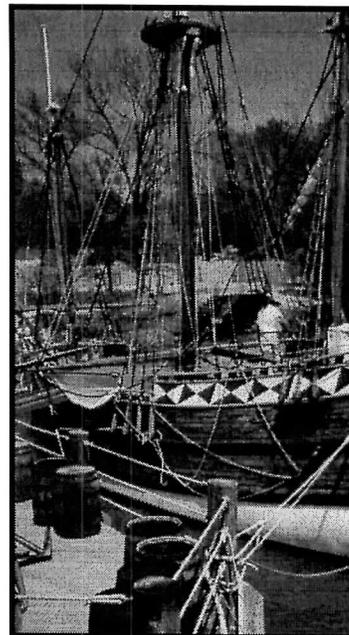


## Littleton Family of Accomack Co., Va.

Few immigrants to the American colonies have left as many clues to their **European origins** as **Col. Nathaniel Littleton** who came to Virginia c1625. Evidence for identifying Nathaniel Littleton of Accomack Co Va. with the family of Littleton in Shropshire, England, is found in the will of his widow, Ann Littleton, dated Oct 28, 1656, "if all my children die without issue, the real estate shall go to James Littleton, Esq., of Shropshire near Ludlow." James Littleton was undoubtedly the brother of her deceased husband, Nathaniel Littleton. [1]



**Nathaniel Littleton**, son of Sir Edward & Mary Walter Littleton of Hensley, Shropshire, England, was the progenitor of the Littletons of Virginia. They in turn come from the Lyttletons of Worcestershire, England. They quarter Arms with Plantagenet. [2a & b] **Thomas de Littleton of Frankley, Worcester County**, Knight of Bath, and a judge of the Court of Common Pleas, authored the celebrated "**Treatise on Tenures.**" He married Joan Burley Chetywnd, widow of Sir Philip Chetwynd of Stafford, daughter and heiress of **Sir. Wm. Burley**, Knight, of **Broomscoft Castle**, County Salop. He died in 1481 leaving sons: Sir William Littleton, Richard Littleton of Pillaton Hall, and Thomas Littleton II of Speckley, knighted two days after the Battle of Stoke in 1487. **Sir Thomas Littleton II** married **Ann Botteaux**, daughter & heiress of John Bottreaux of Abbot's Salford, Warwickshire. Their second son, the **Rev. John Littleton**, was parson of Houndslow in Salop who married **Alice Thoinnes**, daughter of Richard Thoinnes of Cendover. Their oldest son, **Thomas Littleton III** married Frances Burley of Broomscoft Castle, fathered five sons, and died in 1621. Their second son, **Sir Edward Littleton of Henley** of county Salop, was Chief Justice of North Wales, who married **Mary Walter**, daughter of **Sir Edward Walter of Ludlow**, county Salop, fathered eight sons, and also died in 1621. They had sons: (a) Edward, Lord Chief Justice of Common Pleas 1639 & Keeper of the Great Seal 1640; (b) William, Sergeant at Law; (c) James, Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford; (d) William who married, no issue; (e) John, Fellow of All Souls college (f) **Nathaniel** (g) Sir Timothy (h) Samuel, no issue. [2b, 2c & 3]



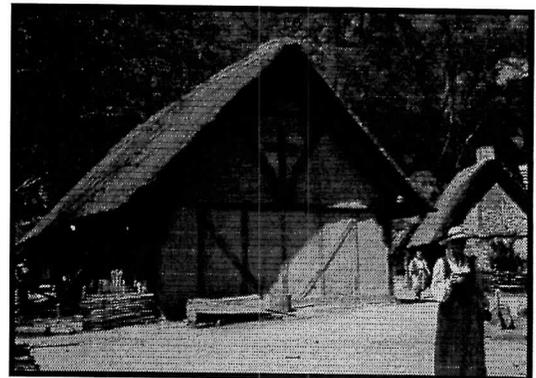
**Nathaniel Littleton** emigrated to Virginia in 1635, settling on a plantation on **Nandua Creek, Accomack Co, Va.** Like so many Virginians, Nathaniel had military service in the Netherlands. In 1640, he was **chief magistrate** of Accomack; in 1652, a member of the **House of Burgesses**, and a member of the Governor Wm. Berkeley's **Executive Council**. Col. Nathaniel Littleton married before **Nov 23, 1640, Ann Southey** of James City, daughter of Henry & Elizabeth Southey, and widow of Charles Harmar. Ann Southey was born in Rimpton, Somersetshire, England c1610, and died by Oct. 28, 1656 in Northampton Co Va. Nathaniel died cir. 1654. After her husband's death, the widow moved to Magothy Bay, Northampton Co, leaving "**Nandua**" in the hands of her son, **Col. Southey Littleton**. They had the following children:

(1) **Col. Edward Littleton**, b. c1640, mar. (a) Sarah Douglas of Northampton Co Va. at age 12 in 1658, she died in childbirth, mar. (b) **Frances Robins**, youngest daughter of **Col. Obedience & Grace O'Neill Waters Robins**. He died 1663.

(2) **Capt. Southey Littleton**, b. 1646, of "Nandua," took up much land in Somerset Co Md. by parents. He married c1664 Sarah Bowman, dau. of Major **Edmund Bowman**.

Col. Southey Littleton by his two wives had seven children: (a) **Nathaniel Littleton** b. c1667; d. by Mar. 1, 1702/3, mar. Susannah Waters, whose dau. Esther Littleton married Thomas Savage of *Cherrystone*, son of Capt. Thomas & Alicia Harmanson Savage of "Savage Neck" (b) **Bowman Littleton** [b. c1675; d. 1696] unmar. mentioned in **Col. John Robins'** will 1709 as "my kinsman Bowman Littleton, dec'd [see Appendix]"; (c) **Esther Littleton** [ b. c1665; d. c1688] of "*Kings Neck*" on Chincoteague Island who mar. Col. Wm. Whittington of Northampton Co Va. (d) **Sarah** [b. c1669; d. 18 Apr 1720] mar. (a) Adam Michael (b) John Custis III (e) **Elizabeth** [b. c1671; d. 1754] mar. Richard Waters of Somerset Co Md. (f) **Gertrude Littleton** [b. c1673; d. by 9 Jan 1738/9] mar. Henry Harmanson of Northampton Co Va. (g) **Southey Littleton II** mar. Mary Brown of Northampton Co.

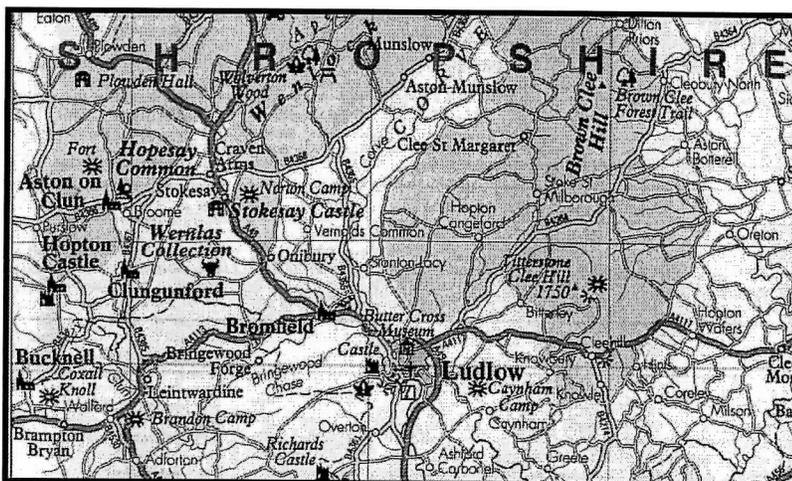
**Col. Southey Littleton** was a member of a court martial which indicted the **insurgents of Bacon's Rebellion**. In 1679; he was sent to New York with Col. Wm. Kendall, as a special Commissioner to confer with Gov. Andros on Indian uprisings. He died in Albany NY in 1679; his will executed Sept. 1679 is recorded in Accomack Co, Va.



