

The MITCHELLS and DAYS of PHILADELPHIA

With Their Kin:

Dr. S. Weir Mitchell

and

Helena Mary Langdon (Mitchell) and
Kenneth Mackenzie Day



George Valentine Massey II

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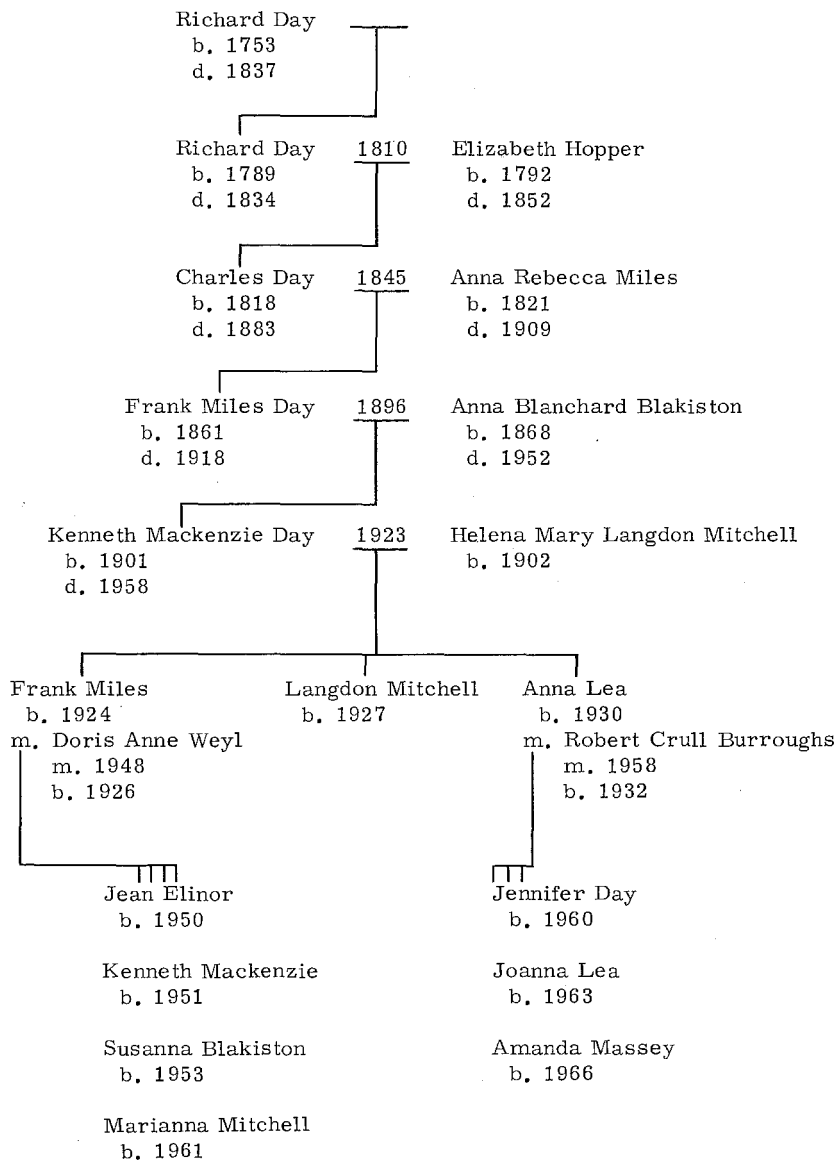
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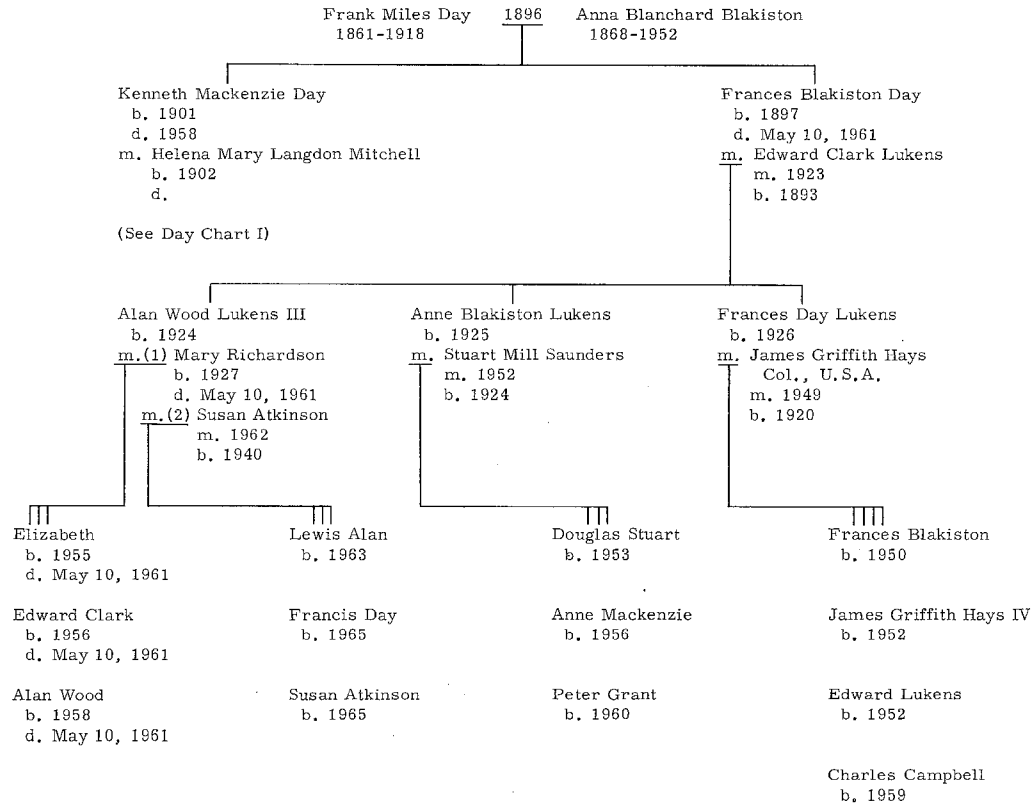
Chapter I

Day Family

Day Chart 1



Day Chart 11



Richard Day

Third Generation

Richard Day (1753-1837)⁽¹⁾ was probably the grandson of Peter Day (d. 1760), the first known lessee of Standen, a farm near Bid-denden in the "Weald of Kent," England. This 170 acre farm, with its attractive, half-timbered sixteenth-century house, was to be the seat of the Day family for nearly a hundred and fifty years, until the death of Charles Day (1835-1873), a nephew of Charles Day of Philadelphia.

The family record traces the pedigree of the Days from Peter, the third great-uncle of Charles Day of Philadelphia, and tells that Peter's son Charles (1717-1795) was a great-great uncle of Charles Day. It is unlikely that one is a nephew of both father and son so Peter was doubtless the direct ancestor of this family.

The family record starts with an agreement between Thomas Knight, owner of Standen, and Peter Day for the sale of growing wood there in 1727. How much earlier the Day family lived at Standen is not indicated in the Day book. The rent book, and other family papers, show that Peter Day continued to lease the farm until his death in 1760.

His son Charles then took up the lease and at his death in 1795 his nephew Richard Day, of this line, became the lessee. In 1824 he retired when his sons Peter and Solomon renewed the lease.

The annual rents for Standen ranged from £68 to £84 between 1739/40 and 1764, and were paid quarterly. During this time Standen was owned by the Knight family. Then Catherine Knight, widow of Thomas, II, willed it to her adopted son Edwin Austin, a brother of novelist Jane Austin.

Members of the Day family were called yeomen in the records, a degree below the gentry and denoting "one having free land . . . qualified to serve on juries, vote for knights of the shire, and other privileges."

Richard Day (1753-1837), with whom this line definitely begins and whose wife is not named, had ten children. The seventh being Richard, of this line.

Richard Day, Jr., Farmer

Fourth Generation

Richard Day, Jr. (1789-Dec. 11, 1834)⁽²⁾ was married in 1810 to Elizabeth (1792-Oct. 14, 1852), the daughter of Michael Hopper (1769-1849) of Biddenden, Kent, and his wife Elizabeth Luck (1764-1838). Richard and Elizabeth Day had three sons and three daughters, the second son being Charles Day of this line.

Both Richard and Elizabeth Day are buried in the churchyard at Biddenden where an inscribed stone marks their graves.

Charles Day, Merchant Tailor

Fifth Generation

Charles Day (Jan. 6, 1818-Sept. 14, 1883)⁽³⁾ was born at "Waterman Quarter," a farm in the parish of Headcorn, Kent, Eng-

land. He was baptized in the parish church, built in the 15th century, and at the age of ten removed with his family to Standen.

Here he grew up as a country boy, though he did not work on the farm. He attended the private school at Biddenden where the master, he said, took great interest in the pupil's work. His favorite sport was cricket, and he also collected birds eggs. The boys did not disturb the nests, and took only one egg from each.

At fourteen Charles was apprenticed to Stephen Judge an elderly tailor at Tenderden, about five miles south of Biddenden and Standen. It was a happy and congenial choice as Stephen Judge and his family were cultivated, well-read people. Here he was encouraged in his taste for good literature and "Science," and when a lecturer on "Science" came to Tenderden young Charles was selected to assist him. Charles was highly pleased to be re-assured that his reading had not been in vain.

Through the Judge family Charles met the most liberal and no doubt most intelligent people in the town. They were Unitarians, while Charles had been reared in the Established English Church. To him the Unitarian service was more thought provoking. He believed with Latimer that "Religion, pure religion, standeth not in wearing a monk's cowl, but in righteousness, justice and well doing." This he found in the Unitarian Church.

After completing his seven year apprenticeship at twenty-one, he left Tenderden with "a mind well developed though still open, a strong appetite for greater improvement . . . and a desire to get on in the world."

To please his mother he settled in London instead of going to the United States where he felt there was greater opportunity. But London was disappointing, so his mother set him up in a business of his own at Brasted, in Kent, some twenty miles from Standen. Neither was this venture successful. In a letter to his brother in November, 1841 he said he had been to Westerham and Sevenoaks

each market day for orders but with little success. He was very blue over his prospects.

He then determined to go to America, and left Tilbury on the Thames March 17, 1842 on the sailing ship Mediator. The voyage was six weeks and his destination Canada. There, in Toronto, he set up his business. But the intensely cold winters were not appealing, and when his cousin William Hopper settled in Philadelphia he decided to join him there.

His first store was on Second Street, then a commercial center, in the same block with his Cousin Hopper's retail dry goods house. He opened in September, 1844 as a clothier in ready-made and made-to-order articles.

From the start he was successful, and during twenty-four years in business, until retirement in 1868, Charles Day's books show profits beyond his living expenses -- even during the severe panic of 1857. The last ten years of his business career proved "very gratifying," his son said.

A short distance above his Second Street store, opposite Buttonwood Street, Joseph Miles kept a crockery store. It was not long before Charles Day became acquainted with his attractive daughter Anna Rebecca (May 27, 1821 - Nov. 27, 1909).

She had other admirers, and when discussing their merits in the family circle her usually taciturn father said: "Anna if you like him and he wants you, take the Englishman, he's the one for you."

They were married in the parlor of Joseph Miles' farmhouse near Bustleton in 1845. Charles had a house in readiness for his bride. He had leased another store, with a dwelling attached, at the corner of Willow and Second Streets. Then in 1848 or 1849 they moved into more commodious new quarters, a house and store he bought at the south-east corner of Peg and Second Streets where they lived for many years.

After retirement Charles and Rebecca Day traveled in America and abroad, and lived out their happy lives with the satisfaction of seeing their sons suitably married and well established in their professions. Charles Day died in England, and is buried in Chilham in Kent. His widow, Anna Rebecca (Miles) Day, lived until November 27, 1909, and is buried at Laurel Hill Cemetery, Philadelphia.⁽⁴⁾

Issue of Charles and Anna Rebecca (Miles) Day:⁽⁵⁾

1. Richard Hopper (b. Apr. 30, 1847) who married, November 12, 1874, Frances Stockton Corson. Their children are: Bertha Corson, who married, May 17, 1902, Daniel Moore Bates, and have issue; Charles (May 15, 1879-May 10, 1931),⁽⁶⁾ mechanical engineer, who, as a member of Dodge & Day, specialized in engineering management and construction. In 1911 he became president of Day & Zimmerman, and in 1926 was made chairman of the board. He served as director and trustee of several important companies and institutions, and lectured at Harvard and Columbia. He married, August 24, 1904, Margaret Dunning, and had issue; and Richard Foulke Day who was killed September 25, 1918 in World War I.
2. Henry Kent (b. Jan. 2, 1851), who married, September 20, 1878, Elizabeth Day, his cousin, of Standen and Charing. Their children are Anna, who married, February 17, 1903, Oscar B. Hawes, and have issue; and Agnes W., who married, June 3, 1909, Harold V. Coes, and have issue.
3. Frank Miles, of this line.

Frank Miles Day, Architect

Sixth Generation

Frank Miles Day (Apr. 5, 1861—June 16, 1918)⁽⁷⁾ was born in Philadelphia. He there attended the Rittenhouse Academy and the University of Pennsylvania from which he graduated in 1883 with the degree of B.S. He then travelled in Europe for three years during which he also studied at the Royal Academy and the South Kensington School of Art as well as working for a time in the London architectural office of Basil Champneys.

In 1886 he returned to Philadelphia and opened an office. His first commission was the Art Club of Philadelphia on Broad Street. With the completion of this the public noted the arrival of an able designer while another telling personality was added to the local circle of architects which included the gifted group of Wilson Eyre, Walter Cope, and John Stewardson.

Frank Miles Day was lecturer on architecture at the University of Pennsylvania 1892-1902 and at Harvard 1905-1907. He lectured on perspective at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in 1901. He was president of the American Institute of Architects in 1906 and 1907 while continuing his private practice throughout his life.

He was a trustee of the American Academy in Rome, an associate of the National Academy of Design, an Honorary Corresponding Member of the Royal Society of British Architects, and Corresponding Member of the Imperial Society of Russian Architects. He was also a member of the Century Association of New York and of the National Institute of Arts & Letters.

In 1916 the degree of M.A. was conferred upon him by Yale and in 1918 the degree of Doctor of Science was given him by the University of Pennsylvania but never conferred due to his sudden death in that year.

He was supervising architect of Yale University, consulting architect to New York University and to Johns Hopkins and the Hartford Theological Seminary. His firm was the architect of numerous buildings at the universities of Pennsylvania, Cornell, Yale, Colorado, Delaware, and Princeton where Holder Hall and Holder Tower notably bear the imprint of his personal gifts. In addition he was architect for many private residences in and near Philadelphia.

In 1911 Charles Z. Klauder was admitted to partnership. In 1912 the firm name became Day & Klauder.

It was said of him during his lifetime as follows: "Frank Miles Day follows an unswerving path toward the best in architecture. Time and study he lavishes unstintingly upon pure design, and in this task his quick discrimination discovers the good as unerringly as his uncommon critical faculty discards the poor and commonplace. These personal forces and the authority of the scholar are behind all the distinguished works that bear his name."

He had an absorbing interest in literature and was considered also one of the ablest public speakers in the architectural profession of the United States. This gift he often used to aid public-spirited movements and civic betterment. He was considered an authority on competition programs and served on an unusual number of architectural juries.

Frank Miles Day married November 5, 1896, Anna Blanchard, daughter of Presley and Sarah Mackenzie (Taylor) Blakiston. (See Blakiston family.)

Frank Miles Day died suddenly of a cerebral hemorrhage at a function at which he was a speaker in June 1918.

Theodore B. White who contributed this material and is him-

self the author of a book on 19th century architecture in Philadelphia said, "Heavens! What a distinguished person!"

Their issue was:

1. Frances Blakiston, who married Edward Clark Lukens in 1923. For issue see Day Chart.
2. Kenneth Mackenzie, of this line.

Kenneth Mackenzie Day

Seventh Generation

Kenneth Day, architect (Jan. 25, 1901-Feb. 20, 1958)⁽⁸⁾ received his preparatory education at Chestnut Hill Academy, Philadelphia and graduated with a B.S. in architecture at the University of Pennsylvania in 1922. The same year he won the First Medal of the Beaux Arts Society of New York. Between 1916 and 1921 he was employed in drafting work in the summers for the firm of Day & Klaunder, Philadelphia. In the summer of 1920 he worked as a draftsman under Sir Aston Webb, architect, in London, England. After his graduation from the University of Pennsylvania, in the summer of 1922, he travelled in France and England where he courted his future wife.

He was married in Philadelphia on April 30, 1923 to Helena Mary Langdon, daughter of Langdon Elwyn Mitchell and had three children. (See Day and Mitchell charts.)

After his marriage he continued as a draftsman with the firm of McKim, Meade, & White, New York City from 1923-1926. In 1926-27 he travelled with his wife and son in Italy, Greece, and Egypt. Upon his return in the same year he formed a partnership with Ed-

mund R. Purves in Philadelphia under the name of Purves & Day, this partnership continuing until 1932. He then practiced independently in Philadelphia. During 1932-34 he made studies in slum clearance and rehabilitation with Associated Housing Architects.

In 1942 he entered the U.S. Naval Reserve for Second World War service. He was commissioned lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve and subsequently advanced to lieutenant-commander. For a year he carried out studies in camouflage for the 4th Naval District, Philadelphia, after which he was assigned early in 1944 to the Pacific Area as chief of the design section with the Base Planning Division, Service Force, 7th Fleet. He worked in Australia and New Guinea and later was sole architect on the staff of the commander of the Naval base at Manila, P.I., where he designed the headquarters of the 7th Fleet in Manila.

After the war he resumed practice in Philadelphia. In addition to his work there, Kenneth Day was associate professor teaching advanced design in the Yale University Architectural School during 1946-48. In 1948 he went to San Francisco, California there to associate with Gardiner Dailey on designs for Pebble Beach Lodge, Del Monte, California. This work occupied him through 1949. Returning to Philadelphia in 1950 he resumed independent practice, continuing until the close of his life. In 1950, with Louis I. Kahn and others he participated in the design and construction of the Mill Creek Housing Project, 1950-54. He taught interior design at the School of Industrial Art of the Philadelphia Museum of Art in 1947-48, and advanced design as visiting professor at Cornell University in 1951.

From 1932 until his death Kenneth Day devoted himself chiefly, though not exclusively, to residential architecture and exclusively to working in contemporary design. In the early 1930's, when he first broke away from traditional design, he made a very sharp break with the past, but as time went on his work tended to express contemporary developments of traditional design concepts while his great familiarity with the architectural heritage of Pennsylvania

gave much of his work a regional character. He was noted chiefly for his private houses designed in a contemporary idiom but executed in local materials. These houses subtly embodied the varying tastes and temperaments of the particular client. Photographs of his work were published in his history of art textbook by Dr. Robb entitled "Art in the Western World." His work was also published in "A History of Architecture" by Talbott Hamlin, in "The House of Tomorrow" by the Architectural Forum, in "The Modern House in America" by Ford & Ford, and in "Homes" by Progressive Architecture, as well as in magazines such as the Architectural Forum and the Architectural Record.

From 1946 until his death he made studies of housing for the Philadelphia Housing Authority, the Redevelopment Authority to which he was also for some years consulting architect, and the Philadelphia City Planning Commission. He was also active in the Citizens Council for City Planning, the Philadelphia Housing Association and the Octavia Hill Association to Improve Low Cost Housing. In 1941 he was president of the latter organization. In 1938 he received an award from the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company for excellence in his use of glass, and in 1955 he won the First Silver Medal of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects for the outstanding design of a residence. At the time of his death he was president of the Pennsylvania Society of Architects. He was also a member of the American Institute of Architects, Art Alliance of Philadelphia, various clubs, and the Century Association of New York City. In politics he was an independent. His special interests apart from his profession included reading especially in the field of history and military strategy, travel, and playing tennis and chess. In his youth he enjoyed mountain climbing and sculling.

Kenneth Day was of those few who pioneered contemporary design in the eastern states. His devotion to his art was always paramount in his life. He was a distant, at times, a harsh father and remarkably close-fisted in money affairs. These characteristics contrasted with much social charm and a deep strain of gaiety.

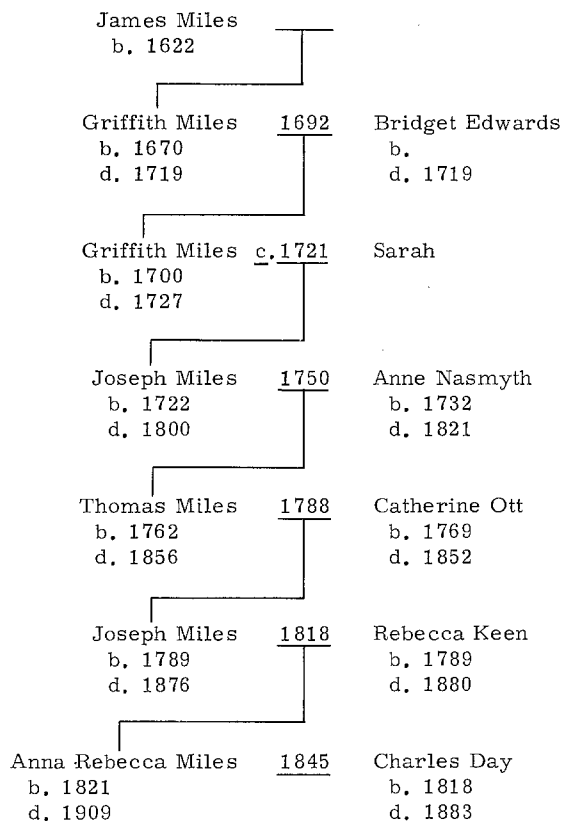
He died in 1958 of malignant disease of the lymph glands after a five months' illness.

- (1) Harry Kent Day, Charles Day (Philadelphia, 1921), 93-100, 102, 109-114.
- (2) Ibid., 1, 93, 100, 101, 148, 149.
- (3) Ibid., 1-116, 154.
- (4) Ibid., 92, 102.
- (5) Ibid., 102, 164.
- (6) Who Was Who In America, I, 306.
- (7) Material contributed by Theodore B. White, architect.
- (8) The National Cyclopedia of Biography, supplemented by Helena M. L. M. Day.

Chapter II

Miles Family

Miles Chart



(Grandparents of Kenneth Mackenzie Day)

(See Day)

James Miles The Emigrant

First Generation

James Miles (b. 1622)⁽¹⁾ was born in the parish of Llanfihangel Helygen, which means the Church of St. Michael by the Willows, in Radnorshire, Wales. It was stated by Thomas Allen Glenn, the late authority on Welsh pedigrees, that the family is traceable for many generations in this parish and its neighborhood, and in the 16th century was of considerable importance there. He said it was probably of Flemish descent.

James had a deed dated June 19, 20, 1682 for 100 acres to be surveyed for him in Pennsylvania, though the exact time of his arrival is not known. His certificate of removal to the Philadelphia Monthly Meeting from Redstone Meeting, "in the Parish of Llanvihangel Helygen," Radnorshire, was dated 5th month 27, 1683. It is not known if his wife accompanied him to America -- nor her name. He was afterwards baptized (as an adult) in the Pennepack Baptist Church.

James and his wife had as children Richard (the grandfather of General Samuel Miles of the Revolution, and Mayor of Philadelphia), Griffith, of this line, David, and Ann Miles who evidently came to Pennsylvania with their father.

Griffith Miles

Second Generation

Griffith Miles (1670-1719)⁽²⁾ was born in Wales, and emigra-

ted to Pennsylvania with his father in 1683. He was married by Friends' Ceremony, at the house of David Price at Radnor, "in a public assembly," 8th month 20, 1692, to Bridget (d. Jan. 1719), daughter of Alexander and Bridget (?) Edwards, of Radnor, Pennsylvania. Among the witnesses were James, Richard, Samuel and Margaret Miles and Ann Davies, née Miles, a sister.

Griffith was baptized (as an adult) in 1697, and Bridget in 1709 at the Pennepack Baptist Church. The will of Griffith Miles is dated March 28, and was proved June 13, 1719 in Philadelphia. He was buried at Pennepack where his grave is marked (1895).

Of their five children, Griffith, the third, and eldest son, is of this line.

Griffith Miles

Third Generation

Griffith Miles (Dec. 3, 1700-June, 1727)⁽³⁾ married, about 1721, Sarah whose maiden name is unknown. A small stone at Pennepack records only "Griffith and Sarah Miles" without a date.

Of their three children, Joseph, the third and only son is of this line.

Joseph Miles

Fourth Generation

Joseph Miles (Sept. 17, 1722-Mar. 27, 1800)⁽⁴⁾ married at Gloria Dei Church, Philadelphia, December 3, 1750, Anne Nasmyth (May 18, 1732-Dec. 20, 1821) of Scotch descent. They lived in East Pennepack, Moreland Township, Philadelphia County (now Montgomery) where their children were born.

He and his wife are buried at Pennepack Church with tombstones.

Of their twelve children, Thomas, the fourth son and seventh child, is of this line.

Thomas Miles

Fifth Generation

Thomas Miles (Jan. 24, 1762-June 1, 1856)⁽⁵⁾ lived at Fox Chase, and was a plow maker by trade. He worked before plows were made in factories, when each had its own individuality according to the ability of the maker -- and Thomas Miles' plows were the best. One was exhibited at the Deer Plow Company at Moline, Iowa, the largest manufactory of its kind in the world. Long after retirement Thomas Miles would make a plow now and then for amusement, and at eighty-six cut down a walnut tree and made one from it, "the farmer who has it says he never had a better."

He was a strict, unbending Baptist, "of mild disposition, good natured, and . . . indulgent to his children . . . well informed and interesting" in conversation.

He had married November 27, 1788 Catherine Ott (Mar. 29, 1769-Jan. 4, 1852) and they had six children, the eldest of whom was Joseph, of this line. Both Thomas and Catherine Miles are buried at Pennepack Church.

Joseph Miles

Sixth Generation

Joseph Miles (1789-Oct. 28, 1876)⁽⁶⁾ married in 1818 Rebecca (Oct. 8, 1789-Oct. 18, 1880), daughter of Isaac and Sarah (Knowles) Keen. They are buried at Pennepack Church.

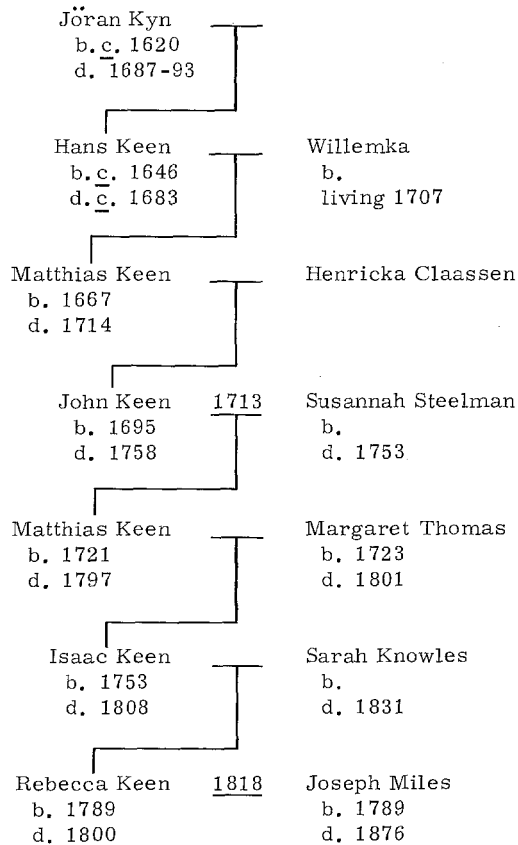
Of their eight children, Anna Rebecca (May 27, 1821-Nov. 1909), the second child, married in 1845 Charles Day, and they are the grandparents of Kenneth MacKenzie Day. See Day.

- (1) Thomas Allen Glenn, "James Miles and Some Of His Descendants," Pa. Mag., v. 37, 240, 241.
- (2) Ibid., 245; Charles H. Banes, Annals of Miles Ancestry of Pa. . . . (Philadelphia, 1895), 34-43.
- (3) Pa. Mag., v. 37, 245; Miles Ancestry, op. cit., 43.
- (4) Miles Ancestry, 44-48; John W. Jordan, Colonial Families of Philadelphia (N.Y., 1911), II, 1515.
- (5) Jordan, Colonial Families of Philadelphia, II, 1515; H. Kent Day, Charles Day (Philadelphia, 1921), 153, 155.
- (6) Day, Charles Day, 153, 154.

Chapter III

Kyn-Keen Family

Kyn-Keen Chart



(See Miles Family)

Jöran Kyn of Upland

First Generation

Jöran Kyn (c. 1620-1687-93) came to New Sweden, in America, as a lifeguard in the suite of Johan Printz who had recently been knighted by Queen Christina, and named director (governor) of her colony on the Delaware. Jöran was twenty-three, and a native of Sweden.

The expedition that brought him comprised two ships the Fama and the Swan, and the Governor arrived at Fort Christina (Wilmington) on the Fama February 15, 1643.

Jöran doubtless accompanied the Governor on his tour of the province from Cape Henlopen to Sankikan (Trenton, N.J.) shortly after their arrival, and was kept busy building forts, the Governor's mansion, a blockhouse, church, mill and brewery on Tinicum Island where they lived.

He remained in Printz's service until 1648, and perhaps until the Governor's return to Sweden in 1653. Then he acquired land in Upland (Chester) where he became a planter. Here he was living when brutally assaulted by Evert Hendrickson, the mad Finn, in 1662/3. Commissary Huygen wrote Vice-Director Beekman at the time that pious Jöran Kyn "had never irritated a child even . . ." (1) The Finn was banished from Upland.

Jöran died between March 6, 1687, when he deeded a lot in Chester to the Quakers for their meeting house, and May, 1693, when a census of the Swedes was taken. A plaque on City Hall, in Philadelphia, commemorates his name among the prominent early Swedish settlers in the Delaware Valley.

The name of his wife is not known, but of his three known children Hans founded this line. (2)

Hans Keen

Second Generation

Hans Keen (c. 1646-c. 1683) first lived at Chester where his father gave him two hundred acres in 1668. This he sold in 1677/8 when living at "Taokanink" along Wissinoming and Pennepack Creeks.

His wife was named Willemka, and after his death in 1683 she lived with her four younger sons. About 1698 she married Casper Fisck, one of the more prominent colonists on the Delaware, and resided in Gloucester County, New Jersey. Casper was a trustee, vestryman and warden of the Lutheran congregation at Wicacoa (Philadelphia). Willemka was living when Casper made his will January 5, 1707. Of her five sons by Hans Keen, Matthias, the eldest, is of this line.⁽³⁾

Matthias Keen

Third Generation

Matthias Keen (1667-July 13, 1714) was born at Upland, and grew up in the neighborhood of Pennepack Creek on the Delaware where he inherited land. It is now in the Tacony section of Philadelphia. He purchased adjacent property, owning some four hundred acres.

When Gloria Dei church was built in 1700 he served on the building committee, and was a vestryman. It is now the oldest church in Philadelphia.

With others, who called themselves "ancient settlers and first inhabitants of this Province," he asked the Assembly, June 1, 1709, for redress against William Penn and his officers for grievances charging that James Logan, Penn's secretary, fraudulently took their deeds, and increased their quit-rents.

Matthias represented Philadelphia County in the Provincial Assembly from October, 1713 until his death the following year.⁽⁴⁾

He had married Henricka, daughter of Jan Classen, of Swedish or Dutch extraction, and the original grantee, in 1688, of Leasy Point at Burlington on the Delaware. Henricka pre-deceased her husband who next married Sarah. He died in Oxford Township July 13, 1714 and was buried in Gloria Dei Churchyard where his tombstone stands.

Matthias and Henricka had five children of whom John, the third but eldest son, is of this line.⁽⁵⁾

John Keen

Fourth Generation

John Keen (1695-Feb. 22, 1758) was born in Oxford Township, Philadelphia County, and lived on the land he inherited from his father. He married in November, 1713, Susannah, daughter of James and Susannah (Toy) Steelman of Great Egg Harbour, Gloucester County, New Jersey.

Her father, James Steelman, was one of the first Swedish settlers on the Atlantic coast, and owned land at Absequeam (little water) Beach, now Atlantic City. Steelmanville, Steelman's Landing, and Steelman's Bay were named for this family.⁽⁷⁾

James Steelman himself was not the founder of his line in America. His father, Captain Hans Mansson (b. c. 1620), had come to New Sweden in 1641. He was a trooper in Sweden, and had destroyed some fruit trees on the royal estate of Warnham. For this he was condemned to death; but granted the choice of going to New Sweden. He chose life there with his wife and children.⁽⁸⁾

He settled on the Scuykill River, and was captain of a military company in 1677.⁽⁹⁾ Later he removed to Burlington County, New Jersey, where he died before May, 1692.⁽¹⁰⁾

John Keen, of this sketch, was warden at Gloria Dei Church at Wicacoa (Philadelphia), and contributed to rebuilding the minister's house at Passyunk when it was destroyed by fire in 1717. Before his death he gave his land to his sons, and defined their boundaries in his will executed January 21, 1758. He was buried in Gloria Dei Churchyard with his wife who had died November 9, 1753. Of their eleven children, Matthias, the fifth child and second son, is of this line.⁽¹¹⁾

Matthias Keen

Fifth Generation

Matthias Keen (Dec. 21, 1721-July 28, 1797) was born and died in the same house in Oxford Township, Philadelphia County. Here he farmed his 112 inherited acres, and bought more land on the river.

Physically he was tall and handsome with a clear melodious voice which could be heard across the Delaware at Tacony. In youth he attended Gloria Dei Church, but later went to Trinity

Church, Oxford, where he was vestryman in 1759, and in subsequent years he was also vestryman of the United Swedish Lutheran Congregations in Philadelphia from 1772 until 1791.

His first wife, to whom he was married September 1, 1743, was Mary, daughter of John and Mary (White) Swift of Philadelphia County.

One of their three children, John (1747-1832), was apprenticed to Robert Smith who built Christ Church steeple, and the State House (Independence Hall) in Philadelphia. John Keen subscribed to the building of Carpenters' Hall, and was a member and vice president of the Carpenters' Company of Philadelphia. His granddaughter Frances Matilda Vandegrift married Robert Louis Stevenson.

After the death of Mary (Swift) Keen in 1750, Matthias married, November 23, 1752, Margaret, daughter of John and Jennett Thomas from Pembrokeshire, Wales. They had come to Pennsylvania in September, 1713 and settled in Cheltenham Township.

Margaret (Thomas) Keen was born February 20, 1723, and died in Oxford Township August 7, 1801. She and her husband were buried in Pennipack Baptist Churchyard. Of their eight children, Isaac, the eldest, is of this line.⁽¹²⁾

Isaac Keen

Sixth Generation

Isaac Keen (Sept. 19, 1753-Feb. 20, 1808) received a fortune from his father during his father's lifetime, and inherited land in Oxford Township after his father's death.

His wife was Sarah (Jan. 11, 1756-Sept. 11, 1831), daughter of John and Mary (Wilkinson) Knowles of Philadelphia, and Oxford Township. John Knowles had served as Lieutenant of the "Independent Company of Foot" in 1756 in Philadelphia, and was captured by the British during the Revolutionary War. Later he was exchanged for a loyalist prisoner.

