

THE ANTECEDENTS OF RICHARD POWELL, OF AMHERST
COUNTY, VIRGINIA

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The name Powell (originally Ap Howell) is of Welsh derivation and not uncommon in Virginia. The aim of this article, based on data collected for some fifteen years, is to trace the descent of Richard Powell from his immigrant Powell ancestor, separating him clearly from others of the name. The placements hereinafter made are the results of much thought and study.

On June 10, 1637, Thomas Powell patented 100 acres in Upper Norfolk County on the south side of the Nansemond River "50a. for his own and 50a. for the personal adv [enture] of a servt." (Nugent, C. & P., p. 76.) On the same day (*Id.*) he patented 200 acres "1 mi. from plantation of sd Powell," which would lead to the inference that he had settled there earlier and that these two patents were additions to acreage already in his possession. It seems most likely that he is the Thomas Powell (Hotten's "Original Lists," p. 236) who appears in the 1625 Muster taken after the Massacre, as one of the servants of Capt. Ralph Hamor then living at Hog Island and who states that he came over in the Scaflower. This boat is elsewhere listed as arriving in 1621. There is a distance of some forty miles between Hog Island and the locality in which he was settled in 1637, but we know the settlements around Nansemond River were later than those closer to Jamestown. Hog Island, lying across the river, was settled by 1608, possibly even 1607, and is near enough to Jamestown for signal fires to be used as a means of communication. If the enormous holly tree, over four hundred years old, according to experts, that stands on Hog Island close to the river, could only speak, how greatly our knowledge of these early days would be increased! This Thomas Powell is not the person of that name listed in Hotten (p. 263) as living on the Eastern Shore, and having come in the "Sampson," 1618. The descendants of that Thomas can be traced thru Accomack and Northampton County records, and are entirely distinct.

Abraham Pelteere, on Feb. 25, 1638/9 (C. & P., p. 102) patented 50 acres in the Upper County of New Norfolk within Nansemond River "n. towards the land of Thomas Powell." Since we are interested in Thomas's neighbors as well as in Thomas himself, we pause to give what the records show about Abraham. He appears in the Muster (Hotten's "Original Lists," p. 248) as "Abraham Pelteere aged 14 in the Swan 1624" and servant to John Hazard, of Elizabeth City. He figures too in the "Minutes of the Council and General Court," p. 109, when the petition of his widowed mother, Margaret Pelteere, was presented on Aug. 28, 1626, to the court. In this,

she stated that her son had been apprenticed to Humphrey Rastill for seven years and by him was assigned to John Hazard who had put him with Robert Thresher for four years. Since the original agreement gave Rastill no power to dispose of his apprenticeship, the court conceaveth that ye saide Rastill hath donne greate wronge to the saide Abraham Pelteere," and ordered him to be set free. Doubtless many other boys who left London, apparently with their future secure, found themselves unhappily sold from one master to another over here.

In 1640 (C. & P., p. 119), John Geary patented 200 acres in Upper Norfolk County between land late in the possession of Mr. Thomas Dew and by him assigned to Thomas Davis, and land now in the possession of Thomas Powell, Francis Hutchins in 1657 (*Id.*, p. 327) patented 200 acres in Nansemond County at the head of Beaver Dam Creek, being a branch of the west branch of Nansemond River, beginning at mile's end of William Storie's land and adjoining the land of Mr. John Garrett and Thomas Powell. In 1686, Francis Hutchins and Mary, his wife, of the lower Parish, Isle of Wight County, conveyed 100 acres of this land, which, by change of county lines, now lay in Isle of Wight County, to Thomas English, describing it as lying on the Western Branch adjoining Thomas Gale and Thomas Powell (Boddie's "Seventeenth Century—Isle of Wight County," p. 601). Six years before this, Thomas Powell had given to his son, William, the tract of land on Beaver Dam Branch whereon he lived (*Id.*, p. 587).

The will of Thomas Powell dated July 12, 1683, probated Feb. 9, 1687/8, is abstracted in Mrs. Chapman's "Wills and Administrations of Isle of Wight County," Vol. 1, p. 40. In this he names as legatees Thomas, Nathaniel, William and John Powell, daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Powell, daughter-in-law, Lucretia Corbett, Lucretia, Roberta and Elizabeth Powell, son, William, to be executor. Witnesses: Thomas Griffin and Francis Hutchins. Rebecca (Common)

The name that attracts our attention in the above is Nathaniel Powell, for Capt. Nathaniel Powell was among the most prominent of the early settlers. He and his wife were killed in the dreadful massacre of 1622 and the following item reveals later happenings. Petition of Thomas Powell July 21, 1626 (Va. State Library, Calendar of Transcripts, Colonial Papers, Vol. 4, No. 12, p. 147). "The petition of Thos. Powell in behalf of himself and his poor brothers and sisters to the Privy Council, that whereas Capt. Nathaniel Powell died about three years since seized of lands in Virginia to a good value, whereupon petitioner being the elder brother took out letters of administration in London, that the Governor and Council of Virginia have certified that one William Powell no way kin to the deceased had before administered to said estate, that said William Powell being since dead and said estate come to the hands of one Mr. Blaney that married the relict of William Powell the late Commissioners for Virginia by letter of 3 November 1624 desired the Governor and Council there to examine the

cause, but the ships for Virginia having departed hence before said letter was obtained and the sickness immediately after spreading thro the City of London, petitioners had no means of sending it. Said Commissioners being dissolved pray their Lordships to renew the like letter in petitioners' behalf." That their Lordships did act in the petitioners' behalf is shown by a statement in Dr. Tyler's "The Cradle of the Republic," p. 213: "Thos Powell of Powellton, Suffolk County, England his brother and heir, sold the estate to John Taylor 'citizen and girdler' of London." In 1619 Christopher Lawne, who had been a member of the first House of Burgesses, made his will. The overseers of his will in Virginia were Capt. Nathaniel Powell, Mr. Samuel Macocke, and Capt. Ralph Hamor (Va. Mag., Vol. 34, p. 376). When we recall that Thomas Powell first appears in Virginia as one of Capt. Hamor's servants, or employees as we would call them, it would seem likely that he was related to Capt. Nathaniel Powell.

After this digression we return to Thomas Powell. The daughter-in-law, Lucretia Corbitt, mentioned in his will, was the widow of his son, Nathaniel, whose inventory was presented in Isle of Wight court March 10, 1678 "upon oath of Lucretia the relict of Nathaniel Powell decd, and now wife to John Corbitt" (Isle of Wight, D. & W., No. 2, p. 172). The Thomas, Nathaniel, William and John Powell, who are bequeathed half of Thomas' land with the proviso that they not sell it except to each other, are clearly the sons of Nathaniel. In other words, Thomas had sons, Nathaniel, who predeceased him, and William, who survived him and received the other half of his land (*Id.*, p. 292).

The scene shifts now to old Rappahannock Co., whither in the decades between 1650 and 1670 so many families from Lower Norfolk, Nansmond and Isle of Wight Counties betook themselves. In 1665 (Old Rappahannock Co. Wills, etc., No. 1, p. 59). John Mills sold to Thomas Powell, both parties being of Rappahannock Co., for 400 lbs. tobacco and 2 cows, 50 acres beginning at a marked pohickory near the mill flood gates bounding on the land of Thomas Rooson, now possessed by Philip Saunders, to creek called Tignor's Creek, unto a small river going into the said creek, being part of a grand patent to John Mills; Jane, wife of said John, relinquished her dower rights in this land. About this time Thomas Powell had married and the following deed (*Ibid.*, D. B. 3, p. 317) reveals his wife's maiden name. Thomas Powell and Mary, his wife, sell to James Coghill for "the valluable consideracon of nyne barrells of good Indian corne as alsoe for Div^r other Consideracons" 300 acres lying on the north side of Rappahannock River patented Sept. 7, 1654; witnesses: Thomas Fogge, William Neale. Dated Sept. 30, 1667; Mary Powell, daughter to Francis Place "doth appoint her loving friend, Mr. Daniel Gaines her true and lawful attorney to acknowledge sd. deed." William Wilton witnessed this power of attorney and a few days later bought the land from Coghill.

