

A GENEALOGICAL RECORD.

FORSYTH OF NYDIE.

BY
FORSYTH DE FRONSAC.

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1888.

✽ARMORIAL ÷ BEARINGS.✽

The . arms . of . the . family . are : Argent, . a
chevron, . engrailed . gules . between . three . griffins,
segreant, . vert, . armed . and . membered . gules. *

The . livery . of . the . family . is : Dark . green,
fringed . with . red. * * * * *

FORSYTH OF NYDIE.

THE FORSYTH is, by origin, a Gascon family. The name is taken from the little town of *Forsyth*, on the Dordogne river, twenty miles above Bordeaux. Since the Earl of Derby destroyed it in his invasion of France in the fourteenth century, it was rebuilt under the name of *Fronsac*.*

By family tradition, it is asserted, that the first to bear the name of Forsyth, as feudal sieur or count, was a member of the princely family of ^{Charlemagne} Navarre, the same as that which gave kings to ~~Castile, Aragon, and Leon, Navarre, and~~ France, to which also belonged the celebrated admiral of the sixteenth century, ~~Pierre de Navarre~~.

In the time of Robert Bruce, king of Scotland, Osbert, † son of Robert de Forsyth, took military service of that monarch, and received from him "for fealty" a grant of *100 solidates in terrae tenemento de Salkill*" in the sheriffdom of Stirling.

He was the ancestor of all those who have a legitimate right to the name in Great Britain, Ireland, and America. Among his immediate descendants were JOHN DE FORSYTH, crown officer in 1379, and WILLIAM DE FORSYTH, ‡ crown officer in 1399.

* *Froissart's Chronicles of the Middle Ages*. See Index—*Forsath*.

† *Earl of Haddington's Collections*—page 71.

‡ *Exchequer Rolls of Scotland*.

The various branches into which the family is divided, are offshoots of the FORSYTHS OF NYDIE, whose coat of arms is emblazoned in *Lindsay's Heraldic Manuscript* of 1542, A. D.

Of this family of Nydie was JAMES FORSYTH,* a monk, Lord of the Monastery of Dumblane in 1560, who signed a feudal charter in favor of Patrick Murray's brother of Tibbimuire, for the monastery of Dumblane, "*Dominus James Forsyth manu propria*" before the Lords Commissioners at Edinburgh, 1560.

Another JAMES FORSYTH † of the family of Nydie, married the daughter and heiress of Douglas, Lord of Dykes. A son was :

(First generation)

I. DAVID FORSYTH of Dykes, ‡ Lord Commissioner of Revenue of Glasgow in 1594. Issue :

(Second generation)

1. JAMES FORSYTH died unm.
2. WILLIAM FORSYTH, his successor.
3. ROBERT FORSYTH, § ancestor of the Forsyths or Forsayths of Failzerton, Ayreshire.

II. WILLIAM FORSYTH of Dykes, || (son of David, as above) was Commissioner to Parliament for Forres in 1621. Issue :

**Oliphants in Scotland.*

†The arms of Nydie were confirmed to his posterity through the families of Dykes, Tailzerton, etc., by the Heralds College of Scotland.

‡ *Act of Scot. Parl. IV.*, p. 79, *Jac. VI. (1594)* : "Act in favor of the citie of Glasgow . . . recites a commission formerly given for remeid of defects . . . full power and commission . . . to David Forsyth of Dykes . . . and raise and lift the beer and malt mercat.

§ Arms of Nydie confirmed to the Forsayths of Failzerton by Sir Geo. McKenzie, King of Arms for Scotland.

|| *Act Scot. Parl. (1621.)*

(Third generation)

1. WILLIAM FORSYTH of Dykes,* his successor.

Left issue :

(Fourth generation)

2. JOHN FORSYTH, † M. P. for Cullen (1652) and one of the signers of the commission to meet the English Parliament. He married a daughter of Sir William Livingston of Kilsyth. Issue :
- a. *James* (of whom here after.)
 - b. *Walter*, ‡ Provost of the University of Glasgow.

* *Ret. Scot. Parl. Abbrev. Inq. Spec. Lanark* (199), Jan. 18, 1640 :
 “ *Heres William Forsyth de Dykis, patris, in 40 solidates terrarum antiqui extentus de Gayne, 40 solidates de Untheos, infra dominium de Newburgh et baronium de Munckland.*”

† *Act Scot. Parl.* (1652.)

‡ *Act Scot. Parl.* (1678.)

FORSYTH OF TAILZERTON.

(First generation)

I. JAMES FORSYTH* of Tailzerton, (son of John, and Miss Livingston, Forsyth, as above—p. 5) inherited the lands of Tailzerton and Kilsyth Easter from his mother.—He was minister to the church at Airth in 1661, and to that at Stirling in 1665. He married a daughter and heiress of Bruce, † Laird of Gavell, cadet of Bruce of Airth through a daughter of Sir William de Airth of that ilk. Issue a son:

(Second generation)

I. JAMES FORSYTH, ‡ his successor, of Tailzerton, Member of the Council of Stirling, in company with the Duke of Hamilton, Earl of Calender, Lords Elphinston and Livingston of Kilsyth, the Earl of Mar being the convener (1685). In 1696, he sat in Parliament, as "Forsyth of Gavell." Issue:

(Third generation)

I. REBECCA. §

* *Act Scot. Parl.* (1661-5.)

† *General Armory* (Burke), *vide* Bruce and Airth. Rev. James Forsyth was a famous preacher. Sermons published at London, 1666.

