

A HISTORY OF THOMAS AND ANNE BILLOPP FARMAR

And Some of Their
Descendants in America

COMPILED FROM AUTHENTIC DOCUMENTS BY
CHARLES FARMAR BILLOPP



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MCMVII

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FERMOR

Earl of Pomfret, Baron Lempster and Baronet; a Lord of the Bed-Chamber to the King, and Keeper of the Lower Parks and House at Windsor.

Arms : Argent, a fess sable, between three lions' heads erased gules.

Crest : Out of a ducal coronet or a cock's head gules, combed and wattled, or.

Supporters : Two lions proper.

Motto : " Hora e Sempre."

Chief Seat : Easton-Neston, Northampton.

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Charles Farmer Billopp

PREFACE

It was not the intention of the writer of this little book, when the work was conceived, to make more than the veriest sketch of the principal members of the ancient and honorable Farmar family. But, as in his researches so many incidents, intensely interesting, were discovered which he believed his relatives and connections, who have the Farmar blood in their veins, would be equally desirous and laudably curious to know, he could not find it in his power to deny them that privilege.

He has found it very difficult to separate legend and tradition from authentic history, and in his endeavor to winnow the true from the false, he has been compelled to ignore numerous very interesting and pretty tales, which in his opinion were too highly colored with romance. He believes, however, that the reader will be interested, entertained, and satisfied with this story, though nearly every sentence of it *is* supported by documentary proof of its reliability, and after its perusal will agree with the writer that truth is, if not stranger, at least more satisfying than fiction.

Of many of the people here mentioned we would all like to know more than it seems possible now to discover. There are many we would all feel honored simply to have known. Perhaps we will know them in the future; but in the present we can but feel proud that we have their blood in our veins—that we are a part of them.

There is good old Richard Fermour, who lost his princely estates for being true and steadfast in his friendship for his imprisoned confessor, Nicholas Thayne, through the cupidity of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex. The writer must confess that he cannot read of the downfall of that cunning statesman without a feeling of satisfaction: How the Duke of Nor-

folk tore the Insignia of the Garter from his neck at the Council Board; how, in spite of his abject prayers, he was accused of treason, found guilty, and, amid popular applause, executed on the scaffold. And Richard Fermour came to his own again. Yes, we would be glad to have known the brave and patient old man.

And there is Sir George Fermor, "the man of letters," the personal friend of Sir Philip Sydney. How pleasant it would have been to have heard him converse of his friend. And the first Earl of Pomfret, the "traveler and scholar," he who secured the Arundel Marbles; and his wife, Louisa, the first "blue stocking," who, as his widow, presented these most valuable antiques to the University of Oxford.

And Robert Farmar, the "officer of rank in Queen Elizabeth's Army in Ireland," who "was slain in battle," but not before he had founded our branch of the family—else where would we have been!

Major Jasper Farmar, the friend and neighbor of William Penn, who took up 5000 acres of land in White Marsh township, but died on the voyage over; and his grandsons, Captain George Farmar, the hero of H. M. S. *Quebec*, and Colonel and Chief Justice Thomas Farmar. And an army of others, Captain Christopher Billopp, of the Royal Navy, his grandson, Major Robert Farmar, of the English Army, and the Major's nephew, Christopher Billopp, the "Tory Colonel"; but if the writer continues this list his history will be repeating itself.

There is one person, however, whom we would rather have known than any of the others, yet her name does not appear in any historical document nor private letter. One family chart informs us that Thomas Farmar married her; an order of an orphan's court mentions that Thomas Farmar "inter-married with her"—that is all we read of her. Yet we know she was a dutiful daughter, a loving sister, a good wife, and the best of mothers.

That she was a dutiful daughter is shown by the fact that her father always made his home with her in Perth Amboy,

and her second son was named for him. As a loving sister, she named her son in honor of her sister's dead husband, and her daughter also bore her sister's name. That she was a good wife is proved by our hearing nothing of her but that she bore her husband twelve children, who were all brought up in the fear of God. Had their descendants all done the same, as there have been seven generations of the Thomas and Anne Billopp Farmars, the Farmar blood would now be coursing through the veins of nearly four hundred and fifty million people—five times the population of this country! Let us devoutly thank God that they did not. That she was one of the best of mothers is shown by the love and regard of those children. Nearly all of them grew up and married, and each and every one reverently named the first daughter in honor of their devoted mother, Anne Billopp Farmar. Nor did this custom cease with the first generation, but the story of her lovely character must have been handed down from parent to child, for generation after generation continued to honor their first daughter with that revered name. Yes, we would all have been benefited by knowing Anne Billopp Farmar.

The writer, in his researches, has been forcibly impressed by the almost total absence of information regarding the female members of the family, their birth, marriage, and death being generally all that can be found. He is reminded of the reply of a lady to one who was discoursing with some vehemence of the sufferings and hardships of the Pilgrim Fathers: "Yes," she remarked, "but the poor Pilgrim *Mothers!* They had to put up with all that, and the Pilgrim Fathers, too!" There is nothing to tell us of the hopes and disappointments, the pleasures and pains, the heart-burnings and sacrifices of the women.

Mary, the wife of Major Jasper Farmar, buried her husband and son in the sea on her voyage to a strange and new world. Her sorrow must have been almost overpowering, yet there is no record of complaint from this woman. The duty of the hour was to take care of her family, and the record shows she did it nobly. There are no documents to show that

she yearned for the friends, and the scenes, and the customs of the Fatherland, but the two copper, Irish pennies found two hundred years after they had been hoarded and sacredly hidden by their owner.

“ They loved, but their story we cannot unfold;
They scorned, but the heart of the haughty is cold;
They grieved, but no wail from their slumbers will come;
They joyed, but the voice of their gladness is dumb.”

There seems to be a splendid opening for the historian in writing up the Colonial domestic life.

The writer did not expect to carry this work down to the present day. But one never knows where one will end when one begins to write. He has been urged to bring it down to date, and in a genealogical way, he has in some cases done so. He feels that the work in its present shape will, in some future day, be a good foundation for some member of a future generation to build upon, and he hopes that that time will not come until the magic of years shall have clothed him and his cotemporaries in the glamor of legend and tradition. And may the motto of that later writer also be “*de mortuis nil nisi bonum.*”

Charles Farmer Billopp

Washington, D. C.
1906.

I

THE EARLY FARMERS



VIEW OF EASTON NESTON FROM THE FRONT

I

THE EARLY FARMARS

THE family of Farmar, we are informed in Collins' Peerage, is derived from one of the Companions of the Conqueror, and was at a very early period established in the Lordship of Somerton, in Oxfordshire, England. The name has been spelled in numerous ways, father and son, in the olden times, seldom agreeing upon the same orthography, and there are some instances where one individual has his name spelled in two or three ways, Fermour, Fermor, Farmar, and Farmer being some of the styles, while frequently the double F is used, as Thomas Ffarmar or ffarmar. We find some of this various spelling on brasses and monuments in the old Somerton Church, two of which are here transcribed.

A certain William Fermour, who was a man of considerable importance in his day (which day began before the Columbian discovery of America), lies buried in a chapel on the south side of the chancel of the Somerton Church, under a great raised monument of gray marble, whereon lie the figures of a gentleman and his wife, in brass, and bearing this inscription:

“Here lyethe buried Mr. William Fermour, Esq., whych was born of this Towne and patron of this Churche, and also Clarke of the Crowne in the King's Bench, in King Henry the 7th and King Henry the 8th Dayes, Whyche died the 20th day of 7^{ber} in the Year of our Lord God aMCCCCCLII: And also here lyeth Mistress Elizabeth Fermour, his last Wyffe whych was the Daughter of S^r Will^m Norrysse Knight—upon whose and all Christene Souls Ihu have mercy.”

At Home Church, Essex, was buried his first wife, with the following to tell the tale:

“Here lyeth Katharine, the daughter of Sir William Powlet, Knyght, wyf of William Fermour, Clarke of the Crown, who died May 26, the second of Henry the eighte.”

Now, the above William Fermour left the greater part of a large fortune by a will, which is of record, to his nephew who lies buried in the same church of Somerton, and whose name was Thomas Farmar.

Thomas seems to have been a liberal-minded man, who endowed schools and did much other good with his fortune, and, according to his will, which is still extant, his executors erected in the Chapel of Somerton Church, a raised monument of white marble, whereon lies his effigy in armor, and the effigy of his wife, and around the verge is the following Latin inscription:

“Thomas Farmar, Armigero, viro animi magnitudine contra Hostes beneficentia erga Doctos admirabili. Domino hujus territorii benignissimo et Novae scholae Fundatori optimo in perpetuam sui suaeq. conjugis Brigittae faeminae lectissimae memoriam ex Testamento executores sui hoc monumentum flentes erexerunt.

“Obiit vero anno Domini Millesimo quingentisimo Octogesimo die Augusti Octavo.”

Which in English would read:

“To Thomas Farmar, Esq., a man magnanimous to his enemies, admirably beneficent to learning, a kind master, and the founder of the new school in perpetual memory of himself and his wife Bridget, a most learned woman, by authority of his will this monument is erected by his weeping executors. He died in the true year of our Lord, fifteen hundred and eighty, the 8th day of August.”

Thomas Fermour, and his wife Emmotte, the widow of Henry Wenman, and the daughter of Mr. Hervey of Herefordshire, are the first of the name of whom we have any documentary evidence, according to Collins' Peerage. The will of the said Thomas is dated September 9, 1485, and, among

other things, he orders his body to be buried in the Chapel of St. Mary Magdalen in the Church of Whitney in Oxfordshire. It gives twenty pounds to the altar in the chancel of the Blessed Virgin Mary in that church—"For his tithes, which he had forgotten." To William, his son, the same William who became clerk of the Crown, and who lies buried at Somerton Church, he gives 200 marks and all his lands in Cogges, and Buford.

To Richard, his eldest son, and our ancestor, he gives 200 marks and all his lands in Filkinger and Langford. To three children of his wife Emmotte, by her first husband, he gives "100 £ each"—which would seem to indicate that he was a generous and kindhearted man.

The "English Dictionary of National Biography" informs us that Richard Fermour engaged extensively in commerce "of the staple of Calais," amassed a noble fortune, and settled at Easton Neston, in Northamptonshire. He traded in all kinds of commodities, and in no mean scale, as will be seen by the following statement, taken from vol. i. p. 472, of the "Letters and Papers of King Henry VIII.," viz.:

"In 1513 he was granted by Margaret of Savoy, at the request of Henry VIII., a passport enabling him to export duty free, the large amount of 144,000 bushels of wheat."

In 1515 we find mention of the ship *Crest*, of which William Fermour was owner, which "fine ship," laden with wool for Italy, was driven on the Zealand coast, and some of the sailors were taken by Moorish pirates. We also find in these papers that in 1524 he was in Florence, and of much assistance to Sir John Clerk, the agent of Cardinal Wolsey, who was negotiating in Italy for the Cardinal's election to the Papacy.

He was a zealous Catholic, and at the time of the Reformation, we are told in Burke's "Peerage," his large possessions excited the cupidity of Thomas Cromwell, Earl of Essex, the Vicar-General of Henry VIII., so he confiscated the whole of his large fortune, because of his having relieved his confessor, Nicholas Thayne, while in the gaol of Buckingham.

The Job-like disposition and experiences of Mr. Richard Fermour compels a lengthy quotation from Hall's "Life of Henry the Eighth." Mr. Hall was a cotemporary of Mr. Fermour.

"The good old man, when he was stript of all he had, retired to a village called Wapenham, in sight of his former Habitations, and lived in the parsonage house there, the advowsons of which had been in his gift, and the parson thereof presented by him.

"There he passed several years with a most consummate piety and entire resignation, till 1550.

"In the time of his prosperity he had in his family according to the custom of the age, a servant, 'Will Somers,' who by his witty or frothy discourse, past for a jester, and afterwards served the King himself in the same office or capacity. This man, remembering with some gratitude his first master, and having admission to the King at all times, and places, especially when sick and melancholy, and toward his end, let fall some lucky words which awakened his conscience so as at least to endeavour a restitution, and accordingly he gave immediate orders about it, but being prevented by death, it was never effectually performed till the fourth year of Edward VI., by letters patent bearing that date; but so miserably lopt and torn by the several grants and sales made by the Crown during the aforesaid interval, that what he did obtain was not one third of what he had before possessed."

Mr. Hall gives a list of the poor "lopt and torn" one-third, as follows:

"Those lands restored to him were the lordships and manors of Towcestour, and Easton Neston, the advowsons of the rectories of Cold-Higham and of the vicarage of Easton Neston, the hundred of Wilmersley, with very great privileges thereto belonging, and several houses in Cotton-End in the county of Northampton; the lordship and manor of Offley St. Leger in the county of Hereford; the lordship and manor of Granno

in the county of Worcester; the lordship and manor of Lutenhoe, and the hermitage lands in Luten and Runtisford Farm in Runtisford in the county of Bedford.

“Yet King Edward, to make some compensation granted by the same charter, to Richard Fermour and his heirs, several other lordships, manors, lands and tenements, viz.: The lordships and manors of Corsecombe, Holstocke, Nether-Stoke and the advowsons of the rectory of Corsecombe in the county of Dorset; the manor of Mudfort in the county of Somerset; the house and seat of the then lately dissolved priory of Swardersley and divers woods and lands thereto belonging; the manor of Hide-in-Rode and several lands in Rode-in-Ashen in the county of Northampton; the manor of Newport Pound and the advowson of the rectory and church of Rawrith, in the county of Essex, etc. *Yet all this was but a small compensation for the great loss he had sustained.*

“He, therefore, being repossessed of part of his estate, and of some addition, as aforesaid, returned to his manor house at Easton Neston, where he departed this life on November the 17th, 1552. It is further remarkable, that having some foreknowledge of his own death, he invited on that very day, many of his friends and neighbors, and taking leave of them, retired to his devotions, and was found dead in that posture, and afterwards buried on the north side of the chancel of the parish Church of Easton Neston, under a gray marble tomb.”

He had married Anne, daughter of Sir William Brown, Lord Mayor of London.

He was succeeded by his eldest son, John Fermor (sic), Esq., who was made one of the “Knights of the Carpet at Westminster, Oct. 2nd 1553, the day of the coronation of Queen Mary, in Her Majesty’s presence, under the Cloth of State, by the Earl of Arundel, Commissioner for the occasion.”

Sir John Fermor represented the county of Northampton in two Parliaments, and was sheriff of that Shire in the 4th and 5th years of Queen Mary’s reign. He married Maud, daughter of Sir Nicholas Vaux, Knt., Lord Vaux of Harrow-

don, and was succeeded at his death, December 12, 1571, by his eldest son, George Fermor, Esq., who received the honor of knighthood in 1586.

Sir George had the honor of entertaining King James the First, and his Queen, at Easton Neston, on June 11, 1603. "when," so Collins informs us, "his Majesty was pleased to confer the honor of knighthood upon his eldest son, Sir Hatton Fermor." Sir George married Mary, the daughter of Thomas Curzon, Esq., of Waterperry, County Oxford. He was a man of letters and a personal friend of Sir Philip Sydney, and when the latter was buried in the Abbey, Sir George was one of the few who were invited to walk in the funeral procession with the family of his friend.

Robert Fermor, the third son of Sir George Fermor, of Easton Neston, by his wife Mary, daughter of Thomas Curzon, Esq., we are told in Burke's "Peerage," went to Ireland with Queen Elizabeth's army, "in which he was an officer of rank," and for his services was given by the Crown several estates, chiefly in the counties of Cork and Tipperary. He was "killed in battle," leaving a son Robert, of whom we will speak later. We will first give a very brief sketch of the elder branch of the family.

Sir Hatton, who was knighted by King James the First at Easton Neston, left a son George, who was created a baronet in 1641, and his son created Baron Leominster in 1692. It was the first Lord Leominster who built the house now standing at Easton Neston,* after designs by Sir Christopher Wren. In the year 1721 the then Baron Leominster was created Earl of Pomfret.

Lady Juliana Fermor, fourth daughter of the first Earl of Pomfret, married Thomas, the eldest son of William Penn. Lady Arabella, another daughter of the first Earl, was made

*Easton Neston, the estate of the Farmer family (the Earl of Pomfret), is situated near Towcester, Northamptonshire—a tract of some 25,000 acres. The last Earl of Pomfret died in 1867; leaving no children, his sister came into possession of the estate. She married Sir Thomas Hesketh, Bart.; their son, Thomas, has inherited the title and estate. The present Sir Thomas Hesketh married Florence Sharon, daughter of Senator Sharon of San Francisco, California.

famous by Alexander Pope, who dedicated to her his "Rape of the Lock."

A large number of the Arundel Marbles, which were collected by Thomas Howard, Earl of Arundel and Norfolk, between the years 1607 and 1614, were sold by the divorced duchess of one of his descendants, then Duke of Norfolk, and came into the possession of the Earl of Pomfret. These most valuable antiques were, in 1755, presented by Louisa, Countess Dowager of Pomfret, to the University of Oxford, where they now are. Celebrated among Lady Pomfret's contribution are a colossal torso of Minerva, and several statues of Roman senators, including one supposed to represent Cicero.

Robert, the grandson of Sir George Fermor, and the son of Robert, who was "killed in battle," resided on his estates in the county of Tipperary. He had several sons, the second being Jasper Farmar, a Major in the Army, who married Mary, the eldest daughter of Anthony Gamble, Esq., of County Cork, and resided at Garron Kenny Fange, in that county.

When Oliver Cromwell carried his war into Ireland, among the Royalists opposed to him was the Farmar family. Burke tells us they were deprived of a large part of their estates, and, with what property they were able to carry with them, they were for a time compelled to take refuge in England. After the Restoration they received some small compensation for their losses in the cause of their King, but a large part of their estates was never returned to them. So, in the year 1685, we find that Major Jasper Farmar, and Jasper Farmar, Jr., with their respective families, came to Pennsylvania.

Major Jasper Farmar's younger brother John married Mary Hales, and was the father of John Farmar, who settled at Youghall. John, Jr., in 1719, married Alpheia Garde, died in 1740, and left a son, George Farmar, of the Royal Navy, who, while commanding H. M. Ship *Quebec* off Ushant in 1779, engaged a French frigate of greatly superior force. The contest on both sides was desperate, and Captain Farmar displayed such gallantry and intrepidity that he con-

tinued the engagement until his ship took fire. Because of a serious wound, received during the engagement, he was unable to take to the boats, and, after most of his crew had escaped, he was blown up with his ship. When last seen, the brave captain was coolly sitting on the fluke of the anchor, watching the progress of the flames.

Lord Nelson had served under Farmar, and it is such examples as Farmar's that does much towards making such men as Nelson.

In recognition of Farmar's heroic act, his grateful King, in January, 1780, created his eldest son, George, a baronet. Sir Richard Henry Kendrick Farmar, of Mt. Pleasant, County Sussex, is the present representative of that branch of the family. There are several other branches of the family mentioned in Burke's "Landed Gentry."

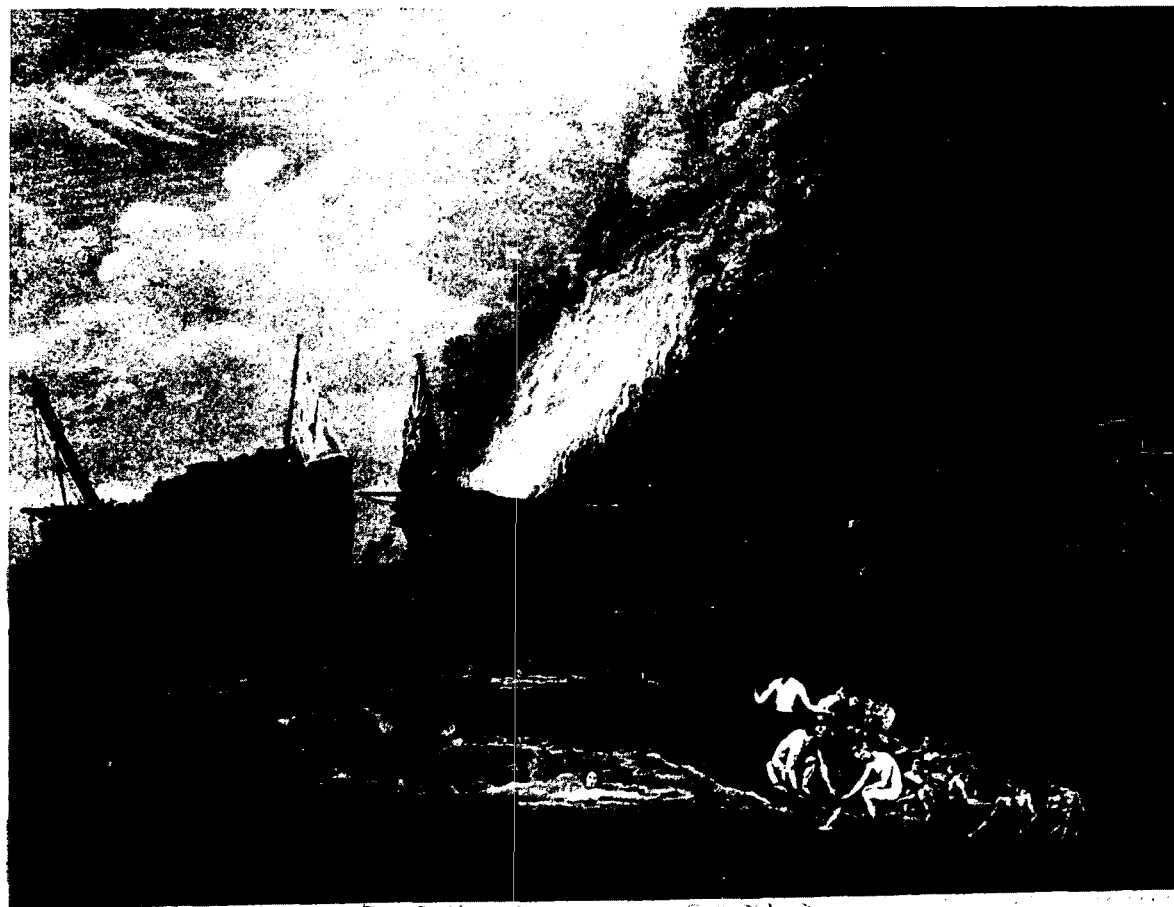
Major Jasper Farmar, who resided at Garron Kenny Fange in County Cork, the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History*, in vol. xxi. p. 335, tells us, was a neighbor of William Penn, who lived at Shangarry in the same county. "Shangarry" was an estate containing eight square miles of land, and adjoining it was the estate of the Major's brother John—"Youghall." The Major was a friend of William Penn, and most probably it was through Penn's influence that he decided to take up a "Plantation," as these settlements were all called at that time, in the new Province of Pennsylvania.