Isaac Keen himself served in the Revolution as a member of the Troop of Light Dragoons of Philadelphia County.⁽¹³⁾ He and his wife were buried in the Pennepack Baptist Churchyard. Of their four children, Rebecca, the youngest, married Joseph Miles, and they were the parents of Anna Rebecca Miles (Mrs. Charles Day), of this line.⁽¹⁴⁾ (See Miles)

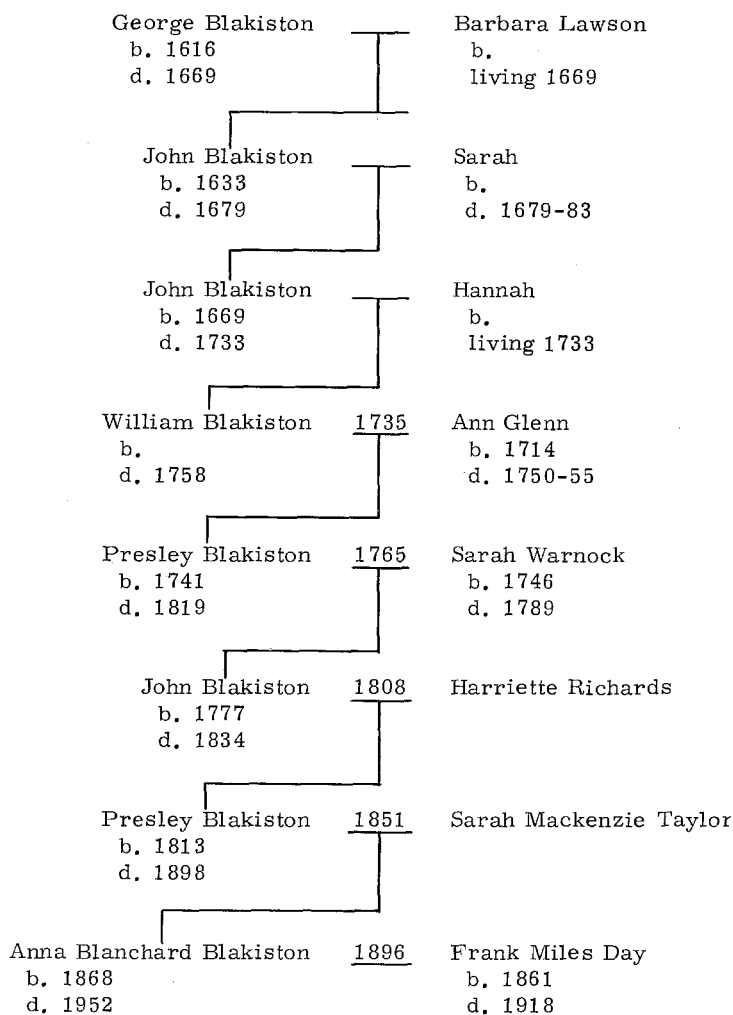
A brief sketch of Jöran Kyn, the founder, appears in Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography (III, 499), and among other outstanding descendants of the name is listed Dr. William Williams Keen (b. 1837) who collaborated with Dr. S. Weir Mitchell and G.R. Moorehouse in the important medical treatises: Gunshot Wounds and Other Injuries of Nerves (1864), and Reflex Paralysis (1864).

- (1) Pennsylvania Archives, second series, VII, 699.
- (2) Gregory B. Keen, The Descendants of Jöran Kyn of New Sweden (Philadelphia, 1913), 7-14; Dictionary of American Biography, XV, 238 (Johan Printz).
- (3) Keen, Descendants of Jöran Kyn, 14-16.
- (4) Pa. Archives, IX, 2 ser., 717.
- (5) Keen, Descendants of Jöran Kyn, 25-32.
- (6) Ibid., 60-63.
- (7) American Guide Series, The Swedes and Finns in New Jersey (Bayonne, N.J., 1938), 68, 69.
- (8) Louhi's Delaware Finns, 39.
- (9) John F. Watson, Annals of Philadelphia and Pennsylvania . . . (Philadelphia, 1899), II, 239.
- (10) Ross K. Cook, and Arthur Adams, "Captain Hans Mansson, Ancestor of The Steelman Family," New York Genealogical and Biographical Record, v. 79 (1948), 114-121.
- (11) Keen, Descendants of Jöran Kyn, 60-63.
- (12) Ibid., 109-114.
- (13) Pa. Archives, 2 ser., XIII, 593; and 6 ser., I, 979.
- (14) Keen, Descendants of Jöran Kyn, 114-115.

Chapter IV

Blakiston Family

Blakiston Chart



(Parents of Kenneth Mackenzie Day)

(See Day)

George Blakiston The Emigrant

Twelfth Generation

George Blakiston (1616-1669),⁽¹⁾ who founded this branch of the family in America, was a younger son of the Rev. Marmaduke Blakiston (buried Sept. 3, 1639) and his wife Margaret James (buried Mar. 10, 1636). Marmaduke lived at Newton Hall, County Durham, England, and was prebendary of Durham. He belonged to a younger branch of the Blakistons of Blakiston who trace descent from Hugo de Blakiston and his wife Cecilia, daughter of Ralph Fitz-Ralph. Hugo acquired lands in Blakiston from Richard del Park in 1341 where his descendants lived for many generations. The Rev. Marmaduke was eleventh in descent.

The family arm is: Argent, two bars, and in chief three dunghill cocks Gules. Crest: A dunghill cock Or, crested, armed, wattled, and collared Gules.⁽²⁾

George Blakiston, the colonist, had been sheriff of Durham in 1656, and had "suffered much in public concerns," evidently as a Puritan, and for supporting his brother John (1603-1650) who signed the death warrant of King Charles I. This he sealed with his own coat-of-arms.⁽³⁾ In his will John, the Regicide, left £50 each to his brother George's six children: Robert, Sarah, John Esther, Hannah, and Justice Blakiston. George had, he said, "suffered greatly with him. . ."

It was probably his loyalty to the Puritan party, as well as his relationship to the Regicide, that induced George to come to Maryland in 1668. He settled in St. Mary's County where he died before September 30, 1669 when letters of administration on his estate were granted to his son John.

He had married Barbara, the daughter of Henry Lawson of New Castle, England, by whom he had six sons and three daughters. Of these John, the fourth son, is of this line.

John Blakiston Of Boxley
On The Eastern Shore of Maryland

Thirteenth Generation

John Blakiston (1633-1679)⁽⁴⁾ came to Maryland with his parents in 1668, and on December 22, that year, proved his rights for land for transporting himself and, with others, Sarah, George, Barbara, Robert, Hannah, and Justice Blakiston. A comparison of these names with those in the will of John Blakiston, the Regicide, leaves little doubt as to their identity.

John also purchased 100 acres of St. Clement's Manor, in St. Mary's County, March 18, 1668/9, and on April 9, 1675 proved his right to 150 acres for transporting three other persons into the province.

Two years later he removed to Kent County on the Eastern Shore of Maryland where he bought 300 acres called Boxley near Swan Creek from his brother Ebenezer Blakiston September 24, 1678. Here he died intestate, and here his widow died before April 3, 1683. They had one son, John, of this line.

In St. Mary's County there was another, more distinguished, branch of this family whose descendants live there still. This branch was founded by Colonel Nehemiah Blakiston (d. 1716). a younger son of the Regicide, who came to St. Mary's County prior to May 6, 1669 when he married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Gerard,

lord of St. Clement's Manor. Nehemiah was colonel, chief justice of the Provincial Court, chancellor, a member of the Council, and collector of customs for the Potomac and Wicomico Rivers.⁽⁵⁾ His nephew, of this same branch, was Nathaniel, who served as governor of Maryland from January 2, 1698 to June 1701 when he resigned because of ill health.⁽⁶⁾

John Blakiston Of Boxley

Fourteenth Generation

John Blakiston (1669-Dec. 1733)⁽⁷⁾ was born in St. Mary's County, and removed when a child with his parents to Kent County, Maryland. Here he lived at Boxley which he inherited at his father's death.

He was a communicant of St. Paul's (Anglican) Church where he and Ebenezer Blakiston, evidently a nephew, shared pew number 25. His will, dated December 2, 1733 (proved Jan. 2, 1733 -- March was the first month), left his whole estate to his wife Hannah during her widowhood, and then to his children. His sons Thomas, William, and Michael shared 150 acres of Boxley. Hannah was living January 2, 1733 when she agreed to abide by this will.

Of their ten children, William, the sixth son, is of this line.

William Blakiston

Fifteenth Generation

William Blakiston (d. 1758)⁽⁸⁾ was married February 5, 1735 to Ann (b. Oct. 4, 1714), daughter of Jacob Glenn of Kent County, Maryland, by the rites of the Church of England.

William purchased his brother Ebenezer's share of Boxley, and in 1742, with his wife Ann, sold it to his brother Michael. He then removed to Kent County on the Delaware where he purchased a plantation called Chester on Duck Creek August 29, 1743.

Ann (Glenn) Blakiston died between February 28, 1750 and sometime in 1755 when William married Mary (Courtney) Williams, widow of Thomas Williams of Kent County on the Delaware. William Blakiston died intestate in 1758 and letters of administration on his estate were granted to John Pleasanton, his widow Mary having renounced her right.

Issue of William and Ann (Glenn) Blakiston: Francina (b. Jan. 16, 1736), and Presley, of this line.

Presley Blakiston, Cordwainer,
of Philadelphia

Sixteenth Generation

Presley Blakiston (1741-1819)⁽⁹⁾ was evidently born at Boxley in Kent County, Maryland, but grew up in Kent County on the Delaware where "his liberal views on the subject of Slavery . . .

made life uncongenial . . .” so he removed to Philadelphia.

Here he was married at Christ Church September 12, 1765 to Sarah (1746-1789), daughter of John Warnock. He was a cordwainer (shoemaker) by trade, and was listed as such at the corner of Front and Lombard Streets, Philadelphia, in the 1785 Directory. This was his address when he died in 1819.

He had made a fortune by then, and devised it to his eight children: Ann (b. June 1, 1766), Martha, Elizabeth, John, of this line, Sarah (b. Aug. 5, 1779), Mary, Rebecca (b. 1783), and Rachel Offley Blakiston.

The inheritance of his son John, however, including eight shares of Philadelphia Bank stock, and \$500 in United States seven percent stock, was left in trust. The interest was to go to him and his family, and at his death the principal went to his children. Provided always that if the trustees thought proper they could pay him his full share or any part of it.

The testator's daughter Ann Wetherill, his son John, and son-in-law Kenneth Jewell were named executors. Their advisors were his respected friends: Thomas P. Cope, the philanthropist, Owen Jones, the merchant, and Timothy Paxton.

The household furniture, which evidently included the set of fine ball-and-claw foot Chippendale chairs, was left to the testator's daughters: Sarah, Rebecca, and Rachel. Three of these chairs belong to Helena Mary Langdon (Mitchell) Day.

Presley Blakiston's will was executed at Philadelphia February 19, 1814, and proved there April 13, 1819.⁽¹¹⁾

Captain John Blakiston

Seventeenth Generation

John Blakiston (Nov. 15, 1777-1834)⁽¹²⁾ was a sea captain and made trips to China where he bought fine dishes for his wife that are still in the family.

He had married in March, 1808, Harriette, the daughter of John Richards of Devonshire, England. They had thirteen children, twelve of whom reached maturity. Their son Presley is of this line.

Presley Blakiston, Publisher

Eighteenth Generation

Presley Blakiston (1813-1898)⁽¹³⁾ was born on North 12th Street in Philadelphia, and was educated at the Orthodox Friends School on 4th Street below Chestnut. At twelve he left school to work in the auction rooms of Moses Thomas where the hours were long and his tasks arduous. As he was interested in printing he next found employment with Carey & Lea, forerunner of Lea & Fe-biger the oldest publishing house in this country. (This is the same Lea family as Marion Lea Mitchell, mother of Helena Mary Langdon Mitchell Day.) The firm was not only a publishing house but dealt widely in imported books and stationery which gave young Presley experience, and qualified him to set up his own business. This he did in July, 1843 with Robert Lindsay, who owned a large bindery, for partner. Their printing and publishing department was on Market Street between 6th and 7th, and their retail store at the north west corner of 4th and Chestnut Streets.

By 1851 the firm's success warranted moving to a five story building at 25 South 6th Street. In 1861 it sold the retail store and concentrated on printing scientific and professional texts.

When Robert Lindsay retired in 1882 Presley bought his interest and the firm became P. Blakiston Son & Company. His only son Kenneth MacKenzie Blakiston had joined the firm.

Presley Blakiston headed the firm until his death in 1898 at the age of eighty-five.

He had married Sarah Mackenzie, daughter of Thomas Taylor of Philadelphia. Her family was Scotch, and tradition tells that her four uncles were named Donald, Ronald, Malcolm, and Kenneth Mackenzie.

The children of Presley and Sarah Mackenzie (Taylor) Blakiston were: William (1854-1856), Kenneth Mackenzie (1858-1937), who succeeded his father as president of the company and died without issue, Mary and Emma, who died unmarried, and Anna Blanchard (b. 1868), who married Frank Miles Day, November 5, 1896.

Anna Blakiston Day was a woman of enormous energy who made considerable contributions of valuable work to various causes of her time. Her first great interest was the women's suffrage movement. When these efforts were crowned with success she turned her attention to the problems of child labor and public education in Pennsylvania. This work was done to such good effect that after her death a new public school in Philadelphia was named in her honor. In the later years of her life her greatest interest was the hope of peace and international understanding for which she worked tirelessly. She was a very adoring wife and devoted to her family.

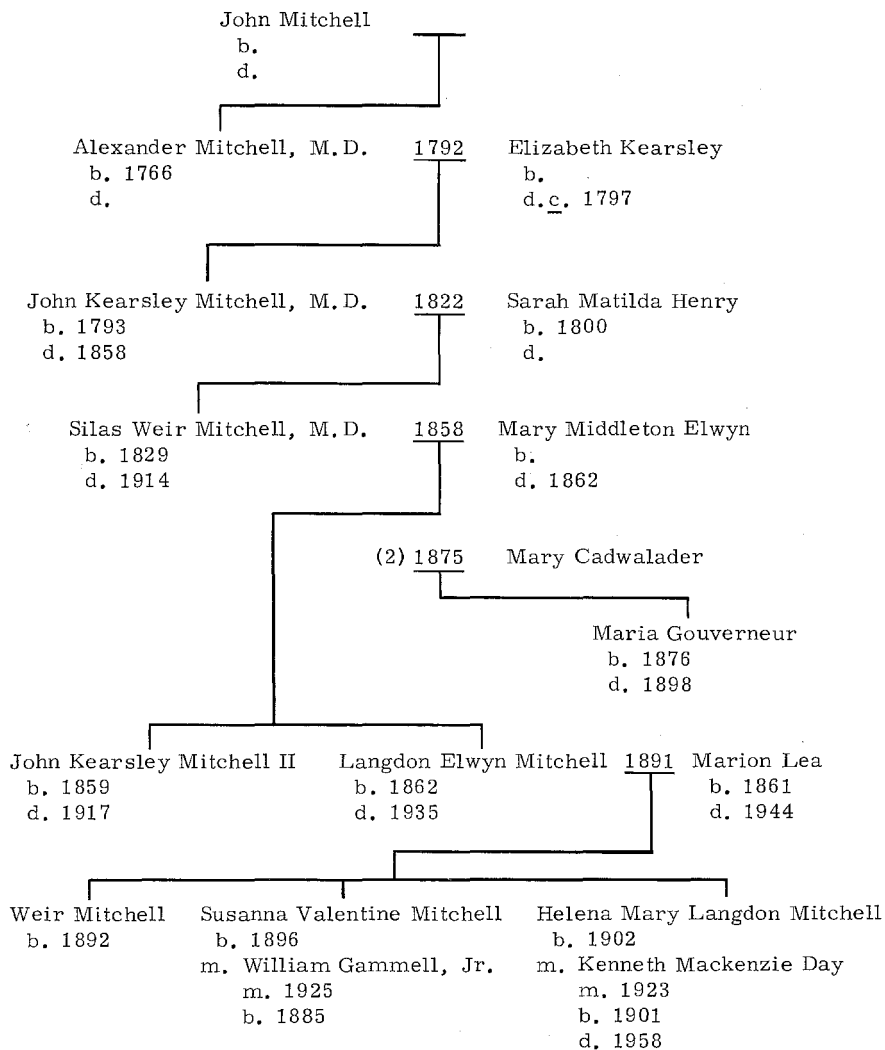
She and Frank Miles Day were the parents of Kenneth Mackenzie Day of this line. See Day.

- (1) Christopher Johnston, "Blakistone Family," Maryland Historical Magazine (Baltimore, 1907), II, 54-55.
- (2) Robert Surtees, The History and Antiquities of the County Palatine of Durham . . . (London, 1823), III, 162, 163.
- (3) Ibid., III, 402n; Dictionary of National Biography, V, 190.
- (4) Johnston, "Blakistone Family," op. cit., 58.
- (5) Ibid., 56; Archives of Md., LX, xlii.
- (6) Johnston, "Blakistone Family," 61.
- (7) Ibid., 62, 63.
- (8) Ibid., 174, 175.
- (9) Ibid., 177, 178; Burke's Landed Gentry: American Families, II (1939), 2565.
- (10) The Blakiston Company, Philadelphia, 1843-1943 One Hundred Years (n.p.)
- (11) Philadelphia Wills, No. 43, 1819, City Hall Annex.
- (12) The Blakiston Co., 1843-1943, op. cit.; Burke's Landed Gentry, II (1939), 2565; Johnston, "Blakistone Fam.," 177.
- (13) Burke's Landed Gentry II (1939), 2565; The Blakiston Co. 1843-1943.

Chapter V

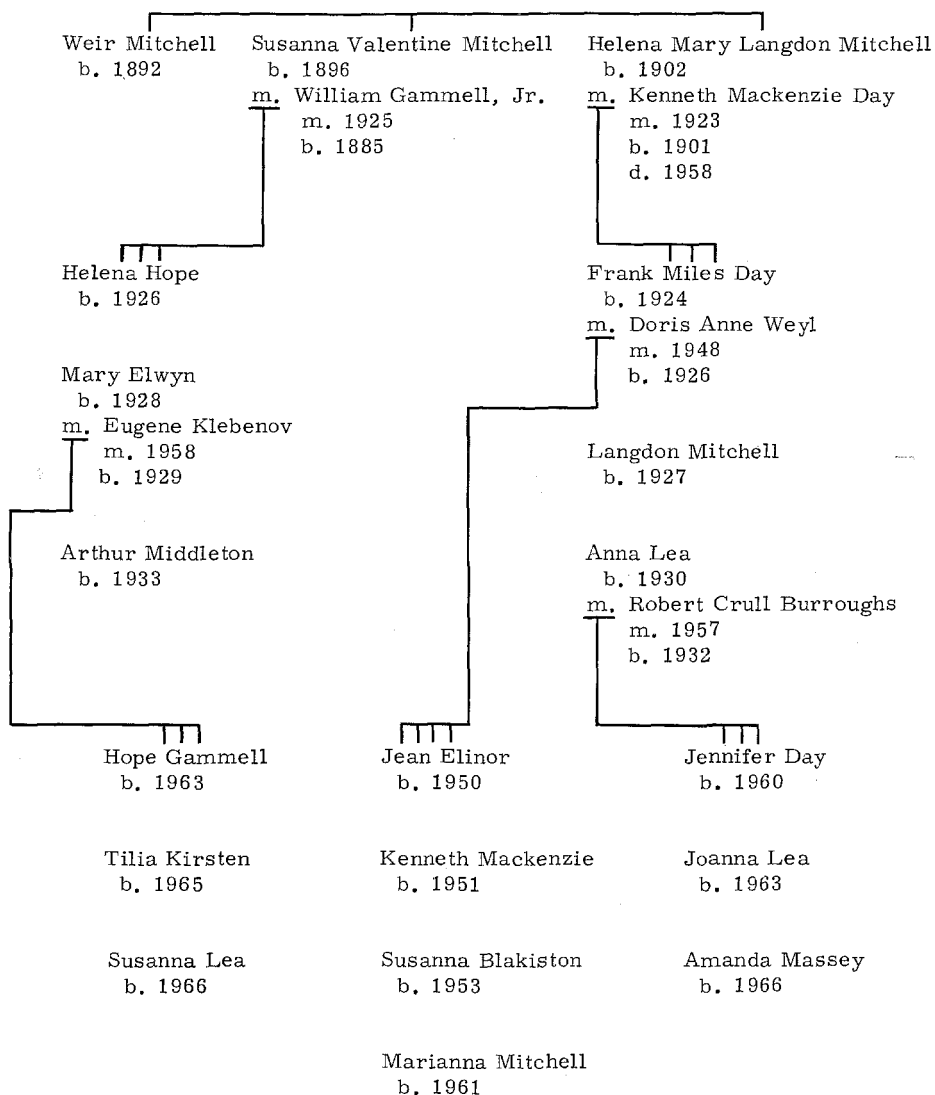
Mitchell Family

Mitchell Chart

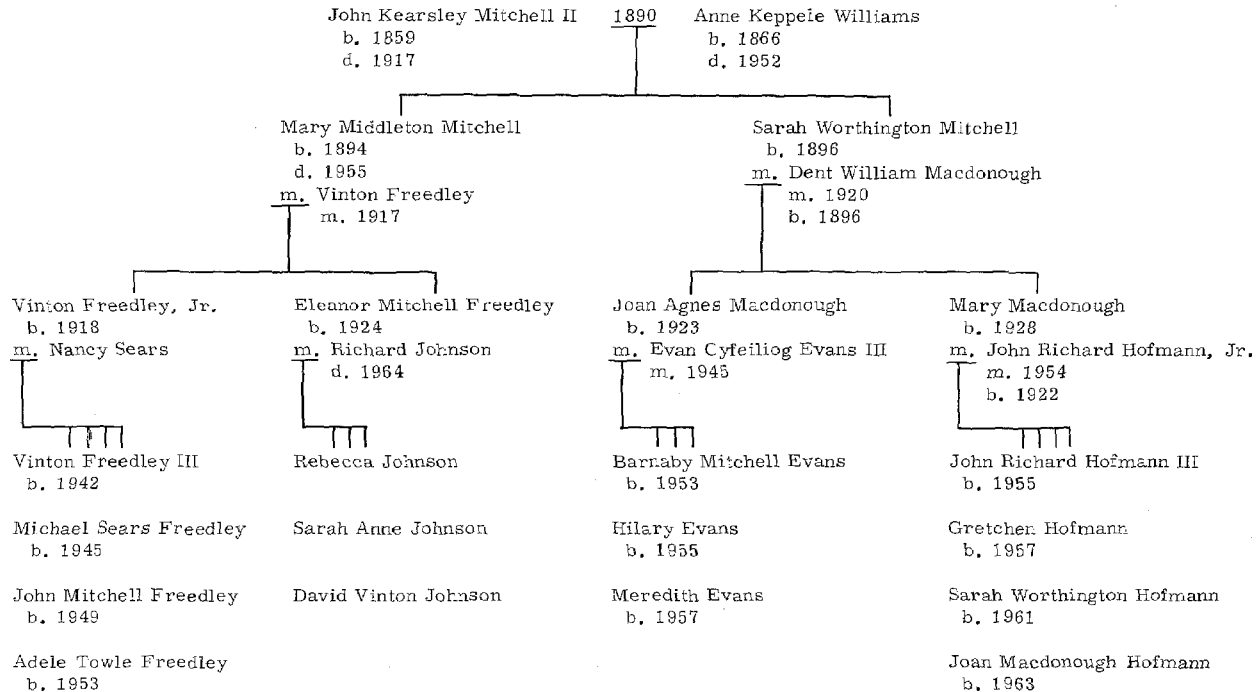


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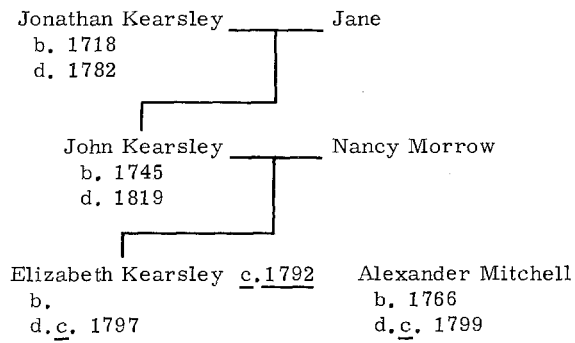
Mitchell Chart (continued)



Family of John Kearsley Mitchell II

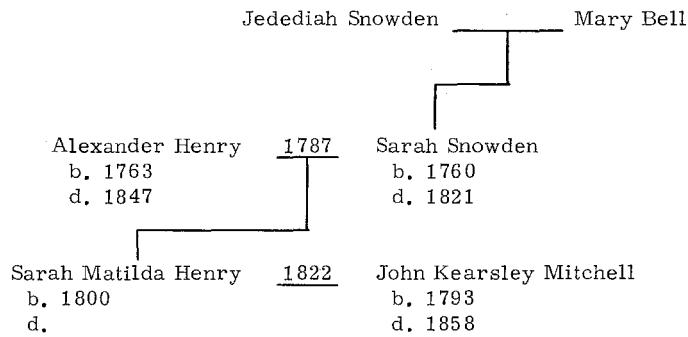


Kearsley Chart



(See Mitchell)

Henry-Snowden Chart



(See Mitchell)

John Mitchell

Of Dumfries Scotland

John Mitchell, the son of a prosperous Ayrshire farmer, was Collector of Excise at Dumfries, Scotland. There is a tradition that he was a friend of Robert Burns, and that Burns dedicated to him his poem: "The De'ils awa' wi' the Excise Man."⁽¹⁾

The Ayrshire Mitchells are said to descend from the Mitchells of Barry whose land was in the parish or district of Mitchell. ⁽²⁾ John Mitchell's known children were John, William, and Alexander of this line.

Alexander Mitchell, M.D.

Second Generation

Alexander Mitchell, M.D. (1766-c.1799)⁽³⁾ was educated in Scotland as a physician, and emigrated to Virginia from Ayrshire between 1786 and 1789. He settled at Shepherdstown, Virginia, now in West Virginia.

There he married, about 1792, Elizabeth (d. 1797), the daughter of John (Nov. 20, 1745-June 26, 1819) and Nancy (Morrow) Kearsley of Shepherdstown.⁽⁴⁾ In a letter to his mother in 1793 he said: "My wife's father has lately erected a great tanyard which he will carry on extensively and to much profit. He still continues in the mercantile line and I think will make a great fortune . . . The family is very affectionate . . . Mrs. Kearsley is one of the finest women I ever knew."⁽⁵⁾

This Kearsley family had been founded in America by John Kearsley's father Jonathan (1718-Dec. 26, 1782), who was born in Scotland and had come to this country before 1761. He settled in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he married his wife Jane. He was a merchant, and a chemist of repute, and died at Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. It is said that he was related to John Kearsley, M.D. (1684-1772) of Philadelphia who designed Christ Church, and founded Christ Church Hospital there, but this has not been established.⁽⁶⁾

In Alexander Mitchell's letter to his mother telling about John Kearsley's new tanyard he said that his wife was "delivered of a fine boy" on May 12, 1793 which had had a "very baneful" effect on her health. She had recovered, and the baby was named John Kearsley. John was in "compliment to my dear Father and in remembrance of my brother . . ."

He had begun to farm "which I find profitable and no interruption to my profession, and should a war take place between Britain and America (it) will be of great advantage to me..."

Alexander's wife Elizabeth died in 1797 after which he remarried, though his wife's name is not known. He died in 1802 at the age of thirty-six. There is no indication in the family records that there were other sons than John Kearsley Mitchell. One child, thought to be a daughter, was born to his second wife.

Tradition tells that Alexander's entire personal estate of books, silver, and other valuables, stored by his executor in the Court Room chambers at Washington, D.C., was lost when the building was burned by the British in 1812.

John Kearsley Mitchell, M.D.

Third Generation

John Kearsley Mitchell (May 12, 1793-Apr. 4, 1858)⁽⁷⁾ was born at Shepherdstown, and after his father's death went to live with his grandmother Kearsley. At her death he was sent to his father's family in Scotland.

There he attended the Academy at Ayr and for four successive years won prizes in French, Greek, Latin, mathematics, philosophy, and bookkeeping -- a subject from which he derived little help. At seventeen he was sent to the University of Edinburgh with a letter of introduction from the rector of the Academy to the well known Francis Jeffries. Here the sturdy, handsome youth became a social favorite.

The War of 1812 detained him in Edinburgh where he resolved to study law. For that purpose he entered the office of a writer to the Signet but soon became bored with clerical life. His ambition to become a lawyer was supplanted by an interest in the stage. Charmed by the brilliant acting of the Kembles he asked for an interview with John Kemble who strenuously discouraged him entering that vocation.

With the war over John K. decided to return home, and arrived there almost penniless in 1814. His only property left in Virginia was two slaves whose hire had helped defray his schooling. Characteristically he set them free. With his usual optimistic enthusiasm he began to study medicine. Aided by a kinsman and friends he entered the University of Pennsylvania where his course was interrupted by ill health -- hemorrhaging at the nose -- so he sailed to China as ship's surgeon to recover. Re-entering the University on his return, he graduated there in 1819.

Meanwhile he had fallen in love with Sarah Matilda (b. Feb. 7, 1800), the attractive daughter of Alexander Henry (June 15, 1763-Aug. 13, 1847)⁽⁸⁾ a successful Philadelphia merchant. John K.'s suit was opposed by her father who felt that he could not afford to marry. So John K. went to sea again to make some money. On his return her father relented and they were married in 1822.

Alexander Henry himself had had an interesting career. Born in Loughbrickland, County Down, Ireland, he came to Philadelphia in 1783, when he was twenty, with a consignment of dry goods from his native looms.

He secured a clerkship in a dry-goods firm, and subsequently started a commission house of his own. In seven years he retired with a fortune. This was in 1807 and again, after the War of 1812, he entered business in which he engaged until 1818 when he retired permanently. After that he spent his time in humanitarian fields. He concerned himself with the relief of poverty, prison reform, and the rehabilitation of criminals. He thought religion the solution for many problems, and was among the first to introduce religious tracts in this country. He was actively interested in the House of Refuge, the Magdalen Society, and the Society for Alleviating the Miseries of Public Prisons. For years he was a director of the Bank of the United States, and of the Insurance Company of North America.

His wife, whom he married February 22, 1787, was Sarah (Aug. 22, 1760-Sept. 7, 1821), daughter of Jedediah and Mary (Bell) Snowden. Of their eight children, Thomas Charlton (1790-1827), became a distinguished theologian of the Presbyterian Church; and Martha married Silas Ebenezer Weir a merchant and auctioneer of Philadelphia. A grandson, Alexander Henry, was mayor of that city.

After John K. Mitchell's marriage, he and his wife lived at 119 South Fifth Street where three of their nine children were born including Silas Weir, their third child and second son, February 15, 1829.

Meanwhile John K. was making a name as a physician. In 1824 he lectured on the institutes of medicine and physiology at the Philadelphia Medical Institute, and later (1833-38) on chemistry at the Franklin Institute. In 1841 he was elected to the chair of theory and practice of medicine at Jefferson Medical College, a position he held until his death. He was visiting physician to the Pennsylvania Hospital, and to the City Hospital.

During the smallpox epidemic in 1825, and the cholera epidemic in 1832, he sent his family to the country and remained in Philadelphia to attend the sick and dying. Twice the City gave him a silver pitcher for his self-sacrifice and medical skill. He could spot a case of smallpox from the smell, and sensed it once on a street car in Philadelphia.

Because of his size and physical courage John K. was sometimes asked to perform non-professional duties. Once when the actor Junius Brutus Booth was on a spree he, Booth, barricaded himself in a room with some "ladies of joy" and was holding off the police from his window with a gun. The mayor called on John K. Mitchell who, after analyzing the situation, led his men close to the buildings on Booth's side of the street using doorways for shelter from his bullets until Booth's door was reached.

The squeaks and screams of the ladies, with Booth declaiming Shakespeare and shouting military commands, could be heard half a block away.

When John K. reached the house the front door was unlocked so he entered and warily climbed the stairs. He knocked at the bedroom door.

"Who's there," Booth roared.

"It's Dr. Mitchell, Mr. Booth, let me in."

"I can't, I'm training my army to fight the French."

"Let me in and I'll help," said he.

Booth's heavy tread crossed the floor, the bolt screamed, and the door flung open. There stood Booth naked, except for a high-crested helmet, a belt and cutlass, and buckskin boots. He was holding a musket.

"Dr. Mitchell," said he, with a low bow and sweeping gesture, "this is my army to fight the French."

The doctor turned to see five frightened ladies dressed only in stockings and shoes with their breasts and stomachs decorated in bright colors with grease paint. Dr. Mitchell roared laughing. At that Booth charged head first, and the two powerful men clinched, fell and rolled down the stairs.

The police then seized Booth and took him off to Kirkbride's.⁽⁹⁾

At a time when there was little medical research in America Dr. Mitchell published several medical papers. One, On the Cryptogamous Origin of Malarious and Epidemical Fevers, was considered outstanding. He was the first physician in Philadelphia to use ether in childbirth.

He wrote poems, and had an excellent tenor voice. At home he liked to entertain and here came such notables as Edgar Allan Poe, Bayard Taylor, and Oliver Wendell Holmes, to feast on diamond-back terrapin, and other gourmet delicacies, and drink the best vintage wine in the city.

This high-living ran him into debt, and by will, executed April 10, 1851 (proved Apr. 12, 1858), he left his entire estate to his beloved wife Sarah Matilda Mitchell, and named his dear son S. Weir Mitchell executor.⁽¹⁰⁾ He died owing some \$20,000 which his devoted son S. Weir paid off to the penny.⁽¹¹⁾

Issue of John Kearsley and Sarah Matilda (Henry) Mitchell:⁽¹²⁾

1. Alexander Henry (1823-1839), who died unmarried.
2. Elizabeth (1825-1874), who died unmarried.
3. S. Weir Mitchell, M.D. of this line.
4. Sarah (b. 1831), married William Neilson in 1848, and their daughter Lucy Brooke, married Richard S. Edwards. They were the parents of Admiral Richard Stanislaus Edwards (1885-1959) a distinguished figure in the United States Navy.⁽¹³⁾
5. Letitia (b. 1832), married George Leib Harrison and had one son Mitchell Harrison.
6. Robert Walsh (1836-1872), who died unmarried.
7. John Henry (1837-1846).
8. Nathaniel Chapman (1840-1900), who married Margaret Yeates Brinton in 1868. Their children were Mary (b. 1870), who married Emlyn L. Stewardson; John Kearsley (b. 1871), who married Annis Lee Furness, and Frances B. Stotesbury; and Elizabeth Kearsley Mitchell (d. 1928) who married Major Boyd R. Horsbrugh, and Geoffrey Williams.
9. Edward Donaldson (1843-1864), died from diphtheria contracted from patients while a medical cadet, U.S.A., in 1864.

Silas Weir Mitchell, M.D.

Fourth Generation

S. Weir Mitchell (1829–1914)⁽¹⁴⁾ was an enormously celebrated physician, and, by 1900, the most famous living Philadelphian. In later life he was also a successful and popular novelist. In his versatility, in his enduring zest for life and for knowledge, and in the wide range of his interests and achievements he was more like a man of the Renaissance rather than of our increasingly specialized era.

In summing up his boyhood Weir Mitchell said later that it was over and above all one of wearisome ennui. However, he punctuated it from time to time: once when he was caught by a farmer stealing his peaches, he squashed a melon on the farmer's head and thus effected his escape. Luckily in those days there was no category of juvenile delinquents. He smuggled story books into church and was not an ardent student, only working when he was so inclined but managed to keep abreast of his studies in the favorable periods. On one occasion he put a large lump of soggy bread in the mouth of a skeleton just before his father used it in a class. Still it seemed dull to him. At the age of fifteen he spat blood and was considered delicate but grew up strong and tireless.

In 1850 he graduated from the Jefferson Medical College and followed this with a year of post-graduate study in Europe. Returning to Philadelphia he combined medical practice with laboratory experiments from which latter he made solid contributions to physiology and toxicology. He published articles on the Generation of Uric Acid, on the circulation of the snapping turtle and on respiration in the Newt *Chelonia*. His studies on the nature of snake venom brought him a scientific reputation. He followed these with investigations on viper poison with Hammond and with Reichert which were outstanding. He attracted wide attention by his work

on arrow poisons such as curare and on plant alkaloids such as quinine, morphine and atropine.

