

# What's Your Family Line? -

By ADELLE BARTLETT HARPER



JOHNES (JOHNS)

The EDWARD JOHNES, who sailed from Yarmouth, England, with Winthrop's fleet, in 1620, and reached Charlestown, Mass., in 1630, showed clear heraldic connection with Sir FRANCIS JOHNES, Lord Mayor of London in 1620. The family was issued from County Salop (Shropshire); and the coat of arms we give was granted to it in 1610. The crest was used by another branch of the same stock, settled in County Berks.

In 1635, RICHARD JOHNES of Dindee, County Somerset, father of the first colonist, came over and settled at Charlestown.

EDWARD JOHNES was elected to several important functions in the body politic, and in all documents he was styled Mr., as a man of birth and means. In 1644 he removed to Southampton, L. I., where he died in 1660.

His descendants have prospered in New York State and as far down South as Maryland and Virginia, where they spell the name generally Johns.

Notes from English Records, contributed by Gerald Fothergill, 11 Brussels Road, Wardsworth, London, and published in Register of Maryland's Heraldic Families, Vol. 14, p. 442.

23 January, 15 Charles I (1640)

Francke V. S. Johnes

Orator George Francke Citizen and Merchant—Taylor of London and Sarah his wife the relict and executrix of Edward Abbes, late of London and since of Virginia Chirurgen deceased and Roger Dinckes of London Taylor.

Edward Abbes did trade in tobacco and other wares. About four years ago said Edward made his will and made your Oratrix Sarah, sole executrix. The stock of tobacco was with one Robert Todd and one ——— Brown, John Johns of London and his brother, Jack Robert Johnes (of Virginia). Mr. Abbes made several adventures into Virginia, Trade and Money matters.

Deft. John Johns—Court of Request, bundle 85.

From records coming down through the family they state the story of three Johns brothers coming to America. John settled in Pennsylvania, Richard in Maryland and Roger in Virginia.

Since the records in Buckingham, Virginia, were destroyed by the British, and, later the courthouse burned, it was made near impossible to trace family lines there. We find Richard, brother to Roger, well established in Delaware with his lineage given in "Register of Maryland's Heraldic Families", Vol. 1, p. 223.

Registrants: Under the dignity of the Ancient Johns Family.

Richard Johns of the Johns (Johnes), family of Dolan Cothy Hall, Albermarles Carmarthen, Wales, was born in Bristol, England, 1645 and died October 10, 1717. He came to Maryland about 1660; he is descended as follows:

John Thomas Johns of Truffyd, Wales, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir



Crest: A Lion rampant, or, supporting an anchor, azure, flukes of the first. Motto: *Vince Malum bono.* (Conquer evil with good.)

Thomas Van Dyke. Their son, Sir Thomas Johns, married Mary Barklay or Barkleary, their son

Sir Henry Johns, m. Elizabeth Herbert, their son

Sir Thomas Johns, m. Jane Pilston, their sons were John of Pennsylvania, Richard, of Delaware and Roger of Virginia.

We have no records between Roger and Col. John Johns, the progenitor of our line, due to records being destroyed.

Col. John Johns, b. 1746, d. 1821; m. Feb. 28, 1765, Elizabeth Glover, b. Oct. 30, 1749, dau. of Edmund Glover. Col. John Johns lived at New Store, Buckingham Co., Va.; Slate River being the eastern boundary of his estate and the southern side of the James River, his northern boundary.

He was High Sheriff of Buckingham

Co., "An Act for adding trustees to the town of Greenville in the County of Buckingham"—(Passed the 7th of November, 1788).

I. Be it enacted by the General Assembly—that John Johns, Gent. be and hereby constituted and appointed, one of Trustees of the town of Greenville, in the County of Buckingham, in addition to those appointed by the Act instituted, "An Act to establish a town at the Courthouse in the County of Buckingham", and shall have the same power and authority as any one particularly nominated in the said Act.

II. Provided always, and be it further enacted, that a majority of the whole number of trustees shall be necessary to carry into the said recited Act.

He was owner of a large store, owner of about thirty slaves and a large plantation. It has been stated that Col. John Johns enlisted (age about 30 years) in the Revolutionary War as a Captain and was promoted to Colonel.

Not many people know that in the County was a gold mine, small, but worked for several years profitably. It was discovered sometime before the War Between the States and was shut down 1862-1865. Many residents had noticed tiny particles of gold floating on Slate River and began to investigate and sometime later there was a "Gold Rush". The Johns family was closely associated with it, and from some records in regard to it we have learned family relations.