The Farmars came to America in the year 1685. Jasper Farmar, Jr., had made a voyage of investigation two years before, but had returned to England to bring out his father, and their families, and servants. The following letters from James Claypoole, merchant, of London, who emigrated to Philadelphia in 1683, will explain themselves. Copies of them are to be found in the tenth volume of the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History*, pages 402 and 403.

" To Thomas Cooke,

" Phyladelphia Y^e 1st 12^{mo} 1683.

" . . . I might give thee large accounts of the country and divers matters relating thereto, but thou may have it by



To the King's most excellent Majesty -
 REPRESENTING THE ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN THE QUEBEC FRIGATE, CAPT. GEORGE FAR-
 NELL, AND THE SURVEILLANTE FRIGATE, MONSIEUR COCKBURN.

ENGAGEMENT BETWEEN THE FRIGATES "QUEBEC" AND "SURVEILLANTE"
 Reproduced from an old Engraving

word of mouth with more satisfaction from Jasper Farmar, Jr., by whom I send this”

And to Robert Rogers, of same date, in almost the same words:

“. . . I might give a larger account of the country and trade and matters relating thereto, but thou may have it with more satisfaction from Jasper Farmar, by whom I send this. . . .”

We find in the same magazine, vol. viii. p. 336, the following account of the arrival in Philadelphia of the Farmar families:

“The *Bristol Merchant*, John Stephens, commander, arrived here the 10th of 9th month, 1685. The passengers named are as follows, viz.:

“Jasper Farmar, Senior, his family,
“Mary Farmar, Widdow,
“Edward Farmar, Edward Batsford,
“Sarah Farmar, John Farmar, Charles Farmar,
“Jasper Farmar Junior’s family,
“Thomas Farmar, Katharine Farmar, Widdow, Elizabeth Farmar, Katharine Farmar, Junior.”

Their servants are as follows:

“Joan Daly, Philip Mayow, & Helen, his wife, John Mayow, John Whitlow, Nicholas Whitloe, Thomas Younge & his wife, William Winter, George Fisher, Arthur Smith, Thomas Alferry, Henry Wells, Robert Wilkinson, Elizabeth Mayow, Martha Mayow, Albert Dawson, Sarah Binke, Thebe Orevan, Andrew Walbridge, Twenty servants.”

In volume iv. of the same magazine, on page 354, is found another account of the advent of the family in America:

“Mary Farmar, Widow of Jasper Farmar, an Irish gentleman and officer of the British Army, arrived in America with her son Edward, and other children, and twenty servants, in

the ship *Bristol Merchant*, John Stephens, commander, November tenth, sixteen hundred and eighty-five, and settled on a tract of five thousand acres of land purchased from William Penn, embracing all of Farmar's or Whitemarsh Township, Philadelphia County, south of Skippack Road."

So it would appear that, in spite of their many adversities, the Farmars were not reduced to abject poverty.

The will of Major Jasper Farmer is dated 7th month 25, 1685, and was proved the second of November, 1685. Letters of Administration to the estate of Jasper Farmar, Jr., were issued the nineteenth day of November, 1685. It is very probable, as has been frequently stated, that they both died on the voyage.

From the Thomas Farmar mentioned above, the son of Jasper Farmar, Jr., we are descended. He was probably about ten years old when he landed in America. In fact, the only man in the family at that time was Edward, the son of the Major.

Mary, the widow of Jasper Farmar, Sr., appears to have proved herself a very good business woman, and in this trying emergency she took care of the interests of her large family, and numerous dependents, as well as most men could have done. Her son Edward could not have been of age, for the records show that all the business was transacted in her name, and with her building and planting, road-making and lime-burning, she was a very busy woman, and is frequently mentioned with very great respect.

Edward eventually received the balance of the five thousand acres called for in the Patent after Katharine, the widow of Jasper, Jr., received her portion, and he lived and died on his land. He was a Justice of Philadelphia County for twenty-six consecutive years. He married and left children. He must have married in Pennsylvania, for his wife's name was Rachel, and that name does not appear in the list of the passengers of the good ship *Bristol Merchant*.

Sarah, the daughter of Edward and Rachel Farmar, married Peter Robeson. Katharine, another daughter, married

Jonathan Robeson, a nephew of the said Peter Robeson. There is mention on page 451 of volume iv. of of the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History*, that Mary, the widow of Major Jasper Farmar, built a brick house in Philadelphia, in the autumn of 1686, a little more than a year after she landed.

This house was standing until about the year 1895. It was then and had long been known as the old Bowers house, and was standing at Frankford Avenue and Norris Street. It was torn down to make room for the building that is now owned and occupied by the Northeast Branch Young Men's Christian Association. It was owned, and perhaps improved by Dr. Richard Farmar, the grandson of the original builder, about the year 1750.

Dr. Richard Farmar married Miss Sarah Carmack, daughter of a prominent Philadelphia merchant. They had one daughter, Sarah Farmar, born in 1753, probably in this house. She married Major William Bowers, a continental soldier. Tradition says her parents were averse to the marriage, and that Miss Sallie, under the cover of darkness, climbed out of a second-story window, joined her lover, got away and was married. Two sons were born to them; the eldest, Richard Farmar Bowers, was ordained minister of the Wesleyan United Society of Kensington, on January 1, 1827. At the death of Pastor Bowers, the house became the property of his second wife, whose maiden name was Marie Tilton. She occupied it until her death in 1886, when the mansion and its very greatly circumscribed site was purchased by the Young Men's Christian Association. Watson, in his "Annals," says of this Farmar-Bowers Mansion, that "it was the only one of the old Colonial houses with a gable pointed toward the road." It was a two-story brick house, very substantially built. The materials were imported. The entrance was by a massive door which swung back into a wide hallway, brilliant from floor to ceiling with plate glass mirrors. The rooms on the first floor opened into the hallway on each side.

They were wainscoted to the ceiling. One was also panelled

most artistically. In this room a massive iron safe was built into the wall. The place was heated by large open fireplaces. During the demolition of the old house, two Irish pennies, issued under the authority of the Irish Parliament in 1681 and 1683, were also found. Were these relics of the old country, brought over by Mary, the widow of Major Jasper Farmar?

II

THE BILLOPPS



BENTLEY MANOR
The "Old Billopp House," still standing on Staten Island

II

THE BILLOPPS

CAPTAIN CHRISTOPHER BILLOPP, ROYAL NAVY

AS Captain Billopp, whose daughter Anne married the emigrant Thomas Farmar, was the ancestor of all the Farmars and Billopps in America of whom the writer has any knowledge, and, as he was an exceedingly notable and interesting character, the writer believes a sketch of his career will be welcome to all the readers of this book. So before proceeding with the narrative of Thomas Farmar, he will, as briefly as possible, give a sketch of Captain Christopher Billopp.

Although the writer has confined his story within the limits of documentary evidence, there have been so many traditions relating to Captain Christopher Billopp, and the circumnavigation of Staten Island, that he is impelled to quote from Mr. Ira K. Morris, the author of "A Biographical History of Staten Island," Mr. Morris having assured the writer that his story of Christopher Billopp is founded on reliable data.

He was the great-grandson, we are told by Mr. Morris, of one Barnard Billopp, who "was born in Coventry, near the close of the sixteenth century. At the age of seventeen Barnard enlisted as a cavalryman in the service of the Crown; he became an officer as a reward of merit, was repeatedly promoted for bravery, and finally died from the effects of a wound received in a duel with a fellow-officer.

"Barnard left two sons, Christopher and James. The latter is said to have won the warm friendship of Queen Elizabeth by once saving her precious life at the risk of his own. He was presented with a commission in the Navy, which he declined, and accepted a Court appointment. He had a large family. A son, Christopher, became a merchant in London,

and was government contractor under Charles the First, who granted him this favor because of his marriage to a lady belonging to the Court circle. Christopher had one son, whom he also named Christopher, who was born in London about 1638. He was educated for a naval officer, by direction of the King, who held his father and mother in high regard.

"He received his commission as captain, and made several important voyages to distant parts. In one of these he was captured by Turkish pirates, who wounded him severely, and left him lying on the shore for dead.

"After many weeks of suffering, he was picked up by an English vessel, and taken back to his home.

"In the spring of 1667 Christopher Billopp sailed from England in the *Bentley*, a small vessel carrying two cannon on her deck. She reached the banks of Newfoundland, after several weeks of tossing about on the ocean, and almost immediately started to make a cruise along the coast of New Netherlands. It is not known whether he was in the service of Charles the Second, or whether the venture was of a private nature.

"Up to the year 1668 it was a disputed question whether Staten Island belonged to New York, or New Jersey, and tired of the annoyance that this fact gave, the Duke of York decided that all islands lying in the harbor of New York, which could be circumnavigated in twenty-four hours should belong to New York, otherwise to New Jersey. The possibility of sailing around this island in a day had long been disputed, and was generally denied, but Captain Billopp thought otherwise, and undertook the work, and was successful, with an hour to spare."

It is said he covered the deck of his vessel with empty casks, at first gaining sailing power, but, when he came to the shallow portion of the stream, between the island and New Jersey, he used the barrels to buoy up his ship, and thus passed over the bar, and won the island for New York. In consideration for this service, the Duke of York presented Captain Billopp with a patent for a tract of land on the southwest end of the

island, which he called "Bentley Manor," in honor of his sturdy little ship. "There and then he built the house still standing," now, and for many years past, known as "The Old Billopp House," which will frequently be mentioned in these records. "Most of the material for the house was gathered on the plantation, but the cement which holds the great thick walls together came from England, and the bricks from Belgium."

The foregoing account is taken almost literally from Morris' "Biographical History of Staten Island." While it is very interesting, there are some statements which do not exactly square with the documents in the case. The above shows that the Captain's grandfather was named James, and lived in London, but the copy of a deed found on page 702, vol. v., second series Penna. Archives, proves that his name was Christopher, and that he lived in the town of Beverly in Yorkshire. The deed is given by Captain Christopher Billopp, to his brother Joseph Billopp, Merchant of London, and is dated October 9, 1677, and conveys a house from Christopher to Joseph, the consideration for which is six hundred pounds; which house is said to be situated in the town of Beverly, in Yorkshire, near the North Barre, "between one formerly owned by my grandfather, Christopher Billopp, late alderman of the said town, and the house of Mitchell Wharton, Esq."

This deed also shows that Captain Christopher Billopp had a brother Joseph, a merchant of London, and as the abbreviation of this name—(Jos.)—is very similar to that of James—(Jas.)—the writer is of the opinion that Mr. Morris' authorities had gotten the dates wrong and the names mixed. It is the belief of the writer that the six hundred pounds received for the house in Beverly, which was a large sum of money at that time, was used in building the house on Staten Island. If this is true, the date of the building would be ten years later than that given by Mr. Morris.

In the "Biographia Navalis," Charnock, vol. i. p. 386, we are informed that Christopher Billopp was, in the year 1671, made a lieutenant in the English Navy, and appointed to

the good ship *Portsmouth*, from which ship he was detached, and ordered to the *Bristol*, on the same station, in the following year. On the 7th of May, 1673, he was promoted to the command of the *Prudent Mary*, Fireship. On the 3d of February, 1674, he was made captain of the *Rainbow*—hired ship of war. There now comes a hiatus of six years, which will be accounted for later.

On the 20th of July, 1680, Billopp was appointed to the command of the *Depthford Ketch*. Then, says Mr. Charnock: "Whether he retired from service for a time after this period, we know not, but we have not been able to learn anything relative to him until the year 1692, when we find him commanding the *Ossory*, of ninety guns. He was appointed to this ship as successor of Captain John Tyrrel, on the 6th of December, 1692, and was promoted on the 23d of May (1693), following, to the *Victory*, first rate, 100 guns, succeeding Sir Edward Stanley. On the death of Sir John Ashby, in the following month, Captain Billopp was removed to the *London*, 96 guns, at that time the largest ship in the English Navy.

Mr. Charnock has done very well, but even he is not complete, for Mr. Wm. L. Clowes, in "The Royal Navy," vol. ii. p. 328, informs us that Captain Christopher Billopp commanded the *Greenwich* of 54 guns, and 280 men, at the battle of Bantry Bay, May 1, 1689, which closes the gap by over three years. But the same author tells us what the Captain was doing in the first part of the year 1692, for he states on page 349, of the same volume, that Captain Christopher Billopp was in command of the *Suffolk*, of 70 guns, at the great naval battle of Barfleur, beginning May 19, 1692, and lasting three days. It is not at all probable that even this completes the list of vessels which he commanded, for it is very difficult to secure accurate data of English naval affairs of over two hundred years ago.

But here is another interesting incident locating him on the last night of the year 1690, related by Lord Macaulay in the sixteenth chapter of his "History of England." In his usual forcible and graphic style, he tells us how Captain

Billopp captured some conspirators against the Throne of King William. He says: "This vessel [a yacht, belonging to the Earl of Danby] was placed under the command of a trusty officer, Captain Billopp . . . At dead of night, the last night of the year 1690, Preston, Ashton, and Elliott went on board of their smack near the Tower. They were in great dread, lest they should be stopped and searched, either by a frigate which lay off Woolwich, or by the guard posted at the block house at Gravesend, but, when they had passed both frigate and blockhouse, without being challenged, their spirits rose, their appetites became keen, they unpacked a hamper well stored with roast beef, mince pies, and bottles of wine, and were just sitting down to their Christmas cheer, when the alarm was given that a vessel from Tilbury was flying through the water after them. They had scarcely time to hide themselves in the dark hole, among the gravel, which was the ballast of their smack, when the chase was over, and Billopp, as the head of an armed party, came on board. The hatches were taken up, the conspirators were arrested, and their clothes were strictly examined.

"Preston, in his agitation, had dropped on the gravel his official seal, and the packet of which he was the bearer. The seal was discovered where it had fallen. Ashton, aware of the importance of the papers, snatched them up, and tried to conceal them, but they were found in his bosom. The prisoners then tried to cajole or corrupt Billopp. They called for wine, pledged him, praised his gentlemanly demeanor, and assured him that if he would accompany them, nay—if he would only let that little roll of paper fall overboard into the Thames, his fortune would be made. The tide of affairs, they said, was on the turn; things would not go on forever, as they had gone on of late; and it was in the Captain's power to be as great and as rich as he could desire. Billopp, though courteous, was inflexible. . . . Later in the night the yacht reached Whitehall stairs, and the prisoners, strongly guarded, were conducted to the Secretary's Office."

As has been observed, after Billopp was appointed Captain of the *Rainbow*, in February of 1674, his name is not again

mentioned in the navy list for about six years. It is this hiatus that the writer will now supply.

In 1674, shortly after the surrender, for the second time, of New Amsterdam to the English, Major Edmond, later on Sir Edmond Andros, was appointed by James, Duke of York, to be Governor. Andros was tyrannical in his nature, as is well known.

It was Andros who, while governor of Connecticut, in his attempt to take from that spirited little colony their liberal charter, forced them to hide it in the hollow of the famous, and now historical, Oak Tree. He, perhaps, knowing enough of his own disposition to feel that he would require some physical support, requested and secured permission to raise a company of one hundred men to take with him to New York. This was the first company of soldiers that was ever raised in England for service in America. Major Andros was commissioned captain of this company, and Captain Christopher Billopp a lieutenant. Why Billopp should have given up a captaincy in the navy for a lieutenantcy under Andros can only be explained on the hypothesis of a great love of adventure, and hope of quick promotion and handsome gains. Billopp's commission is found on page 221, vol. iii., "Documents Relative to Colonial History of New York," and reads as follows:

"Commission of Christopher Billopp to be Lieutenant of Maj. Andros Company.

"To Christopher Billopp, Lt., to Edm^d. Andros. Es^a.

"Whereas I have thought fit out of the good opinion I have conceived of you to appoint you to be Lieu^t. of y^e said Company above mentioned,

"These are to will authorize and require you forthwith to take upon you the command of Lieu^t of y^e said Company accordingly and duly to exercise y^e officers and sold^{rs} of y^e same in arms according to y^e direccions of your Cap^t and to use yo^r best care and endeavor to keep them in good ord^r and discipline, Hereby commanding them to obey you as their Lieut and you likewise to obey and follow such ord^s and direc-

tions as you shall from time to time receive from myself or yo^r said Cap^t according to the discipline of War and y^e trust reposed in you.

“For w^{ch} this shall be yo^r warr^t

“Given under my hand and seale at Windsor the 2^d July
1674

“JAMES

“Duke of York.”

Shortly after Billopp's arrival in New York, he received a patent for eleven hundred and sixty-five acres of land in the west end of Staten Island, which was followed soon after by another patent for two thousand acres contiguous to the first—in all thirty-one hundred and sixty-five acres, which “plantation” became known as “Bentley Manor.”

It is the writer's opinion that Staten Island was circumnavigated by Captain Billopp, who was an experienced seaman, after his arrival in New York with Andros, in some ship picked up in the New York harbor, which happened to be named the *Bentley*.

There have been many stories told by Lossing, Whitehead, and other American historians in regard to these grants of land. Some say they were given on account of the circumnavigation of the island, and others as a reward for having saved the life of the Duke in a naval engagement. It is possible that one was a reward for one of these things, and one for the other. But the fact remains it was an unusually large grant of land, and Billopp must have done something of unusual merit in the opinion of the Duke to have been thought worthy to receive such a handsome gift.

On August 13, 1677, after he had been in New York for three years, Governor Andros appointed Billopp Collector of Customs in the Delaware River and Bay at the old town of New Castle. On the next day we find that he appointed him to be commander in the Delaware River and Bay with the title of Captain. Copies of both commissions are to be found on pages 695-6, Pennsylvania Archives, second series, volume v. He remained as commander on the Delaware for about two years. It is said by Mr. Holcomb, in his interesting work,

“Early Ecclesiastical Affairs in New Castle, Delaware”: “He seems to have been a very arbitrary and tyrannical individual, and carried things with a high hand.” His chief offense, in Mr. Holcomb’s view, was that he “deprived the Court of the use of the Court Room and prison, which were within the fort, using the first for a barn, and the prison for a stable, and when remonstrated with by the Court, answered ‘that the Court should not sit in the fort, and that it did not concern the Court.’ But he afterwards agreed to remove his horses, and cause the Court Room to be cleaned.” He also prohibited a Mr. John Yoe, a minister, from exercising his ministerial office, but, as Mr. Holcomb himself does not appear to be a great admirer of the reverend gentleman, perhaps Captain Billopp, who knew him personally, had very good reasons for his action.

His offense, however, in the eyes of Andros, his superior officer, was the stand he made in the affair of John Fenwick, who had made a settlement at Salem, New Jersey, on the eastern side of the Delaware River. Fenwick claimed his title from the original proprietors, which Andros denied on the ground that that title had lapsed by the temporary occupancy of the Dutch. Billopp supported Fenwick’s claim, and, as he was the immediate agent through whom Andros had to deal with Fenwick, affairs became rather unpleasant. Billopp went to New York to have it out with Andros, which he did, but he seems to have gone out with it, for we read that he was requested to resign his commission “for talking against the Governor in a loud voice at the Custom House.”

Billopp remained in America a short time, during which time appears a letter from the Secretary of the Duke to Andros, advising him to be cautious in his “treatment of Captain Billopp, as his father, Christopher Billopp, Gent., of London, is a friend of the King.” There are letters, too, that show anxiety and fear that he may sell his plantation to citizens of the rival colony—New Jersey.

He, however, returned to England, and as Charnock states, on the 20th of July, 1680, re-entered the navy, and was ap-

pointed to the command of the *Depthford*. It was while in command of this vessel that an incident occurred, which, while only the documents in the case appear, the glamor of two centuries makes very interesting. The documents, from the New York Historical Collection, 1893, page 436, follow:

"To the Sheriff of New York, or Water Bailiff, You are in his Majesty's name required to attach in the hands of Mr. John Imans, or any other person, within your precinct, thirty-eight negro slaves, lately taken and carried away by Captain Christopher Billopp, from on board the ship *Providence* of London, George Mantor, Master, being on her voyage from Angola to Nevis [an island in the West Indies, owned by the English, near St. Christopher], and by him sent to this place, consigned to John Imans. Which ship and negroes did belong to and were the proper estate of Mr. John Bowden, of London, Mr. John Temple, and Mr. Thomas Temple, citizens and goldsmiths of London. And if the said negroes are sold, you are to attach the effects or produce of them in such place as the same shall be, So that you have the negroes or produce at the next Court to be held in the City Hall. Wherein fail not.