He became a "contract surgeon" during the Civil War in which his three brothers all saw fighting. Weir Mitchell was in charge of the Turner's Lane Military Hospital in Philadelphia and from this experience much of his later work grew. In 1864 he published a book on Gunshot Wounds & Other Injuries of Nerves & Their Consequences. This contained the earliest distinct accounts of ascending neuritis, reflex paralysis, phantom limbs, and the psychology of amputees. Dr. Keen, who was later professor of surgery at Jefferson Medical College, spoke of this work as "the chief turning point of my whole professional life" and described Weir Mitchell as a "yeasty man." Keen said, "Never have I known so original, suggestive and fertile a mind . . . ever fermenting, speculating, alert, and overflowing with ideas."

It is said that his Civil War experiences gave him insight into the difference between genuine malingering on the one hand and the unconsciously caused "battle fatigue" as we would say, on the other. He was probably the first physician to make this clear distinction. Many neurological studies followed the war including those on functions of certain parts of the brain, observation on chorea (St. Vitus' dance) and others. He also made contributions of an original sort on cat fear, epilepsy, hysteria, sleep walking and facial tic. He published hundreds of papers on related medical topics. Nearly eighty years after its first publication Reflex Paralysis was reprinted by Yale University School of Medicine. This, with his Gunshot Wounds assure him a place in medical history. He became deeply interested in psycho-neurotic problems when this was rare indeed. He devised a method for treating them by a six week rest-cure and regimen. This became extraordinarily famous and was used in Europe as well as in the United States. Though now outmoded, it was based on a premise still regarded as sound: the inter-relationship of mind and body. But he was not a slave to one method. He used hypnosis at times -- a treatment still used occasionally today -- at times he ordered his patients outdoors

to study ferns in Maine, to New Jersey to shoot, often with remarkably effective results. In an age contemptuous of women's neurotic ailments, he took them seriously. Without using psycho-analytic technique, he achieved some of its effects: the transfer of a burden to the physician and the pouring out of confessions. He gave the patient faith in his ability to overcome the disability. He was modern in at least two particulars: he recognized that a nervous ailment has deep roots, and he endeavored to give his patient insight into his own condition. Dr. Guy Hinsdale, who worked under him, said, "Mitchell was remarkable among his contemporaries for his attention to the entire life of his neurasthenic patients, realizing that the local manifestations were symptoms of a deeper cause." His short book on the rest-cure, which was entitled Fat and Blood, went through many editions and was translated into French, German, Italian, and Russian. But his extraordinary personality had certainly much to do with his great number of cures.

His medical writing was written with great lucidity, comprehensible alike to scientist and layman. He had a great dislike of jargon. His verse, of which he wrote a good deal, is not read today and is considered unimportant. But among his many novels, says Ernest Earnest, "there are several of considerable merit. In War Time, Dr. North & His Friends, Circumstance, Westways, (written when he was eighty-three) and above all Constance Trescot are still worth reading . . . The latter has a memorable character, penetrating psychological insight, and a tightly woven plot. The more famous Hugh Wynne, a best seller of 1896, wears less well . . . Much more interesting to the modern reader are Mitchell's realistic pictures of the Civil War in the novels In War Time, Roland Blake, and Westways. There are battlefield scenes . . . the sound of bullets hitting a man . . . the ghastly picture of a battlefield after a charge. In War Time opens with the arrival at the Filbert Street Hospital in Philadelphia of the ambulances from Gettysburg. . . . This was an unusual beginning for a novel in that period of saccharine love stories and cloak-and-sword romances. Even more unusual for the time were Mitchell's pictures of characters suffering from neuroses and psychoses . . . in probing into the bypaths

of psychology his only contemporary superior was Henry James."

With all this he remained active in medical practice nine months of the year to the very end of his life. His assistants, especially his elder son Jack, carried on in the summers of his late age.

Always he continued an active social life. His Saturday evenings at home became famous for good wine and conversation. Always, too, he kept up a correspondence with out-of-town friends, most of them celebrated men. His energy seemed inexhaustible, his output tremendous. In his later years he was once seen to board a train in Philadelphia for the long run to Washington, D.C. Even before the train pulled out of the station he had the Pullman porter bring him a hook-on table and at once started writing. It seems he never raised his head till the train pulled in at Washington. This was characteristic.

* * * * *

I remember him well. He was an unforgettable figure. His slender height, considerable for those days, his handsome profile, snow white hair and beautifully trimmed white goatee, and above all his eyes where that strange magnetism chiefly resided. Narrow Scottish eyes, light gray in his old age but still sparkling, piercing and very alive they were. Though stooped a bit, his body was lithe and active to the end. He walked rapidly with long strides in town when he could find time in his busy life and constantly in summer afternoons in the small mountains of Mt. Desert Island. I've been in his room with him of an afternoon when he was changing his jacket. He would pick up a pair of Indian clubs and squeeze in a few minutes of stretching, swinging and bending between coats. One of his great joys also continued through the last summer of his life, namely salmon fishing for a few weeks with friends on the Restigouche River in Canada, and in 1913 at the age of 84 he published Westways, another best seller.

Neither of his biographers ever mentioned that he was quite

a tease -- "Helena," Helena was then an illiterate seven year old, not yet able to read, "how do you spell cat?" Helena guessed and guessed while the sage's eyes twinkled and a smile threatened to get away from him and until the grandmother intervened, "Now, Weir, now Weir, I think that's enough for now." I was in considerable awe of him but anyway I had no idea of how to spell cat.

It is said that he was very vain of his achievements, but it is certain that he never forgave anyone who had thwarted or contravened him. At a certain point he wished to get his nephew Richard Edwards a presidential appointment to Annapolis. Theodore Roosevelt, whom of course he knew personally, was then President. Roosevelt refused Weir Mitchell's request. From that day on my grandfather would have nothing more to do with him and remained forever antagonistic. (The appointment was managed, fortunately for the United States, in some other way, for Dick Edwards became an Admiral and is said by students of naval affairs in World War II to have been one of the handful of men at Washington chiefly responsible for the winning of the naval war in the Pacific.)

Of a Sunday before lunch my grandfather would lounge in a long curving chair and talk or show us his first edition of Leaves of Grass or the life mask of Lincoln or the prow of Byron's gondola and the other beautiful and interesting books and china and mementoes that crowded his red and blue back-study with its glowing coal fire and its triple hung windows giving on to a sunny southern garden. Here also was his big claw and ball desk and here too he interviewed his patients.

He was so impressive a figure in my mind that when, aged ten, I had been away in Europe for a year I dreamed twice of him and still remember both dreams!

* * * * *

His final illness was brief. Toward the end of 1913 he came down with a severe attack of influenza and on January 4, 1914 he

died of pneumonia. In the delirium which accompanied his illness, his mind returned continually to his experiences in the War Between the States, half a century before. He talked disconnectedly of battles and mutilations, of amputating limbs, of how lives might be saved.

Weir Mitchell's last published poem began with the following:

"I know the night is near at hand,
The mists lie low on hill and bay,
The autumn leaves are dewless, dry;
But I have had the day."

His day had been a long and splendid one -- it was fitting that it should end in 1914, the year which was to mark the close of an era in which he had been so much at home and in which he had played so successful a part.

Langdon Elwyn Mitchell

Fifth Generation

Langdon Mitchell (1862-1935)⁽¹⁵⁾ grew up in Philadelphia under the weighty glow of his father's dazzling success. Though his mother died in his infancy, he spent joyous carefree summers with his maternal grandparents at "Reculver" his grandfather's farm near West Chester, Pa. It lay in open rolling country good for boys. He attended St. Paul's School for several years but his unmanageable mischief led at last to his being expelled. His final fling was to lock the aged head master into his third floor study and then to throw the key down a well. After this he was sent to a school in England run by the son of the poet Coleridge.

Upon leaving this school he was tutored by a young man just down from Oxford, Cecil Spring-Rice later to become British Ambassador to the United States. These two travelled on the continent for a couple of years working mainly in Greek and German. Langdon wished to become a writer, his father wished him to go into the law but agreed unwillingly to his taking up writing provided that he graduate among the first ten in his class at Harvard Law School. This Langdon proceeded to do and was subsequently admitted to the New York bar. Shortly thereafter he left for London to take up a writing career chiefly hoping to become a playwright. In London he met again a childhood acquaintance from Philadelphia, now the actress Marion Lea. After a lengthy courtship they were married in 1891.

Looking for better opportunities in New York they soon returned to America. He published Sylvan & Other Poems under the pen name of John Philip Varley (Brentano Bros., 1885) apparently to avoid any linking of his name with that of his celebrated father. Later came Poems by Langdon Elwyn Mitchell (Houghton Mifflin & Co., 1894) and stories drawn from his experience in the wild, still frontier, country of West Virginia. These he called Love in the Backwoods. In 1898 he dramatized Thackeray's Vanity Fair for Minnie Maddern Fiske. The play was entitled Becky Sharp and was a smashing hit both on Broadway and on tour. In 1935 the play was sold to Hollywood to become one of the first successful color films. He continued to write a great deal but had difficulty in selling his work to the producers of that period. However, in 1907 he wrote The New York Idea with Mrs. Fiske in mind. It proved another tremendous hit. Mrs. Fiske starred in it and Langdon's wife Marion played opposite to her in this sophisticated high comedy of divorce. The New York Idea is still anthologized and played by small groups here and there in 1966. In the 1920's Langdon Mitchell became for a time the Mask & Wig professor of drama at the University of Pennsylvania and also published a book of essays Understanding America (George H. Doran Co., 1927).

This graceful, elegant, and subtly charming man remained to

the end passionately addicted to hunting and living in the wilds. He travelled in Mexico during some of the time that that country was in the throes of violent revolution, spent months at a time in the wilds of West Virginia with his chosen cronies Gus Bays and with Carroll McLoughlin who had killed seven men, and in New Brunswick, Canada, companioned only by a cook and a guide. He would return for long visits to the Players Club in New York where he indulged his more civilized interests among gifted companions. This diet was varied by trips to Europe. When confined to the countryside of Cornish, New Hampshire, the Valley of Virginia, or the country near Philadelphia he rode horseback and walked across country with his children fondly observing birds and trees or took his children skating or swimming or driving a fast horse in a two wheeled cart long after most people had begun to get around behind a gasoline motor. He was a playful and enchanting father casting the glow of his handsome presence, his lordly zest for life, his sensitive feeling for people, his searching mind, his many sided enthusiasms over the entire landscape, children and all.

His one vice was an outstanding faculty for spending money like water. If he had a dollar, he spent three. On one occasion when he was living in Washington he suggested to his friend George Cabot Lodge that they go out and axe down a few trees in Rock Creek Park. Both men had tiny children and very little money. Lodge agreed but said, "How do we get there?" Said Langdon airily, "Oh, we'll take a taxi." So it was arranged. When they reached a desirable location for their tree chopping operation, Lodge started to pay off the cab, but Langdon said, "Oh, don't -- how would we get back?" So with the meter cheerily ticking away they axed trees for a couple of hours and so cozily back to Washington by cab.

Langdon ran up great debts many times, sometimes his father paid them off, sometimes his family went without and gradually paid them. Sorties were made on the cheap to Europe or life taken up in a small shingled cottage in New Hampshire to help pay up. But always there were more holes in the fish net. Though his two

successful plays were very profitable no money was ever invested, it all slipped through the net. At his death his family were amazed to find a four thousand dollar life insurance paid up in good order. It was all that remained of a not unnotable career.

His deep sweetness and subtle charm were such that Marion, though often anguished, each time forgave him and so has his ever loving youngest daughter. In his later years he became a good deal less undisciplined in this respect but the money was gone by that time.

In the early nineteen-twenties in Philadelphia and a few years later in New York, after they moved permanently to the house at 14 Beekman Place, Langdon Mitchell revived his father's madeira parties. These were stag parties always. In Philadelphia the group consisted of younger men who found his conversational gifts and the play of his cultivated mind fascinating, in New York the guests were more often men of achievement in a variety of interesting fields. Thornton Wilder was still speaking with nostalgia of these occasions in 1964. Langdon Mitchell had the quality of being able to talk well, even brilliantly or to listen with a genuine and flattering absorption, and too a gift for mixing people of various kinds happily and freely.

In 1927 he and his wife first visited New Mexico and found in Santa Fe a second home for half of each year. His interest in the American Indian revived in the southwest where at that time many tribes were very little changed, and the interesting social life and splendid open country for riding and hunting were immensely congenial. He was on a bear hunting expedition in New Mexico at the age of seventy when he was seized with premonitory symptoms of his last illness. He died three years later of cancer in Philadelphia.

After his death one of his very old friends wrote to another, "I feel as if the last bottle of a very choice vintage had been broached."

- (1) Anna Robeson Burr, Weir Mitchell: His Life and Letters (N.Y.C., 1929), 2.
- (2) Ms. Mitchell Genealogy, courtesy of Helena Mary Langdon Mitchell Day.
- (3) Burr, Weir Mitchell, op. cit., 2.
- (4) Ms. Mitchell Genealogy, op. cit.
- (5) Burr, Weir Mitchell, 3 (letter dated at Shepherdstown Nov. 28, 1793 from Alexander Mitchell to his mother in Scotland. Her name is not given.)
- (6) D.A.B., X, 274.
- (7) Ibid., XIII, 54; Burr, Weir Mitchell, 4-6; Ms. Mitchell Genealogy.
- (8) Wilfred Jordan, Colonial and Revolutionary Families of Pennsylvania (N.Y., 1939), VIII, 823, 824. Appeltons' Cyclopedia Of American Biography, III, 170.
- (9) Theodore W. Reath as told him by S. Weir Mitchell in Bermuda in 1912. Ms. copy owned by Helena M.L.M. Day.
- (10) Wills, vol. 39, 419, City Hall, Philadelphia.
- (11) Recollections of Helena M.L.M. Day.
- (12) Ms. Mitchell Genealogy.
- (13) Who Was Who In America, III, 252.
- (14) Fred B. Rogers, M.D., of Dept. of Medicine, Temple University Medical Center. Paper on S. Weir Mitchell, Feb. 1963;

Weir Mitchell: "Neurologist, Novelist, and Poet," from Clinical Excerpts of Winthrop Chemical Co., Volume 19, 1945, Number 7, unsigned;

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Tucker, Beverly R.: "Silas Weir Mitchell, 1829–1914—Father of Neurology and Mentor of Psychiatry in America," Am. Jour. Psychiat., 100:80, April, 1944;

S. Weir Mitchell: Novelist and Physician, Ernest Earnest, University of Pa. Press, 1950;

"The Doctor Who Wrote Fiction," Ernest Earnest. The Philadelphia Guide WFLN, 1961;

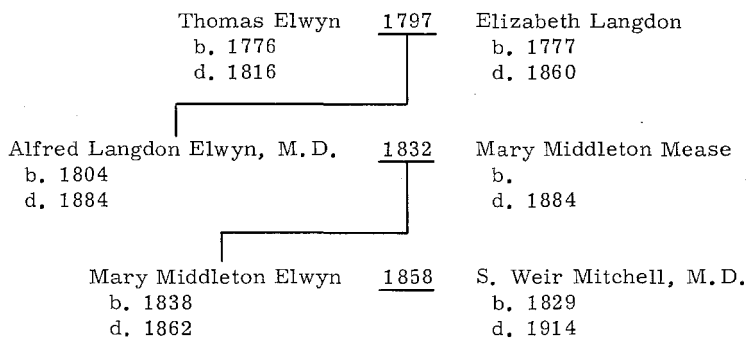
Recollections of his granddaughter Helena Mary Langdon Mitchell Day, 1966.

- (15) Recollections of Helena Mary Langdon Mitchell Day, 1966.

Chapter VI

Elwyn Family

Elwyn Chart



(Grandparents of Helena Mary Langdon Mitchell Day)

(See Mitchell)

Thomas Elwyn, Esquire

Thomas Elwyn (1776–1816)⁽¹⁾ was born in Canterbury, England and after graduating from Trinity College, Oxford, came to Philadelphia and read law. His miniature is that of a handsome youth with dark brown eyes, good features, and wavy hair powdered in the fashion of the day.⁽²⁾

Soon after his arrival in America he met Elizabeth (Betsey) Langdon (b. Dec. 4, 1777), the attractive daughter of John Langdon, United States Senator from New Hampshire. They were married July 16, 1797 when she was nineteen. Not only was she a beauty with charming manners, but an heiress as well. At her baptism her father presented the minister of the North Church "two yards of Genoa Velvet for a Jacket;" and at seven Thomas Jefferson sent her a doll from Paris. ". . . a Doll of the present mode," he wrote, "a mode which prevailing here to an almost total exclusion of silk, has literally and truly starved a great number of people. I add to it a box in which she (Betsey) will find a small gentleman who will teach her a shorthanded and graceful manner of going down stairs."

Though brought up with anti-British sentiments by her father -- who favored the French and had fought a treaty with Britain -- Betsey soon adopted her husband's political views. She even left France where they were living before a child was born and went to England so that the child would not be born in Napoleon's domain.

When not abroad the Elwyns lived in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where Thomas died in 1816. Later Betsey lived in Philadelphia. When Pierre Duponceau, the eminent philologist who had been entertained by her father on his arrival in America, celebrated the golden anniversary of that event, he said: "I shall go at the same hour to receive the compliments of his amiable daughter Mrs. Elwyn, who resides in this city."⁽³⁾

Betsey died in Philadelphia August 8, 1860 at the age of eighty-three. Of their nine children, all of whom lived to maturity, Alfred Langdon-Elwyn is of this line.

Alfred Langdon-Elwyn, M.D.

Second Generation

Alfred Langdon-Elwyn (July 7, 1804-Mar. 15, 1884)⁽⁴⁾ was born in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, where he "grew up amid surroundings of wealth and social distinction . . ." After attending Phillips Exeter Academy (1816) he entered Harvard from where he graduated in 1824. It was there he called himself Langdon-Elwyn. (The hyphen was later dropped.)

After several years abroad he returned and received his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1831. On January 31, 1832 he married Mary Middleton, the daughter of Dr. James, and Sarah (Butler) Mease of Philadelphia. Her miniature in profile shows an attractive young girl with hazel eyes and light brown hair, her hair dressed with pink rosebuds and green leaves.⁽⁵⁾

Having ample means to indulge his literary and philanthropic tastes, Dr. Elwyn gave up medicine to devote his time to these. He helped establish the Institute for the Blind of Philadelphia, and was a founder of the Training School for Feeble Minded Children at Elwyn, in Delaware County, where he had a country house. He served as president of the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was on the Board for Girard College, president of the Old Agricultural Society of Philadelphia, active in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the Philosophical Society, and was vice president of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

His parents pro-British sentiments had rubbed off on him. "The people of England," he said, "have Parliament filled with men of the best education to be their standards; the people of this Country will hardly look to their National Legislature for an example in the use of language or of national refinement."

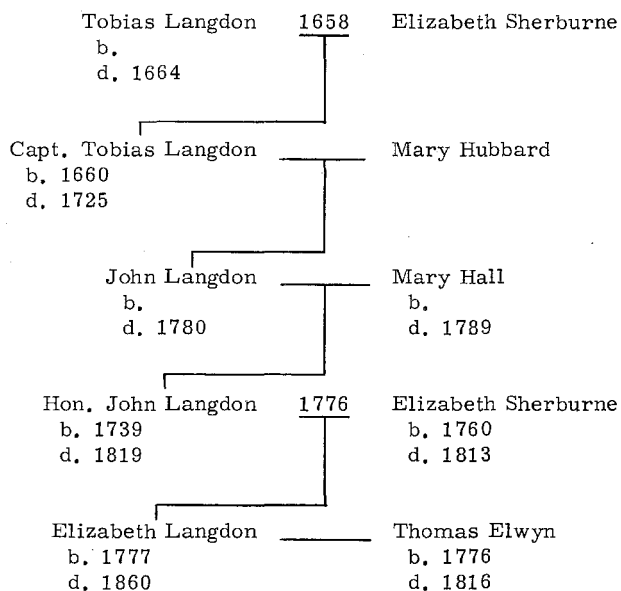
His wife died in Philadelphia March 7, 1884, and he survived her eight days. Their children were the Rev. Alfred Langdon Elwyn, who married and had issue, and Mary Middleton Elwyn (Mrs. S. Weir Mitchell), the paternal grandmother of Helena Mary Langdon (Mitchell) Day of this line. See Mitchell.

- (1) New Hampshire State Papers, XXI, 815; Elwyn Bible (London, 1835) owned by Mrs. Alexander B. Warrick, 308 Speer Ave., Englewood, N.J.; Lawrence Shaw Mayo, John Langdon of New Hampshire (Concord, N.H., 1937), 273.
- (2) Miniature attributed to George Englehart and owned by Mrs. Charles Edgar Ames (née King), a descendant, Syosset, Long Island, N. Y., The Frick Art Reference Library (F.A.R.L.), N.Y.
- (3) Mayo, John Langdon, op. cit., 170, 200.
- (4) D.A.B., VI, 122; Henry Graham Ashmead, History of Delaware Co., Pa. (Philadelphia, 1884), 628.
- (5) Miniature by Mrs. Wilcox, coll. of the late Mrs. John Kearsley Mitchell, F.A.R.L.

Chapter VII

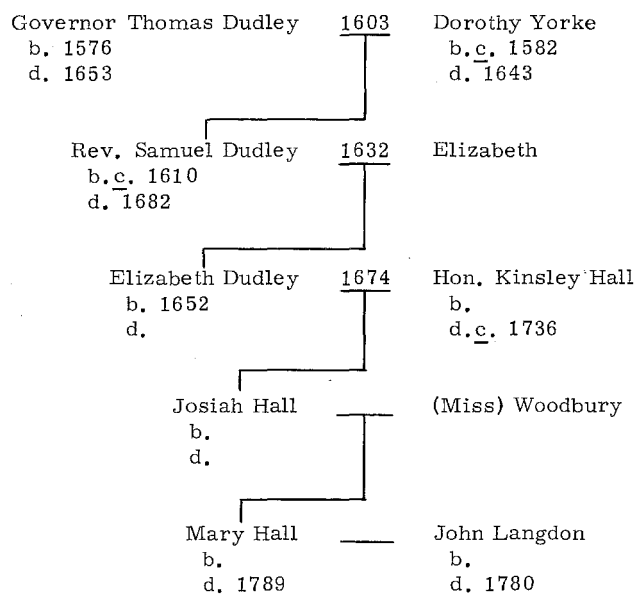
*Langdon - Dudley
Hall - Sherburne Families*

Langdon Chart



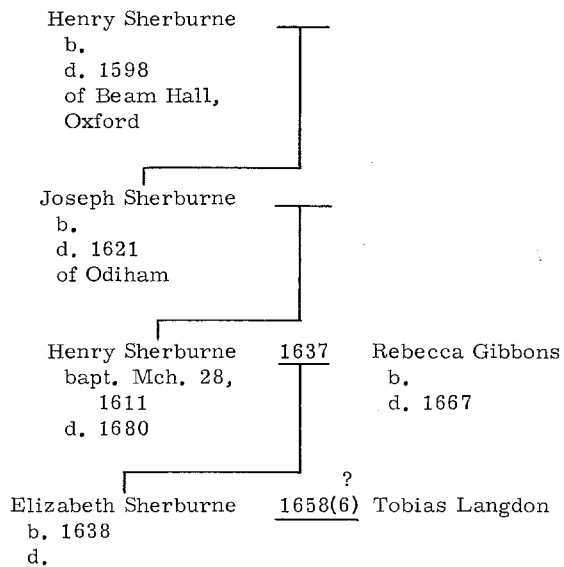
(See Elwyn)

Dudley-Hall Chart



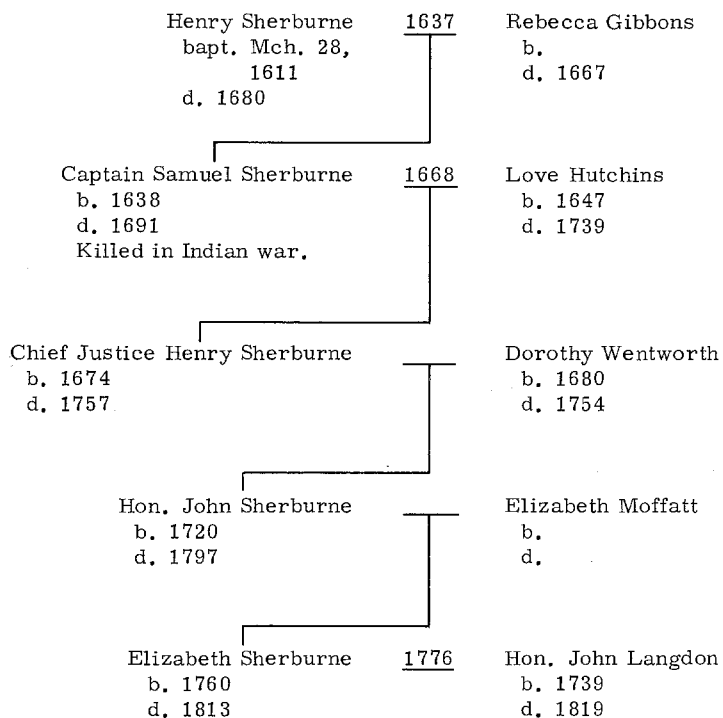
(See Langdon)

Sherburne Chart 1



(See Langdon)

Sherburne Chart 11



(See Langdon)

(Edward Raymond Sherburne, "Henry Sherburne of Portsmouth, And Some Of His Descendants," New-England Historical and Geneological Register, Boston, 1904, V. 58, 227, 228, 229, 230, 233.)

Tobias Langdon The Emigrant

Tobias Langdon (d. 1664)⁽¹⁾ from Keverel in Cornwall, England, came to this country prior to 1660. Tradition tells that he settled first in New York before coming to Portsmouth, New Hampshire. He is said to have served as captain in the militia.⁽²⁾

He married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Sherburne (1611-1680), June 10, 1658.⁽³⁾ Her father had come to Massachusetts in the James, from London, arriving June 12, 1632.

Their only son was Tobias Langdon, Junior, of this line.

Captain Tobias Langdon, Jr.

Second Generation

Tobias Langdon, Jr. (1660-Feb. 20, 1725)⁽⁴⁾ was ensign (1689), lieutenant (1692), and captain (1696) in King William's and Queen Anne's Wars. He married Mary Hubbard of Salisbury, Massachusetts, and "owned the garrison house at the head of the creek, and is buried hard by." (This was evidently in the vicinity of Portsmouth, New Hampshire.)

The youngest of their seven sons was John Langdon of this line.

John Langdon

Third Generation

John Langdon (d. Feb. 27, 1780)⁽⁵⁾ was a farmer and would have been satisfied to have his two sons, Woodbury and John, follow that occupation. Their training, however, was carried on by an ambitious mother, and they became distinguished men.

She was Mary Hall (d. Apr. 11, 1789),⁽⁶⁾ daughter of Josiah Hall and his wife, née Woodbury, whose Christian name is not given. Mary's grandfather was the Hon. Kinsley Hall (1652-c.1736) of Beverly, and Exeter, Massachusetts, who was a Councillor, and judge of the Superior Court. His wife, whom he married September 25, 1674, was Elizabeth (b. 1652), daughter of the Rev. Samuel Dudley (c. 1610-1682) and his wife Elizabeth. Samuel Dudley was educated for the ministry in England, and accompanied his distinguished father to Massachusetts on the Arabella in 1630. Samuel's first wife was Mary, daughter of Governor Winthrop, and he served in 1641, 42, 43, 44 and 45 as Deputy to the General Court at Boston.⁽⁷⁾

Samuel's father, Thomas Dudley (1576-July 31, 1653),⁽⁸⁾ was among those Lincolnshire gentlemen who in 1629 agreed to settle New England provided they could take the charter with them. This was granted, and in April 1630 Dudley sailed on the Arabella with Governor Winthrop as the deputy governor. Thereafter he was in continuous public service and, next to Winthrop himself whose policy he frequently opposed, the most influential man in Massachusetts Bay Colony. He was deputy-governor in 1629-34, 1637-40, 1645-50 and 1651-53, and was governor four times, in 1634, 1640, 1645, and 1650. He was one of the first promoters of Harvard College, one of its Overseers, and as governor signed its charter.

Somewhat of a poet, and an earnest heresy-hunter, this message was found in his pocket after death:

“Let men of God in courts and churches watch
O’er such as do a Toleration hatch,
Lest that ill egg bring forth a Cockatrice
To poison all with heresy and vice.”

Dudley had been orphaned at an early age when his father, Captain Roger Dudley, was “slain in the wars.” He himself was captain of an English company in the French expedition of 1597, serving under Henry of Navarre; and later managed the Earl of Lincoln’s estates with great success. After his conversion to Puritanism, which he adopted in its strictest tenets, his eyes turned to America as a refuge for God’s people. His son Joseph Dudley (1647-1720) was also governor of Massachusetts, and Joseph’s son Paul (1675-1751) became its attorney-general, and chief justice.

Through Thomas Dudley’s mother, Susanna (Thorne) Dudley, his pedigree can be traced to Charlemagne (747-814) and the Swabian Princess Hildegard.⁽⁹⁾

John Langdon, the subject of this sketch, lived out his life on his farm near Portsmouth, serving now and then as selectman. He saw his sons successfully launched in business, and both in the Continental Congress, although the war in which they risked so much had not been won when he died in 1780. Mary, his widow, outlived him nine years.

Of their two sons, Woodbury (1738/9-Jan. 13, 1805),⁽¹⁰⁾ the eldest, took the conservative side when dissention increased with Great Britain. He was influential in keeping Portsmouth out of the non-importation agreement, and disapproved resolutions passed in the town condemning Britain’s new policy. Nevertheless he was elected to the provincial Assembly in 1774, the revolutionary convention at Exeter, and again to the Assembly in 1775.

After war broke out he went to England ostensibly to conserve “a considerable sum of money” belonging to him there.

Much that he did during the next two years is a mystery. He visited France twice, and it is believed was concerting a plan of trade between that country and the United States. On his return in 1777 he was held prisoner by the British in New York, but escaped and returned to Portsmouth. Subsequently he served in the Continental Congress of 1779, but declined to serve when reelected several subsequent years. His appointment as justice of the Superior Court had unpleasant consequences, for he was impeached for neglecting his duty: not holding court at various places. His trial came to naught, and he was allowed to resign.

Woodbury was a handsome man, but lacked the winning manners of his brother John. Woodbury was " . . . a man of great independence of decision -- bold, keen, and sarcastic, and spoke his mind of men and measures with great freedom." By his wife Sarah Sherburne he had a son Colonel Walter Langdon who eloped during the War of 1812 with Dorothea Astor, daughter of John Jacob Astor, the fur magnate whose fortune, up to that time, was the largest made by any American.⁽¹¹⁾

John Langdon, Patriot

Fourth Generation

John Langdon (June 26, 1741-Sept. 18, 1819),⁽¹²⁾ the second of John and Mary (Hall) Langdon's two children, had, like his brother, acquired a fortune in commerce by the outbreak of the Revolution. Unlike his brother, however, he supported the revolutionary movement from the start and, as a militia captain took part in the capture of Ft. William and Mary in New Hampshire, one of the first overt acts against British authority.

He was elected to the last royal assembly of New Hampshire, and to the second Continental Congress in 1775, but resigned in June, 1776 to become Congress's agent of prizes in New Hampshire, and then continental (naval) agent of Congress in this State where he supervised the building of John Paul Jones's Ranger, and other ships.

Active in state politics as a member of the house (and speaker), of the senate, and of the State Constitutional Convention of 1778, he was re-elected to Congress in 1783-84.

In 1777 he financed and helped organize the New Hampshire brigade under General John Stark against General Burgoyne. Tradition tells that he pledged his plate, and sold seventy hogsheads of Tobago rum to secure the funds. Langdon himself served as captain under Stark at the Battle of Bennington (Aug. 1777), and was present at Burgoyne's surrender at Saratoga.

After the war he was president (governor) of New Hampshire (1785-1786, 1788-1789), and a delegate to the federal Constitutional Convention (1787). He was one of the first United States senators from New Hampshire (1789-1801), and one of the Senate's first president pro tempore. As a wealthy man he first adhered to the Federalists, but his liberal sympathies led him to become one of Jefferson's chief supporters -- who offered him the naval portfolio in his cabinet -- which Langdon declined.

Returning to New Hampshire to organize the Democratic-Republican party there, he served again in the House, and as governor in 1805-1809, 1810-12. In 1808 he received nine electoral votes for vice president of the United States, and declined the nomination for the post when offered it by his party in 1812 on the grounds of age.

He had married, February 2, 1777, Elizabeth (1760-1813), the daughter of John Sherburne by whom he had an only child, Elizabeth (Mrs. Thomas Elwyn), of this line. See Elwyn.

Although not a man of genius, he was unquestionably one of good sense, a thorough patriot, and a fine character. Friends and opponents alike spoke of his great personal charm. Described as frugal and fond of money, yet he entertained on a generous scale. He was "a handsome man and of noble carriage," said the Marquis de Chastellux who visited him, and found his residence "elegant and well furnished."

Several portraits of John Langdon exist: one by Trumbull at Yale University, two pastels by James Sharples are owned by Mrs. John L. Erving of Santa Barbara, California, a descendant, and by the National Museum at Philadelphia.⁽¹³⁾ His correspondence from Washington, Adams, Jefferson and others, was edited by his great-grandson the Reverend Alfred Langdon Elwyn (Philadelphia, 1880). These letters are owned by a descendant John G. M. Stone, Jr., Esq. of 125 East 72 Street, New York City.

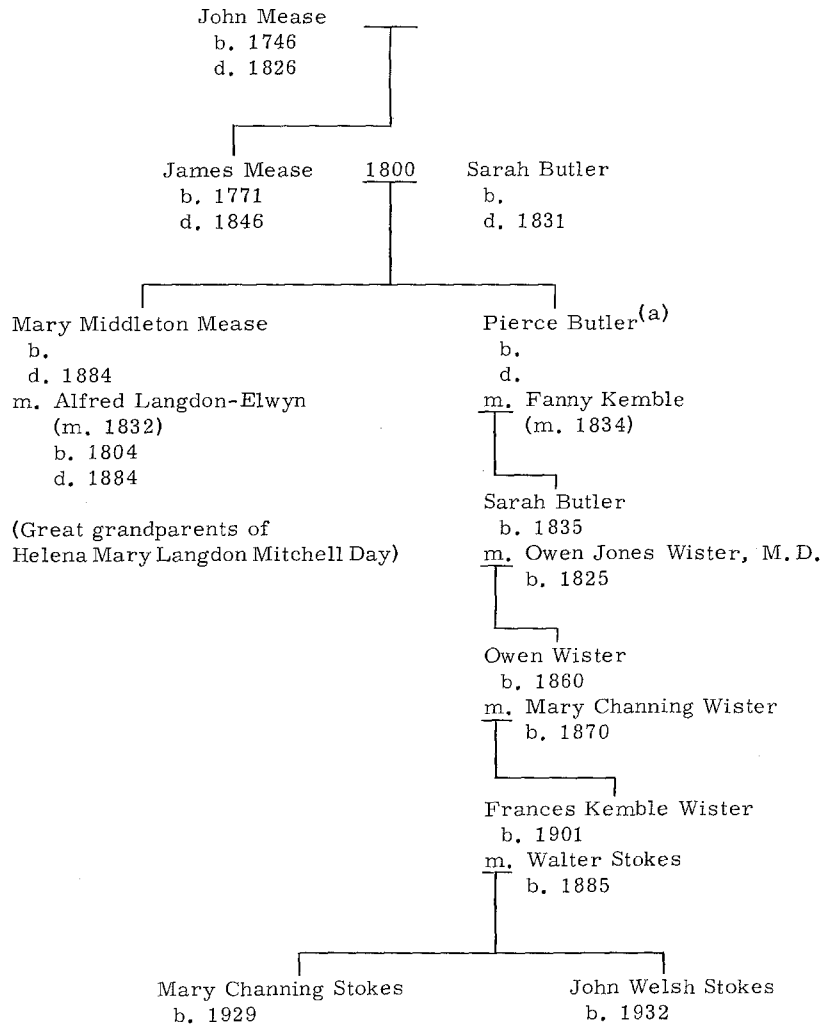
- (1) D. Hamilton Hurd, History of Rockingham and Stafford Counties New Hampshire . . . (Philadelphia, 1882), 100; Elwyn Bible (London, 1835), courtesy of Mrs. A.B. Warrick, Englewood, N.J. (death date of Tobias Langdon).
- (2) Society of Colonial Wars: Index of Ancestors and Honor Roll 1922, 287.
- (3) Elwyn Bible, op. cit.
- (4) Hurd, Hist. of Rockingham and Stafford Cos. N.H., op. cit., 100; Elwyn Bible, op. cit.; Soc. Col. Wars: Index of Ancestors 1922, 287.
- (5) Hurd, Hist. of Rockingham and Stafford Cos., N.H., 100; Elwyn Bible.
- (6) Elwyn Bible; op.cit.
- (7) "Gov. Thomas Dudley and His Descendants," New England Historical and Genealogical Register, X (1856), 134, 136, 137; Dean Dudley, The History of the Dudley Family (Montrose, Mass., 1894), 277, 766.
- (8) Encyclopaedia Britannica (Chicago, 1953), v. 7, 710, 711; D.A.B., V. 484; N.Y. Geneal. and Biog. Rec., v. 49 (1918), 88, 89.
- (9) Marcellus D. R. von Redlich, Pedigrees Of Some Of The Emperor Charlemagne's Descendants (Mass., 1941), 132, 133, 255, 256.
- (10) D.A.B., X, 590.
- (11) N.Y. Geneal. and Biog. Rec., v. 59 (1919), 317 (Woodbury Gersdorf Langdon); Cleveland Amory, Who Killed Society, 471.