From the above, we should assume Thomas Powell was born around

1640, possibly three or four years prior to or subsequent to that date. It seems from facts which will later be touched on, that he was of the Isle of Wight family, tho' we cannot place him positively. As we have said, Thos. Powell, of Isle of Wight, apparently had two sons, Nathaniel and William, both of whom had a son, Thomas (Chapman's "Wills and Administrations of Isle of Wight," Vol. 1, p. 7). Whether Thomas, of Rappahannock, is identical with one of these Thomases, we cannot say, for we have no dates by which we can check such placement. We do, however, affirm our belief that he is of the Isle of Wight family.

Since Thomas' wife was Mary Place, some discussion of that family is appropriate. Place or Plaice is a personal name of several variants (Barber's "British Family Surnames," p. 179). The Place-Plaice family, according to Marshall's "Genealogists' Guide," was domiciled in Durham, but the "visitation of Oxfordshire, 1563-64," also lists some generations of a family in which the given names of Francis and Rowland occur. The Rowland Place who patented 1,228 acres in Henrico Co. in 1669 and was later a member of the Council in Virginia, was likely a son of Rowland Place (died 1676), of Dinsdale, Durham, who married Catherine, daughter of Charles Wise, of Copgrove, Yorkshire. ("Familiae Minorum Gentium," III, pp. 920-921). Besides Rowland, Jr. (1642-1713), Rowland and Catherine had also a son, Francis (1647-1728), who was a celebrated painter. For the above information the writer is indebted to Mr. W. B. Marye, of the Maryland Historical Society. In an article in Yorkshire Notes and Queries, April, 1886, Part III, pp. 52-54, entitled, "Old Potters and Potteries of Yorkshire," the statement is made that Francis Place, the painter, was the first person to make pottery or porcelain in Yorkshire, his operations having been carried on from 1665 to 1728. He also painted, designed and sketched. Horace Walpole, who was a collector and connoisseur of art, in speaking of his pottery, wrote: "I have a coffee cup of his ware; it is a grey earth with streaks of black and not superior to common earthen ware." In 1886 this cup was still in existence.

While we cannot state who were the parents of Francis Place, who came to Virginia, it seems likely that he was of the Durham family of that name. We have no dates for his arrival in Virginia nor for his death. He apparently lived for a time in Isle of Wight Co., for in 1667, when Lt.-Col. John George took up 360 acres in that county, it is described as adjoining the land formerly held "by Francis Place, but now in the possession of Isaac George" (Boddies' "Seventeenth Century Isle of Wight," p. 687). He was likely born circa 1625, for he had two daughters by 1654, the elder of whom, Mary, was likely 5 or 6 years old. Probably his marriage occurred in Virginia, but we have no clue to the name of his wife. His Isle of Wight land must have been a purchase, for the only patent in his name row of record is for the land his daughter later sold. He probably died before the accession of Charles II in 1660, otherwise he would have repatented the land obtained in 1654 during Cromwell's protectorate. This patent,

dated Sept. 7, 1654 (Nugent's "Cavaliers and Pioneers," p. 293), was for 300 acres lying on the north side of the "freshes" of the Rappahannock river about 10 miles above Nanzemum Town, southwest upon a dividant surveyed for Nicholas Merriwether and upon the main branch of dividing creek for the transportation of 6 persons (unnamed). Up to 1656 this land lay in Lancaster Co., until 1692 in Old Rappahannock, from then until 1720 in Richmond Co., and afterwards in King George Co., as records evidence. On Aug. 11, 1655, Francis Place conveyed this land and certain cattle by deed of gift (Lancaster Co. Rec. Book, #2, p. 104) to "my daughter Mary Place when she arrives at 18 years," if she dies without heirs, then "to daughter Margaret Place, my youngest daughter." As we have seen, by 1666 Mary had married Thomas Powell, and joined with him in deeding this land to Coghill.

In 1678 (Old Rappahannock Co. D. B. 6, p. 76a) Richard Poole, presumably the person of that name who later died testate in Isle of Wight Co., gave power of attorney to sell to any persons a "tract of 427 acres which I lately purchased of Capt. William Mosely," who had moved from Lower Norfolk to Old Rappahannock Co. The following July (*Id.*) George Jones exercised this power and conveyed to Thomas Powell "all that tract of 427 acres within this patent mentioned together with the patent itself." On the margin of this record, the clerk wrote "vid pa in another book 271," but that book seems lost and we can learn no more of this transaction except Thomas Powell's receipt in the sum of 2,500 lbs. tobacco for "the within deed and every article contained therein" (*Id.*, p. 76).

In 1694 (Essex Co. O. B., 1692-94 (Reverse) Deeds, p. 325), Thomas and Mary Powell conveyed to their son, Honorias² 100 acres of this land describing it as beginning at an ash standing "in the line of Col. Catlett (forest land)" on a branch adjoining Abraham Stepp, etc.

Thomas Powell died in 1701, a few weeks after making his will in which he described himself as of Sittenburn parish and very sick and weak (*Ibid.*, D. & W. 10, p. 75). In this document he desired his land be divided equally between his sons, Place² and Thomas² and his wife, her part at her death to go to son, William², cattle to son, William² and "these persons that hath the education of my son William till he shall come to the age of 21 years." He also made bequests to daughters, Frances² Powell, Elizabeth² Salmon, Anne² Coffee, and sons, Honours² (Honorias²) and Place² and son-in-law, John Salmon, to be executors.

In 1705 (*Ibid.*, O. B., 1703-1708, p. 183) Mary Powell petitioned that the maintenance of her son, William² be allowed out of her husband's estate, but the court refused this as an "irregular process." A few months later she brought suit against the executors, but the suit was dismissed and no details of it are extant (*Id.*, p. 221). About this time (*Id.*, p. 237) William² died, and the executors of his father's estate unsuccessfully petitioned the court that his estate be appraised. The following year (*Id.*, p. 341) John

Warden, as greatest creditor, obtained administration of the estate. So far as we know, William² died unmarried.

In regard to the oldest son, Place² we have a few items. In 1705 he put the following on record in Essex County Court (D. & W. 12, p. 114): "Know all men that I Place Powell of Essex Co. and Parish of St. Anne's do for several threatenings of Mary Powell my wife that she will make away with what I have a-purpose for to ruine me, I do, therefore, forewarne all manner of persons from having any manner of dealing with her and from taking anything of her or entertaining her without my consent." In 1710 (*Ibid.*, D. & W. 14, p. 339) he leased to Augustine Smith 300 acres lying in St. Mary's Parish, Richmond Co., whereon George and William Proctor now liveth in the freshes of Rappahannock River in the forks of Lamb's Creek, being the land granted unto Francis Place by patent Sept., 1654, relation being had to the records, and now doth of right belong to the said Place² Powell, partly to these presents. Wit: John Golding, Casandra Golding, John Wood, Recorded Jan. 13, 1714/5. In reading this lease, one recalls that this is the land Thomas¹ and Mary Powell had sold some 40 years previously and wonders as to the validity of this instrument. On June 3, 1713 (Richmond Co. O. B. 6, p. 108) the Suit in Ejection between Alex¹ Day, plff., and Wm. Wilton, by George and Wm. Proctor, his nearest friends, defts., for land lying in St. Mary's Parish which Place² Powell demised to the deft. for a term of years not yet ended, came to trial and the verdict of the jury was as follows: Francis Place took up the land in question, 300 acres in Sept., 1654; on Aug. 11, 1655, he made a deed in tail to his daughter, Mary, and she was thereafter in possession of the land. Mary married Thos. Powell and said Place² is their eldest son. Mary died about 3 years ago the middle of December last. On Sept. 30, 1666, Thomas and Mary deeded the land to James Coghill, who, on Oct. 11, 1667, deeded it to William Wilton. He took out a new patent for the land on Oct. 3, 1671. "Wee do not find any patent of the sd land granted to the sd Francis Place before that dated in 1654 before cited. Wee find that the sd Francis Place was dead long before the date of Wilton's patent. Wee find the said Mary Powell lived a widow" nine or ten years before she died.

