



Claiborne Society Newsletter

The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants



Spring 2024

Message from the Publications Chairman

Patricia Clayborn

REUNION - Save the Dates: Thursday, September 26 to Sunday, September 29, 2024.

Our Vice President and Reunion Committee Chair has asked us to save the dates: September 26 to September 29, 2024 for our upcoming National Society of Claiborne Descendants Reunion, which will take place in Richmond, Virginia. Details are still being planned, but registration will take place on the afternoon of Thursday, September 26th and check out and farewell will take place the morning of Sunday, September 29th. In order to reserve rooms at the special rate of \$189, call 800-the-Omni (800-843-6664) and reference "The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants Room Block".

In This Issue:

Genealogy is the hobby that keeps on giving. Nothing beats the excitement of moving back one more generation and learning all that can be gathered about those individuals. But perhaps hobby is not the right word. The search is more an honorable endeavor, and adds more value to our family's sense of significance. We inevitably learn more history in the process, and expand our anthropological expertise. Formal anthropological training concentrates on three broadly transferable skill areas: understanding human diversity, building research skills for collecting and making sense of information, and communicating effectively. We can emulate these skills when we devote time to our honorable endeavor!

In this issue we have endeavored to work on skill building as follows:

- We have received a fascinating inquiry regarding the son of Colonel William Claiborne from Julia A. King, PhD, asking for our help with her research. Can you help her?
- We discovered an old article regarding Colonel William Claiborne in the 1873 issue of the New England Historical and Genealogical Register, and share it here.
- We wondered about ancestor worship as genealogy in some ancient cultures.
- Finally, I have explored the relationship between the Cleburnes of Cliburn Hall and the Curwens of Workington Hall.

Thank you for your continuing membership and for contributing to our Society!

Sincerely, Patricia Clayborn

NEW MEMBER:

We are delighted to welcome the following new member to our Clan:
Christopher Blake Wakefield, Lineville, Alabama

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**Letter to the Publisher
From Julia A. King, PhD**

Chair and Professor, Department of Anthropology, St. Mary's College of Maryland

I found your email address on the National Society of the Claiborne Family Descendants and am taking this opportunity to email you about a project I am doing and ask you if any of your members have additional information on William Claiborne, Jr. By way of introduction, I teach anthropology and archaeology at St. Mary's College of Maryland, a four-year public liberal arts school in St. Mary's City. Last year, I applied for and received a grant from the National Park Service's American Battlefield Protection Program to research and write an Indigenous history of Bacon's Rebellion (1676). My staff, students, and I are most interested in the theater that included Dragon Run (head of the Piankatank River). We are partnering with the Pamunkey Indian Tribe and the Rappahannock Tribe in this effort.

William Claiborne, Jr.'s name has come up because, during the Rebellion, circumstantial evidence is suggesting that the Indians (who Bacon was intent on wiping out) took refuge at Bestland, a 5000-acre tract acquired by either WC Senior or Junior before Senior's death. We know that WC Jr had, only a few months before Bacon's attack, had joined Governor Berkeley to find where the Natives had gone and he did in fact discover them and urge them to return to Pamunkey Neck. The Pamunkey Queen, Coackoeske, said no. From limited descriptions and our knowledge of early modern defense strategy, we are certain the queen and her countrymen hid at Bestland. I attach a map to give you some sense of where that was.

We know that both WC Sr and Jr remained loyal to the Crown / Gov Berkeley during the rebellion, so the Pamunkeys retreating to Bestland makes sense on that level as well as others.

I did not know all of the history about Romancoke. I have gone down rabbit holes trying to sort out the meaning of Romancoke -- one author says it's mapped as an Indian town on Smith's 1608 map (published 1612) but I cannot find it. Another indicates it's an Algonquian word meaning circling of the waters -- I am not sure about this, either.

What is interesting is that Sr and Jr are in Pamunkey Neck early on, and there are many "friend Indians" also living in the neck and the surrounding vicinity. There is little doubt that they have interactions with the Pamunkeys. Other sources, all lacking citations, say that the Indians went to Bestland -- today an unincorporated community in Essex and King & Queen counties; so it is unclear how much of the community today lies within the patent.

Queen Cockacoeske was a loyalist, a very shrewd strategist. She had vacated their major settlements by May 1676 - before Bacon had turned his attention to Pamunkey Neck. Gov Berkeley went to one of the frontier forts and had William Claiborne Jr search for her; he found her, which speaks volumes (without the sound up) about his knowledge of the larger landscape.

My question for you and your members: has anyone focused on William Claiborne Jr (who continued at Romancoke but did have Bestland)? If so, have they found any information in their travels that might form yet another clue for us? We have many, but I also know family researchers truly leave no stone uncovered.

Thank you for your consideration and I hope to hear from you!

Sincerely,

Julia A King
Chair and Professor, Department of Anthropology, St. Mary's College of Maryland
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Dear Dr. King: Thank you so much for your fascinating inquiry.

Of course it will be an important part of our next newsletter in the Spring, and, with your permission, will include your map. In the meantime, I would like to send it to a few members who work on family research, to see if they have any first thoughts, which I will immediately send back to you.

I understand that the core question from you is:

Has anyone in the Claiborne Clan focused on William Claiborne Jr., who continued to live at Romancoke but did also own Bestland? If so, have they found any information in their travels that might form yet another clue regarding the hiding of the Pamunkey Queen Cockacoeske at Bestland during Bacon's attack?

Gratefully, Patricia Clayborn

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Letter to the Publisher
From Julia A. King, PhD

