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GENEALOGY OF THE TRIPLETT FAMILY.

By Rev. A. H. Hord,

(Quartely, XXI., 43, 115.)

ADDENDA.

In the patent of Francis¹ Triplett, the immigrant, dated “the 21st day of January, 1666,” he is styled “Mr. Francis Triplett.” Mr. Bruce states in his “Social Life of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century,” page 115, that “the term ‘Mister’ when it appears in legal documents as a prefix to a name signifies that the person so designated was entitled to a higher degree of social consideration than was enjoyed by a mere yeoman.”

Among the headrights mentioned in this patent of Francis Triplett are Peter Jett, Will Jett, Peter Junior (Jett), Mary Jett, Mary Jett and Martha Jett. These people were probably the ancestors of the Jett family of King George County, one of whom, namely, John Jett, is believed to have married a daughter of Francis Triplett, the immigrant (see William and Mary Quarterly, Vol. XXI., page 38).

The Jett family is believed to have come from London, and Francis Triplett, the immigrant, may also have been a resident of London. In the Parish Register of St. Vedast’s Church, Foster Lane, Cheapside, London, is the following record: “August XX, 1570, marriage of Francis Triplett and Judith Jackson.”

TRIPLETT ARMS.

The following description of the arms of the Rev. Dr. Thomas Triplett is taken from the records of Westminster Abbey, “a hind courant regardant, shot through the neck with an arrow, a chief indented.” No crest is given with these arms, and I am unable to find in Burke’s General Armory or in any other work on heraldry to which I have access, the crest of the Triplett family.
of England. There is, however, a crest* engraved on an old piece of family silver which was formerly owned by the late William Stone Triplett, who was born August 28th, 1815, and died August 1st, 1863. The silver does not antedate the time of Mr. Triplett. This crest shows a pelican standing on the side of a nest with the heads of three little pelicans raised above the nest. This crest is also engraved on a ring which belonged to the late John Richards Triplett.

The question arises, what is the origin of this crest, and why was it used by the Triplett family of Virginia? As stated above a crest is not given with the arms of the Reverend Doctor Thomas Triplett in the records of Westminster Abbey, nor have I been able to discover a Triplett crest in any work on heraldry. May not the Virginia crest have been derived from the old painting of the Triplett arms to which allusion has been made by me in the William and Mary Quarterly, Vol. XXI., p. 35, and which Judge George W. Triplett in his genealogical notes stated was lost before or during the Civil War.

If this is not the origin of the Virginia crest, then I cannot account for its use by William Stone Triplett or form a conjecture as to where he obtained it. Moreover, the three pelicans commend it as the proper crest of the family of Triplett. The pelican in early Christian art was a symbol of charity.

(45) Annie Triplett. It is stated in the William and Mary Quarterly, Vol. XXI., page 43, that "Annie Triplett, believed to have been a daughter of Captain William1 Triplett, (11) married Alexander Thom. The authority for this statement was Dr. Slaughter's "History of St. Mark's Parish, Culpeper," revised and enlarged by Green, Part 2, page 84. This, however, is an error in Dr. Slaughter's "History." The wife of Alexander Thom was Elizabeth Triplett, as is proved by a family record in an old copy of the Presbyterian Confession of Faith, of the date of 1753, which was the property of Alexander Thom, and which is still in the possession of his descendants. I have been

* Note—Through the kindness of Mrs. Thomas O. Price (nee Lizzie Triplett) I have obtained a copy of the crest of the Triplett family of Virginia.
permitted to examine this Thom record through the kindness of Mr. DeCourcy W. Thom, of Baltimore, a descendant of Alexander Thom. The wife of Alexander Thom seems to have been Elizabeth (38) Triplett in the foregoing genealogy, daughter of Francis³ Triplett (William,² Francis¹). The reasons for this belief are, 1st, that Alexander Thom married his wife in Westmoreland County in which the family of Elizabeth Triplett (38) at one period resided; 2nd, that Elizabeth Triplett (38) had a brother Reuben Triplett and that Elizabeth (Triplett) Thom named a son Reuben Triplett Thom; 3rd, that Elizabeth Triplett (38) was a descendant of Captain Simon Miller of Old Rappahannock County and sister of Col. Simon Triplett, and that Elizabeth (Triplett) Thom named another son Simon Miller Thom.