‡ *Ret. Scot. Abbrev. Inq. Spec. Stirling* (277), Sept. 1, 1676: "*Heres tallia et provisionis Magistri Jacobi Forsyth de Tailzertoune, magistri vobi Dei apud ecclesium de Stirling . . . in terris de Polinaiis, vocatis Polinaiis-Tailzertoun pro principali, terris de Kilsyth: Easter in speciale warrantum earundam.*"

§ *Inq. Spec. Stirling* (342), April 26, 1699: "*Heres tallia et provisionis, Jacobi Forsyth, alias Bruce de Gavell, patris in terris de Polinaiis hunc vocatis Polinaiis-Tailzertoun pro principali, et in speciale warrantum earundam in terris de Kilsyth: Easter.*"

I. WILLIAM FORSYTH,* (son of James Bruce Forsyth, as above) was born 1687; granted freedom of Glasgow 1735; married Elspet, daughter of Gerard of Walkerhill, County Aberdeen. A son was:

(Fourth generation)

I. WILLIAM FORSYTH, born Dec. 18, 1721: Granted freedom of Glasgow 1746; married Jean, daughter of Geo. Phynn, † Lord of the Corse of Monelly. Issue:

(Fifth generation)

2. GEORGE FORSYTH, b. April 2, 1756; m. a Miss Taybrook.
2. WILLIAM, b. Apr. 5, 1756. His daughter m. Prof. Means, D. D., and was mother of Rev. W. Means, D. D., of Disblair, County Aberdeen.
3. ALEXANDER, ‡ b. Nov. 17, 1758.
4. JAMES, b. June 23, 1759; Captain of Dragoons; m. Ann., dau. of John, 9th Baron Colville.§
5. THOMAS, b. March, 1761.
6. JOHN, (of whom hereafter.) See p. 9.
7. JOSEPH, b. June 24, 1764; m., first, Miss Bell; second, Alice, daughter of Maj. James Robbins, R. A. Issue:
 - a. *William*.
 - b. *James Bell*, b. Dec. 25, 1803; M. P. for Quebec. His son, Burnet Bell, Capt. 60th Rifles, was lost in a cyclone on board H. M. S. "Persia," in Bay of Bengal.

**Ecclesgreig Mss.*: Crest of Tailzerton, a demi-griffin, vert, armed and membered gu. Motto: "*Restaurator Ruiniae.*"

† Another daughter of Geo. Phynn was mother to Right Hon. Edward Ellice, M. P.

‡ *Ecclesgreig Mss.*

§ *Burke's Peerage* (Colville.)

- c. *Thomas*, Lieut. 32d Foot.
 - d. *John Richardson*.
 - e. *Euretta Jane*.
 - f. *Mary Ann*.
8. ROBERT,* b. 1766; Ensign 61st Foot, 1783; 68th Foot, 1785; 72d Foot, 1785; Lieutenant 72d Foot, 1787; Captain 112th Foot, 1795; 2d Battalion 90th Foot, 1795; 60th Foot, 1795; Major 60th Foot, 1797; Retired from service by sale of his commission, Mar. 6, 1802; died 1824.
9. DAVID, † b. Sept. 2, 1767; m. a Miss Jackson of Kendall, Westmoreland, England. Issue:
- a. *William*, m. Susan, dau. of Judge Leigh (sister of Maj. H. Leigh, 98th Foot) of Madras Presidency.
 - b. *James*, Lieut. R. A.
 - c. *George*.
 - d. *Henry*.
 - e. *Emily*, m. William Skinner, Barrister, nephew of Right. Rev. William Skinner, D. D., Lord Primate of Scotland and Bishop of Aberdeen.
10. MORRIS, b. Jan. 27, 1771; minister to the church at Mortlach; m. Isabella, daughter of James Donaldson, of Kinairdie.
11. MARGARET, b. May 3, 1777.

* *Record of Services of Maj. Robert Forsyth—60th Rifles. No. 7353. F. 214. War Office. London, England.*

† *Ecclesgreig Mss.*

**FORSYTH OF ECCLESGREIG CASTLE,
COUNTY KINCARDINE, SCOTLAND.**

(First generation)

I. JOHN FORSYTH (son of William and Jean Phynn, see p. 7) was b. Dec. 8, 1762; m. Margaret, dau. of Charles Grant, third son of Grant, Laird of Kinworth. Issue:

(Second generation)

I. WILLIAM, b. Feb. 10, 1804; succeeded his uncle, Frederic Grant, to the estates of Ecclesgreig; m. Euretta, dau. of Joseph Forsyth, Kingston, Canada. Issue:

a. *Frederic Grant*, b. Sept. 2, 1836; Captain 3d Hussars, A. D. C. to His Excellency, the Marquis of Lorn, Governor-General of Canada; m. Margaret, dau. of Col. William A. Orr, C. B., of Bridgetown.

b. *John Joseph*, b. Oct. 23, 1840; Captain 46th Foot; m. Annie, dau. and heiress of John Littleton of Trewin, St. Germain, Cornwall, England.

c. *William*, b. May 26, 1843; Captain 82d Foot.

d. *George James*, b. March 7, 1847.

e. *Annie Gregory*, m. William Owen, Bridgestock, Gettydyvyl, Carmarthenshire, Wales.

f. *Euretta Alice*.

