

# BUCHANAN FAMILY RECORDS.

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An Account of the First American Settlers  
and Colonial Families of the Name of  
Buchanan, and Other Genealogical and  
Historical Data, Mostly New and  
Original Material Including  
Early Wills and Marriages  
Heretofore Unpublished.

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BY

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# **BUCHANAN FAMILY RECORDS.**

CONTAINING

Scottish Ancestry.

Maryland Buchanans.

President James Buchanan.

Patrick Buchanan's Family.

The Buchanans of Missouri.

New York Buchanans.

Revolutionary Records.

New York Marriages.

Members of Congress.

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# THE BUCHANAN FAMILY.

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The origin of the name Buchanan is believed to be shown on an ancient pedigree of the O'Cahans, of which the 102nd name is that of "Conn Clonn-tach O'Cahan" (son of Dermod), who had a brother, Annselan, who was ancestor of the O'Bo-cainains (from the Irish "bocain," a fairy, and "an," one). The name became O'Buchanan, or Buchanan. This Annselan is believed to have been the first of the name who settled in Scotland.

About the middle of the Thirteenth Century, Gilbert, seneschal to the Earl of Lennox, obtained from him Buchanan, in Stirlingshire, and probably took his name from that estate. It is also thought to have had an ecclesiastical origin, from the fact that in its Gaelic form, it is "Mac-a-Chononaich" ("son of the Canon"). The family in very ancient times bore the name of "Mac Anslan," and it is believed by some authorities that, on the passing of the lands and chiefship of the clan to an ecclesiastic, the name was changed.

Maurice of Buchanan received a charter of confirmation of his title to the estate from the king.

In it he is called "son and heir of the late Maurice of Bouchannane of the land called Bouchannane." The charter includes Sallachy. The bounds are "from Kelyn to Aldmar, down to the water of Hanerch, and the lands of Sallachy down to the pool of Longchlomneid." The lands were to be held "by the delivery of a cheese out of each house in which a cheese is made on the said lands."

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A descendant of Gilbert, Maurice of Buchanan, married a daughter of Menteith of Rusky, who was related to the Royal House. His son, Walter, married the heiress of the ancient house of Leny. Their eldest son was Sir Alexander, who fought at the Battle of Bauje-en-Anjou, 1421, under Stuart, Constable of France, and is said to have slain the Duke of Clarence. He was killed in the Battle of Verneuil, in 1424. His brother, Walter, succeeded to Buchanan. This Walter married Isabel (daughter of Murdoch, Duke of Albany), Countess of Lennox. Their eldest son, Patrick, married the heiress of Killearn and Auchreoch. Their youngest son, Thomas, was the ancestor of George Buchanan, the historian. Patrick's son, Walter, married a daughter of Lord Graham. Their youngest son was known as the "King of Kippan," of the time of James V. Patrick, who was killed at the Battle of Flodden, mar-

ried a daughter of Argyle, and had two sons, George, Sheriff of Dumbarton, 1561, and Walter, founder of the family of Spittal. He married Margaret Edmondston of Duntreath and had a son, John. By his second wife, Janet Cunninghame, of Craigends, he had a son, William, who was ancestor of the line of Auchmar.

The ancient war cry of the Clan Buchanan was "Clar Innis," from their meeting place on an island of that name in Loch Lomond. Their badge was the "Deare bhraoileag" (bilberry), or "Darag" (oak).

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One branch of the family in America is descended from George Buchanan, who was born in Scotland about 1698. He came to America in 1723, and became a physician of Baltimore, Maryland. His wife was Eleanor, daughter of Nicholas Rogers. George Buchanan died in 1750. His son, Andrew, of Baltimore, was born in 1734. He was Presiding Justice of Baltimore county. In 1744 he was a member of the Committee of Correspondence, and in 1776, Brigadier-General of Maryland troops. He married Susan, daughter of Alexander Lawson, one of the Commissioners of Baltimore. His son, Doctor George Buchanan, of Baltimore, was born in 1763, and died at Philadelphia in 1808. He received his degree of M. D.

at the University of Pennsylvania in 1789. He was President of the Royal Physicians' Society, of Edinburgh, Scotland. His wife was Letitia, daughter of Hon. Thomas McKean, Chief Justice, and Governor of Pennsylvania, signer of the Declaration of Independence, and President of Congress. Their son, McKean Buchanan, was born in Baltimore. He entered the United States Navy in 1826, and was an officer of the frigate, *Congress*, which was destroyed by the *Virginia*, under the command of his brother, Admiral Franklin Buchanan, of the Confederate Navy.

Other members of the family were Judge John Buchanan, of the Maryland Court of Appeals, and for twenty-one years Chief Justice. He died near Williamsport, in his seventy-first year.