(27) Francis Triplett was Presiding Justice of Fauquier County, August 1789 (Order Book 1788-91, page 197). He was successively captain, major and colonel of the Cavalry Militia of Fauquier County in the Revolutionary War and participated in the Southern campaign (see in the Virginia State Library, Auditors Account Books VII., page 299; VIII., page 242; XVIII., page 164). He was the Major Triplett whom Congress presented with a sword for his services in the battle of the Cowpens as shown in McAllister's "Virginia Militia in the Revolutionary War," pages 31, 94, 171.

(32) Simon Triplett. The records of Loudon County show that Simon Triplett moved to that county from King George in 1765, at which date he bought land in Loudon County and he bought many tracts after that time. He was was one of the first Justices of the County and the records show that he was a person of considerable prominence. The following letter from Colonel Simon Triplett to Colonel Leven Powell (published in "A Biographical Sketch of Colonel Leven Powell") was written in July, 1776:

"Alexandria, Va., Sunday Eve., 6 o'clock.

Dear Sir: About an hour ago arrived an express from Cedar Point which informs us that four ships (armed a capital one), one sloop and two tenders passed that place this morning about 8 o'clock. The Scorpion and the Liberty were about ten miles
ahead of them. It is thought they will not come further than Aquia tonight, but may be expected tomorrow, should they be destined for this place. It has been determined in Council to call 150 of the Fairfax Militia which are as many as there can be arms provided for. The commanding officers of the Militia of Loudon and Prince William are to have notice to be in readiness to march at a moment's warning should they be wanting; but I am afraid for the want of arms, they will be of little use. Every step should be taken to remove that obstacle. But this is rather out of my way, as I am well assured Col. Peyton will exert himself on this occasion and you won't be backward, but if no more vessels come up than those we hear are on the road, I hope we shall not want you, provided my neighbor should not prove faulty. Lord Howe is most certainly arrived in New York, as there is a letter from Mr. Harrison who confirms it. He says there are at least 300 sail of vessels at that place, and that a 90 gun ship and a twenty run by the Fortress and though fired upon received very little damage. They are up the Hudson River nere forty miles. From their manner it is thought that they intend to force a communication between them and Burgoyne's Army. General Washington writes of the 19th inst. only six days ago, that he has not above 10,000 effective men, and that the internal enemy are more to be dreaded than the avowed, that the Congress had promised him 30,000 but he did not expect them in time, as they appear to be very slow in coming in. I wish all may go well in that quarter. Much, I think, depends upon it.

I am D'r Sir, your most obd't servt.

Simon Triplett.”

Colonel Simon Triplett's will was proved in Loudon County May 11th, 1810, and dated Feb. 22nd, 1805. It is a very interesting will. He bequeaths a tract of land in Kentucky, ten miles from Lexington; another tract in the Illinois grant, Northwestern Territory, opposite the falls of the Ohio; the plantation on which he lived and lots in Leesburg; mentions wife Martha, sons William H., Simon, Philip, James Lane; daughters Katharine, Lucinda, Susannah Adams; granddaughters Polly and Alice Tay-
lor. Executors “beloved brother Reuben Triplett,” son James Lane Triplett and “dear and true friend Burr Powell.”

(34) Francis Triplett. In Loudon County is the will of a Francis Triplett, probably of this Francis Triplett (34), dated May 9, 1821, and proved June 12, 1823. He is described in the will as of “Leesburg, Loudon County.” He bequeaths the house and lot in Leesburg where he lives to daughter Nancy Triplett who was in ill health, and he mentions sons Thomas, John, Nathaniel, Daniel, Francis, William; daughter Charlotte Smith; granddaughters Catharine and Charlotte Davis. Executor son Francis Triplett.