2. JOHN BLACKWOOD, b. Nov. 21, 1805; m. Mary, dau. of Samuel Gerrard, of Montreal. Issue:
- a. *John Gerrard*,* Major 57th Foot; served with most distinguished gallantry in the Crimean War; decorated with the Grand Cross of Commander of the Legion of Honor by Napoleon III., with the Sardinian War Medal and with the Victoria Medal of Clasps; m. Elizabeth Egberta, dau. of John Horseley of the Madras Civil Service, and grand daughter of John Byng, 5th Viscount Torrington.
 - b. *Frederick Arthur*, b. Apr. 2, 1840; Captain 5th Fusileers.
 - c. *Margaret*, b. Mar. 6, 1831; m. Rev. C. N. Williams, M. A., Rector of St. Andrew's, Hereford, England.
 - d. *Euretta Vivian*, b. Dec. 8, 1841.
3. JANE, m. Capt. Geo. Gregory, 19th Light Dragoons.

* *Morgan's Biographies of Celebrated Canadians*—p. 728: Maj. Forsyth was present at the battles of Balaklava, Inkerman, Sebastapol, and The Quarries, and led the storming party at the Redan and at Kinbourn.

**FORSYTHS OF THE FIRS,
MORTIMER, BERKSHIRE, ENGLAND.**

I. THOMAS FORSYTH, of Liverpool ; m. Jane, dau. of William Hamilton, Greenock. Some issue :

1. WILLIAM, b. 1812 ; Chancellor's Medalist of Cambridge University and Fellow of Trinity College, 1837 ; at Bar of Inner Temple, 1839 ; Counsel for Secretary of State for India ; Commissioner for Cambridge University ; M. P. for Cambridge, 1859 ; M. P. for Marylebone, 1874-1880 ; author of (1) "Law of Compensation with Creditors," (2) "Hortensius, or the Duties of an Advocate," (3) "Law relating to the Custody of Infants," (4) "History of the Trial by Jury," (5) "Napoleon at St. Helena," (6) "Life of Cicero," (7) "Cases and Opinions in Constitutional Law," (8) "Novels and Novelists of the 18th Century," (9) "Hannibal in Italy," (10) "Essays, Critical and Narrative," (11) "Sclavonic Provinces South of the Danube," etc. ; m., first, Mary, dau. of Geo. Lyall, M. P. for London ; second, Georgiana Charlotte, dau. of Thos. Plummer, Esq., and grand dau. of Sir Thos. Plummer, Master of the Rolls.

2. THOMAS DOUGLAS,* b. 1827 ; took four medals at the University examinations ; Asst. Commissioner in the Punjab, India, 1848 ; decorated Companion of the Bath for active service in suppressing the mutiny of 1857 ; Secretary of Oudh, 1858 ; Civil Judge of Punjab, 1859 ; Ambassador to Yarkund, 1870 ; Envoy, 1873 ; for illustrious service in India, made Knight Commander of the Star of India, 1874 ; Envoy to the king of Burmah, 1875.

**Burke's Peerage*—List of Orders of the Bath and Star of India.

**FORSYTH OF GLENGORM,
ARGYLLSHIRE, SCOTLAND.**

I. JAMES FORSYTH (descended from the *Forsyths of Tailzerton*), was J. P. and Deputy Lieutenant of the county; m. Maria Magdellena, dau. of Emanuel Muller, of Clifton, Gloucestershire. A son was:

- I. JAMES NOEL MULLER FORSYTH, b. 1844; m., 1872, Mary, dau. of Thomas Constable, of Kirkland, Midlothian. James was Lieutenant 82d Foot and Magistrate for County Argyle.

**FORSYTH OF WHITSOME,
NEWTON, BERKSHIRE, ENGLAND.**

I. REV. JAMES FORSYTH, D. D., of Aberdeen, (descended from Forsyth of Tailzerton); m. Elizabeth, dau. of Robert Brown, of Whitsome-Newton. Issue:

- I. ROBERT BROWN FORSYTH, b. 1834; Asst. Surgeon 18th Lgt. Dragoons; afterwards Magistrate for the County Berwick; and member of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons at Edinburgh; m. Tempe, dau. of Loftus T. L. Clarke, F. R. S., and Barrister at Law, Calcutta.
2. JOHN S., b. 1841.

**FORSAYTH OF FAILZERTON,
AYRSHIRE, SCOTLAND, ~~AND~~ MARDYKE, CO. CORK, IRELAND.**

(*Vide p. 4.*)

ROBERT FORSYTH, or Forsayth, as many of his descendants began to spell their name (although some have returned to the original way), in addition to his estate in Scotland, obtained, for military service, a grant of land in Ulster, (in 1618) where later, some of his posterity settled.

Among these was *John James, whose wife was a Den.*
His grandson (son of Walter) was
(First generation)

CAPT. JAMES FORSAYTH, who had Thomas ~~and~~
Matthew. *D. Alex. by wife Margaret d. of Maj. Hugh C.*
(Second generation)

I. THOMAS FORSAYTH* died in Cork, Ireland, in 1768. Mary, his widow, survived him, having a private estate. Issue:

(Third generation)

I. ROBERT FORSAYTH, merchant in Cork; m. Catherine, dau. of Thomas Campion, Esq., and had:

(Fourth generation)

i. THOMAS, m. Mary Ann, relative of Sir J. Grant, of Kilmurray, Fermoy. Issue:

a. *Robert*, b. 1807; Curate in Bristol; m. Fanny —; died 1840, leaving a dau., Frances Jane, author of poems "Armos Waters."

b. *Thomas Gifford*, b. 1808; H. M. Attache to the Embassy at Morocco; Musician and Poet; m., first, Rose D'Arguilar; second, Lucy H., dau. of Col. O'Toole, of Wicklow.