- (12) Encyclopaedia Britannica, v. 13 (1953), 691; D.A.B., X, 587; The Encyclopedia Americana (N.Y., 1962), v. 16, 711; Lawrence Shaw Mayo, John Langdon of New Hampshire (Concord, N.H., 1937).
- (13) F.A.R.L.

Chapter VIII

Mease Family

Mease Chart



(a) Pierce Butler Mease dropped the surname "Mease."

John Mease Merchant And Patriot

First Generation

John Mease (1746-1826)⁽¹⁾ was born in Strabane, Ireland, and came to Philadelphia in 1754 where he became a shipping merchant. When there were threats of war with Great Britain he espoused the patriotic cause. A letter from John Adams in 1774 tells that he dined in Philadelphia with General Mifflin, Dr. Rush, John Dickinson, Mr. Chew and John Mease.⁽²⁾ What keen interest their dinner conversation would hold today!

John Mease himself had a colorful Revolutionary career. He was an original member of the first troop of city cavalry, was one of twenty-four of that corps who crossed the Delaware under General Washington December 25, 1779, and one of five men who kept fires burning along the line of American encampment at Trenton to deceive the enemy while the army marched to attack the rear-guard at Princeton. He also subscribed £4,000 for the army in 1780, and suffered severe property loss "in his dwelling and warehouses."

For thirty years he was one of the Admiralty surveyors for the port of Philadelphia, and in later life still wore a three-cornered hat so was called "The Last of the Cocked Hats." "I well recollect his precise dress and mincing gait," wrote Joshua Francis Fisher, "as he gallantly handed his wife across the street by the tips of her fingers."

His first (?) wife had been a scold, said Fisher, and when she died her children had an extravagant eulogy inscribed on her tombstone in the Pine Street Presbyterian churchyard. Finding space for a few lines at the bottom, John Mease added: "These were her virtues -- Her faults remain forever buried in the breast of her affectionate Husband."⁽³⁾

According to the family Bible one John Mease married Esther

Miller March 31, 1765. The lady sentenced to be ducked in the Delaware River for being a scold was named Ann Mease.⁽⁴⁾

Issue of John Mease, among others, was James Mease of this line.⁽⁵⁾

Another patriot in the Mease family was Matthew (d. 1787), John's nephew, who came to Philadelphia from Strabane at an early age. After a mercantile education he entered the navy, and was purser on the Bon Homme Richard under John Paul Jones. At his own request he was put in command of the quarter-deck in the encounter with the Serapis where he directed the fight until wounded.⁽⁶⁾

James Mease, M.D.

Second Generation

James Mease (1771-May 15, 1846) was born in Philadelphia, and graduated in medicine at the University of Pennsylvania in 1792. His thesis was on "Hydrophobia" which he afterwards published. Although he had a competent knowledge of medicine he was little inclined to practice and spent his time in research and writing. His hobbies were science and history and he experimented in scientific farming.

After his marriage to Sarah Butler July 3, 1800⁽⁸⁾ he could better afford these interests -- though it was difficult, at times, to get financial backing from her wealthy father. Once when refused funds for Merino sheep, James said he needed a new barn. (He lived on Major Butler's farm near Philadelphia.) When the high-tempered major learned that the barn money was spent for sheep -- he hit the ceiling.⁽⁹⁾

James had been port physician for Philadelphia and as such advised Governor Mifflin that the yellow fever epidemic had abated enough for Congress to meet there with safety November 4, 1793. He had also been Governor Mifflin's personal physician.⁽¹⁰⁾

In appearance Dr. Mease was small in stature, and ". . . very handsome, always well-dressed and polite. . ."⁽¹¹⁾

His portrait by Sulley was painted "for his son Pierce" in 1834.⁽¹²⁾

James' wife Sarah is described as lady-like, but "an invalid, & I think a querulous one." She was a "free-thinker" and much more of a reader than her contemporaries. A Bible was not allowed in her house. Her children were forbidden to read it as being very improper. She did allow them to go to the Unitarian church. It was the least harmful, she said, "as there was little or no religion preached there!"

In this respect her sisters were thought to be like her. When Miss Eliza Butler, the last surviving sister, heard that her nephew Pierce Butler (Mease) had become a church member she was uneasy and sent for an intimate friend to see what could be done. "I think he must be crazy," she said, ". . . you know, none of the Butlers have ever had any religion."

Sarah Mease had married against her father's consent, and the Major ". . . treated and spoke of his son-in-law with profound contempt . . . and instilled (such) impressions into his grandson," said Joshua Fisher the grandson's boyhood friend. Nor was Doctor Mease's wife much nicer to him, Fisher said. "He was obliged to bear it all, for he ate the bread afforded with unmitigated scorn."⁽¹³⁾

James seemed to rise above it, and kept busy writing and giving personal assistance to scientific and other learned societies in the city. His Picture of Philadelphia (1811), with a later edition

in 1831, was the city's first history. He was first vice president of the Philadelphia Athenaeum, one of the city's old libraries, was active in the Philosophical Society, and attempted to publish the letters of Dr. Benjamin Rush. These letters, between George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, and others, were thought by the Rush family too personal for publication!

Dr. Mease asked Thomas Jefferson in which house he wrote the Declaration of Independence. No one else had thought of asking! He was instrumental in obtaining for the State of Pennsylvania its original charters.⁽¹⁴⁾

When he died at his house in Seventh Street below Spruce in 1846 there was little fanfare. The Directory indicates that he had conducted a school there. It also indicates that he may have remarried, for the school was continued at the same address by Isabella Mease.⁽¹⁵⁾ His first wife's \$66,667 trust fund from her father had reverted to her daughters at her death in 1831.⁽¹⁶⁾

Two of his sons by Sarah (Butler) Mease changed their names to Butler in compliance with their Grandfather Butler's will. But Thomas, the eldest, refused and on his death bed made his brothers promise to do the same. Pierce, the youngest, relented in time, adopted the name Butler, and shared his estate with his brother John.⁽¹⁷⁾

The children of James and Sarah (Butler) Mease were:⁽¹⁸⁾

1. Thomas, who died without issue January 12, 1823;
2. John, who died unmarried and left his property to his brother Pierce;
3. Pierce (1807-Aug. 15, 1864) was a lawyer of ability who, during courtship, played the flute in the orchestra of the gifted Fanny (Francis Ann) Kemble before she consented to marry him in 1834. She was an actress of note, and belonged to a famous English theatrical family. Their marriage ended in divorce when she wrote outspokenly of living conditions among his several hundred slaves in Georgia. Her published articles are said to have helped incite the Civil War.⁽²⁰⁾

The fourth child of Dr. James and Sarah (Butler) Mease was Mary Middleton, who married Alfred Langdon-Elwyn, M.D., and they are the great-grandparents of Helena Mary Langdon (Mitchell) Day. (See Mitchell.) The fifth child, Frances, married George Cadwalader May 6, 1830. He was a lawyer who distinguished himself in the Mexican War, and in the Civil War became a major general. (21)

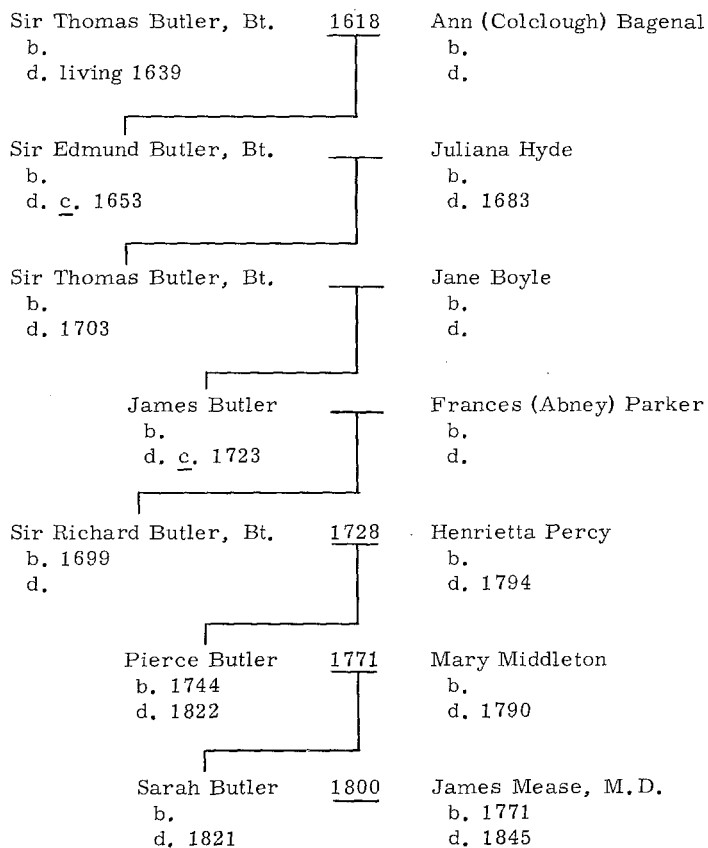
- (1) Appletons' Cyclopaedia of American Biography, v. 4, 284.
- (2) Henry Simpson, The Lives Of Eminent Philadelphians Now Deceased (Philad., 1859), 689.
- (3) Cadwalader Coll. J. Francis Fisher sect. Box 10 under Pierce Butler.
- (4) Elwyn Bible, printed in London 1835, owned by Mrs. Alexander B. Warrick, 308 Speer Ave., Englewood, N.J. (This information was given by 'phone.); Box 3B, Soc. Misc. Coll., Historical Society of Pennsylvania. (Petition of Ann Mease Dec. 10, 1779).
- (5) Recollections of Joseph Francis Fisher in 1864. Arranged by Sophie Cadwalader (1929), 263 (Fisher is the only authority found for the fact that James Mease was the son of John. The family Bible, according to Mrs. Warrick, lists John's name but does not show the relationship. There is no will or administration for John Mease at City Hall.)
- (6) Appletons' Cyclopaedia of Amer. Biog., v. 4, 284.
- (7) Ibid., 284, Lives of Eminent Philadelphians, 689.
- (8) Elwyn Bible, op. cit.
- (9) Recollections of Joshua Francis Fisher in 1864. Arranged by Sophia Cadwalader (1929), 264.
- (10) Continental Congress, Dreer Coll. (under Samuel Duffield) and American Physicians, Case 7, Box 31, H.S.P. (Jas. Mease to A.J. Dallas, letter dated Philad. Nov. 19, 1799).
- (11) Recollections of J.F. Fisher, op. cit., 263; also ms. of these, footnote 3.

- (12) Pa. Mag., v. 33, 84 (this portrait was owned by the subject's grandson the Rev. Alfred Elwyn in 1909).
- (13) Cadwalader, Recolls. of J. Fisher, op. cit., 263, 264, 265; and orig. ms. n 3.
- (14) Pa. Mag., v. 59, 61; v. 61, 155; v. 15, 500; v. 16, 86; v. 73, 423; v. 41, 248.
- (15) Ph. Dir. 1846, 243; 1847, 235; Elwyn Bible, op. cit.
- (16) Elwyn Bible for Sarah Mease's death date.
- (17) Cadwalader, Recolls of J. Fisher, 263.
- (18) Geo. Cadwalader, Misc. - B.C.-100. H.S.P.
- (19) Notices of Marriages & Deaths In Poulson's Amer. Daily Advertiser 1826-1830, 650.
- (20) Appletons' Cyclopaedia of Amer. Biog., I, 480 (Pierce Butler); III, 510 (Frances Anne Kemble).
- (21) Ibid., I, 493; Notices of Marrs. & Deaths In Poulson's Amer. Daily Advertiser 1826-1830, 94.

Chapter IX

Butler Family

Butler Chart



(See Mease)

Sir Richard Butler, Baronet

Third Generation

Sir Richard Butler, baronet (b. 1699), the fifth baronet in his line, was fifth in descent from Thomas Butler, Esq. of Cloughgrenan, County Carlow, Ireland, who was created a baronet of Ireland by Charles I August 16, 1628.

Since the publication, in 1880, of the Calendar of the State Papers, . . . Ireland . . . 1615-1625, his parentage is no longer a matter of conjecture. The litigation between him and the representatives of his illegitimate brother, Theobald, Viscount Butler of Tulleophelim, who died without issue in January, 1613, establishes the fact that he was a natural son of Sir Edmund Butler, of Cloughgrenan, and of Roscrea, County Tipperary, who was the second son of James, 9th Earl of Ormond.

Captain Thomas Butler, "a supposed brother to Viscount Butler, deceased," has contemptuously refused to give up possession of the castle of Cloughgrenan and the lordship of the Dloughy, and all other lands of which he has unduly dispossessed Lady Elizabeth Butler, the widow of Theobald. Theobald's estate of Tulleophelim became part of the estate of these baronets, and the bordure that surrounds their arms is an indication of their illegitimacy.⁽¹⁾

The Earls of Ormond, from whom these Butlers descend, stem from James le Botiller or Butler (c. 1305-1337/8), hereditary Chief Butler of Ireland, son and heir of Edmund le Botiller by Joan, daughter of John Fitz Thomas (Fitz Gerald), 1st Earl of Kildare. In 1326 he received a protection in England to go to Ireland where he supported Mortimer's party, and appears to have lived and fought chiefly in Ireland, though he had widely distributed properties in England.

The year 1327 was eventful for him when he married the King's niece, Eleanor, daughter of Humphrey (de Bohun), Earl of Hereford, by Elizabeth, widow of John, Count of Holland and Zealand, and daughter of Edward I, by his first wife, Eleanor of Castile. He also obtained a grant or confirmation of the prisage of wines at Irish ports, which he regarded as appurtenant to his hereditary office of Butler. In 1328 he was created Earl of Ormond, and in 1331 was summoned with others to England to discuss the proposed visit of the King to Ireland. He died "in the flower of his youth," in January or February, 1337/8, and was buried at Gowan.

Eleanor, his widow, resided chiefly in England, and had a protection in Ireland in June 1338. She remarried, before April 20, 1344, Sir Thomas de Dagworth (Lord Dagworth) who was treacherously slain in Brittany in 1350. Eleanor acted for him after his death, and rendered an account of his expenses while he had custody of Brittany. In 1361 and 1362 she was directed to send deputies to the King to confer as to the state of Ireland.

She died October 7, 1363, leaving an only surviving son and heir, James le Botiller (Oct. 4, 1331-Oct. 18?, 1382), Earl of Ormond, called The Noble Earl, because of his royal descent, and by the Irish, The Chaste.⁽²⁾

His descendant, Sir Piers Butler (c. 1476-Aug. 26, 1539), became the 8th Earl of Ormond in 1515, was appointed Chief Governor of Ireland by the King in 1521/2, and Lord Treasurer in 1524. As the King now wanted the earldom of Ormond for Sir Thomas Boleyn, he induced Piers and the coheirs of the 7th Earl to resign their respective claims in 1527/8, when Piers was created Earl of Ossory in tail male. However, in 1537/8 the earldom of Ormond was restored to him. He died August 26, 1539, and his widow Margaret, daughter of Gerald (Fitz Gerald), 8th Earl of Kildare, whom he had married c. 1485, rebuilt the castle of Gowan and died August 9, 1542. She was known as "the great Countess."

Their son and heir was James (bef. July 20, 1504-Oct. 28, 1546) the 9th Earl of Ormond, Earl of Ossory and Viscount Thurles, who was brought up at the Court of Henry VIII and was an esquire of the Body in 1527, and until 1539 was styled Lord Butler. He served as Lord High Treasurer, and with his father had the "governance of the counties of Kilkenny, Tipperary," etc. He was Admiral of Ireland, General of the Irish forces, and was poisoned with many of his servants at a banquet in London -- whether by accident or design is not known. He died October 28, 1546, and was buried in London though his heart was sent back for interment at St. Canice in Kilkenny.

By Joan (d. 1564/5), his wife, daughter and heiress of James Fitz Maurice (Fitz Gerald) 10th Earl of Desmond, he had seven sons, the second of whom Sir Edmund, of this line.⁽³⁾

An early history of this family by Sir Robert Rothe, in 1616, is accurate in what he sets down; but he omits many things of interest, of which, no doubt, his patrons did not wish to be reminded.

Of Sir Edmund (d. c. 1601), the second son of the 9th Earl, and his younger brothers Edward and Piers, their misdeeds fill pages in the State Papers of the time. Sir Edmund, who seems to have had a strain of madness in his character, played a leading part in the "Butlers' Wars" from 1569 to 1570. Personal enmity to Sidney, and a grievance against Sir Peter Carew, recognized owner by the crown of Cloghgreennan Castle, near Carlow, in Sir Edmund's possession, had more to do with his conduct than religious or patriotic zeal. Sir Edmund told a deputation from Dublin, sent to reason with him, that the Deputy's real purpose "was to chop off his head and his brethren's." But to levy war or fight in field against her Highness or her governor he would not do during life. In June, 1569 he plundered the English settlements in Leix, "killing very many of the inhabitants of the same, but most especially all Englishmen" Imprisoned in Dublin Castle later in the year he escaped by a rope which broke when he lay all night in the castle moat.

He and his brothers were finally induced to submit to the crown, and attained as "vile and ingrate traitors." But in 1573 the three were pardoned by the Queen, and restored to their property. The attainder of their blood, however, was not reversed. In their effort to secure a restitution of their hereditary rights, Sir Edmund's two eldest lawful sons, Piers and James, met bitter fates, one was beheaded, and the other hanged by order of his uncle the Earl. While their younger brother Theobald was arrested and held prisoner. He was rescued from his uncle's hands, and brought back to Dublin Castle for comparative safety. Later the Earl changed his policy and planned to marry him to his youngest daughter Elizabeth, and get him recognized as his heir. Though the marriage was accomplished, and he was created Viscount Tulleophelim, Theobald died without offspring in 1613, a year before his uncle with whom he was on bad terms. As to the family lands, they became involved in controversy complicated by King James I marrying off his favorite, Richard Preston, to the widowed Lady Tulleophelim, and endeavoring to hand over the greater part of the Ormond estates to his favorite's wife.⁽⁴⁾

The person who concerns us most in this litigation is Captain Thomas Butler in whose favor Theobald, Viscount Tulleophelim, had made or tried to make settlements of certain lands, especially those inherited from his father, Sir Edmund. A long controversy followed between him and Earl Walter, especially concerning Cloghgreennan and the district called Dullough. There are the usual charges and counter-charges, and the usual contradictory orders from the King to his ministers characteristic of most Stuart dealings with Ireland. The verdict first favors Earl Walter, then fresh investigations are ordered and the case opened anew. During the controversy Earl Walter describes Thomas as "base brother of Lord Tully" (Lord Tulleophelim).

At least two pedigrees agree in assigning to Sir Edmund this natural son Thomas, and one states that his mother was wife to Feagh MacHugh O'Byrne. Going back to the days of Queen Elizabeth, Brian Reogh O'More commended Thomas Butler Fitz Edmund

to the Earl of Tyrone in April, 1598, and when the letter fell into the hands of the Earl of Ormond, he wrote Burghly that "the bastardly boy, Thomas Butler, mentioned in Brian Reogh his letter is one whose father is not known, though named son to my brother Sir Edmund, whose sons I lately cut off." That "the rebel Thomas of 1598 is the same as the baronet of 1628 can, I think, be taken as certain."⁽⁵⁾

In 1628 Thomas Butler, "of Cloghgreennan," was created a baronet, and his descendants appear possessed of large estates. His marriage (settlement dated July 3, 1618) to Anne, widow of Nicholas Bagenal and daughter of Sir Thomas Colclough, of Tyn-tern Abbey, county Wexford, is said to have added to his influence. Her maternal grandfather was Adam Loftus, Archbishop of Dublin.

Sir Thomas had been sheriff of county Carlow in 1612 and 1622, and served as M.P. for that county in 1634-35, and in 1639 until his death.

His son and heir, Sir Edmund Butler (d. 1653), was the great-grandfather of Sir Richard (b. 1699), the fifth baronet, of this line.⁽⁶⁾

May I add here that the dukes of Ormond descend from Sir John Butler, of Kilcash, the third son of James, 9th Earl of Ormond, whose son Walter became the 11th Earl, and Walter's son James (1610-1688), the 12th Earl, was created Marquis of Ormond in 1642, and Duke of Ormond in 1682 "an honor", he is said to have remarked, that was "of no other advantage than precedence."⁽⁷⁾

The family is represented in Ireland (1959) by Sir Thomas Pierce Butler (b. 1910), the 12th baronet.

Hon. Pierce Butler

Sixth Generation

Pierce Butler (July 11, 1744-Feb. 15, 1822)⁽⁸⁾ was born in County Carlow, Ireland, and was commissioned lieutenant of the 22nd Foot Company in 1755, before he was eleven. He entered his duties at fifteen, and came to Boston with his Irish regiment in 1765.

"He was quite a Lucius O'Trigger in his matrimonial aspirations, and his readiness to fight on all occasions," said Joshua Fisher, a family friend. "When his regiment was ordered to Carolina he tried his fortune with several heiresses," Fisher continues, "and finally ran off with Mary, a daughter of Colonel Thomas Middleton, a younger brother of Henry, of the Congress of 1775." She had a fine fortune, not only from her father, but from her mother as well. She was a niece of Governor Bull.

This fortune was settled on her "to the no small annoyance of the Major" who determined to get it into his own hands. He demanded the deeds, and challenged the trustees in vain. Finally, he carried off the slaves in a body to settle his newly acquired Georgia plantations.

Before reaching the Savannah River he was overtaken by the sheriff and his posse, sent by his wife's trustees, but Butler's escort was too strong, and he transported the slaves safely across the river out of reach of the South Carolina law.⁽⁹⁾

His Georgia plantations were near Darien, on St. Simon's and Butler's Island, and he became rich from his rice and cotton crops produced by slave labor.

Here he invited Aaron Burr to take refuge after he had killed Alexander Hamilton in a duel in 1804. The Butler family was away

in the North, but Burr was made welcome by the plantation staff. He wrote his beloved daughter Theodosia that for his own personal service he had "a house-keeper, cook and chamber-maid, seamsstress and two footmen, two fishermen and four boatmen always at my command." A neighbor sent over "an assortment of French wines, claret and sauternes" to which the neighbor's wife added sweetmeats and pickles "sufficient to last 12 months."⁽¹⁰⁾

After Mary (Middleton) Butler's death in 1790 the Major took possession of most of her lands, his daughters yielding to his influence, and his only son banished from his house because he insisted on his rights. "He was a domestic tyrant," said Joshua Fisher, " & some think he drove his wife to madness, but the peculiarity of all her children would lead me to suppose it was fully a part of her blood."

The Major's highhanded methods paid off. On a voyage from Charleston, when reclining in the shade of a sail, he refused to permit the sail to be tacked, and the skipper acquiesced! In the United States Senate, however, to which he was elected on the Federalist ticket in 1789, again in 1792, and 1801, he was rebuffed. Once when his opinions were disputed there he threw down his glove as a challenge to all opposers! But no one took it up. When being examined in court as a director of the old U.S. Bank, he insisted on giving testimony on his honor. As Senator, he said, he should have the same right as a peer in the British realm -- to testify without the humiliation of kissing the Book.⁽¹¹⁾

He had entered politics soon after his marriage, and in 1779 was adjutant general of the State, and from 1778 to 1782, and 1784 to 1789 served in the State Legislature. For some reason he did not act with the planter-merchant group in state politics. Whether motivated by the enmity of certain of its leaders, by political ambition, or independence, this wealthy, dictatorial aristocrat championed the democracy of the back country, and pushed its enterprises for reform.

On March 6, 1787 he was elected delegate to the Congress of Confederation, and then to the Federal Convention which framed the Constitution where his proposals were for a strong central government. He was author of the fugitive slave clause.

In October, 1796 he resigned from the Senate apparently to become candidate for governor. Though he was still strong in the back country, and had "no inconsiderable support" in the tide-water, he refused to allow his name used. During his third term as United States Senator he denounced the Turlfite Amendment, and charged that the Republican party was abusing its power as the Federalists had formerly done.

While serving in Congress, and the Senate, he became enamoured with Philadelphia, and about 1805⁽¹²⁾ acquired the handsome house at the north-west corner of 8th and Market Streets where he lived throughout his life, and where his unmarried daughters continued to live during their lives. A water-color of this beautiful old house, with its walled garden, was painted by David J. Kennedy and is in the collections of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania. The house was demolished in 1856. His country seat, in Philadelphia County, was Butler Place at Old York Road and Thorp's Lane which he acquired in 1810.⁽¹³⁾

Major Butler retained his fighting spirit to the last. When his grandson John Mease was flogged at school he went immediately to exact punishment from the teacher. After a violent verbal attack, the Major raised his cane to chastise the young Irishman before the whole school. The teacher, by no means intimidated, quietly seized the feeble old gentleman by the coat collar with both hands, and held him against one of the forms 'till his rage had subsided. He then released him, when the Major called his grandson and, with what dignity he could muster, marched out, not without a parting malediction.

In his last illness he sent for his son Thomas saying all was forgiven. Thomas, who was very proud, would make no con-

cession, nor admit any fault to be forgiven. A second message for him to return without conditions reached him too late. He had sailed for Europe, and neither the telegraph nor ocean steamer could expedite the mission of mercy.⁽¹⁴⁾

Major Butler did not completely disinherit his son. He left him lands on Alleghany River and "Conewango Creek," on Duck River in Tennessee, and a share in "Asylum lands of Pennsylvania," also land in Wayne County, Pennsylvania. He gave him his legacies from Mrs. Eliza Blake and his aunt Mrs. Sarah Guerard.

The bulk of the fortune, however, including his planting interests in Georgia, the Philadelphia residence, and Butler Place, went to his unmarried daughters Frances and Eliza. At the survivors death Butler Place was left to the one of his three grandsons, Thomas, John or Butler Mease, that his daughter Frances thought most worthy. "Provided always that this or any devise in favor of said grandsons is upon condition that they shall as they arrive at sixteen years cease to be called Mease and use the surname Butler..." If they refused, the estate went to the eldest son of his son Thomas Butler.

A trust of \$66,667, supervised by Frances, Eliza and Thomas Butler, was established for his daughter Sarah Mease, which at her death went to her daughters Mary (of this line), and Frances Mease. Frances Butler was named his executrix. The will is dated February 14, 1822 and was proved July 1, 1823.⁽¹⁵⁾

In youth Pierce Butler was handsome, and Joshua Fisher said, "there was some stateliness about him." Fisher said, too, that he was kind to his slaves, and dispensed "a pretty generous hospitality." He had fine horses, and fine wine, the large stock of which, divided among his descendants, had quite a name in its day.

His letters on public affairs are quoted in such works as Freeman's, George Washington (N.Y.C., 1954, 117n) when he said

“that he did not believe the powers of the President would have been made so extensive if members had not cast their eyes on Washington and had not shaped their ideas of the office according to the virtues of the man.”

After the death of Pierce Butler (Mease) in 1867 the name Butler became extinct in America as Thomas Butler's only son Louis, lived in France. Thomas had spent some \$80,000 constructing the house at 13th and Walnut streets (now the Philadelphia Club), which he never lived in, and more on its elaborate furnishings. His wardrobe, which he left to the carpenter and builder of the house, was found to number each article by the hundred.

At his death, after taxes and handsome annuities to his servants and his carpenter, there was nothing left except the \$80,000 house which his son sold for about half the cost. (In 1925 the property was valued at \$1,000,000.) “Thus ended the estate of this line,” wrote Joshua Fisher, “& only the recent death of his nephew, Pierce, has saved any portion of the great inheritance of the proud old Major.”

“What is left will pass to the descendants of an actress, with the name of an humble German Quaker family (Wister) --, whose alliance he would have scorned . . .”(16)

The children of Pierce and Mary (Middleton) Butler were:

1. Thomas Butler who married Mlle. Malveux, a beautiful French girl from Martinique whose mother had a great inheritance there. The marriage turned out badly. They were incompatible, and he was jealous of her in society where she innocently courted attention. So he shut her up in the dismal house on York Road opposite Butler Place and allowed her no associates except those he chose. Finally he took her back to her mother in France. Of four children, one son Louis survived, a Frenchman in all his feelings.

He came to America, after his father's death and, standing

at a hotel window overlooking a busy street asked a friend to count all who passed within ten minutes. When his friend gave the number Louis asked: "How many faces did you observe with a smile?" As no sign of gayety had been seen he said: "Do you think I could live in such a damned country, where out of so many scores of passengers, not one seemed to have a pleasant thought!" (17)

2. Frances Butler, Pierce Butler's eldest daughter, was a remarkably sensible woman. After her father's death she lived in perfect retirement in the family mansion at 8th and Chestnut Streets, and at Butler Place in the summer. At her death in 1836 she willed her estate to her brother Thomas, and to his heirs. (18)
3. Eliza, died unmarried and willed her estate to her nephew Pierce Butler (Mease). (19)
4. Sarah, of this line, who married Dr. James Mease. See Mease.

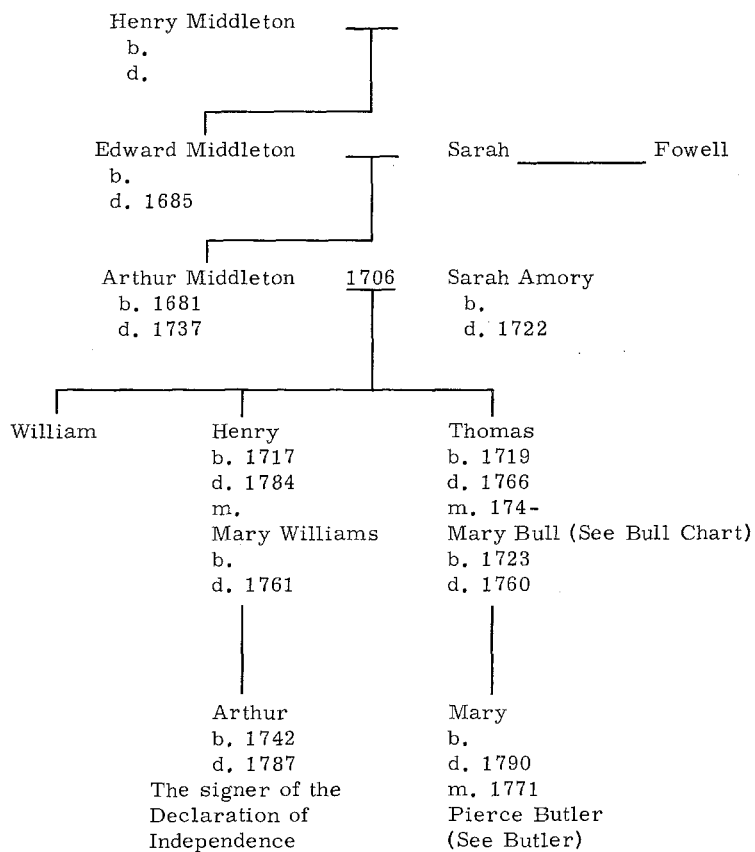
- (1) George Edward Cokayne, Complete Baronetage, 1625-1649 (Exeter, 1902), II 258; Great Britain Public Record Office: Calendar of the State Papers, . . . Ireland. . . , 1615-1625 (London, 1880), pp. 18, 60, 76; and William F. Butler, "The Descendants of James Ninth Earl of Ormond": The Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland . . . V. LIX, Part I (1929), 29.
- (2) George Edward Cokayne, The Complete Peerage: Or A History Of The House Of Lords and All Its Members From The Earliest Times (London, 1945), X, 116-121.
- (3) Ibid., 133-136, 142-144; Butler, "The Descendants of James, Ninth Earl of Ormond," op. cit., 29.
- (4) "The Descendants Of James, Ninth Earl of Ormond," 34, 35, 36, 37.
- (5) Ibid., 37, 38.
- (6) Cokayne, Complete Baronetage, 1625-1649 (Exeter, 1902), II, 258.
- (7) Cokayne, Complete Peerage (London, 1945), X, 148-154.
- (8) Dictionary of American Biog. (D.A.B.), III, 364; Appletons' Cyclopaedia of Amer. Biog., I, 480; Simpson, The Lives of Eminent Philadelphians Now Deceased (Phila., 1859), 157.
- (9) Recollections of Joshua Francis Fisher Written in 1864, Arranged by Sophia Cadwalader (1929), 261, 262; also ms. Cadwalader Coll., J. Francis Fisher sect. Box 10, Historical Soc. of Pa. (H.S.P.).
- (10) Thomas Lunsford, The Savannah (N.Y., 1951), 230.

- (11) Recollections of Joshua Francis Fisher, op. cit., 263, 269, 270.
- (12) Phila. Dir. 1805 (Pierce Butler is listed at this address as a merchant.)
- (13) Frances Anne Wister, "Fanny Kemble and Butler Place," Germantown Crier, v. 11 No. 2 (May, 1959), 13.
- (14) Cadwalader Coll., J. Francis Fisher sect. Box 10, H.S.P.
- (15) Phila. Wills 1820-1825, p. 5391, H.S.P.
- (16) Cadwalader, Recolls. of Joshua F. Fisher, op. cit., 265, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271; two miniatures of Pierce Butler as a young man were inherited by Thomas' only son Louis Butler of France who gave them to his cousin Mrs. Sarah Butler Wister. They were lost a few years before 1892. Photographs are filed at the Frick Art Reference Library, N.Y.C.
- (17) Cadwalader, Recolls. of Joshua F. Fisher, 266, 267.
- (18) Ibid., 265; Cadwalader Coll., George Cadwalader, Misc.-B C-100, H.S.P.
- (19) Ibid., 264; ibid.

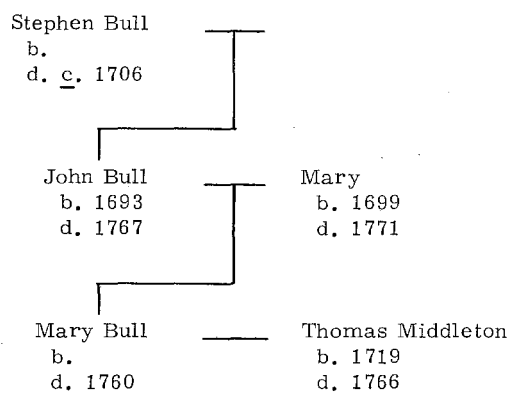
Chapter X

Middleton and Bull Families

Middleton Chart



Bull Chart



(See Middleton)

Edward Middleton Esquire, Of The Oaks

Second Generation

Edward Middleton (d. 1685),⁽¹⁾ the founder of this notable South Carolina family, known for its long continued public service, was the son of Henry Middleton, Esquire, of Twickenham, Middlesex, who claimed descent from the Middletons of Stockfield, Yorkshire. The family arms is: fretty sable, a canton of the second. Crest: a garb or, between two wings erect argent.