"May 4, 1683.

"WILLIAM BEEKMAN, Dep. Mayor."

Then follows the sheriff's return and endorsement:

"By virtue of said attachment I did on the 5th instant, attach in the hands of Mr. John Imans the said negroes, and being informed that some of the effects or produce of some of the negroes were shipped on board the ship *Charles*, Robert Codenham, Master, I, the same day repaired on board the ship, and inquired for the Master, who not being on board, I did publically (sic), upon the Deck of said vessel, read the attachment in the presence of the mate and the boatswain, and did attach all such goods, to witt, 40 barrels and 24 half-barrels of flour, and 8 hogsheads of bread, but the vessel sailed without delivering said goods.

"May 15, 1683.

"JOHN COLLIER, Sheriff."

This looks very badly for the Captain, for the New York Historical Society has given him no chance to defend himself. But defend himself he did, and, probably, got the negroes, too. For in "Documents Relating to the Colonial History of New York," vol. iii, p. 365, we find a "Petition of Captain Billopp to the King," which reads as follows:

"To the King^s most Excellent Ma^{ty} and the R^t. Hono^{ble}. the Lords of His Ma^{ty} most Hono^{ble} Privy Council—The Humble Petition of Captain Christopher Billopp sheweth—

"That yo^r Pet^r some time in June 1682 as Commander of His Ma^{ty} Ketch Depthford pursuant to his Ma^{ty} commandes, Seized an enterloper called the Providence, of London, whereof one George Mantor was commander, which ship and negroes with all that belonged to her was condemned in the Admiralty Court at Neaves (sic) for trading to Guiney contrary to his Ma^{ty} Charter granted the Royal Affrican Company; some time after yo^r Pet^r sent from Neaves to New York some Neagroes with other Goods consigned to Mr. John Injons about the month of May 1683 by vertue of a Procuration from M^r. John Bauden and Thomas Temple of London, to M^r John West, Clarke of the Mayor's Court at New Yorke. The said West as Attorney to Bauden, &^{cc}, attached and arrested in the hands of the said Injons, all the neagroes or effects of the said neagroes which yo^r Pet^r soe consigned to the said Injons, and, as yo^r Pet^r shall make appear Pet^r, [property?] to the value of one Thousand one Hundred and fforty pounds Sterling, from which Judgment yo^r Pet^{rs} agent desired to appeale to yo^r Ma^{ty} and Council here which was refused.

"Now may it please your sacred Ma^{ty} That Province being settled as other of Yo^r Ma^{ty} Plantations, being by Laws and Constitutions for the security of yo^r Ma^{ty} subjects, whereof Yo^r Ma^{ty} reserving appeals to be determined before Yo^r Ma^{ty} and Councill.

"Yo^r Pet^r most humbly prays Yo^r Ma^{ty} will be graciously pleased to order the Mayor's Court of New York to stop all proceedings and to send over an Appeale That the Matter may

be argued, before this Board in Order to a finall Determination.

“And Yo^r Pet^r as in duty bound shall ever pray—(December 23, 1685.)”

That day the King's Council reported favorably on the petition, requiring a security from Billopp of two thousand pounds, whereupon the King approved the same in the following words:

“His Ma^{ty} Council approving the same and being graciously pleased to admit of the petⁿ appeal hath this day thought fit to Order The matter of the said appeal bee and the same is hereby appointed to be heard before His Ma^{ty} in Council within four months after notice hereof shall be given to the Mayor of New York, who is to transmit to this Board an account of all proceedings in his Court relating thereunto, and it is further ordered that in the mean time all Proceedings against the said Cap^t Billopp or his Agent relating to this matter doe cease; Hee having this day given security here, according to the Report, to answer such Determination in the Appeal, as his Majesty in Council shall award. Whereof the said Mayor of New York, or the Mayor thereof for the time being and all others concerned are to take notice and give obedience hereunto, and Colonel Thomas Dungan His Ma^{ty} Governor of New York is hereby directed to take care and give order that all things be performed accordingly.”

Captain Billopp's name is frequently mentioned in the old records. In the “Calendar of Historical Manuscripts,” vol. ii. p. 64, June 19, 1678, he procures a warrant for Paulus Marshall, and others for abducting a servant girl. Though he was appointed to the command of the *Depthford* in 1680, we find in the New Jersey Archives, 1st series, vol. xxi. p. 45, under the date of November 26, 1681, mention of a special Court of Oyer and Terminer, called at the request of Captain Christopher Billopp. The same volume mentions two mortgages held by him on land in New Jersey, the two tracts of land aggregating over 1900 acres.

June 10, 1687, the "Calendar of Historical Manuscripts" shows an order for a commission for Captain Christopher Billopp as surveyor of highways for Staten Island. The same volume, page 237, shows that on December 5, 1693, he was charged with kicking and beating William Bryan for refusing to sign his indentures. This last item is useful, in that it indicates that he had retired from the Royal Navy after having been for a short time in command of England's finest ship, the *London*, to which, the reader will remember, he was appointed in June of that very year. On the 27th day of August, A. D. 1752, is recorded in the Book of Conveyances for Mistress Mary Billopp and Mistress Anne Billopp, Spinsters, of London, a Power of Attorney, giving them complete control of all his property in America.

In 1701 he was in London, for the authorities in New Jersey at that time recommended to the Board of Trade some provincial appointments, and referred to Sir Edmond Andros and Captain Christopher Billopp as gentlemen in London who knew all about the persons suggested. (P. 417, vol. 2, 1st series, N. J. Archives.)

He was again on his beloved Staten Island in 1718, and signed with others a petition to King George the First. (N. J. Archives, vol. 4, 1st series, pp. 344-345.) He lived in London for a few years before his death, which occurred in 1726, when he was nearly ninety years old.

He was twice married, his first wife, probably the daughter of Major Farmar, bearing him two daughters, Mary and Anne. His second wife was Katharine Farmar, the widow of Jaspar Farmar, Jr., whom he married some time between the years 1685 and 1689, as is shown by the following, taken from the Pennsylvania Archives, 2nd series, vol. xix, page 33, Feb. 12, 1690. "At a meeting of the Land Commissioners a patent was signed for Katharine Farmar, *now* Katharine Billopp, for 1250 acres of land, being her former husband, Jasper Farmar's, part in the tract of 5000 acres purchased by Major Farmar." Katharine bore him no children. She died in 1702, as on page 297 of the last mentioned volume, we are told that

on February 20, 1702, Thomas Farmar, her son and *heir*, asks for a resurvey of her estate.

Captain Billopp's daughter Mary first married the Reverend Mr. Brooke, a clergyman, who is repeatedly mentioned in the most complimentary manner by his contemporaries (see Dr. Hawks' "History of the Church in America"). In 1707 he sailed for England, and the vessel, with all on board, was lost at sea. Mary afterward married the Reverend William Skinner of Perth Amboy, and died about 1725, before her father, without leaving any children. Anne married Thomas Farmar.

The will of Captain Christopher Billopp was written in London, the 25th of April, 1724. In it the Manor of Bentley was left to his daughter Mary during her life only, and at her decease to her heirs *male*, according to primogenature; but, should she die without heirs, the property should be inherited by Christopher Farmar, the second son of his daughter Anne, and to his heirs male. Failing such issue, it was to descend in regular order to his brothers in succession, with like restrictions. They are all mentioned by name except the eldest, Jasper, and the youngest, John, the latter being born after the will was drawn. Jasper was left twenty pounds. "Should the fates prove so against him as not to favor him with an heir among the Farmars, the property was to go to his 'right' heirs, male, of the name of Billopp. Which name—Billopp—was to be assumed by such one of the Farmars as might become his heir."

Mrs. Skinner having died shortly after the will was made, indeed, before the death of the testator (for the Reverend William had another wife in March, 1727), the property, according to the terms of the will, went to the Farmars, Christopher, the second son being dead, Thomas, the third son, inherited and took the name of his maternal grandfather.

Had Mrs. Skinner inherited the property, the will states that she must have left it to her successors in the following condition: "All the messuages, out-houses, fences and other appurtenances in good and sufficient Reparrations, and shall leave in the said Mansion House of Bentley five good feather

beds, with Sheets, Blanketts, Pillows, Curtains, Vallences, and other furniture thereunto Belonging, with such Brass, Pewter, and Wooden Ware as are Requisite for a family of six people, with Table Linnen and all manner of Necessaries for the Kitchen, fit and convenient with five pair of Iron Doggs and five tongs and 5 shovels for the Chambers, with a table for each Room, such seats as are used in that Country; and also proper utensils for a Dairy, ten Cows, and sufficient casks in the cellar for Cyder, and all other convenienceys for Making of Cyder, and shall also Leave four horses and six oxen fit for the plough, with Carts, Plows and Harrows, and all other implements of husbandry thereunto belonging and in that country used, of axes, shovels and the like, with ten Milch Cows and calves, that same spring of Year falling and raising, and three steers of two years old, four Heifers of two years old; and ten yearlings and a Bull of two years old, two sows and a Boar, and one hundred Ewes and a Ram, fifty Lambs, ten Weathers of two years old, with what fowle shall be at the House."

JOSEPH BILLOPP

Captain Christopher Billopp's brother Joseph, to whom he deeded the house in the town of Beverly, came to Staten Island and lived at Bentley Manor in 1698. He had a power of attorney from his father, Christopher Billopp, Gentleman, of London, to collect debts due by John Inians and others. He received a patent for a lot of one acre in Perth Amboy, November 30, 1699. The lot was on East High Street. Morris says he was a lawyer. He was appointed "Escheator in Chief" for New Jersey in 1710. He died in 1712, as the following from the New York Historical Society's Collection for 1893, page 87, informs us: "Whereas Joseph Billopp of Staten Island died intestate, Letters of Administration are granted to Thomas Farmar, Esq., who hath intermarried with Anne, the daughter of Christopher Billopp, brother of Joseph Billopp, April 21, 1712." Joseph Billopp's wife was named Mary; no children are mentioned.



THE CHAPEL AT EASTON NESTON

III

CHIEF-JUSTICE THOMAS FARMAR, THE FOUNDER

III

CHIEF-JUSTICE THOMAS FARMAR, THE FOUNDER

WE have seen that Katharine, the widow of Jasper Farmar, Jr., with her son Thomas, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Katharine, landed from the good ship *Bristol Merchant*, John Stephens, commander, at Philadelphia, on the tenth day of October, 1685, Thomas being ten years of age at that time. It is recorded that in the latter part of the year 1701 he was appointed by William Penn, personally, who was then in Philadelphia, to take the position of Sheriff of Philadelphia. During the next three years he is frequently mentioned in the exercise of the duties of his office.

He held the office of sheriff until the latter part of the year 1704, when it is stated in the minutes of the Pennsylvania Provincial Council, vol. ii., page 25, that "Thomas Farmar High Sheriff of the City and County of Philadelphia acquainted y^e Board that having a design to transport himself to England he must crave leave to lay down his said office, and therefore requested the Board that another might be appointed." The writer is of the opinion that this is the first instance on record in America of a voluntary resignation of office, and he recalls no other until the time of General Washington.

Farmar probably went to England to sue for the hand of Anne Billopp, the step-daughter of his late mother, Katharine, whose second husband was Captain Christopher Billopp, and that his suit proved successful, we, his descendants, are here to-day to testify. The family tree or chart which the writer now has in his possession starts with: "Thomas Farmar, High Sheriff of Philadelphia and Mayor of New Brunswick, married Anne, the daughter and heiress of Captain Christopher Billopp, Royal Navy." This document was copied by the

father of the writer from one sent to him by his grandfather, Colonel Christopher Billopp, the "Tory Colonel," who was born in the year 1737, some years before the death of his grandfather, Thomas Farmar, so he could have had many opportunities to verify its statements, and therefore the writer feels at liberty to use its data in this narrative.

We next hear of Thomas Farmar residing at "Bentley Manor," where his eldest son, Jasper, was born in 1707, he having married in 1705. Up to this time and for thirty years later, until the time of Governor Lewis Morris, the provinces of New York and New Jersey had but one Governor in common, and it was frequently the case that the Governor would appoint to office in one colony a gentleman who resided in the other. This caused considerable bitter feeling, and eventually led to the appointment of separate Governors for the two provinces.

Colonel Farmar, though living on Staten Island, in the province of New York, was a member of the New Jersey Assembly in 1708, according to the New Jersey Archives, 1st series, vol. xiii., page 308. The first mention of him in that august body was on the third of March, 1708, and, according to vol. xxv., page 304, his last appearance there was a generation later, November 23, 1743.

In the New Jersey Archives, vol. iv., page 74, is to be found a paper sworn to and signed by Thomas Farmar, dated the tenth of February, 1710, and which indicates his age at that time, which is the writer's excuse for inserting such an uninteresting document. The affidavit is as follows:

"Thomas Farmar aged about thirty-Six years, being solemnly sworn upon y^e holy Evangelist of Almighty God, doth depose that on or about the twelfth of May Anno. Dom. 1708, Thomas Gordon, Esq^r., then Speaker of y^e House of Representatives of Her Maj'ty Province of New Jersey, being arrested by Hugh Huddy, Esq^r., then Sheriffe of y^e County of Burlington, after y^e Assembly was adjourned. A little time after Mr. Gordon did desire this deponent to go to Judge

Pinhorn and make applycac'on on behalf of said Mr. Gordon for an Habeas Corpus to be admitted to baile, and accordingly this Depon^t. did apply to William Pinhorn, Esq^r., then Second Judge of y^e Supreme Court, of said Province, that at y^e desire of Mr. Gordon, he would please grant him a habeas corpus to be brought before him in Ord^r to be Admitted to baile. To w^{ch} Judge Pinhorn answered that he must apply to his Coun^l at Law, this Depon^t. replied he believed he might do it by his friend, and used several arguments, to that Effect. but could not prevaile, with w^{ch} this Depon^t. Acquainted Mr. Gordon, who Employed John Pinhorn Attorney at Law, and next morning was admitted to Baile, and further saith not

“THOMAS FARMAR.”

He owned estates in New Jersey and is very frequently mentioned in the Archives. In vol. iv., 1st series, page 56, Governor Hunter says: “Captain Farmar and Dr. Johnston are men of the best estates in this province.” On page 49 is a letter from Governor Hunter to the Commissioners of Customs, May 7, 1711: . . . “another thing I shall take notice of to you is Mr. Barchfield’s suspending Mr. Farmar from his collections office at Amboy in New Jersey, the sole reasons seems to be his non-residence, and the delay vessels were put to by that means. This is in some measure true, that Captain Farmar did not live for sometime at Amboy. But it is likewise true that at the time of his suspension, and for some months before, he lived there with his family. And if it is allowable for a collector to live out of his Port, Mr. Farmar had the best reason to expect of any man, for his house on Staten Island in the Province of New York is directly opposite Amboy, from which Port no vessel can go or come without his seeing it, but to take away all occasion of complaint, he appointed a deputy at Amboy, who duly attended there.

. . . I am very unwilling to give you the trouble of a recommendation, but the good service Mr. Farmar has done his Majesty in the Assembly of New Jersey, being a principal instrument in settling a support for the government and promoting her interests in whatever else came before that house,

deserves some notice." On page 129, vol. iv., we read Captain Farmar is made a colonel and Judge of the Pleas in Middlesex and Somerset (counties); on page 135 appears a letter from Colonel Thomas Farmar to Governor Hunter about supplies for the troops for Albany, written July 31, 1711.

Another letter to Colonel Farmar at Perth Amboy (page 137) concerns the movements of his troops. His work must have been very satisfactory, for his promotions and honors followed swiftly, as we find in the same volume, page 139, a letter from Governor Hunter to Jeremiah Basse, secretary, etc., dated October 22, 1711, as follows:

"Sir I return you y^e paper sealed wth proclamation which I desire you cause to be published forthwith, to make out and send to be sealed by the return of this post two commissions, for the judge of y^e Supreme Court, one in the name of Thomas Farmar, Esq^r., and the other of John Reading, Esq^r., and also a Ded. protestatem, directed to David Jamison, Esq^r., to swear them. Y^e time of setting for y^e next Supreme Court is drawing on apace. Soe that you will perceive that there is a necessity of yo^r Dispatching those things that I may have them by Satturday next. I am

"Yo^r humble Servt.,

"RO. HUNTER.

"To Jeremiah Basse., Esq^r."

The salary for the office of judge for fourteen months was the munificent sum of fifty pounds, and the salary for managing the Canada expedition was twenty-seven pounds!

In 1716, Farmar was a member of the Council. In vol. v. of the Archives, page 185, we find the following rather obsequious address:

"To his Most Excellent Majesty, George the Second, of Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith," etc. "The humble address of the Chief Justice, second Judge, High Sheriff, Grand Jury, Practic'oners of the Law,

and the Clerke of the Peace at a Supreme Court held at Burlington for the Western District of the Province of New Jersey, on the seventh day of May, 1728.

“May it please your Majestie.

“Amongst the rest of Your most Dutiful and Loyal Subjects, we beg leave with all Humility, to congratulate Your Majestie upon the hopes of seeing the Publick Peace restored, (through Your wise and unerring conduct.)

“As the important consequences of Your Majestie’s Negotiations make a daily accession to Your Glory, so they give us an agreeable prospect of the speedy confining of the Power of Spain within its just Limits.

“While the Faithful adherence of Your Allies & Parliaments, to Your Majestie in this Juncture give us a very particular Satisfaction; we in this remote part of Your Dominion, beg leave to assure Your Majesty of our inviolable fidelity; and what we say on this occasion is not only our own, but the unanimous sence (sic) of all the People of the Province, who would be thankful for a greater capacity to show that their Zeal for Your Service, is not inferior to that of the most approved and Loyal of their fellow Subjects. We can’t without a rapture of thankfulness recount our obligation to Your Majestie, for your Parental care of Your People in this Distant Colonie, Particularly for sending His Excellency, John Montgomerie, Esq^r., to represent Your Majestie here, not doubting that we shall live peaceable, & happy, under his prudent administration.

“We shall not Trespass farther upon Your Royal Patience, but shall offer up our fervent prayers to the King of Kings, that he will please direct Your Majesty by his unerring wisdom, & always incline Your heart to his Glory, & encompass Your Sacred Person with his Favour as with a Shield, and make Your Government an universal blessing to all Your Dominions, is the hearty prayers of—

“(May it Please Your Majestie) Your Majestie’s most Dutiful & most Loyal Subjects & Servants.

“We of the Grand Jury being of the People called Quakers,

agree to the matter & substance of this Address, but make some exceptions to the 'Stile.'"

The first signature is that of Thomas Farmar, Chief Justice.

In 1734 Governor Cosby recommends Colonel Thomas Farmar to be appointed to the Council in these words:

"I beg leave to recommend to your Lordships that you would be so good as to fill up and give commissions to the following gentlemen, namely, Colonel Thomas Farmar, John Rodman, and Richard Smith, who are very much esteemed in this country from their worth, honest character, as well as great estate.

"W. COSBY."

He was a member of the Council from 1736 to 1738, and again in 1744, in which last year he took an active part in the passage of a Militia bill, a pet measure of Governor Lewis Morris and the home government. The following rather unusual article was published in the *New York Weekly Post Boy*, May 15, 1749, by his son, Thomas Billopp, with an introductory note to Mr. Parker, the editor:

"Mr. Parker:

"If you have room in your next paper, please insert the following Affidavit, and my reasons for printing it therein, and you'll oblige,

"Your humble Servant,

"THOMAS BILLOPP."

"Whereas Mr. Philip French, of New Brunswick, in New Jersey, hath taken a licentious Liberty to asperse my Character, by publickly and falsely reporting that I was the author and contriver of Mr. Samuel Leonard's obtaining the Patent mentioned in said Affidavit; and that (as he was pleased to term it), with a view to take the Bread out of my Father's mouth. Wherefore, in justice to myself, and to undeceive many others, I think I can do no less than publish said Affidavit and my reasons for so doing."

Then follows the affidavit, which shows that Thomas Billopp was not a party to the act and knew nothing about Mr. Samuel Leonard (who was his father-in-law) obtaining a patent to the prejudice of Mr. Thomas Farmar, for keeping a ferry across Raritan River, opposite New Brunswick, New Jersey. He died in the year 1752.

It appears that one son of Thomas Farmar and all three daughters married and settled in New Brunswick. All his large family had married and left the old home at Amboy, so he went with his daughters to New Brunswick, and there his life-long habit of office-holding still clung to him, for the family chart, ignoring the "Captain," the "Colonel," the "Collector of the Port of Amboy," the "Member of His Majesty's Council," the "Judge," and the "Chief Justice," simply tells us he was "High Sheriff of Philadelphia, and Mayor of New Brunswick."

Thomas and Anne (Billopp) Farmar had nine sons consecutively, followed by three daughters. They were born in the following order: Jasper, Christopher, Thomas, Brooke, Edward, Robert, Samuel, William Penn, John, Mary, Anne Billopp, and Elizabeth.

The records of Jasper, Thomas, and Robert, and of their descendants, are given more or less completely in subsequent chapters. Christopher died in childhood; Brooke, named in honor of the husband of his mother's sister Mary, married, but left no children; Edward, William, and John, a Captain in the English Army, died unmarried.