* Arms of Failzerton confirmed to this family: Crest; a griffin's head between two wings displayed, vert. Motto: "*Loyal au Mort.*"

- c. *Catherine.*
- d. *Mary.*
- e. *John Brabazon*, Artist, settled at Bunbury, Western Australia, in 1845.
- f. *Eliza.*

(Third generation)

II. JOHN FORSAYTH, b. 1735; Pensioner at Trinity College, Dublin, 1749; Fellow 1762, with degree of D. D.; Archdeacon of Cork, 1782; fine classical scholar; died unm., 1781.

(Third generation)

III. MARGARET FORSAYTH died unm.

(Third generation)

IV. SAMUEL FORSAYTH, entered H. M. Customs Service at Cork, 1752; appointed by the Viceroy, Inspector General of Customs for Ireland, Dublin, July 24, 1776; m. Margaret ———; died 1801; buried at St. Ann's, Dublin. Issue:

(Fourth generation.)

- i. JOHN, A. B., appointed Vicar of Leighmoney, Mar. 30, 1826; Priest at Cloyne, Sept. 29, 1786; in 1803 was "Thieshers Ledurer" in Cork; died Sept. 16, 1826; buried at St. Nicholas, Cork. He m. Ann Courteney, and had:
 - a. *Thomas*, educated at Trinity College where he distinguished himself by classical attainments; Barrister at Law; Queen's Counsel; Recorder of Cork; died 1879.
 - b. *Samuel.*
 - c. *Robert.*
 - d. *Charlotte.*
 - e. *William.*
 - f. *John*, Curate of Upper Shandon, Cork.

(Fourth generation)

2. JOHN, A. B., scholar at Trinity College, 1780; Priest at Cloyne, 1784; Rector of Kilfetimone, County Tipperary, 1798; m. Jane, dau. of Hugh Evans, Esq., of Cashel. He was author of the "History of our Lord and Saviour." Issue:
- a. *Samuel*, settled in Halifax, N. Scotia.
 - b. *Robert*.
 - c. *Richard Martin*, studied medicine in Dublin and Edinburgh; degree of M. D., Edinburgh, 1827; degree of Surgery, Glasgow, 1828; at Hotel Dieu and other hospitals, Paris; settled at Templemore, Ireland; m. Kate Craven, dau. of Wm. Chadwick, Esq., of Ballinard, Tipperary; his children were:
 - ¹ Richard William, who entered H. M. Military Service —, served in India; retired in 1884, as Brigade Surgeon; m. Harriette Margaret, dau. of Rev. J. Baird, had issue, and settled at Cork.
 - ² Kate Thomas.
 - ³ John C. C., entered medical profession; died of fever in forest of West Africa while employed in an expedition.
 - ⁴ Jane E., m. Dr. Robert T. Huston.

d. *John*, commanded the "Indian Queen" in the Merchant Marine, and made the shortest voyage then known between Liverpool and Barbadoes.

(Fourth generation)

3. CHARLOTTE, m. Richard Martin, Esq.

(Fourth generation)

4. ELIZABETH, m. the Rev. Charles Smith.

(Fourth generation)

5. A DAUGHTER, unm.

(Second generation)

II. MATTHEW FORSAYTH,* (bro. of Thomas, p. 13), b. in Ireland, 1700; came to Chester, N. H., 1742. He brought with him considerable property and silver plate with family crest thereon. He was one of the most prominent mentioned in the history of Chester; name very frequent in town records; filled pulpit of church of which he was a deacon, during absence of minister; several times on committees to petition Colonial Government for privileges and improvements for the town; chairman of local committee of Public Safety; m. in Ireland, Esther, daughter of Robert Graham,† of County Fermanagh, a descendant of Lang Will

* *Chase's Hist. of Chester*—pp. 524, 109, 127, 129, 130, 140, 142, 144, 152, 259, 456, 621, 231; *Town Papers, N. H.*—Vol. XI., p. 309; Vol. IX., pp. 109, 115; *State Papers, N. H.*—Vol. IX., pp. 109, 115; *Granite Monthly*—Vol. VIII. The name is spelled on the Chester records, Forsayth, Forsaith, and Forsyth. Some descendants follow the first, others the last way of spelling. He had an estate in Ireland for which his descendants lodged papers with Judge Lawrence, one time U. S. Minister to England.

† *Drumgoon Mss.*—Robert Graham's wife was Janet Hume of the family of Castle Hume and Hume's Wood, whose estates adjoin those of Drumgoon, and have passed into the family of Loftus, Marquis of Ely, with whom they intermarried. The Grahams bear the arms of the ancient Earls of Menteth, and the Humes, those of the Earl of Marchmont, from whom these are descended.

Graham of Stubble, Cumberland, England, who came to Ireland in 1620, as ancestor of the family of Graham of Drumgoon Manour, County Fermanagh. Matthew died in 1790. Issue:

(Third generation)

1. MATTHEW, of whom hereafter.
2. ~~JOHN, b. in Ireland, from whom is descended, from a son who settled in Scotland, James Bennett Forsyth, of Roxbury, Mass.~~
3. DAVID,* b. in Ireland; Ensign in Chester Company, 1st N. H. Regt., 1776; died of wounds May 21, 1778.
3. JONATHAN,† b. in Ireland; soldier in Chester Company; killed, Ticonderoga, July 9, 1777.
4. ESTHER, d. unm.
5. WILLIAM,‡ b. in Ireland, 1740; Ensign under the King in Royal Provincials, 1763-7; ^{U. S. General} ~~Neutral~~ in War of '76; a founder of Derry (N. H.) Public Library; one of the earliest settlers of Deering, Hillsborough County, N. H.; m. Jane, dau. of James Wilson,§ formerly of Ireland, "Surveyor of the High Ways of Chester," whose wife, Chase claims in the history of Chester, Mary, dau. of John Shirley, belonged to same family in Ireland, to which belonged that countess of Huntington who was patron of Wesley; William died in 1808. Issue:

**Hist. Col., N. H.*—Vol. VII., p. 83; *Chase's Hist. of Chester*—p. 524; *State Papers N. H.*—Vol. XIV., pp. 554, 634.

† *Chase's Hist. of Chester*—pp. 377, 379.