(3) **Esther Littleton** b. 1646 married **Col. John Robins** of "*Salt Grove*" on Jan. 9, 1662. the couple lived near Cherrystone, Northampton Co, Va. John Robins was the son of **Col. Obedience & Grace O'Neill Waters Robins**.

He was born Jan 6, 1636 in Northampton Co Va., educated in England under the care of his uncle Richard Robins Esq. of Long Buckby, Northamptonshire. He inherited "*Salt Grove*" and was for many years a prominent man in Northampton Co serving in the House of Burgesses, a Justice of the Peace, and a Commissioner of the Monthly Courts. He died in 1709. [4 & 5]

## Footnotes & Bibliography



1. "*The Littleton Heritage*," by Matthew M. Wise, Columbia, SC: Wentworth Corp., 1994, 5.

2a. *Colonial Families of the United States of America*," ed. Nelson Osbood Rhodes, Vol VII, Gen. Pub. Co, reprint, 1993. p. 70.

2b. *Ancestral Roots of Certain American Colonists Before 1700*," by Frederick Lewis Weis, 7th Ed, Gen. Pub. Co. reprint 1992 by Gen. Pub. Co, pp. 4 - 5.

Map of Shropshire, England: Hopton Castle n.w. of Ludlow.

Line 1A - **John of Gaunt, Duke of Lancaster** continues through many generations to Sir. **Edward Littleton**, Knt. of Hensley, co. Salop, and his son **Nathaniel Littleton**, b. **Hopton Castle**, co. Salop, baptised 22 Dec 1605; d. Northampton Va. Oct-Dec 1654, mar. c1638 **Ann Southey**, b. Somerset Eng c1620; d. Northampton Co VA, will prob. 28 Oct 1656.

2c. *"The Littleton Heritage,"* Matthew M. Wise, Columbia, SC: Wentworth Pub. Co, 1997. See *"Relationship of the Littletons to the Rulers of England, the Lancastrian Lineage, Edward III, King of England,"* p. 285.

3. *"A Tentative Pedigree of the Littleton Family of Va.,"* by Dr. Robert Patterson Robins, published in *"New Eng. Historical & Genealogical Register,"* XLV, Oct 1887: 364-68.

4. *Wm & Mary College Quarterly, Historical Magazine,* Lyons G. Tyler, Vol VIII, 1899-1900, pp. 62-63.

5. Wise, op. cit., pp. 5-8.

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### **Appendix:**

**Bowman Littleton, Accomack Co Va Will, dated 2 May 1696** : to cousin [nephew] William Whittington all my land in King's Neck, 50 a.; to cousin [not nephew] Edward Robins, s/o Major John Robins, land on the east side of Poplar Branch; to brother Nathaniel Littleton & to bro-in-law Richard Waters, my neck of land "Pharsalia" during their natural lives and of their wives, then to return to male heir of brother Nathaniel, reversion to male heir of brother Southey. To sisters Sarah Custis & Gertrude Harmanson. Cousin [nephew] Southey Whittington, Nathaniel Littleton, & Richard Waters were named excrs. Wts: John Purnell, John Jones, John Roussalle.

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THE TAZEWELL  
=QUANDARY=

Newsletter  
of the  
Tazewell Family

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Email: restlessspirit@geocities.com

LITTLETON, LAWYERS AND ROYALTY  
(From the LITTLETON SCRAPBOOK)

The descendants of Nathaniel Littleton, and in particular the descendants of the Virginia immigrant, William Tazewell, whose wife was the great-granddaughter of Nathaniel Littleton, have a most unusual and distinctive heritage.

Among the noteworthy ancestors through the Littleton line are Sir Thomas Littleton, 15th-century legal author, and Jean, Sire de Joinville, a major figure of modern biography and leading historian of the 13th-century. The Littletons are also descended from Alfred the Great, Charlemagne and William the Conqueror in multiple lines, and Henry II, Ireland's King Brian Boru and Scotland's David I, plus many others, and a third of the Barons of Runnymede.

The best known of the Littletons in England was Sir Thomas Littleton (1422-1481), who "became one of the great law luminaries of his country, and is immortalized by one work alone, his celebrated "Treatise on Tenures." This was the first book on English law, which formed an important part of legal education for three centuries. It was written in legal French and was one of the first ten books printed in London. In the 150 years after it was printed in 1481 it had run to more than seventy editions. The book is still in print, a new edition having been printed in 1985.

Following the general practice of dealing with Littleton as the greatest authority on the law of England, "the most perfect and absolute work that ever was written in any human language," Sir E. Coke made it the text of that portion of his work which he calls the first part of the institutes of the law of England, in other words, the law of property.

LITTLETON EARLY COLONIAL SETTLER

Alf Mapp in his "The Virginia Experiment" states that Col. Nathaniel Littleton, who emigrated from England to Virginia, was brother of Sir Edward Littleton, Lord Chief Justice of England and son of Sir Edward Littleton of Henley in Shropshire, Chief Justice of North Wales.

Few river barons in Virginia were so closely allied with the nobles and great leaders of England as were the Littletons of Nandua on the Eastern Shore. First of the line in Virginia was Colonel Nathaniel Littleton, who emigrated to the colony in 1635 and established the family seat. Described as "a gentleman of the Earl of

Southampton's Company in the Low Countries in 1625," he was the brother of Edward, Baron Littleton of Mounsloe, Chief Justice of the Common Pleas and Lord Keeper, and of John Littleton, master of the Temple at All Souls College, Oxford. Colonel Littleton was also the grandson of Sir Edward Walter, Chief Justice of South Wales. His great-great-grandfather was Sir Thomas Littleton, K.B., whose famous "Tenures" was a law book much in favor among Virginia's great planters.

Colonel Littleton's ancestral credentials were impressive, but he was the sixth of eight sons, so it is easy to see why he looked for greater opportunity in Virginia than in his homeland. He found it. In 1640, he was appointed Commander and Chief Magistrate of Northampton County. The following year, he was appointed to the Council. Thus, six years after his arrival in Virginia, he entered the inner circle of its rulers. From that time until his death in 1644, he was the Eastern Shore's leading citizen. In a deed recorded in Northampton County in 1652, he had been referred to as "Governor of Accomacke."

The next lord of Nandua was Colonel Nathaniel Littleton's elder son, Colonel Edward Littleton, who became justice of Northampton County in 1657, and apparently died about 1663.

Next in succession was Southey Littleton, who was then about eighteen years of age. He too became Colonel Littleton. In 1679 he undertook a diplomatic mission, being one of two representatives appointed by Governor Chicheley to confer on Indian affairs with New York colonial officials. He died in Albany while in the service of Virginia. Besides his ancestral acres on the Eastern Shore, he left land in Maryland. His library included such varied fare as Edmund Wingate's "Body of the Common Law of England," Norwood's "Trigonometry," Aesop's "Fables," Corderius' "Colloquies," a volume of selections from Plautus, Lucian's "Dialogues," a "History of the New England War," and the usual medical and religious works.

When Spottswood became Governor in 1710, the Littleton's were in their third generation in Virginia and also their third generation as river barons. Back of their immigrant ancestor were at least eleven generations of leadership in England ....

The river barons, who dominated Virginia's social, economic and political life, constituted one of the best qualified and most responsible oligarchies that the world has ever known. They sought to reproduce in Virginia the way of life followed by English lords. Actually, they created something superior. Their concept of an English lord was derived from etiquette books (found in the library of virtually every gentleman of Virginia)....