Samuel Farmar, the seventh son, became a successful merchant of New York, and married Christina, the daughter of Benjamin Peck, of that city. They had one son, Thomas, and four daughters. The first, Elizabeth, married her cousin, Thomas Farmar, but died without children. The second daughter, Anne Billopp, born in 1744, married Right Reverend Abraham Jarvis, Bishop of Connecticut, on Trinity Sunday, May 25, 1766. She died in 1801, aged fifty-seven years, leaving two sons. The eldest, Reverend Samuel Farmar Jarvis, was a prominent clergyman of the Episcopal Church. He

died in 1850, leaving a son, Reverend Samuel Farmar Jarvis the second, who also became a clergyman, and whose son is the third Samuel Farmar Jarvis. Bishop Jarvis' and Anne Farmar Jarvis' second son, John Abraham Jarvis, was in the United States Navy, and died at Marseilles in 1834. Two daughters, Hannah and Griselda, died unmarried.

The first daughter, Mary Brooke Farmar, married Paul Miller, and had three sons, Paul, who commanded his uncle Jasper's privateer, the *Hercules*; Christopher Billopp, who was commander of the brigantine *True Britton*, another privateer; and Thomas Farmar, who was in business with Peter Farmar, and whom his uncle Jasper Farmar named as one of his executors.

The eleventh child, Anne Billopp Farmar, married Philip French, son of Philip French, one of the wealthiest men in New York, speaker of the New York Assembly, and Mayor of New York. The son, Philip, settled at New Brunswick, New Jersey. He is mentioned as one of the pall-bearers of Governor Lewis Morris. In 1745 he gave the site for Christ Church, New Brunswick.

The following is taken from the *Boston Evening Post*, March 23, 1741:

"We have the melancholly News from New Brunswick, in New Jersey, that a few Days since, in the dead of Night a Fire broke out in the famous New House of Mr. Philip French (a Gentleman of that City) which consumed the same, with all the rich Furniture therein; Mr. French and his Family hardly escaped with their Lives, one of his Daughters, (to save her Life) was forced to jump out of a Window two Stories high. No other House took Fire from this, it being built at a small Distance from said City of Brunswick. It was one of the largest and most complete Houses in the Province and had been built but little more than one year."

He left several children; one daughter named Anne Billopp French, and one son named Christopher French, who was a major in the English Army during the Revolution. The fol-

lowing letters (New York Historical Collection, 1871, page 241) in connection with this gentleman are interesting:

From General Charles Lee to General Washington.

"DEAR GENERAL:

"Major French whom I have met with at Hartford, is extremely solicitous for permission to return home, as he is confident that his whole fortunes depend upon his being immediately on the spot at this instant. As he is, I believe, a man of strict honor, his parole not to serve for a given time against the freedom of America, would be sufficient security; and as he has a family to provide for, it would certainly be humane and charitable to indulge him, nor can I see any inconvenience which would attend the indulgence; there may be some objections, which do not perhaps, occur to me, but I could wish for my own part, that as so much depends upon it, he might be gratified; however, I beg you will excuse submitting the matter to your consideration.

"I am, dear General,

"Your most obt. humble servant,

"CHARLES LEE.

"To His Excellency, General Washington."

Letter from Christopher French to General Charles Lee:

"HARTFORD, 13 May, 1776.

"SIR:

"You no doubt remember that when you passed through this Place in January last, you made a Bett of Ten Guineas with me that Quebec would be taken by the Provincials in the Course of the current Winter; That event has not happened (nor is there now the least prospect that it ever will, as there are accounts, not only of its having been reinforced by part of his Majesty's Fleet and a large body of his Troops, but that His Excellency, Gen^l. Carleton, has drove them entirely from before it) &, indeed your own Papers, unaccustomed as they are to communicate to the Public anything which argues against their Success, have lately inserted some very despond-

ent Letters from that Quarter, I cannot be so gross as to wish you had (met) with success yet I am not so much yours as to envy you the Honor you might have acquired by a well-concerted Retreat, which, though you might not have effected, yet I know you would have attempted, a circumstance which from your being at the head of such raw & undisciplined Forces could only have added to the brilliancy of your measures. You will be pleased to direct Mr. Lawrence, Treasurer here, to pay me, which will much oblige,

“ Sir, Your most obt. hble. Servant,

“ CHRIS. FRENCH.

“ To Gen^l. Lee,

“ Williamsburg,

“ Savannah, Georgia.”

The twelfth child, Elizabeth Farmar, married Dr. William Farquhar. They lived at New Brunswick, N. J. Very little is known about this gentleman, but the following shows that he kept good company.

There appears in the *Pennsylvania Gazette*, March 16, 1746-7, an advertisement of an estate for sale, near New Brunswick, N. J. The last paragraph reads as follows:

“ Whoever inclines to purchase may apply to Doctor William Farquhar, in New York, Benjamin Franklin, in Philadelphia, or Jacob Janeway, living on the premises, and be informed of the conditions of sale.”

The same appears in the *New York Gazette*, revised in the *Weekly Post Boy*, August 10, 1747, except it reads: “ Benjamin Franklin, at Philadelphia, Printer.”

IV

**CAPTAIN JASPER² FARMAR AND HIS SON,
MAJOR JASPER FARMAR**



REAR VIEW OF EASTON NESTON

IV

CAPTAIN JASPER² FARMAR AND HIS SON, MAJOR JASPER FARMAR

CAPTAIN JASPER FARMAR

JASPER, the eldest son of Thomas and Anne (Billopp) Farmar, was born in the "Old Billopp House," Bentley Manor, Staten Island, New York, in the year 1707. In his early life he is frequently mentioned in the New York Historical Society's Collections, as owner and captain of the ship *Katharine*. But in the year 1746 he became commissioner of pilots in New York, and continued in this position until 1752. (Calendar of Historical Manuscripts, vol. ii., page 600.)

It is probable that at the same time he was engaged in a very successful mercantile business, for in the same volume we find he is engaged in fitting out privateers during the war with French and Spain; and Whitehead, in his "Early History of Perth Amboy," always speaks of him as a merchant. On page 659 of the same volume of the Calendar of Historical Manuscripts is stated that on September 20, 1756, Nathaniel Manton and Jasper Farmar of New York, Merchants, owners of the schooner *Peggy*, twenty guns, petition for a commission for Richard Haddon, as commander of said schooner, and Christopher Miller as first lieutenant, and John Marshall, second lieutenant. But alas! I fear the *Peggy* brought trouble to her owners, for on page 694 it is mentioned that on November 3, 1758, after Captain Jasper's death, proclamation was made for the apprehension of Richard Haddon, commander of the privateer *Peggy*, on a charge of piracy, in seizing and plundering the Spanish schooner *La Virgin*, accompanied with numerous petitions from officers and passengers of the unfortunate Spanish schooner. But Farmar's course must

have been vindicated, for his son and executor, Peter Farmar, after that incident, secures a commission for Andrew Elliott as captain of his ship *Philadelphia*, eight guns. He had, however, previously sent out the dogger *Decoy*, six guns, with Isaac Seers, captain; and the brigantine *True Britton*, fourteen guns, with his nephew, Christopher Miller, as commander. The same Christopher who had been first lieutenant of the *Peggy*, and he had also sent out the ship *Hercules*, of eighteen guns, with Paul Miller, his nephew, the son of his sister Mary, as captain.

Whitehead tells us that he commanded an artillery company in New York City, and is therefore generally styled "Captain." On the news of the surrender of Fort William Henry in August, 1757, he gallantly set off with his company for the seat of war, but before he reached his destination he was recalled by Colonel DeLancy. It is probable that previous to this time he had been a prisoner, as a Captain Farmar of New York is mentioned as being detained at Quebec. He died April 23d, 1758, in the fifty-first year of his age.

The *New York Gazette*, and the *Weekly Post Boy*, of May 1, 1758, gives the following account of his death:

"New York, May 1st, 1758. On Sunday morning, the 23rd about two o'clock, Captain Jasper Farmar, of the Militia train, with a number of his company, went on board the snow *Charming Jenny*, ——— Scott, Master, then lying along the new dock in order to impress men for the transport service, who having impressed several, four of the crew, more obstinate than the rest, retired into the Round House, and there armed themselves with Blunderbusses, and altho' Captain Farmar and a Magistrate then standing on the dock, desired them in an amicable manner, to surrender, promising they should not go on board the Man of War, but serve on board the Transport, yet they obstinately refused, and fired their Blunderbusses through the loop holes, and wounded Captain Farmar in the neck, of which wound he languished until about ten o'clock of the evening of the same day, when he died.

"The fellows did not surrender 'till an officer with a party

of Regulars came down and fired a volley into the Round House, which, not damaging any of them, they were seized and are all in custody. The Coroner's Inquest having sat two days, brought in their verdict, murder, in four persons belonging to the said snow."

And the New York *Mercury*, Monday, May 1, 1758, says:

"Sunday the 24th* untimo, at night, Mr. Jaspar Farmar of this city, departed this life, after a short illness in the 51st year of his age. His remains were decently interred on Tuesday following, in Trinity Church. He was a gentleman remarkable for a noble spirit of patriotism. No fatigues, difficulties or dangers, when his country's good required it, could in the least discourage him. The various instances he has given of his uncommon loyalty are too numerous, and too deeply impressed upon the minds of all those who knew him, to require a present recapitulation. His Honesty in Trade, his affable, humane and generous disposition, procured him not only the good-will and affection of his intimate acquaintances, but likewise of all such as had the least knowledge of his character, which nothing could more fully evince than the unusual sorrow and dejection displayed by the inhabitants of this City, on the news of his death. The second independent Artillery Company belonging to our Militia, which he himself raised, and had the command of, testified their high respect towards him, by a voluntary appearance, under arms, at his funeral, marching before the corpse to the Grave, and performing the military ceremonies with unusual solemnity."

"Lo! Farmar now no more does act below.
He's now enlarged and free from human woe.
In death secure, his vital breath has done
And left his country to bemoan a son.
A man rever'd, as social and a friend,
A publick good and Patriot to the end.
Hard Fate, and inauspicious death,
To rob us of that life, that useful breath!
No common loss, this is, which we deplore,
A Beneficial man is now no more!
Let this be said—this never be denied:
Farmar beloved lived, lamented died."

* This is an error of the *Mercury*; Sunday was the 23d.

In the New York Historical Society's Collections, of 1896, page 231, is found the very brief will of Jasper Farmar:

"In the name of God, Amen, I, Jasper Farmar, of New York, Merchant, being unfortunately and dangerously wounded, but in my perfect senses . . . All debts and funeral charges to be paid, I leave to my wife, Mary, $\frac{1}{3}$ of my personal estate, $\frac{1}{3}$ to my son Jasper, and $\frac{1}{3}$ to my son Peter. I leave to my wife Mary Farmar, $\frac{1}{3}$ of all my real estate, and $\frac{2}{3}$ to my two sons. I make my wife and my son Peter and my nephew, Thomas Miller, executors. Dated April 23, 1758. I leave to my wife Mary, my negro wench 'Ann' before any division of my estate." Proved May 9, 1758.

Mary, the wife of Jasper Farmar, was the widow of Henry Meyer, Jr., and the daughter of Abraham Gouveneur and his wife Mary; the latter the daughter of the famous and ill-fated Jacob Leishler. She was a widow when she married Gouveneur, her first husband, Milborne, and her father having been executed at the same time for treason. Mary Farmar survived her husband thirty years, and died in 1788.

The *Daily Advertiser*, Monday, March 17, 1788, contains the following notice of her death and funeral:

"On Tuesday last departed this life, in the 71st year of her age, after a tedious illness, which she bore with great resignation and Christian Fortitude, Mrs. Mary Farmar, a lady whose goodness of heart and cheerful disposition endeared her to all ranks and descriptions of people who enjoyed the pleasure of her acquaintance. Her dying request was that her funeral might be conducted according to the ancient Dutch custom, strict observance of which she had expressly enjoined in her last will and testament. Her remains were accordingly interred on Friday last near the chancel, in Trinity Church, next to the remains of her deceased husband, the late Captain Jasper Farmar. The followers, after being liberally supplied with spiced wine, pipes, and tobacco, moved in procession from her house in Hanover Square, and proceeded up Wall Street in the following order:

PALL BEARERS	SEXTON.	PALL BEARERS
<hr/>		
Corpse in roofed coffin covered with black cloth, and a copper plate with Dutch inscription.		

RELATIONS

DOCTORS

Rev. Dr. Rogers and Domine Gross

Bishop Prevost and Clergy of the Episcopal Church

Dutch Clergy

Citizens

"She's now relieved from a world of woe,
Eternal wisdom hath conceived it best
On her a crown of glory to bestow,
With saints above in her Redeemer's rest."

MAJOR JASPER³ FARMAR

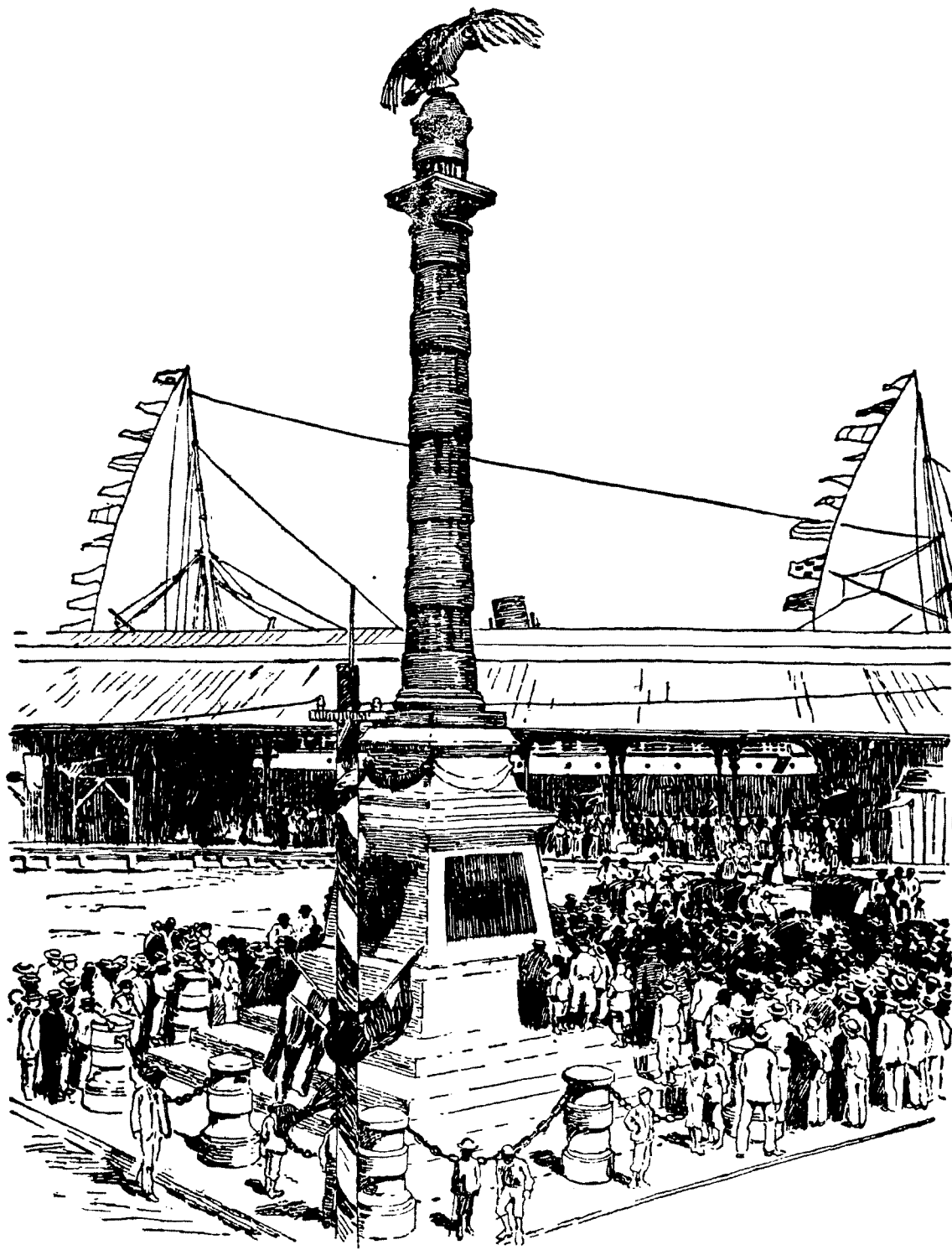
Major Jasper³, the eldest son of Captain Jasper Farmar, according to the English Army List, entered the English Army at an early age. He was appointed an ensign in the Twenty-first Regiment of Foot (or Royal North Briton Fusiliers) in December, 1762. His regiment saw almost constant service in the West Indies and North America. At one time, while he was a lieutenant, he commanded Fort Charlotte at Mobile, but was not there at the time of its capitulation. He served through each grade and was made a major November 18, 1790. He retired from the army in 1795.

Dunlap says one of the few pictures by Reynolds in this country is of Jasper Farmar in his youth. He is said to have been extremely prepossessing in his personal appearance.

He married and had several children. A daughter of Major Farmar married a Mr. Murphy of Nova Scotia, and left several children. Peter was long engaged in business in New York. He left a son, Jasper, whose daughter Anne married Mr. Cayle.

V

**MAJOR THOMAS² BILLOPP AND SOME
DESCENDANTS**



MONUMENT AT PUERTO CABELLO, VENEZUELA

Erected by the Venezuelan Government as a Memorial to the Americans executed in 1806

V

MAJOR THOMAS² BILLOPP AND SOME
DESCENDANTS

MAJOR THOMAS BILLOPP

THOMAS, the third son of Thomas and Anne (Billopp) Farmar, was born in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, in the year 1711.

As directed by the will of his grandfather, Captain Christopher Billopp, in regard to his heir, as previously mentioned, Thomas, when he became of age, dropped the surname of Farmar, and assumed that of Billopp, and came into possession of the noble estate of "Bentley Manor." In 1740 he materially assisted his brother Robert to raise a company of 103 men to take to the war, which gained for the latter his commission as captain, and this, so far as there is any documentary evidence to show, seems to be nearly all that he did. It is true, he married—yes, married twice, and left sons and daughters—but the eighteen years between his majority and his death were very stirring and troublous times with the colonies, and the writer thinks that if his fortune had not been ready made for him there would have been much more said about him in the history of his times.

His first wife was Eugenia Stelle, by whom he had two daughters, but one of them died quite young, as only one, "Anne," is mentioned in his will. Eugenia was a year younger than her husband. He must have married young, for after having borne him two children, she died, March 22, 1735-6. Her gravestone bears the following inscription:

" Here Lyes ye Body of
Eujenia
Ye Wife of Thomas
Billopp aged 23
years. Dec'd March
ye 22^d 1735-6."

Thomas took for his second wife Sarah, the daughter of Mr. Samuel Leonard, of New Jersey. His wife, Sarah, was the mother of eight children; three sons—Christopher, Thomas, and Jasper Farmar; and five daughters—Mary, Elizabeth, Rachel, Sarah, and Katharine. Katharine was probably born after her father's death.

Thomas Billopp was judge in his county, and major of the local Battalion. He died the 2nd of August, 1750, in his thirty-ninth year. He appears to have been a man of considerable prominence. His grave was beside that of his first love—Eugenia. The tombstone bears the inscription:

"Here Lyes ye Body of
Thomas Billopp, Esqr.,
son of Thomas Farmar,
Esqr. Dec'd August ye
2^d 1750. In ye 39th
year of his age."

He and Eugenia were buried in the family burying-ground, near the "Old Billopp House," on Bentley Manor.

Thomas Billopp left a will, an abstract of which has been printed in the New York Historical Society's Collections, for 1895, page 297, which reads as follows:

"In the name of God, Amen. I Thomas Billopp, of Staten Island, Esq., being in health, and of sound mind, my temporal estate I dispose of as followeth: 'And although I will as the Law wills, in several cases, yet I think it best to declare my mind therein.' My executors are to sell all personal property not herein disposed of at public vendue. I leave to my wife Sarah, a negro woman, and her child, and my riding chair, and the choice of my horses, and £500 in lieu of dower. I leave to my eldest daughter, Anne, whom I had by my first wife, £100 and my silver teapot. I leave to my eldest son, Christopher Billopp, all the certain part of my lands called the Manor of Bentley, on Staten Island. [Here are inserted the boundary lines.] And also all the mines and minerals in the other part of the Manor of Bentley, and he is to have the overplus of my personal estate, after paying debts, when he is

of age. If he dies under age, the said lands are to go to my son Thomas, and if he dies, then to my son Jasper Farmar Billopp. All the rest of my lands are to be sold by my executors, and after paying debts and legacies the remainder is to be paid to all my children except Christopher. If my wife shall bear me a child, it shall have an equal share. If I should purchase any lands after the date of this will, all such are to be sold and the proceeds to go to my children. I make my wife, Sarah, and my friend Paul Michaux and my son Christopher (when of age) executors.

“Dated October 5, 1749. Witnesses Elizabeth Seaman, Rachel Leonard, Benjamin Seaman.”

“Codicil:—‘The Testator did on the 10 of October, 1749, call for his will’ and ordered that all his silver plate, (except the silver teapot) be given to his wife, and she shall have the choice of the feather beds, with pillows, etc., and all table linen, and chest of drawers and dining table. He leaves to his eldest daughter, Anne, a large white bed quilt. He leaves to his son Christopher all the family pictures and looking glasses, etc., and ‘my large, square copper kettle.’ Witnesses: Richard Charlton, Jasper Farmar.”