‡ *Provincial Papers N. H.*—Vol. VI., p. 767; *Town Papers N. H.*—Vol. XI., pp. 493, 497, 498; Vol. IX., p. 759; *Hist. of Hillsborough County, (N. H.)*

§ *Chase's Hist. Chester (Wilson Family)*—James Wilson lived to be 118 years of age. *Vide*, also, Shirley Family. His family was very celebrated; one of his sons, Robert Wilson, Captain in the Army, represented New Hampshire in the Continental Congress of 1776.

- a. *Matthew*, settled in what is now Manchester, N. H.
 - b. *James*,* physician, graduate of Dartmouth Coll.; one of whose sons, Francis Flint, M. D., of Weymouth, Mass., was one of the founders of the Weymouth His. Society, and a contributor to the History of Weymouth.
 - c. *David*, Captain of the Deering Rifles.
 - d. *Thomas*, of Savannah, (see p. 22.)
 - e. *Robert*.
 - f. *Josiah*,† graduate of Dartmouth Coll.; lawyer at Goffstown; father of Hon. William L., Associate-Justice of Boston Municipal Court.
 - g. *Hannah*, m. a Mr. Paige.
6. ROBERT,‡ b. in Chester, 1746; Lieutenant in War of '76; m. Mary, dau. of Dea. William Tolford, of Walnut Hill.
7. JOSIAH,§ b. in Chester; Lieutenant in War of '76; m. Kitty, dau. of Caleb Richardson; ~~a son of theirs settled in Detroit, and was ancestor of Gen. James A. Forsyth, U. S. A.~~

* *Chapman's Alumni, Dartmouth Coll.*,—366; *History of Weymouth, Mass.*

† *Chapman's Alumni, Dartmouth Coll.*—pp. 133, 427; *History of Goffstown.*

‡ *Chases' Hist. Chester*—pp. 118, 344, 446; *Provincial Papers N. H.*—Vol. VII., p. 755; *Town Papers N. H.*—Vol. XIII., pp. 196, 198, 751; Vol. XI., pp. 320, 685.

§ *Chases' Hist. Chester*—pp. 231, 373, 383, 457, 630; *Town Papers N. H.*—Vol. XI., p. 315; *State Papers N. H.*—Vol. XI., p. 315.

**FORSYTH OF FREDERICKSBURG,
SPOTTSYLVANIA CO., VIRGINIA.**

MATTHEW FORSAYTH, b. in Ireland (son of Matthew and Esther Graham Forsayth), was a physician in the Royal Navy; m. — Orr, came to Fredericksburg, before 1774. Issue:

I. WILLIAM FORSYTH, b. 1753; among his descendants is Cornelius D. Forsyth, of Rome, Georgia; Solicitor-General of Georgia, etc.; formerly Colonel of the 22d Ga. Inf., C. S. A.; ~~and Gen. George A. Forsyth, U. S. A.~~

II. ROBERT FORSYTH,* b. 1754; Captain in Lee's Lgt. Horse, 1776; Major, 1777; Deputy Quartermaster-General of the Southern Army, 1778; and A. D. C. to Gen. Washington; Knight of the Virginia Order of the Cincinnati, 1783; appointed U. S. Marshal of Georgia, 1786; killed in performance of duty, 1794; buried with funeral honors by the Order of the Cincinnati; a monument was erected to his memory at Augusta, Ga.; Congress voted a sum of money for the education of his children; he m. Mrs. Fanny (Johnston) Houston, a widow, sister to Judge Peter Johnston, of Fredericksburg, and aunt of Lieut.-Gen. Joseph E. Johnston, C. S. A. Issue:

1. ROBERT, died *aet.* 19.

2. JOHN,† b. in Fredericksburg, Oct. 10, 1780; member of Society of the Cincinnati; 1st Attorney-General of Georgia, 1808; Rep. of U. S. Congress, 1813-1818; Minister Plenipotentiary to Spain, 1819-22; Rep. of U. S. Congress 1823-1827; Governor of Georgia, 1828-1830; U. S.

* *Stevens' Hist. of Georgia*—Vol. II., p. 302. *Old Encyclopedia Americana.*

† *Virginia Hist. Coll.*; *Whyte's Hist. of Ga.*; *Van Holst's Hist. of U. S.*; *Bench and Bar of Ga.*—Vol. II., etc.

