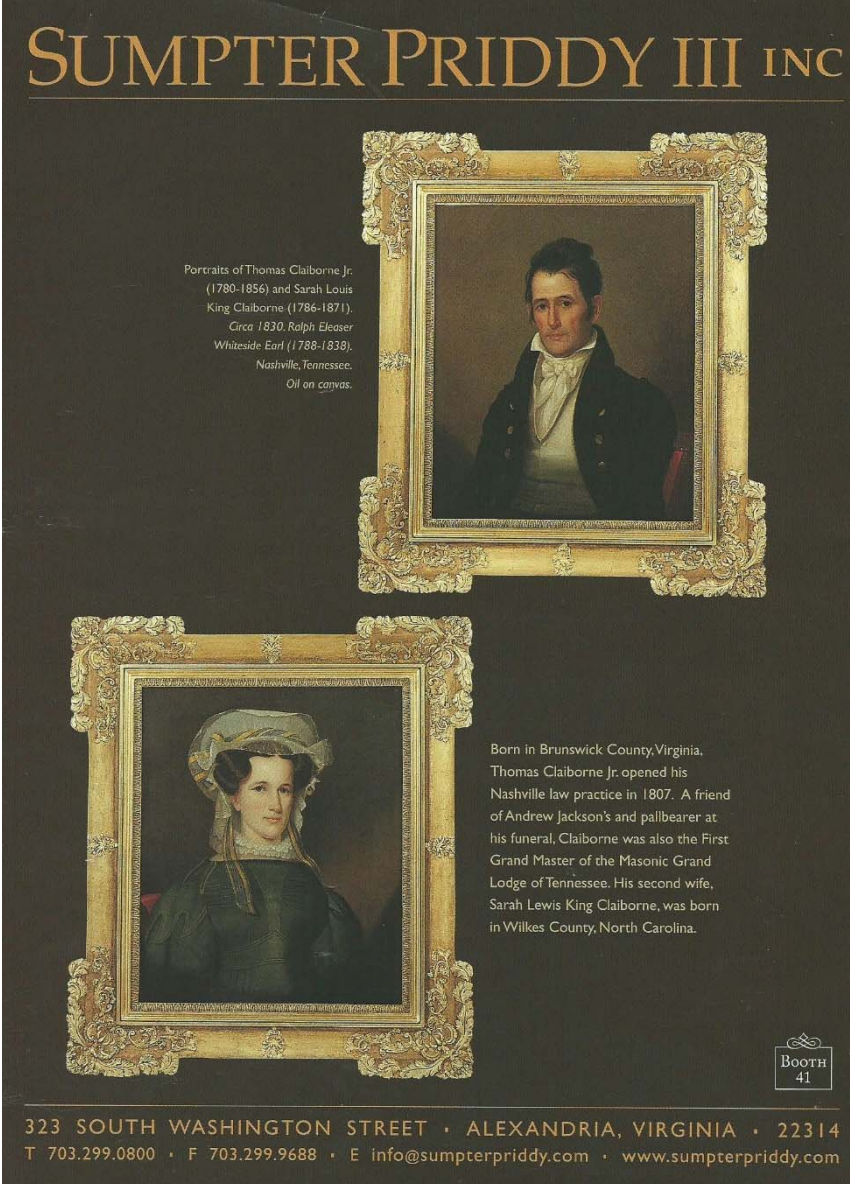
Reading about the various positions and contributions of this Thomas, I thought that he certainly must have been a very influential resident of the new State of Tennessee. Not long after this discovery, I found a picture of beautiful oil paintings of Thomas and his wife Sarah (Lewis) King Claiborne. In this picture Thomas is described as a friend of Andrew Jackson and pallbearer at his funeral.

My review of these findings and checks of other sources led at first to some confusion. Sometimes Thomas Claiborne was referred to as Thomas A. and other times as Thomas B. It seemed as if there was not one Thomas Claiborne, but perhaps two, in the same place at nearly the same time. And, it was not clearly apparent how this (or these) individuals descended from Virginia progenitors. A review of Claiborne of Virginia, by John Frederick Dorman provided answers, and the identities and genealogy became clearer.

In fact, there were two Thomas's. Additionally, there was a William Claiborne who also made a significant contribution of service to the new State of Tennessee and its capital Nashville. These Claibornes were – William Charles Cole Claiborne, Thomas Augustine Claiborne and Thomas Burnell Claiborne. Thomas Augustine was the brother of William Charles Cole Claiborne. Thomas Burnell was a third cousin of these brothers. All were descendants of Secretary William Claiborne of Virginia.<sup>1</sup>

William C.C. arrived in Tennessee first, around 1795, and began practicing law there at the age of twenty. His first case brought him a fee of \$500.00. Apparently he was so good that he was in great demand not only in Tennessee, but in Virginia as well. William C.C. so impressed John Sevier, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams that his brief career encompassed huge responsibilities and accomplishments.

In 1796 Governor John Sevier appointed William as a judge of the Supreme Court of the New State of Tennessee. That same year William was a member of the convention which framed the Tennessee constitution. At 22 William was elected to the Congress of the United States replacing Andrew Jackson. William C.C. Claiborne was elected for a second term where he held Tennessee's single vote. Had this vote not gone to Thomas Jefferson, Aaron Burr would have been our 3<sup>rd</sup> President. In 1801 President Jefferson appointed 26 year old William, Governor of the Mississippi



**SUMPTER PRIDDY III INC**

Portraits of Thomas Claiborne Jr. (1780-1856) and Sarah Lewis King Claiborne (1786-1871).  
Circa 1830. Ralph Eleaser Whiteside Earl (1788-1838).  
Nashville, Tennessee.  
Oil on canvas.

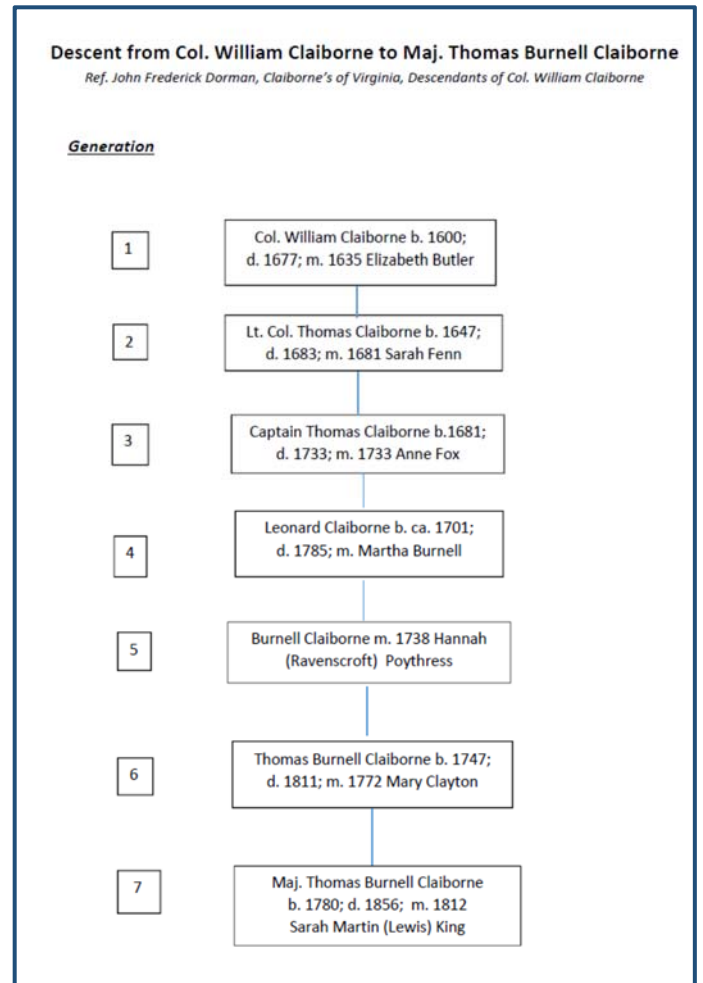
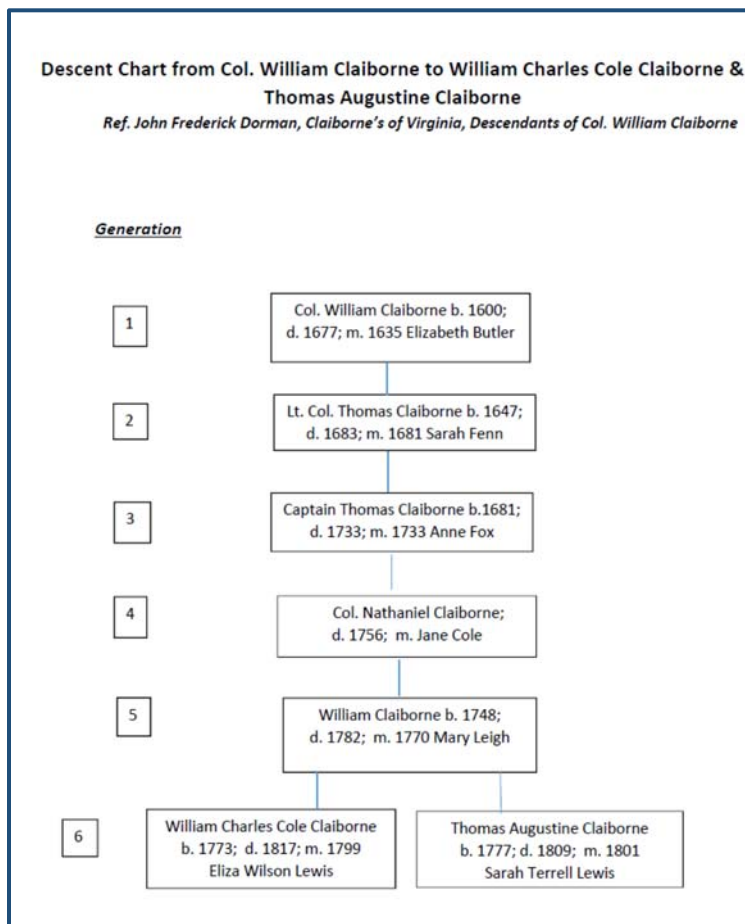
Born in Brunswick County, Virginia, Thomas Claiborne Jr. opened his Nashville law practice in 1807. A friend of Andrew Jackson's and pallbearer at his funeral, Claiborne was also the First Grand Master of the Masonic Grand Lodge of Tennessee. His second wife, Sarah Lewis King Claiborne, was born in Wilkes County, North Carolina.

Booth  
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Territory. Later William served as Governor of the Territory of Orleans from 1804 to 1812 before Louisiana was admitted to the Union. When Louisiana became a state William was elected its first Governor. When his position expired in 1816, and the Louisiana Constitution prohibited him from running for a second term, he was elected to serve as the U.S. Senator from Louisiana. W.C.C. Claiborne never served in this position as he died Nov. 1817 at the age of 44.<sup>ii</sup>

A second William Claiborne descendant to be present and consequential in early Tennessee and Nashville was Dr. Thomas Augustine Claiborne. Dr. Thomas A. and his brother, William C.C. Claiborne's descent goes as follows – Col. William Claiborne 1<sup>st</sup>, Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, Nathaniel 4<sup>th</sup>, William 5<sup>th</sup>, and Thomas Augustine Claiborne, and William Charles Cole Claiborne 6<sup>th</sup>.<sup>iii</sup>



Dr. Thomas Augustine was born February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1777. He was a surgeon's mate in the U.S. Army from Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>, 1793 to 1798 when he resigned. On April 4<sup>th</sup> 1801 Thomas A. married Sarah Terrell Lewis, and his brother William C.C. Claiborne married her sister, Eliza Wilson Lewis of Nashville in a double ceremony. William Lewis and Sarah Martin were parents of the brides. William and Mary (Leigh) Claiborne of Sussex County, VA were parents of the grooms. Sarah Terrell Lewis was born in North Carolina, and died in 1809 at "Windsor" near Nashville, TN.

In 1803 when the City of Nashville was incorporated, Thomas A. represented Davidson County in the Tennessee House of Representatives from 1803-05. He was commissioned as a Justice of the Peace in 1804.<sup>iv</sup> In 1806 the County of Davidson made provision for the building of a jail. Among the three Commissioners responsible for this project was Dr. Thomas A. Claiborne.<sup>v</sup> In 1806 he was one of the representatives of the United States who signed a treaty with the Chickasaw Indians and in 1808 he signed a treaty with the Choctaw Indians. Later he served as a physician at "Windsor" about 2 miles from Nashville. After his first wife's death in 1809 Thomas A. married Isabella Charlotte Hutchins Wooldridge and moved to Natches, MS. later that year. Charlotte died 6/12/1816 in Natches, MS. Dr. Thomas A. Claiborne died in New Orleans 1817.<sup>vi</sup>

The third Secretary William Claiborne descendent to find himself in Nashville in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century was Maj. Thomas Burnell Claiborne. The youngest of the three men, Thomas was born in 1780 in Brunswick County Virginia and died in



Nashville in 1856 at 76 years of age. Thomas was a 7<sup>th</sup> generation Claiborne in this order of individuals - Col. William Claiborne 1<sup>st</sup>, Thomas 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, Leonard 4<sup>th</sup>, Burnell 5<sup>th</sup>, Thomas Burnell 6<sup>th</sup>, and Maj. Thomas Burnell, 7<sup>th</sup> .