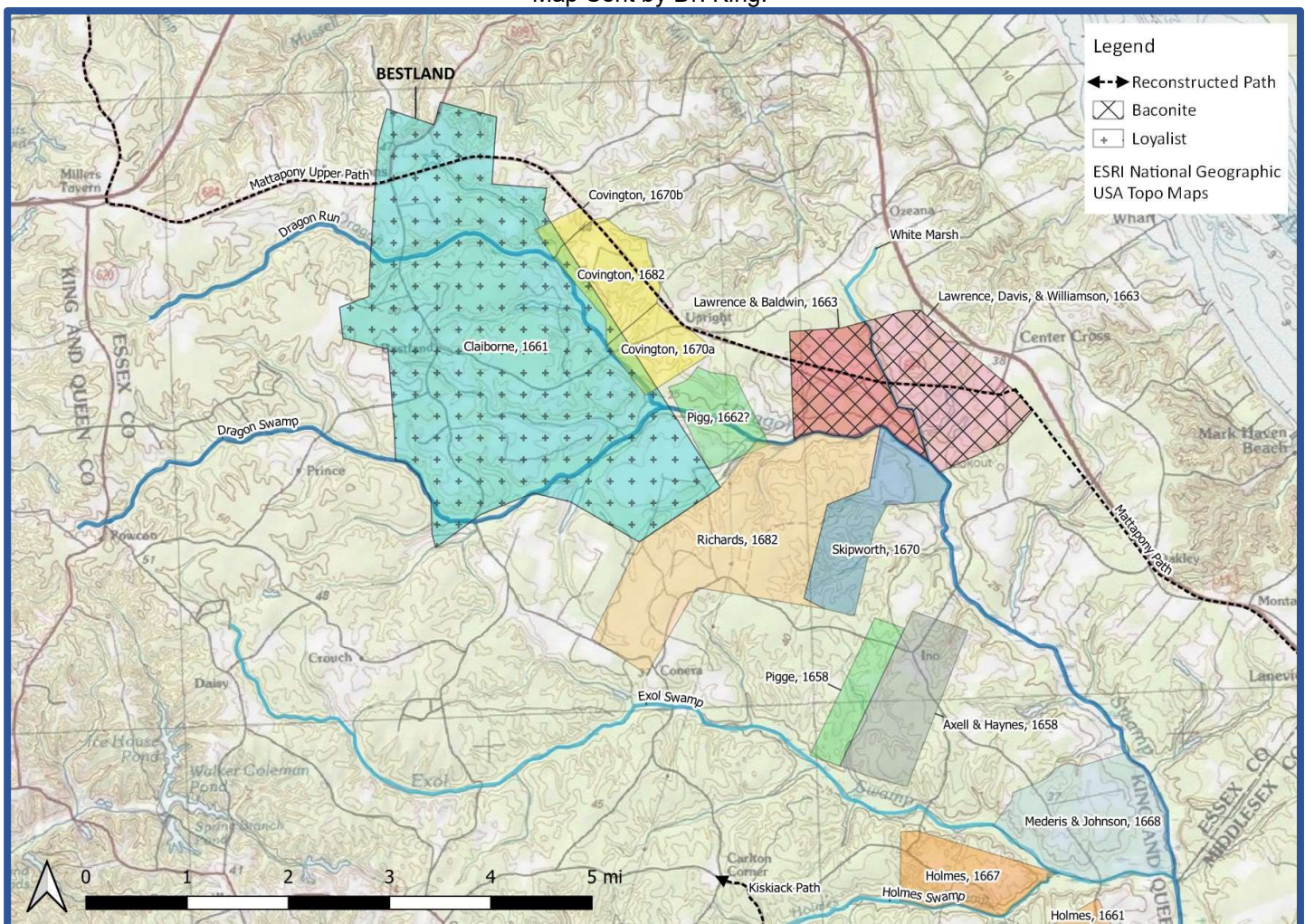
Dear Patricia,

Thank you so much for your email. You have my question right, and I would add something, I know people who do genealogy only know too well: that sometimes clues don't appear to be clues! So anything your fellow descendants and researchers can learn about Claiborne Jr's comings and goings, including his wife, children -- anything that would put us anywhere near Bestland, Dragon Swamp, Dragon Run, Nathaniel Bacon, could be of help.

Thank you again! If you need any additional info for your spring newsletter, let me know and I would be happy to provide it.

Sincerely,
Julie King

Map Sent by Dr. King:



Do you have any information that might help Dr. King? Please send your responses to:
Patricia Clayborn claybornp@aol.com

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Article from the New England Historical and Genealogical Register 1873

Collected by Patricia Clayborn

We came across this article from 1873 regarding Colonel William Claiborne and offer it in case you have never seen it before. In order to magnify the text, choose the magnification option.

THE
NEW-ENGLAND
Historical & Genealogical Register
AND
ANTIQUARIAN JOURNAL,
PUBLISHED QUARTERLY, UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE
New-England Historic, Genealogical Society.
FOR THE YEAR 1873.

VOLUME XXVII.



BOSTON:
PUBLISHED AT THE SOCIETY'S HOUSE, 18 SOMERSET STREET.
PRINTED BY DAVID CLAPP & SON.
1873.

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William Claiborne.

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WILLIAM CLAIBORNE.

THE following paper was prepared and read by Stephen M. Allen, Esq., before the New-England Historic, Genealogical Society, at their request, at the monthly meeting, Dec. 4, 1872. A copy was requested for publication in the REGISTER.

MR. PRESIDENT, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :

In the paper I read you to-day, I present what is intended to be some condensed but fair inferences, drawn from the unpublished manuscript writings and notes of the late Sebastian Ferris Streeter, of Baltimore, upon Claiborne's Rebellion. You are probably well aware of the untiring and zealous efforts of Mr. Streeter, while secretary of the Maryland Historical Society, to correct many errors that had crept into the public histories of early colonial times, particularly those of Maryland and Virginia.

Born in Weare, N. H., July 7, 1810, graduating at Harvard College in 1831, Mr. Streeter soon after became sub-master of the Boston Latin School, but removed to Richmond, Va., in 1835, and finally to Baltimore, Md., the following year, where he remained till his decease, Aug. 23, 1864. He was one of the originators of the Maryland Historical Society, and the recording secretary from its organization till his decease.¹

During this period his manuscript notes and writings were immense, and with the assistance of his wife, who sympathized with him very deeply in his historical researches, collections were made and written out, which in bulk and historical value are seldom equalled, by gleaners of such truths, who do not intend them for immediate publication and pecuniary profit. In the beginning of the war with the southern states in 1860, he took a decided stand as a union man, taking an active part in all the measures for the aid and support of the government.

His death was the result of exposure and fatigue incurred while attending to the needs of the soldiers before Petersburg, Va., 1864. He was buried with military honors, and the loyal citizens of Baltimore, desirous of showing their appreciation of his disinterested patriotism, erected a monument to his memory, having requested the family to allow his remains to be interred there, the scene of his labors, instead of removing them to Boston as was intended.

Mrs. Streeter has kindly permitted me to examine many of these manuscripts, and from the notes of "Claiborne's Rebellion" I have written out the following thoughts and conclusions, which though, no doubt, very imperfect, may be of some service to investigators till the whole work of Mr. Streeter shall be published.

Centuries are good sieves for separating historical events, and time with its ceaseless but ever-balancing tread, measures very accurately and with almost unerring scales, the difference between right and wrong, honor and dishonor, and the truths and falsities attaching to the acts of public men. Each nationality in the world's history has its own system of equation, and time must clear away the mists of prejudice and misapprehension. In the compass of our own history, two hundred years seems to have been a great purifier of both the moral and political atmosphere; for names that have been handed down to us through that period seem now to carry a clearer conviction to the mind of the historian than at any time either previous to

¹ For a sketch of the life of Mr. Streeter, see REGISTER, vol. xix. p. 91.—[EDITOR.]

or succeeding their actual movement in the great drama of life. The settlements of the different American colonies perpetuated the different characteristics of the men who primarily populated each location, and the result is perceptible, even at the present day. The settlements at both Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay have ever maintained their individual characteristics, and Manhattan Island proves not an exception, while the colonies in Virginia and Maryland evince an equally strong identity. Jamestown and her descendants show not only the motives and objects of her first settlers to-day, but the influence of the first mothers; while the Chesapeake Bay settlements in Maryland, still, in many respects, indicate the original characteristics of Lord Baltimore and his colonists.

A striking resemblance also exists in the character of some of the leaders in these primitive settlements, and many of the experiences of William Claiborne were like those of Myles Standish, the faithful engineer, financial agent and brave military leader of the Plymouth colony. Both of these leading pioneers served their respective people many years, and died in the service.

The influences of both settlements have ever been deeply felt in the subsequent history of our common country, and the people of the north naturally feel that the country has just reason to be proud of the distinct legacies from the first settlers of Plymouth and Massachusetts Bays. Mr. Streeter was fully sensible of the prevalence of this feeling at home, and from it, no doubt, borrowed some inspiration for his noble and almost single-handed defence of Claiborne. Among the earlier records of Maryland, the well-known history of the Rev. William McSherry denounces the unfortunate Claiborne in the strongest terms; and the opinion of many other authors seems based upon that estimate of his character. Mr. McSherry had translated the journal of one Father White, a Jesuit of Lord Baltimore's colony, from the Latin, as found in the archives of the Jesuit college in Rome, and perhaps its influence gave some coloring to his own ideas. In the hand of one of these most devoted adherents of the Romish church, it is little wonder that his pen drew such an unreal picture of an offender, one of whose crimes was heresy. Hence the voice of execration has for years been raised to traduce the motives of Captain Claiborne, and throw contempt upon his name. In the manuscript copies of *The Life and Colonial Times of William Claiborne*, left us by Mr. Streeter, a new view is presented us, evidently the result of careful, impartial investigation, and becomes a most keen weapon to combat the now-existing prejudices of the literary public. The first mention of Capt. William Claiborne, that we know of, is on his coming to Virginia in the party of Sir Francis Wyatt, when he was appointed by King James I. surveyor of the new country, in 1621. The fact of his receiving the appointment is *prima facie* evidence of his good reputation and social position, though we cannot discover to what family he belonged. Two families in England,—Clebune in Yorkshire, and Cliburne in Westmoreland, bear the same arms, and, we infer, are of the same stock. His own signature is invariably spelled *Claiborne*, though McSherry and several of the older writers give several styles of orthography.