In 1715 John Golding gave bond to administer on the estate of Place² Powell deceased. (Va. Col. Abstracts, Vol. 9, p. 18), but apparently there was some hitch, as in July, 1716, Augustine Smith gave bond to administer on the estate, "he dying without a will" (*Id.*, p. 80). Inventory and appraisement of the estate were recorded in Essex County the next year (D. & W. 15, p. 57).

But those 300 acres, like a restless ghost, would not be "laid" and required the following deed to still them: King George Co. D. B. 3, p. 353, Sept. 7, 1750, Honorias² Powell, of St. Mary's Parish, Caroline Co., as brother and heir apparent to Place² Powell, who has removed himself to some remote place out of Virginia, conveys to John Champe, Gent., the

land patented Sept., 1654, by Francis Place and leased Nov. 11, 1710, by said Place² Powell to Augustine Smith, Gent, which lease is of record in Essex Co.

It would seem from the foregoing that Place² Powell left Essex, and no one knowing what had become of him, he was assumed to be dead. He left no descendants as far as his people knew, else Honorias² could not have been his heir.

Taking up Honorias² Powell, younger brother of Place², we find he was born by 1669 and married probably about 1694 Mrs. Joyce Lamberth, widow of Geo. Lamberth (Old Rappa. D. B. 7, p. 426). In 1695 he made certain gifts to his stepdaughter Sarah Lamberth (Essex O. B., 1692-95 (Reverse), p. 387). The following informative suit in ejection, brought by Honorias² Powell, called lessor of the plaintiff, against Elizabeth Farrell, widow, for 100 acres, part of a patent for 427½ acres granted April 18, 1670, to Col. Wm. Moseley, recites several items of interest (Essex Land Causes, 1711-16(29), pp. 62-69, Sept., 1729). We learn first that Col. Moseley sold this land to Richard Poole, who, thru his attorney, George Jones, conveyed it to Thomas¹ Powell, who, in 1694, conveyed 100 acres to the said Honorias². After noting that Honorias² now "is more than sixty years of age," the verdict of the jury continues: "We find a patent dated May 2, 1705, to John Salmon, Place Powell and William Powell for 427½ acres," which is the land in dispute. John Salmon, as survivor of the three patentees, held the land and on his death it was held by his son and heir, John³, who, on Jan. 7, 1716/7, sold it to Charles Ferrell; Charles died without selling any part of it and the land was processioned in 1727 as belonging to his widow, Elizabeth Ferrell. Honorias² Powell was in possession "above thirty years ago" of the tract he claims. The plot of the land shows it adjoins Catlett and Stepp. The deed from John³ Salmon, "son and heir of John Salmon deceased," to Charles Ferrell is in Essex Co. records, W. & D. 14, pp. 691-692.

The above seems to have been a scheme, successful up to the time of this suit, of Place² Powell, and John Salmon, executors of Thos.¹ Powell, assisted by Thomas¹ youngest son, William², to deprive Honorias² of the 100 acres received from his father by including it in the 427½ acres which they repatented in its entirety. The verdict of the jury gave Honorias² his own again.

As has been seen, the location of Honorias² land made him, on the creation of Caroline in 1728, a resident of the new county. Hence many details about him are unknown because of the destruction of those will and deed books. He died a very old man some time after his deed to John Champe, Sept. 7, 1750 (King George D. B. 3, p. 353). The names of his children are unknown, but it would seem that the John³ Powell who died in Culpeper about 1765, was surely his son. John³ died intestate, but the following items are helpful in giving his heirs (Culpeper W. B. "B", p. 140). "The heirs of John Powell deed in account with William Walker, Aug. 25, 1766.

To cash to James Powell for his part, William Powell, Honorarius (sic) Powell, Ambrose Powell and John Stevens,	£ 95 - 14 - 2
To cash to John Shiflet	19 - 2 - 10
To cash to Stephen Shiflet	19 - 2 - 10
To cash to Benjamin Powell	19 - 2 - 10
To cash to Francis Powell	19 - 2 - 10
To cash to John Powell	19 - 2 - 10
TOTAL	£191 - 8 - 4

1766 August 25, by the amounts of your Father's estate as settled By Col^o James Barbour, Robert Throgmorton, and Ephraim Rucker.
By order Court. Debts settled £191 - 8s - 4d.

E. E. WILLIAM WALKER.

Nov. 21, 1774 Returned and ordered to be recorded." In Culpeper D. B. "D", p. 222, April 20, 1763, James⁴ Powell gave land to his brother, Benjamin⁴ Powell, *Id.*, p. 581. June 4, 1765, James⁴ Powell, of Orange, to Ann Powell, of Culpeper, a negro woman to secure the payment of 14 pounds current money of Virginia to John⁴ Powell or to the three brothers, Honorias⁴ Powell, Ambrose⁴ Powell and John⁴ Powell, "who are sons of Ann." The will of James⁴ Powell (Orange Co. W. B. 2, p. 502) mentions his mother, Ann Powell, who lives in Culpeper. From the above it would seem that John³ and Ann Powell had sons, James⁴, William⁴, John⁴, Benjamin⁴, Honorias⁴, Ambrose⁴, and Francis⁴ and three daughters who married, respectively, John Stephens, John Shifflet and Stephen Shifflet.

Of these children, the will of Benjamin⁴ is in Culpeper, Will Book A, p. 468, and the will of James⁴ in Orange Co., as has been noted. The will of Ambrose⁴ dated Jan. 26, 1782, proved Oct. 20, 1788, is in Culpeper W. B. "C", p. 320. In this he mentions wife, Mary, sons, Robert⁵ and William⁵, daughter, Ann⁵ Hill, son-in-law, Henry Hill, and deceased daughter, Fanny⁵ Sutton, and two grandchildren, Mary Bledsoe⁶ Sutton and John⁶ Sutton. Henry and Ann⁵ Hill had a son, Thomas⁶, whose son, Ambrose Powell⁷ Hill, became a distinguished general in the Confederate Army.

It is Ambrose⁴ Powell who confers distinction on the name by his outstanding career as a pioneer, having been a companion of Dr. Thomas Walker, of "Castle Hill," Albemarle Co. on his Western expedition in 1750 (Va. Mag. of Hist. & Biog., Vol. 6, p. 344). Dr. Walker's interesting account of the journey is published in L. P. Summers' "History of Southwest Virginia." Powell's Valley in the southern part of Wise County, Powell's River flowing from this valley in a southwesterly course to become a part of the Norris Dam project, and Powell's Fort, which served as a protection for the intrepid settlers who soon pushed into this area, are all permanent memorials to Ambrose⁴ Powell.

Was of Robert & Sarah (Taylor) Powell First Woman

Thomas¹ Powell, in his will dated 1701, named daughters, Frances² Powell, Elizabeth² Salmon and Ann² Coffee. We have no further mention of the first two, but the will of Edward, Ann² Coffee's husband, is of record in Essex (W. & D. 14, p. 669). In this instrument, dated Feb. 14, 1715/6, and proved Nov. 20, 1716, Edward names wife, Ann,² and six children, John² and Edmund² (both under 16), and Austin,² Martha,² Ann² and Elizabeth.² It seems likely that the Coffeys, of Albemarle and Amherst Counties, were of this family.