Maj. Thomas Burnell Claiborne's father, Thomas Burnell, was born at "Fox Castle", Dinwiddie County, VA. February 1, 1747. He married Mary Clayton who was born Nov. 11, 1755 in Brunswick County and died there in 1802. After a second marriage he settled in Suffock where he passed away in 1811.<sup>vii</sup>

Maj. Thomas Burnell married first Hannah Hicks in November of 1805 in Brunswick County, VA. She died at the age of 19 in 1808. Thomas B. married his second wife, Sarah Martin (Lewis) King on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 1812. Together they had 11 children. Sarah Martin (Lewis) King was the daughter of Col. Joel and Miriam Eastam Lewis <sup>viii</sup> and was, most probably, a cousin or a niece, the daughter of a brother of Eliza Wilson Lewis or Sarah Terrell Lewis who married Thomas's cousins, W. C.C. and Thomas Augustine Claiborne nearly 11 years earlier.

Thomas B. Claiborne commenced the practice of Law in Nashville in 1807. He was a 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant and Aid-de-camp to Brig. Gen. Thomas Johnson in the West TN Militia in 1814 against the Creek Indians. He represented Davidson County in the Tennessee Assembly from 1811 to 1815, was Mayor of Nashville and Grand Master Mason in 1813-1814.<sup>ix</sup> In 1816 Thomas Claiborne Esq. chaired a meeting to form a committee to investigate bringing steam boats to Nashville, and for creating a committee for getting it done.<sup>x</sup> At this date we know that all references to Thomas Claiborne referred to Thomas Burnell Claiborne, since Thomas Augustine Claiborne had left the area. Thomas B. was a member of the Congress of the United States from Tennessee from 1817-19 and again from 1831-1833.<sup>xi</sup> He was one of six Aldermen of Nashville in 1819.<sup>xii</sup> He then resumed the practice of Law in Nashville. In January of 1821 Thomas B. was elected trustee of the Nashville Bank. He was a trustee of Davidson Academy (later University of Nashville) from 1815 to 1824.<sup>xiii</sup> The last mention that I recorded from the History of Nashville (1890) of Thomas Burnell Claiborne was that in 1848 he was a member of a Committee of three to raise a monument to soldiers who had fallen at the storming of Monterrey, Mexico.<sup>xiv</sup> Thomas died in 1856 ending a career of public service spanning roughly 40 years.

A brief look at early Tennessee history and the city of Nashville before the Civil War, and following our focus on the Claiborne's service may help to illuminate the importance of their contributions. The first colony, settled in Nashville in 1780, was led by James Robertson. This colony included 60 to 80 families living in log cabins scattered around the area.<sup>xv</sup> By 1781 a County Court for Davidson was fixed at Nashboro, N.C. (in honor of General Nash). By 1784 the General Assembly of North Carolina changed the name from Nashboro to Nashville and by 1803 the first Court House had been built.<sup>xvi</sup> In 1811 Nashville was divided into 6 Wards with 2 Aldermen for each Ward. The population numbered about 1,100.<sup>xvii</sup>

By 1821 Nashville was becoming a growing community as a center of trade and commerce. The city fathers realized that steam boats connecting Nashville with the Mississippi River traffic and ultimately the port of New Orleans represented a great commercial opportunity.

At least one newspaper the Nashville Whig was operating. Therein were voiced complaints against Sunday tippling – folks wanted to prohibit sale of "spirits" in the numerous tippling houses and grocery stores on the Sabbath. The question of street lighting became a hot topic and oil lamps were brought in and installed for the purpose.

The next three decades could be called the era of the steam boat with packet boats initially racing up and down from Nashville to New Orleans in three weeks, and finally down to a little over five days by the late 1840's. By then Nashville had a population of around 5,566 of whom 1,108 were slaves and 204 were free blacks.<sup>xviii</sup>

All during this period Packet boats plied the waters of the Cumberland and Mississippi. One well known boat was the Red Rover whose Captain was Merrit S. Pilcher. Colonel H.L. Claiborne was his clerk<sup>xix</sup> - as yet his relationship to other Claiborne's is here unidentified - and remains an opportunity for further Claiborne research.

During this same period, town fathers were busily engaging in turnpike construction to further build Nashville's growth and importance as the premier commercial hub of Middle Tennessee. Stage lines went from Nashville to Memphis, from Charlotte, Reynoldsburg, Huntingdon, Jackson, Bolivar, Summerville and Raleigh. By the 1850's it was clear that railroads were the coming mode of transportation. In 1854 the Nashville to Chattanooga railroad was in operation.<sup>xx</sup>

One further aspect of the Claiborne men which we have followed from the late 18<sup>th</sup> until the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century deserves attention. That seems to me to be their attention to family. By this I mean the effort to keep in touch with relatives - family - brothers, or cousins, or more distant kin, and to offer support for them where possible – finding employment opportunities, networking both for both political and family connections. Here we see the earliest immigrant from the Virginia Claiborne family to Tennessee, William C.C. Claiborne, most likely encouraging his brother Thomas Augustine to follow. You can almost hear the description of the new and unoccupied land offering myriad opportunities for establishing new family fortunes and providing leadership opportunities. After all, the heritage of this Virginia family set many examples of leadership in public service beginning with Secretary William Claiborne and running through various individuals composing the six generations including William C.C., Thomas A. and Thomas B. in the 7<sup>th</sup>. This tendency of

family solidarity was additionally shown by the marriage of these three men to two sisters and a likely cousin from the same family. Surely this speaks to visits and, or letters back and forth from Virginia and North Carolina to Tennessee, perhaps even before it's statehood in the early days of William C.C. Claiborne's efforts, and during its establishment as a state and the early years following. Likely there are still descendants in Nashville of one or more of these three early residents of the Nashville area who did so much to bring their state towards the success which it enjoys to this day. It would be exciting to hear their tales on more of their ancestor's adventures and contributions.

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Footnotes:

- i Dorman, John Frederick and Smith, Claiborne T. Claiborne of Virginia: Descendants of Colonel William Claiborne, the First Eight Generations; Gateway Press, 1995, pp. 280-287; 453-457; 465-466.
- ii Bissell, Lolita Hannah, Cliborn-Claiborne Records, Williams Printing Company, Nashville, TN 1968, pp. 250-253.
- iii Dorman, *Ibid.* pp. 453-457.
- iv Dorman, *Ibid.* pp. 465, 466.
- v History of Nashville, Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church for H.W. Crew; Barbee and Smith Agents, Nashville, TN 1890. p. 112.
- vi *Ibid.* Dorman.
- vii *Ibid.* Dorman, p. 283.
- viii *Ibid.* Dorman, p. 287.
- ix *Ibid.* Dorman.
- x *Ibid.* History of Nashville, p. 119.
- xi *Ibid.* Dorman.
- xii *Ibid.* History of Nashville, p. 103.
- xiii *Ibid.* Dorman.
- xiv *Ibid.* History of Nashville, p. 178.
- xv *Ibid.* p. 96.
- xvi *Ibid.* p. 88.
- xvii *Ibid.* pp. 103-112.
- xviii *Ibid.* p. 119.
- xix *Ibid.* p. 312.
- xx *Ibid.* p. 330.



Maj. Thomas Burnell Claiborne  
(1780 – 1856)

Major Claiborne in 1814 dressed in his Mason Lodge uniform. He was the first Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee Free and Accepted Masons.

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## Tennessee and Democracy

Source: Tennessee State Museum

Website: <http://www.tnmuseum.org/>

Collected by Patricia Clayborn

After the War of 1812, Tennesseans led the nation towards a new and more democratic kind of politics. President Andrew Jackson, his supporters, and his opponents played important roles in this change. Many voters were no longer willing to elect rich men whose chief qualifications for office were their social status and powerful friends. Instead, they looked for candidates who would best protect the interests of common people. Jackson was a great example of a person who rose from humble beginnings to great success. While a young man, Jackson moved from South Carolina to the Tennessee frontier. In Nashville, he prospered, growing wealthy and gaining political offices...

The experiences of **Thomas Burnell Claiborne** show the importance of earning voters' trust. Claiborne decided to run for a seat in the Tennessee House of Representatives in 1831. Claiborne had previously served two terms in the Tennessee House and had been elected mayor of Nashville. It seemed like he would win easily, and Claiborne at first did little campaigning. Then, people started to say he was "too proud to mix with the common people" and that he favored property requirements for voting. In response, Claiborne argued that these charges were false and that he was running for office to fight corruption in the state court system. Voters accepted this, electing Claiborne to the House.



## Colonel Thomas Claiborne (1823 – 1911)

### Son of Major Thomas Burnell Claiborne and Sarah Martin (Lewis) King Claiborne

From the book "Confederate Veteran" Editor: S.A. Cunningham. Vol. XXI. Nashville, TN 1913. Page 302.

Collected by Patricia Clayborn

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## Confederate Veteran.

### COL. THOMAS CLAIBORNE.

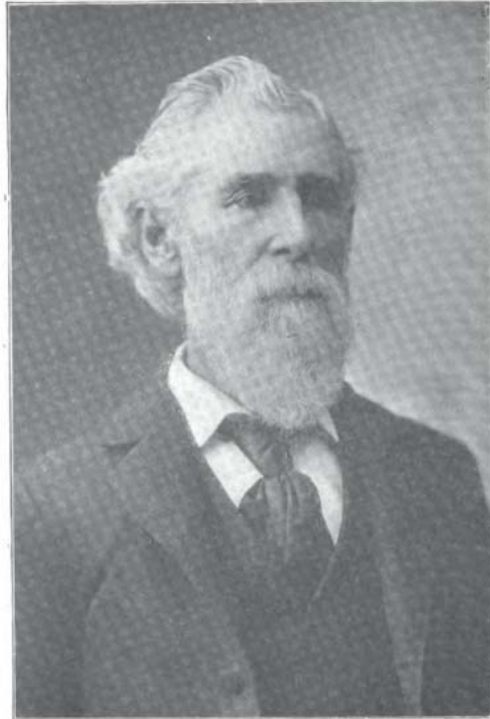
Col. Thomas Claiborne was born in Nashville, Tenn., June 20, 1823, and was admitted to the bar of Nashville in 1843. The same year he moved to Trenton, in West Tennessee, where he practiced law and afterwards edited the Trenton True American until after Mr. Polk was elected President. He then went to Washington City and accepted a position in the Register's office, where he remained until the 27th of May, 1864, when he became second lieutenant of Company B in the regiment of mounted rifles which had just been recruited for the war in Mexico and which was sent to the scene of action via New Orleans.

This regiment landed at Vera Cruz under General Scott, and was engaged seventeen days in the siege of that place. The night before the battle of Cerro Gordo young Claiborne was promoted to first lieutenant of Company C, and the next day (April 17) led his company as a part of Twigg's Division in the charge up Atlix Hill. At Jalapa he served against the guerrillas and was stationed at Perote Castle. At Huermantla on October 9 he was brevetted captain, his captain, Sam H. Walker, being killed there. He served in various expeditions and was in numerous battles and skirmishes until the close of hostilities.

After this he remained in the United States army until the beginning of the War of the States, when he resigned and went to Richmond to tender his services to the Confederacy. He had been fourteen years in the army when he resigned on May 14, 1861. Reaching Richmond July 1, he was sent to Winchester and placed on the staff of Joseph E. Johnston, and was later appointed by him lieutenant colonel and given charge of the 1st Kentucky Battalion. He was afterwards transferred to the staff of General Johnston as Assistant Inspector General of the Army of Northern Virginia, and then joined Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston at Bowling Green, who made him assistant inspector general of his department. He was also appointed provost marshal of the army by General Johnston from Murfreesboro to Corinth, where he was made colonel of cavalry, and served two and a half months, when he went on General Beauregard's staff at Tupelo. When Bragg relieved Beauregard, who had commanded the army after General Johnston's death, Colonel Claiborne was placed by General Hardee in charge of the impedimenta of the army, and he conveyed it from Tupelo to Chattanooga in time for Bragg to go into Kentucky. Later Colonel Claiborne joined the staff of General Buckner at Chattanooga, and served with him in the Kentucky campaign. Returning to Knoxville, he was made chief of cavalry of his department. He was at Perryville and was also in the battle of Murfreesboro, serving there with Hardee, and at Chickamauga with Buckner on the first day, and on the second day of the battle, the 20th of September, with Longstreet. Accompanying Buckner to Mobile, he remained with him until transferred to the Trans-Mississippi Department, where he served as assistant inspector general of the department under Gen. Kirby Smith until the surrender.

Colonel Claiborne was a gallant and efficient officer, and among many evidences of the esteem in which he was held is the commendation of his gallant conduct in the battle of Murfreesboro found in the official correspondence of General Hardee, as well as the flattering words of friendly appreciation expressed in a personal letter from General Buckner.

Since the war Colonel Claiborne had lived in and near Nashville. He was the last survivor of the Mounted Rifles.



COL. THOMAS CLAIBORNE.

Colonel Claiborne's father was the son of Maj. Thomas Claiborne, of Nashville, and the grandson of Col. Thomas Claiborne, who served in the first Congress of the United States, and he was the descendant of William Claiborne, Secretary of the Colony of Virginia in 1621. On his mother's side he was descended from the Lewis family of Virginia and North Carolina. His grandfather, with twenty-one kinsmen in his regiment, led the attack at King's Mountain and was wounded. He and two others Lyman C. Draper, in his "Heroes of King's Mountain," mentions as "a magnificent triumvirate of men." Colonel Claiborne was a Royal Arch Mason. He died April 23, 1911, at his residence, in Nashville.