Claiborne, becoming a resident of Virginia, seems to have done little public labor during this year, except that he engaged with the "well disposed gentlemen" who went to fight the Indians, who were so troublesome for some years that it was difficult to carry out any permanent plans of public improvement. The capricious character of James I., his

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determination that at home there should be "but one doctrine, one discipline, one religion," to which all must conform, or be harried out of the land, or worse, together with his combined avarice and extravagance, created a feeling of unrest in the colonies even beyond what would have existed through the pressure of their own domestic difficulties; and except at Plymouth, where the whole idea centred in "religious liberty," few permanent plans were made by the colonists that succeeded, during the reign of this conceited pedant. The motive in the settlement at Plymouth formed an exception to all other settlements; and this brought together a different people with corresponding results. James rather encouraged the motive of speculation by some of the restless adventurers, who were constantly annoying him at home, and recommended their departure, either to Virginia or to the Orinoco, under the advice of Sir Walter Raleigh, caring but little to which place they started, provided the prospects of gold and tobacco were a good and sure return for loss of citizens valueless to his own private exchequer. He early learned that his *Book of Canons*, consisting of one hundred and forty-one articles, was too arrogant for all to subscribe to, and the fifteen hundred non-conformist clergymen in England were quite enough to attend to, if he left off some of the dissolute and worthless younger branches of the nobility who might possibly send back gold and other products of the new world, if permitted to emigrate, but who would be of no use at home.

Whatever the military capacity of Capt. Claiborne may have been, it is certain that his associations were of a very different type from those of Myles Standish, and his battles were not so decisive or effective. It was not till after the death of James, and the accession of Charles I., in 1625, that Capt. Claiborne made very extended explorations, although his charter from that monarch, as read and understood at the present day, was ample to cover all he ever claimed under it, and completely underrode in perpetual, legal and equitable force, that of Lord Baltimore subsequently signed by the fickle king, and under which his lordship claimed the Isle of Kent, which eventually gave rise to the quarrel between Maryland and Virginia, and Lord Baltimore and Capt. Claiborne, on the subject. During 1627, '28, '29, the commissions from the governor of Virginia "authorized Claiborne to make explorations in Chesapeake Bay or anywhere from the 34th to the 41st degrees of north latitude. By application to Sir William Alexander, the king's Scottish secretary, he had obtained the necessary license and a command to the governor (Harvey) of Virginia to allow his freedom of trade. He made peace and established trade with the Indians, and opened trading-houses upon the Isle of Kent. Later, it appears, he applied to Gov. Harvey for a license to trade with the Dutch on the adjoining plantations. This was granted in March, 1631, and this license speaks of him in the most flattering terms. The traffic thus opened became considerably successful. In 1628, while Dr. John Pott was acting, temporarily, as governor, George Calvert, Lord Baltimore, a favorite of James I., visited Virginia. Being a Romanist, he refused to take the "oath of supremacy" which would be required if he settled there, and returned to England to obtain from Charles I. a grant of the country afterward called Maryland,—representing to the king, when asking the favor, that he supposed it peopled solely by Aborigines and would prefer it to his previously-attempted settlement in Newfoundland (commenced under the favor of James I.). He intended to call the new grant *Crescentia*, but by the king's request named it Maryland, in honor of Henrietta Maria.

At about, or perhaps exactly the same time of his return to England, Claiborne went also to ask some favor of the king to upbuild his fortunes, his efforts, so far, in Virginia having resulted more favorably to public than private benefits.

Mr. Streeter compares the two voyagers thus: "Lord Baltimore is about fifty years of age; Claiborne by several years his junior. The former, to the training of the court, and the discipline of a severe diplomatic school, unites the coolness and calculation born of years of experience and trial; the latter, yet young and ardent, has learned in the emergencies of adventurous life to think quickly and act with promptness and resolution. Both have earned the confidence of their superiors, and the one holds the same station under the colonial government, which the other occupied for years in the service of the late king." Hitherto Claiborne's course had been much more prosperous, since Lord Baltimore had been much inconvenienced by the unproductiveness and discomforts of Newfoundland.

The king, feeling obliged to adhere to the established precedent, refused to allow Lord Baltimore any more latitude as to right of citizenship in Virginia, and he was compelled to devise some further expedient. Meantime Claiborne interested the English people in his schemes of colonization, and two London merchants formed a partnership with him; and Sir Wm. Alexander agreed to commence a Nova Scotia trade with them as soon as they were established, and gained for them a license "to trade in any community whatever" and "make any voyages or discoveries."

In 1632, Lord Baltimore died, and his son, Cecilius Calvert, attempted to carry out his father's plans, and assumed jurisdiction over the Isle of Kent, owned by Claiborne under a previous grant. The Virginia people became indignant that their territory was to be granted away, and petitioned, in 1633, to Charles, the king then reigning. The matter was referred to the king's council. They agreed that Lord Baltimore should meet the planters of Virginia and confer with them. This was done, and a friendly ending of the controversy resulted, though jurisdiction was not conceded. Historians generally seem to think that if the personal interests of the planters were intact, they had no further interest, except that the increase of colonization was for their advantage. Bozman says, quite inconsistently, of the council: "they acknowledged the justice of the claim of the planters;" and yet afterward says: "in every point of view, the transfer appears judicious and salutary."

Lord Baltimore delegated his brother, Leonard Calvert, to be governor of Maryland, where the latter arrived in 1634. For a year after Calvert's arrival the colony lived in peace; but Claiborne, being falsely accused of stirring up the nations to hostility, Gov. Calvert ordered his arrest, should he refuse to submit to the government. A vessel, owned by Claiborne and called the "Longtail," was seized and taken by Lord Baltimore's men, and he prepared, for battle, an armed pinnace manned by fourteen men. The government at St. Mary's fitted out two pinnaces, in command of Thomas Cornwaleys, Esq., and in the spring of 1635 the forces met; in which one of the two rivers on the eastern shore of the province, histories do not agree in relating. Each party stated that the other first commenced hostilities. Says Mr. Streeter: "If the smoke of the conflict had not cleared away sufficiently to enable the grand jury of that day to ascertain precisely the place and date of this unfortunate transaction, it will appear the less strange if the mists of intervening time render it somewhat indistinct to our vision. Still we can see enough through the cloud which

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misapprehension and misrepresentation have thrown around the whole affair, to be able to form a definite opinion as to the origin of the difficulty and the facts connected with it."

Claiborne's boat and men were captured. Thomas Smith, second in command, was afterward tried, condemned and executed, by authority of the assembly, for his complicity in it. Claiborne fled to Virginia, and soon after went to England. Bozman says that Gov. Harvey sent him, as a criminal, to be tried. Campbell infers, from the silence of Chalmers on the subject, that he went voluntarily. McSherry mentions his never being brought to trial there; in proof of which he refers to Claiborne's boldly maintaining his claim to the Isle of Kent and its dependencies, and accusing the proprietary's officers with assaulting his pinnaces and slaughtering his men, and asking the crown to continue to him a monopoly of the Isle of Kent, with his station at the mouth of the Susquehannah, and thirty-six miles each side the river, from the bay to the Canada lakes, &c., in accordance with his previous license.

The petition referred the commissioners of the council for the plantations, met the reply, that "The lands in question (between Claiborne and the proprietary) belonged absolutely to Lord Baltimore, under and by the second grant, and that no trade with the Indians could be carried on there without his consent, and that with regard to the violences complained of, no cause for any relief appeared, but that both parties should be left to the ordinary course of justice." Further than this, the hostility of Claiborne was justly aroused when Gov. Calvert appointed Capt. George Evelyn proprietor and commander of the Isle of Kent.

In 1638, "the court for testamentary cases," composed of the governor and council of Maryland, met at St. Mary's: two of the indictments then made, interest us; the first, to ascertain if William Claiborne took any part in aiding the attack on Gov. Calvert's boats; the second, charging the aforesaid Thomas Smith with the murder of Wm. Ashmore, who died of a shot fired from Claiborne's boat, and charging Claiborne with complicity in the matter. No capital punishment was allowed by the then-existing provincial laws, and trial on the indictments was postponed to the next session.