The rare Farrer map of America was the first map to list the name of a woman as its maker. It shows very prominently as one of the primary landmarks on the American continent "Col. Littleton's Plantation on the Easterne Shore, or Accomac Land." The map was published in London in 1651.

#### TAZEWELL CONNECTION

The immigrant William Tazewell, who arrived in America

in 1715, was the son of James Tazewell and Anne Kingsmill of Limington Manor House, Somersetshire, England. His great-great-grandson, Littleton Waller Tazewell was a lawyer of great prominence, as were his father-in-law, John Nivison, and grandfather, Benjamin Waller. Littleton Waller Tazewell was U. S. Congressman and Senator, twice president pro tempore of the Senate, governor of Virginia, and in retirement was honored as Virginia's first citizen for a quarter century. His father, Henry, was called "the most popular Virginian of his day."

As Hugh Blair Grigsby brings out in his Discourse (1860), "Soon after the arrival of William Tazewell in Virginia, he married Sophia, daughter of Henry Harmanson and Gertrude Littleton, who was the daughter of Col. Southey Littleton, and the son of that marriage was called Littleton, after the surname of his grandfather. This Littleton was brought up in the secretary's office, under Secretary Nelson, and married Mary Gray, daughter of Col. Joseph Gray, of Southampton.

"With a view of being near the relatives of his wife, he sold his estate in Accomack, which has long been the property of his grandson, Littleton Waller, and purchased land in Brunswick, of which county he became clerk of the court, dying at an early age of thirty-three. The son of this marriage was Henry, the father of our departed townsman, who studied law, became a judge of the general court, a judge of the court of appeals, a senator of the United States, and twice president of the senate."

Gertrude Littleton Harmanson was reported by Littleton Waller Tazewell to have been a skilled practitioner of the law. Also, sometime ago there was a study of the heredity of the Littleton family in England to ascertain why they had so many lawyers.

#### RÓYALTY, SAINTS, AND LADY GODIVA

Through Joan Burley (wife of Sir Thomas Lyttleton), Sir Roger Kynaston, Sir Henry Grey and King Henry IV, the Littletons have at least six lines back to King Edward I and King Henry III. Also, this includes Charlemagne, Alfred the Great, William the Conqueror, and Hugh Capet, King of France. The English kings from William the Conqueror to Henry IV, except the childless ones, are ancestors.

In addition, it goes back to every King of France from 987 to 1314, King Duncan of Scotland (who was murdered by MacBeth), and saints including St. Margaret (wife of Scotland's King Malcolm III) and St. Louis IX, King of France.

Further, there are the rulers of Bohemia, Flanders and Hainault (modern Netherlands and Belgium), Hungary, Poland, Sweden, Germany (the Holy Roman Empire), the Byzantine Empire, the Iberian kingdoms (Castile, Leon, Aragon, Navarre), Naples, and Russia. This represents the chief makers of history during the Middle Ages; also, Brian Boru, King of Ireland, and Lady Godiva. Included also is a King of Jerusalem, who was a gentile knight of the Crusades.

Matthew M. Wise in his forthcoming publication, The Littleton Connection: Some American Descendants of Col. Nathaniel Littleton (1605-1654) of Northampton Co., Va., and

his Royal Forebears\_, states that the Littletons can carry their lineage back through most of the royal lines of Medieval Europe, as well as to ten of the Magna Carta Barons. Wise outlines the lineage back to the fifth century.

Fred W. Sawyer in his genealogy of Nathaniel Littleton gives 1052 lines of descent from Charlemagne, 257 from the German King Henry I (Henry The Fowler), 89 from Alfred the Great, and 37 from William the Conqueror.

The royal lineage of Nathaniel Littleton and his descendants is comparable to that of the British Royal Family, and greater than any of those who have sat on other European thrones in this century. He is acknowledged have more royal ancestry than any other colonist of 17th-century America. This has been noted by Northern historians, who consider him an "Honorary New Englander."

#### JEAN, SIRE DE JOINVILLE

JOINVILLE, Jean, Sire de (c. 1224-1317), French chronicler. Son of the hereditary seneschal of Champagne, Joinville inherited his father's office. In 1248 he joined the Seventh Crusade, led by France's Louis IX. They became close friends when sharing two years of captivity after the Muslims crushed the Christian army at Mansura in 1250. The king and Joinville returned to France in 1254 and remained intimates. Friendship did not deter Joinville from counseling Louis against undertaking a crusade against Tunis, where the king died of a fever in 1270.

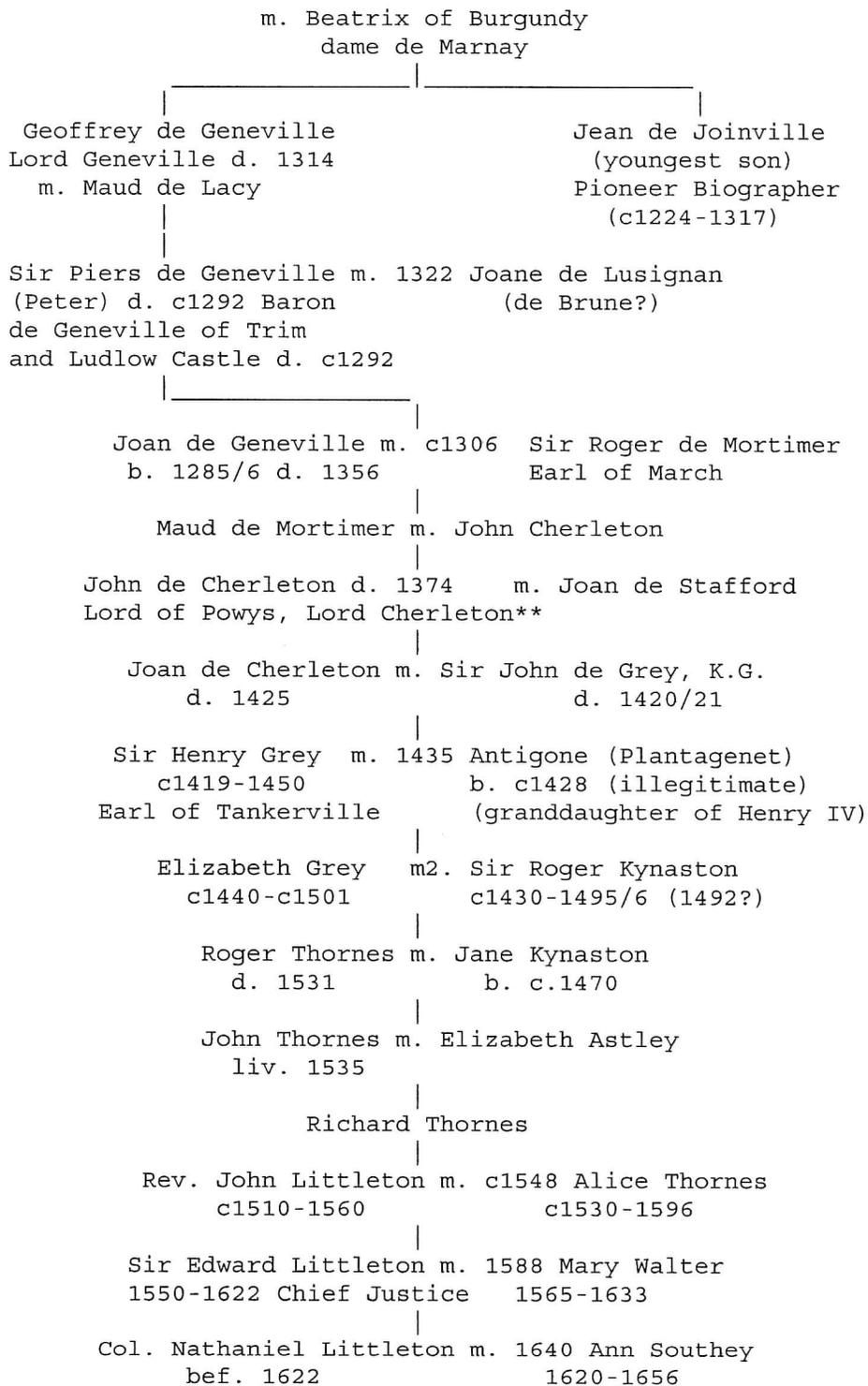
Joinville's greatest gift to Louis IX was his enhancement of the king's posthumous reputation. Joinville participated in the king's canonization (1297). But he performed an even greater service to the deceased king in writing his Historie de Saint Louis. Begun in 1304 and completed by 1309, the book is a work of great power and the only flesh-and-blood biography of a Capetian monarch. Because Joinville knew Louis intimately and was able to paint a vivid picture of Louis' moods, ideals, teachings, and, most of all, his heroic feats of arms. These chivalric exploits, as well as Louis' piety, charity, and simplicity, made him in the eyes of Joinville and his contemporaries the exemplar of a Christian prince. To countering Louis' virtues, Joinville portrayed himself as less able to overcome the temptations that confront both saint and sinner. The importance of the work lies in its being a real biography and not simply a medieval hagiography. Encyclopedia Americana, Vol. 16, p. 150, 198