Senator, 1830-4; Secretary of State for United States 1834-41; died in Washington, Oct. 22, 1841; Georgia erected a monument to his memory in the Congressional Burying Ground at Washington; m. Clara, dau. of Hon. Josiah Meigs, LL. D., 1st Prest. of the University of Georgia, and son of Col. Jonathan Meigs of the War of '76. Issue:

- a. *Julia*, b. 1803; m. Hon. Alfred Iversen, Judge of Supreme Court of Ga., U. S. Senator, and General in Confederate Army.
- b. *Mary*,* b. 1807; m. Arthur Shaaff, Georgetown, D. C.
- c. *Clara*, b. 1810; m. Capt. Murray Mason, U. S. N., afterwards Commodore in Confederate Navy, son of Gen. John Mason, of Virginia, whose brother was U. S. Senator James M. Mason, and whose sister was Mrs. Sidney Smith Lee,† mother of Gen. Fitz-Hugh Lee (nephew of Gen. Robert E. Lee, Commander in Chief of the Southern Confederacy); a daughter of Clara Forsyth Mason m. Capt. S. B. Davis, C. S. A., relative of the Hon. Jefferson Davis, LL. D., President of the Southern Conf.
- d. *John*,‡ b. in Augusta, Georgia, 1812;

* A daughter of Mary (Forsyth) Shaaff m. Richard Tighlman Brice, grandson of Gen. Tench Tighlman, of Maryland.

† *Lee Family History*.

‡ *Stevens' War between the States—Vol. II.; Davis's Rise and Fall of the Southern Confederacy—Vol. II.; Southern Historical Papers; Correspondence between the U. S. and C. S. Governments*. John Forsyth, Jr., enjoyed the soubriquet of "Prince of Southern Journalists."

member of Society of the Cincinnati (S. C.); Adj. 1st Ga. Regt. in Mexican War; U. S. Minister to Mexico, 1856; Mayor of Mobile, 1860; Confederate Commissioner Plenipotentiary, 1861; the Chief of Staff of the Confederate Army of Tennessee, 1863; and author of the "Proclamation of the South to the people of Kentucky"; since the war editor of *Mobile Register* until his death in 1878; he m. Margaret, dau. of Latham Hull, of Augusta, Ga., and had:

¹Charles, Col. of 3d Ala.
Regt. C. S. A.

²John.

e. *Virginia*, m. George Hargraves, had
Clara F., m. Capt. Chas. Wood.

f. *Anna E.*, b. 1823.

g. *Rosa M.*, b. 1823; m. Wm. Aubrey,
of Baltimore, afterward of Cartersville, Ga., Commissary, C. S. A.

h. *Robert*,* b. in Augusta, Ga., 1826;
Capt. 1st U. S. Voltigeurs, Mexican War; Colonel of Artillery, C. S. A.; Commandant of Confederate Fortifications in Mobile Bay; m. Julia, dau. of Latham Hull, of Augusta, Ga., and had:

¹John.

²Angela.

³Margaret.

* See *Correspondence between the U. S. and C. S. Governments.*

FORSYTH OF FRONSAC, SAVANNAH.

(*Vide* p. 18.)

I. THOMAS FORSYTH,* entitled de Fronsac, (son of William and Jane Forsyth) b. in Hillsborough Co., N. H., Sept. 1, 1775; at the age of eleven was sent to the Ecole Militaire de Normandie, France; in the war of the Emigration joined, at the age of 17, the Brigade of Navarre (1792), commanded by the Marquis de Montmart; was with the march through Coblenz, Bingen, Treves, Grevenmaker, and Stadtbredimus; in France, participated in nearly all the engagements; was made Captain of Illyriens, and decorated with the Cross of the Order of St. Louis, at the siege of Thionville, by order of the King's brother, the Comte d'Artois; was at the siege of Verdun, which terminated the campaign of 1792; remained in Europe until 1802, when he came to Savannah, Ga.; was afterwards merchant in West India Trade, at Portland, Maine; m. Sallie, dau. of Capt. John Pray,† formerly of the Colonial Navy of Georgia, who came from Dublin to Savannah just before the War of '76, and whose wife was Mary, dau. of ~~Maj. Joshua~~ ^{Col. Joshua} Hamilton, son of Henry Hamilton, M. P. for Co. Donegal, and grandson of Lieut.-Gen. Sir Gustavus Hamilton, G. C. B., 1st Viscount Boyne,‡ Privy Counsellor of Great Britain and Vice-Admiral of Ulster. Thomas died in Portland, Dec. 21, 1849. Issue:

I. JANE FORSYTH, b. 1810; m. R. P. Ilsley, at one time Deputy-Collector U. S. Revenue, Portland. Issue:

I. HAMILTON, m. a Miss Brown.

* *Hist. of Hillsborough Co., N. H.; Jones' Hist. of Ga.; Ga. Hist. Coll.; Dufaure's Notes Sur Les Emegres; America Heraldica; Browning's Americans of Royal Descent.*

† *Stevens' Hist. of Ga.*—p. 152.

‡ *Burke's Peerage* (Viscount Boyne.)

2. ELIZABETH, m. Hon. J. Boise de Veber, M. P. for St. John, New Brunswick, and Mayor of St. John (1886.)

II. HAMILTON FORSYTH, b. 1812; Rifle Corps, 1832; Army of Texas, 1834; Captain on Staff of Gen. Mirabeau B. Lamar; died in Galveston, 1839-40.