We have discussed all the children of Thomas¹ Powell except his son, Thomas,² Jr., whom we now take up. He was born by 1680 to be of age in 1701; in fact, probably by 1675. He appears in the Essex Co. Quit Rent Roll for 1704 with his three brothers, each owning an equal acreage of land. On March 18, 1722/3, he and his wife, Mary (Essex Co. D. B. 17, p. 159), conveyed to John Jeter one moiety of a tract of land granted to Richard West and Roger Clothworthy and by said Roger conveyed to Nicholas Catlett and by him sold to Wm. Gibson. John Jeter kept the property only a few years and his deed of sale, besides reciting the above facts, adds that Wm. Gibson devised the land to his daughter, Elizabeth Gibson, who was the mother of Mary Powell (*Id.*, D. B. 19, p. 190), the wife of Thomas.²

Wm. Gibson's will (Old Rappahannock Wills, #2, p. 68), dated May 14, 1676, was probated Feb. 7, 1677/2. In this he mentions his wife, Mary, his daughter, Elizabeth, to whom he devised land bought of Nicholas Catlett, and to James and Thomas Bartlett (probably his stepsons) certain other land, providing if any of the said children die without issue, "his estate to be equally parted betwixt the rest." So far no record has been found of Elizabeth Gibson's husband, so we can say only that Thos.² Powell married Mary, daughter and only child of Elizabeth Gibson by an unknown husband. No further information on Wm. Gibson or his wife, Mary, has been found.

Thomas² Powell, like his brother, Honorias,² found himself a resident of Caroline Co. when the upper part of Essex in 1728 became a part of the new county named for the Queen of George II. Reading the extant Caroline Order Books for the period, 1732-1746, yields the following note: O. B. 1732-40, p. 538, June 8, 1739, the last will and testament of Thos.² Powell was presented by Mary Powell the executrix named therein and proved by the oaths of Samuel Coleman and Thomas Samuel. Wm. Harrison, Nicholas Ware, Gabriel Long and Robert Taliaferro or any three of them were appointed to appraise the estate. All these persons were formerly of Essex and associates of the Powells there. Anthony Samuel went security on the bond of the exectuors of Thomas¹ Powell in 1701, while the Wares and Taliaferros continued their friendship with the next generation of Powells in Amherst Co.

The location of Thomas² and Mary Powell's home is evidenced by this entry in Caroline O. B., 1746-1754, p. 128, Jan. 15, 1748/9: "John Glanton is appointed overseer of the road from the post above Mary Powell's to the Mount Church." The Mount Church must have been on the Mount

Creek which traverses the upper end of Essex County and empties into the Rappahannock River a few miles north of Tappahannock. The home of one branch of the Taliaferro family was near by, and called "The Mount."

On April 11, 1754 (*Id.*, p. 465), the will of Mary Powell was offered for probate by Edward Ware and Millicent Powell, executors named therein and proved by the oath of John Regan, who swore that he saw Catherine Regan and Mourning Barksdale witness the same. The will itself, like that of Thomas² Powell, her husband, was destroyed with the will and deed books of Caroline.

Richard³ Powell was living in the present county of Amherst by 1728 as in November of that year (Goochland O. B. 1, p. 47) he was defendant in a suit brought by James Turner. Two years later (*Id.*, O. B. 2, p. 26) he petitioned to be added to the list of tithables in Goochland Co. (see illustration). Since he was defendant in a suit in 1728, he must have been 21 or more, hence born by 1707. The young men of his day needed no Horace Greeley to advise them, economic necessity drove them from the long-tilled fields of Essex and Caroline to the new lands of Albemarle and Amherst, where more profitable tobacco crops could be raised.

Only one or two more entries relative to Richard³ appear in the Goochland records, for on the formation of Albemarle in 1744, the location of his land made him a resident of the new county. His patent in 1747 for 283 acres lying on Buffalo River is noted in Albemarle O. B., 1744-48, p. 364. Rev. Robt. Rose, rector first of St. Ann's Parish, Essex, and later of St. Ann's Parish, Albemarle, which was co-terminous with the county, kept a diary of his busy life. From it we quote the following entries: "Sept. 16, 1749, clear weather, wind N. W., about noon left home, and went by Howard Cash, Mr. Taliaferro's plantation over Pedlar river with Richd Powell to Robert Davies's, being the upper settlement on the Fluvanna (James River) in this county, 30 mis." "April 11, 1750 Gave R. Powell a note of credit for 2 negroes to Mrs. G. Atcherson." "Dec. 7, 1750. Cleared up and cold. Rode to Robert Davies on the Fluvanna, preached and at 8 at night got to Rd. Powell's on Puppies Creek, Buffalow." "Jan. 20, 1750/1 gave R. Powell one dollar to buy Dyche's spelling book." Five months later death stayed the good Dominie's hand, and he rests in St. John's Church yard, Richmond.

Among those from Albemarle County who, in 1758, were paid for furnishing supplies for the French and Indian War is found the name of Richard³ Powell (Hening, Vol. 7, p. 203), while on the roster of Capt. Ellis' company from Albemarle for the same year, are found John Powell, Richard Powell and Thomas Powell (Va. Mag., Vol. 23, p. 176).

With the erection of Amherst County in 1761, Richard³ Powell found himself a resident of the new county. The loss of Albemarle County Order Books between 1748 and 1760, and of Amherst County Orders from 1761 to 1766, deprives us of avenues thru which we might learn more of Richard's³ activities. In 1764 (Amherst D. B. "A", p. 202) he sold to

Jacob Smith 200 acres on Puppies Creek adjoining Daniel Watkins, James Smith and Richard³ Powell's other land; while on the same day (*Id.*, p. 216) he bought land from Micajah Moorman.

The will of Richard³ Powell (*Id.*, W. B. 1, p. 257), dated Jan. 25, 1766, was proved April 4, 1774. In this he bequeathed to son, Edmund,⁴ "233 acres lying on Buffalo, being the land he now lives on," to son, Wiatt,⁴ "400 acres on Thrasher's Creek being the land I formerly dwelt on"; to son, Thomas,⁴ "254 acres lying near Lynch's Ferry which I had of Micajah Moorman."¹ "My will and desire is that my loving wife Elizabeth Powell may have peaceable possession of the 217 acres that I now dwell on during her life or widowhood, and that after her marriage or death, the said 217 acres my son, Richard Powell, may have it. My grandson James Powell son of John Powell to have 5 years of schooling to be paid for out of my estate." He devises personalty to his unmarried daughters, Winneford⁴ and Rhoda,⁴ to his married daughter, Clary⁴ Woodroof, "two sheep and the reason I give her no more is because I have already hope her agreable to her desire." The executors appointed were Cornelius Thomas, Richard Shelton and Wiatt⁴ Powell. When the will was offered for probate it was proved by the oaths of Thomas³ Powell and Jacob Smith. Wiatt⁴ Powell, with Thomas³ Powell, Edmund⁴ Powell, and Jacob Smith as his securities, qualified as executor.

Some retracing of steps seems in order at this juncture, for the reader might well question the paternity ascribed to Richard,³ of Amherst. Three reasons prompted it: first, the belief among Woodroof descendants that Clary⁴ Woodroof, as well as her husband, came from Caroline Co.; next, the fact that Thomas³ Powell, presumably Richard's³ brother, owned land there, and lastly, his continued association with families that had lived formerly in the part of Essex later included in Carolina. In lieu of lost documentary proof one must use the best available substitute; in this case, every item the writer has seen is in accord with the premise that Richard³ was son of Thomas² and Mary Powell, and nothing contradicts it.