Alf Mapp, Jr., states that Seigneur Simon de Joinville, Seneschal of Champagne, had

Sir Geoffrey de Geneville, Lord Geneville, d. 1314 (pronounced "Jeffrey"), who went to England and married an English woman, Maud de Lacy; and

Jean de Joinville (his youngest son). Jean de Joinville in the Middle Ages was the pioneer biographer. He was in the pre-Renaissance Period a major figure of modern biography and was leading historian in Europe in his day.

Simon de Joinville  
Seneschal of Champagne  
d. 1233



\*The Senechal was the local representative of the authority of the king. Detailed information of the "Joinville Family" is given in Encyclopedia Britannica, 1965, vol. 13, p. 66-67, "the noble house of the old French Province of Champagne."

\*\*Wise has Sir Edward de Cherleton (d. 1421) Lord of Powys m. Eleanor Holland.

HUGH BIGOD  
(Isabel Bigod m.(1) Gilbert de Lacy of Trim)

Hugh Bigod was a Surety for the Magna Charta. The following are descendants of Hugh Bigod and the Emperor Vadimir:

Maud Lacy (42), who became the wife, first, of Peter de Geneva, who had Ludlow Castle in her right. He died before 27 June 1249. In the 38th of King Henry III, Maud became the wife of Geoffrey de Geneville who had the Castle of Trim, co. Meath as part of her inheritance. He was born in or shortly after 1226 and soon after 1250 came into England from France. They had (421) Geoffrey de Geneville who died without issue during his father's lifetime; (423) Simon de Geneville, Lord of Culmullin, third son, who married Joan Fitz Leon and had three daughters as follows: (423-1) Matilda married to Baldwyn, Lord Slane; and (423-2) Elizabeth, wife of Sir William de Loundres, Baron of the Naas; and (423-3) Joan, whose husband was John Cusack. The second son of Geoffrey de Geneville and his wife (42) Maud Lacy, was

Peter de Genevile (422) who was second Baron but was never summoned to parliament. He married Joane, daughter of Hugh de Brune, Earl of Angolseme, as they had no sons, only three daughters: (422-1) Joane, wife of Roger Mortimer; and (422-2) Isabel and (422-3) Beatrice, who were nuns at Aconbury, the barony of Geneville fell into abeyance among Peter's daughters. (Magna Charta, John S. Wurts, 1942) (Royal Ancestors ..., p. 260 traces the Bigod ancestry to Sveide, the Viking, a Norse king, who died in 760.)

#### PREFACE TO TENURES 1903 EDITION

UNFORTUNATELY, it is not possible to fix the exact date of Sir Thomas Littleton's birth ; but the year was certainly in the earliest part of the fifteenth century, and thus this edition of *The Tenures* serves to commemorate- though doubtless, only approximately- the five hundredth anniversary.

The occasion obviously makes it proper to present a somewhat elaborate account of the author's life and to give as complete a list as practicable of the editions of this book. Hence, in a search for facts of points of view heretofore possible overlooked, much time has been spent in the neighborhoods where Littleton lived and worked, and still more time with manuscripts and printed books in many hospitable libraries.

Yet while it has seemed appropriate to prepare thus a new biographical and bibliographical introduction, it has seemed equally requisite not to give a new translation (of the basic work), but simply to edit the translation adopted by (Sir Edward) Coke. E. W., January 1, 1903

#### Wambaugh's INTRODUCTION, I, Biography

ONE of the most famous books ever written is this small volume containing an orderly and exact presentation of land law at the time midway between the Norman Conquest and the present day. There have been so many changes in the law that doubtless many lawyers consider this treatise obsolete.

Yet land law is altered less rapidly and less radically than other branches, and this is one reason why this little classic has outlived the author by four centuries ; and even if the lapse of time had rendered the work useless as an introduction to existing law, its arrangement, conciseness, and accuracy would continue to gain for it the favor of any one who appreciates a masterpiece....

The book is of uncertain date, but probably was written towards the close of Littleton's life. It professes to have been written in order to aid Littleton's son Richard in his study of the law. To an anonymous tract, of uncertain date, entitled *The Old Tenures*, Littleton was indebted for the suggestion of the title by which his work was originally known-- *The New Tenures*. There are two early manuscripts of Littleton's *Tenures in Law French*, one on vellum and one on paper ; but although there were almost certainly written before Littleton's death, they appear not to be in his handwriting. The book was printed by Letton and Machlinia, in 1481 or 1482, being one of the earliest books printed in London and the earliest treatise on the English law printed anywhere. The second edition was printed about 1483, at London, by Machlinmia. The third edition was printed about 1490, in France, at Rouen, by Willaim de Tailleur. This last is often called the Rohan edition, and it is interesting because it was the oldest known to Coke and was printed at the same place and from the same type and about the same time as Statham's *Abridgement*-- a book that is sometimes erroneously called the earliest printed book of English law. The *Tenures* soon appeared in many editions that bear the names of well-known printers-- Pynson, Redman, Berthelet, Rastell, Myddylton, Smyth, Powel, Tottill, Yetsweirt, Wight, and the Company of Stationers. English translations began to appear early in the sixteenth century, coming from the same printers that still continued to produce editions in *Law French*. In 1581 William West, author of "*Symboleography*," divided the *Law French* text into sections numbering in the manner now used. Before 1628 the editions numbered more than seventy-- most of them in *Law French*. Several of these editions were usually printed with wide margins for manuscript notes ; and today every large library has copies containing annotations so voluminous as to indicate that it was not uncommon for a lawyer to use his copy of Littleton as a common-place book.

In 1628 there appeared the first edition of Coke's *First Part of the Institutes of the Laws of England*, sometimes called *The First Institute*, but commonly called *Coke upon Littleton*. Coke printed in parallel columns the *Law French* of the *Tenures* and a translation-- probably not the work of his own hand,-- and surrounded Littleton with a stupendous commentary which contains the gleanings of a peculiarly laborious life and covers almost the whole domain of English law. *Coke upon Littleton*, unrivalled among law books for vast and various learning, has a curious place in the general history of literature, for it presents the most conspicuous example of a masterpiece upon a masterpiece-- much as if the plays of Shakespeare were entwined about the *Canterbury Tales*.