During Claiborne's absence in England the Isle of Kent became insubordinate, and Gov. Calvert proceeded to quell it by military force, and deputed his secretary, Mr. John Lewger, to convene an assembly there. Their first act was to pass a bill of attainder against Claiborne, forfeiting his property to the lord proprietor; the second was the indictment of Thomas Smith, and his condemnation and sentence; and so strong and ungenerous was their prejudice that they even denied him the benefit of clergy.

In 1644, Gov. Calvert having been in England, returned to find his colony in a sad condition.

"It is evident," says Mr. Streeter, "that a strong sympathy had existed in the province with the revolutionary movement in England against Charles I. and his ministry. * * * It has been said that the ideas of important epochs pervade the very air and infect the minds of all who breathe it. This simultaneous action of two deliberative bodies, separated by a wide ocean, would seem to indicate that the infection is not always confined to the nation in which such ideas originate.

"All agencies indeed seem spontaneously set at work to communicate the grand impulse to other and distant nations, when the mind of a people is

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intensely agitated with the evolution and application of principles essential to its own progress and that of the race, &c. The acts of parliament in relation to the powers of the king, and those of the assembly in regard to the rights of the proprietary and his officers, not only singularly corresponded in sentiment, but were nearly co-incident in point of time." Shortly after Calvert's return he called the freemen and burgesses together, and his proclamation gives us to suppose that affairs were in what he considered a very unsafe condition. Among those in the provinces who at this time freed themselves from their allegiance to the king and declared for parliament, was Capt. Claiborne. With his name are mentioned those of Capt. Samuel Matthews, one of the council, and Richard Bennet, afterward governor of the province, under Cromwell. Some, who impugn the motives of Claiborne, say that at this time he seized the Isle of Kent by armed force; but this cannot be authentically proved.

In February, 1644-5, Calvert's assembly convened at St. Mary's. Hardly had a single act been passed when Richard Ingle, followed by fifty men, broke into the meeting, made the governor a prisoner, took possession of the great seal and the public records; thus revolutionizing the province.

Some suppose that the governor was kept a prisoner, but more that he escaped and sought refuge in Virginia. Ultimately the guilty parties were tried and banished, which shows, Mr. Streeter argues, that the parliamentary powers in England were aware of the state of affairs in Maryland. The name of Claiborne has been for years associated with this event, but Mr. Streeter proves that he was absent at the time in Virginia, and at James City; where his name is among the first of the list of persons present at an assembly there, three days before, and in the intervening time his return would have been impossible. And further, "all the acts and commissions afterward promulgated by the assembly and by Lord Baltimore, without exception, name Ingle alone as the leader of the rebellion. And, also, the words of Cromwell's commissioners, "Kent Island which is Capt. Claiborne's," are very singular if he was one of the insurrectionists.

Owing to the abduction of the records by Ingle, much of the history of Maryland, for ten years, is very imperfect.

The appointment of Gov. Hill by the lord proprietary, soon after this, shows a diminution of power for the rebels. Ingle, who had formerly been proclaimed a traitor and his goods confiscated by Gov. Brent, now loaded a ship with what he considered the equivalent of his property, "and quitted the scene of his struggles and partial success." Gov. Calvert, by a judicious attack, became again commander of Maryland, and later of the Isle of Kent, and succeeded in subduing the inhabitants; and so, "two years after the time of his expulsion from the province, Gov. Calvert was again in possession of the seat of government in Maryland." He treated the insurrectionists with clemency, pardoning such as submitted, and attaching the property of such as had fled from the island; appointing Robert Vaughan its commander. In June, 1647, Gov. Calvert deceased. He appointed in his place, Thomas Green; but this gentleman was deposed by the lord proprietary in favor of Mr. Wm. Stone, a Virginia planter and a friend of parliament; and also a council of Protestants was appointed.

Mr. Streeter believes the reason for his appointment was to conciliate the Marylanders, and not, as stated, because he favored immigration. He required, as directed, the oath of fidelity to Lord Baltimore in the strictest form. Power was delegated to him to grant pardons, except the annulling of any form of laws or acts against Claiborne, which, says the commission,

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“we will have to still continue in full force and virtue, anything to the contrary in anywise notwithstanding.”

King Charles, although he had endeavored to profit by it if not wholly control and monopolize the colonial trade, was not successful, and Maryland and Virginia both carried on an illicit trade with the Dutch.

In 1650, after the execution of Charles I., parliament, then in power, undertook to put a stop to this, and after due deliberation of the council of state, five commissioners were appointed: from Great Britain, Capt. Robert Dennis, Mr. Thomas Stagge and Capt. Edmund Curtis; and from Virginia, Mr. Richard Bennet and Col. Wm. Claiborne,—to reduce Virginia and the inhabitants thereof to their due obedience to the commonwealth of England. Bozman says that Maryland was mentioned also, but the word erased, as Gov. Stone's goodwill to parliament was well known; but that Bennet and Claiborne contrived to insert it afterward. Curtis arrived in Virginia in 1652; the other two of the English deputation were lost on the passage.

Col. Claiborne was holding the office of treasurer of Virginia, from which he was shortly deposed by King Charles in favor of a royalist, Col. Norwood, by whose assistance Gov. Berkeley endeavored to keep Virginia loyal to the king.

Mr. Streeter believes that neither Bennet nor Claiborne were present at the erasing of the name of Maryland from the commission, as is supposed by some, not believing that, considering their position, “they would have permitted Lord Baltimore, who at best occupied a doubtful position, to carry his point before the committee, if, as has been often insinuated, they had their own personal aims and enmities to answer in the form and purpose of the instructions;” if the account of Lord Baltimore's friend, Langford, be true, “the instructions had no reference to Maryland.”

Furthermore, as Mr. Streeter believes, Claiborne was not aware of his appointment until the English commission arrived in the province. The reduction of the province was accomplished with nothing more than a slight show of resistance. Official arrangements were made, placing the power in the hands of the commissioners: so “the direction of affairs was placed in the hands of those who had so long suffered obloquy and reproach for their political opinions.” In the spring of 1652, at an assembly in James City, Bennet was elected governor and Claiborne secretary of Virginia, with a new council.

The commissioners sent a report of their proceedings, by Capt. Curtis, to England, where they were presented to parliament; at the same time a remonstrance was received from Lord Baltimore, and divers planters and traders of Maryland, complaining of certain aggravations concerning boundaries, and the reduction of a province “which had rather shown favor than illwill to the cause of parliament.” (Mr. Streeter considers it another proof of Bennet and Claiborne not having originated this scheme, that Sir Wm. Berkeley had, only a year before, possessed himself of Palmer's Island, in the face of Lord Baltimore's claims.)

The council, who had the subject under advisement four months, reported in 1652. Being evidently favorable to the Virginians, they did nothing calculated to affect Maryland's charter. They stated the facts of the settling of Virginia and the granting of Maryland; that before the date of said patent, Kentish Island was planted and inhabited by Claiborne, three years previous to Baltimore's arrival, and sent burgesses to the assembly of James City; that Virginians had free trade with the Indians in Chesapeake Bay; that in 1633, upon the arrival of Lord Baltimore's agents, their

trade was prohibited, &c., detailing the particulars of the capture of Claiborne's vessel, the fight that ensued, and his flight to England, and Lord Baltimore's retention of the trade in the bay. Having further particularized objections to Lord Baltimore's charter, they referred the matter to his answers of the same, so that we do not know how their expectations were met. The last article alludes to Bennet and Claiborne as being "sent thither," and charges the governor and council with refusing their requisitions on plea of oaths to the lord proprietary.

The confused state of parliament admitted no debate on his report. In 1653, Cromwell convened the new parliament, which finally resigned its power into his hands.

Affairs progressed favorably in Virginia for a while. Bennet and Claiborne, feeling that their presence was required in Maryland, went thither; knowing that Gov. Stone wished to resume his office and the people desired him to do so, they issued a proclamation re-installing him and his former council. The latter promised subjection to the commissioners, reserving their oaths to Lord Baltimore until the pleasure of the "State of England" could be known. The last act in the proclamation related to a treaty with the Susquehannock Indians, and Bennet and three others were chosen to negotiate with them. Of the latter number Claiborne was not one, perhaps because it would involve a longer absence of both officers from Virginia, or from delicacy on his part because of the disputed proprietorship of territory.

