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The Lightfoot Family.

BY THE EDITOR.

At "Sandy Point," Charles City Co., Va., once the splendid estate of the Lightfoot family, is a tomb with this inscription:

Philip Lightfoot,
Son of John Lightfoot, Esq.,
Barrister at Law, son of John
Lightfoot, Minister of Stoke
Bruain in Northamptonshire.

The tomb is decorated with the Lightfoot arms, impaling Corbin. Philip Lightfoot married Alice Corbin, dau. of Henry Corbin. I have a drawing of the arms, and they answer in Burke, *dexter:* (Lightfoot)—barry of six or and gu, on a bend sa three escallops ar.; *sinister* (Corbin) ar. on a chief or, three ravens ppr. The tinctures, of course, are not given. The crest is the head of an animal with ears pointed forward and tongue protruding. The arms of the dexter side and the crest appear also on the tombs, of Philip Lightfoot, his son, who died May 30, 1748, at "Sandy Point," and of Francis Lightfoot, another son who died Jan. 7, 1727.

The tomb of the first Philip Lightfoot is, however, wrong in stating that John Lightfoot, the father of the Virginia immigrant, was son of "John Lightfoot, minister of Stoke Bruain." In Berry's History of
Northamptonshire, a list of ministers of that parish is given, and the name Richard Lightfoot appears in proper order. There was no other minister of Stoke Bruerne of the name of Lightfoot. Berry, quoting the parish register, states that "he was installed 27 April, 1601, and was buried here 28 Nov., 1625." According to Berry there is in the church a small brass plate having the figure of a priest kneeling before an altar—*dexter* side, Barry of six o, & g., on a bend s. three escallops of the first—Lightfoot; *sinister*, Lightfoot impaling o. three bars (q? az). Upon it is this inscription:

Memoriam

Richardi Lightfoot, Hujus Eccl'ie per xxiii (?) 
Annos Rectoris, Evangellii Precons, 
J. L. Filius et Haeres Suus Posuit.
Pascentum Exemplo Populos Verboq, Ciboq.
Mors Subgressa Levi Est Non Inopina Pede
Vita Brevis, Nam Longa Fuit Meditatio Mortis.
Sic Alios Docuit Vivere Seq. Mori.
Obiit Anno \{ Dni 1625, \} \{ Aet. Suæ 63. \}

Which may be rendered as follows:

This tomb was placed here to the memory of Richard Lightfoot, minister of the gospel and rector of this church for twenty-three years (twenty-four?) by J. L., his son and heir. Death quietly and unexpectedly overtook him while feeding his flock by word and deed. His life was short, for it was a long meditation on death. Thus he taught others to live and himself to die. He died in the year of our Lord 1625, aged 63 years.

The wills of Richard Lightfoot and Jane, his wife, who was Jane Jones, are recorded in the District Registry attached to the Probate Division of the High Court of Justice at Northampton. The will of their son, John, barrister-at-law, is on record at Somerset House, London. I have thought them of sufficient interest to attach them to this paper.
In Foster's "Oxford's Matriculations" is the following: "John Lightfoot, of London (City), cler. fil. Lincoln Coll. matric. 5th May, 1615, aged 17; possibly a student of Gray's Inn in 1617, as a son and heir of Richard Lightfoot of Stoke Bruerne, Northants, cler.: brother of the next named." "Richard Lightfoot, son of Richard, of Stoke Bruerne, Northants, sacerd. Lincoln College, matriculated 27 Jan., 1625–6, aged 17; B. A. 26 July, 1628, rector of Kennarding, Kent, 1632, of Whinbergh, Norfolk, 1647, and of Chadwell, Essex, 1663."

Foster's "Gray's Inn Admissions" has—"June 30, 1617, John Lightfoot, son and heir of Richard Lightfoot, Co. Northampton, clerk." "Feb. 18, 1641–2, John Lightfoot, eldest son of John L., one of the fellows of this Inn" "Oct. 24, 1653, Wm. Lightfoot, son of John Lightfoot, late of Gray's Inn," Esq., deceased;" and "Nov. 14, 1653, Richard Lightfoot, son of John L. Esq., late deceased, an antient of this Society."

Now the three last mentioned—John, William and Richard—were evidently brothers of Philip, of Virginia, mentioned in the opening of this paper, for the only John Lightfoot, who previously studied at Gray's Inn, was the John, son of Rev. Richard, who was admitted in 1617.