It is impossible to state with accuracy how many editions there have been of *Coke upon Littleton* and how many of Littleton alone ; for the editions have been very

numerous, and there have been many abridgements, re-arrangements, revisions, and even versifications, some of which are not entitled to be called editions. Counting only such publications as reproduce the whole of the Tenures, the editions of Coke upon Littleton number about twenty-five and the other editions of Littleton number almost ninety. It would be easy to fill many pages with eulogies pronounced upon Littleton, and with somewhat questionable traditions that certain eminent lawyers used to read the whole of the Tenures on each Christmas ; but these figures tell clearly enough the high place that was won by Littleton. It will suffice, then, to give two quotations-- one a statement of fact, and the other a statement of opinion.

The statement of fact, showing how soon the Tenures gained recognition, is by William Rastell, barrister and publisher, who as early as 1534 said, in his preface to a collection of twelve law tracts: "How commodious and profitable unto gentilmen studentes of the law, be these thre bokes, that is to wit, Natura Bvfevium, The old tenures, & the tenures of mayster Lyttilton, experience proveth and the bookes them selfe declare. For lyke as a chylde goyng to scole, fyrste lerneth his letters out of the a. b. c.: so they that entende the study of the law, do fyrste study these iii. bokes."

The statement of opinion is the celebrated eulogy in Coke's preface: "That which we have formerly written, that this book is the ornament of the Common Law, and the most perfect and absolute work that ever was written in any human science: and in another place, that which I affirmed and took upon me to maintain against all opposites whatsoever, that it is a work of as absolute perfection in his kind, and as free from error, as any book that I have known to be written of any human learning, shall to the diligent and observing reader of these Institutes be made manifest, and we by them (which is but a commentary upon him) be deemed to have fully satisfied that which we in former times have so confidently affirmed and assumed.... And albeit, our author in his three books cites not many authorities, yet he holdeth no opinion in any of them, but is proved and approved by these two faithful witnesses in matter of law-- authority and reason. Certain it is, when he raiseth any question, and sheweth the reason on both sides, the latter opinion is his own, and is consonant to law. We have known many of his cases drawn in question, but never could find any judgement given against any of them.... Certain it is that therre is never a period nor (for the most part) a word, nor an &c., but affordeth excellent matter of learning."

A small portion of 425-page book, Littleton's Tenures In English, Eugene Wambaugh, LL.D., Editor. Washington, D.C.: John Byrne & Co., 1903, originally published 1481, and reprinted in 1985. It is currently available from the Quandary publisher; in print over 500 years.

Much of Tenures is strictly law, written in the language of the day. Some parts are particularly interesting due to their quaintness and difference from customs of our present day. A brief example follows "Homage."

## BOOK THE SECOND

### CHAPTER I.

#### Homage

85. HOMAGE is the most honorable service, and most humble service of reverence, that a franktenant may do to his lord. For when the tenant shall make homage to his lord, he shall be ungirt, and his head uncovered, and his lord shall sit, and the tenant shall kneel before him on both his knees, and hold his hands jointly together between the hands of his lord, and shall say thus: I become your man from this day forward [of life and limb, and of earthly worship,] and unto you shall be true and faithful, and bear to you faith for the tenements that I claim to hold of you, saving the faith that I owe unto our sovereign lord the king; and then the lord, so sitting, shall kiss him.

86. But if an abbot, or a prior, or other man of religion, shall do homage to his lord, he shall not say, I become your man, &c., for that he hath professed himself to be only the man of God. But he shall say thus: I do homage unto you, and to you I shall be true and faithful, and faith to you bear for the tenements which I hold of you, saving the faith which I do owe unto our lord the king.

87. Also, if a woman sole shall do homage, she shall not say, I become your woman; for it is not fitting that a woman should say, that she will become a woman to any man, but to her husband, when she is married. But she shall say, I do to you homage, and to you shall be faithful and true, and faith to you shall bear for the tenements I hold of you, saving the faith I owe to our sovereign lord the king.

88. Also a man may see a good note in M. 15 E. III., where a man and his wife did homage and fealty to the Common Place (Common Pleas), which is written in this form. Note, that J. Lewknew and Eliz. his wife did homage to W. Thorpe in this manner: the one and the other held their hands jointly between the hands of W. T. and the husband saith in this form: We do to you homage, and faith to you shall bear, for the tenements which we hold of A., your conusor, who hath granted to you our services in B. and C. and other towns, &c., against all persons (nations), saving the faith which we owe to our lord the king, and to his heirs, and to our other lords; and both the one and the other kissed him. And after they did fealty, and both of them held their hands upon the book, and the husband said the words, and both kissed the book.

89. Note, if a man have several tenancies, which he holdeth of several lords, that is to say, every tenancy by homage; then when he doth homage to one of his lords, he shall say in the end of his homage done, Saving the faith which I owe to our lord the king, and to my other lords.

90. Note, none shall do homage but such as have an estate in fee simple, of fee tail, in his own right, or in the right of another. For it is the maxim in law, that he which hath an estate but for term of life shall neith do homage nor or take homage. For if a woman hath lands or tenements in fee simple, or in fee tail, which she holdeth of her lord by homage, and taketh husband and have issue, then her

husband in the life of the wife shall do homage, because he hath title to have the tenements by curtesy of England if he surviveth his wife, and also he holdeth in right of his wife. But if thge wife dies before homage done by the husband in the life of the wife, and the husband holdeth himself as tenant by the curtesy, then he shall not do homage to his lord, because he then hath an estate for term of life.

More shall be said of homage in the tenure of homage ancestral.

The above is one of 35 chapters of Sir Thomas Littleton's Tenures, which were divided into three sections, called "books," and which take 338 printed pages. This chapter was chosen as it is of more general interest than the other parts of complex medieval law.

(More from comment by Eugene Wambaugh:) Frankley Manor, even at this day in the hands of Littleton's heir, was part of the estate of the author's grandfather, also named Thomas Littleton. This grandfather has but one child, a daughter. When this daughter, Elizabeth, married Thomas Littleton's father, Thomas Westcote, it was agreed that, as the estate which would ultimately come to the heiress was large, and it was desirable to keep alive the Littleton name, the first-born child should be called Littleton. The first-born son was the author; and thus it happened that, although his three brothers and four sisters were named Westcote, the name under which he and his book are still famous is Littleton.

The name has been spelled in many ways, e.g., Littelton, Littilton, Littulton, Littyton, Lutilton, Luttelton, Luttleton, Lyttelton, Llyttilton, Lyttylton, Lutilton, Luttelton, Luttleton, Lyttelton, Lyttilton, Lyttylton.

In 1601 the Crown went into possession (of the Littleton estate, Frankley Manor) because of the attainder of John Lyttelton, implicated in the plot of Lord Essex. The estate was restored in about a year and a half. With the exception of this slight break, the Manor of Frankly has belonged to the family continuously. The titles of the lord of the manor are Vicount Cobham, Baron Lyttelton, and Baron Westcote.

The final sentence in "Book The Third" is: "Now I have made to thee, my son, three books." After the Tabula is the Epilogus, which states:

And know, my son, that I would not have thee believe that all which I have said in these books is law, for I will not presume to take this upon me. But of those things that are not law, inquire and learn of my wise masters learned in the law. Notwithstanding albeit that certain things which are moved and specified in the said books are not altogether law, yet such things shall make thee more apt, and able to understand and apprehend the arguments and the reasons of the law, &c. For by the arguments and reasons of the law, a man more sooner shall come to the certainty and knowledge of the law.

Lex plus laudatur quando ratione probatur.