In July, 1652, under the commonwealth, the English and Indians made a treaty in whose first article is said, "the Isle of Kent and Palmer's Island, which belong to Capt. Claiborne; and building there is forbidden, except for trade or any such like or occasion."

Mr. Streeter supposes this to have been inserted through Bennet's influence; and the people being independents, originally Virginians, and opposed to Lord Baltimore, were ready to thus defy his authority. In December, 1652, Gov. Stone put forth an order, charging Capt. Vaughan, commander of Kent, with others, with abusing the power given them, and curtailing their authority. So, at the same time that the English committee had struck at the authority of Lord Baltimore, the American officers had also defied his requisitions. Gov. Stone, for nearly a year, had no advice from Lord Baltimore, as the Dutch war caused delay in sending such, and therefore postponed the general court to January, 1654. In November, 1652, Gov. Bennet called an assembly in Virginia. Its last act was to give Col. Claiborne and Henry Fleet, and their associates, the privilege of fourteen years' trade in places west and south where no English had been or traded before. We have no details of the prosperity of this trade. In a treaty made shortly after, with the chief of the Pamunkey Indians, he agreed to cede the south side of the York and Pamunkey rivers to Col. Claiborne. The latter, having long before relinquished all idea of ever repossessing himself of his old settlement, named the new, in memory of it, New-Kent; procured the legal establishment of it as a county; and finally became a resident there. In July, 1653, we read of the confiscation of the cargo of a Scottish ship for some violation of acts of parliament, and that Col. Claiborne was given a considerable portion of the funds accruing, in consideration of his services to the country in the matter. During the summer of 1653, Col. Matthews went to England to report for the commissioners, Bennet and Claiborne, and to urge the claims of Virginia, considering the article of surrender, which pledged a restoration of certain

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William Claiborne.

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former bounds, a charter against those who had entrenched upon them, and asking a discontinuance of Lord Baltimore's powers.

The so-called Barebones Parliament was in session; the business was presented to the committee on petitions and opposed by Lord Baltimore. Reports of the result differ. Lord Baltimore's friends state that it was abruptly dismissed; but the report made agreed nearly with the petition. In December, the parliament dissolved, and for a time the subject was dismissed.

In February, 1653, Gov. Stone received instructions, dated nearly a year previous, in response, from the lord proprietary, to his statements that the new settlers objected to taking the proprietary's oath, &c. The people, divided in their allegiance to Baltimore and to the parliament, had asked the guidance of the council of state. No reply was received, excepting a sharp rebuke from Lord Baltimore. Notwithstanding, he made some concessions, but demanded their taking oath, paying taxes, &c., before a certain time should have elapsed. The Marylanders, disconcerted at this, appealed to Bennet and Claiborne. Soon after their petition was sent to Virginia, Gov. Stone called on the people of Maryland to comply with the requisitions of Lord Baltimore; and the latter ordered the former to resume writs given in the proprietary's name, at the same time acknowledging obedience to the commonwealth of England. The commissioners replied to the Marylanders that no authority allowed the people to recede from their act of submission, &c.

The news of Cromwell's accession to the protectorship arrived in 1654, and a new instrument had to be adopted, whose articles disqualified for office those who had served against the parliament, and all Romanists. Gov. Stone was obliged to recognize the new power, which was done by public ceremony, May, 1654. In July, following, Gov. Stone accused the commissioners of being in rebellion and exciting the people thereto; and they afterward meeting him in a conference, Gov. Stone finally resigned.

Bennet and Claiborne called upon Hatton, the secretary of Maryland, to deliver the records to Mr. Wm. Durand. So, for the second time, the power was taken from Lord Baltimore by power of the supreme authority of England. Far from exalting themselves, or taking any advantage of their position to acquire further benefits, the commissioners made use only of their specified powers, and, though personally opposed to Lord Baltimore, carefully carried out the instructions transmitted to them. Capt. Fuller being appointed by them to the authority of Maryland, they returned to their official stations in Virginia. The burgesses of Maryland, shortly after, passed an act freeing themselves from the proprietary's oath. About this time, at the burgesses' assembly in Virginia, the county of New-Kent was represented for the first time.

In January, 1654-5, Lord Baltimore wrote to Gov. Stone, taunting him with cowardice and ordering him to take the commissioners prisoners; which, otherwise, would be done by Capt. Luke Barber, then on his way from England. Stone, encouraged by this, made a bold effort to regain his power; seized the records and carried them to St. Mary's; but on endeavoring to establish himself by military force, was wounded and taken a prisoner by Capt. Fuller's men.

Cromwell, soon after, addressed a letter to Gov. Bennet desiring his non-interference with the civil affairs of Maryland, although, as he afterward stated, he had no intention of abridging the rights of the commissioners. In 1655, Edward Diggs was elected governor of Virginia, and Col.

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Claiborne secretary. In the same year, Lord Baltimore made complaint to Cromwell of the infringement of his rights, which Gov. Bennet denied, by going to England and defending himself, first to Cromwell, and afterward, in connection with Col. Matthews, publishing a pamphlet detailing the whole case to the people. The lord protector gave his support to the commissioners in a letter addressed to the government of Virginia. But Col. Claiborne never availed himself of any privileges which might have resulted from the countenance of Cromwell. From this time his connection with public life in Maryland ceased; and he continued the duties of his station in Virginia. In 1657-8 he was re-elected secretary of state. On Cromwell's death, in 1657-8, his son Richard succeeded him; the latter convened a parliament which dissolved in April, and on the same day an assembly was held at James City. By its action, Claiborne was chosen to continue in office "till next assembly, or until his Highness's pleasure be further signified to us." As the enactment reads: "Whereas the office of Secretarie is a place of great trust," we see the confidence of the assembly in Col. Claiborne, after his long continued association with the province of Virginia; and this is sufficient evidence that his years of devotion to the interests of the colony were appreciated. In 1660, almost immediately after the accession of Charles II. to the throne, he appointed Sir Wm. Berkeley, governor; Major Norwood, treasurer; and Thomas Ludwell, Esq., secretary of Virginia.

In 1663-4 Claiborne, we learn, was present at an assembly in James City, as a delegate from New-Kent; although removed from superior office, he seems still to have retained the esteem of the people in the county he had founded. Both colonies were now in an unfortunate state. Disputes between them were severe, and in Virginia complaints of taxation, &c., and frequent depredations from the savages were making much disturbance. Col. Claiborne returned from the assembly to be obliged to assist in preparation for war. For the several years following, the struggles with the Indians were no slight trial, but from Col. Claiborne's former successful experience with the savages he was a most able adviser to the English.

In 1675-6 a garrison, partly from Gloucester and partly from the lower part of New-Kent, was placed in command of Col. Wm. Claiborne, Jr. The failure of the attempts made during the well known Bacon's rebellion, to change the minds of the Virginians, shows the high appreciation in which both father and son were held not to be diminished. In April, 1677, after the crushing of this rebellion, the assembly of Virginia offered to King Charles a justification of Sir Wm. Berkeley, and stated in an address several ways in which they considered themselves injured, one of which particularly interests us: "that the Island of Kent in Maryland, granted to, seated and planted by Col. Claiborne, Sen., formerly a limbe and member of Virginia (as may appear by our records, they having sent delegates to this assembly and divers other Indian proofs and evidences), is since lopt off and deteyned from us by Lord Baltimore."

Fifty years had elapsed since the settlement; long since had its lawful proprietor ceased to urge his right of ownership; and here was the highest official power of Virginia enlisted to revive his claim and renew the old feud, but with a fairer view of the question than had formerly been taken. At that time the eldest son of the late Cecilius, Lord Baltimore, was in London, settling his father's estates and answering before the crown for complaints recently made of the civil and religious state of Maryland. His lordship gave slight heed to the comfort of the Virginians; the latter

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Article from the New England Historical and Genealogical Register 1873

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considered the proximity of the independent plantations, Maryland and Carolina, injurious to themselves; and the commissioners sharing this feeling, petitioned to the king that the power of jurisdiction and government might be restored to the crown, &c.