In 1748 his friend and executor, Paul Michaux, had also made his will, and, among other things, had also left to his wife a negro woman, and his “riding chair” and a good horse, and after disposing of much other property, had named “My trusted friend, Thomas Billopp,” to be one of his executors.

All of Thomas Billopp’s children, except Christopher, after their father’s death, reassumed the name of Farmar, which fact has added not a little to the mystification of the historians who have attempted to unravel the tangled thread of the family alliance.

Anne died in the year 1752.

Mary married Colonel Davis, of the Army. On page 144 of the 22d volume of the 1st series of the New Jersey Archives, it is stated that Elizabeth Farmar married on the 26th

of October, 1775, in Christ Church, New Brunswick, N. J., Peter Goelet, Esq., of New York. She bore him two sons—Thomas Farmar and Christopher Billopp—but died early, and Peter consoled himself with a second wife in the person of her younger sister, Rachel. The following is the notice of Sarah Farmar's marriage, from Rivington, New York, *Gazette*, Thursday, February 16, 1775:

“Saturday Night last was Married at Trinity Church by the Reverend Dr. Auchtmuty, Alexander Ross, Esq., of Middlesex County, New Jersey, to Miss Sallie Farmar, sister to Christopher Billopp, Esq., member of the Honorable House of Assembly, for Richmond County.” Their descendants are now living in New York.

Katherine married Mr. Effingham Lawrence of New York, afterward of London, where he became an eminent merchant. She died in 1806. Her daughter, Katharine Mary Lawrence, married on April 20, 1816, Major General Sir John Thomas Jones, Bart., A. D. C. to the Duke of Wellington, and afterward to Queen Victoria. He was Chief of Engineers on the staff of the Duke of Wellington, was created a Baronet September 30, 1831, and was promoted to Major General in 1837. He ranked among the first military engineers of his time. He died at his residence, Pittsville, Cheltenham, February 25, 1843. A statue to his memory, by Behnes, was erected in the south transept of St. Paul's Cathedral, by the officers of the Royal Engineer Corps. His son Lawrence, 2nd Baronet, was killed by Greek brigands in 1845. His second son, Sir Willoughby, 3rd Baronet, married his cousin, Emily, daughter of Henry S. Jones, and died August 20, 1884. His son, Sir Lawrence John Jones, 4th Baronet, was born August 15, 1857, and married April 13, 1882, Evelyn Mary, daughter of James Johnstone Bevan, Esq. Seven children were born to them—Willoughby John, Lawrence, Evelyn, Barham Edward, Maurice Herbert, Hester, Katharine, Rachel Margaret; seat, Cranmer Hall, Kakenham, Norfolkshire. In their portrait gallery are the old Billopp family portraits, willed by Thomas Billopp to his son Christopher.

Thomas (Major Thomas² Billopp, Thomas¹ Farmar) first married his cousin Elizabeth, daughter of his father's brother, Samuel Farmar. His second wife was the widow of his brother Jasper, who had married, in 1771, Susannah, the beautiful daughter of Courtland Skinner, of Perth Amboy. There were no children. Thomas is mentioned as being vestryman of St. Peter's Church, Perth Amboy, from 1785 to 1788.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL CHRISTOPHER³ BILLOPP

Colonel Christopher³ Billopp, the eldest son of Major Thomas Billopp, was born in 1737, in the "Old Billopp House" on Bentley Manor, Staten Island. There was at that time a famous school at Perth Amboy, which opportunity he improved by acquiring, for that period, an excellent education. He took great interest in the political questions of the day, and soon after he attained his majority he represented his county in the New York Assembly, and took part in all the debates relating to the trouble with the Mother Country. From the very first he was a pronounced Loyalist, and did all in his power to prevent an open rupture between the Colonies and Great Britain, but when it came, there was not a moment's hesitation on his part. His duty, as he saw it, was to support, defend, and aid, with all his power, with his mind, body, and estate, that Crown which had been so liberal and generous to his family for generations.

As soon as the war had really begun, he accepted a lieutenant colonel's commission and commanded a corps of Loyalists raised on Staten Island, and was from that time until the end of the war employed in military duties. The Continentals were never in force on Staten Island, but they held that section of New Jersey for several years, and as they could watch his house from Perth Amboy, they were constantly on the alert to catch the "Tory Colonel," and twice succeeded. On one of these occasions he was confined in the jail at Burlington. The patriot Commissary of Prisoners, Mr. Boudinot, in the warrant of commitment, directed that irons should be put on his hands and feet, that he should be chained to the floor of a close

room, and that he should be fed on bread and water, which was done, it is said, in retaliation for the cruel treatment of two Whig officers who had fallen into the hands of the Royal troops.

In 1782 Colonel Billopp was Superintendent of Police of Staten Island.

His estate, Bentley Manor, and also the estate of his father-in-law, Benjamin Seaman, were confiscated by an act of the New York Legislature in the year 1776.

At the "Old Billopp House" Lord Howe, as Commissioner of the King, met Franklin, John Adams and Edward Rutledge, a committee of the Continental Congress, in the hope of adjusting difficulties and of inducing the Colonies to return to their allegiance. Lord Howe, General Kniphausen, Colonel Simcoe and other officers of rank were frequent guests of Colonel Billopp at this old house.

After the war, Colonel Billopp, with all his family, except his two sons, settled at St. John, New Brunswick, and for many years bore a part in the administration of affairs. He was a member of the House of Assembly, and of the Council, and on the death of Governor Smith, in 1823, he claimed the vacant position; but as he was then nearly ninety years old, a younger man was chosen, and his competitor, the Honorable Ward Chapman, was sworn into office. He died at St. John, March 28, 1827, aged ninety years. From Mr. Morris' "History of Staten Island," page 147, is quoted:

"The St. John *Daily Telegraph*, March 29, 1827 (something of a prophetic name for a paper then), contained the following notice:

'Died, last evening, in the ninetieth year of his age, the Hon. C. Billopp, a member of His Majesty's Council in this Province. He was formerly of Staten Island, New York, where he owned a very valuable property, but from which he was driven by his firm and inflexible loyalty; for his intrepid zeal and indefatigable exertions in the Royal cause during the American Rebellion, brought upon him the vengeance of the

Revolutionary government and placed him and his possessions in the proscribed list. Since then he has resided in this Province, and was an active and useful representative in its first House of Assembly; and during a long life he has ever been distinguished for the strictest honor and integrity and an undeviating independence of mind. His funeral will take place from his late residence in King Street next Monday at two o'clock, when the friends of the family are respectfully requested to attend.' "

From the same work is the following description of Colonel Billopp: " He was a very tall, rather slender, soldierly looking man when in his prime. He was exceedingly proud, and his pride at times led him to the verge of hauteur, yet he was kind-hearted, not only to those whom he considered his equals, but to his slaves and to the poor people of the Island. No one went from his door at the old Manor hungry. It was his custom to gather the people of the Island once a year on the lawn in front of his house and hold a harvest-home. He delighted to talk to them and give advice for their welfare. He was very popular. He was fond of dress and scrupulously neat in his attire. He kept his coach and liveried driver and footman. Passionately fond of horses, his stable was filled with the finest bred animals in the land. He was a magnificent rider and was very fond of the saddle. He was an expert shot with the pistol, which once saved his life when attacked by robbers. Colonel Billopp was not a man to take advice unless it instantly met his favor. He generally regarded his own opinion superior to that of others, especially if theirs did not accord with his.

" Life-long friends pleaded with him to join the cause of independence at the commencement of the Revolution, but he chose to follow the fortunes of Royalty. He was a good citizen, a noble man, his misfortune being that he was on the losing side of a cause in which he had everything at stake."

The following inscription is on his tomb:

“ Sacred to the memory of the
Honorable Christopher Billopp,
a member of His Majesty’s Council
in this Province, whose uncompromising Loyalty and distinguished exertions as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Royal Cause during the American rebellion obliged him at the termination of that contest to abandon without compensation, his hereditary property on Staten Island and retire with his family to this colony, wherein he since resided at St. John, universally respected.

“ He died on the 28th day of March, 1827, in the ninetieth year of his age.”

Colonel Billopp was twice married. His first wife was Frances Willett, by whom he had two sons, Thomas and John Willett Billopp, and three daughters, Elizabeth, Sarah, and Katherine Billopp. Elizabeth married Mr. Robinson of St. John, New Brunswick, and had four children. The eldest, Frances Robinson, married Doctor Bayard of St. John. The second daughter, Mary Robinson, married Major Short.

Sarah, Colonel Billopp’s second daughter, married Henry Seaman of New York, and had four children—Billopp, who married Miss Kortright; Jasper and Edmund, unmarried; and Frances, who married Mr. Townsend.

The Colonel’s third daughter, Katherine, died in infancy.

Colonel Billopp’s second wife, Jane Seaman, daughter of Benjamin Seaman, of Staten Island, bore him five daughters, and died in St. John, New Brunswick, in 1802, aged forty-eight years. Her daughters were Katharine, who married Hon. John Black of Halifax, and left a son and daughter; Jane, who married Hon. William Black of St. John, and had three sons and three daughters; Louisa, who married John Wallace; Mary, who married Archdeacon Willis, and left children, and Anne, who died unmarried.

In speaking of the descendants of the daughters of Colonel Christopher Billopp, Mr. Morris, in his “History of Staten Island,” has the following: “The descendants of Colonel Christopher Billopp have passed on to the fourth generation,

and are now scattered throughout the Dominion of Canada and England. They are people of whom any community might well be proud. The four grandsons of Mary Billopp Willis are the Rev. Robert S. Willis of England, the Rev. Cuthbert Willis of Halifax, John Willis of Halifax, and William Christopher Willis of Glasgow, Scotland.

"The grandchildren of Jane Billopp Black are the Honorable John Black, member of the Provincial Legislature of New Brunswick, and Mrs. Harriet Paddock, wife of Morris V. Paddock, of St. John. This estimable lady visited 'The Old Billopp House' in company with the writer" (Mr. Ira K. Morris), "in the autumn of 1896. She inspected the various rooms with an interest indescribable, and beheld them with a sacred awe worthy of the honorable memory of her ancestors. Here and there she gathered a mute trophy to carry to her far-off home to keep as treasured mementoes of this most memorable day of her life."

Both the Colonel's sons seem to have inherited that spirit of adventure so prominently developed in their ancestors, although it is said they did not inherit the spirit of loyalty to the King evinced by their father.

The second son, John Willett Billopp, was born in 1769. He was in Paris, France, during the Reign of Terror of the French Revolution, for in an article entitled "Paine and the French Revolution," published by the Honorable E. B. Washburn, President Grant's Minister to France, in vol. xx. of *Scribner's Monthly Magazine*, there is quoted an appeal by American citizens then in Paris, addressed to the National Convention, petitioning for the release of Thomas Paine, who was then a prisoner, and among the names of the signers of the petition is that of "John Willett Billopp, of New York." But a few years later he was again in New York engaged in business with his older brother, Thomas. In 1798 New York experienced an epidemic of yellow fever, and the ravages of the disease were very terrible. Thomas was married and had three children, one an infant born that year, so he was persuaded by his generous brother to go with his family out of the city until the danger

had passed, while he—John—who was not married, would remain and look after the business. So John remained, was a victim of his generosity, and died from the fever.

THOMAS⁴ BILLOPP

Thomas⁴ (Col. Christopher³, Maj. Thomas² Billopp, Thomas¹ Farmar), the Colonel's eldest son, was born in the year 1767. He was, according to Thomas Jones' "History of New York," employed as clerk to his father, the Superintendent of Police of Staten Island, in the year 1777. He was then only ten years old. After the close of the war he engaged in business in New York City. In 1790, he married Abigail, the youngest daughter of John Moore, of Newtown, Long Island. Can anything more be said to show the sweet and lovely disposition of this amiable lady than that her death, at an advanced age, in 1834, caused her son-in-law such poignant grief that he could not survive it, but soon followed her to the grave? Thomas and Abigail Billopp had six children—Mary Lawrence Billopp married Mr. Grundy of Baltimore; Frances Billopp married Rev. William Edward Wyatt, D. D.; Christopher Billopp, born in 1798, unmarried, died in 1820; Elizabeth Farmar Billopp, born in 1800, died in 1805; John Moore Billopp, born in 1802, died at Mobile, Alabama, in 1835; Thomas Farmar Billopp, born May 22, 1805, died September, 1876.

Thomas Billopp's business was ruined by the yellow fever scourge and the death of his brother in 1798. He struggled manfully for several years to retrieve his fortunes, but so bitter was his chagrin at his lack of success that he was at last driven almost to despair.

It was at this time, when his fortunes were at such a low ebb, that Francisco Miranda, a Venezuelan revolutionist, appeared in New York. Miranda had been in the French service in the American Revolution and had been one of Washington's aides. He went to South America in 1783, with ideas of liberating the Spanish colonies and establishing a republic on the American plan, with himself as the Washington, but his schemes were discovered and he fled to Europe. He was again



CAPTAIN THOMAS BILLOPP

From a Contemporary Miniature now owned by
Miss Elinor Billopp, his Great-Granddaughter

in the French service as General-of-Division in 1792-3. In 1806 he fitted out an expedition in the United States and sailed for South America, with a view of establishing a republic at Caracas, but was not successful. Toward the close of 1810 he again went to South America and succeeded in putting the republic on its feet; but becoming a rival of Bolivar, he was delivered by the latter to the Spaniards and carried to Cadiz, where he died in prison. Miranda was a man of great ability, polished manners, and great personal magnetism. He had been at nearly every court of Europe, and was for a time a high favorite of the fickle Catharine of Russia. He was, with his schemes, received in New York with great enthusiasm. Over thirty thousand dollars were subscribed by the merchants of New York, and he soon procured men enough to fit out an expedition of three ships.

Thomas Billopp, after eight years of unsuccessful struggle against adverse fortune, and inspired by that spirit of adventure inherited from his fathers, met the affable adventurer and was quickly won to the support of his cause. Miranda appointed him a captain, with many liberal promises of early advancement. The expedition sailed from New York February 2, 1806, and after waiting a long time near Hayti for another ship, which was to meet him there, but never came, Miranda sailed for Venezuela. On the 27th of April he had his first and only encounter with the enemy, in which two of his ships were captured and his own took to flight. The principal officers captured on the ill-fated ships were tried and found guilty of an attempt to incite a rebellion, and were executed in the fort at Puerto Cabello, Venezuela, on the 21st of July, 1806. They were Captain Thomas Billopp, Captain Thomas Donohue, Lieutenant Gustavus A. Bergerd, Lieutenant Charles Johnson, Lieutenant Daniel Kemper, Lieutenant Miles L. Hall, Lieutenant Paul F. George, Lieutenant James Gardiner, Lieutenant John Ferris, and Second Lieutenant Francis Farquarson.

In 1895, through the efforts of the then President of Venezuela. General Andrade, his government erected in honor of

these American citizens, on the spot where they were executed, a beautiful monument. It is an imposing and handsome structure in bronze, resting on a granite pedestal, and is sixty-five feet high, on top of which is a condor, in bronze, just spreading its wings to soar. The front panel of the pedestal contains the coats of arms of the United States and Venezuela interwoven. On the rear panel there is a bronze crown of laurel and palm, and on the east panel a bronze plate containing the names of the men in whose honor the monument was erected. The monument was dedicated on February 25, 1895, by the government. The Minister of Public Works delivered the oration, and Mr. W. W. Russell, the Secretary of the United States Legation, made a few happy remarks, closing with the following apt quotation:

“ Whether on scaffold high,
Or in the battle’s van,
The noblest place for man to die
Is where he dies for man.”

MARY LAWRENCE⁵ BILLOPP

Mary Lawrence⁵ Billopp (Thomas⁴, Col. Christopher³, Maj. Thomas² Billopp, Thomas¹ Farmar) married George Kerr Grundy of Baltimore. Their first son, George Kerr Grundy, of Elizabeth, New Jersey, married and left children. Their second son, Thomas Billopp Grundy, married Clara Haxhall, of Richmond Va., and left two daughters, both married. Byram and Frances Billopp Grundy both died unmarried.

FRANCES⁵ (BILLOPP) WYATT AND DESCENDANTS

Frances⁵ Billopp married Rev. William Edward Wyatt, D. D., S. T. D. Dr. Wyatt graduated from Columbia College in the class of 1809, and received his A. M. in 1816; was ordained priest in 1813, and was called to the rectorship of St. Paul’s in Baltimore, Md., in 1817. He was the son of James Wyatt and Mary Winslow, daughter of Rev. Edward Winslow, rector of St. George’s Church, New York, who died in the

chancel of that church, and was there buried. Mary Winslow was a descendant of Mary Chilton, who came over in the *Mayflower*, 1620, and married John Winslow, brother of Governor Edward Winslow, who came in the *Fortune*, 1621. Dr. Wyatt was very prominent in all church affairs of his time, being leader of the old High Church party. For a number of years he was President of the House of Clerical and Lay Deputies of the General Convention. He was respected and admired by all who knew him. He died in 1864, surviving his wife one year, and leaving seven sons and four daughters, as follows:

- 1 William Edward Wyatt, born in 1816, married Margaret Elizabeth Noel. He died in 1866, leaving one son, James Bosley Noel, who is now a leading architect of Baltimore, Md.
- 2 The Rev. Thomas James Wyatt, married Maria Louise Fischer. She died, leaving no children, when he married Sophia Louise Hollingsworth. She died, leaving two children:
 - 1 William Edward Wyatt, married Fanny Rich; child:
 - 1 Arthur Rich Wyatt.
 - 2 Sophia Louise Hollingsworth Wyatt, married Rosewell Graves; children:
 - 1 Sophia Anne Graves.
 - 2 Evelyn Wyatt Graves,
 - 3 Rosewell Elizabeth Graves.

The Rev. Thomas James Wyatt's third wife was Mary Louise Jones, who bore him two children:

- 3 Thomas Wyatt.
 - 4 Mary L. Wyatt, who as a miniature painter has been accorded favorable notice at the Paris Salon.
- 3 Frances Billopp Wyatt, married George Somerville Norris of Baltimore; children:
 - 1 William Wyatt Norris, married Mary Ridgely Gaither; child:

- 1 Hannah Gaither Norris.
- 2 George Somerville Norris, died young.
- 3 Frances Wyatt Norris, married George Howard Elder; children:
 - 1 George Howard Elder.
 - 2 Frances Wyatt Elder.
- 4 Susan Voss Norris.
- 5 Sophia Howard Norris, married John Paul Baker; children:
 - 1 John Paul Baker.
 - 2 Bessie Kelso Baker.
 - 3 Somerville Norris Baker.
 - 4 Sophia Howard Baker.
 - 5 Eva Graff Baker.
- 6 Katharine Isabella Norris, married Christopher A. Wyatt; children:
 - 1 Christopher Wyatt.
 - 2 Katharine Isabella Wyatt.
- 7 Richard Horton Norris, married Margery Watson Allis; children:
 - 1 Richard Horton Norris.
 - 2 William Allis Norris.
 - 3 Margaret Allis Norris.
- 8 Mary Gordon Norris, married, first, Richard Norris, and second, Nathan Ryno Gorter, M. D.
- 9 George Somerville Norris, married Gertrude Couthoui; children:
 - 1 Joseph Couthoui Norris.
 - 2 Frances Wyatt Norris.
 - 3 Jessie Norris.
- 10 Henry Franklin Norris, married Edith Lockwood; child:
 - 1 Whitton Evans Norris.
- 11 Jessie Somerville Norris, married Edward S. Lewis.
- 4 Mary Augusta Wyatt, died young.
- 5 Katharine Isabella Wyatt, died unmarried.
- 6 Charles Handfield Wyatt.

- 7 Christopher Billopp Wyatt, also a clergyman in the church, died while rector of St. Peter's Church, West Chester, New York. He married Mary Angelica Crogan; children:
- 1 Frances Billopp Wyatt, married Henry H. Allen; children:
 - 1 Wyatt H. Allen.
 - 2 Harriet Debb Allen.
 - 3 Frances Billopp Allen.
 - 4 Lucius A. Allen.
 - 2 William Edward Wyatt, married Jane Kirby; children:
 - 1 Christopher Billopp Wyatt.
 - 2 Cornelia Wyatt.
 - 3 Merritt T. Wyatt.
 - 3 Christopher A. Wyatt, married Katharine I. Norris, died 1906; children:
 - 1 Christopher A. Wyatt.
 - 2 Katharine I. Wyatt.
 - 4 Mary Livingston Wyatt, married Henry G. Newhall; children:
 - 1 Alice Newhall.
 - 2 Donald Newhall.
 - 3 Lila Newhall.
- 8 Edward Winslow Wyatt, married Rosella R. McAllister, the daughter of George Washington McAllister, who was born in Lancaster Co., Pa., but early settled in Georgia, on a plantation; children:
- 1 Rosa McAllister Wyatt.
 - 2 Edward Winslow Wyatt.
- 9 John Henry Wyatt, died young.
- 10 Mary Augusta Wyatt, married Daniel Sprigg Hall; children:
- 1 William Edward Wyatt Hall, married Ellen Winslow Marston; child:
 - 1 Francis Winslow Hall.
 - 2 Anna Hall.

