The Brooke family of Virginia

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of Cologne there, 5 tapers each weighing half a pound every year at Christmas for three years after my death.

To the light of St. Catherine and St. Nicholas, two tapers at Easter every year for three years.

To the lights of St. Christopher and the Holy Cross there 12d each.

I bequeath to my wife Lettice all the jewels, plate and goods which were hers before our marriage & I make the said Lettice, John Nethersole and John Carlyll my executors; and Thomas Atwood, esquire, Mayor of the city of Canterbury, my overseer. I give my manor of Dornean with its appurtenances as well within as without the liberties of the city aforesaid, and 5 acres of land at le Crabtre in Wynekepefeld, which I bought of John Frenningham & Thomas Lamblyn, executors of William Bennett, to be sold, & the money thereof coming to be disposed for the health of my soul.

My wife shall have the tenement in which I live in the parish of All Saints, Canterbury, for her life.

I give to the Mayor of the said city and his successors my message called Stonehall in the said parish, provided they build a dwelling for a respectable man and woman to live in, taking the profits to the use of the community of the said city.

My wife shall have for her life my manor or tenement called Shulford & lands in the parishes of Northgate, Hayknton and Sturrley, and after her death the same shall be sold and 100 marks assigned to a priest to celebrate in the church of All Saints aforesaid. Provided that if my wife bear me a child and pay 350 marks, the premises shall be to my wife for life and after her decease to the said child.

Proved by John Nethersole & John Carlyll of the City of Canterbury 30 October 1887.

Of this branch of the family descendants still survive.

A writer in Harper's Magazine, September, 1871, is an article entitled "South Coast Sufferings," says:

"Canterbury rejoices in a pleasant little park which surrounds a mound called " Dane John," generally regarded as the old fortress from which the Danes besieged the city. I went there to call upon the most learned antiquarian John Brent, of Canterbury. Mr. John Brent resides where his ancestors did six hundred years ago, and live several of them is connected with the civic government."

This John Brent was a member of the British Archaeological Society and the author of many interesting papers upon the subject of local history, among which "Canterbury in the Olden Time," before quoted, is a carefully prepared study of the ancient manners and customs of that quaint town.

For continuation...
ERRATA. In the July number make the following corrections. The first words should read: "IV. Mary m. Col. Baylor Hill, issue." The last line on p. 102, is out of place. It should immediately follow on p. 103 the line reading "1. Major General George Mercer Brooke (see this Mag., April, 1904). A few lines before this the line reading "(Corbin) Pendleton Brooke," &c., should be stricken out, as it reappears in the proper connection in the second line below. After "Richard" in line 7, 4th paragraph on p. 103, add "Corbin, of Laneville, King and Queen county."

This writer wrote to Hon. A. J. Montague, of Virginia, asking him whether he was not descended from the early Brookes, and if so please to trace his descent. The following is the reply:

Lewis Montague (son of Captain Lewis Montague, born about 1750), married Catherine Brooke, daughter of John William Brooke, of Essex county. His will bears date September 21st, 1798, recorded April 20th, 1802, in which he mentions the following children:

5. Lewis Brooke Montague, m. Catherine Street Jesse at "Ella'sLee," in Middlesex county, June 14th, 1818. There were ten children of this marriage, the oldest Ro, Latane Montague, being my father. Thus you see that I am the direct descendant of the marriage of Lewis Montague and Catherine Brooke. The above information I have substantially transcribed or copied from the genealogy of Peter Montague, the pioneer emigrant to America, coming over with Sir Francis Wyatt, in the ship "Charles," in 1621. If I can serve you further, please call upon me.

April 4, 1907.

A. J. MONTAGUE.

It may be remarked in regard to the letter from Gov. Montague that this writer has not been able to find any one who belongs to the Brooke clan of Virginia who was not linally descended from Robert Brooke, Sr., who was commissioned a justice of the peace of Essex in 1692. He had three sons only, Robert, Humphrey, and William. It is entirely certain that the aforesaid John William Brooke was
not descended from any of those three. But it is possible that Robert Brooke, Sr., had brothers, although this writer has not been able to find any trace of them. But it is certain that six or eight men named Brooke lived in Virginia before 1750. John William Brooke, therefore, must have been descended from a brother of Robert Brooke, Sr., (if he had a brother), or from one of the six or eight Brookes who lived in Virginia before 1750.