In connection with these events is the last mention of the name of Col. Claiborne in the political records of Virginia. As a peaceful day for the colony began to dawn, he retired from public life and devoted himself to his property in New-Kent, and there passed the remainder of his life. The exact period or place of his death is not recorded. It is said that there was a tablet to his memory in Jamestown's oldest church,—long since crumbled to dust.

In the elegant language of his gifted biographer, Mr. Streeter, this paper is appropriately closed: "The hand of prejudice, prompted by personal subservience, traced on the tablet of history an inscription as unjust to the character and actions of the deceased as unbecoming the dignity of the historic muse. It has been reserved for an humble inquirer and a lover of the truth to erase the undeserved censure, and to erect a new cenotaph which displays the name of Claiborne as worthy of honor and respect, and which ranks him who planted it in this country as a man of whom his descendants have reason to be proud,—one of the earliest pioneers of civilization; the first actual settler of the territory of Maryland, and among the most active and prominent citizens in the early colonial days of Virginia; and one of the most remarkable men of his time."



Colonel William Claiborne 1600-1677

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

Norse Gods as Ancestors

By Patricia Clayborn

Of course it seems ridiculous when we read that some British aristocrats of the middle ages claimed descent from the Norse Gods. This includes some of the families with whom the Cleburnes of Cliburn Hall intermarried. However, after studying more, I started to wonder if some of the following genealogy might have some small amount of historical truth:

I have read that Sveide “The Sea King” Sviadrasson (c 760-832), a Norse King, claimed descent from Odin (or Wodin), a Norse god. Because the Norse people practiced ancestor worship as their religion, and because they carefully kept track of each generation in their oral story telling (especially for the genealogy of their kings), this story may have some basis in fact.

As I understand it, the Norse believed that their dead ancestors took a second life in a place reserved for them, where they acquired extraordinary powers and could help the living in times of trouble. Odin is described as a man who was driven out of his homeland, called Asaland near the Black Sea, by the Romans. This would have been approximately 950 years before Sveide was born, since the Romans conquered the region in 189 BC. Odin traveled to Denmark and then Sweden, accompanied by his son Thor and his friend Frey, and in time ruled the areas now called Norway and Sweden.

After he died...“then began the belief in Odin, and the calling upon him. The Swedes believed that he often showed himself to them before any great battle.” (Source: The Chronicle of the Kings of Norway).

Thor Heyerdahl, of “Kon Tiki” fame, wrote:

“In early Scandinavian history, we learn of the line of royal families in Denmark, Sweden and Norway. But we didn't take these stories about our beginnings seriously because they were so ancient. We thought it was just imagination, just mythology. The actual years for the lineage of historic kings began around the year 800 AD.

So we learned all the kings in the 1,000 years that followed and did not interest ourselves in earlier names. But I remember from my childhood that the mythology started with the god named Odin. From Odin it took 31 generations to reach the first historic king. The record of Odin says that he came to Northern Europe from the land of Aser. I started reading these pages again and saw that this was not mythology at all, but actual history and geography.

Snorre, who recorded these stories, started by describing Europe, Asia and Africa, all with their correct names, Gibraltar and the Mediterranean Sea with their old Norse names, the Black Sea with the names we use today again, and the river Don with its old Greek name, Tanais.

So, I realized that this has nothing to do with the gods who lived with the Thunder god Thor among the clouds. Snorre said that the homeland of the Asers was east of the Black Sea. He said this was the land that chief Odin had, a big country. He gave the exact description: it was east of the Black Sea, south of a large mountain range on the border between Europe and Asia, and extended southward towards the land of the Turks.

This had nothing to do with mythology, it was on this planet, on Earth. Then came the most significant point. Snorre says: ‘At that time when Odin lived, the Romans were conquering far and wide in the region. When Odin learned that they were coming towards the land of Asers, he decided that it was best for him to take his priests, chiefs and some of his people and move to the Northern part of Europe.’ The Romans are human beings, they are from this planet, they are not mythical figures.” Source: “Scandinavian Ancestry: Tracing Roots to Azerbaijan” by Thor Heyerdahl. Azerbaijan International. 2000. 8(2):78-83.



**Proposed Path of Odin's
Travel to Scandinavia**

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The Cleburnes of Cliburn Hall and the Curwens of Workington Hall

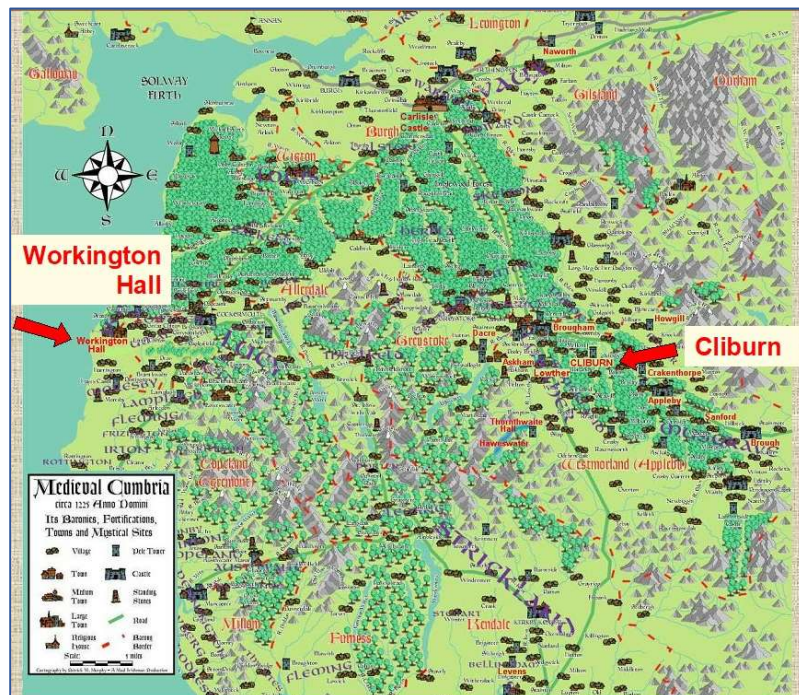
By Patricia Clayborn

Elizabeth Curwen of Workington Hall is a direct ancestor of the Cleburnes of Cliburn Hall. Elizabeth married John Cleburne around 1485. Their son Thomas married Joan Sandford, who was also descended from the Curwens through her mother Isabel Curwen Sandford. Elizabeth's ancestor Sir Gilbert Curwen played a part in King Edward I's defeat of William Wallace at Falkirk in 1298. Late in the battle, he showed up with a large contingent of his men and helped to turn the tide. It has been suggested that Gilbert waited until he knew who was winning before joining the battle, because he had family supporting both sides in the conflict. The story goes that in the flush of victory Sir Gilbert turned to the King and said "Ah, where would you have been if I had not been there?" The saying became famous and Sir Gilbert took "Si Je N'Estoy (If I were not there)" as his motto for his coat of arms. He took a unicorn as his crest to signify his ancient relationship to Galloway in Scotland: "Crest: A unicorn's head erased Argent, armed Or." The gateposts at Workington Hall are surmounted by carved stone unicorns' heads.

The design of the Curwen coat of arms is very similar to that of the Cleburnes, and I wonder if they are related in origin. It reads: "Arms: Argent, fretty Gules a chief Azure." The Cleburne arms read: "Argent, three chevronels interlaced in base Sable; a chief of the last." "Fretty" and "chevronels interlaced" are nearly interchangeable terms, because they both mimic the cross braces and struts of ancient wooden shields. This design is also similar to the coats of arms of the families FitzHugh, Harrington, Thornburgh, Salkeld, and the le Flemings of Rydal, who were all interrelated.



The Curwens' ancestry goes all the way back to Orm and his wife Gunhilda, the daughter of Gospatrick, Earl of Dunbar in Scotland. Gospatrick was the son of Maldred, who was a younger brother of the "Gracious Duncan" immortalized in Shakespeare's "Macbeth." They were the sons of Crinan by his marriage with a daughter of Malcolm, the last King of Scotland. Maldred's wife, Alghitha, Gospatrick's mother, was the daughter of Ughtred – who was assassinated by Canute – and his wife Elgiva, a daughter of King Ethelred II "The Unready."