III. SARAH ANN FORSYTH,* b. 1815; m., as 2d wife, Hon. William P. Preble, LL. D., Associate-Justice of Supreme Court of Maine; Founder and 1st Prest. of Grand Trunk Railway of Canada; U. S. Minister Plenipotentiary to the Netherlands; cousin to Commodore Edward Preble, U. S. N., and to Rear Admiral Geo. H. Preble, U. S. N.,—all being descended from Maj.-Gen. Jedediah Preble, of York, Maine. Issue:

I. EDWARD, b. 1855; living at Boston.

IV. ELEANOR FORSYTH, b. 1817; m. Samuel Sawyer, of Portland.

V. FREDERIC FORSYTH, † b. 1819; Rifle Corps, 1838; California, 1849; Officer of State Vigilant Committee; afterward at Rio Lejo, Nicaragua, Central America; Captain of Portland Rifle Corps, 1860; commanded battalion detailed as escort and body-guard to H. R. H., The Prince of Wales, on the occasion of his visit to Portland, 1860; sympathized with the South during the War, but in 1863 was selected to command the proposed fortifications of the 1st District of Maine; m. Harriette de Marr, dau. of Maj.-Gen. Joseph Scott Jewett, ‡ of Portland, who commanded the 5th Division of Maine Troops in 1839; and had been a commissioner on

* *Willis's Bench & Bar of Maine*: Mrs. Preble was a fine scholar, a poetic and prose writer of eloquence, and the friend of the Baroness de Sedler, who was cousin to the Empress of Russia.

† *Clayton's Hist. of Cumberland County*, (Maine); *Gould's Records of the Portland Rifle Corps*.

‡ Gen. Jewett belonged to a celebrated family from Yorkshire, Bradford, W. R., England—(see *Savage's Genealogical Dict. of N. E.*, and the *Essex Institutes*). He m. Mary Parker Marr of a Scottish family, claiming descent from the Earls of Marr. His father, Joseph

the boundary between Maine and New Hampshire; and had represented Maine before 1820 in the Massachusetts legislature. Issue:

1. **FREDERIC GREGORY**, author under the name of Forsyth de Fronsac, in poetry, political and social science, and musical composition; author of (1) "Basis of European History;" (2) "Cati-line's Lesson to the Republic," (3) "Notes on the Science and Art of Warfare," (4) "History of Authority, Limitable and Illimitable," (5) "Ambition of the Czars," (6) "Seeds of Government," (7) "Metaphysics," (8) "Notes on Problems of Mind and Matter," etc.; Founder of the Aryan-Order.
2. **THOMAS SCOTT**, Journalist, writer of eminence; Supt. of Publishing Department of Boston Society of Natural History, 1882-4; Musician, etc.

III. **GEORGE FORSYTH**,* b. 1821; Rifle Corps, 1845; Lieut. 78th U. S. C. Troops, 1863; Asst. Quartermaster and Asst. Adjutant-General, with rank as Major at Camps at Washington, 1865; Custom-House Official at Sitka, Alaska; removed to San Francisco, California; m. Albertina, dau. of Capt. Albert, and niece of Hon. Jedediah Jewett, Mayor of Portland (1856). Issue:

1. **ALBERTINA L.**, m. Dr. MacAllister, of Honolulu, Sandwich Islands.

VII. **CAROLINE AUGUSTA FORSYTH**, b. 1823; m. James Albert Macnabb, of Greenock, Scotland, grandson of Maj. Robert Macnabb, and cousin to Sir Allan Napier Macnabb, at one time Governor-General of Canada. Issue:

1. **JAMES ALBERT, JR.**

Jewett, who came from Mass. to Portland, had held a naval appointment from Washington, and his wife was Ruth McLaughlin, of the MacLaughlins of Clan Owen, from near Londonderry, Ireland.

* *Records U. S. War Dept.; Records U. S. Treasury Dept.; Browning's Amer. of Royal Descent.*

FORSYTH OF ALBANY AND TROY.

LIEUT. ROBERT FORSYTH, of Chester—p. 18. By wife Mary Tolford, had :

I. ROBERT, who m. Sarah Luvkin, their son was :

a. *Robert*, who m. Sabrina Ramsay, their son was :

¹James, one of the most prominent men in Northern N. Y., Prest. of Renssalaer Polytechnic Institute, of the Renss. and Saratoga Ry., and of Troy Bridge Co.; Judge of Co. Court; Judge Advocate of Division, etc., Law Author of Contracts; m., first, a dau. of Hon. Elisha Tibbitts, of N. Y. city; second, a Miss Pumpelley of the family of the explorer. He was a brother-in-law to Theodore Frelinghuysen, of N. J., and James B. Bosworth, Chief-Justice of New York.
Issue :

Robert, Civil Eng'r
and Manager
of the Union
Steel Co., of
Chicago.

James, Attorney-at
Law, Troy.

I. JOHN, m. a Miss Smith, of Lyme, Ct., who claimed descent from the Princess Pocahontas. Issue :

1. RUSSELL, (hereafter.)
2. DANA.
3. GEORGE.
4. A DAU. m. Mr. Rathbone, of Albany, the father of Gen. Rathbone.

1. RUSSELL (as above), physician in Albany ; m. Sarah Seymour of the family of Gov. Horatio Seymour. Issue :

a. *Douglas*.

b. *William Wallace*, m. Cornelia Kane Strong, niece of Dr. Kane, the explorer, and descendant of Gov. Winthrop. Issue :

¹Emily Howe m. Herman Bowen, of N. Y., and had Emily Howe and Herman.

²Sarah Seymour m. Matthias Ellis, of South Corner, Mass., their dau. Zaidee (who m. Thos. T. Gaff, of Cincinnati) and Helena.

³Russell m. Helena Annette, dau. of Benj. Davies K. Craig, of N. Y. city, and had Beatrice.