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**Claibornes of Hickman County Tennessee:  
Correspondence from Linda King in response to questions  
regarding the Claibornes of Tennessee**

From Linda King

My direct Clayborn family actually settled in Hickman County, Tennessee as early as 1809, through at least 1852, before they went west. Hickman County is actually considered part of the Nashville-Davidson metro area. I believe this Leonard Claiborne (who I believe to be the Leonard that went down to GA, and lived in South Carolina), was mentioned in the Bissell book, with a note that nothing was known of this line, to be my 4th-great grandfather. I've reached out to a cousin in this area, who has written a book including detail on this settlement in the Sugar Creek area, of Hickman County. Most of Hickman's early vital records have not survived, and I have visited briefly to see the area and visit the small historical society room. The descendants that stayed in the area were descendant from Mariam Claiborne Dunaway (my George's sister). This Leonard is rumored to be buried in the Claiborne cemetery in Hickman (located in a remote area of the county.) All of these families are in deed records together in Greenville, SC, to Hickman Co., TN (Reeves, Forrester, Claiborne, and Dunaway).

There is a record of a Thomas Claiborne as a church member with my George Claiborne in Hickman in 1850, but I personally doubt that this is the same Thomas Claiborne, Jr. from Nashville [as depicted in the picture sent in by Clai Bachmann]. I think it is more likely that they are cousins. For one thing, Thomas' children in the Hickman census in 1850 do not match the Thomas' children from Nashville ages. The cousin mentioned above also makes the same observation in his book. On a side note to the pictures of Thomas & Sara Lewis King Claiborne, my dad's adopted King line is another Virginia family, documented in the King & Lee families of Virginia, so there could be a link to my adopted line as well!

As this DNA line is Family 1 (William), it would be great if we could weave in some of this story with the Nashville presentation. I'd be happy to make contact with the cousin above, as some of the other relatives live in the area that are active in the history of Hickman, with a couple living in the Nashville area. As this family line is not documented, there is still considerable work to be done (Doug Edgemon, my cousin is also researching this line), to verify and document, as I have reached out to several who all have a little bit of information. In anticipation of our upcoming Nashville Reunion, I could certainly write up some of what I have and ask the cousin if he'd mind if I use (and credit) some of his research.

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**Who's Who in Tennessee Published 1911**

Collected by Patricia Clayborn

**WHO'S WHO  
IN TENNESSEE**

A BIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCE  
BOOK OF NOTABLE  
TENNESSEANS  
OF TO-DAY



MEMPHIS:  
PAUL & DOUGLASS CO., PUBLISHERS  
1911

CLAIBORNE, WILLIAM B., father and Justice of Peace of Haywood Co., Tenn.; born Gibson Co., Tenn., Dec. 6, 1833; Scotch-Irish descent; son of Thomas B. and Mary Ann (Maxwell) Claiborne; father's occupation farmer and merchant; paternal grandfather George Claiborne, paternal grandmother Nancy (Robertson) Claiborne, maternal grandfather Jesse Maxwell, maternal grandmother Ann (Armstrong) Maxwell; received common school education; married Rebecca Haywood Johnson May 21, 1863; member Masons; member State Senate Tennessee General Assembly 1897-1901, and extra session of 1898; Sergeant Co. M. 7th Tennessee Cavalry Confederate States Army 1861-5; is now Justice of Peace Eighth district Haywood Co., Tenn.; member of M. E. church, South, and active in Sunday school work.

CLAIBORNE, JOHN H., retired merchant; born Ray county, Mo., Oct. 20, 1838; Scotch-Irish or English descent; son of Oty T. and Mourning (Burgess) Claiborne; father's occupation farmer, merchant; received common school education; in early life worked on a farm, and taught two public schools; enlisted in Federal army at Boston, Ky., March 10, 1862; served as first lieutenant, Company "F," Sixth Tenn. Infantry, and went through campaign to fall of Atlanta, Ga.; returned to Nashville and was in battle there; mustered out of service at Nashville, Tenn., March 28, 1865; served on detached duty as quartermaster-sergeant, brigadier-commissary, aide-de-camp of General Joseph Cooper; married Martha J. Kilbourne, Dec. 5, 1867; former member of Masons; was fourth-class postmaster at Well Spring, Tenn. (commissioned in the "Eighties") till office was discontinued in 1905; formerly engaged in the mercantile business, now retired; member of the Methodist church.

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## John Herbert Claiborne, MD 1828-1905

By Susan Rura

### I. Memorabilia of Civil War surgeon, Dr. John Herbert Claiborne.

We recall the 2013 Richmond Reunion where the Claiborne Society toured notable Civil War sites and memorials from Richmond southward and into Petersburg. We tried to capture the emotion and anxiety of the Siege of Petersburg and those last days before the Fall of Richmond which preceded the end of the War Between the States.

In Petersburg we visited Blandford Cemetery where Dr. John Herbert Claiborne is buried. Dr. Claiborne was ordered in 1862 to establish a hospital for wounded soldiers and became the executive officer of the Confederacy for all military hospitals in Petersburg. At the end, he evacuated with the army and surrendered at Appomattox Court House but continued as a prominent physician until his death in 1905.

A great-grandson of Dr. Claiborne and wife Annie Watson has memorabilia that belonged to this Claiborne family. He can no longer keep these items but only wants to distribute within the circle of Claiborne descendants. If you have any interest in acquiring these heritage pieces, many with established provenance, contact Robert Holden at [robertwillisholden@gmail.com](mailto:robertwillisholden@gmail.com).

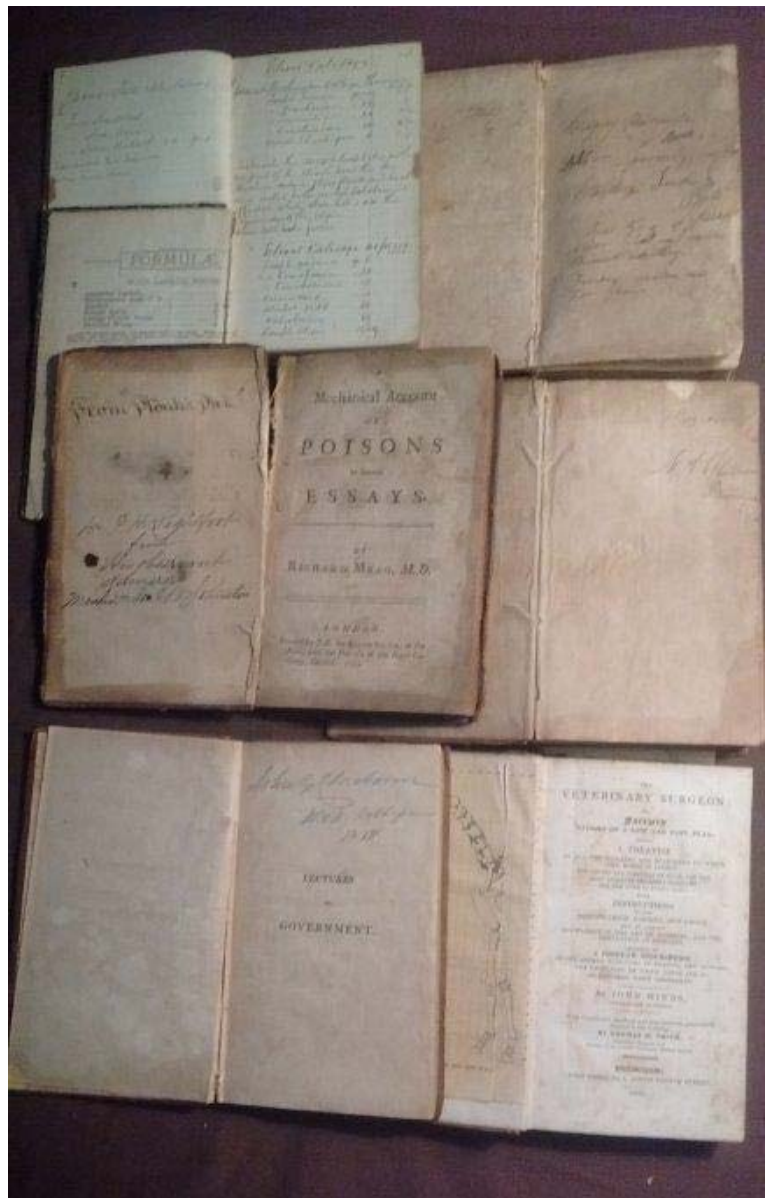
Listed below is part of the Inventory of his Letters, Books, and Artifacts.

### II. LETTERS

1. Taped envelope, "John Gregory Letters": "His Letter W John Herbert Claiborne", "Dec. 18, 1871"; "Receipt 1845" Both are in the envelope.
2. Nine envelopes with letters, "1918"(most), "1935", "1966"
3. "July 18, 1947" "Virginia Gazette" supplement about Williamsburg

### III. BOOKS:

1. The Family Doctor... by a physician of Philadelphia 1854
2. The Family Flora and materia medica botanica..., Peter P. Good 1852, signed Tho Herbert Claiborne Petersburg ctj lg 1852 \$5.00
3. Resources of the Southern fields and forests... MEDICAL BOTANY OF THE CONFEDERATE STATES; with... 1863, signed Tho Herbert Claiborne. C S Horpt. Petersburg Va.
4. (told to belong to Dr John Herbert Claiborne) medical notebook of recipes treatments
5. A Mechanical Account of Poisons in several essays by Richard Mead MD London 1702 signed for P H Lightfoot from his obsessant admirer March 2nd d1881 ? W Johnston
6. Twenty-Eighth Thousane Youatt on The structure, and the Diseases of the Horse, with their remedies 1856 signed Rev Herbert Claiborne Petersburg
7. Hines Farbbiery 1830
8. Tytler's History 1830 signed M A Claiborne Brunswick Co Va
9. Lectures on Government 1817 signed John G Claiborne Wm & Mary College 1818





10. Libre Primus signed Gregory Claibornes book formerly but not Sterling Tuckers book Avoid lying if possible, never steal, and seldom commit adultery. Drinking maker nev? Their friends

11. Attributed to be Stephen West Holden's (Doll's husband): Rare copy of The Holden Genealogy 1923, inherited from my father John Gregory Holden (named from John Gregory Claiborne obelisk at Blandford Cemetery)

#### IV. ARTIFACTS

A. Told to be AW's [Annie Watson]: sterling Steiff ladle with "C" old English; a partial collection of 7 pieces American brilliant period cut crystal about <7" x <7" x < 3" each; and more.

B. Told to be grandmother Donald Claiborne Holden's ([called] Doll) wedding silver:

1. Monogrammed "DCH" sterling: 9 inch round low-footed filigree tray; Steiff Rose 2 sporks they called runcible spoons; 6 dinner forks rare pieces, longer, heavier than most; 6 iced tea spoons.

2. Matching but no monogram sterling/stainless: 12 dinner knives; 11 fruit knives we called steak knives; 1 pie server.





## The Claiborne-Hatcher Connection

By Deb Peabody

William Hatcher is believed to have been born at Careby Manor, the ancient home of the Hatcher Family, in Careby, Lincolnshire, England June 14, 1614. Proof of much of his pedigree was lost to fire at the Church of St. Stephen in Careby in the 16th century. His marriage to Marian (Mary Ann) Newport is recorded on 27 December, 1632 at Ogburne St. George Parish Church, Wiltshire, England. Many other old Hatcher family records may also be found in the archives in Stamford.

William came to Colonial America as a traveling companion and friend of the Parliamentarian, Henry Vane the Younger, in about 1635. He settled in Henrico County, Virginia. William received a land grant of 200 acres in Henrico County, near the land of Pearse and Mary Box, for himself and the importation of Alice Emmerton, Richard Radford and John Winchester. ( Deeds: Virginia Land Patent Book #1, Part 1, page 40: 1 June 1636). The very next year, he received another land grant of 850 acres for transporting the same three people! (Book #1, page 433) The land grant office in Richmond records 150 more acres (Book #1, page 559) and another 227 acres Book #6, page 529). The Hatcher family was quite prosperous and well to do in Henrico County. It is not surprising that William became involved in politics. He served as a member of the House of Burgesses in 1644, 1645, 1646, 1649, 1652 and 1654. He was known as an outspoken man of high temper and was disciplined due to the following incident:

“Order of the House of Burgesses. November 1654. Whereas Coll Edward Hill, unanimously chosen speaker of this house, was afterwards maliciously reported by William Hatcher to be an atheist and blasphemer... And forasmuch as the said William Hatcher... hath also reported, That the mouth of this house was a Devil... It is therefore ordered by this house, that the said William Hatcher, upon his knees, make an humble acknowledgment of this offence unto the said Coll Edward Hill and Burgesses of this Assembly; which accordingly was performed, and then he, the said Hatcher, dismiss paying his fees.”

William Hatcher was again a Burgess in March 1658-9. This may have been his last public service.