Thomas Buchanan, of Washington county, Maryland, was also a jurist of ability. He died in 1848.

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James Buchanan, the fifteenth President of the United States, was the second child of James Buchanan, a native of County Donegal, Ireland, who, in 1783, at the age of twenty-three, came to Philadelphia. A few months later he removed to Stony Batter, at the foot of North Mountain, near Mercersburg, and some years later had a store at that place. This was a place of exchange of the products of "the West" for those of the East, and the



father of the future President soon had a prosperous business. In 1788 he married Elizabeth Speer, whose home was at the foot of South Mountain, between Chambersburg and Gettysburg. Their son, James, was born at Stony Batter, April 23, 1791. In 1796 the family removed to Mercersburg, where the father opened another store. He died in 1821. The old Buchanan home at Mercersburg was the lower part of what is now the Hotel Mercer.

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Patrick Buchanan, born April 16, 1745, in Tyrone county, Ireland; married, February 7, 1776, Margaret Scott, born February 22, 1753. He died November 19, 1824. She died in her 93rd year. He was an elder and she a life-long member of the Presbyterian Church.

Issue:

1. Anne, born December 25, 1776, died April 11, 1864.
2. John, born January 2, 1779, married July 14, 1819.
3. Elizabeth, born April 16, 1781, died January 15, 1878.
4. Mary, born August 17, 1783.
5. William, born January 11, 1786, married August 10, 1806.
6. James, born January 11, 1788, married April 13, 1825, in Cooper County, Mo.

7. George, born March 24, 1790, died January 13, 1854, in St. Louis, Mo.

8. Andrew, born July 6, 1792, in Lisbony, Ireland; married December 4, 1828, in Florence, Ala., Harriet Paxton Coalter, and died May 1, 1860, in Louisville, Ky.

9. Charles, born October 4, 1794, in Ireland, died, unmarried, November 18, 1835, in Louisville, Ky.

George Buchanan arrived in New York, May 22, 1816. He lived in Louisville, New Orleans and St. Louis. He was twice married.

James Buchanan married, April 13, 1825, Eliza ———. He lived in Booneville, Cooper county, Mo.

Issue:

1. Jane Anne, born May 20, 1826.
2. Patrick, born November 10, 1828.
3. George, born March 3, 1831.

John Buchanan was a lieutenant in the 43rd Regiment of Foot, 1813, with Lord Wellington.

Andrew Buchanan married Harriet Paxton Coalter. She was born at Duck River, Lincoln county, Tenn., near Fayetteville, February 19, 1810, and died in Louisville, Ky., October 3, 1886.

Issue:

1. Mary, born March 21, 1820, married September 21, 1859, in Louisville, Herman Beckurts, and died April 19, 1879, in Cannon City, Colo.

2. Margaret, born May 17, 1832, died February 5, 1853, unmarried.

3. Harriet, born June 10, 1834, died January 2, 1837.

4. George Coalter, born July 19, 1836, married December 15, 1858, in New Orleans, Emily Louise Ferrian.

5. Charles, born May 31, 1838, died February 9, 1864, unmarried.

6. Andrew, left Lisbony, Ireland, May 11, 1822, arrived in New York, June 24, 1822; was made a citizen October 12, 1827, at Florence, Ala.

George Coalter Buchanan, born July 19, 1836, in Louisville, Ky., married December 15, 1858, in New Orleans, La., Emilie Louise Ferriere, born December 25, 1838, in New Orleans, and died August 2, 1889, in Toronto, Canada.

Issue:

1. Cora, born November 9, 1859, died September 21, 1865, in Augusta, Ga.

2. George C., born March 31, 1861, in New Orleans.

3. Harriet C., born December 18, 1862, married Clifton Atkinson, in New Orleans.

4. Emma, born November 21, 1864, in Augusta, Ga.

5. Andrew Scott, born May 18, 1869, in Louisville, Ky.
  6. Ada, born February 22, 1867.
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Thomas Buchanan was a king among early New York merchants, and his firm was in existence for full fifty-five years, and was known in 1766 as Walter and Thomas Buchanan. Between that date and the close of the Revolution the firm changed, and became Thomas Buchanan & Company. Walter lived at 4 Duane Street, where he died about the close of 1804. His son, Doctor Walter W. Buchanan, lived in Hudson Street, not far from Duane. Then he moved away and was gone until 1825. He came back to the city that year, and lived at 114 Grand Street, corner of Broadway.

Thomas Buchanan became very prominent from 1792 to 1809, when he took in his son George, as a partner, and the firm was Thomas Buchanan & Son. The firm was in business at 44 Wall Street as late as 1816. The residence of Thomas was at 64 Broadway. George lived at the home of his parents. Thomas died in November, 1815, aged 71.