During the "Gold Rush", many of the sons of wealthy and prominent families of that period moved to Buckingham County, and the genealogies of these families have been published. In this way (through much research) many families' histories can be woven together, which is very rewarding, since the records of the county have been destroyed. Children:

- i. William M. b. Jan. 10, 1766, d. 1792.
- ii. Edmund Winston, b. May 24, 1767.
- iii. Judith, b. May 2, 1768, m. William Winston.
- iv. Glover, b. Dec. 28, 1769, d. 1834.
- v. Anthony Benning, b. March 11, 1771, m. Sarah Oliver. Some of their descendants live in Danville, Va. and in N. C. He adopted his sister Mary McCormack's daughter, Sarah.
- vi. Martha, b. Oct. 27, 1772. No further records.
- vii. Mary, b. Jan. 4, 1775, m. Mr. McCormack, relative of Cyrus McCormack. Both died young and left two infants, Thomas Winston and Sarah. Thomas was adopted by his uncle, Col. John Johns, Jr. and Sarah was adopted by her uncle, Anthony Benning Johns.
- viii. Samuel, b. Sept. 28, 1777. No further record.

- ix. Elizabeth, b. March 24, 1779, m. William Fariss, Jr.
- x. Sarah, b. March 12, 1780. No record.
- xi. Ann, b. March 6, 1781. No record.
- xii. John, Jr., b. June 3, 1784, m. Mary (Polly) Winston.

William M. Johns, b. Jan. 10, 1766, d. 1792, son of Col. John Johns, and from records on file in Christian Co., Ky., his mother was Elizabeth Glover, the daughter of Edmund Glover. William, grandson of Edmund Glover, settled his estate, and according to papers on file in Christian Co., his will was filed for probate, but the judge made a notation on the docket "Will disapproved before probate", so William Johns settled the estate with heirs.

William Johns m. about 1801-1802, in Buckingham Co., Va., Elizabeth, daughter of Joseph Curd and his wife Mary Warren, and widow Duncan. In my great-great grandmother's Bible that she brought from Virginia she has registered the marriage of William Johns and Elizabeth Curd, but does not give any dates. William and Elizabeth had Edmund Glover Johns and Martha Johns, who married Barba Collins in Christian Co., Ky., in 1818. (These Records were furnished by Mary Ellen Leathers (Mrs. L. D.) a great-great grand-daughter of William, living in San Antonio, Texas, 1958).

Mrs. Leathers further states from a letter to her cousin, F. Winston Johns of Charlottesville, Va.: "Your reference to Peter Francisco was indeed interesting and I quote from my family genealogy an article on him: 'William Curd, son of John Curd and Elizabeth Price, married about 1763 Mary Watkins, daughter of Thomas Watkins of Henrico Co., Va.; m. second, Ann, surname unknown. He settled in the southern part of Buckingham Co., Va., near the present site of Curdsville where he owned 400 acres of land known as Woodlawn Plantation, which, after his death became the property of his son, Edward. He was captain of Militia in the Revolution, died about 1797-98. The town of Curdsville in Buckingham Co., was named William Curd by Peter Francisco, a Portugese of Revolutionary fame who received 40 acres of land from William Curd as a gift, and at the conclusion of the war set up a blacksmith shop on this land which later grew into the town of Curdsville.'"

Edmund Winston Johns, b. March 24, 1767, was a noted Minister of the Gospel. His home was in Lynchburg, Campbell Co., Va. Quote from statement of Mrs. Willie Johns Parris, "Edmund Winston Johns was a pioneer minister in Virginia, and preached the doctrine of 'free Kirk' and but for his connection with the Henry and Spottswood families would have been imprisoned." His daughter, Martha, married William Greyson Clark of the Lewis-Clark family. No further record.

Judith Johns born May 2, 1768, married William Winston, as his first wife. Wil-

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William was the son of Anthony and Alice (Taylor) Winston, and grandson of Isaac Winston, the immigrant. William Winston, and his second wife, Mary Bacon Cooper, were parents of John Anthony Winston, Governor of Alabama.

Children of William and Judith (Johns) Winston:

- i. Stephen, m. Catherine Winston.
- ii. Sallie, m. L. Lindsay.
- iii. Judith, m. Mr. Sherwood.
- iv. Mary, m. J. Cooper.
- v. Edmund, m. Miss Jackson.
- vi. Thomas, m. Miss Meredith.
- vii. Helen.
- viii. Martha, m. J. Steele.

Glover Johns, born December 28, 1769, in Buckingham Co., Va., died 1834 in Mississippi; married 1805, Martha Jones, born 1786, died 1829, daughter of Col. Joel Jones.

Glover Johns was a tobacco planter and magistrate in Virginia. After his wife died, he left his plantation, about 1831, and went with his youngest son, John Jay, to Tennessee, where his daughter, Elizabeth, Mrs. William Cowan, lived.

In the fall of 1833, he went to Hinds Co., Miss., near Jackson, to engage in cotton planting, but died in 1834.