He was later disciplined for his part in Bacon's Rebellion:

Court Hearing of March 15, 1676: At a court held by the Governor and Council, March 15, 1676-7:

"William Hatcher being brought forth before the court for uttering divers mutinous words tending to the disquiett of this his Majesty's country, and it being evidently made appeare what was layd to his charge by divers oaths, and a Jury being impanelled to assesse the damages, who bring the verdict that they award te said Hatcher to pay ten thousand pounds of tobacco and caske, which verdict of the jury this honourable court doth confirme; but in respect the said Hatcher is an aged man, the court doth order that the said Hatcher doe pay with all expedition eight thousand pounds of drest pork unto his Majestie's commander of his forces in Henrico county, for the supply of the souldiers, which if he fayle to doe, that he pay eight thousand pounds of tobacco and caske the next cropp, and pay costs."

Governor Sir William Berkeley

William and Marian Newport Hatcher had six children, Edward, Sr., William, Jr., Henry, Sr., Jane, Benjamin, Sr. and Susannah. Henry was born in 1637, and married Ann Lound, daughter of Henry and Ann Lound in 1660. They had five children, Ann, Henry, Jr., Mary, William and Martha. Henry Hatcher, Sr. died in 1677, at the age of forty. His brothers shared their part of William the Immigrant's estate with Henry's children.

Henry's daughter, Mary Hatcher, was born in 1672 and married Edward Tanner, Sr. They had seven children, Edward, Jr., John, Joseph, Ann, Martha, Mary and Elizabeth.

Edward Tanner, Jr. married Judith (LNU). One of their children, Robert Tanner, was born in Amelia County, Virginia in 1725.

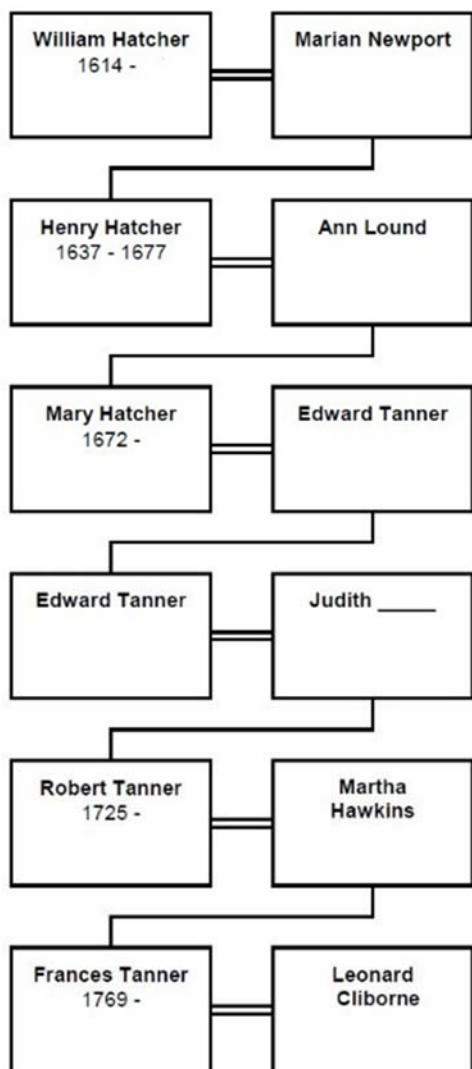
Robert Tanner married Martha Hawkins. They had eight children. Their daughter, Frances, was born in 1769.

Frances (Fanny) Tanner, was married 27 November 1788 in Amelia County to Leonard Cliborne of Chesterfield County, Virginia. This colorful connection to Colonial America is supported by the National Society of Colonial Dames.

## Leonard Cliborne 1759-1839

By Patricia Clayborn

### Descent from William Hatcher to Frances Tanner



Deb Peabody has given us an intriguing glimpse of colonial life at the time of Bacon's Rebellion. It appears that William Hatcher was arguing for personal, political and religious freedom long before the American Revolution. "Neck of Land" and "Turkey Island" near Jamestown were early possessions of the Hatcher Family, and Nathaniel Bacon lived nearby at his plantation called "Curles." Thomas Shippey, another Cliborne ancestor, was their close neighbor at Bermuda Hundred.

The Leonard Cliborne and Frances Tanner that Deb Peabody mentions lived during the Revolution. Clai Bachmann has written about Leonard Cliborne as follows:

"Eliza Frances Claiborne, my great grandmother, was my last ancestor with the name of Claiborne. This spelling of the Cliborn name appears to me to have been adopted by our family at least around the time of my great, great, great grandfather, Leonard Claiborne of Chesterfield who married Frances Tanner from Amelia County. It may have been her influence which brought this name change as Leonard's father, Jonas's, name is usually spelled Cliborn. Shortly after the Revolutionary War, in which Leonard participated as part of the Virginia Militia, he married Frances and they settled in Buckingham. They had my great, great grandfather John Tanner Claiborne who married Sarah Ann Bransford."

You may read Clai's complete article in the Fall 2014 edition of the Claiborne Society Newsletter.

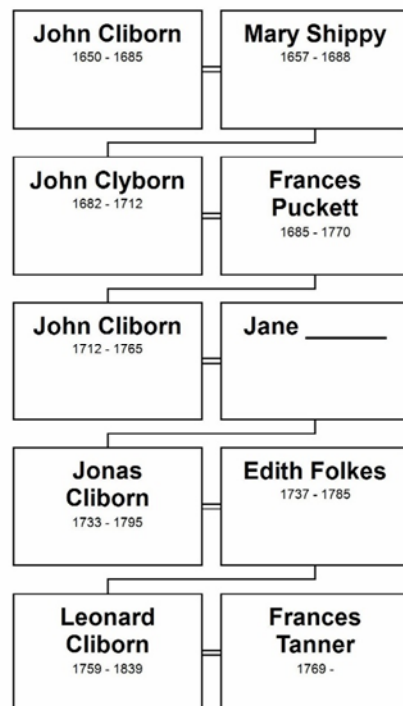
Leonard was descended from John Cliborn (circa 1650-1685) of Bermuda Hundred, who served as Constable for Henrico County. John was married to Mary Shippey, daughter of Thomas Shippey. When John drowned in 1685, Benjamin Hatcher, the son of William Hatcher, was appointed Constable in his place.

The name Cliborn first appeared in the Bermuda Hundred/Henrico land records in the will of Henry Walthall as "Clyborns or the Ridge where

Clyborn lived." There was also a reference to a "Clyborn Plantation" located where the Appomattox River meets the James River.

John's grandson, John Cliborn "John of Dale Parish" (c1712-1766) sold 200 acres of his land on Winterpock Creek in Chesterfield County to his sons Jonas and John in 1765. Jonas Cliborn (c1733-1795) owned property both on Winterpock Creek and on Sappony Creek. James Cliborn (c1765-1838) son of Jonas, owned property on Winterpock Creek, Sappony Creek, Horsepen Creek and Deep Creek.

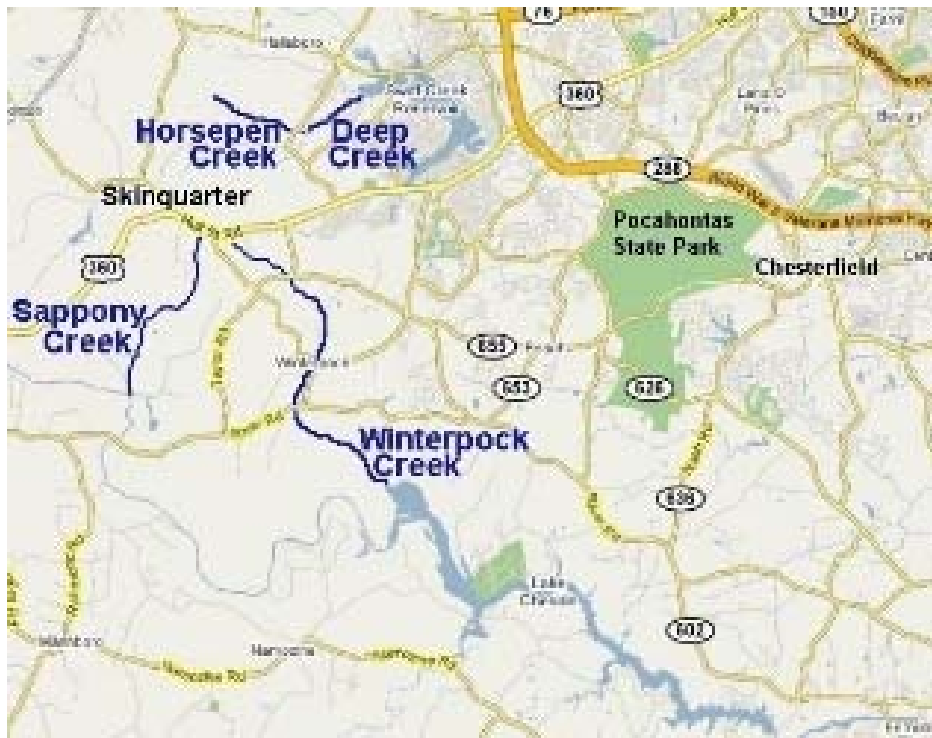
### Descent from John Cliborn to Leonard Cliborn







“Neck of Land” and “Turkey Island” near Jamestown were early possessions of the Hatcher Family, and Nathaniel Bacon lived nearby at his plantation called “Curles.” Thomas Shippey, another Cliborne ancestor, was their close neighbor at Bermuda Hundred.



John Cliborn “John of Dale Parish” (c1712-1766) sold 200 acres of his land on Winterpock Creek in Chesterfield County to his sons Jonas and John in 1765. Jonas Cliborn (c1733-1795) owned property both on Winterpock Creek and on Sappony Creek. James Cliborn (c1765-1838) son of Jonas, owned property on Winterpock Creek, Sappony Creek, Horsepen Creek and Deep Creek.

Lolita Hannah Bissell, in her book "Cliborn-Claiborne Records" has identified Leonard Cliborne's Revolutionary War Pension record as follows:

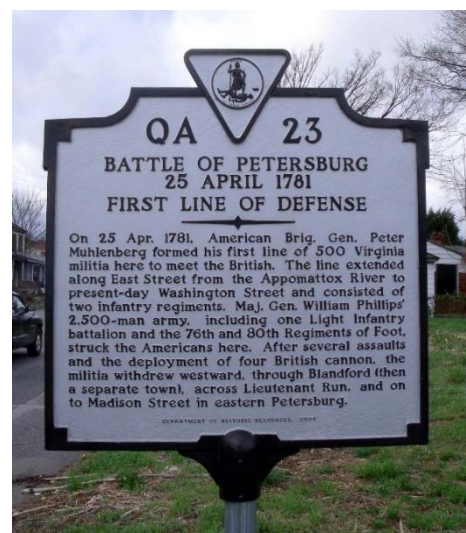
**Revolutionary War Record  
CLAIBORNE (CLIBORNE), Leonard (Wife is Frances). W.3388.**

State of Virginia, and County of Chesterfield

On this 14th day of April 1834 personally appeared in open Court before county court for Chesterfield county the court now setting, **Leonard Claiborne**, now a resident in the County of Buckingham, but was borne & raised in the County of Chesterfield, and was a resident of said County until after the Revolutionary War, aged 73 years, who being first duly sworn according to law, doth on his oath make the following declaration, in order to obtain the benefit of the act of Congress passed June 7th 1832. That he entered the services of the United States under the following named officers, and served as herein stated, viz, that he in the year 1779 in the month of April entered the service under Capt. Creed Haskins, Lieutenant John Robertson, the name of the Ensign not recollected, and marched to Ware Bottom Church [E of Chester in Chesterfield County] and crossed the James River, thence to the Byrd's, to Westover and recrossed the river, thence down the river and crossed and went to Williamsburg and stayed some time in the barracks, and from thence we marched to York and there was discharged. Col. Robert Goode Commanded the Regiment. Served two months this tour. Again entered the service in the fall 1780, joined a volunteer Company commanded by Capt. Creed Haskins, the subalterns not recollected, but thinks that John Trabue was one. We marched from Chesterfield Court house to Randolph's mill in said County, from thence through Petersburg, Prince George, Nansemond and the low counties to Smithfield and from thence to Cabin Point on the James River in Surry County, and from Cabin Point up to the burnt mills from thence to Petersburg and there was discharged. Served two months this tour.

Again, sometime in April 1781 entered the service as a substitute for Joel Foulks [Joel was the brother of the Edith Folks who married Jonas Cliborn, father of Leonard] near Blackwater Swamp, under the command of Capt. Henry Cheatham and Lieutenant John Harmer, if my memory serves me right. Arnold and Phillips [Generals Benedict Arnold and William Phillips] drove us up to Petersburg, there had a fight with the British [**The Battle of Petersburg**]. The night before the fight we lay upon our arms. Major Holt prepared us for battle the next day, the 25th of April the battle commenced, and we were taken from where we were then and marched down the river below Pocahontas and prepared for battle. Part of the company went down the river and fired on the boats of the British. Then they drove us up to the Court House. On the 26th Col Goode was called out with the militia and met us at Chesterfield Court House, about this time Foulks took his place and I took my own under Capt. Creed Haskins. After taking my own place under Capt. Creed Haskins we marched to the [Midlothian] coal pits and crossed the river at Tuckahoe, from thence to Richmond, to Bottom bridges (whilst there the pressmen tried to press Capt. Creed Haskin's horse) and then was discharged. Served fifteen days as substitute for Foulks and 15 days for myself making one month in the whole time.