3 Francis Billopp Hall.

4 Daniel Sprigg Hall.

11 Charles Handfield Wyatt, was a prominent lawyer of Baltimore, Md., died in 1904. His first wife was Eliza Kreeland, granddaughter of Rev. Dr. McVickar of New York; children:

1 Lisa Wyatt, married George Peabody Tiffany; child:

1 George Peabody Tiffany.

2 Charles Handfield Wyatt.

3 John McVickar Wyatt, died in 1891.

4 Frances Billopp Wyatt.

Charles Handfield Wyatt's second wife was Marion C. Beacham, who bore him one child:

5 Marion Beacham Wyatt.

THOMAS FARMAR⁵ BILLOPP

Thomas Farmar⁵ Billopp, the youngest child of Thomas and Abigail Billopp, was born in 1805, was educated by his brother-in-law, Rev. Dr. Wyatt, and was ordained a priest by Bishop Kemp, of the Diocese of Maryland, in 1825. He was at various times rector of churches in Maryland, Delaware, and New Jersey, and after more than fifty years work, while rector of St. Barnabas Church, Prince George County, Md., he died in 1876, beloved and revered by all.

Mr. Holcomb, in his "History of Immanuel Church," New Castle, Delaware, says of him: "His disposition and manners were exceedingly gentle, and his voice sweet and sympathetic, which made him a charming preacher and reader. He resigned the rectorship of the parish in 1856. He had many warm friends in the congregation who greatly regretted his resignation."

He married, in November, 1832, Katharine Risteau, the daughter of Captain Christopher Carnan of Baltimore County, Md. Captain Carnan was a soldier of the American Army in the War of 1812, and was a grandson of Colonel Charles Carnan of the Continental Army, who, as a Captain, had raised



THE REVEREND THOMAS FARMAR BILLOPP

a company in Baltimore County, Md., which was known by the unique name of "The Soldier's Delight." Katharine Risteau Billopp died in 1892.

There were born to them seven sons and two daughters. The eldest son, Lieutenant Colonel William Wyatt⁶ Billopp, was born in May, 1834, was educated at St. Timothy's Military Academy, at Catonsville, Md., became a civil engineer, and settled in Savannah, Georgia, when about eighteen years old. When the Civil War broke out, he ardently supported the Southern Cause, and raised an artillery company of which he was elected Captain. During the first two years of the war, his company was engaged in the defense of Charleston and Savannah, but eventually it became "Company A" of the 29th Georgia Infantry, and served with the army commanded by Generals Johnston, Bragg, and Hood, until the end of the war. He was soon promoted to Major and Lieutenant Colonel, and, as his Colonel was a prisoner in the hands of the Union forces during the last year of the war, he commanded his regiment. He was with General Hood when he made his ill-advised march into western Tennessee, and participated in all the hard-fought battles of that army from Atlanta to Franklin, and was more than once severely wounded. At Murfreesboro on the 7th of December, 1864, he was gallantly leading his regiment in a charge when a rifle ball pierced his forehead, killing him instantly. The charge was repulsed, and his men were driven back, but that night some of the men of his old company, who were all devoted to him, returned to the battlefield, and recovered his body, and buried it with military honors. The following is the report of Major General William B. Bate, commanding Division of Operations from November 21, to December 25, 1864, War of the Rebellion, series 1, vol. xlv. part 1, p. 747:

"December 7, . . . In this day's fight there were nineteen killed, seventy-three wounded, one hundred and twenty-two missing. Among the former was Lieutenant Colonel Billopp, commanding the 29th Georgia Regiment, who fell gallantly at his post."

The writer became acquainted with General Bate, and met him frequently during his long service as United States senator from Tennessee. He was a personal friend and admirer of Colonel Billopp, and spoke of him as a most gallant, brave, and conscientious officer, who, if his life and the war had lasted longer, would soon have met rapid promotion. General Bate was present at his burial, and thirty years after the end of the war, said he believed he could point out the place where his body was buried by his loving comrades.

Colonel Billopp was in his thirty-first year when he met his death. He had not married.

Christopher⁶ Billopp became a civil engineer. He was for a number of years Engineer Commissioner of Baltimore City, and has successfully accomplished several difficult works for the Pennsylvania and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads. When the Civil War broke out, he joined the First Maryland Cavalry, C. S. A., and served through the war under his former schoolmate, General Fitzhugh Lee. He has not married.

Major Thomas Farmar⁶ Billopp, when the Civil War was begun, was in business in Clarkesville, Tenn. He immediately volunteered and served as a private in a Tennessee regiment. During the first year of the war, he was under Stonewall Jackson in Virginia, and was severely wounded in one of the battles before Richmond, when McClellan's attempt to capture that city was defeated. After his recovery he was transferred to the company of artillery commanded by his brother, with which he remained until the surrender, under Johnson, in 1865, at which time he was Major and commanded the regiment. During the war he saw severe fighting, and was seriously wounded many times. Immediately after the close of the war he engaged in business in Baltimore. He married Anna Holliday of Baltimore, but left no children. He died July, 1891.

Robert Carnan⁶ Billopp married Virginia Magruder. They had one son, Archibald, who married Margaret Ella Shaw of Prince George Co., Md. They have one son, whose name is Thomas Farmar Billopp.

Francis Wyatt Billopp died at St. James College, Md., July, 1858.

John Sappington Billopp, unmarried.

The last three children of Thomas Farmar⁵ Billopp were born while he was rector of Emmanuel Church in Newcastle, Delaware, which church bore a particular interest, inasmuch as it occupied the identical spot on which formerly stood the fort commanded by his ancestor, Captain Christopher Billopp, nearly two hundred years before.

Charles Farmar Billopp was born March 11, 1846. He married Mary Blake, daughter of Samuel L. Brooke of Prince George County, Maryland. They had three daughters, Elinor, Lisa Brooke, who married Raymond Healy of Brooklyn, N. Y., and Katharine Risteau. He died on February 14, 1907, in Washington, D. C., where he had lived for the last twenty years of his life.

Katharine Carnan Billopp, the first daughter of Thomas Farmar and Katharine (Carnan) Billopp, married William Berry of Prince George Co., Maryland. Their one son, William, died in infancy.

Mary Elinor Billopp married George W. Brooke of Maryland, in 1875. She died in 1876, leaving no children.



MAJOR ROBERT FARMER

From a Painting now in the Possession of Mr. George Brooke
of Birdsboro, Pennsylvania

VI

MAJOR ROBERT² FARMAR AND DESCENDANTS

VI

MAJOR ROBERT² FARMAR AND DESCENDANTS

MAJOR ROBERT FARMAR

ROBERT, the sixth son of Thomas and Anne Billopp Farmar, named in honor of Robert, the founder of our branch of the family, he who "was an officer of rank in Queen Elizabeth's Army, in Ireland," and was "slain in battle," was born in 1717, and had a liberal education. His name does not appear in any of the records of his time until the year 1740, when at the age of twenty-three years he raised a full company of soldiers, of one hundred and three men, was appointed captain, and sailed with them to join the English Army, commanded by General Wentworth in the West Indies. It is at this time his name is frequently found in the "Papers of Governor Lewis Morris," of New Jersey.

Governor Morris had the disposal of two captain's commissions, while there were three applicants for these prizes, who were under the impression that the rule of "first come, first served," would decide their fate, so the rivals each strove to secure the first full company. But there were other influences which weighed with the Governor, who was a shrewd politician, and about as scrupulous as politicians generally were in those days, and are in these. For, though Farmar, with the aid of his brother Jasper in New York, and his brother Thomas Billopp on Staten Island, was the first to secure his full quota, he received no commission, but had to content himself with a "certificate" from the Governor, which did not give him a captain's rank in the regular army. But Farmar did not, as Governor Morris said he feared he would, "sulk in his tent"—he was not made of that sort of stuff. Though disappointed,

he stuck his certificate in his pocket, sailed to the Indies, and soon won his spurs at the point of his sword.

The Governor's letters at this time frequently mention Farmar. Before the companies are filled he shows his prejudice by speaking of him as "a vain young man," but after Farmer's rivals have secured the commissions he turns about and sounds his praises. He urges Captain Thomas to greater energy by telling him "Captain Farmar has a full company." On page 102 of the "Papers" there is a letter to Colonel Blakeney, commanding Farmar's regiment. It is dated September 30, 1740, and he says, "Captain Farmar is very diligent and careful." In a letter to the Duke of Newcastle, he mentions the departure of Captain Farmar's company to the West Indies, and explains the matter of the certificate, which he carries in the place of a commission.

On page 148 of "Papers of Governor Lewis Morris" is a letter to General Wentworth, in which the Governor speaks very flatteringly of Captain Farmar, and mentions his father, Thomas Farmar, as the member of the New Jersey Assembly who did most to raise two thousand pounds and equip three companies for service in the West Indies.

The next time his name is found is in the *Boston Weekly News Letter*, of July 2, 1741, in the following report of military affairs: "Admiral Vernon, with his fleet, and General Wentworth, with his Land Forces, have left off the siege of Carthagen, on account of great sickness and death among his men, and are arrived at Jamaica. They have lost in all about 8,000 men. Captain Stevens and Captain Cosby of New York are both very well, as also Captain Farmar and Captain Thomas of New Jersey. The officers and soldiers of North America behaved themselves with much Bravery, *but many of them are dead.*" So we see that Robert Farmar has secured his commission as captain.

On page 157 is a letter, dated December 19, 1742, from the Governor to Henry Pelham, Paymaster General, which mentions that Captain Farmar had been sent home by General Wentworth to raise recruits, and had forwarded to the West

Indies twenty-two men. In a note on page 816, vol. viii. of "Documents Relating to the Colonial History of New York," the editor says: "Robert Farmar was a captain in the army as early as 1740, and obtained a company in the 19th Foot, in 1744. In 1761 he became a major in the 34th, and commanded that regiment the following year in the expedition against Havana" (Beatson, iii. p. 395). Havana capitulated August 13, 1762, after a siege of two months and eight days.

By the Treaty of Paris, in February, 1763, all of that part of the United States east of the Mississippi River, now comprising the states of Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi, was ceded by France to England. The town of Mobile and the French fort called Condé were surrendered October 20, 1763. The transfer was signed by Devalle and Fazende, on the part of France, and by Major Robert Farmar for England, followed by Farmar's proclamation.

The historic name of Fort Condé was changed to Fort Charlotte, in honor of the young Queen of George the Third.

I am indebted to "Colonial Mobile," an intensely interesting history of the early days of Florida, from the pen of Peter J. Hamilton, Esq., for nearly all the information I have received relating to Major Robert Farmar.

He was in command of Mobile for a number of years, in fact as long as he remained in the army. During that time he commanded an expedition to the Illinois country opposite St. Louis, and relieved Captain Sterling. He was compelled to accommodate himself to the French-Indian policy, and keep open house for twenty or thirty people every day—"a vile custom," he declares. Hamilton says, "He was an interesting character. He had frequent occasion to correspond officially with Aubrey, the French Governor of New Orleans, and we have Aubrey's impression of him in a dispatch to his home government." It is found in Gayarré's "History of Louisiana," vol. ii. p. 125:

"The correspondence which I am obliged to have with the English, who write to me from all parts, and particularly with

the Governor of Mobile, gives me serious occupation. This Governor is an extraordinary man. As he knows that I speak English, he occasionally writes to me in verse. He speaks to me of Francis I. and Charles V. He compares Pontiak, an Indian Chief, to Mithridates; he says that he goes to bed with Montesquieu. When there occur some petty difficulties between the inhabitants of New Orleans and Mobile, he quotes to me from the Magna Charta, and the laws of Great Brittain. It is said that the English ministry sent him to Mobile to get rid of him (!) because he was one of the hottest in the opposition. He pays me handsome compliments, which I duly return him, and upon the whole he is a man of parts, but a dangerous neighbor, against whom it is well to be on one's guard."

The Major acquired from the Indians a piece of land facing the Bay, and extending over towards Pensacola (mentioned in his son Robert's letter as containing upwards of 200,000 acres), and from the Government at some time, Farmar's Island, and his residence at what is now the northeast corner of Government and St. Emanuel Streets, which was his home until he moved over to the Tensaw River. In 1766, through the enmity of Governor Johnstone, which Farmar had incurred by opposing his claim to be Commander in Chief of all the land forces in America, charges were preferred against the Major, and a court martial was ordered. He had handled, in the two years in question, over fifteen thousand pounds. He had very voluminous accounts, but nothing incriminating was found. One of the charges was, "For employing the King's boat to his own emolument." This was proved to be the Major's own boat which he, in affectionate pleasantries, had named after his son, calling it "The Little Bob."

The trial lasted several years, and the dispute between civil and military departments, meantime, fills volumes of British records, with complaints and counter charges. It was concluded in August, in 1768, and the papers submitted to the King. The General in Chief, in notifying Farmar, remarked

that he could say nothing until the result was known. In October the news came that his Majesty approved of the court-martial, acquitting the Major. "We can readily imagine," writes Mr. Hamilton, who has a very soft spot in his heart for the Major, "We can readily imagine the joy of the whole southern detachment, at this victory over Governor Johnstone."

The Major seems at the time of his trial to have withdrawn from active service, though he did not resign from the army until after his acquittal, as his name appears in the Army List for 1768. In 1769 we find him recommended to succeed Browne as Governor of Florida.

Even after his retirement, Major Farmar was in frequent demand for information as to Mobile matters from those highest in authority. He lived for ten years after his acquittal, residing at his plantation on the Tensaw. He was several times elected to the Florida Assembly. It was at the Tensaw that the famous naturalist, William Bartram, visited him. Bartram says, in his "Travels," page 402: "On August 5, went in a trading boat to visit Major Farmar, that worthy gentleman having invited me."

Robert Farmar was member of the Assembly from the year 1772 to 1777, and it is stated of the Assembly of 1778 that "Peter Swann was elected in the room of Robert Farmar, deceased." As he had been appointed by Governor Chester to be one of the Commissioners of the Peace for the town of Mobile, in 1777, it is probable that he died in the early part of 1778.

On the fourteenth of March, 1780, the town of Mobile was surrendered to the Spanish under the command of Don Bernardo de Galvez. During the siege, which lasted for nearly a month, many of the houses in the vicinity of Fort Charlotte were burned, among them being the late home of Major Farmar, which contained, with other things, many valuable and interesting papers. Some of the latter, no doubt, would have been most useful to the writer of this chronicle, as he would then know more of the doings of the doughty Major.

There is a footnote on page 382 of "Colonial Mobile," which

reads: "Mrs. Curtis Lewis was a granddaughter of *Sir Robert Farmar*; she was a daughter of De Vaubercey of Dauphine Island." This is the only intimation that the writer has found of the Major's being knighted.

The year of Major Farmar's marriage is uncertain, but it must have been rather late in his life, for at the time of his death his children were all quite young. He married Mary Anderson of Yorkshire, England, and had two sons and three daughters. The first child was a daughter named Anne Billopp, who married John Lewis Barde, an officer in the English Army, who eventually settled, lived, and died at Birdsboro, Pennsylvania. The second was a son, Robert Adolphus, an officer for a time of the 60th Foot, of the English Army. The third, a daughter, Mary Elizabeth, married John Louis De Vaubercey, of Orleanist connection (see "Colonial Mobile"), and remained in Florida. They had at least one son, Louis Le Gras De Vaubercey, and one daughter, who married Mr. Curtis Lewis of Mobile.

The fourth child, a daughter, Katharine Louisa, married Otto Vautile Barbaree. The fifth was a son, named for his Grandfather Thomas. He died at sea, unmarried.

The descendants of the Major's daughter, Mary Elizabeth, who married De Vaubercey, lived in Mobile as late as 1839, and at that time petitioned Congress to confirm to them as the heirs of Major Farmar, the title to "Farmar's Island," and a bill was introduced in the Twenty-fourth Congress to that effect, and became a law on the last day of the Twenty-fifth Congress. The reports on these bills are to be found in vol. ii. of the Twenty-fourth Congress, report No. 352, and in vol. i. of the Twenty-fifth Congress, report No. 139. These reports are identical, and are made by Mr. Lawler, from the Committee on Private Land Claims. Among other things, they state that Robert Farmar, the ancestor of the petitioners, occupied it in his lifetime, as a boatyard, and that he resided in Mobile until his death, which happened sometime in or about the year 1781. That the right heirs of the said Robert Farmar were all born in America, and that the said Louis Le Gras De

Vaubercey did reside in the town of Mobile on the 15th day of April, 1813, when the United States took possession of that part of west Florida, and that he has resided in the same place, or vicinity, ever since, and still resides there. They also recite an affidavit of Curtis Lewis to the same effect.

The statute is found in "United States Statutes at Large," vol. vi. p. 761, chap. 105: An "Act for the Relief of the Heirs and Legal Representatives of the Late Robert Farmar, Deceased." "*Be it enacted*, etc., that the heirs and legal representatives of the late Robert Farmar, deceased, be, and they hereby are, confirmed in their title to a certain tract of Land, commonly called the Island; bounded on the north by the Bayou Chataque, on the south by the Bayou Marmott, on the east by the River Mobile, and on the west by the said Bayou, situate about a mile above, or north of the city of Mobile, in the state of Alabama, and containing 400 acres, more or less, and the Commissioner of the General Land Office is hereby authorized to issue a patent to the said heirs, agreeable to their petition. Approved March 3, 1839."

While the descendants of Mary Elizabeth may have received their patents, the writer has never been informed that the descendants of any of Robert Farmar's other children have ever been benefited by this Act.

After the fall of Mobile, the English troops and their families went to Pensacola. The 60th, or Royal American Regiment of Foot, was a portion of this small army. There were also with it several companies of Pennsylvania Loyalists. John Lewis Barde (though the English Army List calls him Lewis Barde) had been appointed an ensign in the 60th Foot, the 29th of June, 1776, and was raised to a lieutenancy September 2, 1779. It is probable that Major Robert Farmar's family accompanied the army to Pensacola, for the Army List informs us that Robert Adolphus Farmar (the son of Major Farmar) was appointed an ensign in the 60th Foot, January 8, 1781. He became a lieutenant September 25, 1787, and remained in the army until 1790.

General Galvez was not content with the capture of Mobile,

but in March of the following year, 1781, he lay siege to Pensacola. The writer has in his possession a copy of a very valuable and interesting journal of the siege of Pensacola, written by Ensign Farmar, and handed down by his descendants to the present generation, but, as this story is not intended as a general history, he forbears to quote it in full. It, however, tells the story of the siege and surrender very lucidly, and at the close informs us that the English sailed in the Spanish transports, first to Havana, and from there to New York. It is to be presumed that the families of the soldiers went with them. They arrived in New York the latter part of July, 1781.

Lieutenant Barde, husband of Anne Billopp Farmar, resigned from the English Army at the close of the American Revolution, and settled at Birdsboro, in Pennsylvania. What led him to take this step is to a considerable extent conjecture. As has been mentioned, there was a large contingent of Pennsylvania troops employed in the defense of Mobile, who had been stationed there sometime previous to the siege, and remained with the army and took part in the defense of Pensacola in the following year. As Mr. Farmar frequently mentions them in his journal, and as, after the fall of the latter place, these Pennsylvanians, with the other troops, including the 60th Foot, in which Mr. Barde and Mr. Farmar were officers, sailed to New York in the Transports, the writer believes the most reasonable explanation of Mr. Barde's movements is that he and his wife, Anne Billopp, the daughter of the late Major Farmar, who were strangers in the city of New York, had in the common reverses and misfortunes of the war, formed intimacies and friendships with some of the Pennsylvania Loyalists, and, at the close of hostilities, they were persuaded by these friends to go with them to their old home, which was still a new country, in Pennsylvania. Be the cause what it may, there is where they went, and some of their descendants are there at the present day to prove it.

As for the Major's widow, Mary Anderson, of Yorkshire, England, it is said she refused to live where the English flag

did not wave, and so returned to England, and there died.