When Mary Powell died about 1754 in Caroline Co., her executors were Millicent Powell and Edward Ware, son of Nicholas Ware (Caroline O. B., 1740-1746, p. 349). Her selection of these two as executors may have been because her sons lived out of the county. Edward Ware later was in Amherst, where he died testate (Amherst W. B. 3, p. 9). In his will he directed the following distribution of his estate: to Mark Ware 5s. sterling and to each of the children the same; to James Powell 400 acres whereon he now lives and negro Toby; to William Powell 214 acres whereon he now lives and negro Gloucester; to John Powell 400 acres whereon he lives, and negro Jeffrey and 100 pounds; to Edward Powell 200 acres whereon he now lives and a survey "to join it," 350 acres over Pedlar River on the Rich Mountain, negro Dinah and personalty; to Elizabeth Joplin 200 acres, negro Frank and personalty; to Anne Campbell one half of that tract joining M. Gordon, negro Agg and her increase; to Sarah

*Goochland's to the Majesty's Justice of the County
Country - your petitioners being subject in
your Lordship's petition pray that the
may be more enlarged and your petition
shall pray*

Richard Powell

PETITION OF RICHARD POWELL
To be added to the list of tithables in Goochland County

Ware the other half of the tract joining M. Gordon, negro and personalty; to wife Lettice Ware all estate not disposed of and at her death to be equally divided among James, William, John and Edward Powell, Elizabeth Jopling and Sarah Ware. This will was presented for probate July 3, 1786, by James and William Ware, "alias Powell," executors named therein.

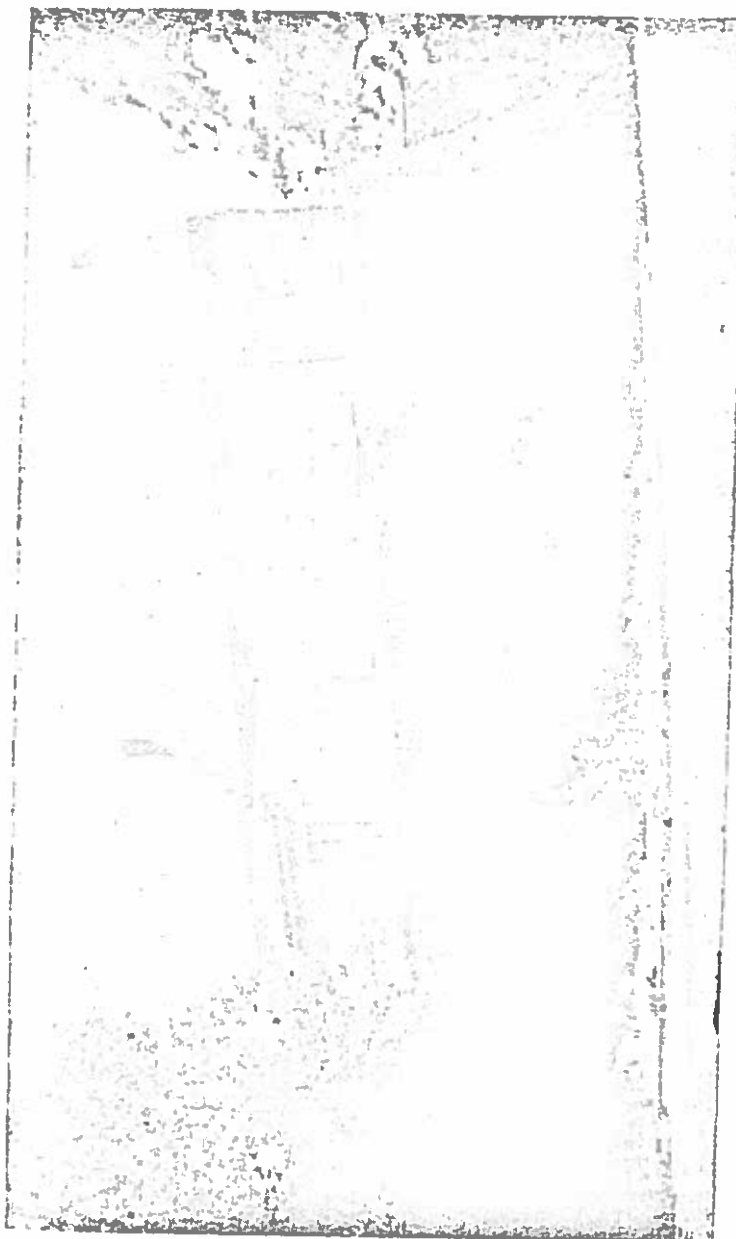
Of the devisees mentioned above, Sarah Ware married in Amherst, December 5, 1785, with consent of Edward Ware, her father, John Smith; Edward Ware, Jr., married May 6, 1782, Sally Thurmond; James Ware married October 19, 1782, Mary, daughter of Carnaby Veale; Ann Powell married November 3, 1774, Patrick Campbell, of Botetourt Co.; William Ware married December 29, 1777, Patty Davis.

In Amherst Co. Records, Deed Book F, p. 623, there is a deed dated December 6, 1790, from James Ware and Mary, his wife, William Ware and Patty, his wife, Edward and Sally, his wife, Josiah Jopling and Susannah, his wife, David Hay and Anne, his wife, and John Smith and Sarah, his wife, all of Amherst County, conveying to John Ware 125 acres lying on both sides of Pedlar River, beginning at James Smith's corner; witnesses: Thomas Garland, Henry Brown, William Davis, Abraham Carter and George McDaniel.

The next year saw further changes in land holdings among the heirs of Edward Ware. Edward Powell, "alias Edward Ware," and Sarah, his wife, conveyed to Charles Taliaferro 420 acres lying on Puppies Creek, to John Taliaferro 45 acres on Puppies Creek, part of a larger tract patented by Edward Ware, to John Clarkson 30 acres lying on Tobacco Row Mountains, part of 250 acres patented by Edward Ware, and to John Ware a tract lying on the south side of Pedlar River (*Id.*, Deed Book G, pp. 39-43). It is likely that this lump disposal of property was in preparation for moving out of the state. In 1779 James Ware, presumably his brother, went before the court of Amherst, "informing the court that he may visit the state of Georgia" and asking for a certificate as to character, whereupon the Justices "testify he has lived here since infancy, and is of good character" (*Id.*, Order Book, 1773-1882, p. 369). The published records of some of the old Georgia counties show that many settlers went there from Amherst.

The will of William Ware is in Amherst Records (W. B. 5, p. 215). In this document, dated January 31, 1809, with a codicil on October 30, 1811, and probated June 21, 1813, he mentions his wife, Patty, sons, Madison, Ormond and John (the two first named under age), daughter, Sally, the wife of William Jopling, daughter, Permelia Powell ("I give to my daughter Permelie Powell, two negroes, viz. James and Wiatt"), granddaughter, Nancy W. Rucker (under age), daughter of Tinsley Rucker, daughters, Betsy and Lucinda Ware, daughter, Belinda, daughter, Perlina (under age). Executors: brother, John Ware, Nelson Crawford and William Jopling.

The connection of Edward Ware with the Powells is not revealed by the wills and deeds mentioned above, tho' they establish the fact that there was a connection. Edward Ware was likely descended from the Nicholas



OLD "CENTRAL HOTEL," AMHERST, VIRGINIA
Said to have been used as barracks by Washington's Army during the Revolution

(Courtesy of Miss Inez Wood, Amherst, Va.)

Ware, Merchant, who, on June 3, 1662, in Old Rappahannock Records, 1668-1672, p. 223, gave power of attorney "to my well-beloved Friend John Weir of the County of rappahannock, gent, to receive all debts due me in Virginia." By August, 1662, Nicholas had died and his widow, Anne, renounced administration on the estate (Virginia Magazine of History 12, p. 303). The will of William Pyncheon, of Bucks, dated October 4, 1662 (Waters' Genealogical Gleanings, p. 859), mentioned "the finishing of my administration business concerning the estate of Master Nicholas Ware in Virginia whose estate is thirty pounds in a bill of exchange to Capt. Pensax and about eighteen thousand of tobacco in several bills made over by Mr. Nicholas Ware to Capt. John Ware of Virginia." The will of William Vassall (*Id.*, p. 1319), of Barbados, dated 31 July, 1655, mentions "son-in-law Nicholas Ware and his wife Anna, my daughter," and their child, who were then living on the Island. William Vassall was the assistant in the Massachusetts Bay Colony, having come to New England in 1635. He removed in a short while to Barbados. He married, 1613, Anne, daughter of George and Joanne King, of Cold Norton, Essex. In Hotten's "Original Lists," p. 93, William Vassall, aged 42, his wife, Anna, aged 42, and several children, among them his daughter, Anne, aged 6, and son, John, aged 10, are named as passengers on "The Blessing" bound for New England, June 17, 1635. On February 24, 1670/1, in Old Rappahannock County Court Records, 1668-1672, p. 456, John Ware, son of Nicholas Ware, deceased, deposed that he became 14 on October 19, 1670, and chose for his joint guardians Col. John Vassall and Capt. Thomas Hawkins. Col. John Vassall was his uncle, but his relationship, if any, to Capt. Thomas Hawkins is unknown. John Ware, born in 1656, cannot be the child of Nicholas and Anne (Vassall) Ware, mentioned in William Vassall's will, dated July 31, 1655, but it seems certain that Nicholas and Anne, through some of their children, were the progenitors of Nicholas Ware, of Caroline, father of Edward, of Amherst.