After residing in London, and the Barbados, Edward Middleton came to Carolina in 1678 where he acquired some 4,000 acres including the Oaks and Bloomville. Here he settled numerous plantations, choosing the Oaks for his dwelling. It was named for the magnificent avenue of live oaks that led to his house.

His brother Arthur (d. 1685), who had no issue, also settled in Carolina, and both men at once took high position as leaders of the Church party there. Arthur was Lord Proprietor's Deputy in 1680, and a member of the Council. While Edward served as Proprietor's Deputy in 1678 and 1683,⁽²⁾ and was a member of the Council. In January, 1683 he was appointed assistant justice.

Edward had married in England, and had a son Henry of London, merchant, who visited Carolina in 1696 and 1703. His second wife, whom he married in Carolina in 1680, was Sarah, the widow of Richard Fowell of Barbados, gentleman.

When Edward died in Charles Town (Charleston) in 1685 he left an only son Arthur, by his wife Sarah, who is of this line.

Honorable Arthur Middleton

Third Generation

Arthur Middleton (1681-Sept. 7, 1737)⁽³⁾ was born in Charleston "to the prestige surrounding a wealthy and enterprising father and was probably educated in England." His inheritance included estates in Carolina, England, and Barbados. He began his public career in 1706 when he entered the South Carolina House of Commons and served until 1710, became Lord Carteret's Deputy, and was a member of the Council. During the Yemassee War in 1715 he was sent to obtain aid from Virginia and being successful was voted a pipe of wine by a grateful House.

In 1716 he left the Council and again entered the House of Commons to lead a movement against the proprietors. He was named president of the convention formed by the Assembly after its dissolution by the governor that overthrew the proprietors in 1719. When the Crown accepted the revolution in 1720, and appointed Sir Francis Nicholson governor, Middleton became President of the Council and on Nicholson's return to England in April 1725, took full charge of the government.

His administration, which lasted until 1731, was harassed by Indian uprisings, which he subdued, and by differences with Spain, and with his legislature over the issuance of paper money which he opposed. Six times he dissolved that body and ordered new elections only to find the new assembly as hostile as the last. A bold supporter of the royal authority, he was "equally careful to promote loyalty to the king as the freedom and safety of his fellow subjects."

Accused of corruption and of denying a writ of habeas corpus by his enemies, he is characterized as a man "of a reserved and mercenary disposition . . . a sensible man, and by no means ill-qualified for governing."⁽⁴⁾ It was difficult for him, however, as

an erstwhile revolutionary leader . . . "who had as his principle ambition the accumulation of property," to inculcate loyalty to the king.

After Governor Johnson's arrival, to take over the tangled affairs of the colony, he became a member of the Council, was again named its President, and served as such until his death.

He had married, October 29th, 1706, Sarah (d. 1722), the daughter of Jonathan Amory, Speaker of the South Carolina House of Commons, by whom he had issue. His second wife, to whom he was married August 3, 1723, was Sarah Wilkinson, widow of Joseph Morton, Esq., Landgrave of Carolina. They had no issue.

In his will, dated June 7, 1734 (proved Dec. 7, 1737), Arthur Middleton left his real estate in Great Britain to his wife Sarah for life, then to his eldest son William, entail. His son Henry inherited his dwelling plantation the Oaks, 1600 acres on Cooper River, and other lands, while Thomas, of this line, received a 1500 acre tract, Boochöy, containing 800 acres, and shared with his brothers lots in Charleston and a 4,705 acre grant of "Yemassee" lands.

His plate, linen, furniture, coach, etc., went to his wife for life, with a brick tenement on Broad Street, Charleston, and one third of his personal estate in Great Britain, Barbados and Carolina. The residue went to his sons Henry and Thomas. His wife Sarah, son William, and cousin Henry Harwood of county Suffolk, Esq., were named executors.⁽⁵⁾

Sarah Middleton, his widow, died at her plantation on Goose Creek September 24, 1765 at the age of 82. The South Carolina Gazette announced that her estate was estimated at £50,000.⁽⁶⁾

Issue of Arthur and Sarah (Amory) Middleton:

1. William (b. 1710), the son and heir, inherited Crowfield in Carolina and Crowfield Hall in County Suffolk, England.

He served in His Majesty's Council for South Carolina, was agent for the province, and a benefactor of the church.

In 1754 he resigned from office, and sold Crowfield, his "elegant and much admired seat" of 1800 acres with its large brick mansion surrounded by gardens, terraces and ornamental water and removed to England. The house was sold with "furniture, china, plate & 300 books &c." There was also his four wheeled chaise, lined with crimson coffoy, and new harness for four horses. A later sketch shows Lady Middleton's coach with crest on the panels.

In England he lived at Crowfield Hall in Suffolk. His son and heir was Sir William Fowle Middleton (1749-1830), a member of Parliament, who was created a baronet in 1804.⁽⁷⁾

2. Henry (1717-June 13, 1784),⁽⁸⁾ second president of the Continental Congress, inherited the Oaks, and a good deal of other property from his father. Through his marriage to Mary Williams he added the estate afterwards known as "Middleton Place." Here he imported an English landscape artist to plan the setting for the brick Tudor house built by his father-in-law John Williams in 1738. For ten years 100 slaves labored to complete the 45 acre garden, and 16 acre lawn, said to be the first landscaped garden in America.⁽⁹⁾

He lived in baronial style, from the revenue of nearly twenty plantations totaling 50,000 acres worked by 800 slaves. His wealth was so great that tradition tells that he raised and supported an entire regiment to fight the Revolution. He had held many offices, was Speaker of the House, and a member of His Majesty's Council. Although a churchman and conservative, with social and political

position and a fortune at stake, he resigned his seat in the Council in September 1770 to become a leader against the British policy.

Chosen to represent the province in the Continental Congress, he became its second president and served from October 22, 1774 to May 10, 1775. Not wishing independence, but hoping that moderate resistance would hasten a reasonable peace, he resigned from Congress when the radicals gained control, and was succeeded by his son Arthur (1742-1787), who was more radical than he. Arthur (1742-1787), too, was a Revolutionary leader and signed the Declaration of Independence.

After the death of Henry's wife Mary (Williams) Middleton in 1761, he married Maria Henrietta (d. 1772), daughter of Lieutenant-Governor William Bull. His third and last wife was Lady Mary MacKenzie, daughter of George, third earl of Cromartie. Of his five sons and seven daughters (several died in youth), all by his first wife, Arthur was the eldest, Thomas became a Revolutionary patriot and generous public servant, Henrietta married Edward Rutledge, and Sarah married Charles Cotesworth Pinckney, both men of distinction in South Carolina.⁽¹¹⁾

3. Thomas, of this line.

Colonel Thomas Middleton

Fourth Generation

Thomas Middleton (1719-Dec. 17, 1766)⁽¹²⁾ was born at the Oaks (?) and, on attaining his majority, entered the House of Commons for St. James parish. After his marriage, when he removed to Granville County, he sat as a member for St. Bartholomew's in 1752, and from then until his death for St. Helena or Prince Williams. His estates were Boochawe Hall and Howe Hall.

In 1750 he was captain in the Berkley County regiment, and in 1759 commanded the gentlemen volunteers in an expedition into the mountains of the Cherokee country. He was commissioned Colonel of the Carolina Regiment September 16, 1760,⁽¹³⁾ and was in command of the campaign against the Cherokees and in the battle of Etchoee.

A controversy arose over precedence between him and Colonel Grant, of the English army in command of the regulars, which resulted in a duel at Charleston. Colonel Middleton's conduct in the matter was highly approved by public opinion, and his popularity rose to great height.

He married, in 174-, Mary (d. Feb. 2, 1760), coheirress of John Bull, Esq. (1693-Aug. 15, 1767) of Bull's Island. John Bull was born at Ashley Hall, the family seat on the Ashley River, and was a captain in the Provincial forces. He bore arms in 1715, and again in 1728 when his first wife, whose name is not known, was carried off by Indians. Afterwards he defeated a party of these Indians.

John Bull's second wife Mary (1699-Nov. 19, 1771), whose surname is unknown, was the mother of his children.

In civil life John served as justice of the peace, was a member of the Commons, and commissioner under the Church Act in 1745. At his death his large estates, including Bull's or Coosaw Island, his principal residence, was shared by his daughters, Anne (1722-Nov. 24, 1754) who married Joseph Izard, Esq., and Mary, of this line. His tomb at Sheldon's Church bears the family coat-of-arms.

John's father was Stephen Bull (d. c. 1706), one of the leaders of the expedition which came from England on the frigate Carolina in 1667-70, and a first settler. As Lord Ashley's Deputy his high character, and behavior in office received great praise, and he was in constant demand by the government. He was master of the ordnance, captain and engineer of the forts 1671-75, captain

and colonel of the Provincial forces 1687-1703; justice of the peace, assistant judge 1683, surveyor general 1685, register 1696, member of the Provincial Parliament 1672, of the Grand Council, 1672-74, and Deputy 1669-72, 1674-82, 1684-91, 1694-99.

As a "great explorer" among the Indians, he was chosen Caseeka of the Etiwans in 1671, and in 1696 was appointed to make a treaty with those of the North Carolina Coast. In 1671 he assisted in selecting the site of Charles Town (Charleston) as his son William would do for Savannah.

Stephen Bull's lands lay at St. Helena, and on the Ashley River where he seated Ashley Hall in 1671, an estate that remained in the family for some 200 years. Its mansion was burned by the owner during the "Confederate War" to keep it out of enemy hands. Here Stephen Bull was buried c. 1706.⁽¹⁴⁾

His eldest son, William (1683-1755),⁽¹⁵⁾ was acting governor of South Carolina, and advised Oglethorpe in locating his first settlement in Georgia. The site of Savannah was chosen, and Bull furnished laborers for a month building the new town. His son William (1710-1791),⁽¹⁶⁾ also had a distinguished career as governor, serving up to the Revolution. He is said to have been the first native born American to receive the degree of Doctor of Medicine, graduating at Leyden in 1734. Although he had a princely fortune at stake in the colonies he remained loyal to the King, and returned with the British troops to England in 1782. There he died in 1791 -- retaining the love and respect of the people of South Carolina.

Colonel Thomas Middleton, of this sketch, traveled abroad in 1753 and 1754, and aside from his extensive planting interests engaged in commerce and banking in Charleston, and Beaufort where he died.

Issue of Thomas and Mary (Bull) Middleton:

1. William (1744-Apr. 7, 1768),⁽¹⁷⁾ his heir, of True Blue, received a large estate from his grandfather John Bull, and was elected to the Commons for St. Helena in 1765 and 1766 with Arthur Middleton, and Sir John Colleton, Bt. He had great promise, but died unmarried at the age of twenty-four. His death made his sisters co-heiresses to the family fortune.
2. Sarah, who was married November 30, 1766 to Benjamin Guerard (d. Jan. 1789), Speaker of the House in 1783, and Governor of South Carolina from 1783 to 1785. They had issue.
3. Mary, of this line, who married Pierce Butler. See Butler.

Colonel Middleton married secondly Anne, daughter of Nathaniel Barnwell, Esq., and by her had issue.

4. Henry (1762-1762).
5. Henry (1765-1765) .
6. Elizabeth (b. Feb. 13, 1764-Aug. 29, 1833), who married June 19, 1782 Thomas Fuller, Esq., and had issue.
7. Anne (Dec. 18, 1766-Jan. 21, 1849), who married May 18, 1785 James Stuart, Esq. of Beaufort, where she died leaving issue.

- (1) Langdon Cheves, "Middleton Of South Carolina," The South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine, I (Jan. 1900), 228-230; Charlotte Manigault (Taylor) Akerly, "The Middletons Of Twickenham, Co. Middlesex, Eng., And Of The Prov. Of Carolina, America" N.Y. Gen. and Biog. Rec., v. 28 (1897), 167-168, 239-241.
- (2) Council Journal, 50.
- (3) Dictionary of American Biography, XII, 598; and Cheves, "Middleton of South Carolina," op. cit., 230.
- (4) Alexander Hewatt, Hist. Acct. of . . . S.C. (1799), I, 312.
- (5) Caroline T. Moore and Agatha Aimar Simmons, Abstracts of The Wills . . . Of S. Carolina 1670-1740 (Columbia, S.C., 1960), I, 282; Cheves, "Middleton Of S.C.," op. cit., 232n3.
- (6) Cheves, Middleton Of S.C., 232 n 2.
- (7) Ibid., 233, n 1, 2, 234-236.
- (8) D.A.B., XII, 600.
- (9) Amer. Guide Series, South Carolina . . . (N.Y., 1941), 285.
- (10) Encyclopaedia Britannica, 11th ed., XVIII, 415.
- (11) D.A.B., XVI, 257; XIV, 614.
- (12) Cheves, "Middleton of S.C.," 260-261; Appletons' Cyclopaedia Of Amer. Biog., IV, 316.
- (13) The S.C. Hist. and Geneal. Mag., III (Jan. 1902), 202-203.
- (14) Ibid., I (1900), 76, 77, 85, 86.
- (15) Ibid., 84, 85; D.A.B., III, 252.

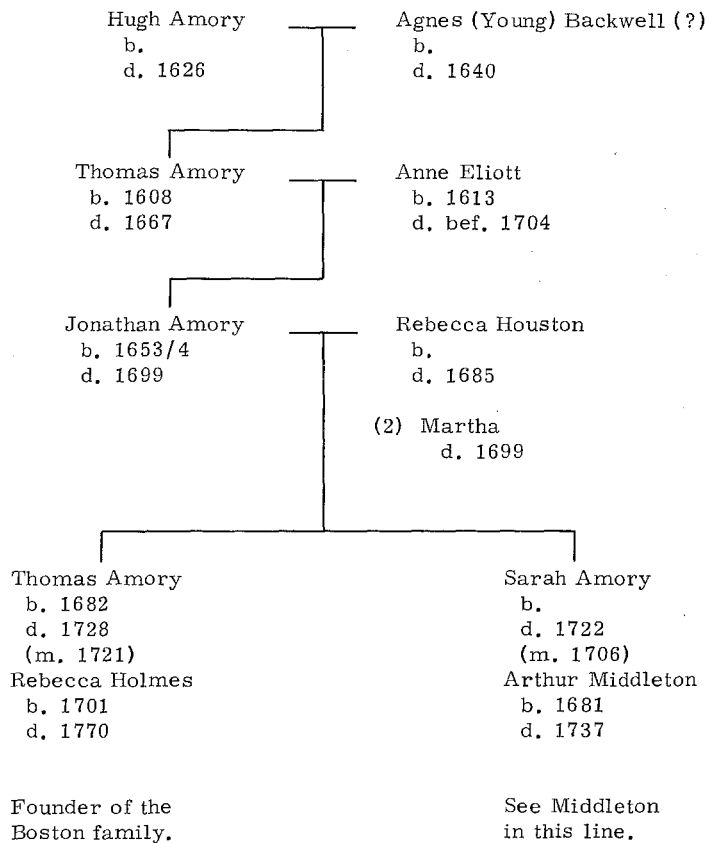
(16) D.A.B., III, 252.

(17) Cheves, "Middleton of S.C.," 262.

Chapter XI

Amory Family

Amory Chart



Hugh Amory Of Wrington

First Generation

Hugh Amory (d. 1626), whose birthplace and parentage are not known, was living in the year 1605 at Wrington in Somersetshire, under the northern side of the Mendip Hills. (1) An unverified note from the Rolls Office states that he was assessed on land and "goods" in 1622 which may have meant merchandise, or stock in trade. He was taxed on land in two rolls for the subsidy of 1621, and was elsewhere called "yeoman," which implies a freehold.

The registers of Wrington church contain the earliest known records of this family. Among the burials is that of "Hughe the sonne of Hughe Amrye," July 22, 1605. John and Hugh, sons of Hugh Amory, were baptized February 27, 1606-7, and June 5, 1608 respectively.

Hugh Amory was buried July 29, 1626, probably within the parish church as were some of his descendants. The church has no monuments of so early a date.

His widow Agnes, the daughter of Nicholas and Joane Younge of Loxton, Somerset, survived and executed her will March 19, 1638 (proved) Sept. 26, 1640) at Wrington, in Somerset. In it she mentions her son Henry Backwell, two former husbands, unnamed, and her last husband Hugh Amory. She was buried August 27, 1640, and in 1642 her son and executor Henry Backwell distributed XL shillings to the poor of Wrington as directed by her will. (2)

Thomas Amory, "Merchant Venturer" Of Bristol

Second Generation

Thomas Amory (1608-1667), (3) "fil Hugon Amory de Wrington in Com. Somset. yeoman . . .," was apprenticed at sixteen to Robert Elliot of the city of Bristol, draper, and Anne his wife September 2, 1624.

Six months after his apprenticeship terminated Thomas married his former master's eldest daughter Anne, November 7, 1631. He had been admitted into the liberties of the City in March, 1630/1 and was a woolendraper. His wife's father was doubtless the first sheriff of Bristol in 1633, and a churchwarden of St. Nicholas Church.

By 1638 Thomas Amory had become a merchant and was admitted to the "Comonaltie of the Arte or Misterie of the Marchantes Adventurers" of Bristol. He engaged in foreign trade, and very likely owned ships -- which in those days were armed against pirates. He was elected one of the ten Assistants of the Merchant Venturers, and served on the Common Council, an election that he held for life. In 1645 he served as Warden of the Merchants' Society, and in April, that year, was on a committee to taste and purchase wines for them -- 'a parcell of Sacke, a parcell of Muscadelle, and a parcell of Malliga wines.'

In 1646 he leased a tenement, mill and lands, of twenty acres, in the manor of Brishington a mile or two from Bristol, towards Bath. Here he built a house called St. Ann's, from a nearby chapel, and added some sixty acres more to his estate.

Thomas continued his civic and business activities in Bristol, was junior, and senior churchwarden, and overseer, of St. Nicholas, and in 1652-3 was the "first sheriff." Sometime before 1662, however, he removed from Bristol to Ireland where he died at Dingle in Kerry in 1667.

By his wife Anne (Elliott) he had ten children including Thomas (d. 1667), who married Elizabeth Fitzmaurice, daughter of Patrick, 19th Baron Kerry of Lixnaw. In 1660, he removed with his family to Ireland as "Victualler General of his . . . Majesty King Charles the Second's ships in that kingdom." In 1663 Queen Catherine wrote to the Duke of Ormond: "I am informed that Mr. Thomas Amory is a very honest Gentleman and one very well affected to the service of the King my dearest Lord and Husband; he is very likely to have need of your protection and my desire . . . is that . . . you will show him all the favor his business is capable of"

Thomas Amory, Esq. received "a grant of Ballyboneene," and other land in County Kerry, some 2,953 acres, "as Plan Meas" in 1666. His house at Galy, Listowel, was about ten miles from Lixnaw in Kerry. He sat in the Irish Parliament from 1661 to 1666, and in his will gave his ". . . stocke of sheepe . . . for the maintenance of my father, mother, sister Mary and sister Ann and brothers Henry and Jonathan" If Thomas, his son and heir died without issue, and he had no other son by his wife, his estate was to descend to his "two eldest brothers, John, Robert, Henry or Jonathan as they shall bee then living and their heires to bee equally divided betwixt them . . ." subject to 1,000 pounds sterling for each of the testator's daughters.

Jonathan Amory, his youngest brother, was of this line.

Jonathan Amory, Merchant And Advocate General

Third Generation

Jonathan Amory (Mar. 14, 1653/4-1699)⁽⁵⁾ was baptised at St. Nicholas' Church, Bristol, April 2, 1654, and was brought up in Ireland where, following the family tradition, he became a merchant in Dublin. There, in 1675, he was the nominal buyer from the city of the north strand of the Liffey. Maps of Dublin as late as 1728 mark a part of it as "Amory's Ground," and in 1816 an annual income of £2-10s. rent from "Jonathan Amory" (sic) still formed an item in the city's income. Needless to say neither Jonathan nor his heirs continued to pay this. The real purchaser had been Humphrey Jervis, one of the sheriffs and a merchant to whom Jonathan was probably apprenticed. It was a scheme, sanctioned by the Lord Lieutenant, the Earl of Essex (Capel of Wrington), to reclaim the land shown at low tide on the north side of the river, and making streets there.

Jonathan Amory was married by license dated May 31, 1677, at Dublin, to Rebecca Houston, widow of David Houston, mariner, of St. Andrew's Parish, Dublin.

For the next nine years little is known of Jonathan's life. In 1678 his brother Robert had left Galway for the West Indies, and some time after May, 1682, he and his wife Rebecca followed with their infant children Judith and Thomas, and Rebecca's daughter Ann Houston. After their arrival Rebecca died, probably about 1685. Thomas, the son, tradition tells, lost his mother while too young to remember her.

Jonathan's second wife Martha, whose maiden name is unknown, must have married him by 1689-90, as his daughter Sarah, who seems to have been by Martha, could hardly have been born later, since she married Arthur Middleton in 1706.

In 1686 Jonathan removed with his young family to Charleston, South Carolina, where he is mentioned as residing in a letter from the Lords Proprietors in November, 1691. In 1692 he was returned as a member for Berkeley County to Governor Ludwell's first parliament. He was named Speaker, and as such signed the first "American Bill of Rights." It dealt not only with the difficulties of the moment, but with the fundamental questions at issue between the proprietors and their colonists. This was probably in 1695, and when John Archdale, the acting governor, returned that year to England he took with him the address of the representatives of the freemen of South Carolina signed by Jonathan Amory, Speaker.

When the crown established Courts of Admiralty in the colonies, Jonathan Amory was made Advocate General in South Carolina under His Majesty's commission. He was also Public Treasurer by appointment of the Proprietary Government.

From May, 1694 and for four successive years the Proprietors' record of land grants lists him as owner of eleven town lots and 1,200 acres outside the town in one list, and nine town lots and 5,680 acres outside in another. At his death he owned other town-lots and plantations not bought directly from the Proprietors, while some of his land had been sold.

His will, dated November 23, 1697, named, among others, his loving wife Martha, who received his dwelling house in "Charles Town," and all the land paled in about it, during her natural life. She also inherited her wearing apparel and all the plate and household goods in the house. His daughters Sarah, of this line, and Anne received £300 each. The residue of his estate went to his loving wife Martha, and sons Thomas and Robert Amory, equally divided. His wife was named sole executrix, during her life, and then to be succeeded by Thomas and Robert. He also left £10 to Sarah Rhett, daughter of Captain William Rhett, to buy a gold chain.

The year 1699 brought "a most infectious pestilential and mortal distemper" to Charleston about August 28th, which raged until the first of November. At least one hundred and sixty persons

were killed including many public officials and almost half the members of the Assembly. Among the former were Mr. Amory, the receiver for the Public Treasury.

Martha, his widow, died soon after having first executed her will in which she provided for the care of her three little children and of the property that belonged to them and their absent half-brother Thomas. This she did by entrusting her estate with Captain and Mrs. William Rhett. To Mrs. Sarah Rhett, her dear friend, she left her gold watch, her horse and "horse nets," and quilted petticoat. Her son Robert inherited her wedding ring; her daughter Sarah, her gold girdle buckle, gold locket and six silver spoons, while Anne received her gold shoe buckles, a gold buckle "of my night Raile" and six silver spoons. Her (step) son Thomas inherited her largest silver tankard. The residue of her estate was divided between Thomas and Robert Amory, with Thomas's part, if he should die in his minority without issue, reverting to Robert and the two girls. Her beloved friend Mrs. Sarah Rhett was named executrix, and her beloved son Robert Amory, executor. Mrs. Rhett was to administer the estate during Robert's minority and to have charge of the children's education.

Robert and Anne died soon after their mother, and as Thomas Amory was in England, Sarah Rhett was named executrix and "curatrix" of Thomas, Jonathan Amory's only son and heir; and guardian to Sarah Amory, Jonathan's only living daughter.

The Amory town house was rented to two colonial governors, Col. James Moore and Sir Nathaniel Johnson, during the minority of the children, but was unfortunately burned down after which Colonel and Mrs. Rhett built a house for themselves on the site. Mrs. Rhett's accounts of the Amory estate mentions, besides sixteen town lots, over 3,000 acres outside the town with slaves on the various plantations. When two of the family servants died in November, 1699, Mrs. Rhett charged the estate with the cost of "inviting the People" to their funerals. Her accounts listed a percentage of cargoes to and from the West Indies, the sale of skins from the tanyard, and "1025 foot of Boards to make the Silk Works

at the Plantation." She also paid freight on the "Public Library."

Meanwhile Thomas Amory (May 1682-June 20, 1728),⁽⁶⁾ the only surviving son, had been sent to London to be educated under the care of his cousin, Thomas Amory, the only son of his uncle Thomas, of Bunratty Castle, Ireland. Five years later Thomas was bound an apprentice to a French merchant in London named Nicolas Oursel who sent him, at the expiration of his apprenticeship, as his factor to Terceira in the Azores. There he established himself as a merchant trading with different countries in the world. His letter books, written in French, English, and Portuguese, contain the records of his transactions. The confidence that he inspired gained for him the posts of consul for the Dutch, French, and English governments.

These he resigned in 1719 and sailed for Boston and thence to Charleston where he intended to settle and marry Sarah, the daughter of Colonel and Mrs. William Rhett. They had made the offer in 1713, when he desired to be married by proxy and that she come to him. ". . . I don't desire yt anything of her fortune should be sent with her no further than her wearing apparel and a maid to accompany her. . . ." If she did not like it there he would settle his affairs and take her where she pleases in two and a half years. She had a good education in writing, arithmetic, French, music and dancing, "As to her Person I can't say she is a celebrated Beauty," one correspondent said, "but . . . is a very agreeable young woman of great Modesty, agreeable Humor & Good Sense." (7)

The marriage did not materialize, for when he arrived in Charleston he found that she had been promised to another.

In the spring of 1720 he visited Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, and New York, but decided to settle in Boston where he bought land and built a wharf and still-house. As a bold and able merchant he rapidly extended his shipping business with the West Indies, Great Britain and various other ports; invested in ship-building, and distilled rum and turpentine in Boston. He married Rebecca

Holmes in 1721, whose father Thomas Holmes owned the "Bunch of Grapes" tavern in Boston.

Thomas Amory's death was caused by falling into the cistern of his still-house. From him the well-known Amory family of Boston descends.

There is an interesting letter from Thomas Amory, dated at Boston December 9, 1720, to Mr. John Amory at Taunton, in Somersetshire, in which he speaks of meeting his son, Simon Amory, and as he could not tell him whether they were related, he asked the father for that information. In the letter he reviews his family history from his grandfather Thomas Amory "whom lived at Bristol." He then tells about himself, and of his first plan to settle in South Carolina where he had a small estate, "but finding So(.) Carolina sickly did not like living there" (8)

There is nothing to show that this letter was answered, or even received. The question is still unanswered. Mr. Simon Amory, whose brother's great-grandson was Sir John Heathcoat Amory, M.P., is not mentioned again in the letter-books. The baronet's father, Samuel Amory, corresponded with Mr. T.C. Amory and other members of the Boston family from about 1840. He was unable to trace his line farther back than this John Amory of Taunton. This family is represented today by Sir John Heathcoat-Amory (b. 1894), 3rd Baronet, of Knightshayes Court, Tiverton, Devon, whose pedigree begins with John Amory, of Taunton, Somerset, for whom no dates are given. His son, in this line, was Thomas Amory (1700-1774). (9)

The brother and heir presumptive of Sir John, is Sir Derick Heathcoat Amory, first Viscount Amory, who has held high government office including Chancellor of the Exchequer, 1958-1960, and High Commissioner for the United Kingdom in Canada, 1961-. His pedigree has not been traced beyond the John Amory of Taunton in either Burke's Peerage (1963) or his biography, The Reluctant Politician: Derick Heathcoat Amory, by Gore Allen (London, 1958). (10) The long acquaintanceship between his family and the Boston Amorys, as well as the surname, is evidently why he spoke at one of the meetings of the Boston Amorys. (11)

In his letter to John Amory at Taunton, dated December 11, 1720, Thomas Amory of Boston also tells that he has a sister in South Carolina "Married to Mr. Arthur Middleton one of the richest Men of the place. . . ." Sarah's guardian, Mrs. Sarah Rhett, was also pleased with the match which she doubtless helped to arrange. "I have nothing to add since those were wrote," she said in a letter to Thomas on November 20, 1706, "but that yor Sister is married to Mr. Arthur Middleton, & it is much to my satisfaction, he is a very sober Ingenious man & is worth £800 or £1,000 & is believed to be one of the best matches in the Country. I doubt not but she will be very happy. She was married 29th of October last & now we shall with all possible speed come to the division of the Estate I suppose Mr. Middleton writes by this opportunity" (12)

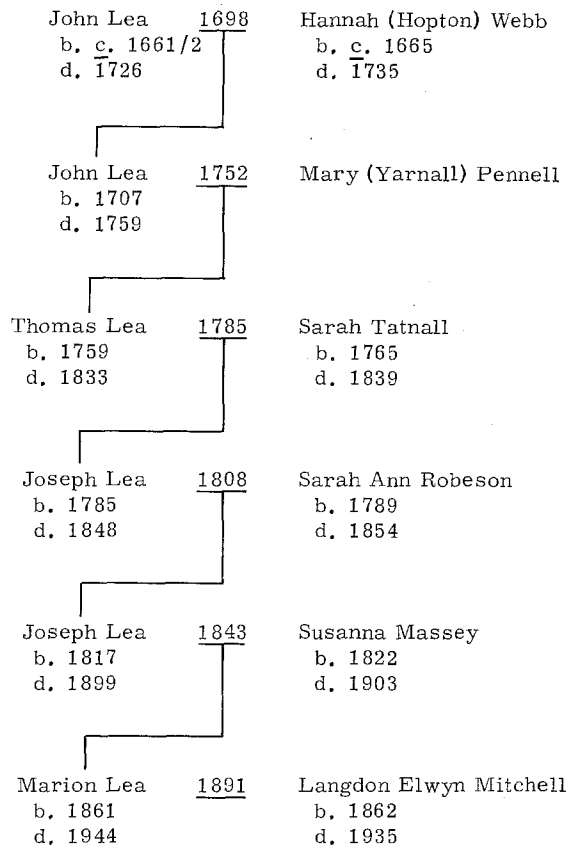
Sarah (Amory) Middleton is an ancestress of this family. See Middleton line.

- (1) Gertrude Euphemia Meredith, The Descendants of Hugh Amory 1605-1805 (London, 1901), 1-22.
- (2) Ibid., 3-6.
- (3) Ibid., 10-22.
- (4) Ibid., 23-25.
- (5) Ibid., 15, 25-41.
- (6) Ibid., 42-108; Dictionary of American Biography (1943), I, 260.
- (7) Meredith, Hugh Amory, 64, 65.
- (8) Ibid., 87, 88, 89.
- (9) Peter Townsend, editor, Burke's Genealogical and Heraldic History of the Peerage Baronetage and Knightage (London, 1963), 65.
- (10) Ibid.
- (11) This fact is from Mrs. Valentine Mitchell Gammell.
- (12) Meredith, Hugh Amory, 48, 49, 87, 88, 343, etx.

Chapter XII

Lea and Robeson Families

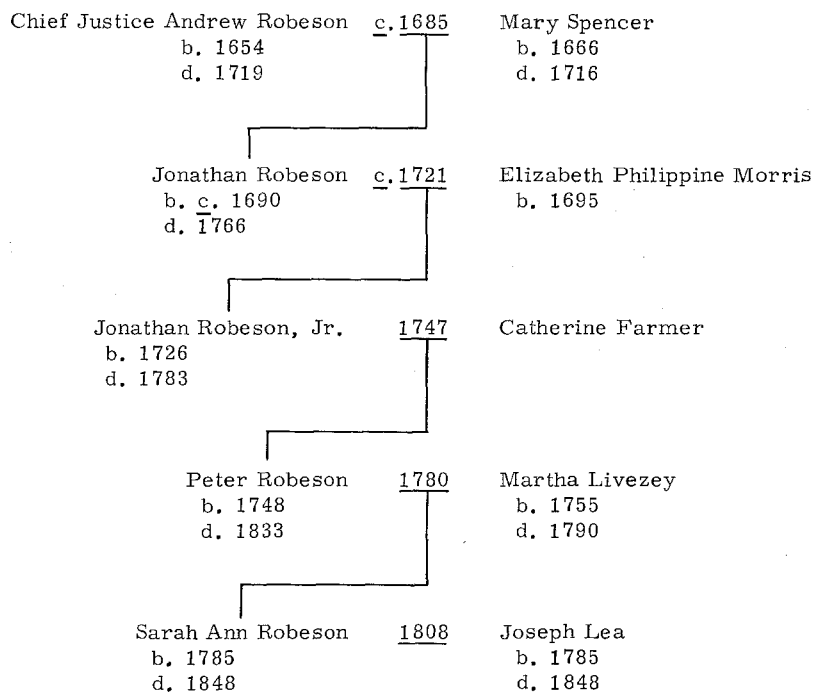
Lea Chart 1



(Parents of Helena Mary Langdon Mitchell Day)

(See Mitchell)

Robeson Chart



(See Lea)

John Lea The Emigrant

Fourth Generation

John Lea (bapt. July 12, 1674-10 mo. 27, 1726),⁽¹⁾ who founded this well-known Pennsylvania-Delaware family, was the son of John and Joane Lea of Christian Malford, Wiltshire, England. He was fourth in descent from Baldwin Lea (c. 1550-bet. 1609-22) of Dawntsey, Wiltshire, a warden in the church, whose son George (d. 1640), John's grandfather, settled at Christian Malford in 1599 and used the Lion Rampant on his seal, the arms of the Leighs of East Hall, High Leigh, in Cheshire. Beyond Baldwin Lea the pedigree has not been definitely proved.

John, the American emigrant, was a wool stapler by trade and probably removed for business reasons to Gloucestershire where the industry was centered. He was converted to Quakerism about 1691, and was married 12 month 1st, 1697/8, at Gloucestershire Friends Meeting to Hannah (Hopton) Webb (c. 1665-Sept. 24, 1735), widow of Joseph Webb and daughter of Samuel and Mary (Whitcombe) Hopton.

Not long after this John and Hannah left for Pennsylvania with their certificate of good character from their local meeting. Sailing on the Canterbury from Portsmouth in September, 1699, they accompanied William Penn when he returned to his province with his new wife Hannah, twenty year old daughter Letitia, and secretary James Logan.

The crossing was rough and tedious, and the passengers tired and bored until an armed vessel hove in sight. It seemed about to give chase and the captain cleared the decks for action. Knowing the Quakers testimony against fighting, he suggested that Penn and his party retire to the cabin. This they did -- except James Logan who manned a gun. As it turned out the ship proved friendly and when Logan went below to tell his master, Penn re-

buked him before the whole company for preparing to fight contrary to Quaker principles. Logan was piqued, and replied: "I being thy servant, why did thee not order me to come down? But thee was willing enough that I should stay and help to fight when thee thought there was danger." Years later Logan told the story to his friend Benjamin Franklin who wrote it in his Autobiography.

It was late November, 1699 when the Canterbury's battered and sea-weary passengers entered Delaware Bay. News of Penn's arrival spread up the coast and people lined the shores to bid him welcome. At Chester two rusty cannons fired a salute (one blew off a young man's arm), and all Philadelphia was at the waterfront to greet him. This was on First Day (Sunday), December 3, so John and Hannah Lea, with their infant son Isaac, doubtless repaired to the meeting house to hear Penn speak and give thanks to God for their safe arrival.⁽²⁾ Little attention was paid to Penn's tall young secretary James Logan, destined to become a dominant figure in the colony. He would help mold Philadelphia into the intellectual capital of colonial America, a culture to which John Lea's descendants: Henry Charles Lea, the historian, Isaac Lea, the naturalist and publisher, Mathew Carey Lea, chemist, Anna Massey (Lea) Merritt, artist,⁽³⁾ and Marion (Lea) Mitchell, actress, would add lustre in the 18th and 19th centuries.