DESCENDANTS OF ANNE BILLOPP³ FARMAR

Anne Billopp, the eldest child of Major Robert Farmar, married John Lewis (or Louis) Barde, April 16th, 1780; had three sons and four daughters:

1 Robert George Barde, unmarried, died in Mobile, in 1840.

2 Samuel Barde, married Anna Davis, and had five children:

1 Anne Billopp Barde, married Nathan Evans, and had six children:

1 Louisa Brooke Evans.

2 George Evans, married Annie Shoemaker, and had three children:

1 Louisa Evans.

2 George Evans.

3 Horace Barde Evans.

3 Charles Brooke Evans.

4 Mary Evans, married Lewis Garrigues, and had two children:

1 Emily Garrigues, married William Lincoln.

2 Edward Garrigues.

5 Clement Brooke Evans, married Elizabeth Chambers, and had three children:

1 Frank Evans, married Harriet Spotts.

2 Howell Evans.

3 Gertrude Evans, married William Short.

6 Anne Sheafe Evans.

2 Jared Barde.

3 Ellen Barde.

4 Eliza Barde.

5 Jane Brooke Barde, married John Martin, and had six children:

1 Mary Martin, married William Eachus, and had six children:

1 William Eachus, married Mary Shalcross, and had two children:

- 1 Charles Eachus.
- 2 Harrold Eachus.
- 2 Jennie Eachus.
- 3 Charles Eachus.
- 4 Louisa Eachus.
- 5 Marion Eachus, married Walter Greenwood;
children:
 - 1 Walter Edward Greenwood.
 - 2 Richard Fleming Greenwood.
- 6 Thomas Norman Eachus.
- 2 Louisa Brooke Martin.
- 3 Henry Clay Martin, married Louisa McCorkle,
and had one child:
 - 1 Eliza Barde Martin.
- 4 John Locke Martin, married Ella Gause, and had
three daughters:
 - 1 Gillie Ogden Martin.
 - 2 Jessie Martin, married John McCulloch.
 - 3 Helen Martin.
- 5 Helen Martin, married Thomas Eachus, and had
one child:
 - 1 Edith Eachus.
- 6 Jane Barde Martin.
- 3 Mary Barde, died, unmarried.
- 4 Elizabeth Barde, married Matthew Brooke, and had five
children:
 - 1 Anne Farmar Brooke, died unmarried.
 - 2 Sarah Reese Brooke, died unmarried.
 - 3 Edward Brooke, married Anne Clymer, and had four
children:
 - 1 Anne Brooke, married Blair Lee of Washington,
D. C., and had three children:
 - 1 Brooke Lee.
 - 2 Blair Lee.
 - 3 Arthur Lee, died young.
 - 2 Robert Edward Brooke, married Cornelia Ewing,
had three children:

- 1 Robert Clymer Brooke.
 - 2 Maskell Ewing Brooke.
 - 3 John Louis Barde Brooke.
- George Clymer Brooke, married Rhoda Morris, and had two children:
- 1 Rhoda Brooke.
 - 2 George Clymer Brooke.
 - 4 Frederick Brooke.
- 4 George Brooke, married Mary Baldwin Irwin, and had two children:
- 1 Edward Brooke, married Louisa Clingan, a descendant of the first Jasper Farmar's youngest son, Edward. They had four children:
 - 1 George Brooke.
 - 2 Edward Brooke.
 - 3 Mary Brooke.
 - 4 Charles Brooke.
 - 2 George Brooke.
- 5 Elizabeth Mary Brooke, married Heister Clymer, and had two children:
- 1 Elizabeth Clymer, died young.
 - 2 Edward Clymer, died young.
- 5 Jane Barde, married Charles Brooke of Hibernia Iron Works, Chester Co., Pa. This gentleman was born at Brooke Manor, on the Schuylkill River, near Pottstown, a tract of land purchased from William Penn, by his grandfather, John Brooke, a younger son of the famous family of that name of Yorkshire, England. He, with his wife and two sons, arrived in America in 1699. Charles Brooke, early in life, purchased a tract of some thousand acres of land in Chester Co., where he started the well-known Hibernia Iron Works, in which he was very successful. He was a man of much influence in his State. He died July 17, 1866. They had nine children:
- 1 Mary Brooke, married Clement Brooke Grubb, who was a representative of the fifth generation of his family in this country, a son of Harriet Buckley and

Henry Bates Grubb. He was born at his parental homestead, Mount Hope, on February 9, 1815, and died at his Lancaster residence October 31, 1899. Mr. Grubb was a prominent iron master, owning Mount Hope, Mount Vernon, Manada, and Codorus charcoal furnaces; also St. Charles and Henry Clay anthracite furnaces. He was also an owner of the Chestnut Hill and Cornwell ore mines. He was an active business man, with the rare faculty of perfect sympathy with those in his employ, and was admired and beloved to a degree enjoyed by few. He was one of the first members of the Union League Club of Philadelphia, a Republican in politics, and a vestryman in St. James Protestant Episcopal Church, Lancaster, Pa. Their five children were:

1 Harriet Brooke Grubb, married Stephen B. Irwin, and had two children:

1 Stephen Irwin, died young.

2 John Heister Irwin.

2 Charles Brooke Grubb.

3 Mary Lilly Brooke Grubb, married Joseph Bond Beall of New York City, formerly of Georgia. He served for three years in the Civil War, a Captain of Company A, in the 27th Georgia Battalion Heavy Artillery, Army of Tennessee, commanded by General Joseph E. Johnston; children:

1 Maria Sanford Beall, died young.

2 Mary Lilly Beall.

3 Ella Josephine Beall, died young.

4 Ethel Grubb Beall, married George Tucker Smith, Surgeon U. S. Navy, died March 10, 1903, leaving a son:

1 George Tucker Smith Jr.

5 Florence Beall.

4 Ella Jane Grubb, married Colonel L. Heber Smith. This gentleman was a great-grandson of Robert Smith, a Colonel in the Revolutionary Army, who

served under Washington. Colonel L. Heber Smith was born at Joanna Furnace, Berks County, Pa. He was engaged in the iron manufacturing business with his father and brothers at Joanna Furnace, which furnace had been in the continual possession of his family since its establishment in 1793. In the early part of the Civil War he was mustered into the United States Army, as captain of Company A, 128th Regiment of Pennsylvania Infantry, and participated in the battles of South Mountain and Antietam. At the battle of Stafford Court House he was promoted to be Colonel of his regiment. At the battle of Chancellorsville, May 2, 1863, through the blunder of a superior officer, he was captured by the Confederates and sent to Libby Prison, in Richmond, but was shortly afterward exchanged. His sword, which had been presented to him by his Company upon his promotion to the command of the Regiment, was taken from him, at the time of his capture, but his Regiment presented him with another upon his return. He was a gallant and brave soldier, popular alike with his command and his ranking officers. After the close of the war he returned to his home and business at Joanna Furnace. He was frequently tendered a prominent share of the honors of his political party in his State, but his controlling preference was for the unostentatious sphere of business duties and the modest discharge of private obligations. He eventually acquired the sole ownership of Joanna Furnace property, and enlarged the works, and greatly improved his ancestral home, where he died August 5, 1898, leaving six children:

- 1 Clement Grubb Smith, married Edith Watts Comstock, and has one child:

- 1 Julia Comstock Smith.
- 2 Heber L. Smith, married Nellie Oliver Baer.
- 3 Mary Grubb Smith.
- 4 Daisy Emily Smith, married William S. Morris; they have one son:
 - 1 Heber Smith Morris.
- 5 Stanley McDonald Smith.
- 6 William Howard Smith.
- 5 Daisy Elizabeth Brooke Grubb.
- 2 Louisa Catherine Brooke, married Cadwalader Wickersham, and had four children:
 - 1 Alice Morris Wickersham, married John Miller Zinn, and had two children:
 - 1 George Cadwalader Zinn, died young.
 - 2 Maurice Collins Zinn, married Julia Murray, and has one child:
 - 1 Alice Wickersham Zinn.
 - 2 Josephine Mary Wickersham, died young.
 - 3 Paul Goddard Wickersham, married Annette Josephine Wilson.
 - 4 Helen Billopp Wickersham.
- 3 Elizabeth Barde Brooke.
- 4 Jane Barde Brooke, married Nathaniel Burt. Mr. Burt was born in Philadelphia, 1823, was the son of Nathaniel Burt of Scotch-Irish descent, of Belfast, Ireland, who left that country during a period of troubles with England. He came to America and settled in Philadelphia, where he engaged in large commercial interests, being one of the first to establish trading posts in the West. He married Mary Lehman, whose ancestors were prominent people in Saxony, and came to America with Count Zinzendorf; were among the early settlers of Germantown. Nathaniel, his son, was a graduate of Princeton College, afterward graduated at law, but did not practice. Mr. Burt took an active interest in the Pennsylvania Historical Society, also in many charitable organiza-

tions. He was one of the early members of the Philadelphia Club. After his marriage he settled at Waterloo Farm, a large estate he owned in Lancaster County. He died in Philadelphia, January 23, 1893. They had nine children:

- 1 Nathaniel Burt, died young.
- 2 Charles Brooke Burt, died young.
- 3 Alice Burt, died young.
- 4 Arthur Burt, married Ella Plank, and has six children:
 - 1 Nathaniel Burt.
 - 2 Mary Burt.
 - 3 Arthur Armstrong Burt.
 - 4 Alfred Farmar Brooke Burt.
 - 5 Alice Burt.
 - 6 Eliza Lehman Burt.
- 5 Horace Brooke Burt, married Hester Jones; he died 1890, leaving four children:
 - 1 Alice Burt, married Henry Drinker Riley, and has two children:
 - 1 Jean Brooke Riley.
 - 2 Lewis Alsop Riley.
 - 2 Horace Brooke Burt, died young.
 - 3 Maxwell Struthers Burt.
 - 4 Nathaniel Burt, died young.
 - 5 Jean Brooke Burt.
- 6 Jean Barde Burt, died in Paris, France, June, 1894.
- 7 Mary Theodora Burt.
- 8 Alfred Farmar Burt, died 1893.
- 9 Edith Brooke Burt.
- 5 Thomas Reese Brooke, married Harriet Phelps, died six months after his marriage; there was one son:
 - 1 Thomas Reese Brooke, married Elizabeth Dodge; child:
 - 1 Helen Brooke.
- 6 Charles Edward Brooke.

- 7 Horace Louis Brooke, married Gay Williams, and had four children:
 - 1 Horace Louis Brooke.
 - 2 Dandridge Williams Brooke, married Augusta Schaffer, and had one child:
 - 1 Gay Brooke.
 - 3 Christine Gay Brooke.
 - 4 Charles Grubb Brooke.
- 8 Henry Clay Brooke, was an officer in the 11th Pennsylvania Cavalry in the Civil War. Died in Bellefont, Pa., December 8, 1880, unmarried.
- 9 Helen Theresa Brooke, married Thomas Harrison White, a great-grandson of the Rt. Rev. Wm. White, D. D., the first bishop consecrated by the English Church for the Church in America.
- 6 Anne Billopp Barde, married Reese Evans, and had six children:
 - 1 Eliza Brooke Evans.
 - 2 Anne Reese Evans, married Francis T. Fassitt, and had one child:
 - 1 Anne Fassitt, died young.
 - 3 Charles Brooke Evans, died young.
 - 4 John Evans, died young.
 - 5 Edward Brooke Evans.
 - 6 Sarah Evans.
- 7 John Lewis Barde, married Sarah Neiman, and had two children:
 - 1 Elizabeth Brooke Barde, died 1907.
 - 2 Robert Barde, died young.

ROBERT ADOLPHUS³ FARMAR

Robert Adolphus, son of Major Robert Farmar, was appointed Ensign in the 60th Regiment of Foot, or "Royal Americans," on the 8th of January, 1781. He was made Lieutenant September 25, 1787; retired from the English Army in 1789. He took part in the defense of Pensacola, and kept a diary of the incidents of the siege, which will be very interest-

ing to the historian. In the diary he states that, after the capture of Pensacola by the Spaniards, under General Galvez, his regiment sailed to New York, arriving there in July, 1781.

After he left the army he settled in Birdsboro, Pennsylvania, in the neighborhood of his sister, Mrs. Barde. The Pennsylvania Archives mentions his marriage on March 25, 1792, at St. James Episcopal Church, commonly called "The Perkio-men Church," to Margaret, the daughter of Judge John Pawling of Providence Township, Montgomery County.

On page 372 of the Pennsylvania Archives, 2d series, vol. xviii., is found the following letter addressed to the State Land Commissioners:

" PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP, MONTGOMERY CO.,
" 11 June, 1804.

" GENTLEMEN:

" Agreeable to Mr. Taylor's request that I should note particulars respecting the money arising from the Wyalusing tract, I have promised it to my son-in-law, Robert A. Farmar, to enable him to go to Louisiana to prosecute his claims for his Lands in that country, as the commissioners have now met there and the time is limited for the Claimants to prove their title to 10th September. So, therefore, Gentlemen, if you could facilitate the certificate, and send me p^r post, it would be conferring a great favor, and rendering an Essential Service.

" I remain with great

" Respect & Esteem,

" Gentlemen,

" Your Most ob^t. H^{bl}. Sev't.

" JOHN PAWLING.

" Thomas Cooper, and

" John M. Taylor, Esq^r."

"

On page 379, same volume, is the following letter to the same commissioners:

" BIRDSBORO, BERKS COUNTY,

" 14 June, 1804.

" SIR:

" Inclosed is a letter from my worthy Friend Gen^l. Nichols, as I have not the honor of your Acquaintance, he was kind enough to be my Advocate, that I might be enabled through your means to recover my Birthright, which was taken from us by the Spaniards, in 1781.

" I perceive by the Newspapers, that the Commissioners have met at the Natchez and Mobile, and the time will expire by the 16th Sept^r for the Landholders to lay in their claims, so you will conceive, Sir, how necessary it is for me to be in that country by that time, Where my family has upward of two hundred thousand Acres of Land, part of which we have settled and made considerable improvements on, before it fell to the Arms of Spain.

" Mr. Pawling, my Father-in-law, has given me the Money come from the Commonwealth for the lands he holds in Wyalusing, have therefore to beg that you will be pleased to send the Certificate either to him or Me; he has wrote a few Days ago, by Mr. Stalford respecting the Business.

" Do, Sir, let me entreat you to be expeditious, as it will be the means of saving a large family from want;

" Relying therefore on your Goodness,

" I subscribe myself,

" With Esteem and regard,

" Your mo. obt. Hble. Servt.

" ROBT. A. FARMAR."

On which is written the following note:

" July 27, 1804, answered that John & H. Pawling alone, or their Assignees are entitled to receive the Certificate."

But Robert, perceiving the dilatory ways of these commissioners, and the ultimate day fast approaching, writes again. On page 383 we find this letter:

“LANCASTER, 10th September, 1804.

“GENTLEMEN:

“Compelled by necessity to Address you again, must intreat that you will be good enough to forward the Certificate for Mr. Pawling’s Land, as I am full empowered to receive the need (net?) proceeds, have Shew my power to Mr. Ellicott, who is satisfied with it, and told me I should not be detained a minute if he had the Certificate; remember, Gentlemen, your promise to me a month ago that you would forward it immediately, relying fully upon y^r goodness,

“I subscribe myself

“With perfect Esteem and Respect,

“Gentlemen,

“Your most ob^t. humble Servant,

“ROBERT A. FARMAR.”

The poor fellow probably did not receive his certificate in time, for a few years later the family traditions assert:—“He, in a final attempt to perfect his title to the ‘two hundred thousand acres,’ sailed for England, and was lost at sea, the vessel never being heard of after she left port.”

DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT ADOLPHUS³ FARMAR

Lieutenant Robert Adolphus Farmar and Margaret, his wife, had several children. There is mention of one son, Robert, who grew to manhood, and probably married, for Mrs. King’s mother frequently spoke of her “Uncle Robert Farmar,” and her “Cousin Robert Farmar.” But the writer can find out nothing more in regard to them.

The only children of Robert Adolphus Farmar of record are two daughters, Anne Billopp, and Margaretta, whose descendants are shown as follows:

I. Anne Billopp Farmar, daughter of Lieutenant Robert Adolphus and Margaret Pawling Farmar, born July 30, 1800, married Daniel Rife Brower, January 1, 1819.

1 Rachel Pawling Brower, born November 13, 1819, married Cadwallader Evans, February 1, 1842. This estimable lady

was a volunteer nurse during the Civil War, gathering hospital stores in Montgomery, Berkes, Lehigh, and Northampton Counties, Penn., and taking them to the front after the battles of Bull Run and Antietam, remaining there six weeks and living in a tent, returning only on account of an attack of camp fever. On her recovery she returned to her work of love. She was appointed commissioner for Montgomery Co., Penn., to the United States Centennial Exposition, in 1876, was active in all good works in almshouses, jails, and other public institutions, and best of all, the sweet halo of her memory still lingers in her old home, Bridgeport, Penna., where she died in 1902. Her children were:

- 1 Margaretta Pawling Evans, married Thomas H. Wilson; child:
 - 1 Franklin Evans Wilson, married Alice V. Babcock; children:
 - 1 Mildred Wilson.
 - 2 Dorothy Wilson.
 - 3 David Wilson.
- 2 George Jones Evans, officer 138th Pennsylvania Volunteers, in the Civil War, married Sophia Bradbury; children:
 - 1 Alice Vivian Evans, married Harry Runacres; children:
 - 1 Dorothy Runacres.
 - 2 Alice Runacres.
 - 3 Harry Runacres.
 - 4 Helen Runacres.
 - 2 Rachel Edna Evans.
 - 3 Blanch M. Evans.
- 3 Charles Brower Evans, served in Penna. Volunteers during the Civil War, died 1903.
- 4 Cadwallader Evans, died 1864.
- 5 William Penn Evans. Mr. Evans has kindly contributed this history of the descendants of Anne Billopp Brower. He is a mechanical engineer, the North-

western representative of the Baldwin Locomotive Works. He married Anne Mary Idell; child:

1 Donald Evans, with *Philadelphia Inquirer*.

6 Anne Brower Evans, died in infancy.

2 Margaretta Farmar Brower, born 1823, drowned in Tallahoochee River, Alabama, in 1837.

3 Mary Louisa Brower, married Oscar Carter; children:

1 Oscar Charles Sumner Carter, married Nellie Martin.

2 Mary Louisa Carter, married Peter V. Hoy.

3 Josephine Carter.

4 Abby Anne Turner Brower, married Dr. George W. Holstein; children:

1 Charles Holstein.

2 Ella Holstein, married William W. Potts, children:

1 Elizabeth Holstein Potts, married John D. Paist.

2 Helen Rutter Potts.

3 Carrie C. Potts.

4 Ella Holstein Potts.

3 George Meade Holstein, married Sarah C. Highly; children:

1 Abby von Holstein.

2 George Meade von Holstein, Jr.

3 Anne H. von Holstein.

5 Ella Jane Brower.

6 Frances Rife Brower.

7 Noah Billopp Brower, married Christine Meeh.

8 Laura Brower.

9 Daniel Roberts Brower, M. D., married Eliza Shearer. Dr. Brower is one of Chicago's prominent physicians. During the Civil War, he was a surgeon in the United States Army. He is the author of many valuable works on nervous diseases. Children:

1 Unis Anne Brower.

2 Daniel Roberts Brower, Jr., M. D., married Olive McGill.

10 James Farmar Brower, married Elizabeth Kelly; children:

1 Anne Billopp Brower, married ——— Drew.

- 2 Earl Brower.
- 3 Robert Farmar Brower.
- 4 Harry Brower.
- 5 Laura Brower.
- 6 Hubert Brower.
- 7 Helen Brower.

II. Margaretta Farmar, daughter of Robert Adolphus Farmar, married John Turner Lackey, of Northumberland County, Virginia, and had eight children:

- 1 Robert Farmar Lackey, married Miss Lloyd, of Alexandria, Va., their only descendant of whom the writer can learn being Mrs. Harold Snowden, of Alexandria.
- 2 Milton Lackey, served in the Civil War for four years, and had an honorable record as an officer of the 40th Virginia Infantry. He married Miss Travis, of Virginia, and had five children, of whom the writer has learned nothing but their names:
 - 1 Roberta Lackey.
 - 2 Farmar Lackey.
 - 3 Margaretta Lackey.
 - 4 Hubert Lackey.
 - 5 Robert Farmar Lackey.
- 3 Caroline Virginia Lackey, married Joseph de Shields Basye of Northumberland Co., Virginia, and had one child:
 - 1 Adelaide Pawling Basye, who married Warrington Crane King, of Norfolk, Va. At the breaking out of the Civil War, when he was just fifteen years old, Mr. King joined the "Norfolk Light Artillery Blues," and served through the war, seeing four years of hard service in General A. P. Hill's Corps, Army of Virginia. Many of Mr. King's comrades have told the writer that no braver nor more gallant boy ever wore the gray. The writer had the good fortune to know Mr. King intimately, in Washington, where he lived subsequent to the war, engaged in a successful busi-

ness. He was a cultivated, intelligent, and loveable man, devoted to his family and friends, who in return loved and esteemed him to the full measure. He died in Washington in 1903. They had two sons:

- 1 Charles Kirby King, a nautical draftsman in Cramp's Shipyards, Chester, Penna., who married Henrietta Thorpe Griffith, of Baltimore, Md. They have one child:

- 1 Virginia Basye King.

- 2 Edwin Fitzgerald King.

- 4 Margaret Lackey, married Dr. Prestly Nelms, and had three children:

- 1 Audubon Nelms, who was named in honor of the great naturalist, whose wife, Lucy Blakewell, was a school-girl friend of his grandmother, Margaretta Farmar, in Berk's County, Penna.

- 2 John Edwin Nelms.

- 3 Catherine Downing Nelms, married R. H. Blundon, of Northumberland Co., Va.

- 5 Oscar Lackey, Chief Engineer, U. S. Navy. In opposition to the wishes of his family, at the breaking out of the Civil War, he remained in the United States service, and served through the war. He married Miss Stone of Norfolk, Va., and had one son:

- 1 Henry Ellis Lackey, Lieutenant Commander, U. S. Navy.

- 6 Milford Lackey, married Miss Laurason, of Baltimore County, Md., and left three children:

- 1 Elizabeth Carroll Lackey, married Charles S. Abel, of Baltimore.

- 2 Margaret Virginia Lackey.

- 3 Oscar F. Lackey.

- 7 Randolph Lackey, died young.

- 8 Logan Lackey, served in Kirkpatrick's Battery in the Confederate Army, in General Early's command, for four years. He married Miss Betts, of Virginia, and had several children.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX

MAJOR ROBERT FARMAR

This sketch of Major Robert Farmar, and his son-in-law, Captain John Louis Barde, was prepared and kindly contributed by Mr. George Brooke of Birdsboro, Penna., to be used in this work at the discretion of the author. The article is so instructive and the incidents recounted so interesting that the writer feels compelled to insert it in full, and he is certain the reader will approve his action.