FINIS

See Littleton Scrapbook: River Barons, Lawyers and  
Royalty\_, C. W. Tazewell, Editor. LC# 90-80406 ISBN  
1-878515-08-X (Volume 8 of the Tazewell and Allied Families  
Scrapbooks\_, 9 volumes, LC# 90-81464 ISBN 1-878515-00-4)

25. SUSANNA<sup>4</sup> ANDREWS (WILLIAM<sup>3</sup>, WILLIAM<sup>2</sup>, JOHN<sup>1</sup>) (#13151) was born in Northampton Co., VA about 1671. SUSANNA died before March 20, 1711 in Northampton Co., VA, at approximately 39 years of age.

She married twice. She married NATHANIEL LITTLETON about 1691. (NATHANIEL LITTLETON is #11920.) NATHANIEL was born about 1667. NATHANIEL was the son of SOUTHY LITTLETON and SARAH ELIZABETH BOWMAN. NATHANIEL died before March 1, 1702 in Northampton Co VA. (Littleton Heritgage, p. 7)

She married STEPHEN MAXFIELD after 1702. (STEPHEN MAXFIELD is #13197.) STEPHEN died before May 13, 1711.

She made a will in Northampton Co., VA, December 22, 1710.

SUSANNA ANDREWS and NATHANIEL LITTLETON had the following children:

- 48 i. JOSEPH<sup>5</sup> LITTLETON (#13195) was born in Northampton Co., VA. JOSEPH died before May 19, 1750.
- 49 ii. BOWMAN LITTLETON (#13196) was born in Northampton Co., VA.
- 50 iii. SOUTHEY LITTLETON (#13194) was born in Northampton Co., VA about 1692. SOUTHEY died before February 17, 1713 in Northampton Co., VA, at approximately 20 years of age. He married MARY EYRE about 1712. (MARY EYRE is #13354.) MARY was the daughter of DANIEL EYRE and ANNE NEECH.

He made a will in Northampton Co., VA, December 31, 1712.

- 51 iv. SARAH CUSTIS LITTLETON (#13192) was born in Accomack Co., VA about 1695. SARAH died 1720 at 25 years of age. She married UNKNOWN KING. (UNKNOWN KING is #13353.) UNKNOWN was born in VA about 1690.
- + 52 v. ESTHER LITTLETON was born 1697.

SUSANNA ANDREWS and STEPHEN MAXFIELD had the following child:

- + 53 vi. JOSEPH MAXFIELD was born about 1711.



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52. ESTHER<sup>s</sup> LITTLETON (SUSANNA<sup>t</sup> ANDREWS, WILLIAM<sup>3</sup>, WILLIAM<sup>2</sup>, JOHN<sup>1</sup>) (#13193) was born in Northampton Co., VA 1697. ESTHER died before September 11, 1764 in Northampton Co., VA, at approximately 67 years of age.

She married THOMAS SAVAGE (Jr.). (THOMAS SAVAGE (Jr.) is #13236.) THOMAS was born in Northampton Co., VA about 1691. THOMAS was the son of THOMAS SAVAGE (Capt.) and ELICIA HARMANSON. THOMAS died before April 12, 1737 at approximately 45 years of age. He made a will in Northampton Co., VA, May 30, 1736.

She made a will in Northampton Co., VA, May 27, 1763.

ESTHER LITTLETON and THOMAS SAVAGE (Jr.) had the following children:

- + 90 i. NATHANIEL LITTLETON<sup>6</sup> SAVAGE was born May 6, 1726.
- + 91 ii. THOMAS SAVAGE (III) (#13302) was born in Northampton Co., VA about 1728. THOMAS died after December 19, 1795 at approximately 67 years of age. He married ELIZABETH BELL. (ELIZABETH BELL is #13586.) ELIZABETH was the daughter of EZEKIEL BELL. Thomas enlisted in the Continental Army on March 19, 1778, in Capt. Adam Wallace's company, 5th Virginia Regiment.
- + 92 iii. MARGARET SAVAGE was born about 1729.
- + 93 iv. SARAH SAVAGE was born about 1731.
- + 94 v. HANNAH SAVAGE (#13305) was born in Northampton Co., VA about 1735. She married JAMES MURRAY in Northampton Co., VA, May 16, 1764. (JAMES MURRAY is #13596.) JAMES was born Dorchester Co., MD January 28, 1733. James served as a member of the convention assembled July 26, 1775 that replaced the proprietary government with a provisional government and was a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1776.



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ghosts of Virginia

# Eastern Shore History

## Commissioners and Clerks

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A Selection of Short Biographies  
taken from the Introduction to  
County Court Records of Accomack-Northampton, Virginia 1640-1645  
by Susie M. Ames [(c) Virginia Historical Society, 1973]  
Permission to quote has been requested.

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### Commissioners

Nathaniel Littleton  
Argoll Yeardley  
Obedience Robins  
William Stone  
William Burdett  
William Andrews  
William Roper  
John Neale  
Stephen Charlton  
John Wilkins  
Philip Taylor  
Edward Douglas  
Edmund Scarborough

### Clerks of the Court

George Dawe  
Thomas Cooke  
Edwin Conway

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IN MOST INSTANCES, the Accomack-Northampton County court records for the period covered by this volume speak for themselves. But inasmuch as the proceedings afford but little personal data respecting the officials of the court, the following brief biographical sketches are offered as an introduction to the transcribed records.

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## COMMISSIONERS

Nathaniel Littleton, whose name is first listed as a commissioner at the May court of 1637, succeeded the deceased John Howe to the title of commander at the May court of 1638.(1) His social, intellectual, and political background eminently qualified him to play a leading role in the life of the community. One of his ancestors, Sir Thomas Littleton, was the celebrated jurist and author of Tenures. His father, Sir Edward Littleton, served as chief justice of North Wales, and his eldest brother, Lord Littleton of Munslow, was chief justice of the common pleas and lord keeper of the great seal in England. Littleton, "a gentleman of the Earl of Southampton's Company in the Low Countries,1625," migrated to Virginia in 1635 and established himself on the Eastern Shore.(2) He married Ann, the widow of Charles Harmer and the daughter of Henry Southey, and thus united two families of social distinction and landed wealth. (3) Littleton achieved the pinnacle of colonial prominence in 1641 upon being appointed to the Virginia Council.(4) He died in 1654, generally regarded as the foremost planter on the Eastern Shore.

Argoll Yeardley, the elder son of Sir George Yeardley, governor of Virginia, in 1638 repatented 3,700 acres of land on the Eastern Shore, the patent reciting, that the land had been "graunted to Sir George Yeardley, Kt.... by order of the Court, 9 May 1623."(5) Yeardley presided over the Accomack County court in June 1640 with the title of commander and continued in that capacity until the spring of 1645, an assignment presumably occasioned by the absence in England of Nathaniel Littleton. Yeardley as early as January 1639 was serving on the Virginia Council. But in February 1644 proceedings were instituted against "Col. Argoll Yardly of the Council" for contempt. He was subsequently reinstated in his high post. Yeardley was married twice, his second wife being Ann Custis, whom he brought to Virginia along with her brother John.(6) He died intestate before October 29, 1655, at which time an appraisal of his estate was returned.(7)

Obedience Robins, who was born in 1600 in Northamptonshire, England, was listed in 1627 as a "chirugion" in Accomack.(8) He was one of the commissioners at the earliest Accomack County court for which records survive, that of January 7, 1632/33, and continued in that office until his death in 1662 (9) Like his associates on the court, he was a large landowner, patenting in all a total of 4,450 acres.(10) Robins also represented Accomack County in the Virginia General Assembly sessions of March 1629/30, January 1639/40, April 1642, October 1644, and April and November 1652. An ardent Parliamentarian, he was appointed to the Virginia Council in 1655.(11)

William Stone, like Obedience Robins a native of Northamptonshire, England, migrated to Virginia before 1628. He was on the Eastern Shore by 1629 and in 1633 was serving as a commissioner on the Accomack court.(12) He became in 1634 the first sheriff of Accomack County and served again in that capacity in 1640 and in 1646.(13) Stone, married to Verlinda Graves, daughter of Virginia Company member Thomas Graves, was influential in the religious and official life of the community and was successful in finding local and overseas markets for his cattle and tobacco.(14) He had patented by 1640 a total of 5,250 acres of land.(15) Stone in 1648 became the third proprietary governor of Maryland.