Also in May 1781 about the 20th of said month, we were called out under Capt. Creed Haskins, Lieutenant John Robertson, and Col Goode. We marched to Manchester and formed on the hill and drew some guns. The British then in Richmond, burnt Rocky Ridge warehouse. We marched from there to Col. Cary's, thence by Cary's mill while they were burning to swift creek mills and there stationed until the British left Richmond, and then marched to Petersburg from there to Mackey's Mills and discharged; served about six weeks in this tour. Sometime in the summer after defeat at Sudbury's [3 mi NW of Chesterfield on 23, May 1781] we were again called out under Capt. Archer Walthall [Archibald Walthall] and met at Chesterfield Court House and marched to Manchester and crossed the river, thence down to the brick house [on York River in New Kent County] or West Point, and thence down to Hubbard's Old Field in Gloucester, and there stationed awhile. Then to Middlesex to the Cold spring and returned to Hubbard's Old field and thence to Gloucester Court House. Whilst at Gloucester Court House an alarm was given and we were prepared for action. Whilst at Gloucester Court House there was called for two Companies of light infantry to go down upon the lines and some riflemen. Whilst there the British came for Parson Price. When we marched to the lines the main army marched back to Hubbard's Old Field where they were discharged. As I was on the lines under Capt. Buck and Major Wicks, they kept me and those with me three weeks longer. Field officers not recollected except Col. Monroe. Served this tour two months and 21 days. Served 8 months and 27 days in the whole. He hereby relinquishes every claim to a pension whatsoever, or annuity except the present, and declares that his name is not on the pension roll of the agency of any state.



~ Leonard Cliborne.

William Goode, pension application S8581, certified that he and Claiborne "were boys together," and that they had served together on the first tour.

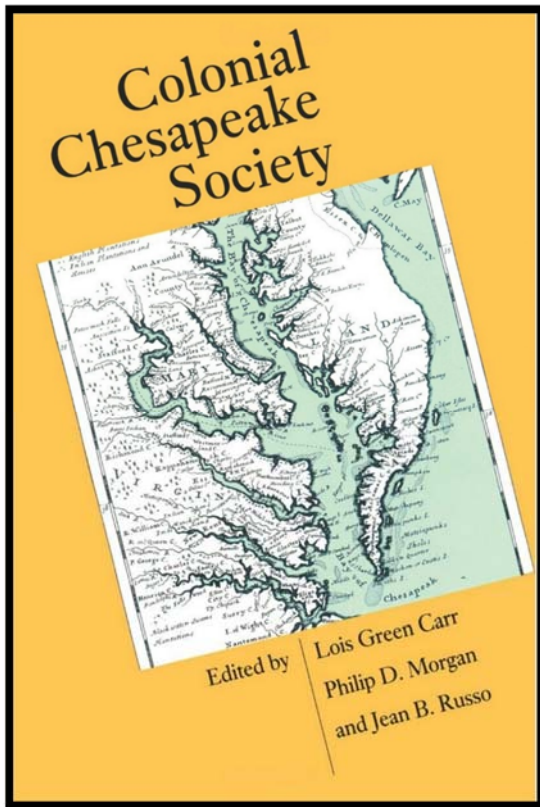
NOTE: On 31 May 1843 Frances Claiborne, 76, of Buckingham County, applied for a pension stating that she married Leonard Claiborne on 27 Nov 1788, and he died 9 Dec 1839. Her statement was certified by Thomas O. Claiborne. The file contains a copy of a bond signed in Amelia County VA on 13 Nov 1788 by "Leonard Cleborne" and Robert Tanner for the marriage of the former to Fanny Tanner. On 4 Nov 1848 Frances Claiborne was said to be 80.

Reference: Lolita Hannah Bissell. "Cliborn-Claiborne Records." Williams Printing. Nashville, Tennessee. 1986.  
[http://www.claibornesociety.org/publications/Cliborn-Claiborne\\_Records\\_Order\\_Form.pdf](http://www.claibornesociety.org/publications/Cliborn-Claiborne_Records_Order_Form.pdf)



## Claiborne Related Reading

From Heath Claiborne Boyer



I thought I would pass along two books with interesting Claiborne stuff that I have not seen referenced in the Newsletter:

**“Colonial Chesapeake Society”** by Carr, Morgan & Russo, eds; 1988 UNC Press. The first essay, **“Merging and Emerging Worlds Anglo-Indian Interest Groups and the Development of the 17th Century Chesapeake”** is by J. Frederick Fausz and its main focus is on William Claiborne. Fausz makes the case that William was a successful and influential “multi-culturalist.” The essay runs from page 47 to 97.

Professor Fausz is widely quoted and noted in more recent books on early Colonial history and he may already be known to the Claiborne Society, but in case he is not, I also stumbled on a list of other articles by him about the early Chesapeake, which I plan to look into. I’ve attached them for convenience of anyone similarly interested.

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Articles by Professor J. Frederick Fausz  
Associate Professor of American History at the  
University of Missouri-St. Louis

**6511)**

Fausz, J. Frederick. "The Seventeenth-Century Experience: An Introduction." Maryland Historical Magazine 79 (Spring 1984); 3-6.

Annotations / Notes:  
Fausz's introduction to a special issue of the Maryland Historical Magazine on the occasion

of the 350<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Maryland colony notes that there has been a renaissance in seventeenth-century Chesapeake studies, notable for the range of topics about early colonial life being investigated. The unique quality of seventeenth-century experience consisted in the ambivalence created by heritage and ties to the homeland culture of England, yet the significant adaptation required to New World conditions. The introduction sets the stage for articles by Lois Green Carr on political developments, John D. Kruger on religion, and Russell R. Menard on social and economic trends. Category: County and Local History | Society, Social Change, Folklife, and Popular Culture | Seventeenth Century | Chesapeake Region

**6512)**

Fausz, J. Frederick. "To Draw Thither the Trade of Beavers': The Strategic Significance of the English Fur Trade in the Chesapeake, 1620- 1660." *Le Caster Fair Tout': Selected Papers of the Fifth North American Fur Trade Conference*, 1985. Montreal: Lake St. Louis Historical Society of Montreal, Canada, 1987, pp.42-71.

Category: Economic, Business, and Labor History | Seventeenth Century

**6513)**

Fausz, J. Frederick. "Present at the 'Creation': The Chesapeake World that Greeted the Maryland Colonists." Maryland Historical Magazine 79 (Spring 1984): 7-20.

Annotations / Notes: Fausz examines relations between Europeans (especially the English of Maryland and Virginia) and Native Americans of the Chesapeake region in the decade immediately preceding the settlement of the Maryland colony at St. Mary's in 1634. He argues that the interaction between Englishmen and Native Americans provided the basis for tobacco cultivation

### J. Frederick Fausz **Merging and Emerging Worlds** Anglo-Indian Interest Groups and the Development of the Seventeenth-Century Chesapeake

It is the glory of every Nation to enlarge themselves, to encourage their own forraign attempts, and . . . to have . . . as many several commodities as they can attain to. . . .

But alas, we Englishmen . . . vilifie, scandalize and cry down such parts of the unknown world, as have been . . . made flourishing, by the charge, hazzard and diligence of their own brethen, as if because removed from us, we either account them people of another world or enemies.  
—John Hammond, *Leah and Rachel* (1656)

TWO YEARS after the Powhatan Uprising of 1622 had nearly destroyed the Virginia colony, Gov. Sir Francis Wyatt declared that "our first worke is expulsion of the Salvages to gaine the free range of the country. . . for it is infinitely better to have no heathen among us, who at best were but as thornes in our sides, then to be at peace and league with them." However, even as he wrote those words, Governor Wyatt was well aware that alliances with helpful distant Indian groups would prove as decisive as aggression against hostile neighboring tribes in assuring the survival and success of Virginia's English population. Only six months earlier, he had commanded unprecedentedly ambi-

Research for this essay was supported by a National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship for College Teachers (1982-1983), an American Association for State and Local History Grant-in-Aid (1986), and Faculty Development Grants from St. Mary's College of Maryland.

47



and the beaver fur trade. Both paved the way for successful adaption of the early English settlers to new American conditions.  
Category: County and Local History | Native American | Society, Social Change, Folklife, and Popular Culture | Seventeenth Century | St. Mary's County | Chesapeake Region

**6514)**  
Fausz, J. Frederick. "Profits, Pelts, and Power: English Culture in the Early Chesapeake, 1620-1652." Maryland Historian 14 (1983): 14-30.

Category: County and Local History | Economic, Business, and Labor History | Native American | Politics and Law | Society, Social Change, Folklife, and Popular Culture | Seventeenth Century | Other | Chesapeake Region

**6515)**  
Fausz, J. Frederick. Monument School of the People: A Sesquicentennial History of St. Mary's College of Maryland, 1840-1990. St. Mary's City, Md.: the College, 1990.

Category: Education | Nineteenth Century | Twentieth Century | St. Mary's County

**6516)**  
Fausz, J. Frederick. "Present at the 'Creation': The Chesapeake World that Greeted the Maryland Colonists." Maryland Historical Magazine, 100 (Spring 2005): 29-47.

Category: General | Chesapeake Region

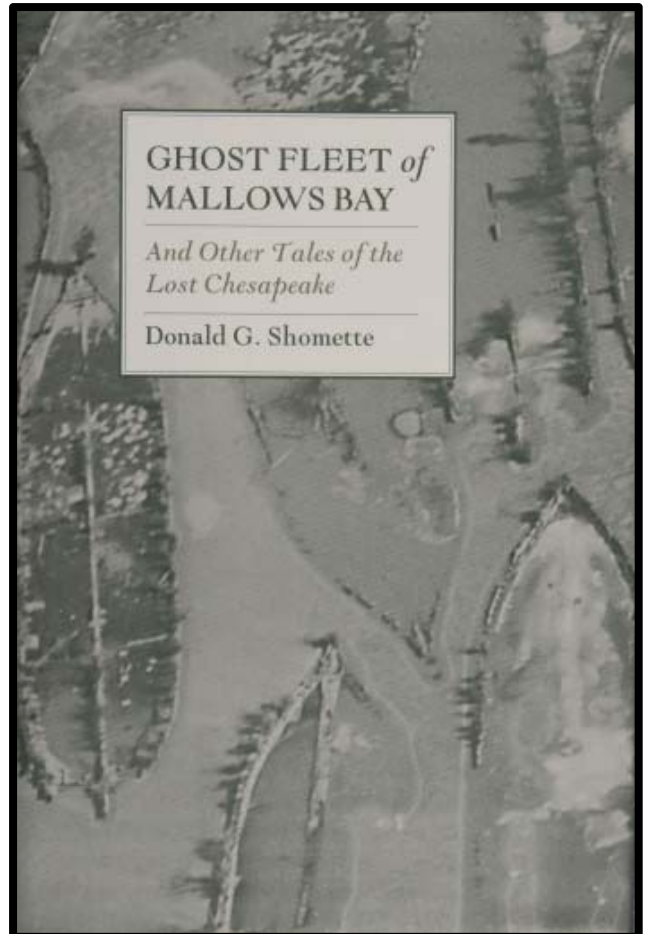
**6517)**  
Fausz, J. Fredrick. "Merging and Emerging Worlds: Anglo-Indian Relations in Early Maryland." Maryland Heritage News, 2 (Summer 1984): 8-9.

Category: Native American

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The other book is "**Ghost Fleet of Mallows Bay and Other Tales of the Lost Chesapeake**" by Donald G. Shomette; Tidewater Publishers, 1996. It's one of the "other tales" that is of interest to us. The book is described as an 'archaeological trilogy' and includes three chapters, the middle one of which describes the archaeological work done on Kent Island and is titled "**Melted Beads.**"

At the time the book was published Kent Island was under siege by developers and there was an urgent need to document as much of the island's early settled history as possible. This chapter is the story of those efforts and what they revealed about the island in the time of William Claiborne. The two flanking stories are about a Civil War shipwreck and the fleet of U.S. Navy ships that was abandoned in 1924 at Mallows Bay off the Potomac. All three sections are interesting, but for Claiborne Clan members who crave more history, "**Melted Beads**" is the real treasure in the book.



## Prayer Book of Hawise De Vernon Le Franceys

By Patricia Clayborn



The Huntington Library in San Marino, California, has a prayer book called a "Psalter/Book of Hours" that was originally owned by Hawise de Vernon le Franceys. The book is lavishly decorated with the coats of arms of the many families with whom the le Franceys family and the de Vernon family were allied. Hawise was married to Gilbert le Franceys, who was the nephew of Robert le Franceys de Cliburn of Cliburn Hall in Westmorland. Gilbert was also the nephew of Robert's brother, John le Franceys, baron of the exchequer, who was given Maud's Meaburn in 1243.

Gilbert and Hawise had a son Richard who, in adulthood, stopped using his father's surname of le Franceys and instead started using his mother's surname of de Vernon. He married Isabel de Harcla, and it was Isabel who donated the prayer book to a Cistercian Priory. After the dissolution of the monasteries in the time of King Henry VIII, the prayer book found its way into a private collection and from there to the Huntington Library. One of the pages of the prayer book probably depicts the owner Hawise using her book and praying in front of a statue of the Virgin Mary.