A correspondent writes that in the Journal of the Maryland House of Burgesses (if that is the title of the body) for 1647, a "Mr. Francis Brooke" is excused for non-attendance "for drawing of his wine." This antedates by nearly three years the arrival in Maryland of Robert Brooke with his eight sons.

HUMPHREY BROOKE OF FAULAR, b. 1730 (?) d. 1802.

Humphrey Brooke, of Fauquier, was the son of Humphrey Brooke, Sr., whose wife was Elizabeth Braxton, daughter of George Braxton, Sr. He was clerk of the county court of Fauquier from 1753 to 1793—24 years—and was succeeded in that office by his son, Francis Brooke, who held the office for 12 years—until 1795. He was also clerk of the circuit court of Prince William county from 178 to 1793, and was succeeded in that office by his son, George Brooke, who held the office until 1805 (Johnson's Memorial of Virginia Clerks, pp. 176-180). A member (who has since died) of the Conrad family, of Winchester, Va., who are lineal descendants of Humphrey Brooke, of Fauquier, told this writer that there is in the Conrad family a letter written by Humphrey Brooke to his daughter Katherine, wife of Burr Powell, dated Dumfries and speaking of Dumfries as home. Dumfries is in Prince William county. This letter can not be found. He was certainly clerk of the Virginia Senate in 1780. The resolution of the Virginia Legislature, January 21st, 1780, appointing Edmund Randolph, James Madison, jun., St. George Tucker, and others, to the Annapolis Convention is signed "John Beckley, Ch. D.; H. Brooke, C. S." He was a member of the Virginia Senate from 1791 to 1802. But the most important service of Humphrey Brooke of Fauquier, to his country was as delegate from that county to the Virginia Convention, which met in Richmond, June, 1788, to ratify or reject the "new" Constitution of the United States. He was one of the 83 who voted for ratification, as against the 70 who voted for rejection.

The Spotsylvania County Records, Vol. I, p. 517, say that Humphrey Brooke was 2nd Lieutenant of Foot in Spotsylvania county, and that

his commission was dated May 4th, 1736. But this Humphrey Brooke was probably the 3rd son of Robert Brooke, Jr., the Knight of the Horseshoe. See this Magazine, April, 1905, pp. 437-8; Ibid. Oct., 1902, p. 107; Ibid. July, 1905, p. 102-3. Col. George Brooke, of Mantapike, and Humphrey Brooke, of Fanquiner, were brothers, and were first cousins of Richard Brooke, of Smithfield. A great-grandson of Col George Brooke, of Mantapike, Charles Washington Coleman, married Cynthia Beverley, widow of Henry Augustine Washington, and daughter of Judge Beverley Tucker; a great grand-daughter of Humphrey Brooke, of Fanquiner, Laura Holmes Powell, married John Randolph Tucker, son of Judge Henry St. George Tucker; a grandson of Richard Brooke, of Smithfield, Henry Laurens Brooke* married Virginia, daughter of Judge Henry St. George Tucker. The two Judges Tucker were brothers.

Extract from the will of Humphrey Brooke, of Fanquiner, which is dated April 17th, 1802, and admitted to probate in the County Court of Fanquiner, 20th day of July, 1802, his son "F. Brooke" being Clerk of the Court.

"First. I give to my beloved wife, Milly Brooke, &c. I give to my son Francis Brooke (I) &c and it is my will that all the rest of my estate may be equally divided between my son Matthew Whiting Brooke (II) and my daughters Ann Brooke (III), Catherine Powell (IV) and Lucy Ingram (V) &c. I lend the use of the household furniture &c to my daughter Elizabeth Digges (VI) &c. My sons George Brooke (VII) and Francis Brooke have each of them already received &c. I hereby constitute and appoint my son Matthew Whiting Brooke and my son-in-law Burr Powell Executors of this my last will and testament which I have written with my own hand. The testator mentions his son-in-law Thomas Digges but does not mention his son in law Ingram. Matthew W. Brooke and Burr Powell qualified as executors and "gave bond in the penalty of Ten Thousand pounds conditioned as the law directs." Charles Marshall, his son, Frank's brother-in-law, was security upon the bond.