When John and Hannah Lea arrived, Philadelphia was a booming mart of trade, and John would have little difficulty setting up his wool stapling business. In 1701, however, he bought a 136 acre farm at Concord, now in Delaware County, to which he removed, then later lived at Chester and Springfield, Pennsylvania.

Both he and his wife were valued ministers in the Society of Friends, and traveled as such from New England to Virginia. One of their companions was Thomas Chalkley whose Journal became staple Quaker reading. Whittier, the poet, describes him in Snowbound.⁽⁴⁾

Chalkley wrote an obituary on John Lea when he died at

Springfield which said in part: "He was a living serviceable Minister of the Gospel of Christ and instrumental to convince divers of that principle of Divine light and truth which we possess. . . ."

Hannah Lea died September 24, 1735 at the house of her son-in-law Joseph Bonsall at Darby. Her will, executed 9th month 16th, 1734 (proved Oct. 17, 1735), named her Lea children, and Webb grandchildren.

Issue of John and Hannah (Hopton) Lea, among others, Isaac and John, who are both ancestors of this family.

John Lea of Chester

Fifth Generation

John Lea (Sept. 13, 1707-Apr. 8, 1759)⁽⁵⁾ married first Hannah (1713-1750/1), the daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Jones) Edge. After her death he married Mary (Yarnall) Pennell at Chester May 7, 1752. She was the widow of Thomas Pennell and daughter of John and Abigail Yarnall. Her grandparents Philip and Dorothea (Baker) Yarnall had come from Warwickshire, England, to Springfield in 1684, and later lived at Edgemont in Chester County.

John Lea died at Chester, Pennsylvania, after executing his will April 7, 1759 (proved May 1, 1759). His widow was named sole executrix. She remarried in 1763 Jonas Preston by whom she had Jonas, M.D. who founded the Preston retreat in Philadelphia.

Children of John and Hannah (Yarnall) Lea, among others, were Ann who married Daniel Corbit, Jr. of New Castle, County, on the Delaware, whose brother William built the well known Corbit house at Odessa, Delaware, and Thomas Lea, of this line.⁽⁶⁾

Thomas Lea The Miller

Sixth Generation

Thomas Lea (May 22, 1759-Sept. 4, 1833)⁽⁷⁾ was born in Chester, and married in Wilmington, Delaware, January 20, 1785 Sarah Tatnall (Nov. 27, 1765-Sept. 4, 1839), his first cousin twice removed. She was an heiress, her father being Joseph Tatnall a successful shipping merchant and miller on the Brandywine. Her mother was Elizabeth Lea. (See Lea Chart II)

Thomas Lea entered his father-in-law's business, and later established the Lea milling firm that was famous for fine flour throughout the world.

An interesting description of him is given by the Duke de la Rochefoucauld in his *Travels Through North America* when he visited Joseph Tatnall's mill in 1797. Thomas Lea, Tatnall's son-in-law, he said, "took upon himself the trouble of showing me the whole of it. He is also a Quaker, about 30 years of age; he is a handsome, cheerful, active man. Like a true American patriot, he persuades himself, that nowhere is any undertaking executed so well or with so much ingenuity as in America, that the spirit, invention and genius of Europe are in a state of decrepitude (these are his words) whilst the genius of America, full of vigor, is arriving at perfection."

Lea, he said, "is a most cordial and obliging man, and answers all my questions with great politeness."

Elizabeth Montgomery tells that Thomas Lea "was among the useful, enterprising and wealthy men of his day. . . ." He was often heard to say "how much he had been blessed; everything seemed to prosper in his hands; his family were just as he wished they should be; he had secured them a competency of this world's goods, and he could now take his ease."

In 1811 he built the largest mill ever constructed on the Brandywine. It was in operation but a short time, and filled with the finest grain, when "lo! trouble came upon him like a mighty rushing wind." This queen of mills was laid in ruins by a tremendous fire, the fragments of which continued burning for a week. Next a daughter died with consumption, and a son died in a foreign land -- until seven out of his nine children predeceased him. "His riches took wings and flew away," and lastly, said Miss Montgomery, "disease seized his mortal frame, and brought down his gray hairs in sorrow to the grave."

Thomas and Sarah (Tatnall) Lea had twelve children, most of whom died in infancy or unmarried. Joseph, the eldest, is of this line.

Joseph Lea of Philadelphia

Seventh Generation

Joseph Lea (Dec. 5, 1785-Jan. 22, 1848)⁽⁸⁾ was born in Wilmington, but removed to Philadelphia in 1803. He married at Germantown Friends Meeting May 13, 1808 Sarah Ann Robeson (May 18, 1789-Apr. 17, 1854) whose father, Peter Robeson (Sept. 30, 1748-Nov. 9, 1833), lived at "Shoomac Park" at the junction of Wisahickon Creek and the Schuylkill River.

Here he entertained the Duke de la Rochefoucauld in 1795 who described his pleasant visit.

Peter Robeson's wife was Martha (June 3, 1755-1790), daughter of Thomas, II and Martha (Knowles) Livezey, and they were married November 15, 1780. Peter's portrait by Sully is reproduced in the Robeson Genealogy.⁽⁹⁾

The first of this line in America was Andrew Robeson, Jr.

(1654-Feb. 19, 1719)⁽¹⁰⁾ who came to this country with his uncle Andrew Robeson about 1676 and settled in Burlington County, New Jersey. There the uncle acquired large tracts of land, and also purchased "Shoomac Park," in Philadelphia County, which Andrew Jr. later owned. It remained in the family until 1862. Andrew, Jr.'s wife was Mary Spencer (1666-Nov. 12, 1716) and they were married about 1685.

Andrew, Jr. was Chief Justice of Pennsylvania from 1693 to 1699. He represented Burlington County, New Jersey, in the House of Representatives in 1697, and served in the Provincial Council of New Jersey in 1701.⁽¹¹⁾

The line of descent from Andrew, Jr. is through his son Jonathan (c. 1690-1766) and his wife Elizabeth Philippine Morris (b. 1695); their son Judge Jonathan, Jr. (1726-1783) and his wife Catherine Farmer (her grandfather Major Jasper Farmer purchased 5,000 acres in Whitemarsh Township, Pennsylvania, where the family lived), and their son Peter Robeson (1748-1833) who married Martha Livezey.⁽¹²⁾

After his marriage Joseph Lea and his wife lived on south Front Street, near Pine in Philadelphia, then a fashionable address. Their summers were spent at "Milverton," a beautiful house in a grove near the Schuylkill opposite "Shoomac Park." Joseph Lea joined his father-in-law in the milling business in 1825. After Joseph's death Sarah (Robeson) Lea lived in Germantown.⁽¹³⁾

Of their twelve children Thomas Tatnall Lea (1809-1882), the eldest, was one of the organizers of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and a member of its first board of directors⁽¹⁴⁾ while Joseph Lea, Jr., the third son, is of this line.

Joseph Lea, Junior

Eighth Generation

Joseph Lea, Jr. (Nov. 22, 1817-Sept. 9, 1899)⁽¹⁵⁾ was a well known and successful business man in Philadelphia. His taste, however, inclined to literature and history, and he directed his daughters' education in an unusual way. When these six girls were old enough they were taken abroad to live for the educational advantages that Britain and the continent had to offer.

His wife was Susanna (8th mo. 10, 1822-Dec. 9, 1903), daughter of Robert Valentine and Anna (Kimber) Massey of Philadelphia. They were married at her parents house, 205 North 4th Street, November 29, 1843 by Quaker ceremony, though Susanna's taste was far from plain. A French barber, Monsieur La Page, came to dress her and her bridesmaids' hair and her wedding clothes were imported. A wit, commenting on these, said her dress and veil did have the scent of good leather, in which wholesale business her father made his fortune.

At the height of Joseph Lea's prosperity his uninsured cotton-print factory was destroyed by fire, a financial catastrophe from which he did not recover. It was his second failure, having gone bankrupt during the Civil War. After the fire the family lived less luxuriously on Susanna's allowance from her father which was generous.

Joseph Lea was a member of the Union League at its inception, and of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

The children of Joseph and Susanna (Massey) Lea were:

1. Anna Massey (b. Sept. 14, 1844-1930),⁽¹⁶⁾ was the oldest of the six sisters of Marion Lea (Mitchell). She was privately educated at home and at school, but despite an eager desire to paint, evinced in early childhood, she was firmly discour-

aged by her family. She was forced instead to practice the piano. As a school child she was one winter permitted to have a few Saturday morning art lessons from William H. Furness, Jr., a young Philadelphian on holiday from art school in Munich. At the age of fourteen she was sent to a coeducational boarding school in New Jersey called Eagleswood. These were happy days. Classes in mathematics, the classics were shared with the boys and the life included games and debating, rowing, skating, and swimming in the Raritan River, but still there was no teaching of drawing or painting. However, she sometimes persuaded other students to pose for crayon portraits. Later she attended the Agassiz School in Cambridge, Massachusetts. After school days were over she rented a tiny room over a shop where she drew from plaster casts and tried self-portraits in solitude.

During the Civil War she worked for the wounded and met both General Grant and Lincoln in Philadelphia.

In 1865 she went with her family to Europe for some years. For a short time in Florence she received a little private instruction and criticism on her work from Signor Ussi of the Academy there. As she was a woman he could not of course admit her to the academy. However, she constantly visited museums and picture galleries and began making oil copies in the Luxembourg on her own initiative. In 1869 she found herself in Dresden. There Hoffman, lately of the Paris Academie des Beaux Arts, now director of the art school in Dresden, could not -- again -- admit her to the school as it was for men only. He agreed, however, to visit her studio occasionally. She managed to obtain models, paid or voluntary and painted continually, financing her work by her dress allowance to the subsequent horror of her father. During this time she received six visits of instruction from Herr Hoffman. She did a portrait of her sister Fanny which was exhibited in the spring of 1871 at the Royal Academy in London.

She said, later in life, that while in Dresden she was permitted a few times to work in a life class by sitting in a sort of balcony above the class and partly behind curtains. She had managed to study anatomy at the Women's Medical College in Philadelphia. The course had included dissection. This she did in imitation of Michel Angelo.

Soon after this season in Dresden she found herself alone in Paris as the Franco-Prussian war broke out with a crippled and delicate sister on her hands. Because of the sister she gave up her plan of study in the Parisian ateliers and fled to London. Again she could find no art school of standing available to women. At this time she met Henry Merritt a noted art critic and restorer. He became her friend and critic and in 1877 they were married. He died the same year.

From 1871 she made her home in England exhibiting nearly every year at the Royal Academy until 1915. She crossed the Atlantic sixty-nine times to paint portraits and to visit her family. She became a member of the Royal Society of Painter-Etchers. She received three medals from international exhibitions and one Honourable Mention for her first study of the nude although her life class work had been so extremely sketchy. She had a large portrait practice on both sides of the Atlantic for many decades. She produced 162 portraits, some of them double or group portraits. Among her sitters were, for example, members of the Furness and Sturgis families, General Dix, Governor of New Jersey, the Countess of Dufferin, wife of the Governor General of Canada, James Russell Lowell when he was U.S. Ambassador (now at Harvard University), Oliver Wendell Holmes, Henry James, Ellen Terry, her sister Marion Lea when she was on the London stage, the Earl and Countess of Dundonald, Mrs. W. Holman Hunt, Sir Colin Moncrieff, and members of the Marquand family. She was especially successful with children.

She also painted 163 subject pictures, 14 large murals, and many etchings. Several of the murals were those for the 1893 Chicago Fair Woman's Building. She also painted many landscapes in the neighborhood of Hurstbourne Tarrant. One fanciful picture "Love Locked Out" was painted soon after Henry Merritt's death. It was bought for the Chantry Collection and for many decades hung in the Tate Gallery in London, the only painting there by a living woman. She published three books, one a memoir of her husband, which she illustrated with etchings, and later "A Hamlet in Old Hampshire" and "An Artist's Garden" both illustrated by herself.

Her sister Marion accused her of obstinacy. Certainly some had been necessary to overcome the great obstacles she faced in the early course of her career. Her brother-in-law Langdon only commented that she was given to changing her religious affiliation not infrequently and that each time she asserted staunchly that at last she had found the true religion. At any rate she died in the bosom of the Church of England having begun life as a Quaker in the City of Brotherly Love.

After some years of living in the London house on Tite Street in Chelsea, Anna Lea Merritt removed, in 1891, to a charming brick cottage on the edge of Hurstbourne Tarrant, a village in Hampshire. There she designed and worked in an exquisite small garden dominated by an enormous and venerable yew tree. She built a large studio at the end of the garden where she continued to work into the early years of World War I. In the early twenties she wrote her memoirs. These were distributed to the family.

She died after a short illness in April 1930.

Though eventually recognized and successful in her chosen field, her goal was only achieved with great effort and resolve. A woman hewing out a path to a professional career in those days was doing pioneer work. She had to cut through traditions and conventions at every step. Although she was considered the ugly duckling of a beautiful family, there is

no doubt that her warm personality and lively mind, her quality -- natural and humorous, enabled her to build such a large portrait practice. Her subject paintings though well executed are tintured with a rather heavy freight of Victorian sentimentality whereas her portraits are often strong and straightforward in their approach.

To quote from Miss Edith Emerson, a Philadelphia painter of a later time, writing of Anna Lea Merritt, "Her picture called 'The Little Quakeress' seems to symbolize her attitude throughout life. It shows a child, severely dressed in silver gray, marveling at a brilliant red poppy she holds in her hand. One of Anna Lea's grandfathers was rebuked by Quaker elders for his inordinate love of tulips, and her mother when a girl at Kimberton stole the meeting house key that she might dance and sing there all by herself. Endowed with that unquenchable love of beauty which distinguishes the artist, their descendant challenged every difficulty in the way of its expression. She gives the best possible reason for her choice of a lifework, 'I simply determined to paint because I could not help it.' "

* * * * *

Children of Joseph and Susanna (Massey) Lea continued:

2. Florence (b. Feb. 11, 1846), who died young.
3. Frances (b. June 26, 1847-), married Arthur N. Whiting of Boston, Massachusetts, whose daughter Ethel married into the Otis family of Boston.
4. Bertha (Dec. 4, 1848-Dec. 10, 1925), was a great beauty. A story of her is told that a priest crossing the street with the sacrament in Philadelphia stared so hard that he tripped and spilled the blood of Christ in the gutter!

General Grant, who met her in Paris, said he had seen no such beauty as hers in his trip around the world!

She married in Paris, March 5, 1868, Charles Allard Low of San Francisco, California, and had issue. Her daughter Josephine married Charles Barnes, a Boston lawyer, and one of their daughters is Elizabeth (Betty) who married Robert Stone of Boston.

5. Gertrude (Feb. 18, 1850-Oct. 22, 1933), was an accomplished pianist, and married, in Philadelphia, William H. Fearing (Jan. 19, 1844-Jan. 23, 1901), and had three sons, of whom Lea Fearing, now deceased, was the father of Gertrude (Mrs. Carol Lyttle) of New York.

6. Julia (b. Dec. 14, 1853) was crippled in early life by tuberculosis of the hip bone. She died unmarried.

7. Marion (May 9, 1861-June 7, 1944),⁽¹⁸⁾ of this line, the youngest of Joseph and Susanna's seven daughters, spent many years of her early childhood in Europe mainly on the continent. She returned to Philadelphia about the age of ten and attended the Agnes Irwin School for girls for several years. Due to financial pressures her education stopped early even for those days. She had a conventional Philadelphia society coming out year but at the age of twenty-one, not having married, and in view of her father's business difficulties, she made the determination, astonishing in 1882, to go on the stage. It was also very surprising in view of her Quaker, later Unitarian, background.

Her first idea was grand opera as she had a fine dramatic soprano voice. She went to London to live with her sister in Chelsea and studied under the younger Garcia, a celebrated teacher of singing and acting. At the end of six months he decided that her voice would never be large enough for grand opera but thought he detected considerable talent for acting and suggested the legitimate stage. She continued to work with Garcia for the remainder of the year and then made her debut in London as Audrey in "As You Like It" at the Haymarket theatre. Her performance was much admired by

Graham Robertson in his later memoirs, though he failed to remember the name of the actress.

She followed her debut with a long stint of three years touring England in a stock company to gain experience and skill. Despite warnings that it would be impossible, she shortly found work on her return to London and continued to act almost constantly, starring and co-starring as time went on.

No doubt the fact that she was lovely looking helped her in getting parts. She was considered rather tall for that time with a finely curved oval face, a beautiful fine-grained and glowing complexion, well cut blue eyes, straight brown hair, and a pleasingly tilted nose. She resolutely refused to lace her well curved figure. (This lack of lacing was denounced by some of her Philadelphia acquaintances as "disgusting.")

She also showed imagination and great pertinacity in going after roles.

With Elizabeth Robins she co-produced and acted in "Hedda Gabler" one of the first Ibsen productions to be seen in the English speaking world. Elizabeth Robins says of Marion Lea: "There was an actress -- skilled, eager, highly sensitive . . . striking originality . . . loyalty to her author . . . keen appreciation of good stage management . . . of playing with the whole orchestra . . . a perception of character so independent, clean-cut, daring, that people who had seen her success in Shakespearean comedy hardly recognized her when she came on, for instance, in Thea. Her performance of Thea was a triumph of art; but so unforced, so true to life, that people wouldn't believe she was acting at all. The result was she never had one-tenth of the recognition she deserved. . . . One of the few who did not fall into this error was Mr. Bernard Shaw. . . . Had he been in a position to write (at that time) some of the things he said about her performance of Thea, the manager's eyes would have been opened."

In the late eighties Langdon Mitchell turned up in London

hoping to become a playwright. Langdon and Marion Lea had known each other as children in Philadelphia. Now was added the bond of a consuming interest in the theater and even more deeply mutual rebellion against their respective families and childhood backgrounds. They were married in 1891 from the Tite Street house of Anna Lea Merritt. (Among those who attended the ceremony was Virginia Woolf, then aged about six.) Soon after this Marion deserted the London stage hoping to act in America to which she and Langdon returned in 1892. Sometime after the birth of her first child she joined a touring company run by the Kendall's and trouped around the States for a couple of years. After this she determined to retire, but in 1907 at the time of the production of Langdon Mitchell's "New York Idea" with Mrs. Fiske in the lead she was asked to play Vida Phillimore. At first she refused to come out of retirement but a few weeks later, the family having been involved in a stupendous bank crash, she accepted and played with Minnie Fiske, George Arliss, and John Mason for a year in this brilliantly successful comedy of divorce. This was her last venture on the stage.

In the following years the family center alternated between Cornish, New Hampshire then an artists' colony, Philadelphia, Europe, and Washington, D.C. In 1923 having married off their youngest child they settled in a house in New York City and built a summer home in Santa Fe, New Mexico. In both places they found many congenial spirits and a good life.

With her tremendous and abounding vitality, Marion Lea had an almost frightening quality of force. Aided too by a ringing voice she projected easily far across the foot lights. In social life this was all veiled by an exquisite nineteenth century facade of the "lady-like" yet enlivened by humor and spontaneity. But in her family life an uncontrolled irritability, a constant nervous anxiety, and a wild temper made her a destructive parent and a difficult wife. These traits were certainly exacerbated by her partially frustrated career as well as by the spendthrift ways of her husband. With all this,

and despite accumulating arthritis and recurrent pneumonia, she retained to her end at eighty-three a splendidly spirited outlook, a love of life that drew new friends to her on into her last years.

She died in Manhattan a few days after a single stroke in early June of 1944. In her last conscious moments she was rejoicing with characteristic intensity in the radio report of the American Army's entering into Rome, nor was she yet disturbed by the news of the Normandy landings so soon to follow.

On her tombstone she had carved her name and date and one word: Actress.

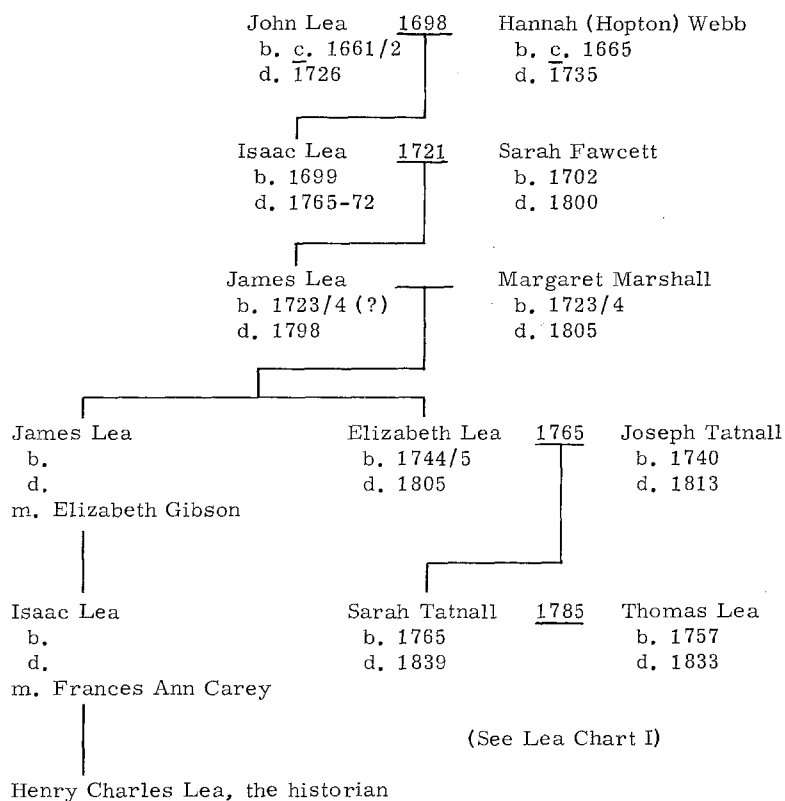
- (1) James Henry Lea and George Henry Lea, The Ancestry and Posterity of John Lea of Christian Malford, Wiltshire, England. . . . (Philadelphia, Pa., 1906), 51-53, 55, 63-66.
- (2) Sophie Hutchinson Drinker, Hannah Penn and The Proprietorship Of Pennsylvania (Philadelphia, 1958), 7, 8; Frederick B. Tolles, James Logan and the Culture of Provincial America (Boston, 1957), 12, 13, 15, 16.
- (3) D.A.B., XI, 67, 70, 71; Appletons' Cyclopaedia of Amer. Biog., IV, 308.
- (4) D.A.B., III, 592.
- (5) Ancestry and Posterity of John Lea, op. cit., 69, 75.
- (6) John A.H. Sweeney, Grandeur on the Appoquinimink: The House of William Corbit At Odessa, Delaware (Univ. of Del. Press, 1959), 3, 4, 16, 39.
- (7) Ancestry and Posterity of John Lea, 76; Elizabeth Montgomery, Reminiscences of Wilmington. . . . (Philadelphia, 1851), 17.
- (8) Ancestry and Posterity of John Lea, 87.
- (9) Susan Stroud Robeson and Caroline Franciscus Stroud, An Historical and Geneal. Account of Andrew Robeson . . (Philadelphia, 1916), 94-100.
- (10) Ibid., 1-14, 15-19.
- (11) Pa. Archives, 2 series, IX, 629; N.J. Archives, 1 series, II, 146, 380; also Register of The Pa. Soc. of The Colonial Dames of America (Philadelphia, 1911), 362.

- (12) Geneal. Acct. of Andrew Robeson, op. cit., 31-42, 53-59.
See also Paul A.W. Wallace, "Historic Hope Lodge," Pa. Mag., LXXXVI, No. 2, 121-127.
- (13) Geneal. Acct. of Andrew Robeson, 145-146.
- (14) Ibid., 225.
- (15) Ibid., 226-227.
- (16) This sketch was written by Helena Mary Langdon (Mitchell) Day from her personal recollections, from her aunt's "Memoirs," and a paper by Edith Emerson; see also Appletons' Cyclopaedia of American Biography, IV, 308; and both Who's Who and Who's Who In America. For Henry Merritt see Dictionary of National Biography, XII, 295.
- (17) This sketch was written by Helena Mary Langdon (Mitchell) Day, her younger daughter, from personal recollections with quotations from Elizabeth Robins, Ibsen and the Actress. A lecture before the Royal Society of Arts, 1928. Published by Leonard and Virginia Woolf at the Hogarth Press, 1928.

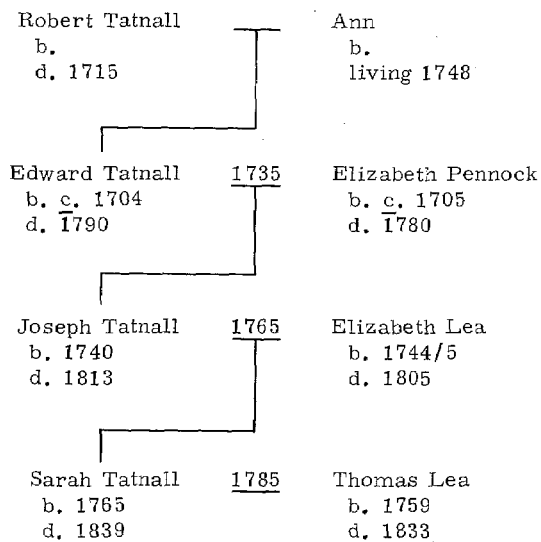
Chapter XIII

*Lea, Tatnall and
Pennock Families*

Lea Chart 11



Tatnall Chart



(See Lea Chart I)

Isaac Lea

Fifth Generation

Isaac Lea (Jan. 15, 1699-1765-72),⁽¹⁾ the eldest child of John and Hannah (Hopton) Lea, was born in Gloucester, England, and came to Pennsylvania with his parents. In 1721 when he requested a certificate from Chester Monthly Meeting to Darby it was delayed because he was "under dealing" for dancing.

He married at Christ Church, Philadelphia, December 29, 1721, Sarah (May 10, 1702-1800), daughter of Walter and Rebecca (Fearne) Fawcett of Chester, Pennsylvania.

Isaac was appointed coroner of Chester in 1746, and served until 1750 when he resigned to move to Wilmington on the Delaware where he and his wife lived until their deaths.

Of their children, James, the eldest, was of this line.

James Lea

Sixth Generation

James Lea (Mar. 26, 1723/4-May 16, 1798)⁽²⁾ was born at Darby, Pennsylvania, where he married June 24, 1741 Margaret (Jan. 31, 1723-Jan. 31, 1805), daughter of John and Joanna (Paschall) Marshall of Darby. Her paternal grandfather John Marshall (bapt. May 12, 1661-9th mo. 13, 1729)⁽³⁾ had come to Philadelphia on the Desire in 1686 from Elton in the parish of Yowlgrave, County Darby, England. Margaret Lea's mother, Joanna (Feb. 19, 1695-2 mo. 25, 1731),⁽⁴⁾ was the daughter of Thomas Paschall, silver-

smith, and his wife Margaret (Jenkins) Paschall, and granddaughter of Thomas Paschall (bapt. Dec. 29, 1634-1718),⁽⁵⁾ from Bristol, who came to Philadelphia about 1684, served in the Assembly in 1685 and 1689, and in the Common Council in 1701 and 1704.⁽⁶⁾ The parents of Margaret (Jenkins) Paschall, Thomas's wife, were William (d. 1712) and Elizabeth (Griffith) Jenkins of Tenby, County Pembroke, Wales. William Jenkins represented Chester County in the Provincial Assembly.

After living at Darby and Chester, James and Margaret Lea returned to Wilmington about 1753 where they lived at 4th and Market (then High) Street. He erected a brick dwelling at what later was 508 Market Street next to the Old Town Hall.

James was a prominent merchant and citizen, served as Assistant Burgess in 1757-62 and 1766, Chief Burgess in 1768 and 1769, and in 1773-5 was town treasurer. He died at his High Street house of yellow fever. His wife lived until 1805, and both are buried in the Friends' burying ground on West Street in Wilmington.

Of their children, James, married Elizabeth Gibson, and they were the grandparents of Matthew Carey Lea (1823-1897), a distinguished chemist, his brother Henry Charles Lea (1825-1909), the well known historian of the Spanish inquisition,⁽⁷⁾ and of Elizabeth Lea who married Joseph Tatnall of this line.

Elizabeth Lea Tatnall

Seventh Generation

Elizabeth Lea (Jan. 15, 1744-Aug. 16, 1805)⁽⁸⁾ was born at Concord, Pennsylvania, and married January 31, 1765, at Wilming-

ton Friends' Meeting, Joseph Tatnall (9 mo. 6, 1740-8 mo. 3, 1813),⁽⁹⁾ one of the outstanding industrialists on the Brandywine.

He was the son of Edward Tatnall (c. 1704-4 mo. 11, 1790) and his wife Elizabeth Pennock (3 mo. 23, 1705 (?) -c. 1780), and grandson of Robert Tatnall (d. 1715) of Leicestershire, England.⁽¹⁰⁾ Joseph Tatnall's mother's parents were Joseph Pennock (11 mo. 18, 1677-3 mo. 28, 1771)⁽¹¹⁾ and his wife Mary Levis (8 mo. 9, 1685-1 mo. 1747/8). Joseph Pennock was born at "Killhouse Castle" in Clonmel, Tipperary, Ireland, the seat of his maternal grandfather George Collett, and came to Pennsylvania after the death of his father Christopher Pennock to take charge of his 5,000 acre estate. After his marriage to Mary Levis (whose father Samuel Levis represented Chester County in the Assembly in 1689, 1694, 1698, 1700 and 1706-09, and in 1692 was a member of the Council,⁽¹²⁾ Joseph Pennock settled on part of his estate in West Marlborough, Township, Chester County where, in 1738, he built a large brick house. It is still standing and owned by a descendant. Joseph Pennock represented Chester County in the Assemblies of 1716, 1719-20, 1722-24, 1726, 1729, 1732-5 and 1743-5.⁽¹³⁾

Joseph Tatnall, of this sketch, established an eminently successful milling business on the Brandywine, and also engaged in shipping. A story is told that one of the Lloyds of Wye House, a large Maryland plantation, went to Joseph Tatnall to sell his grain. When Tatnall agreed to take it all Mr. Lloyd asked with a smile: "Why sir, my grain will amount to forty thousand dollars." The reply: "I will take it all," greatly astonished Mr. Lloyd. He was paid cash on the spot.⁽¹⁴⁾

About 1770 Joseph Tatnall built a stone mansion (now 1803 Market Street, Wilmington) in Brandywine Village where, during the Revolutionary War, tradition tells he entertained such distinguished guests as General Washington, the Marquis de Lafayette,

and General Anthony Wayne. The latter made Joseph Tatnall's house his headquarters.

There are several accounts of Joseph Tatnall and his guests. George Washington, after he became president, called on him tradition tells, and another tradition is that Lafayette, when visiting America in 1824, stopped to inquire for his old friend's family.

Joseph Tatnall is called the most distinguished of those worthy Wilmington men whose memory deserves notice by Elizabeth Montgomery in her Reminiscences (1851), p. 16. He, alone, she said, dared grind flour for the famished Revolutionary Army at the risk of his mills destruction by the British. "I cannot fight for thee, George, but I can feed thy men" he purportedly said to Washington at the time of Valley Forge.

When the Bank of Delaware was organized in 1795 Joseph Tatnall was chosen first president, and upon the erection of Wilmington's town hall in 1798 he presented the tower clock, still in use there, and also gave a large bell to the town. At his death he was one of the nation's rich men. His personal estate totaled \$253,337.44 in the account exhibited by his executors July 25, 1814. This did not include his valuable mills, town property, and other real estate which today would be worth millions.

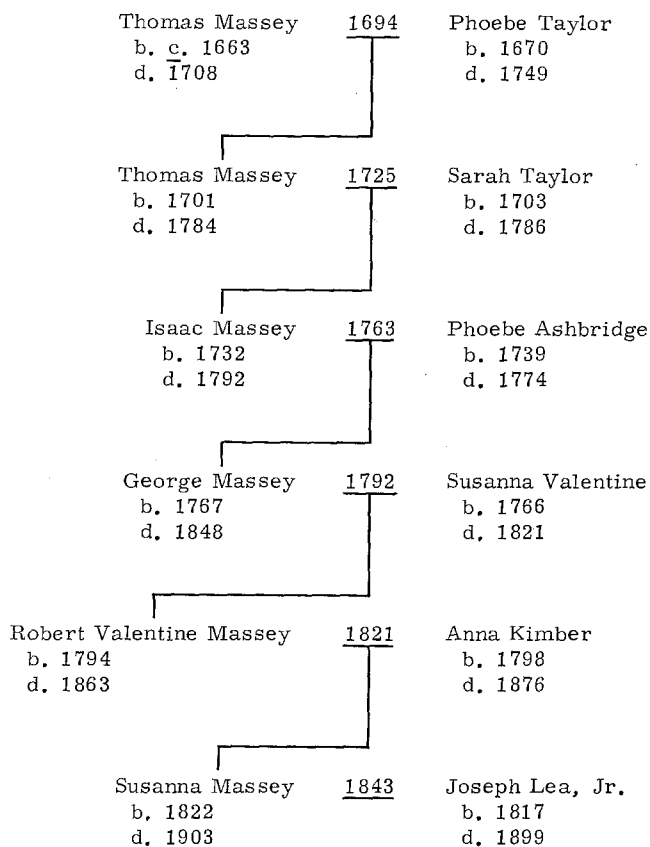
Of his six surviving children by Elizabeth (Lea), Sarah (1765-1839), who married Thomas Lea (1757-1833) in 1785, is of this line. (15) See Lea Chart I.

- (1) Lea, Ancestry and Posterity of John Lea, 66.
- (2) Ibid., 69.
- (3) Ibid., 393, 394.
- (4) Ibid., 399.
- (5) Ibid., 397.
- (6) Pa. Archives, 2 ser., IX, 714, 730.
- (7) D.A.B., XI, 67, 71.
- (8) Ancestry and Posterity of John Lea, 76.
- (9) George Valentine Massey II, The Pennocks of Primitive Hall (Philadelphia, 1951), 52; J. Thomas Scharf, History of Delaware, II, 734, 735.
- (10) Jordan, Colonial Families of Philadelphia, II, 1525; Scharf, Hist. of Del., II, 734.
- (11) Massey, Pennocks of Primitive Hall, 21.
- (12) Pa. Archives, 2 ser., IX, 683, 684, 685, 624.
- (13) Ibid., 686-691.
- (14) Elizabeth Montgomery, Reminiscences of Wilmington....(Philadelphia, 1851), 17.
- (15) Ancestry and Posterity of John Lea, 76.

Chapter XIV

*Massey, Valentine, Ashbridge
and Kimber Families*

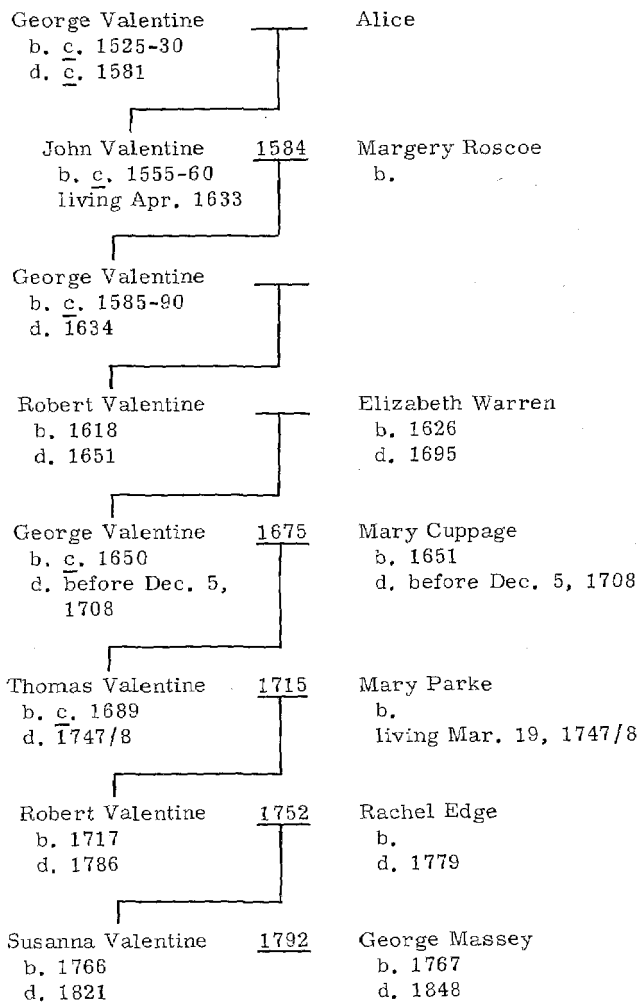
Massey Chart



(See Lea)

(Maternal grandparents of Helena Mary Langdon Mitchell Day.
See Mitchell.)