Author Alexa Sands has written about the origin of the prayer book as follows: "At the center of things are the Vernons of Harlaston in Staffordshire and the Harclas of Hartley in Westmorland. Around 1278, Sir Michael de Harcla married his foster son, Richard le Franceys, to his daughter Isabel; Richard would have been about fifteen at the time, and because he was a minor and heir to considerable lands in Cumbria, Westmorland, Derby, Cheshire, Staffordshire, and Buckinghamshire, some held in chief from the King, the marriage aroused interest from the royal inquisitors into his father's estate. To Michael de Harcla, the young man must have seemed a golden opportunity: he would inherit the wealth not only of his father, Gilbert le Franceys, but also

of his mother, Hawisa de Vernon, herself heiress of the junior branch of a Domesday family descended from the first Norman Baron of Shipbrook in Cheshire. In fact, almost as soon as he came into his majority he began to appear in the legal records of Staffordshire under the name Richard de Vernon. Of these three families (le Franceys, de Vernon, and de Harcla), the de Vernons and the de Harclas are clearly indicated by the heraldry in the manuscript." [Reverend F.W. Ragg theorized that the le Franceys arms were: "Argent a fretty sable" and compared them to the Cliburn arms of: "Argent a fretty and a chief sable."]

Alexa Sands has written about the nature of these families as follows: "Some investigation of the Vernons and their coterie sheds a good deal of light on the probable origins of the Psalter and also gives us a glimpse of the rowdy frontier mentality of northwestern England during the reigns of Edward I and Edward II. The blazons [coats of arms] in the manuscript correspond to a group of families whose affairs were intimately entangled with one another, not always in a friendly way, and whose involvement in the larger political affairs of the time – ranging from the Scots border wars to the judicial murder of Piers Gaveston, the royal favorite – was complicated, aggressive, and above all self-promoting. The ferocious ambition of the landed knightly class in early fourteenth-century England has been well documented, and the Vernons, it seems, were no exception to the general rule of the land-owning miles ["miles" is the Latin word for "knight"] jockeying to position themselves as what David Crouch has named "the superior knighthood," an elite class of chivalric families who used heraldry, among other things, as a distinguishing social marker. By the end of the fourteenth century, almost all the families represented in the Psalter's heraldic ornament would either have attained parliamentary peerage or extinguished themselves trying."

### References:

1. Sand A. "Cele Hore Memes: An Eccentric English Psalter-Hours in the Huntington Library." *Huntington Library Quarterly* 75.2 (2012): 171-211.
2. Sand A. "Vision, Devotion, and Self-Representation in Late Medieval Art." Cambridge University Press. 2014. Page 230.
3. Guide to Medieval and Renaissance Manuscripts in the Huntington Library. Psalter EL 9 H 17. <http://bancroft.berkeley.edu/digitalscriptorium/huntington/EL9H17.html>
4. Ragg, F.W. "Maud's Meaburn and Newby: de Veteripont, le Franceys, and de Vernon." Article XXVI. *Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society*. 1912. Series: 2, Volume 12.





## Levens Hall, Westmorland

By Patricia Clayborn



Levens Hall, Westmorland, in Cumbria is a magnificent Elizabethan manor that has a world famous topiary garden, and hosts thousands of visitors each year. An additional attraction for Claiborne/Cliburn members is the Claiborne/Cliburn coat of arms displayed in the main entrance hall on the left as you enter. The heraldic frieze is one of dozens circling the walls, made in the same plaster as the ceiling, and then brightly colored. Nearby, over the mantle, is the coat of arms of Queen Elizabeth I.

R. S. Boupfrey in his article entitled "The Heraldry at Levens Hall" has described the coat of arms as follows: "Quarterly, 1 & 4, Argent three chevronels interlaced and a chief Sable (Cliburn); 2 & 3, Argent a cross engrailed Vert (Kirkbride); impaling [Bellingham], as 1." This is the same coat of arms carved in stone over the entrance at Cliburn Hall.



Like Cliburn Hall, Levens began life as a simple peel tower... a desperate "last ditch" refuge for men and livestock from enemy border raids. Miniature Norman castles, the towers were enclosed by moats and walls, and held provisions on the first floor. The family lived on the second story during the day, slept on the third floor at night, and fought the enemy from the crenellated roof. Cattle and horses were driven within the wall during raids. The original peel tower at Levens Hall was probably built around 1350. Then, around 1580, the Bellingham family made the tower their home and began adding to it to create the exquisite Levens Hall we see today.

The Bellinghams were very proud of the knightly families into which they married, and the Cliburn family was one of those. Grace Bellingham, daughter of Sir Alan Bellingham and Dorothy Sandford Bellingham, married as her first husband Edmund Cleburne of Cliburn Hall and Killerby Hall on September 1, 1576. After Edmund died in 1590, she married as her second husband Sir Gerard Lowther, son of the Sir Richard Lowther who escorted Mary Queen of Scots. Many of the other Westmorland families celebrated at Levens Hall also intermarried with the Cliburn family. Beginning in 1300 when the Border Wars began in earnest, solidarity and support among the land owning gentry Border families became essential for survival, and marriages between them strengthened these ties. These families shared a love for unabashed ostentation and an unashamed enthusiasm for heraldry that we can enjoy as a guilty pleasure today.

### References:

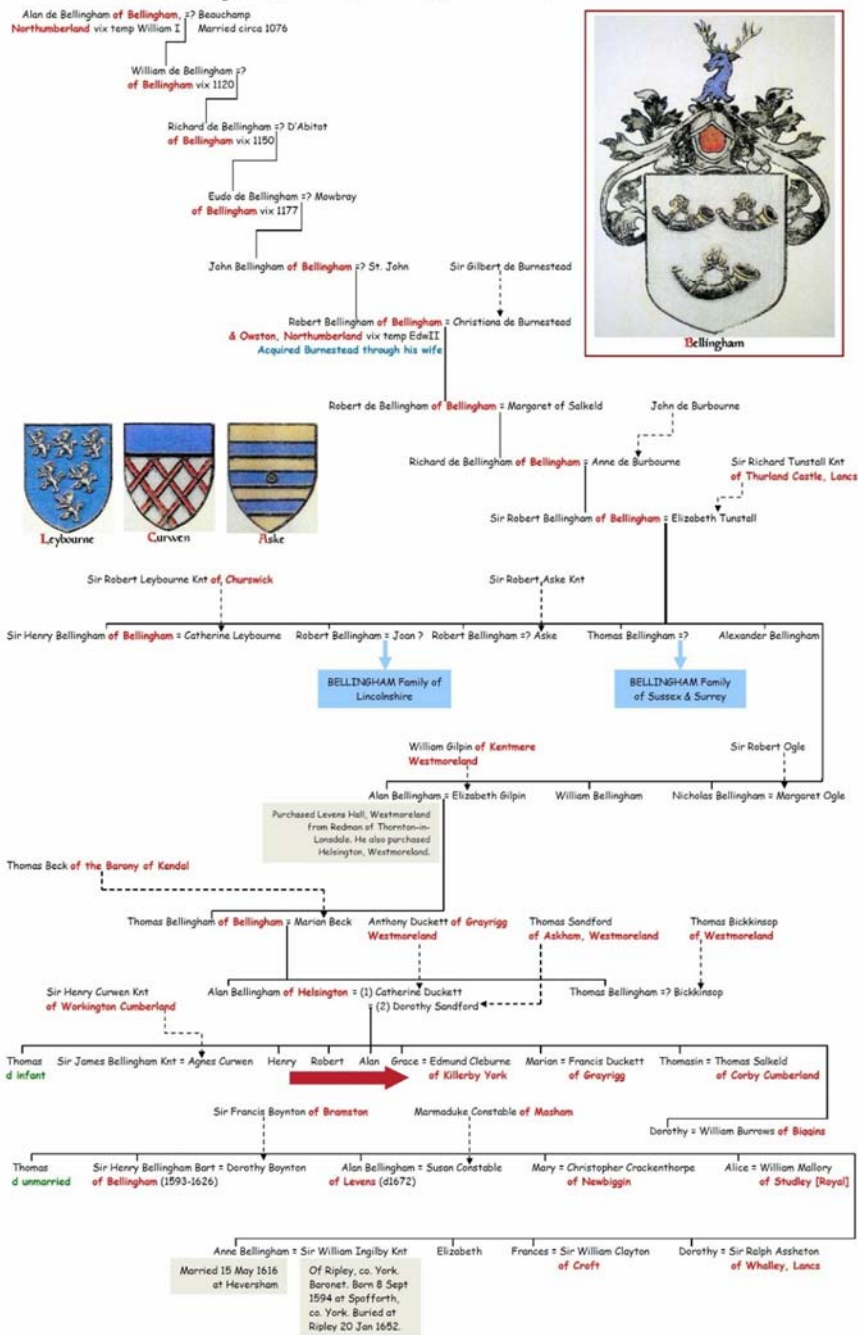
Boupfrey RS and Bagot A. "The Heraldry at Levens Hall." Transactions of the Cumberland & Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society. 1972. Vol. 72. Pages 205-215.

Curwen JF. "Historical Description of Levens Hall." Published by Titus Wilson. Kendal. 1898.

Weston GF. "Levens Hall, Westmorland." The Archaeological Journal. 1869. Vol. 26. Pages 97-120.



# Pedigree of Bellingham of Levens



Excerpts From:  
**A HISTORY OF THE FAMILY OF SANDFORD OF SANDFORD,  
ASKHAM, HOWGILL AND HELTON IN THE COUNTY OF WESTMORLAND  
FROM THE YEAR 1174 TO THE PRESENT DAY**

By William Arthur Cecil Sandford  
Adapted by A.A.Proctor  
(Written 1924; Never Published; Retyped with Corrections 1950.)  
<http://sandfordfamily.org.uk/sandford-general/wacSandford-Thompson.htm>  
Collected by Patricia Clayborn

One of the saddest things in collecting material for a family history of this nature is to notice how as the centuries roll by, family after family, once powerful and bearing an ancient and honourable name, passes away and is heard of no more. The great house of Clifford has long ago passed into history: Dacre of Dacre, Blenkinsopp of Helbeck, Warsop of Smardale (what a ring these old Northern names have) Sandford of Askham, **Cleburn of Cleburn**, Bellingham of Helsington, Blencow of Blencow, (to name a few) where are they now? Only an escutcheon of arms over the entrance door of the Hall or Castle, and the tradition of the villager (for in the North we have long memories, and the ancient lords of the soil are still remembered by the descendants of their erstwhile tenants, though centuries may have been passed since the last of the name ruled over them) remain to tell the passer-by of what was once a great and proud family...

William Sandford and his wife Mabel Curwen...had a son Edmund Sandford, who succeeded his grandfather Thomas at Askham and two daughters, Mabel, wife of Sir Ralph Widdrington of Widdrington, co. Northumberland, (knighted for valour on the field of Sefford in 1482) and Johanna, wife of **Thomas Cliburn of Cliburn**. The latter's son, **Hugh Cliburn**, carried out a raid on Askham Hall in 1525, which will be dealt with later...

Thomas Sandford, only son of Edmund Sandford and his wife Elizabeth Warcop, who inherited Askham, was only a boy at his father's death. In accordance with the custom of the time he was sent as a page to the house of his powerful kinsman, Thomas, Lord Dacre of Gillesland (called Lord Dacre of the North to distinguish him from the family of Fiennes, Lords Dacre, who were called Lords Dacre of the South), then warden of the Marches, and while there obtained his first insight into the politics of the Border in which he afterwards took a somewhat prominent part. This was the same Lord Dacre who was one of the most powerful men in the North of England at the time and had just (16th May, 1518) been created a Knight of the Garter. He had commanded the left wing of the English forces at the Battle of Flodden in 1513, having under him a strong contingent of horsemen from Cumberland and Westmorland, and a large force of the famous bowmen of Kendal. The old ballad says:

"The loft hand wing with all his route  
The lusty Lord Dacre did lead;  
With him the bows of Kendal stout  
With milk white coats and crosses red."