*Will of Richard Lightfoot*—Extracted from the District Registry attached to the Probate Division of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice at Northampton:

In the name of God Amen, I Richard Lightfoot Clerke, Parson of Stoke Brewen in the County of Northton being in helth of bodie but of paffit memory praised be God Doe make and declare this my last Will and testament first I bequeath my soule into the hands of Almighty God assuredlie trustinge through the infinite merits & mediacon of Jesu
Christ my saviour & redeemr to have everlasting salvacon
And my bodie to be interred in the chancell of the chancell of
the parish church of Stoke aforesaid My Estate thus I dispose
of ffirst of my lands & tenements by me purchased I give unto
my eldest sonne John Lightfoote my house at Northton &
all other things hereunto appertaynynge purchased of Thomas
Gutteridge Cordwiner And the gate house adionyngge purchas
ed of Tobie Coldwell and all those lands and meadowe
grounds with there appurtenances in the psh of Stoke aforesaid
wch I purchased of Richard Wickens William Wickens
& William Kingston and every or ainey of them and all writ
ings and evidences concernyng the same to have & to hold
unto my sonne John and his heirs for ever Item I give unto
my sonne Richard Lightfoote and his heirs for ever all those
lands arable meadowe and pasture with their appurtenances
wch I have bought or contracted for of Robt Wickens of
Northton but if the bargaine goe not forwarde then I give
unto my said sonne Richard Lightfoot so much as I should
have given for the said lands Item I give unto my said
sonne Richard & his assignes my house in the occupation of
William Yorke and all the lands ground and other heredita
ts which I bought of John Jackson together with the
newe house ladie erected upon part thereof Item I give
my twoe houses with all the lands thereunto belonging wth
there appurtenances wch I purchased of John Walke Esq
and John Smith unto my well beloved wife Jane Lightfoote
for and duringe the terme of her naturall life and her decease
unto my said sonne John Lightfoote & his assignes And my
Will is that when my said sonne shall have possession of the
last two mencened houses or either of them he shall pay unto
his two sisters Sarah and Rose if they be then living five
pounds apiece And I give all my bookes unto my said two
sons equally to be divided between them And my Will is
that the porcon of my daughter Jane shall be so much as
the best porcon given in marriage with either of her sisters to
be pd unto her at those daies and tymes upon and after her
marriage as the porcon of her sister Rose was paid and touch
inge anye wise those poore people at Stoke I doe for divers
respects me inducinge forbeare to mencon any but leave the
same to the discretion of my wife and sonne John to do
therein hereafter (as the carriage of the parish to themward
considered) they shall thincke meete And my Will is in
respecte of the guifte hereby to my said wife that she release
her dower and third in all my free lands & not doubting but
that such love will rest in her towards her children and such
dutie in them to herward that they would have made as
equall if not more perfitt & indiffernt distribucon of my
estate than I have done hereby

The rest of all my good debts and estate not bequethed
I give to my wellbeloved wife, Jane Lightfoote whom I make
sole Executrix of this my last Will and I desire my dearly
beloved brother Thomas Jones Esqr to be overseer hereof to
see the same pformed in all things accordinge to my true
meaninge hereby requestinge all the parties legatees before-
named to make him judge and decider of all controversies
which shall arise between them or anie of them

In witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand and
seale the 5th daie of May Anno Dni 1625 And in the first yeare
of the raigne of our Soveraigne Lord King Charles &c.

Richard Lightfoote.

Sealed published and declared by the said Richard
Lightfoote as and for his last Will & Testamt in the presence
of us Thomas Jones John Winterborne Thomas Marshe

Proved 6th December, 1625.

Will of Jane Lightfoot. Extracted from the
District Registry attached to the Probate Division
of Her Majesty's High Court of Justice at Northamp-
ton.