Valentine Chart



(See Massey)

Thomas Massey of Marple Township

Pennsylvania

Thomas Massey (c. 1663-9 mo. 18, 1708) (1) was born, according to tradition, in Nantwich, Cheshire, England, where Masseys had lived for generations.* St. Mary's register in the town of Nantwich lists the baptism of Thomas, son of Thomas Massey, October 1, 1665, who may be this ancestor. The name Thomas occurs in the families of both Ralph and William Massey of an earlier generation in this town. Some of these men were skinnners or tanners -- called untouchables in the Orient -- a business in which the Philadelphia Masseys thrived.

Near Nantwich is a venerable half-timbered hall called Moss House, with interior armorial paintings. It was owned by the Masseys of Audlem and Denfield whose younger sons lived in Nantwich. The estates Audlem and Denfield were given by Sir Geoffrey Massey (d. 1457) of Tatton to his illegitimate son John, who founded this family. Tatton, where Sir Geoffrey lived, can boast one of the great deer parks left in England.

Another Massey place, near Nantwich, was the manor of Hough, and the Masseys del Hough owned a salt pit at Wich Milbank, the early name for Nantwich. Their manor was sold, after ownership through a female line back to the conquest, by Ralph de Massey, gentleman, and his brother William, clerk, in the 7th year of the reign of Henry VIII. It is possible that Thomas Massey, of this line, could descend from this family because of the name Ralph among the Nantwich Masseys. It is reputedly a branch of the Masseys of Sale, a cadet branch of the barons Dunham Massey. One of these was Hugh de Massey (d. 1185), the famous Cheshire baron, who held Stockport against Henry II in the great rebellion of 1173. (2)

* It is not known if this means the town or hundred of Nantwich.

A prophecy foretold that the Dunham Masseys would die out in the male line, meaning the eldest male line, in the eighth generation and an old ballad tells how the last male heir was struck dead by lightning when passing the 'Seven Sisters' trees.

Hamo, the last baron, died in the 15th year of Edward III's reign leaving only daughters through whom the estate passed out of the Massey name and the title became extinct. Today only the moat remains to mark their ancient Norman castle.

Of Thomas Massey, the emigrant, nothing more is known until his arrival in Delaware River on the ketch Endeavour from Liverpool 7th month 29, 1683. Thomas was twenty, and had bound himself to Francis Stanfield, husbandman, for his passage to Pennsylvania. Stanfield was prosperous, and had come from "Garton" in Cheshire, though he had also lived at Marple, Cheshire. In fact all of the Endeavour passengers whose homes are listed -- and most of them are -- were from Cheshire. There were several Nantwich men among them. (3)

The Stanfields settled in Marple Township, Chester (now Delaware) County, Pennsylvania. Here Thomas Massey bought 300 acres of land in 1696 and built a substantial brick house with hardwood wainscoating that is standing today. It is near Broomall, on Lawrence Road named for Massey descendants, and in Lawrence Park development. The house is being restored by the township as a museum and community center.

Thomas Massey also bought 400 acres in Willistown Township, Chester County, which his two younger sons James and Thomas, the latter of this line, would inherit.

Thomas, Senior, served as a juror in 1692, and other years; as a grand juror in 1702/03, and was road supervisor in 1692. He was a constable for Marple in 1694 and 1707/8. The Quaker records list him as a representative from Springfield Meeting to quarterly meetings in 1707, and probably other years.

He had married, November 7, 1694, by Friends' ceremony, Phoebe (Aug. 15, 1670-Feb. 27, 1749), the daughter of Robert (1633-1695) and Mary (Hayes) Taylor from Little Leigh in Cheshire. Robert Taylor had settled at Springfield on part of his original 1000 acre purchase from William Penn. His wife and children arrived later on the Endeavour with Thomas Massey.

The Taylor family can be traced for three generations beyond Robert at Little Leigh in the Great Budworthy Church register. ⁽⁴⁾ Robert's brother-in-law Jonathan Hayes also settled at Marple where he was by far the largest land owner, was justice of the Court, and served in the Assembly. His untimely death came by the hands of an assassin. ⁽⁵⁾

Robert and Mary (Hayes) Taylor are ancestors of Bayard Taylor the accomplished writer, traveler, and diplomat, and of Richard Nixon, the former Vice President of the United States.

After Thomas Massey's death on November 18, 1708 in his forty-fifth year, Phoebe married Bartholomew Coppock, Jr. on April 10, 1710.

Of Thomas and Phoebe Massey's three sons (there were also three daughters who married), Mordecai, left an only daughter Hannah; James (Sept. 13, 1697-1792), the second son, was remarkable for good health and longevity, and Thomas, Jr. is of this line.

James Massey rode horseback at ninety-three and read without glasses. He had been a great fox hunter, was huntsman for the Gloucester hunt, and at ninety still rode forty miles a day. In youth he had sometimes been troubled with rheumatism which he later seldom felt except when drinking hard cider or spirituous liquors. He could remember William Penn at his last Indian treaty sufficiently to describe him in person. ⁽⁶⁾

Thomas Massey, Junior

Second Generation

Thomas Massey, Jr. (Jan. 21, 1701–June 13, 1784) ⁽⁷⁾ was born in his father's new brick house at Marple and, on attaining his majority, settled on his half of the 400 acre plantation at Williston left jointly to him and his brother James. Here he farmed, and took part in the affairs of Newtown Meeting. He served as its representative to quarterly meetings, as an overseer, an elder and clerk.

In youth he had fallen in love with his cousin Sarah (Mar. 9, 1703–Sept. 28, 1786), daughter of his uncle Isaac Taylor (1666–1717) who represented Chester County in the Provincial Assemblies of 1704–05, 1710, and 1712. ⁽⁸⁾ The Meeting objected on the grounds that they were first cousins, so the young couple eloped in 1725 and were married by a priest. Later they acknowledged this error, and said that they were sorry for having issue too soon after marriage. They were re-installed by the Meeting, and their conduct thereafter was exemplary.

Thomas built a substantial stone house on his farm that is still standing. It is well kept by its present owners.

Of their fourteen children Isaac, the sixth child and second son, is of this line. His sister Sarah married Israel Jacobs (1726–1796) ⁽⁹⁾ one of the first Pennsylvanians to advocate the union of the Colonies and who sat in the Second Continental Congress (1791–1793) wearing his broad-brimmed Quaker hat. His sister Hannah Jacobs (1735–1799) was the wife of the famous astronomer and mathematician David Rittenhouse. ⁽¹⁰⁾

Isaac Massey The Abolitionist

Third Generation

Isaac Massey (Apr. 5, 1732–Feb. 6, 1792) ⁽¹¹⁾ was a saddlemaker and farmer who was also interested in freeing the slaves. He joined the Pennsylvania Abolition Society at its re-organization in 1784, and took an interest in Negro education. When he died he devised half the income from a farm, providing his son Daniel died under age without issue, to educate Negro children. ⁽¹²⁾ This did not materialize as Daniel did marry and have children but the idea was advanced.

Isaac Massey had married an heiress, Phoebe (Dec. 16, 1739–Nov. 27, 1774), the daughter of George and Jane (Edge) Ashbridge of Goshen Township, Chester County. Their marriage took place at Goshen Meeting June 9, 1763 where her father, who had the first carriage in the neighborhood, built the stone stable. He could not enjoy his hour of public worship, he said, unless his horses were comfortable. The stable had doors at both ends -- as he did not like to back out of anything! Physically George Ashbridge had "great ... strength and indomitable courage but with it a kind and generous spirit." He would rather be six feet under ground, he said, than fear the face of any man. At his flour mill he never took toll "out of a grist that a laboring man brought in on his back."

He was elected to the Provincial Assembly in 1743 and was returned by his constituents to the end of his life -- a period of thirty years. The Assembly held its sessions in Philadelphia where he rode horseback daily taking his lunch of bread and cheese to eat, in good weather, on the State House (Independence Hall) steps. No matter how late the hour when the Assembly adjourned he rode home at night to Goshen.

This position in the Assembly he filled "with dignity and always acquitted himself well in his country's cause. He was not

fond of fine-spun discourse but his arguments were sound, pathetic and ..." to the point. (13) One finds him serving with Benjamin Franklin, and others, on "a Committee to enquire into the State of our Paper Currency, and our foreign and domestick Trade" in 1752; on a Committee of Grievances in 1753, and to draft an answer to the Governor's message concerning the movements of a large army of French and Indians that had passed Oswego on the way to the Ohio country in May 1753. He represented the Assembly at Indian treaties, and led the opposition against the powerful Chief Justice William Allen when bills on supplies and offices were at stake. (14)

At his death he left "a large estate acquired by honest frugality."

Isaac Massey survived his wife Phebe eighteen years, and at his death in 1793 devised his estate to his six children: Jane, Hannah, George, Mary, Sidney and Daniel Massey. He left £ 20 towards rebuilding Willistown Meeting House, and named his son George, of this line, executor.

George Massey of West Whiteland

Fourth Generation

George Massey (Dec. 9, 1767–Feb. 10, 1848) (15) was born on his father's Willistown farm, and at twenty went to Chester, evidently to learn tanning. He settled at West Whiteland, Chester County, in 1790 where his father had bought him a farm. Its stone and log house faces the present Lincoln Highway at Exton, and here he operated his tannery. Where the stream crossed the road near the tannery it was called "Massey's Foard" for many years. About 1820 George Massey built the substantial stone front to this

house. The place is now the Dairy Grill and the owners live in the house. The original woodwork is intact.

Here George Massey is said to have sheltered runaway slaves; so, traditionally, his house was a station in the famous Underground Railroad. He was actively interested in the 'welfare and education of Negroes, and from his letters was against racial discrimination.

He was especially interested in education, was on the Committee in charge of Westtown Boarding School from 1800 to 1822, and in 1838 was named on the first board of directors for West Whiteland under the common school law. He was clerk of Uwchlin Meeting from 1796 to 1802, and in 1814 was an unsuccessful Federalist candidate for State Auditor.

He married, April 19, 1792, Susanna (Mar. 26, 1766—Oct. 7, 1821), daughter of Robert and Rachel (Edge) Valentine. Her father, Robert Valentine (1717—1786), (16) was a Quaker minister, and traveled abroad in that capacity. He was born at Ballybrumhill, county Carlow, Ireland, his father's native town, and had come to Pennsylvania with his parents, Thomas and Mary (Parke) Valentine, in 1728. His grandfather George Valentine (c. 1650—before Dec. 5, 1708) had been brought to Ireland as an infant from Islington (London) by his mother, Elizabeth (Warren) Valentine, widow of another Thomas Valentine, after her marriage to Henry Fuller in 1652. When Henry Fuller died she married Major Robert Cuppage (c. 1610—25—Sept. 15, 1683), in 1667, a retired English army officer, and went to live at his seat at Lambstown on part of 2,732 Irish acres granted him for military service.

The native Irish resented these English landlords and one evening about eight o'clock when the Major and his family were at supper six lusty young men entered his house with drawn pistols and swords calling him a dog and rogue. They said they were discontented Irish gentlemen. They spoke Irish one to another and would eat no flesh only bread and cheese. Presently they fell to

robbing, broke open chests, cut bolsters and bedding so that feathers covered the floor, and took away money, plate and linen valued at £ 300 (currently about fifteen or twenty thousand dollars).

On May 23, 1675 George Valentine married his step-sister Mary Cuppage (b. 10 mo. 11, 1651) and their son was Thomas (c. 1689–1747/8), of this line. Stephen Cuppage (d. c. 1666), the Major's brother, had been Collector of Customs, Alderman, member of Parliament from Coleraine, and Commissioner of Ireland under Oliver Cromwell.

Both George Valentine and Major Cuppage were Quakers and as such suffered fines and imprisonment for refusing to pay tithes for the established church.

The Valentine pedigree can be authentically traced in England to George Valentine (c. 1525–30–c. 1581), of Haselhurst, in the parish of Eccles, Lancashire, who was an officer of the parish church. The family had been seated there from remote times. It held lands in Little Houghton and Hazelhurst from the lord of Worsley by rent of a pair of white gloves.

Returning to Robert Valentine, the minister, who was seventh in descent from George Valentine of Hazelhurst, he was recommended by Uwchlin Meeting for the ministry in 1764, and in 1772 visited meetings in the southern states. After the death of his wife, Rachel (Edge) Valentine, January 31, 1779, he devoted most of his time to the ministry.

During the Revolutionary War he defied the Supreme Executive Council to go to Great Britain on a religious mission. When he appeared before the Council, with other leading Quakers, to inform it of his intention he was reminded of the state of war with that country and told if he went he did so in defiance of this government. He said that he meant no defiance, but he did not acknowledge war and had come only to inform the Council of his plan. He went, and the mission was a success. He received

testimonials of silver plate from Dublin, and other yearly meetings but on his return, tradition tells, his younger children did not recognize him.

This must have applied to Susanna, his youngest daughter, who, in later life is described as a "very handsome woman, tall, and straight with auburn curling hair and fine complexion." (17) She was very kind to the poor and afflicted, and in administering to a sick neighbor caught typhus fever and died the evening of 10th month 7th, 1821 at the age of fifty-five.

George Massey survived her many years, and is thus described by his great-granddaughter Anna Massey Lea Merritt in her Memoirs: "I recall ... the handsome old gentleman, wearing a buff waistcoat, a great stock wound about his throat, his knee breeches and high boots quite unlike any Quakers." (18)

When he died at the age of eighty in 1848 it was said that he "was beloved for his intelligence and exemplary moral and religious character..." By will he devised his personal estate to his daughter Rachel Valentine Massey, except the family Bible containing the family records and an ivory headed cane which had belonged to his grandfather and bore the initials T.M. These he gave to his son Robert Valentine Massey of this line.

His son George Valentine Massey was the father of Maria Amanda (an only child), who married Victor Clay Barringer. He had been attaché to his brother Daniel Moreau Barringer when minister to Spain and later was presiding justice of the International Court of Appeals in Egypt. Maria Massey Barringer was a linguist, and writer of ability. She kept a journal during the Civil War when her husband was a Confederate officer, and at its close they entertained Jefferson Davis, and members of his cabinet, when fugitives whose only hope was escape to foreign shores. A price of more than half a million dollars was on their collective heads. And death, or imprisonment, with the destruction of their property was promised to all who gave comfort or assistance to the

“Rebel Chiefs.” (Anna Barringer, ed., The Natural Bent : The Memoirs of Dr. Paul B. Barringer, 98–105.)

In 1867 Maria Massey Barringer published Dixie Cookery, filled with gourmet recipes, and later wrote descriptive letters of people and events in Egypt and Europe where she lived. (Collections of The University of N.C.)

She survived her husband and died without issue at Washington, D.C., in 1901.

Isaac Massey, the third and youngest surviving son of George Massey, married Mary Robinson Jones and their only child was George Valentine Massey (1841–1924) (19) who headed the legal department of the Pennsylvania Railroad (1902–1911), as its first General Counsel, when it was one of the high legal honors in the land. He was the grandfather of George Valentine Massey II.

Robert Valentine Massey

Fifth Generation

Robert Valentine Massey (Dec. 27, 1794–June 8, 1863), (20) the eldest son, was educated at Westtown Boarding School, and went into the leather business presumably with his father. In 1826 he removed to Philadelphia where he established a commission wholesale leather business and made a fortune. In later years he lived at 1022 Arch Street in the block that was called “Millionaires’ Row.”

He had married, May 23, 1821, Anna (Jan. 25, 1798–Dec. 15, 1876, the daughter of Emmor and Susanna (Jackson) Kimber. Her father was descended from Richard Kimber (c. 1610–1704) of near Wantage, Berkshire, England, an officer of Horse in the Parliamentary Army under Oliver Cromwell in 1643–1644. Emmor, himself, was an esteemed minister in the Society of Friends, but after the

failure of his Philadelphia printing house because of a financial panic, and assisted by his "richly endowed wife and daughters," he established the Kimberton Boarding School for girls, at Kimberton in Chester County, Pennsylvania. The school was run on advanced and liberal principles that attracted pupils from far and near.

He saw the necessity for the Reading Railroad and in 1831 called the first meeting that opened the subject to the public. At Kimberton he sheltered, and gave employment to runaway slaves. (21) A picture by the well known primitive painter Elias Hicks called "The Peaceable Kingdom" was painted for him, or for George Massey, and has come down in the family. It is now owned by Norris S. Barratt, Esq. of Philadelphia.

Robert V. and Anna (Kimber) Massey had four children, Susanna, (22) of this line, who married Joseph Lea, Jr., Emmor Kimber, Robert Valentine, Jr., and George (who died unmarried).

Joseph and Susanna (Massey) Lea were the grandparents of Helena Mary Langdon (Mitchell) Day. See Lea.

The name Massey has died out in this branch. Emmor K. Massey had an only child, Susan (Mrs. W. Bradley Keeler) whose poems were published, and who died without issue in Paris; Robert V., Jr., an able business man, had Anna (Mrs. Henry Edward Drayton), and Celeste de Longpré (Mrs. John Austin Stevens Heckscher), a pianist and composer of note. (23) Her son Robert Valentine Heckscher was a poet. (24)

- (1) Gilbert Cope, Genealogy of the Smedley Family.... (Lancaster, Pa., 1901), 187; J. Smith Futhey and Gilbert Cope, History of Chester County, Pennsylvania.... (Philadelphia, 1881), 653; George Smith, History of Delaware County, Pennsylvania.... (Philadelphia, 1862), 483, between 442-443 (signature).
- (2) George Ormerod, The History of the County Palatine and City of Chester.... Second Edition (London, 1882), I, 439, 565, III, 466, 501; also James Hall, A History of the Town and Parish of Nantwich.... (Nantwich, 1883), 134, 502; Geoffrey Barraclough, Facsimiles of Early Cheshire Charters.... (Recs. Soc. Lanc. and Cheshire, 1957), pp. x, 52.
- (3) Pa. Mag., v. 8, 330.
- (4) Alfred Rudolph Justice, Descendants of Robert Taylor.... (Philadelphia, 1925), 3-14, 23, 24.
- (5) Smith, Hist. of Del. Co., 223, 467.
- (6) John Hill Martin, Chester (And Its Vicinity,) Delaware County, in Pennsylvania.... (Philadelphia, 1877), 249, 250.
- (7) Cope, Smedley Family, op. cit., 187; Justice, Descs. of Robert Taylor, op. cit., 22, 24.
- (8) Justice, Descs. of Robert Taylor, 18-22; Pa. Archives, 2 series, IX, 684, 685, 686.
- (9) Biographical Directory Of The American Congress 1774-1949 (1950), 1365; Richard Wistar Davids, Jacobs Family, As Descended From "John Jacobs of Perkiomen In America (Philadelphia, 1894), 5.
- (10) D.A.B., XV, 630.

- (11) "Massey Bible Records." Annotated by George V. Massey II, The Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine, XVI (Oct., 1948), 121, 121 n 5; also Cope, Smedley Family, 187.
- (12) Pa. Soc. for the Abolition of Slavery, 1784-91 (List of Members, 1784-1819, Historical Soc. of Pa.); Chester Co. Wills, vol. 9, 21.
- (13) Mary Rhoads Haines, Clovercroft Chronicles 1314-1893 (Philadelphia, n.d.), 121-123.
- (14) Leonard W. Larabee and Whitfield, J. Bell, Jr., The Papers Of Benjamin Franklin (N. Haven, 1961), IV, 344, 350, 498, 501; Calendar of the Papers of Benjamin Franklin in the Library of the American Philosophical Society (Philadelphia, 1908), Ed. by I. Minis Hays, IV, 199.
- (15) The Pa. Geneal. Mag., XVI, 121-122; Cope, Smedley Family, 188; Massey, Lea, Hecksher Families, Ed. by Alexander Du Bin (Philadelphia, 1948).
- (16) William M. Mervine, Harris, Dunlop, Valentine and Allied Families (Philadelphia, Pa., 1920), 173-196, 205-219.
- (17) "Reminiscences of Susanna Massey Lea, 1894, courtesy of Weir Mitchell, Esq.
- (18) "Memoirs of Anna Lea Merritt," ms., courtesy of Weir Mitchell, Esq.
- (19) Who Was Who In America, I, 787.
- (20) Pa. Geneal. Mag., XVI, 122-125; Cope, Smedley Family, 307; Massey, Lea, Hecksher Families, Ed. by Alexander Du Bin (The Historical Publishing Society, Philadelphia, 1948), 3.
- (21) Sidney A. Kimber, The Descendants of Richard Kimber ... of

Grove, Near Wantage, Berkshire, England (Boston, Mass., 1894), 9, 38.

- (22) Susanna (Massey) Lea wrote her "Reminiscences" for her daughters in 1894. The manuscript is owned by Weir Mitchell, Esq.
- (23) Who's Who In America 1926-27.
- (24) Ibid., 1914-15.

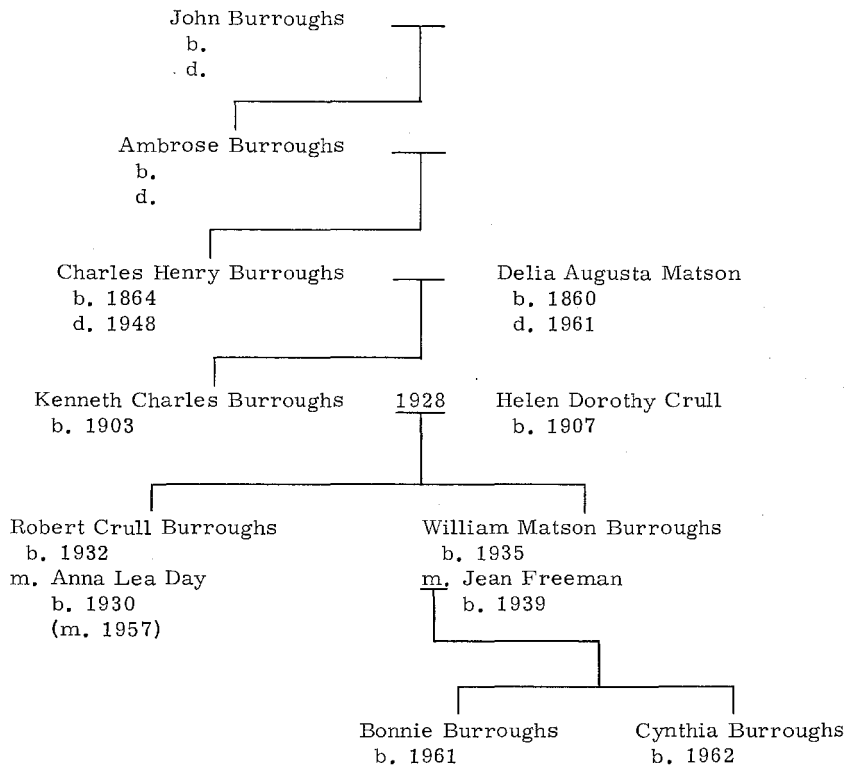
Addenda

The Ancestry of
ROBERT CRULL BURROUGHS



The Burroughs, Matson, Willey
and Crull Families

Burroughs Chart



Deacon John Burroughs

First Known Generation

John Burroughs, from New England, or eastern New York, settled in Orleans County, New York, near the village of Yates. He was a deacon in the Baptist Church there. (1)

Of his six children, Ambrose, the second son, is of this line.

Ambrose Burroughs

Second Known Generation

Ambrose Burroughs went to California to seek gold in 1849, but returned soon after, married, and settled down in Prattsville, Michigan. He served as a town supervisor. (2)

Of his two children, Charles Henry, the eldest is of this line.

The Reverend Charles Henry Burroughs

Third Generation

Charles Henry Burroughs was born at Prattsville, Michigan, and became a minister in the Congregational Church. He married

Delia Augusta (April 6, 1860–March 25, 1961), the daughter of Augustine and Mary E. (Reese) Matson of Ira, New York. ⁽²⁾ (See Matson)

She was a graduate of Oberlin College in the first class that accepted women.

Charles Henry's first parish, after his marriage, was in South Dakota. He built the first church in Deadwood, and Spearfish, South Dakota, and remembered the Indian, Sitting Bull, the notorious Wild Bill Hickok, and Buffalo Bill Cody.

The third of their three sons, Kenneth Charles, is of this line.

Kenneth Charles Burroughs

Fourth Generation

Kenneth Charles Burroughs (b. Feb. 25, 1903), among other activities, was an early flier in the 24th Pursuit Squadron at Kelly Field, Texas in 1925 and 1926. He married, November 25, 1928, Helen Dorothy (b. Feb. 13, 1907) daughter of Seraphine and Helen Teresa (Coveney) Crull of Albion, New York, whose brother Robert was decorated for bravery at Chateau Thierry in World War I. He was commissioned an officer in the A.E.F. and died of wounds received at Verdun. (See Crull) She graduated from New Rochelle College in 1928.

Of their two sons, Robert Crull Burroughs, and William Matson Burroughs (b. April 8, 1935), the eldest is of this line.

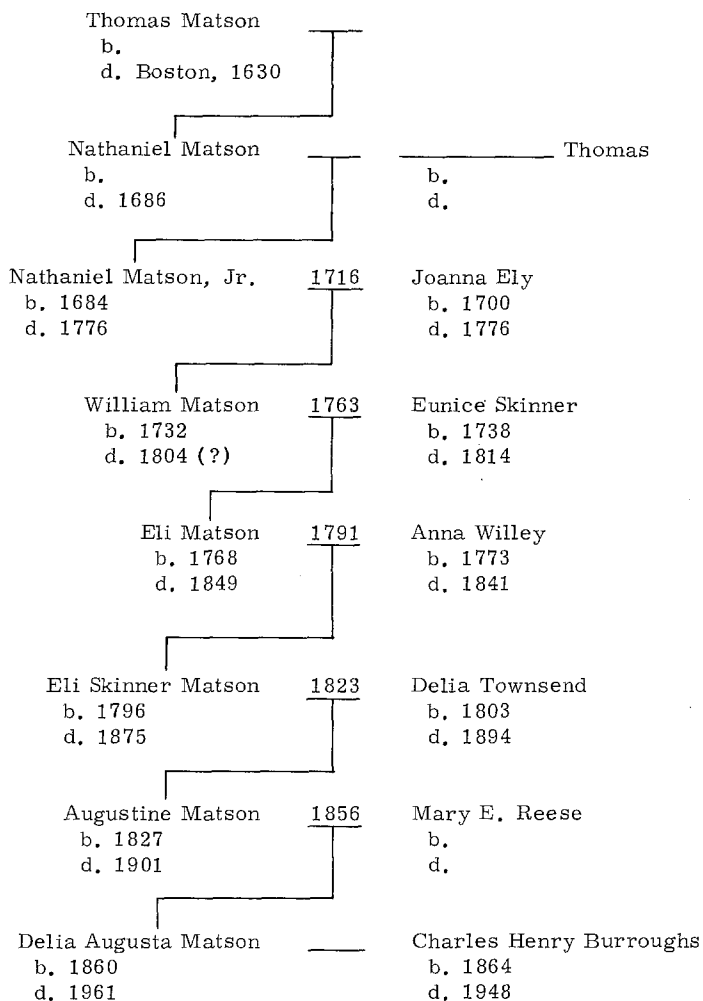
Robert Crull Burroughs

Fifth Generation

Robert Crull Burroughs (b. March 12, 1932) ⁽³⁾ was born in Syracuse, New York, and married, in 1957, Anna Lea Day.

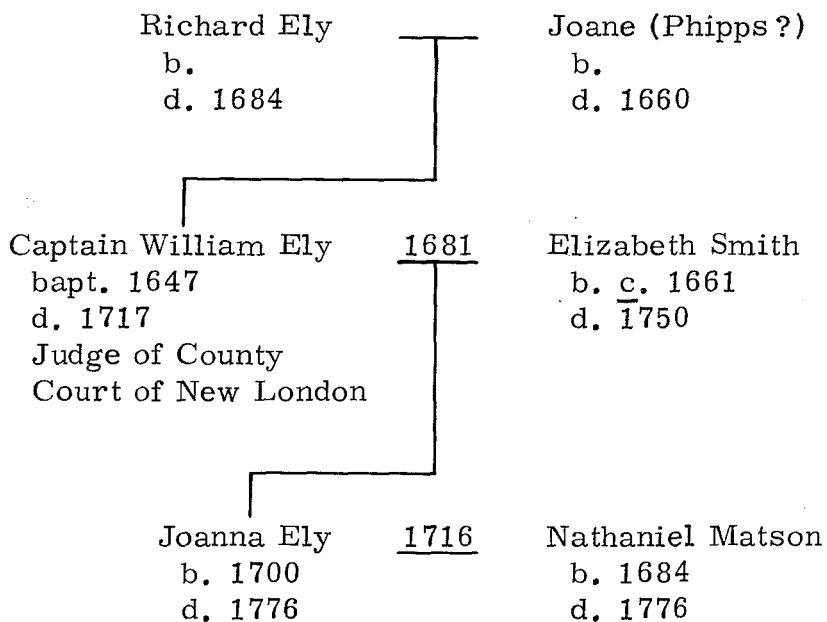
- (1) Information from Mrs. Helen Dorothy (Crull) Burroughs.
- (2) Ibid.; Henry Willey, Isaac Willey, of New London, Conn., and His Descendants (New Bedford, Massachusetts, 1888), 41.
- (3) Information from Mrs. Helen Dorothy (Crull) Burroughs.

Matson Chart



(See Burroughs)

Ely Chart



(See Matson)

The Matson Family

Thomas Matson, the reputed ancestor of this family, emigrated from Lancashire, England, in or before 1630 when he lived in Boston. The unverified line of descent from him is through his son Nathaniel² (d. 1686), then Nathaniel,³ Jr. (1684–1776) who married Joanna Ely (1700–1776) in 1716, about whom there is a published account.

Nathaniel Matson, Jr.

Third Generation

Nathaniel Matson, Jr. (1684–1776) (2) was probably born in Boston, but moved to Lyme, Connecticut, where he died. He married, in 1716, Joanna (1700–1776), the daughter of William (1647–1717) and Elizabeth (Smith) Ely (c. 1661–1750), of New London, where her father William Ely was judge of the County Court for many years. He, in turn, was the son of Richard Ely (d. 1684), from Plymouth, in Devonshire, England, where he was a shipping merchant. Richard's first wife was Joane (née Phipps?) (d. January 7, 1660). He first settled in Boston, and removed to Lyme, Connecticut, in 1660, where he acquired some 4,000 abounding acres that included what is now Ely's Ferry, and was an important figure in commercial and civic affairs. (3)

William Matson

Fourth Generation

William Matson (c. 1732—c. 1804) ⁽⁴⁾ grew up in Lyme, and married, in 1763, Eunice Skinner who died in 1814. They are said to have removed to Hadlyme.

Of their six children, William, the eldest son, is of this line.

General Eli Matson

Fifth Generation

Eli Matson (Feb. 11, 1768—Dec. 6, 1849) ⁽⁵⁾ was a magistrate and surveyor in East Haddam, where he probably was in business with his father until his vessels were captured by the French. He moved to Cato, now (1888) Ira, New York in 1805 and bought a farm.

When his wife's kinsman Allen Willey visited him there in 1811 he wrote that Eli was "in prosperous circumstances and go-ahead." In 1823 he said that "he has become a very wealthy farmer, with 5 to 6 tenants for assistance."

Eli Matson had married, April 26, 1791, Anna (Oct. 19, 1773—June 28, 1841), the daughter of Abraham and Susannah (Beckwith) Willey. (See Willey.) He and his wife died at Cato, and are buried in the Ira Union Cemetery at South Hannibal, New York. Eli's gravestone tells that he was a general in the War of 1812.

Of their six children, Eli Skinner Matson, the third son, is of this line.

Eli Skinner Matson

Sixth Generation

Eli Skinner Matson (Feb. 3, 1796–June 9, 1875) (7) was born at East Haddam, and married, November 6, 1823 in Ira, New York, Delia Townsend (Sept. 29, 1803–1894), of South Salem, New York. On her eightieth birthday her sons, William Townsend, and Augustine, gave her a party where a poem was read by Cora A. Matson called “Song of Life.” Eli died at Lysander, New York, and they are both buried in the Ira Union Cemetery.

Of their three children, Augustine, the eldest, is of this line.

Augustine Matson, Teacher

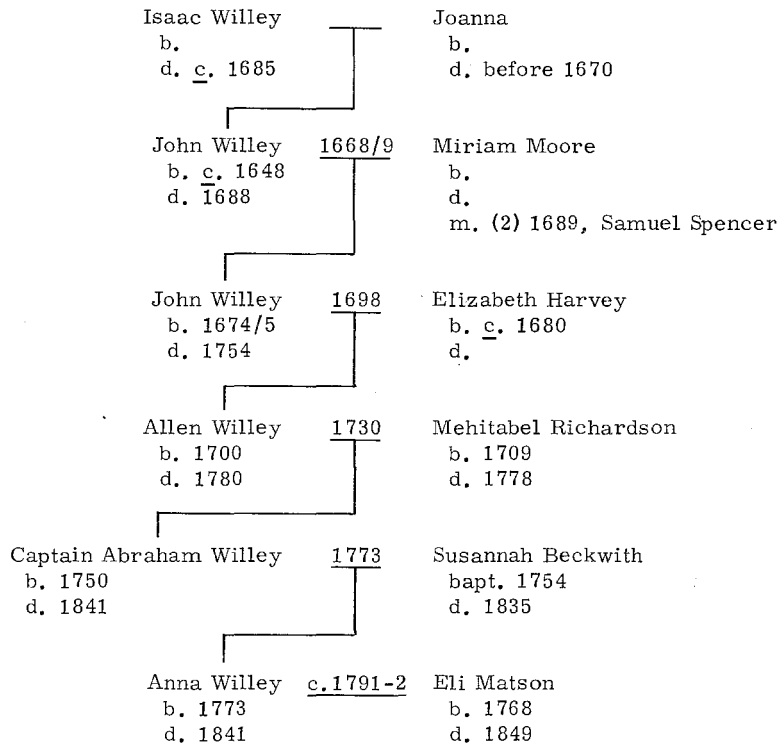
Seventh Generation

Augustine Matson (Feb. 12, 1827–1901) (8) became a school teacher, farmer, and flower gardener at Ira, and married in June, 1856, Mary E. Reese of Madison County, New York.

Of their six children, Delia Augusta (April 6, 1860–March 25, 1961), the second oldest, is of this line. (See Burroughs.)