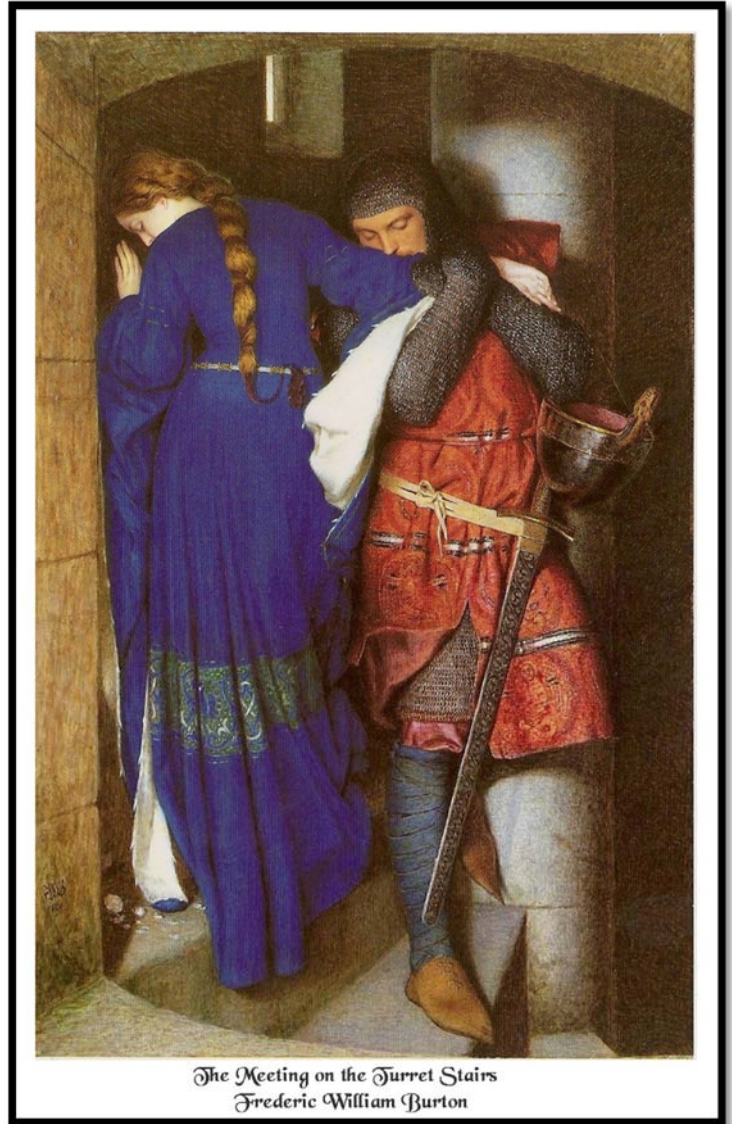
Besides the Dacres Thomas claimed kin with many of the most powerful local families such as Musgrave of Edenhall, Parr of Kendal (being thus distantly related to Katherine Parr the last and most fortunate Queen of Henry VIII) and Curwen of Workington, while through Edmund Dudley of Yanwath, husband to his sister Dorothy, he was connected with that House of Dudley whose ambition culminated in the tragedy of Lady Jane Grey, as well as with the powerful family of Clifford.

As an only son it was imperative that he should follow his father's example and marry early, and his mother's first care was to find him a suitable wife. Her choice fell on Grace, the orphaned third daughter and co-heir of Anthony Crackenthorpe of Howgill of the ancient Westmorland family of Crackenthorpe of Newbiggin. Her uncle, Ambrose Crackenthorpe, had died without children in 1520, and had left all his lands to the three daughters of his brother Anthony, who thus became three of the greatest local heiresses of the time.

At her uncle's death Grace was aged 14, so she was born in the year 1506, or thereabouts, and was therefore almost exactly the same age as Thomas Sandford. Her two sisters Margaret (aged 19 in 1520) and Cecily (aged 15) married respectively William Hutton of Hutton-in-the-Forest, Co Cumberland and Ambrose Middleton of Barnard Castle, Co. Durham, and in the division of the Crackenthorpe lands between the three sisters, Grace brought to her husband the lands and castle of Howgill in the parish of Milburn, Co. Westmorland, which had come to the Crackenthorpe family through the marriage of Robert de Crackenthorpe of Newbiggin with Elizabeth daughter and coheir of Sir John Lancaster, in the reign of Henry VI. Thus Thomas found himself at an early age in possession of two of the principal castles or "peles" in Westmorland, and one of the greatest estates in the county...

But the young bride's married life started in an inauspicious manner. On May 3rd, 1525, we find Thomas Lord Dacre of the North writing to Cardinal Wolsey:

"Please it also your grace that one **Hughe Cliburn** of the countie of Westmorland son to **Thomas Cliburn gentelman** with others, his brother and kynnyemen, evill disposed persons came unlawfully to the manor place and dwelling house of a kinnysman and householde serventt of myn named Thomas Sandfurth of Ascome in the said countie being withn age, and notwithstanding the proximitie of bloode which he the said Hughe standeth unto the same Thomas Sandforthe, against the law of God, right and good conscience, between the hours of nine and ten of the night Friday before Purification (Feb. 2) riotously and forseably tooke Grace Crackenthorpe wif unto the said Thomas Sandfurth because she is an inheritour. And her keepes wrongfully as furthre apperith in the bill of complainte presented in afore your grace by Elysabeth Sandfurth mother unto the said Thomas. In consideration of the promises and far remedie thereof it would please your grace not only to cause the said Grace to be returned to her said husband again according to the lawes of God but also the same Hughe and others his adherents so punnyshed as may stand wt the king's laws to the example of others." The **Hugh Cliburn** who did this evil deed was son of that **Thomas Cliburn of Cliburn** who had married Thomas's aunt Johanna Sandford, and so was first cousin to Thomas. He knew Askham Hall well, as a deed dated 3rd May 1523 is amongst the Sandford MSS, at Lowther Castle binding him and his father **Thomas Cliburn** to Elizabeth Sandford, widow, (mother of Thomas Sandford) in £40 sterling that they would keep and truly perform and fulfil all such "articles, commands, condicions and agreements specified and contened in a pair of indentures concernyng the services & wags (wages)" of the said Hugh, from which it will be seen that he was attached to the household at Askham in the same way that Thomas Sandford had been attached to the household of Lord Dacre. Probably his knowledge of the house and grounds stood him in good stead in his raid. There is a curious parallel between this and the earlier similar incident in the family history when Margaret, daughter of the last Robert Sandford of Sandford was abducted in 1404. In the earlier one the mother of the abducted girl was born a Warcop, and in this case the mother of the abducted girl's husband was a member of the same family. In each case the abduction was carried out by a relative.



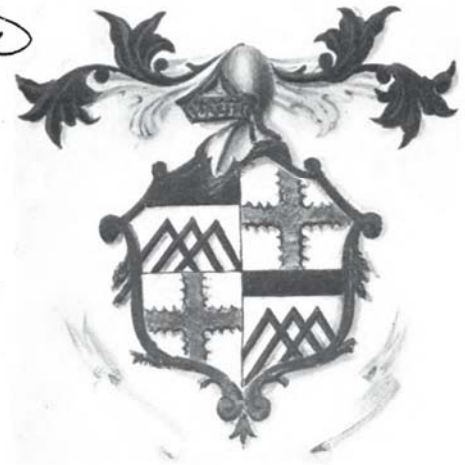
What the object of the raid was it is difficult to say. Perhaps it was intended to hold her to ransom, or possibly **Hugh Cliburn** did not realize that Grace was actually married to Thomas, and intended to marry her himself and the expression "because she is an inheritour" rather gives color to this. If this were so she must have been married about January 1525 (new style) when she and her husband would both be aged about nineteen. Whatever the cause was, the quarrel seems eventually to have been made up, for in later years we find one of Grace's granddaughters marrying into the **Cliburn family [Grace Bellingham married Edmund Cleburne in 1576]**.

Lord Dacre died a few months after writing the above letter, being killed on the Borders by a fall from his horse on October 24<sup>th</sup> 1525. [This same Lord Dacre had in 1488 carried off in the stealth of night the young and wealthy Elizabeth Greystoke, 6<sup>th</sup> Baroness Greystoke, heiress to the entire Greystoke and FitzWilliam Baronies, who was under the guardianship of the Cliffords at Brougham Castle. Source: The Old Manorial Halls of Cumberland and Westmorland. Cumberland and Westmorland Archaeological Society. 1892. Page 264.]





*This Armorial Coat of Claiborne, quartered  
with Kirkbride of Kirkbride  
of Northumberland Eng<sup>d</sup>  
was drawn and painted in color by St. George of the  
Herald's College of London, England (circa 1832)  
presented to Hon<sup>ble</sup> John W. B. Le Conte  
and by him to Doctor C. J. Claiborne United States Navy  
who has presented it to his kinsman  
Doctor John Herbert Claiborne  
of  
Virginia.*



Source: "William Claiborne of Virginia With Some Account of His Pedigree" By John Herbert Claiborne, MD

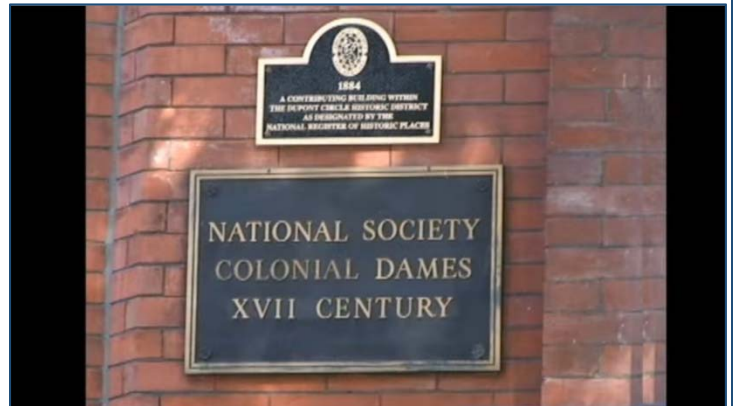
## National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century

From Pam Meiring

In response to our article on Elizabeth Butler Claiborne in the Spring newsletter, Pam Meiring writes to us as follows:

"Just as a matter of interest, Elizabeth Butler Claiborne is accepted as an ancestor for entry into the Colonial Dames XVII Century. This is due to the fact that William Claiborne acquired land and put it in her name, making her one of only a few women of the era that owned real estate. That is interesting to me, since I belong to many lineage societies. I love having a woman I can take my line back to. I live not far from Sweet Hall, which was their home, but I've never visited the site. Maybe I'll do that this year." ~Pam Meiring

The National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century ([www.colonialdames17c.org/](http://www.colonialdames17c.org/)) has 11,000 members across the country and is headquartered in a historic home in Washington, DC.



## Claiborne Related Queries

By Patricia Clayborn

Member Heath Claiborne Boyer has asked whether the Claiborne Society has ever considered reserving a small area of the newsletter for a "bulletin board" where we could post genealogical queries and help requests. Please send us your queries and we will see how it goes.

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## Frances Claiborne Guy



The Claiborne Society is sad to have received notice of the passing of Frances Claiborne Guy from her daughter, Mrs. Archer Guy Minardi. Frances, among many other accomplishments, led the effort to update the infrastructure and protection of Mount Vernon in the 1980s as Regent of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association of the Union. The value of her guidance in efforts to preserve Mount Vernon is recorded in the book published to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association, as follows:

“In her six years as Regent, Mrs. Guy oversaw several major projects, the most significant being the kickoff of a capital campaign—the first since Miss Cunningham’s in the 1850s. Funds raised during Mrs. Guy’s tenure and that of her successor, Mrs. Thomas Dunaway Anderson, enabled the

Association to upgrade electrical, fire, and security systems and begin constructing the Ann Pamela Cunningham Administration Building, which includes the library and curatorial storage space. In addition, the Association assumed ownership and management of the Mount Vernon Inn complex from the National Park Service, which had operated the facility—located at the terminus of the George Washington Memorial Parkway (itself a National Park)—since the 1930s. Further, they undertook what would become a multiyear scientific study of the Mansion’s interior paint colors, began refining how the structure was furnished, and formulated plans for a new working-greenhouse complex, located apart from the estate’s historic area, that would, Mrs. Guy wrote, ‘double the output of plants available for the exhibition area and for retail sales to visitors.’ The complex opened in May 1986. During the same period, the Association resolved a highly controversial issue by deciding to construct a memorial in the historic slave cemetery, where an estimated 50 to 75 African Americans who worked and lived at Mount Vernon are buried. Located 50 yards from the Washington tomb, the memorial was dedicated in September 1983.”

Francis Claiborne Guy also served as one of the reviewing authors in 1962 of the book **“Homes and Gardens in Old Virginia,”** which documented Sweet Hall and Windsor Shades (*see pages from this book which follow*).

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### Obituary

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Frances Claiborne Guy, widow of John Henry Guy Jr., died on June 20, 2016. The daughter of Herbert A. Claiborne and Virginia Christian Claiborne, she was born on March 4, 1921 at 204 W. Franklin St. in Richmond, Virginia. She is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth Guy Richardson of Richmond; her son, John H. Guy IV and his wife, Perry S. of Alexandria; her daughter, Archer Guy Minardi and her husband, Richard A. Minardi Jr. of Richmond; her grandchildren, K. Dabney Richardson and Alexander B. Richardson of Richmond, W. Carrington Guy II and his wife, Catherine W. of Brooklyn, N.Y., Claiborne S. Guy and his wife, Sarah S. of Washington, D.C., W. Cabell Guy and his wife, Penny W. of Charlottesville; and four great-grandchildren. She is also survived by her brother, Dr. Herbert A Claiborne Jr. She was predeceased by her brother, Lindsey C. Claiborne; her sister, Catherine Claiborne Hall; and her son-in-law, John N. Richardson. Mrs. Guy attended St. Catherine’s School, was a graduate of St. Timothy’s School in Catonsville, MD., and attended

Sweet Briar College. At the time of her death, she was the Vice-Regent Emerita for Virginia of the Mount Vernon Ladies’ Association of the Union, having been the Vice-Regent for Virginia for more than 30 years and the Regent of the Association for six years. She was a board member and past president of the Memorial Foundation for Children, a member and past president of the Antiquarian Society of Richmond, a member of the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America, the James River Garden Club, the Woman’s Club, the Cabell Family Society, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church and a former board member of the Valentine Museum and of the Memorial Guidance Clinic.