No connection between Nicholas Ware and Major John Weir has been established. Major John's son, John, died young, his daughter married Richard Gardiner, of Maryland, and his widow, Honoria, married George Jones, who, in 1678, conveyed land to Thomas³ Powell, in Old Rappahannock County. Somewhere in lost Caroline or King and Queen records lay the key to the kinship between Powells and Wares.

Besides the unsolved problem of the relationship between Edward Ware and the Powell family, there is another question which again we cannot answer by documentary proof, and that is the relation between our Richard³ Powell and Jacob Smith. He appears in 1758 among those residents of Albemarle who furnished supplies in the French and Indian War (Hening 7, p. 203). He was also in Capt. Ellis' company of Albemarle Militia (Va. Mag. 23, p. 176). Apparently he was son of John and Mary Smith, of Henrico County, and grandson of Obadiah Smith (Henrico Wills, 1750-1767, pp. 33, 312). In 1757 (Albemarle D. B. 2, p. 19) he bought from James Smith

344 acres lying on both sides of Buffalo River, being part of 788 acres purchased by said James from John Thrasher. This purchase brought him in proximity to Richard³ Powell's holdings. It seems likely he had married a sister or niece of Richard,³ for there was clearly some connection between the two families. The will of Jacob Smith, dated July 19, 1800, proved Sept. 21, 1801 (Amherst W. B. 4, p. 20), mentions sons, Philip, James, Wiatt, Richard and William (deceased); daughters, Mary and Clary. William had married, Nov. 17, 1784, in Amherst Co., Philadelphia Franklin, daughter of Henry Franklin. He died testate 1797 (*Id.*, W. B. 3, p. 445), leaving 6 minor children, Milly Powell Smith, Harriett Smith, Joel Franklin Smith, Wiatt Smith, Henry Franklin Smith, and Richard Smith. The similarity of names, Wiatt, Richard and Clary would point to a connection between the Smiths and Powells, besides the fact that they witness each others deeds and wills.

As we have noted, a Thomas³ Powell was a member of Capt. Ellis' company of Albemarle militia in 1758. In 1766 (*Id.*, O. B., 1766-69, p. 11) he is plaintiff in a suit in Amherst Co. and the next year (*Id.*, D. B. "B", p. 341) he buys from Lunsford Lomax, Jr., of Caroline Co., 162¼ acres lying on the branches of Horsley's Creek adjoining Solomon Carter's land. He witnessed Richard's³ will and was security on Wiatt's⁴ bond as executor. There seems no reason to doubt that he and Richard³ were brothers, though no proof has been found. He married by 1758 Amy—who joined with him in a deed to convey land he owned in Caroline Co. to Mordecai Buckner (Caroline O. B., 1755-58, p. 390). His will, dated March 18, 1783, was offered for probate Nov. 3, 1783, by his widow, with Chas. Taliaferro and James Ware her securities (Amherst W. B. 2, p. 150). In this instrument he devises to his wife, Amy, for life his plantation of 143 acres and one-half of his personal estate; to Elizabeth Peyton the other half of the personal estate, and 254 acres; if she dies without issue the bequest goes to Catharine Riggins; to John Childress 100 acres adjoining John Goodrich, William Ware and Clemmons. "To my godson William Taliaferro my still." Friends Charles Taliaferro and James Ware to be executors. For some reason they refused the executorship and the widow qualified as administratrix. The puzzle in the above will is the relation of the devisees to the testator, and the writer has been unable to solve it.

Catharine Riggins (Regan) was likely the same person who had been a witness to Mary Powell's will in Caroline Co. in 1754, and who, as Catharine Riggins, widow, married in Amherst, Dec. 4, 1783, John Groom. Elizabeth Peyton, formerly Elizabeth Paine, had married, Jan. 2, 1783, Henry Peyton. Amy Powell was no inconsolable widow, for on the same day that Catharine Riggins was married, the same minister performed the same service for her and William Howard, bachelor, Peter Carter being the surety in both cases.

In the Douglas Register is noted on Feb. 21, 1756, the birth of Francis,

son of John Powell and Elizabeth. In Amherst Co. records in 1779 (D. B. "E", p. 201) is John Powell's deed of gift to his son, Francis, for 100 acres on Horsley's Creek adjoining Charles Taliaferro. In 1784 Francis married Nancy, daughter of John Whitehead, of Amherst Co. Francis and Nancy in 1791 sold the land his father had given him (*Id.*, D. B. "F", p. 588), his mother, then a widow, joining in the deed. Through the kindness of Mrs. W. M. Sweeny, these facts on Francis Powell (Natl. Archives, Pension Papers R-8404) are presented: Joseph T. Burdett of Wilkes Co., Ga., made the following declaration on March 28, 1854, in order to obtain for the children of Francis Powell, a Revolutionary soldier, recompense due him for his services. Those named are Mary Powell, Joseph Powell and Elizabeth Burdett, of Wilkes Co., Ga., Nancy Jackson, of Chambers Co., Ala., Sarah Wortham and Jane Wortham, of Coweta Co., Ga., Caroline Wells and Benjamin Powell, of Meriwether Co., Ga., and Thomas Powell, of Talbot Co., Ga., the only living children of Francis Powell, deceased. Joseph Burdett, the deponent, married a daughter of said Powell over 20 years ago and resided in the house of the said Powell from the time of marriage to the death of Powell about 16 years ago. He further states that Francis Powell was born in Amherst Co., Va., and volunteered from there under General Washington at the beginning of the war and under General de Lafayette; he was in the battles of Bunker Hill, Brandywine, Camden, Cowpens, Guilford Court House and the siege of Yorktown, after which he returned home, where he resided until he removed to Wilkes Co., Ga. The roster of Capt. William Tucker's Co. of Amherst Co. militia shows that Francis, Obadiah, Thomas, and Wm. Powell all served in this company from Jan. 14, 1781, to March 26, 1782.

Obadiah Powell was another son of John and Elizabeth Powell. In 1790 (Amherst D. B. F, p. 532) when Obadiah, with wife, Mary, sold to James Goodrich 50 acres lying on Horsley's Creek adjoining Taliaferro, Elizabeth, John's widow, joined in the deed to convey her dower rights.

In the 1783 Amherst Co. Personal Tax List, a Richard Powell "Taylor," appears, probably another son of John, who now is listed as John, Sr. He is probably the Richard who married in Amherst Feb. 1, 1780, Mrs. Elizabeth Muffitt. The William Powell, whose widow, Mary, gave bond in 1795 to administer on his estate (*Id.*, W. B. 4, p. 288) is likely a son of John also.

John's daughter, Rebecca, married Feb. 12, 1785, Henry, son of George Stoneham

The Thomas Powell, "Taylor" (tailor), who appears often with Francis and Obadiah, is likely their brother. In 1784 he and wife, Nancy (*Id.*, D. B. "E", p. 6) conveyed to Peter Kennedy 388 acres on the north side of and adjoining Buffalo River, which he had patented a few months previously, the witnesses were Roderick McCullough and Chas. Taliaferro, Jr. In 1791 (*Id.*, D. B. "F", p. 572) "Thomas Powell (Taylor)" and Nancy sold to John Hurt 181 acres on Buffalo River purchased from William Higgin-

botham and adjoining Jacob Smith and others. Rachel, daughter of Thomas Powell, married January 1, 1794, Samuel Franklin, "both of Lexington Parish."