Orm and Gunhilda's son was Gospatric, a great Gaelic and Saxon Lord of Northumberland. Gospatric joined with Edgar Atheling, Edwin Earl of Mercia and Earl Morcar his brother, in an uprising against William the Conqueror. When they lost and Gospatric was stripped of his earldom, William replaced him with the Flemish Robert de Comines. This led to another rebellion headed by Gospartic and the Danish King Swein, which was met by William with the terrible "Harrying of the North." Gospatric survived and eventually was granted back his earldom – a remarkable achievement for a Saxon. Gospatric's son Thomas received a grant of the Lordship of Culwen in Galloway Scotland, and his descendants assumed that name. Eventually the name evolved into Curwen.

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The Cleburnes of Cliburn Hall and the Curwens of Workington Hall

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Workington Hall



Gift from Mary Queen of Scots of her own personal agate Communion cup to the Curwen Family

Workington Hall is on the west coast of Cumbria. The old mansion was built in the reign of William Rufus, by Patric de Culwen, and was “castellated” in 1379 by Royal license granted by King Richard II to Sir Gilbert de Culwen. The house stands on a wooded hill overlooking the Derwent River, with a view of Solway Bay and across the water, the coast of Scotland. The manor has been in the Curwen family from the early 1300s up until 1930. Mary Queen of Scots stayed at the Hall under the protection of the Curwens when she escaped from Scotland and fled across the Solway Firth in a fishing boat with sixteen companions. She had very few possessions with her and desperately needed shelter. Lord Herries, a Scottish Lowland Lord, sent a message to his friend Sir Henry Curwen of Workington. Sir Henry sheltered Mary until she could be escorted to Carlisle Castle. In gratitude, she gave the family her own personal agate communion cup, and she wished them luck. The cup became known as the “Workington Luck.”

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The Cleburnes of Cliburn Hall and the Curwens of Workington Hall

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In the Church of St. Michael, Workington, in the north aisle, is the tomb of Sir Christopher Curwen (c. 1382-1453) Knight, M.P. Lord of the Manor of Workington from 1404 to 1450 and his wife Elizabeth de Huddleston. The effigy of Sir Christopher is dressed in full plate armor, has a collar with a pendant star, a helmet with unicorn crest beneath his head and a dog at his feet. The cushions under the head of Elizabeth's effigy are supported by small angels. The hands of both knight and lady hold hearts. This tomb has been damaged by a past church fire, but its decorations of Curwen coats of arms partitioned with those of allied families are still recognizable. Sir Christopher had every right to be shown in armor since he took part in a tournament at Carlisle Castle Green with himself and five English knights against six Scottish knights. The Englishmen were Ralf de Neville 1st Earl of Westmorland, John 7th Lord Clifford, Ralph 6th Lord Greystoke, William 5th Lord Harrington, John de Lancaster and Sir Christopher. Christopher was dressed just like his effigy, and when the trumpets called the charge, he hit his adversary, Sir William de Haliburton, in the neck, and threw him from his horse.



St. Michael's Church, Workington



St. Michael's Church, Workington
Tomb of Sir Christopher Curwen
Knight and Elizabeth His Wife



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The Cleburnes of Cliburn Hall and the Curwens of Workington Hall

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In 2018 a metal detector enthusiast found a buried gold signet ring. It had a two sided bezel, meaning the center bezel could flip like a coin to show two different images. On one side was the Curwen coat of arms, with a “difference” – a tiny crescent moon - to signify that it belonged to a particular descendant rather than to the original ancestor to whom the arms were granted. On the other side of the bezel was a unicorn for the family crest. The ring was examined by experts and determined to be 400 years old. The crescent moon difference was found to belong to Thomas Curwen (1620-1672), the second son of Sir Henry Curwen (1581-1623). Thomas inherited the family estate, which included the 15th century Workington Hall, following the death of his elder brother, Sir Patricius Curwen, 1st Baronet, in 1664. No one knows how the ring got from Workington to Thornton, Buckinghamshire, where it was dug up in a field. The ring was put up for auction with an estimated value of \$12,000 but sold for \$26,470.



This is only a tiny portion of the amazing story of the Curwen family. Perhaps we can explore more in a future issue.

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The Cleburnes of Cliburn Hall and the Curwens of Workington Hall

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Descendants of Orm of Kendal, Lord of Allerdale

Numbers denote generation. Early dates are estimated.

- 1 Orm of Kendal b: Abt. 1060, d: Abt. 1120
+ Gunhilda of Dunbar b: Abt. 1060 in Dunbar, East Lothian, Scotland (daughter of Gospatrick, Earl of Northumbria, 1st Earl of Dunbar Scotland, and Aetheldreda, Princess of England)
...2 Gospatric Lord of Workington of High Ireby
....+ Egeline (daughter of Raoul d'Engaine and Ibría De Estriviers)
.....3 Thomas FitzGospatric de Culwen
.....+ Grace of Workington
.....4 Patric de Curwen
.....+ [unknown spouse]
.....5 Gilbert Curwen
.....+ Edith
.....6 Gilbert Curwen, Sheriff of Cumberland
.....+ Edith Harrington
.....7 Gilbert Curwen
.....+ Margareta
.....8 Gilbert Curwen
.....+ Alice Lowther (daughter of Hugh Lowther, Sheriff of Cumberland, and Margaret de Wale)
.....9 William Curwen b: Abt. 1360
.....+ Margaret Croft (daughter of Sir John Croft of Claughton, Lancashire)
.....10 Sir Christopher Curwen b: Abt 1382, d: 1453 Represented his county in several parliaments, High sheriff of Cumberland in the second and twelfth years of the reign of Henry VI. (Tomb is in St. Michael's Church, Workington)
.....+ Elizabeth Huddleston (daughter of Richard Huddleston and Sybil Croft)
.....11 Sir Thomas Curwen b: Abt. 1405 in Workington Hall, d: Abt. 1463
.....+ Anne Lowther (daughter of Robert Lowther and Margaret de Strickland. Margaret was the daughter of William de Strickland, Bishop of Carlisle, and Isabel de Warcop.)
.....12 Sir Christopher Curwen
.....+ Anne Pennington (daughter of Sir John Pennington and Catherine Tunstall)
.....13 Isabel "Mabel" Curwen b: Abt. 1450 in Workington Hall
.....+ William Sandford b: 1450 in Askham, d: 1480 in Askham
.....14 Joan Johanna Sandford b: Abt. 1467 in Askham
.....+ Thomas Cliburne b: 1467 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn, Westmorland, d: Abt. 1525
.....15 Robert Cleburne b: Abt. 1490 in Cliburn Hall, d: Abt. 1550
.....+ Emma Kirkbride b: Abt. 1490 in Kirkbride, Northumberland, m: Oct 1505
.....15 Hugh Cliburn b: Abt. 1495 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn, Westmorland
.....14 Edmund Sandford b: 1470 in Askham, d: 1513 in Askham
.....+ Elizabeth Warcop b: Abt. 1470, m: 1497
.....15 Thomas Sandford b: 1506 in Askham Hall, Westmorland, d: 1563
.....+ Grace Crackenthorpe b: 1506 in Howgill Castle, Westmorland, m: 1525
.....13 Thomas Curwen b: Abt. 1460 in Workington Hall, d: 1522
.....+ Anne Huddleston (daughter of Sir John Huddleston of Millom Castle)
.....14 Christopher Curwen b: Abt. 1485
.....+ Margaret Bellingham (daughter of Sir Roger Bellingham)
.....15 Thomas Curwen b: Abt. 1520, d: 1544
.....+ Agnes Strickland (daughter of Sir Walter Strickland and great-granddaughter of Anne Parr)
.....14 Lucy Curwen b: 1489 in Workington Hall, Workington, Cumberland
.....+ John Lowther b: 1487 in Lowther Castle, m: 27 Jan 1502, d: 03 Feb 1551
.....15 Hugh Lowther b: 1510 in Hartsop Hall, England, d: 1546
.....+ Dorothy Clifford b: 1512 in Skipton, Yorkshire, d: 13 Sep 1562
.....12 Elizabeth Curwen b: Abt. 1445 in Workington Hall
.....+ John Cleburne b: 1445 in Cliburn Hall, d: 1489
.....13 Thomas Cliburne b: 1467 in Cliburn Hall, d: Abt. 1525
.....+ Joan Johanna Sandford b: Abt. 1467 in Askham
.....14 Robert Cleburne b: Abt. 1485 in Cliburn Hall, d: Abt. 1550
.....+ Emma Kirkbride b: Abt. 1485 in Kirkbride, Northumberland, m: Oct 1505
.....15 Edmund Cleburne b: Abt. 1510 in Cliburn Hall, m: 1524, d: Abt. 1580
.....+ Ann Layton (daughter of William Layton of Dalmain)
.....15 Eleanor Cleburne
.....+ Richard Kirkbride
.....14 Hugh Cliburn b: Abt. 1490 in Cliburn Hall, Cliburn, Westmorland

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The Cleburnes of Cliburn Hall and the Curwens of Workington Hall

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Descendants of Adam le Franceys

Numbers denote generation. Early dates are estimated.