In the Name of God Amen I Jane Lightfoote of Stoake
Bruen in the County of Northon Gentlewoman being weake
in body yet in pfct minde & memory (thankes be to God)
doe make this my last Will & Testament in manner & forme
following first I bequeath my soule into the hands of Al-
mightie God my Creator & of Jesus Christ, my only Savior and
Redeemer & of the holy ghost my Sanctifier & psserver
And my body I will be decently brought to the ground &
buried in the Chancell of the sayd Stoake Bruen in sure &
certaine hope of resurrection to eternall life As for my
worldly goods and chattels first I give to my sonne Richard
Lightfoot one little cottage pott with one little brasse pan
half my pewter in the pewter chest and the feather bed at
Stoake Bruen to be delivd within one month after my
decease being lawfully demanded Item I give to my grandchild John Lightfoot the sonne of John Lightfoot the bigger silver bole to be delivered as before Item I give to my sonne-law Robert Kingstone my other—silver bole & my little silver spoone to be delivered as before Item I give to my grandchild Sarah Kingstone one little feather bed with bedstead & all the other furniture belonging to it to be delivered as before Item I give to Mr Macham of the said Stoake Bruen one gold ring & one silver thimble to be delivered as before The rest of my goods & chattels unbequeathed I give to my well beloved daughter Jane of Hanslop in the County of Buckon the now wife of William Asbie whom I make the true and full executrix of this my last Will & Testament in writing Robert Wickens Gentln & Richard Plowman yeoman of the said pish of Stoake Bruen my loving neighbors to be the overseers of this my last Will & Testament And in witness hereof I have to these pents sett to my hand & seale this twentieth day of December in the year of o Lord God (by computar of o Church of England) one thousand six hundred fortie nine.

the mark of
Jane | Lightfoot

Sealed & acknowledged in
the prence of
Joseph Dayes
the mark of
Elizabeth X. Dunkley


1 January, 1647, John Lightfoot of Grayes Inn, Middx, Esq. Desires no mourning expence but to be kept 25 hours from the grave. To the poor of the parish of Stoke Brewen, Northon 20 s. and so much to the poor of the parish where I shall be buried. To my dear mother, Mrs Jane Lightfoot rents & profits of lands I am possessed of in Stoke brewerne for 20 years and £10 as also £5 yearly during her life to be paid quarterly. To my dearly beloved wife, household stuff, the old gold & jewels in her possession, £50 and such books as she shall choose. To Jane Ashbie my sister 5 marks & remittance of a debt owing by her husband to testator. To
the children of my late sister Rose 40s. each and 40s. to their mother-in-law. To my loving father & mother, Francis Phelps, Esq. & his wife, to Sr Edmond Sawyer, Knt. & his lady, Sr Tho. Allen, Knt, Robert Harrington, Esq. and to my godmother, his wife, Mr Augustine Phillips, my brother Francis Phelps, Esq., Mr Wm Paylton, Wm Allafrye, Esq., Mr Francis Ridley, my brother Leonard Dare, Esq. & my sister, his wife, Mr. Henry Riley, to my brother Mr Richard Lightfoote & his wife, to Mr John, Mrs Mary & Phillip Philips, my loving brother & sisters, to Mr John Cockstint, Mr Edward Taylor, the elder, & my said dear mother, rings to each—Printed books, MSS. goods & estate not hereby disposed of to be sold to the best advantage. My friend Edward Bing, Esq: to have chamber lodging at Gray's Inne, wherein testator has an estate for life, & the life of his cousin, Mr John Jones, at such reasonable price as shall be agreed upon. To my eldest son various books, Camden's Britannica, &c., also books "to my said brother Richard" & to each of his children 20s. To my loving cousin, Mr Thomas Jones 5 marks. To Robert Kingston 20s. out of money he owes to testator & 20s to each of his children. To each of my servants 20s. "I leave a wife and many children, God bless them."

(In Margin 1 John. 2 Francis. 3 George.
4 William. 5 Richard. 6 Edmond.
7 Phillip. 8 Robert. Mary, Anne,
Jane, Elizabeth, Rebecca.)

Remainder of estate to be divided amongst testator's children—appoints that the profit of all the estate be "wholly payed to my wife for the maintenance of herself & children" make further provision concerning this. I remit unto my said Father Phelps all money & "demands" between us. Ordains said wife, Elizabeth Lightfoote full & sole executrix. Desires Mr Harrington & Mr Riley to be overseers & gives them £5. each, desiring they will on all occasions proceed with the advice of said loving brother, Francis Phelps to whom testator gives 4 law books. "To each of my elder sonnes I give a Ringe or seale." [No Witnesses.]

Proved at London 24 March, 1648-9, by oath of Elizabeth Lightfoote, relict.

(To be continued.)