William Burdett arrived in Virginia in 1615 when only sixteen years old and in 1624 was listed as a servant in the household of the Accomack commander.(15) Burdett became a commissioner and a vestryman and in 1639 and 1641 represented the area in the House of Burgesses at Jamestown.(16) In the 1640s he took care of the cattle inherited by William Shrimpton from Lady Dale's estate on the Eastern Shore. Although he patented 1,550 acres of land, the records indicate that he was deeply in debt at the time of his death in 1643.(17)

William Andrews, like William Burdett, was an "ancient" planter and was established as early as 1623 on the Eastern Shore.(18) The "antiquity of his knowledge" was cited, for example, in connection with a

1623 claim by Sir George Yeardley to land at Mattawames.(19) Andrews himself owned land on each of the southernmost creeks of the area, Old Plantation, King's, Hungar's, and Nuswattocks.(20) He became a commissioner in 1633. (21)

William Roper first appears as a commissioner at the May court of 1637.(22) But earlier, in 1636, he had been elected to the House of Burgesses, had been listed as a candidate for the office of sheriff, and had been successfully designated lieutenant and captain.(23) His patent, only 150 acres and the smallest holding of any of the commissioners, was on a small neck of land with a water-front location.(24) There he seemingly carried on a profitable trade in Chesapeake waters, often with settlers in Maryland. His wife, Katherine (Graves) Roper, a daughter of the "ancient adventurer" Thomas Graves, was sister to Verlinda (Graves) Stone, the wife of his fellow commissioner, William Stone.(25)

John Neale, a merchant who had first settled in Elizabeth City, was present as a commissioner of the Accomack court in February 1640.(26) He had become a member of the Accomack vestry in 1636, and in 1639 and 1641 had represented the county in the House of Burgesses.(27) Neale held patents to large tracts of land on both the Atlantic and Chesapeake sides of the Eastern Shore peninsula at points well located for trade.(28)

Stephen Charlton, a member of the first vestry of 1635, was added to the court commission in 1640.(29) He served as a member of the House of Burgesses in 1645 and again in 1653.(30) In the Northampton Protest of 1652, a remonstrance against county taxation without adequate representation in the Virginia General Assembly and also a petition for the redress of various grievances, the name of Stephen Charlton headed the list.(31) His commercial ventures, begun with New England early in the 1630's, were later extended to trade with the Dutch.(32) Charlton patented a total Of 3,950 acres of land on the Eastern Shore before his death in 1654.(33)

John Wilkins was first appointed a commissioner on the Accomack court in 1633 and was appointed to the Accomack vestry in 1635.(34) He patented 500 acres of land on the Eastern Shore in 1637 and by 1640 had added an additional 600 acres to his holdings.(35) Wilkins in 1641 represented the Eastern Shore in the House of Burgesses. His will, proved January 29, 1650/51, recited that he was returning to England and feared that something might happen to him during the journey, which appears to have been the case.(36) Philip Taylor was appointed a commissioner by the governor and council in June 1642.(37) He became sheriff of the county the following year. Inasmuch as his own residence had to serve as the jail, he petitioned the county court to erect a structure for that purpose at public expense.(38) Taylor also represented the county in the House of Burgesses at the March 1642/43 session." Numerous records survive as testimonials to his energy and initiative. He was the chief lieutenant of William Claiborne, for example, during the Kent Island controversy. By order of the General Court in 1640, the Accomack court could determine cases "not exceeding the sum of twenty pounds sterling."(39) But two years later a case involving forty pounds in a debt presented on behalf of William Claiborne by Taylor was referred by the governor and council to the Northampton (previously Accomack) court.(40) Taylor's career was marked by conflicts not only with settlers in Maryland but also with the Indians. He held patents to 1,500 acres of land on the Eastern Shore.(41)

Edward Douglas was appointed a commissioner in June 1642.(42) He was then about fifty-two years of age.(43) Little information about him can be located, but depositions survive indicating that he was resident on the Eastern Shore as early as 1637.(44) Douglas in 1646 served in the House of Burgesses from Northampton County.(45)

The appearance of Edmund Scarburgh as a commissioner at the October court of 1643 is an early instance of a son, within the interval of one decade, following in the official footsteps of his father. Captain Edmund Scarburgh, the father, arrived in Virginia about 1621 and by 1630 was established on

the Eastern Shore. In the early 1630s he represented Accomack at three sessions of the Virginia General Assembly and in 1632 became a member of the Accomack court commission.(46) He died in 1635. Edmund Scarburgh, the son, received legal training in England and at the time of his appointment to the court in 1643 was the youngest member of the commission. Scarburgh represented Northampton County in the fruitful General Assembly of March 1642/43 and in subsequent sessions of that body.(47) He was elected speaker of the General Assembly in November 1645.(48) He also held the office of sheriff of Northampton County and, though not officially commissioned until 1666, served as surveyor general of Virginia from 1655 until his death in 1671.(49) Scarburgh died seized of over 30,000 acres of land. A planter and merchant, Scarburgh traded extensively in Holland, New England, Maryland, and the West Indies.(50) One of his seagoing vessels, Artillery, was owned in partnership with General Edward Gibbons of Boston.(51) Scarburgh, moreover, operated a shoe-manufacturing establishment and erected a salt work from which shipments were dispatched to other areas.(52) A staunch Royalist, he took the leadership in numerous political developments, including the framing of the Northampton Protest of 1652, aimed against taxation without adequate representation in the Virginia General Assembly.(53) In 1663 he was instrumental in the division of the Eastern Shore of Virginia into the two counties of Accomack and Northampton.(54) He later served, in consort with Philip Calvert representing Maryland, as the Virginia commissioner charged with determining the boundary line between Virginia and Maryland east of the Chesapeake Bay.(55) Scarburgh's career was enlivened by conflicts with the Indians, Dutch, Quakers, Marylanders, and Puritans.(56) A man of strong convictions and determined will, he was one of the most forceful personalities in the colony of Virginia.

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## CLERKS OF THE COURT

The proper administration of justice hinged not only on the integrity, abilities, and industry of the court commissioners themselves but also on the maintenance of adequate records covering their proceedings. This was the responsibility of the clerk of the court. George Dawe succeeded Henry Bagwell in this capacity in 1637 and served until August 1639, whereupon Bagwell reassumed the assignment, serving through the May court of 1640.(57) The handwriting of the proceedings of the July court of 1640 suggests that Dawe temporarily returned to the post on that occasion. He was reported deceased, however, at the January court of 1640/41.(58) Dawe remains a somewhat obscure figure, but was probably a prote'ge' of Nathaniel Littleton, under whose auspices he was transported to the colony.(59)

Dawe's successor, Thomas Cooke "of James Cittie," served as clerk of the court until the spring of 1642.(60) He apparently had been in Virginia for a number of years inasmuch as he is listed as one of the headrights for a patent purchased by Richard Kempt from George Menefie in 1638.(61)

Edwin Conway was commissioned clerk of the court by Governor Francis Wyatt on March 21, 1642. His signature, followed by the title Clericus Curiae, first appears in the records on April 27, 1642.(62) He is said to have come to Accomack in 1640 from Worcestershire, England.(63) Conway later removed to Lancaster County, on Virginia's Northern Neck, where in 1652 he patented 1,000 acres of land.(64)

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## NOTES

(1) Susie M. Ames, ed., *County Court Records of Accomack-Northampton, Virginia, 1632-1640* (Washington, D.C., 1954), 105.