Children:

- i. Alfred, m. 1835, Mary Wharton of Huntsville, Ala. He had a plantation near Clinton, Miss., called "Chevy Chase". He attended William and Mary College, and studied law.
- ii. Frederick, d. in Tenn., age 30 years, unmarried.
- iii. Mary Elizabeth, m. 1832, William Cowan, had two daughters, Virginia and Ellen, and one or two sons. They were left orphans and Virginia was reared by relatives in Virginia. She married first Captain Stanard who was killed early in the Civil War. Later she was married to Col. Wooldrige, had two daughters named Wooldrige. She had a son, William Stanard, Secretary of the Virginia Historical Society, Richmond.
- iv. John Jay Johns, b. in Buckingham Co., Va., June 24, 1818; m. 1840, Katherine Woodruff, of Oxford, Ohio. He attended Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, graduating in 1840. He studied Theology, but after he left college his health was poor so he gave up the ministry and turned to planting, becoming very prosperous. The children of this union were: Louise, b. Sept. 1842, m. Mr. Morgan; Mary, b. Jan. 1, 1845. Their mother died August, 1846.

John Jay Johns married second Nov. 2, 1848, Jane Amanda Durfee, b. Oct. 15, 1829, dau. of Rev. Mr. Thomas and Ann (Glenday) Durfee, d. Feb., 1915.

The children of second marriage:

Glover; George; Annie; Maggie; John  
(Please turn to page 34.) (over)

## Let's Swap Family Information

Subscribers to GEORGIA Magazine are invited to send queries to  
"Let's Swap." Address P. O. Box 1047, Decatur, Georgia 30031.

QUERIES MUST BE TYPED AND LIMITED TO FIFTY WORDS.

### Ward

Belle Newman Allen, P. O. Box 13, Tallapoosa, Ga. 30176: John William Ward, b. 1819, m. Aug. 17, 1839 Mary L. Mead, b. 1818 in Carroll Co., Ga. Wyatt Chandler performed ceremony. I need proof that Mary L. Mead was daughter of Minor Mead, Rev. Sol. Also need parents of John Wm. Ward. The Wards were in Haralson Co., Ga., in 1863.

### Loveless

Mrs. H. A. Hood, 5518 10th St., Katy, Texas 77450: John Loveless married Mary ? in Marietta, Ga. prior to 1800. Who were Mary's parents? Also John's parents? Were living in S. C. in 1800. In Jefferson Co., Ala., in 1815. Will exchange.

### Gray

Robert Gignilliat Kenan, 2810 Carlisle Rd., Birmingham, Ala. 35213: Will exchange information on Zachariah, Hezekiah and Richard Gray, b. Port Tobacco,

Md., middle 1700s. Settled Baldwin, Jefferson, Jasper, Franklin Cos., Ga. Zachariah m. Pracilla Posey, dau. Aurelia m. Thomas Holmes Kenan, Milledgeville. Hezekiah m. Frances Collier Scott, dau. Lucy m. Mortimer Harvie Jordan. Migrated Alabama.

### Echols

Mrs. Matthews H. Tardy, 136 Columbia Ave., Hampton, Va. 23369, wants information on Richard Franklin Echols, b. in Ga., date unknown. Also names of parents, and date of marriage to Elizabeth Dixon Shepard (Shepherd, Shepard.) He died 18 March 1858.

### Bullard

Mrs. Morris Smith, 325 Fourth St., Tennille, Ga., 31089, wants parentage and birthplace of Lewis Bullard, d. 1870, Washington Co., Ga., m. Eliza Boatright April 19, 1842. Needs information of his residence before coming to Washington Co.

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FAMILY LINE . . . from page 31

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Jay; Blanche; Shirley Winston.  
Maggie and Blanche died young.  
Daughter Lizzie, a musician, married  
Henry Gause.

Elizabeth Johns, b. Mar. 24, 1779, m.  
about 1796, William Fariss, Jr., b. 1776,  
son of William and Martha (Truman)  
Fariss, of Henrico Co., Va.

Children:

- i. Thomas Randolph Clement Fariss, b.  
1797, m. Juriah Blanks.
- ii. Charles Fariss, b. 1799. No further  
record.
- iii. John Johns Fariss, b. Nov. 1801; m.  
Julia Ann Fitzpatrick.

John Johns, Jr., b. June 3, 1784, d. Jan.  
12, 1868; m. Mary (Polly) Johns, b.  
1784/5, d. Dec. 28, 1852.

Included in a letter, dated August 29,  
1926, and signed by Anne D. Gauss, of  
St. Charles, Mo., written to her Cousin  
Jay Johns of Charlottesville, Va., was  
the record, as has been given in a very  
old Family Bible. And added in pencil  
on the list, "in Grandfather John's hand-  
writing, is this: John Johns died in 1868,  
January 12. Mary Johns died December  
28, 1852."

Notes taken from "Campbell Chronicles  
and Family Sketches", by R. H. Early,  
pp. 531-532, under "Winston"; Judge Ed-  
mund Winston was a native of Henrico  
County, had practiced law prior to lo-  
cating in Campbell County, and was a  
judge in his District for many years  
after the Revolution, etc.

From his farm, "Chestnut Hill", in  
Campbell, he moved to "Hunting Tower",  
in Buckingham County. Some of his chil-  
dren are named, among whom his daugh-  
ter, Mary Winston, married to Colonel  
John Johns, and stating that she was  
buried at "Chestnut Hill".