*In the July, 1904, issue of this Magazine, p. 103, this name is written Henry Lawrence Brooke. This is a mistake. It should be written Henry Laurens Brooke. It is so written in his own handwriting by the late Henry L. Brooke in his own family Bible, and it is so put upon his tombstone in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond Va. He was named in honor of Henry Laurens of South Carolina. But as Henry Laurens was a contemporary of Henry L. Brooke's grandfather and was eight years older, this writer does not know why his father should have been named in honor of the distinguished South Carolinian.

†She was his second wife and had been the second wife and widow of Col. Francis Tomkies, of Gloucester county. This writer is indebted for this information to the kindness of Prof. T. J. Stubbs, Sr., of Williamsburg, who obtained it from an old chancery suit of McDonald vs. Brooke, et al., in the records of the court at Williamsburg. Humphrey Brooke's children were all by his first wife.
I. Francis Brooke married Nancy Pickett, daughter of Martin Pickett. Mr. Charles Marshall (grandfather of Mrs. M. M. Green, of Warrenton, Va., whose mother was a daughter of Mr. Robert I. Taylor, of Alexandria), married another daughter of Martin Pickett, and Judge John Scott married still another. Martin Pickett was the colleague of Humphrey Brooke from Fauquier, in the Virginia Convention, which met in Richmond, June, 1788, to ratify or reject the "new" Constitution of the United States. Issue of Francis Brooke and Nancy Pickett were as follows:

(A) Martin Pickett Brooke, m., McLarnahan and died without issue; he adopted the daughter of his first consu, Mr. Alexander I. Marshall; she married Mr. Moses Green, of Fauquier; he also adopted Catherine Travis Clarkson, who married a son of Chief Justice Marshall.

(B) Francis Brooke, m., Morgan and died without issue. He was the law partner of his uncle (by marriage) Judge Scott, and the settlement of his estate caused the noted Scott and Brooke suit. See Beverley vs. Brooke, et al.; Same vs. Pickett, H. Leigh, 42: Beverley vs. Brooke, et al.; Same vs. Scott, et al. IV Grattan, 1879. The bitterness caused by this suit is shown by the fact that Mr. Moore, counsel for Brooke, killed R. E. Lee, son of Charles Lee and grandson of "Light Horse Harry," Lee was son-in-law of Scott.


III. Ann Brooke, d. unmarried. See her will.

(a) Humphrey Brooke Powell, Middleburg, London Co., Va., and his wife, Ann Boyd, had issue as follows:

(1), Gertrude, m. Raleigh T. Colston; (2), Laura Holmes, m. John Randolph Tucker; (3) Louisa, m. Wm. Holliday; (4), Wm. Levin, m. Evelina Tucker Magill, daughter of Dr. Alfred T. Magill and granddaughter of Judge Henry St. George Tucker; their son, Dr. Wm. Levin Powell, is practicing medicine (1906); (5), Sallie, m. Jacqueline Harrison; (6), John Webb, m. —— (7), Katherine, m. —— Magruder; (8), Marietta, m. 1st, Richard Holliday, of Talbott Co., Md., m. 2nd, Chas. Gibson, U. S. Senator from Md.; (9), Jane Millicent, m. Clement C. McPhail, of Charlotte Co., Va.; (10), Elizabeth, d. y.; (11), Hunter Holmes, m. Emma Baker, of Winchester, Va.; (12), Philip Pendleton, m. ——; (13), Raleigh Colston, m. ——.

Issue of Laura Holmes Powell and John Randolph Tucker is as follows:


Anne Whiting Powell, b. March 31st, 1703, married Lloyd Noland, b. Dec. 14, 1795. Their marriage was celebrated Jan. 5, 1814. Their children were Catherine Mary Powell, b. Nov. 3, 1814; Thomas Lloyd, b. May 25, 1817; Burr Powell, b. Oct. 20, 1818; Richard Wm. Noble, b. Feb. 24, 1822. Catherine Mary Powell Noland married Dr. Wm. B. Cochran, and died at the home of her son-in-law, Bishop Thos. U. Dudley, in Louisville, Ky., Feb. 17, 1895 aged 80 years and six months.

(TO BE CONTINUED)