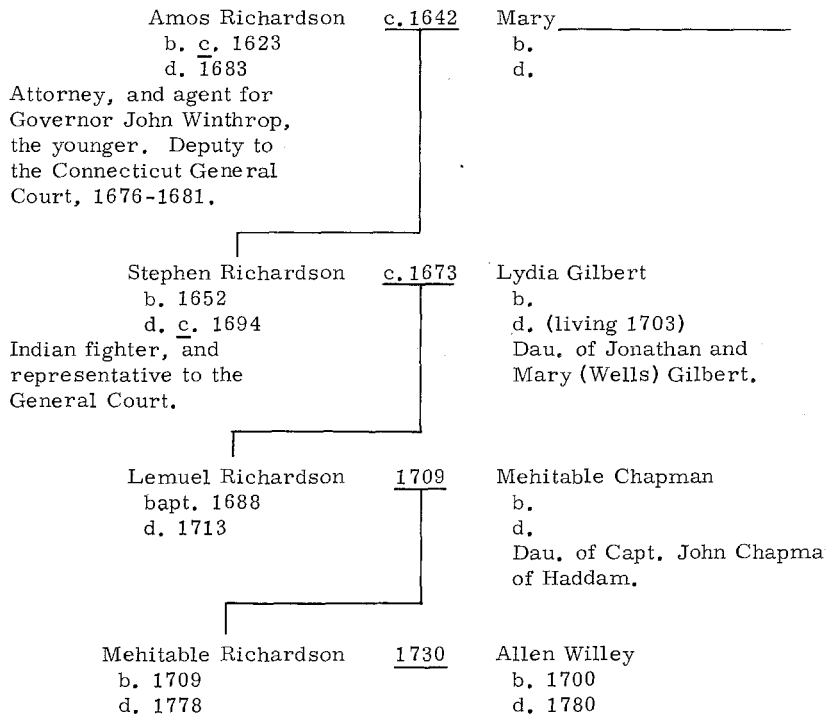
- (1) Courtesy of Mrs. Helen Dorothy (Crull) Burroughs.
- (2) Moses S. Beach and William Ely, The Ely Ancestry: Lineage of Richard Ely of Plymouth, England, who came to Boston, Mass., in 1655, settled at Lyme, Conn., in 1660 (New York, 1902), 56.
- (3) Ibid., 32–37 (sketch of Richard Ely); 38–44 (sketch of William Ely).
- (4) Ibid., 91.
- (5) Ibid., 159; Henry Willey, Isaac Willey of New London, Conn., And His Descendants (New Bedford, Massachusetts, 1888), 39.
- (6) Ibid., 39, and information from Mrs. Helen Dorothy (Crull) Burroughs.
- (7) Isaac Willey of New London, 41; and information from Mrs. Burroughs.
- (8) Ibid., ibid.

Willey Chart



(See Matson)

Richardson Chart



(See Willey)

Isaac Willey The Settler

First Generation

Isaac Willey (d. c. 1685)⁽¹⁾ was in Boston, Massachusetts, as early as 1640, then removed to Charleston before 1644, and in 1645 went with John Winthrop, Jr. to New London. There his house lot was on Millbrook, at the foot of Post Hill. He was "an agriculturist," and next removed to a farm at the head of Nahantic River, confirmed to 'old Goodman Willie' in 1644.

In 1645, Isaac Willey and John Stebbins moved to the meadows of the Upper Mamacook; and at a town meeting, on February 25, 1647, with John Winthrop and others he was chosen "to act in all Toune affaires." At the same meeting he was granted "to have a planting lot at the other side of the cove, near Mr. deane winthrops lot." He later acquired other land, and in 1649, with others, was charged with resisting a constable and letting an Indian go that was in their charge.

His wife Joanna had an equally independent spirit, for in 1667 she was presented before the court and fined 5 shillings "for not attending public worship and bringing her children thither."

She died, and sometime after 1670 John married Anna, the widow of Edward Lester, who died in 1692.

John and Joanna Willey had seven children of whom, John, the fifth child and second son, is of this line.

John Willey Of Haddam

Second Generation

John Willey (c. 1648–May 2, 1688) (2) wrought at the mill-dam in 1651, and lived at the “head of Nehantuck River” where he owned twenty acres of upland. He later purchased land in the northwestern part of Lyme, and an adjacent tract in East Haddam which remained the home of the Willey family for nearly a century.

John Willey married at New London, March 18, 1668/9, Miriam, daughter of Miles and Isabel (Joyner) Moore. At his death in 1688 the inventory of his personal estate amounted to £ 169-13-06. In 1689 his widow married Samuel Spencer.

John and Miriam (Moore) Willey had eight children, of whom John, the second son, was of this line.

Sergeant John Willey

Third Generation

John Willey (Feb. 24, 1674/5–June 19, 1754) (3) was born and baptized at New London, and married, in October 1698, Elizabeth, daughter of John Harvey of New London, who was born c. 1680.

They joined the church in Hadlyme May 18, 1752 when she was baptized at the age of seventy-two. He died there, and his gravestone is in the churchyard (1888). It appears that his sons

had received land in his lifetime, and the undivided real estate went to his daughters at his death.

Of their thirteen children, Allen the second son is of this line.

Allen Willey Of East Haddam

Fourth Generation

Allen Willey (Sept. 19, 1700–Feb. 7, 1780) ⁽⁴⁾ was born at East Haddam where he married, May 7, 1730, Mehitabel (Sept. 13, 1709 –May 5, 1778), daughter of Lemuel and Mehitabel (Chapman) Richardson. She was fourth in descent from Amos Richardson who was living in Boston in 1645. He was “a merchant tailor, ship-builder, and land proprietor, a man of great respectability, enterprise, and good faith.” James Savage says that perhaps he was one of that great London merchant tailor guild. Mehitabel’s maternal grandfather was Stephen, the second son of Amos Richardson. The eldest son John (1647–1696) had graduated from Harvard in 1666 as M.A., and became a Tutor, or Resident Fellow of that College. ⁽⁵⁾

Allen and Mehitabel (Richardson) Willey lived in East Haddam where they both died. Their tombstones were decipherable in 1888. Of their children, Abraham, the tenth and youngest, is of this line.

Captain Abraham Willey

Fifth Generation

Abraham Willey (May 11, 1750–May 12, 1841) (6) was born at East Haddam where he married, January 12, 1773, Susannah (bapt. 1754–1835), the daughter of Nathaniel and Susannah Beckwith whose descent from Matthew¹ Beckwith (d. 1680), through Nathaniel,⁵ IV, Nathaniel, 4 III, Nathaniel, 3 Jr., and Nathaniel, 2 has not been verified for this sketch. Matthew Beckwith, the immigrant, was a planter and had come from Pentefract, Yorkshire, England, in 1635. After living at New London, Hartford, Branford, and Lyme -- all in the present state of Connecticut -- he was killed "by a fall in a dark night down a ledge of rocks." (7)

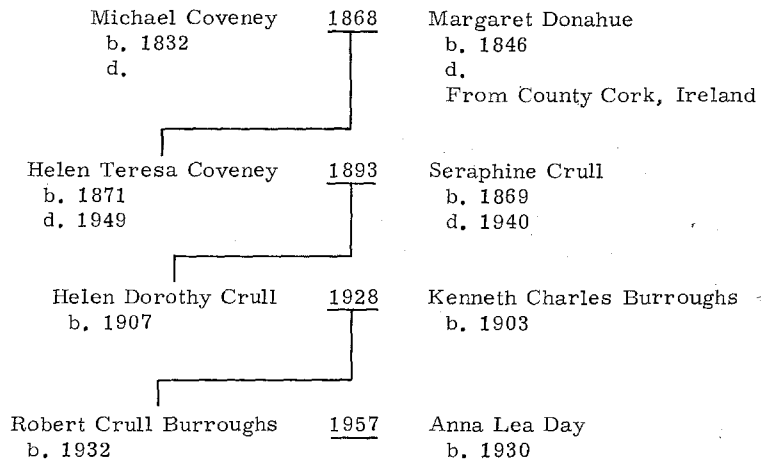
In 1804 Abraham and Susannah (Beckwith) Willey removed to Ira, New York, where they settled on lot No. 34, now owned by Herman Benton, a grandson (1888). In Hough's New York State Gazetteer (page 196), he is called "Capt. Abraham Willey." Their gravestones are in Ira (1888).

A curious legend is told about a staple in the floor of Abraham's father's house at East Haddam, where a chain had been attached, "the other end of which was fastened round the ankle of a woman reputed to be a witch, and ... just long enough to allow her to travel back and forth at a spinning-wheel, but in spite of all precautions she would slip the chain and get away, owing, I suppose, to the evil spirit in her." Once a woman came to see about some weaving and on her way home (she was on horseback) her horse began to travel uncommonly fast, and when she got home there was "the witch" again in person. (8)

Of the nine children of Abraham and Susannah (Beckwith) Willey, Anna (1773–1841), the eldest child, is of this line. She married, October 19, 1773, "General Eli Matson" and had issue. (See Matson.)

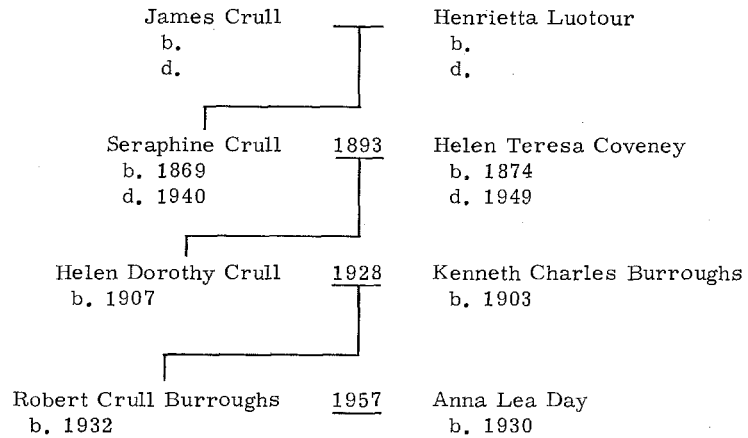
- (1) Henry Willey, Isaac Willey, of New London, Conn., And His Descendants (New Bedford, Massachusetts, 1888), 2-4.
- (2) Ibid., 4, 5.
- (3) Ibid., 5, 8-11.
- (4) Ibid., 8, 9, 16-19.
- (5) Rosell L. Richardson, Amos Richardson of Boston and Stonington.... (New York, 1906), 7-22, 26-30.
- (6) Willey, Isaac Willey, of New London, 19, 39-48.
- (7) Marvin Beckwith and His Wife Abigail Clark: Their Colonial Ancestors and Their Descendants (Elkhorn, Wisconsin, 1899), 8, 9; New England Historical and Genealogical Register, V. 87 (1933), 291 (sketch of Eliza Ann Beckwith Ogden). Neither of these accounts trace Susannah Willey's line which was furnished by Mrs. Helen Dorothy (Crull) Burroughs.
- (8) Willey, Isaac Willey, of New London, 19.

Coveney Chart



(See Burroughs and Lea)

Crull Chart



Crull Family

James Crull and his wife Henrietta (née Luotour) lived in Bruges, Belgium. Their son, Seraphine Crull (1869–Nov. 12, 1940), (1) was born there and emigrated to the United States in 1887, where he settled as a farmer at "Coventry Farm" in Albion, New York.

He was married, January 11, 1893, to Helen Teresa (1874–Nov. 17, 1949), daughter of Michael (1832–1868) and Margaret (Donahue) Coveney. Her father was born in County Cork, Ireland, and emigrated to America in 1844 where he married, in 1868, Margaret Donahue (b. 1846) from County Mayo, Ireland. The tradition is that she was left an orphan, and immigrated to New York. The relatives who were supposed to meet her were not there, and she was befriended by the owners of Phipps Union Seminary from which she was graduated. These kind people gave her her wedding. Her wedding picture, and a lovely shawl in which she was married, are owned by her granddaughter Helen Dorothy (Crull) Burroughs. Her husband, Michael Coveney, acquired a farm of some size west of Albion Township, New York, where their children were born and married.

"Father and grandfather were both farmers," Mrs. Burroughs wrote. "Good (fairly) thrifty Catholic families, fearing no man but the Pope. Wonderful Irish wit and hard drinking."

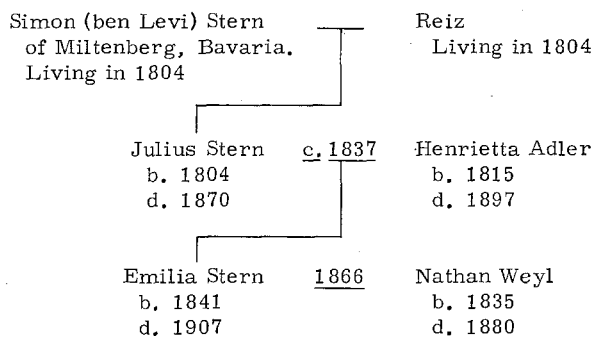
The daughter of Seraphine and Helen Teresa (Coveney) Crull is Helen Dorothy (b. Feb. 13, 1907), who married, November 25, 1928, Kenneth Charles Burroughs. (See Burroughs.)

(1) Information from Mrs. Helen Dorothy (Crull) Burroughs. Some dates are from the Orleans County, New York, census of 1892.

The Ancestry of
DORIS ANNE WEYL DAY

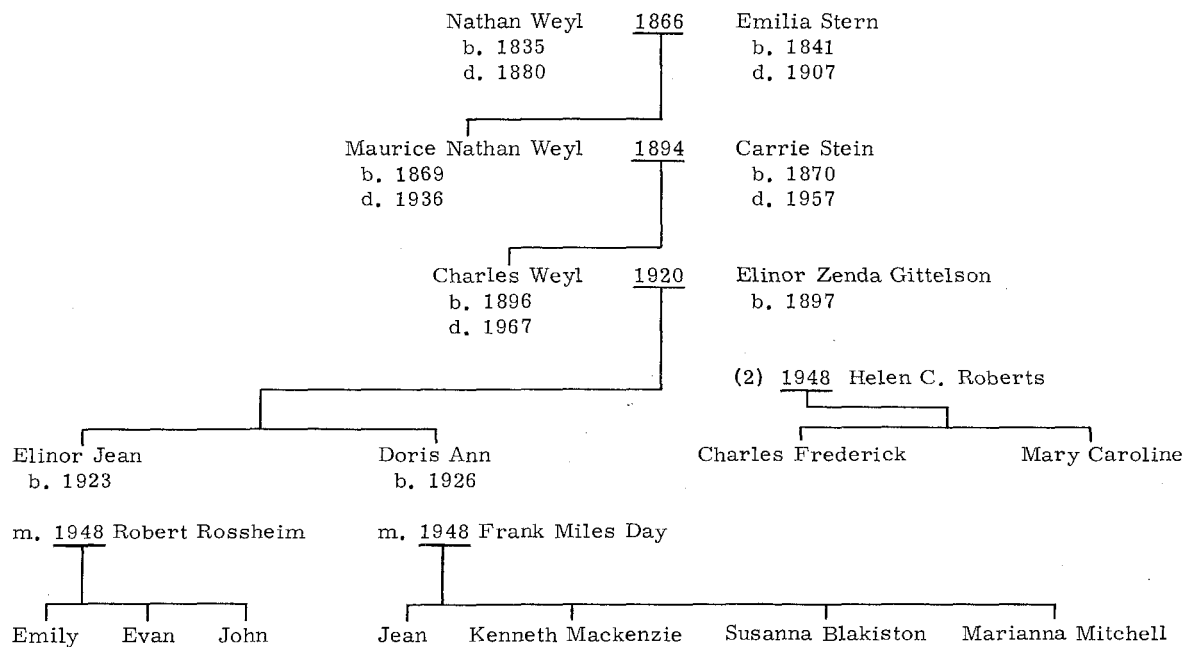
The Stern, Weyl, Gittelson
and Franklin Families

Stern Chart



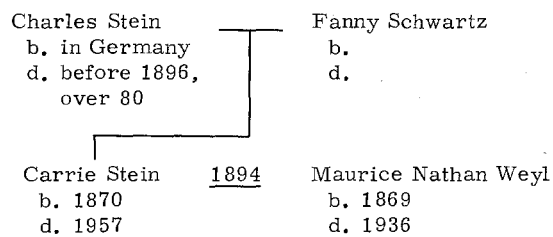
(See Weyl)

Weyl Chart



(See Day)

Stein Chart



(See Weyl)

Simon (ben Levi) Stern

First Known Ancestor

Simon ben Levi lived in Miltenberg, Bavaria, where he operated canal boats on the River Main. When that country was conquered by Napoleon his tax collectors found it difficult to cope with so many Simon ben (meaning "son of") Levis in one village so Jews were ordered to register surnames with the town clerk. The sudden edict gave them no time to discuss the matter with brothers in other towns.

Simon's wife Reiz pleaded with him to slip the recorder ten marks for a suitable surname. This he refused saying: "I shall leave it in the hands of God." He decided to take the name of his first correspondent in the next day's mail. This was a merchant named Stern, and Simon's wife wept at the disaster. Yet his brother, in another village, paid a good fee for the name Rosenheim. An instance, comments J. David Stern, Jr., in his Memoirs, of bad luck turning out to be good. (1)

Simon and Reiz Stern had a son Julius who came to Philadelphia to seek his fortune.

Julius Stern: Fencing Master and Merchant

Second Known Generation

On his arrival in Philadelphia in 1830, twenty-six year old Julius Stern (Dec. 4, 1804-1870) (2) found employment as fencing

instructor to sons of the prosperous and cultured Portuguese, and other Jewish families, established there since pre-Revolutionary days.

In early manhood Julius Stern had developed great physical strength and, from family tradition, was the strongest man in Philadelphia. He could bend a silver dollar with his fingers and once hit a man so hard on Second Street he knocked him into Delaware River a quarter of a mile away! On his deathbed his grip made his sons wince when he shook their hands.

No sooner had Julius Stern become established as fencing master than he eloped with the beautiful sister of a pupil. Traditionally she was a member of the Gratz family whose most fascinating figure was Rebecca Gratz, alleged model for Sir Walter Scott's Rebecca in Ivanhoe. Julius Stern's wife, whose first name is not known, was forced by her family to divorce the "German boor" within six weeks and he was ostracized by the whole Portuguese Jewish community. (3)

His fencing career at an end, Julius Stern became a pack-peddler and in five years succeeded in establishing his own peddlers' supply business. (4) The Philadelphia Directory of 1839 lists him a merchant at 113 North 5th Street.

Meanwhile he had married, about 1837, a talented young banquet cook named Henrietta Adler (Aug. 26, 1815–Oct. 15, 1897) who had come from Memelsdorf, Germany. (5) She was not more than twenty-two and he at thirty-three might better judge a wife. The marriage was successful and produced nine intelligent children.

So intent was he to dispel the "crude German" image cast upon him by the Portuguese Jews that he insisted his children be thoroughly grounded in literature and music. One result was a family orchestra. Simon Adler Stern (Dec. 8, 1838–May 2, 1904), the eldest son, was an accomplished violinist; Julius David (Mar.

19, 1841–July 27, 1907) and Harry played the cello; Edward (Apr. 12, 1849–June 7, 1923) the zither; and Aaron the cornet; while Clara accompanied them on the piano and “Rosie” was an opera singer. (6) Emilia, of this line, was preoccupied with her family, having married Nathan Weyl in 1866 and is not named by David Stern in the family orchestra. Though none of the family became professional musicians “their exceptional talents have been recognized,” writes Henry Samuel Morais in The Jews of Philadelphia..., “by those fortunate enough to have attended (their) private rehearsals and soirées....” (7)

In 1847 Julius Stern, the father, helped organize the Kenéseth Israel Congregation, the first Reform synagogue in Philadelphia and one of the first in the United States. Its presidency was held by him and four others in different years up to 1863. These men led in “Radical Reform.” (8) Sermons were preached in German, later in English instead of Hebrew which many of the German Jews did not understand. Men and women sat together in the synagogue, and other changes were made.

“This is not Judaism” declared the Orthodox Portuguese, which made the president of the new synagogue pray longer and harder than any other Jew in the city. His six sons were made to pray with him each morning and evening until so satiated that none entered a synagogue nor held religious ceremonies at home after their father’s death. (9)

When Julius Stern’s son David was convalescing from pneumonia a friend Samuel Murray called to see him.

“Dave, I prayed for you,” said he.

“Thank you, Sam,” said David, “but why should you ask God to bother because I forgot my overshoes, and was too lazy to change my wet shoes...? Don’t you think the good Lord is occupied with more important matters such as running the universe?”

His friend said he talked like a deist. "Deist or theist," David replied, "but ... if God is all-wise and all-powerful, why should we be forever telling him his business or asking ... for special privileges? ... to me it sounds a bit impertinent, if not blasphemous!" David advised his son Julius David Stern, Jr., future editor and publisher, not to enter a synagogue until he was sixteen. "Then you can decide what faith you want to adopt." He never again spoke to his son of religion but set him a high example in daily life as father and citizen, ever considerate and thoughtful of his fellow man. (10)

After the death of Julius Stern in 1870 (11) the family relaxed, David Stern says, when music and literature gave way to cards, casual conversation and refreshments at Henrietta (Adler) Stern's Friday night family gatherings. (She lived at 836 North Fifth Street.) Henrietta Stern held the family together with "her warmth, wisdom, and wonderful cooking." (12)

Julius Stern's intense effort, comments David Stern, produced no musicians or scholars of note, with the exception of one grandson, Dr. Walter Edward Weyl, author and editor of the New Republic. (13) The weight of evidence, he continues, is that he inherited his brilliance from his father "Nathaniel" Weyl, of this line, the husband of Emilia Stern. (14)

Before taking up the Weyl family, I shall briefly point out some of the accomplishments of Simon Stern, lawyer and political economist, the eldest son of Julius and Henrietta (Adler) Stern. After graduating in law from the University of Pennsylvania in 1860, he established himself in New York City. Elected lecturer on political economy in Cooper Union in 1862, he served on the staff of the Commercial Advertiser, 1863-4, was a founder of the American free-trade league in 1864, and in 1865 published Social Science Review.

He took an active part in the reform movement in municipal

politics and in 1876 was appointed by Governor Samuel J. Tilden on a commission to devise a plan for the government of cities. He acted as counsel for the New York board of trade and transportation and chamber of commerce in investigating abuses of railroad commissioners for New York state.

He also led in the movement that resulted in creating the inter-state commerce commission, and drafted the inter-state commerce bill in conjunction with the committee of the U. S. Senate. In 1885 President Cleveland appointed him a commissioner to examine and report on the relations between the railroads and governments of Western Europe.

His essay on "Slipshod Legislation," read before the American Bar Association, led to the appointment of a legislative commission to consider reforms in drafting laws. Articles he wrote on economics and politics appeared in many leading publications. Some of his books ran into the fourth edition.

It was his sister Emilia Stern who married Nathan Weyl of this line.

Nathan Weyl: The American Founder

First Known Generation

Nathan Weyl (Sept. 1835–1880) (16) was born in the Palatinate or in Baden and emigrated to this country before 1861 when first listed in the Philadelphia Directory at 107 North 8th Street as a dealer in "fancy goods." At this time he boarded at the Revere House.

The name Weyl or Weil is of great antiquity among Jewish family names. In Weil-De Veil: A Genealogy 1360-1956, Ernest B. Weill traces his lineage through generations of rabbis, teachers and scholars from Judah (b. 1360) who lived in Weil der Stadt on the upper Rhine. He has related his family to such personalities as Sir Thomas de Veil (1684-1746), Justice of Bow Street, London, from 1739 to 1749, depicted holding court in a curious old drawing owned by the British royal family; and to Kurt Weill (1900-1950), the composer, of more recent times. Best known internationally for Three Penny Opera (1928) and in America for his Broadway musicals and popular songs, all of Kurt Weill's works had been banned forever from Germany "by order of the chancellor" after Hitler came to power. (17)

Kurt Weill's grandfather was named Nathan Weill, and the names Nathan and Nathaniel are used in both families. The pedigree of Nathan Weyl, founder of this family, has not been traced although an unsuccessful attempt was made to do so by his descendant Nathaniel Weyl.

By 1862 Nathan Weyl of Philadelphia had moved into his own house at 111 North 8th Street and was called merchant in the Directory at the same business address.

In 1866, the year he married Emilia Stern, (18) he had moved his store to 726 Chestnut Street where he sold millinery goods and took a house at 1106 Mt. Vernon Street. The next year he and his wife moved to 1527 Wallace Street where they lived until his death. Meanwhile his business became Weyl & Rosenheim by 1869, and in 1876 the firm was Nathan Weyl & Company.

Nathan Weyl was "a scholarly gentleman highly respected by the Sterns," writes J. David Stern. (19) After his death in 1880 his widow Emilia returned to her mother's house at 836 North 5th Street where she is listed in the Directory in 1887. She was born in 1841 and died in 1907. (20)

Of their five children, a daughter and four sons, Maurice Nathan Weyl is of this line.

Maurice Nathan Weyl: Executive

Second American Generation

Maurice Nathan Weyl (1869–1936) (21) is listed as book-keeper and living with his mother at 836 North 5th Street in the 1890 and 1892 Directories. From his subsequent career it seems evident he was working at his uncle's printing firm, Edward Stern & Company at 35 North 10th Street. This was a large job-printing plant headed by Edward Stern that included his brothers Harry, and Simon Adler Stern in 1890. (22)

Subsequently he became president of this successful company and served also as secretary-treasurer and member of the board of Directors of the Philadelphia Record Company of which his cousin, J. David Stern, was president. J. David Stern, in his chapter "The Record Backs Roosevelt," speaks of his loyal Board of Directors most of whom were conservatives (including Maurice Weyl) yet they never tried to influence his editorial policy, he said. At the risk of being branded a radical sheet that had tried to destroy the American way of life if Al (Alfred) Smith won, David Stern made it the principal newspaper voice for the liberal theory and went all out for Roosevelt. (23)

"Needling me was a favorite sport of my directors," Stern says, and his most caustic critic was his cousin, Maurice N. Weyl, the secretary-treasurer. Maurice had as brilliant a mind as his brother, Dr. Walter E. Weyl the economist, David Stern said. Maurice Weyl was a wizard at mental arithmetic. "When I couldn't sleep last night I raised seventeen to the seventeenth power," he commented one morning. Stern goes on to say that Maurice had be-

come president of Edward Stern & Company at the death of Edward Stern, David Stern's uncle and guardian. This uncle was a kindly man who had an irascible temper and oftentimes Maurice and David bore the brunt. Maurice, ten years David's senior, would come to David's rescue when the old man became too harsh. This was the beginning of their warm friendship. "He and his wife Carrie," David Stern writes, "... were my closest and dearest friends." (24) Maurice Weyl had been a stockholder and officer of David Stern's Courier-Post Company, as he also became with the Record. He was David's staunch supporter, which did not however stop him from ribbing David Stern at director's meetings. David said he could take it, for as a majority stockholder he was in control. When an argument became too heated, Louis Kolb would say they may as well give in before Dave got down on the floor and kicked and screamed until he got his way. (25)

Maurice Weyl had married, in 1894, Carrie Stein, the daughter of Charles Stein who had emigrated from Germany about 1840, and his wife Fanny Schwartz. Mrs. Carrie Weyl was active in volunteer charity work and served on a number of boards with the late Mrs. Frank Miles Day. (26)

Their son Charles Weyl is of this line.

Charles Weyl: Engineer

Third American Generation

Charles Weyl (May 22, 1896–Aug. 23, 1967) (27) attended the Germantown Academy, and received his B.S. degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1917, and his M.S. degree there in

1927. Since then he has worked in engineering, design and administration for various firms; was director of the Moore School X-Ray Laboratory, 1925-45; professor of electrical engineering at the University of Pennsylvania, 1937-50; and also associate professor of radiological physics at its Graduate School of Medicine from 1942 to 1950.

He was chairman, president and director of the International Resistance Company, and was former chairman of the family firm, Edward Stern & Company, Incorporated.

In World War I he served as ensign in the U. S. Naval Reserve; at the Naval Experimental Station, New London, Connecticut, and in submarine detection duty, 1918-19.

In 1955 he received the Centennial citation, School of Engineering, from the University of Pennsylvania; was a member of the Franklin Institute, from which he received the Longstreth medal in 1930. Author of scientific books, he has also written articles for professional and stories for fiction magazines.

Charles Weyl married first, April 28, 1920, Elinor Gittelsohn (b. 1897), the daughter of Samuel Jesus Gittelsohn, M.D., and his wife Jeanette Franklin. (See Gittelsohn) By this marriage he had: Elinor Jean (b. 1923), who married Robert Rossheim in 1948 and have issue: Emily, Evan and John Rossheim; and Doris Ann (b. 1926), who married Frank Miles Day in 1948 and have issue: Jean, Kenneth, Susanna and Marianna Day. (See Day)

Charles Weyl and Elinor (Gittelsohn) Weyl were divorced, and on December 4, 1948, he married Helen Roberts by whom he had issue: Charles Frederick, and Mary Caroline Weyl.

In J. David Stern's Memoirs (pp. 64-65), on which I have leant heavily, is a tribute to Langdon Mitchell, the distinguished playwright and Helena Day's father "who phoned he wanted to see

me.” Tom Stern, David Stern’s son, had been taking Mitchell’s course in drama at the University of Pennsylvania.

“Tom shows real promise in writing dialogue,” Mitchell comments at lunch. “It would be a crime to take him out of college.” (His father was exasperated at his loafing through his junior year.)

Stern was so impressed by this interest that he accepted Mitchell’s offer to assume personal charge of Tom’s education. Mitchell transferred Tom to Harvard where he worked hard at writing a play while neglecting other courses. The play flopped, and Tom was glad to come work for his father. Stern told Mitchell he had wasted two years of Tom’s life.

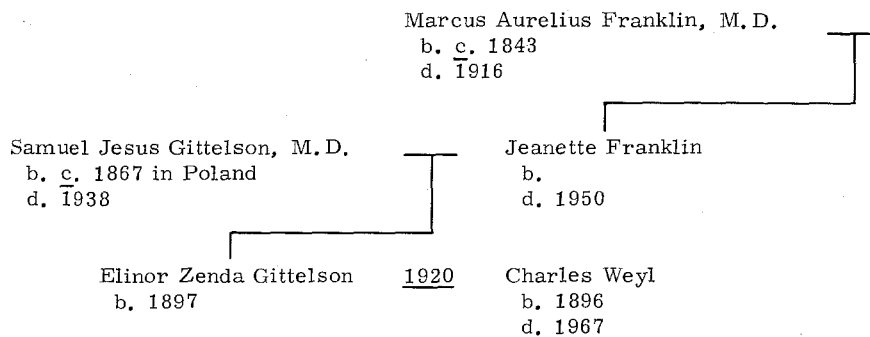
Ten years later, Tom developed a character -- Francis, the Talking Mule -- whose dialogue was hailed as sparkling satire. After two published books, Francis and Francis Goes to Washington, Hollywood paid Tom a fortune for a series of eight Francis pictures, grossing more than any other series in motion picture history! Stern’s happiness in his son’s success was marred by Mitchell’s death before he, Mitchell, could say, “I told you so.”

- (1) J. David Stern, Memoirs of a Maverick Publisher (Simon and Schuster, New York, 1962), pp. 46-47, 50.
- (2) Ibid., 47-48; Malcolm H. Stern, Americans of Jewish Descent: A Compendium of Genealogy (Hebrew College Press, Cincinnati, c.1960), 206.
- (3) Told me by Mrs. Adrien Siegel, née Stern.
- (4) J. David Stern, Memoirs, 47.
- (5) Stern, Americans of Jewish Descent, 206; Stern, Memoirs, 50.
- (6) Stern, Memoirs, 50; and statement by Mrs. Adrien Siegel about her great-aunt Rose.
- (7) Henry Samuel Morais, The Jews Of Philadelphia, Their History From The Earliest Settlements To The Present Time.... (Philadelphia, 1654-1894), p. 389.
- (8) Ibid., 91.
- (9) Stern, Memoirs, 48.
- (10) Ibid., 45-49; see also Who's Who In America, v. 34, 1966-67, 2043 for Julius David Stern.
- (11) Julius Stern (1804-1870), and his wife Henrietta (d. 1897, age 82) are buried in lot 119, sect. 1, Mt. Sinai Cemetery, Philadelphia.
- (12) Memoirs, 50; see Philadelphia Directories for this address. Mrs. Adrien Siegel has pictures of these family gatherings in her great-grandmother's house.
- (13) See Who Was Who In America, 1897-1942, p. 1326.

- (14) Memoirs, 50.
- (15) Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography, v. 5, 668.
- (16) Dates from Nathaniel Weyl "Rocamar" 4201 South Ocean Boulevard, Delray Beach, Florida, sent to the late Charles Weyl Dec. 8, 1966, and to Geo. V. Massey II, June 9, 1967. Nathan Weyl is buried in Harrigate Jewish Cemetery, now the Rodeph Shalom Cemetery, 615 North Broad St., Philadelphia, Pa. "...the grave of Nathan Weyl gives his place and date of birth and the birth date of his siblings whom he brought over to the United States. The record of birth place has faded, but it is clear that Nathan was born in the Palatinate (Bayerisch Pfalz) or in Baden."
- (17) Ernest B. Weill, Weil-De Veil: A Genealogy 1360-1956 (Scarsdale, N.Y., 1957) pp. 7-12, 19, 20, 34, 35, and family chart in back of book.
- (18) From Nathaniel Weyl's letter.
- (19) Letter from J. David Stern, former president of the Philadelphia Record Co., P.O. Box 626, Palm Beach, Florida, to Mrs. Kenneth Day, Apr. 21, 1967.
- (20) Letter from Nathaniel Weyl to Geo. V. Massey II, heretofore quoted.
- (21) Dates from the family. See also Malcolm H. Stern, Americans Of Jewish Descent: A Compendium Of Genealogy (Cincinnati, c. 1960), 206.
- (22) See Philadelphia Directory for 1890.
- (23) Stern, Memoirs, 198, 199.

- (24) Letter from J. David Stern to Mrs. Kenneth Day dated from Palm Beach, Florida, Apr. 21, 1967.
- (25) Stern, Memoirs, 199.
- (26) Mrs. Kenneth Day.
- (27) Who's Who In America, vol. 34, 1966–1967, 2276, also Stern, Americans Of Jewish Descent, 206.

Gittelson-Franklin Chart



(See Weyl for issue)

Samuel Jesus Gittelson, M.D. Who

Founded This Family In America

Samuel Jesus Gittelson (c. 1867–June 26, 1938), consultant ophthalmologist, was born in Poland where he studied law. (2) When he was twenty-three, or thereabout, he emigrated, in 1890, to America where he entered the Medical Department of the University of Kentucky. Here he matriculated in 1892 at the age of twenty-five.

He settled in Philadelphia where he married, sometime before 1897, Jeanette Franklin (d. 1950), daughter of Marcus Aurelius Franklin, M.D., whose family, of German origin, had lived in Philadelphia several generations before him. There is a traditional connection with one of the well known Morris families of Philadelphia but this has not been verified.

Marcus A. Franklin (c. 1843–Nov. 6, 1916) (3) graduated from Jefferson Medical College in 1870, and was a fellow of the American Medical Association. He was first intern for the German Hospital in Philadelphia, and its visiting physician for fourteen years. The 1890 Directory lists his office at 1601 Columbia Avenue, and his home Atlantic City. In 1897 his address was 1518 North Broad Street, in both the Directory and the Elite Directory of Hebrews ... of Philadelphia. His death was from edema of the lungs at the age of seventy-three. Because of the name, it is likely Dr. Franklin was descended from the Marcus Aurelius Franklin who graduated from the University of Pennsylvania in medicine in 1833. (4)

Samuel Jesus Gittelson was one of the founders of Mount Sinai Hospital and on its staff for many years. He was consulting ophthalmologist for ten years before he died. This was on June 26, 1938 from gastric malignancy at the age of seventy-one.

His daughter, Elinor Zenda (b. 1897), by Jeanette (Franklin) Gittelson, married Charles Weyl in 1920, and is of this line. See Weyl.

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- (1) The Journal of the American Medical Association, Morris Fishbein, ed., vol. 111, 1938, p. 554.
 - (2) Information from his daughter, Mrs. Elinor Gittelson Weyl.
 - (3) The Journal of the American Medical Association, George H. Simmons, M.D., ed., vol. LXVII, July-Dec., 1916, p. 1614.
 - (4) General Alumni Catalogue of the University of Penna., 1917, p. 604.

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