“When quite young, Major Farmar was sent to England to receive his education, and remained there until he was nearly twenty years of age, when he returned to America. In 1740 he entered the military service of New Jersey, and, with a company raised by himself and which he commanded, joined an expedition against the Spaniards in the South. He was commissioned captain, August 5, 1740, and embarked at Burlington, New Jersey, in September, but did not sail until the following month for the West Indies, where he served in Colonel Gooche’s regiment. On June 19, 1744, he obtained a captaincy in the 19th Foot, which command he retained until June 2, 1761, when he was promoted to a Major in the 34th Foot, known as the Cumberland Regiment, and served the following years against the Havanas. (From the New Jersey Historical Society, vol. iv.) In 1763 he was sent against Mobile, and on October 2 he took possession of the city in the name of his British Majesty, and remained there until 1765. During the year 1765, he left for the Illinois Country, and arrived opposite St. Louis in December of the same year, re-

lieving Captain Sterling, who had been in command. He captured the city and became military governor of the Illinois Country, which had been claimed by France. (New York Colonial Documents, vol. vii.) It is supposed that he held this post until November 23, 1768, when he retired from the Army and went to West Florida, residing in Pensacola. Major Farmar had acquired large possessions of land in the South, and this was probably the cause of his returning there. These properties consisted of a square in the center of Mobile, in the middle of which was his residence; and other lots in Mobile; part of Dauphin Island in the Bay; two plantations on the Tombigbee River, containing 1260 acres, with a handsome residence on one of them; another on the Tensaw; and also a tract of 8,000 acres of timber land on the east side of Mobile Bay, granted to Major Farmar by the Choctaw Indian Chiefs for establishing a ferry. In addition to the above he had land in Louisiana, viz.: 3,000 acres near Natchez, and 2,000 acres near Baton Rouge, then occupied by a Mr. Skipwith.

“Major Farmar was married to Mary Anderson, of Yorkshire, England, in 1766. He died in Pensacola in 1779, leaving his wife with the following children: Anne Billopp, Robert Adolphus, Mary Elizabeth, Catharine Louisa, and Thomas.

“Major Farmar was a great favorite with the Indians of Florida. He always treated them with the greatest hospitality frequently entertaining the Chiefs at his table. They called him, in their language, ‘The King of the Choctaws.’ He also entertained distinguished men from the North, and other localities. John Bertram, the naturalist, who founded Bertram Gardens, near Philadelphia, made Farmar’s house his home for months at a time, when he was examining and collecting specimens in Florida.

“At this time, while the war for the Independence of the United States was keeping the English Army and Navy engaged, Spain took advantage of this condition to try to retake Florida, and sent over a large body of troops under Don Galvez for that purpose. Among the English sent to oppose them was a young officer, Lieutenant John Louis Barde, act-

ing as Captain of the 60th Royal American Regiment, and stationed at Pensacola. He was quartered at the house of Mrs. Farmar, and after a while Captain Barde and Anne Billopp, her oldest daughter, became lovers, but, owing to her extreme youth, Mrs. Farmar ignored the affair. Not to be defeated, they quietly procured a marriage license from Governor Chester, and by the Chaplain of the Regiment, they were quietly married under a large tree in the woods. The young groom could not purchase a wedding ring in Pensacola, so he cut one out of a gold guinea. About three weeks after this secret wedding, a dispute arose at the dinner table between Anne and some of the younger children. Captain Barde sided with his wife, and Mrs. Farmar with much indignation inquired by what right he interfered in her household. "By right of a husband," came the reply, producing marriage certificate and license. Angry as Mrs. Farmar most justly was, she could do naught, as all was in due form, so in a little time, when her anger was cooled, she gave a party and introduced the young couple to her friends.

"But, while this love affair and marriage were going on, the Spanish Army had again conquered the Province of Florida. All the English troops were prisoners of war, and the flag of Castile and Leon once again floated where the proud banner of St. George had been unfurled for some dozen years. After the surrender the Spanish Commander made Mrs. Farmar's house his headquarters, and used all his influence and persuasion to induce her to remain, promising all protection to her young family, and her large landed possessions, from the laws of Spain. The Spanish Commanders were most anxious for the law abiding English settlers to stay with them, but Mrs. Farmar said she could not live where any other flag than the Red Cross of England was flying.

"Captain Barde was exchanged and ordered to Charleston, as the British still held possession of that place. His wife accompanied him, and also Mrs. Farmar and her other children. They remained in Charleston until it was given up to the United States troops. On the first day of April, 1782, the last

British man-of-war left the harbor at Charleston, in which vessel sailed Mrs. Farmar and her family, this being her last opportunity of getting to England. On this day also was born her first grandchild, Robert George Barde. Loath as Mrs. Farmar was to leave her daughter, a young mother, she had no option. Tearful and sad was the parting of the mother and daughter, who were never again to meet in this world.

"Soon all the English troops were ordered to New York, Mrs. Barde accompanying her husband. The next year, when she saw the English fleet leave New York, she was truly a stranger in a strange land. All her relations (and they were quite numerous in New York and its vicinity) were loyal to England, many of them having gone there, but Captain Barde remained in America, as he thought there was a better prospect of success here than in the old country. After peace was declared between England and the United States, he had himself put on half pay, and remained until England had declared war against France, when by proclamation, all English officers on half pay in America, were ordered to report at Halifax. He then sold his commission, and remained in this country.

"It is proper here to relate the family history of Captain John Louis Barde. He was born in Geneva, Switzerland, in 1756. At the age of fourteen, he left his home and went to England to obtain a military education. Through the influence of his cousins, the Prevosts, he obtained an appointment as cadet in the Royal Military College at Woolwich. At the age of eighteen he received his commission as ensign, and sometime later as lieutenant. His ancestors belong to the Prevost family, this name being changed to Barde by one of his ancestors who took the name of the woman he married, which was then sometimes done. Probably this was a descendant of Jean de la Barde, for many years a representative of France in Switzerland. The Prevost family and their ancestors, the Mallets, trace their family back to the Crusaders, where one of this name was a distinguished leader, and was rewarded with high honors. They resided in Geneva, Switzerland. Several

of the family came to this country early, and settled in Hunterdon Co., New Jersey, the place being called Frenchtown, from the many French settlers there. Captain Barde and his sons frequently visited them there.

"Mrs. Barde had relations, the Farmars, in New York and on Staten Island, where they had a large grant of land, but in a short time they came to Philadelphia, thinking there was a better opening there for some business, and here also were settled relatives of the Farmar family. Jasper Farmar had purchased 5,000 acres of land from William Penn, in the township of White Marsh, in Montgomery County. Edward Farmar, one of his sons, gave the land and helped build St. Thomas Church, and many of the family are buried in the adjoining graveyard. They were intimate with William Penn, and held some offices in Philadelphia which required their presence in that city. No doubt Captain Barde and his wife and small son went there first, but we next find them living at Spring Mill in 1784, where their son, Samuel, was born on March 3, in that year.

"It may be possible that Captain Barde was attracted to that place by a Frenchman who had purchased a large tract of land there, and built a large stone house, still standing. This Frenchman was a man of some distinction, and undertook to cultivate grapes for making wine, which proved a failure. The next place we hear of the Bardes, they are living at Moore Hall, a fine residence on the Perkiomen Creek, a short distance from its mouth on the Schuylkill, and with a beautiful view of the Valley Hills in front. Their daughters, Mary and Elizabeth, were born there, the former March 25, 1786, and the latter March 18, 1788. Their next move was to Birdsboro, an iron works on the Schuylkill about 50 miles from Philadelphia, which works Captain Barde rented in 1789. He carried on the works under lease for eight years, and then purchased them together with about 2,200 acres of woodland from the Mark Bird estate.

"Captain Barde died at Birdsboro in 1799, leaving his widow and seven children; the oldest, Robert, aged about 17

years, and the youngest three, born at Birdsboro, viz.: John Louis, March 31, 1791; Jane, February 7, 1794, and Anne Billopp, born June 30, 1796.

"As before stated, the widow of Major Farmar, with her children, sailed from Charleston for England in 1782, leaving Mrs. Barde with her husband in this country. The names of these children were Robert Adolphus, Mary Elizabeth, Catharine Louisa, and Thomas. When these children grew up, they all returned to this country, except Thomas, who entered the British Navy, and died a boy at sea. Robert Adolphus, when he was grown up, entered the English Army, but when quite a young man he sold his commission, and came to this country to be near his sister at Birdsboro. He married a daughter of Judge Pawling of Norristown. He built a stone house at Birdsboro, on what was called Farmar's Hill, which house is still standing. He had several children, one of whom married Daniel Brower of Norristown. After residing here for several years, Farmar went to England, supposedly to recover some property, and was never heard from after he left this country.

"The next child, Mary Elizabeth, married a French nobleman, Count Louis de Grasse de Vaubercy. They lived in Mobile, and endeavored to recover some of the Farmar property, but with little success. Their descendants are still living there or in New Orleans.

"Catharine Louisa married Count Otto Vautile Barbaree, and lived in New York.

"Regarding the Farmar property, the titles were very much mixed up, as the country had been in the possession of the Spaniards several years. Powers of attorney had been given several times to act for the heirs, and Robert, eldest son of Captain Barde, made Mobile his residence to carry on the suits, but disagreements with De Vaubercy prevented any joint action. Although the United State Courts awarded these lands to the Farmar heirs, the Spanish claims, and the expensive law suits prevented any title being secured to them.

"Birdsboro is among the old iron works of the country.

William Bird, an Englishman, took up land and built forges here in 1740. His son, Mark Bird, succeeded him, built Hopewell Furnace, and extended his boundary to over 10,000 acres. He owned other works and properties, and was quite a wealthy man. The disturbance of business by the Revolution, and the monetary troubles after its close, brought about his failure. His property and works had to be sold to satisfy his creditors, and his old mansion house, built in 1750, together with the farm and woodland, amounting to about 1,400 acres, was sold to Matthew Brooke in 1796. Soon after Hopewell Furnace was purchased by Thomas Brooke and Matthew Brooke, and their brother-in-law, Daniel Buckley, with the woodland belonging to it. After Captain Barde's death his property came into the possession of Matthew Brooke, and now nearly all this property of the Birds came into the hands of the Brookes. It will be well, therefore, to look back into the history of the Brooke family, from their landing in this country.

"The Brookes came from Yorkshire, England, John, and his wife Frances, and two sons, James and Matthew, the latter a minor, coming over on the ship *Brittania*, in the latter part of 1698. They left an elder son, George, and two married daughters in England. A contagious disease broke out on the ship, and it was not permitted to come into Philadelphia, but was sent to the New Jersey side of the river. John Brooke and his wife were quartered in the house of one Will Cooper of Cooper's Point, and died there, soon after their arrival. They were buried in the graveyard at Haddonfield, New Jersey. His will shows that he left considerable property in England to those he left behind him, and the inventory of goods they brought with them included everything necessary in a new country, with articles of furniture and a maid servant (valued at 12 pounds in the inventory) showing that they were accustomed to a comfortable life at home. Before embarking to America, John Brooke had purchased 1,500 acres of land of William Penn to be taken anywhere between the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers, where vacant land could be found.

“James and Matthew, after the death of their father, took up land in Limerick Township, Montgomery Co., where they settled, James on the right side of the road from Philadelphia, and Matthew on the left, nearly a mile apart. Matthew married Anne Evans. He presented the land for the Limerick Meeting House, and graveyard, where all the early Brookes were buried. Matthew died in 1720, leaving four children, William, George, John, and Matthew.

“Matthew 2nd married Sarah Reese and died at Birdsboro in 1806, aged eighty-seven years. He had nine children, one of them being Matthew 3rd, who purchased the Iron Works, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Captain John Louis Barde, and Anne Billopp, daughter of Major Farmar. Matthew Brooke’s sister Sarah, married Daniel Buckley, who also became a partner in the purchase of Hopewell Furnace.

“Matthew Brooke married Elizabeth Barde, and a few years after, his nephew, Charles Brooke, married Jane Barde, and their mother, Anne Billopp Barde, made her home with the latter, first at Joanna Furnace, and afterwards at Hibernia Iron Works. Matthew Brooke had five children. Two daughters died young, and two sons, Edward and George, succeeded their father in the iron business, and extended the works until now they give employment to about 1,000 men, and the place has grown to a town of 2,500 inhabitants.

“Edward married Annie M. Clymer, a descendant of the family of the signer of the Declaration of Independence.

“George married Mary B. Irwin, daughter of John H. Irwin of Philadelphia, and great-granddaughter of Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, first Speaker of the House in the first Congress.

“The youngest, Elizabeth, married Hiester Clymer, once candidate for Governor of this State, and one of its representatives in congress.

“Charles Brooke, who married Jane Barde, had ten children. The oldest one married Clement B. Grubb of Mt. Hope Furnace. Louisa, the next daughter, married Cadwalader Wick-

ersham. The latter, when she was a child, was a pet with her Grandmother Barde, and, as she grew up, was always with her and learned a great deal of her family history, which she stored away in her mind, and on paper.

“The writer of this paper (Mr. George Brooke) is greatly indebted to her for much of it, having procured a written copy of it during her life.”

THE FALL OF PENSACOLA, 1781.

From the Journal of Robert Adolphus Farmar, Ensign, 60th Regiment of Foot, "Royal Americans."

"Friday, March 9th, 1781. Appeared in sight a Spanish Fleet, consisting of thirty-two sail of vessels. The same night a number of Spaniards landed on St. Rose Island.

"Monday 12th. The enemy erected batteries on Rose Island, which compelled the *Mentor* and *Port Royal* (British vessels) to quit the station. Some of their vessels attempted to come over the bar, but put back again.

"Saturday 17th. The enemy attempted to land at the mouth of the Perdido under cover of two row galleys, but the Indians in sight prevented them.

"Monday 19th. About two o'clock p. m. twenty-two sail of the enemy's vessels came over the bar and passed the fort at the cliffs without receiving any damage.

"Tuesday 20th. Captain Stevens arrived with a party of Indians, informs us that yesterday they fell in with an enemy's boat and crew consisting of eleven men ten of whom were killed and one brought in a prisoner. About five o'clock, General Galvez, the Spanish Commander, sent a flag of truce to General Campbell, the English Commander, to the purpose as Lord Albermarle sent one at the siege of the Havana, which was not to burn the shipping, King's Buildings, or town, and threatened, etc., . . . General Campbell answered that the threats of an enemy are not to be minded.

"Friday 23rd. The sixteenth and sixtieth regiments evacuated the town of Pensacola, and took their station at the two redoubts.

"Saturday 24th. Mr. Stevenson went with a flag of truce

from the Governor to the Don, concerning the town, women and children.

“Sunday 25th. Nine o'clock, a. m. The Indians brought in twenty-three horses belonging to the enemy, and two scalps.

“Tuesday 27th. Forty-two sail of the Spanish Fleet took their station between Moore and Neils houses.

“Thursday 29th. About nine o'clock some of the Indians came in and say they had a brush yesterday afternoon the other side of Sutton's Lagoon with the enemy and drove in the piquet three times, upon which their grenadiers turned out and fired twice at them, and retired. Four of the Indians are wounded.

“Friday 30th. About nine o'clock an advance piquet under the command of Captain Kennedy of the Maryland Loyalists, was obliged to retreat as the enemy was marching down upon them, and began to fire their field pieces. At 10 o'clock, Captain Kennedy's party marched down to Neils' meadows, a mile and a quarter from our works. About two o'clock the Indians went there also, and attacked the main body of the enemy, and kept up a very heavy fire until five o'clock, at which time they were supported by Captain Johnston, with two field pieces, and one Howitzer; also by fifty negroes. Lieutenant Meiggs went with twenty-five men of the Sixtieth to cover the field pieces. On account of the heavy fire, they received from Captain Johnston, the Indians and negroes, they retired under cover of their shipping and galleys. At half past-five o'clock, Captain Johnston and Lieutenant Meiggs returned. The Indians came in and brought in with them four of the enemy's drums and a number of scalps. The inhabitants of the town say that they saw a shell from the howitzer fall in the midst of thirteen boats, full of men coming on shore, which made them return again to their ships. We had one Indian killed, two slightly wounded, and one negro wounded in the foot.

“Monday April 2nd. The enemy this evening embarked all their troops.

“Tuesday 10th. One of the Waldecks who was taken at Baton Rouge, and had enlisted in the regiment of Louisiana, deserted and came and joined his regiment. He says that the

enemy is badly off for provisions, two men getting only one pound of meat per day.

“Monday 16th. B. Jones and A. Francis arrived with about ninety Choctaws. The enemy threw up a work in a plain one mile and a half from us.

“Tuesday 17th. Eleven o'clock a. m. an Express arrived from St. Augustine, with duplicates of the letters that were received sometime ago, informing us that Lord Cornwallis had an engagement with the rebels at Hillsborough, North Carolina, and had killed three thousand of them. A party of the Creeks that came with the express took a boat belonging to the enemy at Deer Point. They killed three of the crew and took one prisoner. This afternoon five negroes took a Spaniard at Gull Point.

“Tuesday 24th. Between seven and eight o'clock, a body of about three hundred of the enemy were seen advancing. Upon which the Indians went, but they retired from the enemy's fire. Upon which Captain Byrd, with the Sixtieth, advanced to within 70 yards and gave them a volley. When they retreated very precipitately. Dawes arrived from Carolina and brought an account that Lord Cornwallis had totally defeated the rebels at Guilford, killing two thousand of them, and taking a number of cannon and stores, and prisoners, upon which at eight o'clock we fired a *feu de joie*.

“Wednesday 25th. About seven o'clock a. m. an advance piquet had a skirmish with the enemy and beat them off.

“Monday 30th. A French frigate came over the bar, and joined the enemy's fleet inside.

“Thursday, May 3rd. The enemy fired during the day five hundred and thirty-four shot, and one hundred and eighty-six shells. They killed one of the men of the Sixteenth and wounded one of the seamen belonging to the *Port Royal*, but did very little damage beside. Our people picked up today about five hundred shot, some of which we returned to the Dons.

“Friday, 4th. We began to fire upon the enemy from the advanced redoubt, at their battery, and the people at work in the front. Twelve o'clock ninety-four Provincials under the

command of Major Mac Donald, and Waldecks, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel De Horn, to support them, stormed the works in front of the advanced redoubt, burnt their works, and spiked six pieces of cannon—eight and four pounds. The enemy fired one hundred and seventy-five shot, and eighty-seven shells during the day.

“Saturday 5th. The enemy’s ships on the outside of Rose Island are gone off, about six o’clock. Two deserters from the French train of artillery came in, who informed us that the enemy’s loss yesterday amounted to thirty killed, among which is a Major of the Catalonia volunteers. The enemy fired during the day, twenty-five shot, and forty-three shells. The enemy threw a few shells tonight.

“Sunday, 6th. The shot and shell fired by the enemy during the day, amounted to five hundred and sixty-three shot, and two hundred and six shells.

“Monday 7th. Deserter came in from the enemy. He is a German, and belongs to the Regiment of Flanders, informs us that the Dons are very badly off for provisions, and that Don Galvez, and the French General do not agree. He, (the French General) told Galvez that if we did not surrender on the 8th instant, he would withdraw his troops and vessels and go upon the expedition he was destined for; and he further says that a shot from us yesterday killed one Captain, one lieutenant and twelve privates of the Catalonia volunteers. Yesterday one of the Pennsylvania Loyalists attempted to desert, but was taken and brought in by the Indians, when he received five hundred lashes and was drummed out of the regiment, with his hands tied behind him, and a large label pinned to his breast with his crime. He was escorted close to the Spanish lines and left to his fate, but he soon returned. The whole of the Indians went out about half past twelve o’clock to endeavor to get upon the rear of the enemy’s encampment. They would not suffer a white man to go with them. They returned in a short time with ten scalps. Our fire from the advanced redoubt did the enemy a great deal of damage to their works in our front.

“Tuesday, 8th. About nine o’clock, a. m. a shell from the

enemy's front battery was thrown in at the door of the magazine of the advanced redoubt, as the men were receiving powder, which blew up and killed forty seamen belonging to His Majesty's ships the *Mentor* and *Port Royal*, and forty-five men of the Pennsylvania Loyalists were killed by the same explosion. There were a number of men wounded. Captain Byrd, with seventy men of the sixtieth regiment immediately went up to the advanced redoubt, and brought off two field pieces, one howitzer and a number of wounded men, but was obliged to return, as a great quantity of shell was lying about filled. At ten o'clock the enemy took possession of the remains of the advanced redoubt, and kept up from it a very heavy fire of small arms and cannon from their flank battery upon the center redoubt, which wounded Lieutenant Wood and eighteen men of the Sixtieth Regiment, and twelve seamen, a number of whom died, as they were mostly wounded in the head. About two o'clock p. m. hoisted a flag of truce from Fort George, and offered to surrender upon capitulation. Lieutenant Mieggs of the Sixtieth Regiment, went as a hostage from us, and we received Lieutenant Kinney of the Regiment of Hibernia from the enemy.

"Wednesday, 9th. All day settling terms.

"Thursday, 10th. About five o'clock p. m., we surrendered to the arms of Spain. The Spanish Grenadiers, under the command of Don Bernardo de Galvez, took possession of Fort George and the line, and sixty French Chasseurs of the center redoubt.

"Friday, 11th. The Corps, under the command of Lieutenant General Campbell, encamped on the east side of the town.

"June 1st. Embarked on board of the Spanish transports.

"June 4th. Sailed from Pensacola.

"June 20th. Arrived at Havana, where we remained till the 30th to take provisions and water. Sailed for New York."

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