John, father of Obadiah, Francis, Rebecca and probably of Thomas, William and Richard, may have been either a brother or nephew of our Richard³ Powell. It seems there was surely some connection, though its exact nature is unknown to the writer. In the Index of Wills in Amherst Co. under "Thomas Powell Administrator's Bond, W. B. 2, p. 150 and W. B. 3, p. 93," some one has pencilled, "Three Tom Powell, Tailor, Shoemaker, 'Gentleman.'" The only reference to the "Shoemaker" of which the writer is aware, occurs in D. B. "C", p. 533, April 29, 1773, when John Swinney mortgages to Ruth Cash, Benjamin Cash and Thomas Powell, Jr., personally and 64 acres lying on Pedlar River, some one has put in pencil over Thomas Powell, Jr.'s, name the word "Shoemaker."

Besides these Powells, there was a Lucas Powell also a resident of Amherst of unknown parentage. He probably was born in York Co., but went across the James River into Brunswick, thence into Dinwiddie, from there to Albemarle and later into the part of Amherst now Nelson Co. "Died in Nelson County Dec. 26, 1821, Mrs. Elizabeth Powell, relict of the late Mr. Lucas Powell in the 88th year of her age" (Lynchburg, Va., "Press"). His sons were: William, Benjamin, who married with his father's consent, Nov 6, 1783, Jane Cooper (Cowper); Nathaniel, who married July 28, 1781, Mrs. Elizabeth Chamberlain, and Seymour, whose wife, Mary G., daughter of Capt. Richard Burch, died in Lovingsston, Nelson Co., 26 April 1822 (Lynchburg, Va., "Press"). The proof that William, Seymour and Nathaniel were his sons is found in a Journal Ledger of the firm of Thompson and Teas, beginning Nov. 30, 1785, pp. 80, 162, 217 (Archives Div., Va. State Library). The daughters of Lucas were: Rebecca Edwards Powell, who married, Dec. 9, 1786, John Thompson; Mildred, who married, July 18, 1780, Richard Taliaferro (died April 15, 1806), and was living in Pickens Co., Ala., in 1833, aged 74, and Elizabeth, who married March 5, 1771, Thomas Hawkins. So far as the writer can discern, there was no kinship between Lucas Powell's family and the other Powells that we have discussed.

After this detour, exhausting but necessary, we return to the children of our Richard³ Powell and proceed with our discussion.

1. In his will, Richard³ names his grandson, James,⁵ son of his deceased son, John.⁴ John⁴ had died about 1760 intestate (Albemarle W. B. 2, p. 118), and his father administered the estate. In the estate account (*Id.*) Thomas Parke, Solomon Carter, William Cabell and others are paid certain sums due them, while to the credit of the estate were 8 cattle sold to Jacob Smith, bed and furniture bought by Elizabeth Powell (probably the widow) and sundries sold to Richard³ Powell. The appraisors were Jacob and Philip Smith and Thomas Cottrell, while Daniel Burford and Richard Shelton

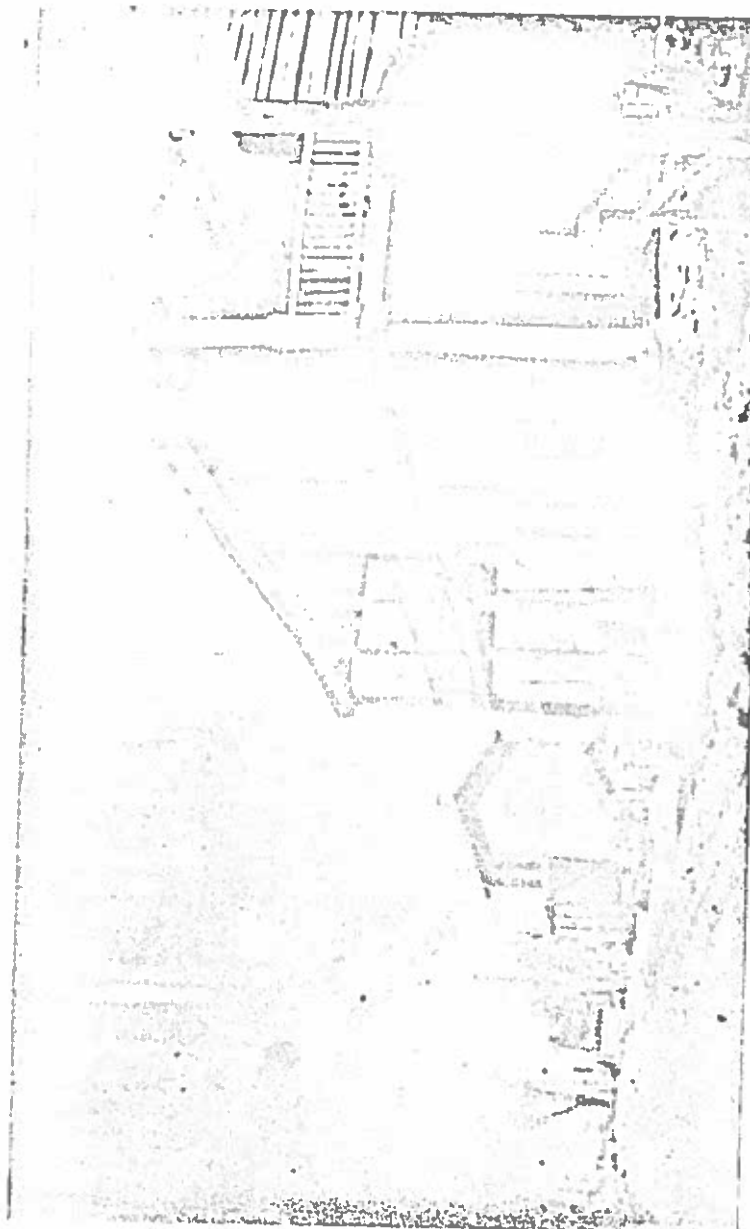
examined and settled the account. As we've seen, John⁴ left a young son, James,⁵ for whom, on May 2, 1774, after Richard's³ death, Martin Dawson became guardian (Amherst W. B. 1, p. 261). No further note of him has been found.

2. Edmund,⁴ probably Richard's³ second son, married Lucy, daughter of Thomas and Hannah Jopling (*Id.*, W. B. 3, p. 116, D. B. 1, p. 329). In 1782 (*Id.*, D. B. "E", p. 359) he sold to Jacob Smith the land bequeathed him by his father and removed to Lincoln Co., Ky., probably in company with the Floyds, since Jillson's Old Kentucky Deeds and Entries (p. 273) shows that he took up large acreage on Floyd's Fork in Jefferson Co. at that time. In "Kentucky Pioneer and Court Records," p. 54, we find him one of the executors of John Josling, of Lincoln Co. in 1794 and of John Tucker in 1793. We have no record of his death. He had served in the Revolution, receiving his commission as 2nd Lieutenant, August, 1780 (Amherst O. B., 1773-1782, p. 426). Mr. J. Emerson Miller, of Louisville, Ky., has kindly sent the two following marriages from Lincoln Co., Ky.: William Powell and Mary, daughter of Markham and Ann Marshall, Oct. 9, 1787; Mary,⁵ daughter of Edmund⁴ and Lucy Powell, and John Marshall Taylor, Feb. 14, 1788. We have no further information on Edmund.