(2) *William and Mary Quarterly*, 1st ser., IX (1900-1901), 62.

- (3) Annie L. Jester and Martha W. Hiden, *Adventurers of Purse and Person, Virginia, 1607-1625* (Princeton, 1956), 310-11.
- (4) H. R. McIlwaine, ed., *Minutes of the Council and General Court of Virginia* (Richmond, 1924), 498.
- (5) Jester and Hiden, *Adventurers of Purse and Person*, 378.
- (6) *Ibid.*, 378-79.
- (7) *Ibid.*
- (8) McIlwaine, *Minutes of the Council*, 159.
- (9) Ames, *County Court Records*, I.
- (10) Nell Marian Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers: Abstracts of Virginia Land Patents and Grants, 1623-1800* (Richmond, 1934), 84, 152, 224-25, 401, 407.
- (11) William Waller Hening, ed., *The Statutes at Large, Being a Collection of All the Laws of Virginia* (Richmond, New York, and Philadelphia, 1809-23), I, 149, 236, 283, 370, 374, 408; "Minutes of the Council and General Court, 1622-29," *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, XXVIII (1920), 326.
- (12) *Dictionary of American Biography*, XVIII, 87-88; Ames, *County Court Records*, 7-8.
- (13) Ames, *County Court Records*, 17-18.
- (14) Ames, *County Court Records*, xxx-xxxii; Jester and Hiden, *Adventurers of Purse and Person*, 188.
- (15) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 27-28; Susie M. Ames, *Studies of the Eastern Shore of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century* (Richmond, 1940), 23.
- (16) Ames, *County Court Records*, 7-8, 39, 153.
- (17) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 111, 129; Ames, *County Court Records*, 144.
- (18) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, xxxiii; John Camden Hotten, ed., *The Original Lists of Persons of Quality ... Who Went from Great Britain to the American Plantations, 1600-1700* (London, 1874), 264.
- (19) Northampton County, *Orders, Deeds, Wills, &c.*, II, f. 17.
- (20) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 13, 23, 31, 163, 300.
- (21) Ames, *County Court Records*, 7-8.
- (22) *Ibid.*, 71.
- (23) *Ibid.*, 58, 64

- (24) *Ibid.*, 36, 81.
- (25) Jester and Hiden, *Adventurers of Purse and Person*, 190.
- (26) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 18; Ames, *County Court Records*, 159.
- (27) Ames, *County Court Records*, 54, 153.
- (28) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 43, 54, 55, 68, 80, 225.
- (29) Ames, *County Court Records*, 39, 159.
- (30) Lyon G. Tyler, ed., *Encyclopedia of Virginia Biography* (New York, 1915), I, 207.
- (31) Northampton County, *Deeds, Wills, &c.*, IV, ff. 67-68.
- (32) David P. DeVries, *Voyages from Holland to America* (New York, 1853), 63-64; Ames, *County Court Records*, 22-23.
- (33) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 78, 82, 129, 200, 412.
- (34) Ames, *County Court Records*, 7-8, 39.
- (35) Jester and Hiden, *Adventurers of Purse and Person*, 356-57; Ames, *County Court Records*, 56; Morgan P. Robinson, "Wilkins," *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, XXV (1917), 404.
- (36) Jester and Hiden, *Adventurers of Purse and Person*, 357.
- (37) Northampton County, *Orders, Deeds, Wills, &c.*, II, f. 88
- (38) *Ibid.*, ff. 161, 168.
- (39) Hening, *Statutes at Large*, I, 239.
- (40) McIlwaine, *Minutes of the Council*, 474, 483, 492; Northampton County, *Orders, Deeds, Wills, &c.*, II, f. 101.
- (41) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 74, 150.
- (42) Northampton County, *Orders, Deeds, Wills, &c.*, II, f. 88.
- (43) Ames, *County Court Records*, 167.
- (44) *Ibid.*, 73-74.
- (45) Hening, *Statutes at Large*, 1, 325.
- (46) Ames, *County Court Records*, xxvii.

- (47) Hening. Statutes at Large, I, 239, 289.
- (48) Ibid., 299.
- (49) Jennings C. Wise, *Ye Kingdome of Accawmacke* (Richmond, 1911), 85.
- (50) Northampton County, Deeds, Wills, IV, 41; Berthold Fernow, ed., *Documents Relative to the Colonial History of New York* (Albany, 1877), XII, 94; Accomack County, Wills, V, 22.
- (51) *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, V (I 897-98), 3 9.
- (52) Northampton County, Order Book, VIII, 153; Accomack County, Deeds and Wills, I, 53, III, 98-99.
- (53) Northampton County, Deeds, Wills, IV, ff. 67-68.
- (54) *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, I (1893-94), 289-92.
- (55) William Hand Browne, ed., *Proceedings of the Council of Maryland, 1667-1687/8* (Baltimore, 1887), 44-45.
- (56) For additional biographical data on Scarburgh, see Ames, *Studies of the Virginia Eastern Shore in the Seventeenth Century*, passim.
- (57) Ames, *County Court Records*, xxii-xxiii.
- (58) Northampton County, Orders, Deeds, Wills, &c., II, f. 27.
- (59) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 327.
- (60) Northampton County, Orders, Deeds, Wills, &c., II, f. 76.
- (61) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 104.
- (62) Northampton County, Orders, Deeds, Wills, &c., II, f. 76.
- (63) Wise, *Ye Kingdome of Accawmacke*, 100.
- (64) Nugent, *Cavaliers and Pioneers*, 271.

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*Barbara Cox [bgcox@ix.netcom.com](mailto:bgcox@ix.netcom.com)*

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## Littleton

Nathaniel Littleton's father was Sir Edward Littleton of Henley, county Shropshire, Chief Justice of North Wales, who married Mary daughter of Sir Edward Ludlow, also Chief Justice of North Wales. He died in 1621. Nathaniel Littleton came to Virginia in 1635 and was one of the gentleman in the company of the Earl of Southampton in the Low Countries in 1625. In 1638 Colonel Nathaniel Littleton purchased a tract of land from Colonel Edmund Scarborough. In 1640 he was Commander of Chief Magistrate of Accomack. In 1648 he was joint collector of revenues for Northampton County with Colonel Scarborough. In 1652 he was a Burgess.

Henry Southey, father of Ann, was a resident in Accomack as early as 1636. In 1640 it was recorded that Nathaniel Littleton and his father-in-law Henry Southey owned 13 slaves and that the former sold one for 1200 pounds of tobacco. Ann Littleton died in 1656 in Northampton County on a plantation of Magothy Bay. Her inventory revealed a great amount of handsome furniture and fine clothes.

From "Royal Descent of 500 Immigrants" by Gary B. Roberts

1. Henry IV, King of England = Mary de Bohun
2. Humphrey Plantagenet, Duke of Gloucester = Eleanor Cobham
3. Antigone Plantagenet = Henry Grey
4. Elizabeth Grey = Sir Roger Kynaston
5. Jane Kynaston = Roger Thornes
6. John Thornes = Elizabeth Astley
7. Richard Thornes = Margaret
8. Alice Thornes = John Lyttleton
9. Sir Edward Lyttleton = Mary Walter
10. Nathaniel Littleton = Anne Southey