Of the sons mentioned in this will it appears in the Loudon County records that John Triplett sold land to William Cline in 1811; Thomas Triplett bought land in 1811 and died in Loudon County 1818 leaving no will.

(35) Reuben Triplett mentioned as “beloved brother,” in the will of Colonel Simon Triplett, proved in Loudon County May 11, 1810. The records of Loudon County show that Reuben Triplett died in Loudon in 1820 leaving no will.

(60) Dr. William Harrison Triplett is mentioned in the will of his father Col. Simon Triplett, proved May 11, 1810. He married Catharine Alexander daughter of John Alexander. John Alexander was son of Colonial William Alexander (Captain Philip, Philip John) of Stafford County, 1659 (see the Alexander pedigree in Hayden’s “Virginia Genealogies,” pp. 192-3).

**English Notes of Triplett.**

The following data is from very full notes collected by Mr. DeCourcy W. Thom, of Baltimore, which he has kindly permitted me to copy:

Francis Triplett, of Exeter, in Devonshire; will dated 1754. (Probate Registry of Exeter.)

Sept. 24, 1794, will of Francis Triplett.

A letter to Archbishop Laud, dated March 31, 1640. Enclosed in this letter is one from R. Triplett, father of the Rev. Dr. Thomas Triplett, mentioning another son, Matthew Triplett. (Calendar of State Papers Domestic 1640, page 51).

Another letter to Archbishop Laud, June 25, 1640. (Calendar of State Papers Domestic 1640, page 346.)


The Rev. Thomas Triplett was dismissed from his rectorship at Whitburn during the Civil War (time of Charles 1st) because he was in sympathy with the King's cause, and he taught school for a time in the south of England. "After ye King's restoration Mr. Triplett was made a Doctor in Divinity and Prebendary of Westminster Abbey." (See the end of Vol. II. of the Parish Register of Whitburn.)

Edward Triplett was a "privileged person of the University" (Oxford) July, 1587. (University Register, Vol. II., pp. 81-394.)

Edmund Triplett, a witness to the will of William Sharpe, County Huntingdon, May 24, 1641.

John Triplett of Plymouth, Mariner, Administration Bond, 1752. (Probate Registry of Exeter.)

John Triplett of St. Sidewell's, Administration Bond, 1752. (Probate Registry of Exeter.)

"Samuel Triplett, Bailiff, of the Three Hundreds of Chilham, and others are appointed collectors of ship money May 8, 1639." (Calendar of State Papers.)

Henry Triplett of Hampton Gay. (State Papers Domestic, 1595-7, page 319.)


Thomas Triplett and Mary Daniel married (Faculty Office April 14, 1691).

William Triplett and Elizabeth Smyth married January 28, 1569. (St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, London.)


Robert Triplett is mentioned in the will of John Ditchfield, of Bold, Feb. 22, 1643.

Margery Triplett married Augustine Fairchild. (St. Dunstan's, Stepney, Jan. 6, 1630.)

John Triplett, Mariner, married Margery Swaine, of Lime, in Dorset, Feb. 6, 1630. (Register of St. Dunstan's Stepney, Vol. I.)

John Taylor married Elizabeth Triplett Oct. 11, 1747. (All Saints, Maidstone.)

Edward Triplett of Thame, Yeoman, married Alice Cooke, of Thame, Spinster. Marriage Bond July 21, 1698. (Archdeaconry Papers, Bodleian Library.)

Richard Triplett 1689-90 mentioned in "Woods Life and Times."

The following English notes, with others mentioning Francis Triplett and referred to in the beginning of this article, were collected by A. H. Hord:


Mary Ann Triplett married to William Crabb of Saltash (date unknown).

Oct. 6, 1617, Ann Triplett of St. Dunstan's in the East London, the widow of Robert Triplett, married to Francis Earlsfield.

June 25, 1567, Thomas Triplett married Alicia Sutton.

Oct. 19, 1659, burial of Elizabeth Triplett.

Dec. 4, 1619, burial of Elizabeth Triplett, daughter of Aaron Triplett.

April 17, 1608 Robert Triplett married Ann Addison (Tintagel Marriage Register).