The proof that his wife was the daughter, Lucy Powell, named in Thos. Jopling's will, is found in a deed made Dec. 3, 1801 (Amherst D. B. "I", p. 329) by James Jopling and Martha, his wife, Edmund Powell and Lucy, his wife, Pleasant Martin and Rebecca, his wife, Hannah Allen, Ann Childress and John Griffen to Edward Holeman Jopling conveying their moiety of 1,813½ acres lying in Kenhawa (Kanawha) Co. on the right-hand fork of the 13 mile creek which is a branch of the Great Kenhawa adjoining Henry Banks and patented by Thomas Jopling, deceased. Henry Banks, born in Stafford Co., son of Gerard and Frances (Bruce) Banks (TYLER'S MAGAZINE, Vol. 15, pp. 237-8), had bought and patented together several hundred thousand acres along the Kanawha.

3. Clary,⁴ probably third child of Richard³ Powell, was born 1739 and died 1825 in Amherst Co. She married about 1759 Capt. David Woodroof, son of David Woodroof, who moved from Caroline to what is now Amherst Co. (For Woodroof see Va. Mag., Vol. 36, pp. 76-81.)

4. Wiatt⁴ Powell (died 1818) married about 1768 Sallie Floyd, daughter of William and Abadiah (Davis) Floyd. He served in the Revolution, being William and Abadiah (Davis) Floyd. He served in the Revolution, being appointed 2nd Lieutenant in 1778 (Amherst O. B., 1773-82, p. 232). In his will (*Id.*, W. B. 6, p. 13) he leaves to his beloved wife, Sally, "for her comfortable support for life the rents and profits of my plantation and two negroes"; sons, James⁵ and Cornelius,⁵ to be executors and receive certain slaves. The witnesses were A. B. Davis (Davies) and B. Walker. Besides these two sons, Wiatt⁴ had also a son, Richard,⁵ and daughters, Rhoda,⁵ who married, Dec. 20, 1793, James M. Brown, Nancy⁵ F.,



OLD INN, NEW GLASGOW, AMHERST COUNTY, VA.
Possibly the building once used as an inn by Wiatt Powell

(Courtesy of Miss Mary L. Garland, Richmond, Va.)

who married, April 30, 1792, Robert Walker, Maria Elizabeth,⁵ who married Robert, son of Jesse Burton, and Sarah⁵ W. (born 1783), who married, April 30, 1803, John Coleman. The son, Richard,⁵ died, 1814, unmarried. In his will (*Id.*, W. B. 5, p. 477) describing himself as of Lynchburg, but "now sick at my brother James Powell's in Amherst," he desires first that the debts his father and brother, James,⁵ owe him be canceled and his estate divided equally between his brothers and sisters, the share of his brother, Cornelius,⁵ "to be vested in my executors for the benefit of his wife and children." "My servant, Robin, to have liberty to choose his master amongst my brothers and brothers-in-law or be a free man if he prefer." Brother James⁵ and Robert Walker "to dispose of my tobacco as recommended by my friend, Daniel Warwick." James⁵ Powell (aged 68 in 1850 census) was a physician of Amherst. He married Mildred, daughter of Charles and Mildred (Jordan) Irving. Among his descendants may be mentioned the late Judge Aubrey E. Strode and Mrs. A. A. Vandegrift, wife of General Vandegrift, of the Marines. Cornelius,⁵ son of Wiatt⁴ Powell, married in Campbell Co., Aug. 5, 1801, Elizabeth Perrow. It is said there were 3 children by this marriage, whom their uncle, Dr. James⁵ Powell, reared.

5. Richard⁴ Powell, son of Richard,³ died testate in Amherst, 1815 (Amherst W. B. 5, p. 538), leaving wife, Elizabeth, and five children, Prosser,⁵ Thomas,⁵ Richard,⁵ George,⁵ and Nancy.⁵ Of these children, Nancy⁵ had married, Feb. 20, 1782, James Lee. There was a partial division of his estate in 1816 (*Id.*, W. B. 6, p. 100), and in 1831 (*Id.*, W. B. 9, p. 63), Richard Harrison, Lindsay Coleman and Lindsay McDaniel made a final division between the widow, Prosser⁵ Powell in his own right and as administrator of his deceased brothers, George⁵ and Richard,⁵ and Mr. James Lee in right of his deceased wife. Thomas⁵ is not mentioned and may have died unmarried. George⁵ had married, Sept. 23, 1809, Sophia Pendleton, daughter of Reuben and Ann (Garland) Pendleton (Green's "Notes on Culpeper Co.," p. 106), and died intestate in 1819 (Amherst W. B. 6, pp. 100, 163, 240). His widow with six children survived. She married (2), February 23, 1822, Wesley Padgett.

The will of Elizabeth, the widow of Richard⁴ Powell, dated Aug. 31, 1835, proved May 18, 1840 (*Id.*, W. B. 10, p. 219), is, in part, as follows: "My chief object in making a will is to declare that I do not wish my son, Prosser, to be called to account for any transactions between him and me during my life. He has been dutiful and affectionate to me in my old age and enabled me to raise a valuable property for the descendants of my other children." She also mentions her deceased son, Richard.⁵ Her son, Prosser,⁵ was made sole legatee and executor. The witnesses were William Knight, Winston⁶ Woodroof and William W. Harrison [Winston⁶ Woodroof (1807-1871) was grandson of Clary⁴ (Powell) Woodroof. See illustration]. The maiden name of the above testator is unknown to the writer. Prosser⁵ Powell appears in the 1850 census for Amherst Co. as aged 76.



WINSTON WOODROOF (1807-1871)
Great-grandson of Richard Powell

6. Rhoda,⁴ daughter of Richard³ Powell, Sr., was born between 1754 and 1761, for she was under 14 when her father made his will and under 21 in 1775 when she chose her brother, Wiatt,⁴ as her guardian (Amherst O. B., 1773-82, p. 142). She married, Dec. 5, 1778, in Amherst Co., John Tucker, and removed with him to Lincoln Co., Ky. In his will, dated Aug. 9, 1790, probated Oct. 15, 1793 (Ky. Pioneer and Court Records, p. 58), John Tucker desired his wife and 5 children divide his property among them when the youngest child became of age. His executors were his wife, Edmund⁴ Powell and William Patton.

7. Winifred,⁴ named in the will of her father, Richard³ Powell, probably predeceased him, as no mention of her has been found elsewhere in Amherst Co. records. Her mother, Elizabeth, seems also to have died between the date of Richard's³ will and the date of its probate, as there is no mention of her receiving any of Richard's³ estate. Despite effort, no clue to Elizabeth's parentage has been discovered. She may have been a second wife and not the mother of all his children.

8. Thomas⁴ Powell, youngest son, was under 21 in 1775 (Amherst O. B., 1773-82, p. 142), when he chose as guardian his brother-in-law, David, later Capt. David Woodroof. In 1782 he married Sarah, daughter of Cornelius Thomas, and died Sept. 30, 1788. In his marriage bond he is called "Thomas Powell, minor," but since no one gives permission for him, as would have been required had he been legally a minor, it is likely he is called "minor" in the sense of "younger" to distinguish him from the other two Thomases then in the county. On Dec. 1, 1788 (*Id.*, W. B. 3, p. 93), his widow, with Wm. S. Crawford as security, obtained letters of administration on the estate. She married (2), Sept. 26, 1790, Col. Thomas Moore, of Albemarle Co. The estate account (*Id.*, p. 472) begins Jan., 1789, with the entry of a debt due "To the rev^d Charles Clay for preaching a funeral sermon" and was settled Nov., 1794, by John Wiatt, Roderick McCulloch and John N. McDaniel. Thomas⁴ and Sally Powell had only two daughters, Polly,⁵ who married, May 26, 1803, John Warwick, and Betsy,⁵ who married, March 17, 1801, John Camm. This is proven by a District Court suit in Augusta Co. (File #56, Norvell vs. Camm), brought to substantiate the claim of Thomas⁴ Powell's heirs that they were being kept out of 433 acres purchased in 1787 by Thomas⁴ from James Gresham.

It is realized that the foregoing discussion is unsatisfactory and lacks many details that the reader legitimately expects in a genealogical article, but it is sent forth with the hope that some day documents may be found to confirm all statements.