# HOMES AND GARDENS in Old Virginia

Edited by  
FRANCES ARCHER CHRISTIAN  
SUSANNE WILLIAMS MASSIE



Revised for  
THE GARDEN CLUB OF VIRGINIA

by  
Ella Williams Smith  
Caroline Pickrell Strudwick  
Frances Claiborne Guy

1962

RICHMOND  
GARRETT AND MASSIE, INCORPORATED

Courtesy of University of California Library

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## PREFACE

WHEN, in 1929, the first edition of *HOMES AND GARDENS IN OLD VIRGINIA* was prepared, the editors were prompted by the desire to produce a guide book that would be useful and convenient to the tourists coming to Virginia during Garden Week. At that time The Garden Club of Virginia was planning one of its earliest restorations, that of the grounds of Stratford, the birthplace and childhood home of General Robert E. Lee. Funds for this purpose were to be—and subsequently were—raised from entrance fees to the gardens which were opened that spring to the public by their owners. The book was an immediate success; the demand was so great that it went into four editions and seven printings and was of great usefulness and interest to the many visitors who attended the Virginia Historic Garden Tour each spring during the twelve years prior to World War II.

In the 1950 edition of *HOMES AND GARDENS* the editors departed from the plan of their predecessors by making this a book of reference rather than a guide book. Their desire to include most of the old homes of historic interest and architectural distinction, as well as the gardens, whether old or modern, which typify the beauty and charm of gracious living, has been impossible to realize. A volume of this size could be filled with such homes and gardens from one or two counties alone. Consequently, faced with the prospect of condensing such a wealth of available material into so limited a space, your editors have chosen deliberately and regretfully to omit a number of beauti-

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## *HOMES AND GARDENS IN OLD VIRGINIA*

ful places, retaining others, perhaps of less merit, to obtain wider State representation.

Many of the descriptive articles in this edition have been written by Virginia authors, students of history, and owners. To these the editors wish to record their indebtedness. They also take this occasion to express their grateful appreciation to John Melville Jennings, of the Virginia Historical Society, who has so faithfully edited all of the articles for historical accuracy, and to Mrs. Irving L. Mathews for her invaluable assistance in checking all phases of every article and painstakingly compiling the entire material for publication.

The editors record here with deep regret the passing of Dr. Douglas S. Freeman (June 13, 1953) who wrote the introduction to the 1950 edition of *Homes and Gardens*. As a tribute to Dr. Freeman's interest they are retaining the introduction written by him for that earlier edition.

ELLA WILLIAMS SMITH  
CAROLINE PICKRELL STRUDWICK  
FRANCES CLAIBORNE GUY

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HOMES AND GARDENS IN OLD VIRGINIA

SWEET HALL

Like many structures of this period, the exact date of the building of Sweet Hall is not positively known. William Claiborne in 1651 patented five square miles of land on the north side of the Pamunkey River, extending from John West's patent on the east to Cohoke Creek. This plantation was called Romancoke, and Sweet Hall was built on the western end of the original grant. Whether it was built by Secretary Claiborne's son, Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Claiborne, who died in 1683, or by the latter's son, Captain Thomas Claiborne (1680-1732), is not known. The latter was called "Captain Thomas Claiborne of Sweet Hall" but this does not necessarily denote that he was the builder. Family legend is that the house was built shortly before 1700, but legend is notoriously misleading, and the architects from Williamsburg have placed it as early as the sixteen-eighties. It would appear probable, however, that the building can be placed in the last quarter of the seventeenth century.

The brickwork of this T-shaped house, the stem of which is slightly off center, is especially interesting to the student of architecture. The river front has a beveled water table, below which the walls are laid in English bond, while the walls above are in Flemish bond with glazed headers, but with no rubbed bricks at the corners or jambs. With the exception of the river front walls, all of the remaining brickwork is in English bond, both below and above the water table, and all of the mortar joints are lined, a custom prevalent in that period and continuing to be the style in Virginia throughout the following century. The T-shaped chimneys at Sweet Hall are among the finest still remaining of that period.

The changes which have taken place at Sweet Hall are clearly

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HOMES AND GARDENS IN OLD VIRGINIA

evident today, particularly the double hung sashes which have replaced the original segmental arches and casement windows. Original openings can be traced in the old masonry.

The size of these small seventeenth century houses is confusing when we consider the surprisingly large families that occupied the homes of that day. It should be remembered, however, that these houses were only the central unit of a group of three, five or more buildings. Fithian, in his diary written in 1773 and 1774, describes his quarters at Nomini Hall, where he and the older Carter boys lived in the schoolhouse. Older generations of Virginians can well remember the dependencies within the mansion grounds at almost all of the old Virginia estates. These small residences which now remain, are invariably only the central building of the plantation group, the dependencies, often frame, having long since disappeared.

Sweet Hall passed out of the Claiborne family many years ago and is now in the possession of Mr. and Mrs. Noble R. Palmer.

WINDSOR SHADES

This fine old house is situated in King William County west of Ruffins Ferry on the Pamunkey River, of which it commands a beautiful view. The land upon which it stands was part of a grant of five thousand acres which was given to Secretary William Claiborne as a reward for his services against the Indians following the massacre of 1644. Part of this grant later became the property of George Washington who often hunted over the land with Colonel Burwell Bassett, Martha Washington's brother-in-law.

The house was at one time known as Ruffins from an owner, Robert Ruffin, and because it stood near to Ruffins Ferry (known as Claiborne's Ferry prior to 1769). This ferry played an im-

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HOMES AND GARDENS IN OLD VIRGINIA

portant part in American history. Over it on their way to Williamsburg passed many members of the House of Burgesses, including Washington, who wrote of spending the night at a nearby tavern. This was undoubtedly Windsor Shades, the only building in the neighborhood large enough to serve as a tavern, which its plan indicates that it might once have been. Lafayette took his army across Ruffins Ferry six weeks before the Battle of Yorktown.

The house is a medium-sized river house with a central hall from land entrance to river entrance. There are four rooms on each floor which open from this hall. In the basement is a large dining room with one of the largest interior fireplaces in Tidewater Virginia. This room originally had an outside flight of stairs leading down to it and is similar to other tavern dining rooms of the period. The massive chimneys are among the largest in the area.

Augustine Claiborne, great-grandson of Secretary Claiborne, built the house between 1745 and 1750. Between 1768 and 1770 Robert Ruffin purchased the house and ferry, both of which passed in 1781 to the ownership of his son, William. In 1785 William Ruffin sold the property to Edward Pye Chamberlayne, whose children in turn sold it in 1822 to William Burnet Browne of Elsing Green. Mr. Browne, who had no male heirs of his own surname, willed his property to his grandson, William Burnet Claiborne, with the proviso that he change his last name to Browne. This change was accomplished by legislative act, and thus the old house came into the possession of a grandson of its builder, Augustine Claiborne.

The Browne portraits were moved from Elsing Green to Windsor Shades, the name of which was changed to Waterville by the

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HOMES AND GARDENS IN OLD VIRGINIA

new owner, whose widow sold the property to Henry Corr in 1839. Since that date the estate has changed hands many times. In the spring of 1955 the house and fourteen acres of land surrounding it were sold to Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Krewatch. As the maternal grandmother of Mrs. Krewatch was Lavinia Corr, a daughter of Henry Corr, the place may be said to be once again in the family of an early occupant.

CHELSEA

Chelsea, in King William County, is said to have been built by Augustine Moore in 1709. He was a direct descendant of Sir Thomas Moore of Chelsea, England, who was Chancellor during the reign of Henry VIII.

On August 20, 1716, Governor Spotswood and John Fontaine came to Chelsea and organized the Knights of The Golden Horseshoe, crossed the Mattaponi River to Clifton and proceeded on their memorable transmontane expedition to the Blue Ridge Mountains. During the Revolutionary War campaign of 1781, Lafayette's army was camped at Chelsea and Lafayette made the Chelsea mansion his headquarters. A feature of Chelsea is its paneling, a part of which, has been stripped of its many coats of paint.

The lovely walled formal gardens are modeled after a print of the old gardens at Chelsea, England. Huge crape myrtles and hedges of English boxwood enhance the beauty of the lawn facing the Mattaponi River, on which the Chelsea plantation has a frontage of approximately two miles.

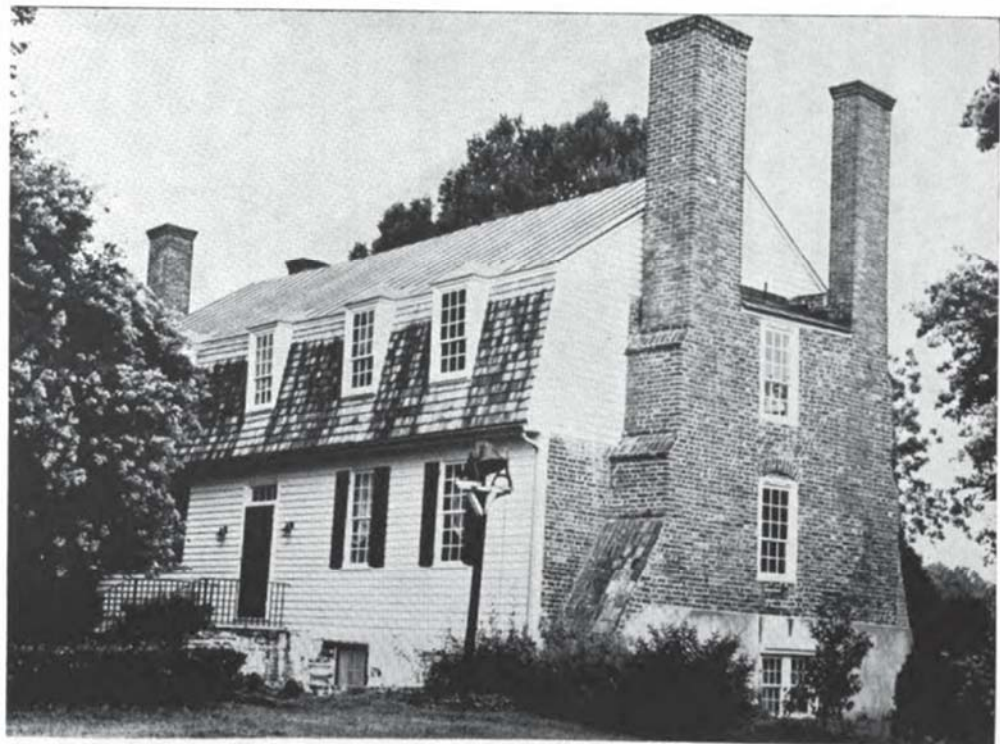
Chelsea remained in the Moore family until about 1874, when it passed to other owners. It was bought in 1912 by the late Pleasant Larus Reed who, with sympathetic interest preserved the old landmark and left the original lines unchanged. Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Richardson, Jr. are the present owners.

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*Sweet Hall*

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*Windsor Shades*

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## Ann Claiborne Pierce

Obituary for Ann Claiborne Pierce  
Submitted by Susan W.H. Rura



1. By letter I received the news from David W. Claiborne who writes:

“It is with sadness that I report the passing of my sister Ann Claiborne Pierce. Ann was one of the original founders of the Claiborne Society as she was one of the people Millie Johnston contacted after spotting her name in the church register while visiting Cliburn Hall in the late 1980s. It was their friendship along with Curly Moore’s which formed our nucleus resulting in the first reunion in 1988.

Ann loved hearing stories and learning the history of our family. She had the distinction of being a direct descendant of William and also of Pocahontas whose relatives vacillated between befriending and fighting Claiborne and the early settlers of Virginia. But more than that she simply enjoyed being around Claibornes at fun locations such as Williamsburg, New Orleans and King’s Lynn England. She had a grand time at these and other gatherings and played an active role in many of them.

Ann died peacefully in Connecticut where she and her husband Roger had been living since the early 1960s.“

2. Condolences and heartfelt messages can be sent to David at 2209 26th St. South, Arlington, VA 22206 or by e-mail to [dcmkter@aol.com](mailto:dcmkter@aol.com).

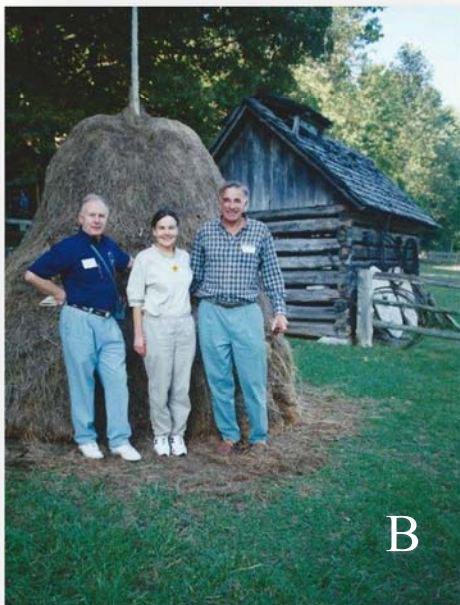
3. I remember Ann for the joyful, open, outreaching person that she was. Frank and I were at several reunions with Ann and Roger. Here are my photos that show her happy, fun-loving, spontaneous nature.

#### 4. PHOTOS:

A) October, 1992. WINDSOR SHADES on the Pamunkey River, King William County, VA. L to r: Ann Pierce, Susan Rura, and Elizabeth Riddle.

B) September 30, 1995. Appalachia Museum near LaFollette, Tennessee. L to r: Gerry Maloney, Ann & Roger Pierce.

C) June 6, 1997. Jamestown, Virginia. Ann Claiborne Pierce touching hands with bronze statue of her ancestor Pocahontas.





Registrar  
3052 Rogers Ave.  
Ellicott City, MD, 21043

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