II. TIMOTHY, m ———, and had :

1. GEORGE (hereafter.)
2. DAVID.
3. SANFORD.
4. FREDERIC.

GEORGE FORSYTH, (as above) m. Lucy, dau. of Abner Howe. He d. 1821. Issue:

1. ORLANDO.

2. AMANDA M., b. 1806; m. Darwin Hill, of Clarkson, N. Y., and had:

a. *Cornelia Frances*, b. 1832; m. Thos. Southworth, Holly, N. Y.

b. *Helen Louise*, b. 1834; m. E. Bradford Greenleaf, Milwaukee.

c. *Mary Seymour*, b. 1836; m. W. H. Rogers, Mount Vernon, O.

d. *Harriet Evelyn*.

e. *Emma Amanda*.

3. RUSSELL.

4. LUCY, b. 1812; m. Hon. J. D. Perkins.

5. GEORGE HAMILTON, b. 1809; m. Julia Harman.

He d. 1857. Issue:

a. *Lucy*.

b. *Amanda*.

c. *William*.

6. ANNE, b. 1815; m. W. M. Gorham, M. D., Newburgh, N. Y.

7. JANE.

It is likely that I. JOHN and II. TIMOTHY, brothers, were sons of an Arthur Forsyth who came from Ulster to America about 1750, and was a relative of the first Matthew.

CONCLUSION.

Some of the descendants of the Forsyths of Nydie, whose pedigrees are not entirely known to the author, are :

I. Alexander Forsyth, author of "Culture of the Potatoe." (London.) 17— A. D.

II. Rev. Alex. Forsyth, D. D., Inventor of the Percussion Lock and Fulminate. (Scotland.) 185—.

III. Charles Forsyth, of Edinburgh—1844; author of "Laws of Trust."

IV. J. S. Forsyth (London),—1825; author of "Antiquary's Portfolio," "A Synopsis of Medical Jurisprudence," etc., etc.

V. Rev. J. Hamilton Forsyth—"Sermons." London. 1849.

VI. Joseph Forsyth, b. in Elgin, 1765; author of "Antiquities, Arts and Letters in Italy"—the finest work on the subject in English. He had a brother Isaac, and the celebrated Col. Benj. Forsyth, U. S. A. of 1812-15, was said to be a near relative.

VII. Robt. Forsyth, Edinburgh—1804; author of "Principles and Practices of Agriculture," "Beauties of Scotland," "Principles of Moral Science," etc.

VIII. William Forsyth, b. in Old Meldrum, 1737; Superintendent of the Royal Gardens of Kensington and St. James; Standard Author on "Disease of Fruit Trees," "Culture and Management of Fruit Trees," etc. His son was :

IX. William Forsyth, Jr., Superintendent of the Royal Chelsea Gardens; author of "A Botanical Nomenclature," etc., etc.

(*Woodstock Herald.*)

THE LEGEND OF THE CROOKED SWORD.

Among the many curious things, brought to America by families from Europe, was a curved Moorish sword, or cimeter, belonging to Robert Forsayth of Failzerton, an officer of King James, who in addition to his Scottish estate, obtained in 1618, a grant of land in Ulster, Ireland, where some of his family afterwards settled.

It had an inscription on one side of the blade which read, that, he who possessed it should be fortunate in love and war; on the other side, the inscription read, that, he who lost it should experience calamities and the power of his posterity should be shaken.

The sword was worn first in America by Ensign William Forsyth, of the Royal Provincials, in the Indian wars in the vicinity of Chester, New Hampshire, in 1765, whose father, a native of Ireland, was a descendant of Col. Robert, the original possessor.

Ensign William Forsyth was captured by the Indians about 1765, and carried to Canada, and was ransomed by M. de Montmarte, a French officer, whose secretary he became. He was with de Montmarte for two or three years, and when the latter returned to France, he gave William his liberty and money with which to reach his friends.

The sword, which had been lost in his struggle with the Indians, was discovered, after his capture, and sent to his eldest brother, Dr. Matthew Forsyth, then a physician in the Royal Navy.

A son of this Dr. Matthew, named Robert, came to Fredericksburg, Va., about 1772, and among his effects was this sword, which he wore as Captain, and afterwards as Major, in Lee's Light Horse during the Revolution. In 1778, Robert Forsyth was Deputy Quarter-Master-General of the Southern Army, and a letter of that date written by him from Fredericksburg, is in possession of Miss Anna Forsyth, of Ivy, Albemarle county, confirming, or announcing the appointment of Col. Ephraim Blaine, an ancestor of Hon. James G. Blaine, to the position of Deputy Quarter-Master-General of the Northern Army.

Robert Forsyth was appointed by Washington 1st U. S. Marshal of Georgia. The sword passed from him to his son John, together with his badge of the Society of the Cincinnati. John Forsyth was Governor of and Senator from Georgia and Secretary of the United States from 1834 to 1841.

And thus the fortune of the possessors of the sword increased until the burning of Columbus, Ga., by the Federals in the late war when the sword was destroyed with other effects of the late Governor Forsyth. Since then, the fortune of that branch of the family has changed.

An old fashioned musket, which belonged to Ensign William Forsyth, is in possession of one of his descendants, in Manchester, N. H.

Owing to Ensign William Forsyth's connection with M. de Montmarte, he was enabled to educate one of his sons in France. This son, Thomas Forsyth, was educated there since his tenth year. He served gallantly, at the age of 17, in the Marquis de Montmarte's battalion of Navarre in the war of the allies and French Princes in 1792 against the 1st French republic, and is described in *America Heraldica*, as being decorated with the Order of Knighthood of St. Louis, at the siege of Thionville, in 1792.