1 Adam le Franceys circa 1160 - 1210

.. 2 Thomas le Franceys circa 1175 -

..... 3 Adam le Franceys circa 1200 -

..... 4 Matilda le Franceys circa 1230 -

..... 3 Robert le Franceys circa 1205 -

.. 2 Hugh le Franceys circa 1180 -

.....+Johanna de Veteripont/Vipont 1180 - (Johanna was the daughter of Ivo de Veteripont (c1163-c1239) and Isabella de Thoresby. Isabella was the daughter of Bernard de Thoresby.)

..... 3 Adam le Franceys circa 1200 -

..... 4 Gilbert le Franceys 1220 - 1278

..... +Hawise de Vernon 1220 - (In 1257, Richard de Vernon and John le Franceys agreed that Richard would give his niece Hawise, daughter of Robert de Vernon, in marriage to Gilbert, son of Adam le Franceys and nephew of John. John granted the couple land in Routhcliff and Meaburn; Richard granted them Pitchcott Manor, Buckinghamshire.)

..... 5 Richard "de Vernon" le Franceys 1263 - 1330 (Richard took his mother's surname of "de Vernon" later in life. Richard was under age in 1278 at his father's death. He married Isabel de Harcla, daughter of Sir Michael de Harcla. Richard was the ward of King Edward at the time of his marriage. When Edward found Richard had been underage and married to Isabel he seized his lands and fined him, "Until it shall appear by what right and title Richard le Franceys, son & heir of Gilbert le Franceys, married the daughter of Sir Michael de Harcla." In 1294 the Manor of Rowcliff is given to Richard Geron for life.)

..... +Isabel de Harcla 1265 - 1342 (Isabel was the daughter of Sir Michael de Harcla (Harclay/Hartley) (Sheriff of Cumberland from 1285 to 1298) and Joan FitzJohn of Yorkshire. Isabel was sister of Andrew de Harclay, Earl of Carlisle.)

..... 6 Richard de Vernon 1280 -

..... +Maud de Camville 1290 -

..... 7 William de Vernon 1320 -

..... 3 John le Franceys circa 1205 - (Baron of the Exchequer)

..... 3 Robert le Franceys circa 1210 - 1265

..... +Elizabeth de Tailbois 1218 - (Elizabeth was the daughter and heir of Walter de Tailbois, who was Chamberlain for Robert de Veteripont. Walter de Tailbois was the son of Ivo de Tailbois. Elizabeth de Tailbois brought Cliburn to her marriage to Robert le Franceys as her dowry. The manors of Cliburn-Hervey and Cliburn-Tailbois were united around this time.)

..... 4 John (de Cliburn) le Franceys 1240 - 1310

..... 5 Robert (de Cliburn) le Franceys 1260 - 1335

..... +Alice de Quitlawe 1260 - (Alice was the daughter and heir of Adam de Quythlawe/Quithlaw.)

..... 6 Robert le Franceys 1295 -

..... 6 John le Franceys 1297 -

..... +Beatrice le Boteler 1290 - (Beatrice married John circa 1317. She was the daughter of Robert le Botiller/Boteler of Newby, Penrith, Cumbria.)

..... 7 Robert (de Cliburn) le Franceys 1320 -

..... 8 John (de Cliburn) le Franceys 1310 -

..... +Margaret de Bolton 1310 -

..... 9 Robert Cleburne 1330 - 1396 (Sir Robert, Lord of the Manor of Cliburn and Lord of the Manor of Bampton Cundale, was a person of some distinction, temp. Edward III., and was Knight of the Shire of Westmoreland in 1384 and 1387. By 1392, Gilbert de Culwen and Robert de Cliburn held Bampton Patric and Knipe Patric together.)

..... +Margaret de Cundale 1330 - (Margaret was the daughter and co-heir of Henry de Cundale and Kyne - one of the Drengi of Westmoreland who held their lands before the Conquest, and were permitted to retain them. This Henry de Cundale was descended from Henry, Lord of Cundale.)

..... 10 John Cleburne 1375 - 1440

..... +Margaret Salkeld 1375 - (Margaret was the daughter of Hugh de Salkeld. Hugh de Salkeld married Christina de Rosgill, heiress of the Manor of Rosgill in Westmorland, and was Knight of the Shire in Westmorland several times before his death in 1397. At Hugh's death, Rosgill passed on to his son and heir, Hugh Salkeld, who was living in 1440 when his brother-in-law, John Cleburne had died.)

..... 11 Roland Cleburne 1415 - 1470

..... +Katherine de Lancaster 1420 - 1475

..... 12 **John Cleburne 1445 - 1489 (John fought in the battle of Kirtle on July 2, 1484. Kirtle lies between Lochmaben Castle in Dumfries and Carlisle.)**

..... +**Elizabeth Curwen 1445 -** (Lady Elizabeth Curwen was the daughter of Sir Thomas Curwen of Workington Hall. This was considered a great alliance, for Elizabeth's blood was "darkly, deeply, beautifully blue," her ancestor Orm having married Gunhilda, daughter of "Cospatrick the Great," first Earl of Dunbar and Northumberland, whose father Maldred was younger brother of the "Gracious Duncan," murdered by Macbeth, whose grandmother was Elgira, daughter of the Saxon King Ethelred II, called "the unready.")

..... 13 Thomas Cleburne 1468 - 1525

..... +Johanna "Joan" Sandford 1470 - (Johanna Sandford of Askham Hall was the daughter of William Sandford and his wife Mabel Curwen. William Sandford was the son of Thomas Sandford and Margaret Musgrave. Mabel Curwen was the daughter of Christopher Curwen and Elizabeth Huddleston.)

MEMBERSHIP CONTACT INFORMATION

Please send updated contact information to our Registrar Frank Rura, or include it with your dues payment:

Frank Rura
3052 Rogers Ave. Ellicott City, MD 21043
E-Mail: frank9111@verizon.net Ph: 410-465-4778

ANNUAL DUES

Our membership year runs from October 1st to September 30th. The Annual Dues for the Claiborne Society are \$10. As an alternative, a lifetime membership is available for \$200 for current members. To continue to receive newsletters, please send your check payable to "The Claiborne Society" to our Treasurer:

**NATIONAL SOCIETY CLAIBORNE FAMILY DESCENDANTS
ANNUAL DUES PAYMENT FORM**

Name

(Optional) Claiborne Line/Ancessor.....

Street Address.....

City State Zipcode

Telephone

E-Mail:

Check one:	Cost	AMOUNT ENCLOSED
<input type="checkbox"/> Annual Dues:	\$10	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime Membership:	\$200	\$ _____

Send this form and your check payable to **The Claiborne Society** to our Treasurer:

**Charles Claiborne
508 Penny Lane
Woodstock, GA 30188**

Registrar
3052 Rogers Ave.
Ellicott City, MD 21043



Claiborne Society Newsletter
The National Society of Claiborne Family Descendants