Thomas Buchanan married Almy, a daughter of Jacob Townsend. They had issue eight children. 1. Jane Buchanan, died unmarried. 2. Almy, married Peter P. Goelet. 3. Martha, married Thomas Hicks. 4. Margaret, married Robert R. Goelet. 5. Eliza, married Samuel Gilford. 6.

George Buchanan, born September 7, 1775. 7.  
Frances, married Thomas C. Pearsall. 8. Fanny  
Buchanan, died unmarried.

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Among New York Buchanans in the Revolution  
were:

Ebenezer Buchanan, Albany Co.  
James Buchanan, Orange Co.  
John Buchanan, State Line.  
Patrick Buchanan, Albany Co.  
Robert Buchanan, Ulster Co.  
Samuel Buchanan, State Line.  
William Buchanan, Suffolk Co.

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Among the Revolutionary officers of the name  
are Andrew and William, of Maryland; Andrew,  
John, Patrick and William, of Virginia; John and  
Robert, of South Carolina; Thomas, of Pennsyl-  
vania, and Robert, of New York.

General David Chrystie Buchanan fought for  
the Union in the Civil War, at the Battle of Mal-  
vern Hill.

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Following is a record of early marriages of Bu-  
chanans in New York State:

1778, May 19, David Buchanan and Mary Con-  
nell.

1771, Dec. 26, John Buchanan and Sarah Har-  
rison.

The following Buchanans were members of Congress:

BUCHANAN, Andrew, a representative from Pennsylvania, born in Chester county, Pa., April 8, 1780, died in Waynesburg, Pa., Dec. 2, 1848.

BUCHANAN, Hugh, a representative from Georgia, born in Argleshire, Scotland, Sept. 15, 1823, died in Newman, Ga., June 20, 1890.

BUCHANAN, James, representative and a Senator from Pennsylvania, born in Cove Gap, near Mercersburg, Franklin county, Pa., April 23, 1791, died in Wheatland, near Lancaster, Pa., June 1, 1868.

BUCHANAN, James, a representative from New Jersey, born in Ringoes, Hunterdon county, N. J., June 17, 1839.

BUCHANAN, John Alexander, a representative from Virginia, born in Smyth county, Va., Oct. 7, 1843.

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The Pennsylvania Muster Rolls, of 1776-1783, contains the names of the following Buchanans:

James Buchanan, 1779, Washington Co., private.

David Buchanan, 1781, Northumberland Co., private.

James Buchanan, 1782, Northumberland Co., private.

Thomas Buchanan, 1782, Northumberland Co., private.

Robert Buchanan, 1783, Cumberland Co., private.

Arthur Buchanan, 1783, Cumberland Co., private.

John Buchanan, 1783, Westmoreland Co., private.

John Buchanan, 1783, Cumberland Co., private.

James Buchanan, 1777, Lancaster Co., private.

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The Virginia marriages of Buchanans, taken from original records, are as follows:

BUCHANAN, David & Wright Steel, Sept. 4, 1789, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, George & Nancy Casady, June 23, 1803, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Jean & James Parks, May 4, 1786, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, John & Martha Wilson, June 7, 1796, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, John & Mary Patton, June 17, 1749, Augusta Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Mary & Conrad Moler, May 4, 1826, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Patsey & David Dice, Oct. 9, 1823, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Peace W. & Saml. Pettegrew, Oct. 22, 1812, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Phebe & Coleman Clayton, Oct. 11,  
1825, Rockbridge Co., Va.

BUCHANAN, Sarah & Thos. Wood, Aug. 27,  
1759, Fauquier Co., Va.

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Among the early wills filed in Virginia, and never before published, are those of Joseph of Prince William county, and James of Rockbridge County, and are as follows:

**BUCHANAN, JOSEPH.**

Prince William Co., Va. Will filed Feb. 26,  
1738.

wife Elizabeth.

s. John Buchanan.

s. Joseph Buchanan.

s. Hoanie Buchanan.

s. William Buchanan.

s. George Buchanan.

bro. George Buchanan.

bro. Joseph Buchanan.

**BUCHANAN, JAMES.**

Rockbridge Co., Va. Will filed June 6, 1797.

James Bell, g. s. of Victor Bell.

Jerry Bell, s. of Victor Bell.

Mary Neagle.







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GENEALOGY, 45 William Street, New York,  
records the following Buchanans who are wanted  
as heirs to estates:

Buchanan, Arthur, New York.

Buchanan, Elizabeth, *nee* Gedder.

Buchanan, James, died 1850.

Buchanan, Maria, New York, 1880.

Buchanan, Peter, marreid 1840, Susan Muller.

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