THE FALSE AND POSSIBLY TRUE ENGLISH ORIGIN OF RICHARD\textsuperscript{1} TAYLOR OF OLD RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY, VIRGINIA

By Nathaniel Lane Taylor

Genealogy abhors a vacuum. Genealogists at any level like to turn over as many stones as possible. But when confronted with a subject of unknown parentage, too many of us will find any secondary source that assigns some parents, and in go the names. Of the eighteen entries in the WorldConnect Internet pedigree database collection for Richard\textsuperscript{1} Taylor, a planter who died in 1679 in Old Rappahannock County, Virginia, fourteen blithely assign parentage to him.\textsuperscript{1} Eight follow one amateur genealogical book published in 1985 by Mary Taylor Brewer of Wooton, Kentucky, in naming his father as John Taylor of Lancaster County (d. 1651/2).\textsuperscript{2} The other six follow an older tradition, first circulated in the 1920s in a short typescript by Mary Taylor Logan of Louisville, Kentucky, making him son of another Richard Taylor, an “ancient planter” found in the borough of Charles City on the James River in the Muster Roll of 1624/5.\textsuperscript{3}

Neither of these two claims has ever been supported by evidence, and one of them can be promptly excluded. John Taylor of Lancaster County (the original Northern Neck county) did in fact leave a son Richard, as well as a daughter Elizabeth, subsequently married to Simon Sallard. However, the son Richard died

\textsuperscript{1} A free-access site accumulating user-submitted gedcom files, online at \texttt{<http://worldconnect\_genealogy.rootsweb.com>}; data polled as of 8 Aug. 2007.


\textsuperscript{3} Mary Taylor Logan, “Taylor,” typescript (Louisville, Ky., ca. 1926), 14 pp. (hereafter cited as Logan, “Taylor”). Mrs. Logan’s work, though never printed, appears to be the earliest source of this claimed parentage, which gradually diffused among descendants of the Kentucky branches of this family. This manuscript is available on this author’s website at \texttt{<www.nltaylor.net/taylor/MTLogan_1926.pdf>}. 
intestate before 22 May 1669, when his sister Elizabeth Sallard was found to be his sole heir. The book that makes this claim for Richard of Old Rappahannock County simply says that John had two sons named Richard; it further alleges that John was also father of the founders of two other Virginia Taylor families—James Taylor of New Kent (subsequently King and Queen) County, ancestor of President Zachary Taylor; and Andrew Taylor of Spotsylvania County. While no evidence is presented for any of these filiations, similarly no evidence is presented for John Taylor’s claimed English ancestry—a line extending back to Reverend Rowland Taylor, chaplain to Archbishop Thomas Cranmer, and rector of Hadleigh, Suffolk, who was burned at the stake on 9 February 1555 as a Protestant under Queen Mary, and who was enshrined as one of the heroes of early Protestant martyrology.

The James River parentage claim is similarly based on groundless assumptions. Richard Taylor, the “ancient planter” on the James, was an older man (aged 50) with a young wife Dorothy and infant daughter Mary, in the “corporation of Charles Cittie” at the time of the Muster Roll of 1624/5. He may have subsequently had a son Richard, as there was a man of that name in Charles City County in the 1650s. (The younger Richard Taylor of Charles City County, who also had a wife Sarah, is sometimes identified with Richard Taylor of Old Rappahannock County; but he was somewhat older and completely distinct.) By way

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7 Virginia Lee Hutcheson Davis, Tidewater Families, 2nd ed. (Baltimore, 1990), 566–70. In a detailed sketch of the younger Richard Taylor of Charles City Co., she mentioned Richard the “ancient planter” but, responsibly, did not make much of the possible connection.
of English origins, the “ancient planter” Richard has been grafted onto an armigerous Taylor family of Kent, which was in turn made to descend from “Taillefer,” said in some medieval narratives to be a minstrel who accompanied William the Conqueror at the Battle of Hastings in 1066.8 This Kentish family is found in a Tudor visitation.9 The alleged connection to “Taillefer” of the Conquest was probably not invented by Americans: it may have derived from the work of Kentish antiquary Edward Hasted (1732–1812).10 But Mary Taylor Logan, who attached this Kentish ancestry to Richard Taylor of Old Rappahannock County, apparently did not know that the same “Taillefer”–Kent lineage had already been claimed for another American Taylor family, in New Jersey.11 A member of this New Jersey Taylor family had returned to England after the Revolution, received a grant of a coat of arms in 1823, and appeared in an 1838 Burke’s Commoners volume,12 claiming the same Kentish armigerous lineage. Ironically, the claim of the New Jersey family to belong to the Kent Visitation family appears to have been based on the deliberate misreading of a will and the New Jersey family’s origins are unknown.13

Against these picturesque ancestral claims it is small wonder that more sober work admitting that Richard Taylor of Old Rappahannock County’s parentage is unknown has been ignored, even though such conclusions have also been in print since the 1920s.14 With a common surname like Taylor, and no Virginia record showing any particular connection across the water or elsewhere in the Tidewater, the assumption should surely be that we have reached a dead end.

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8 See the Anglo-Norman poet Wace, Roman de Rou, 3 vols. (Paris, 1971), line 8013 et seq.
9 W. Bruce Bannerman, ed., The Visitations of Kent, Taken in the Years 1574 and 1592 by Robert Cooke, Clarenceux, Harleian Society Pubs., 75 (London, 1924):112.
10 Mary Taylor Logan stated that in 1923 she “spent a week in the British Museum collecting all the data that could be obtained of the Taylors in England” (Logan, “Taylor,” 1). She quotes from a manuscript by “Mr. Hasted” (perhaps British Library, Add. MS 5520, f. 96).
11 Elisha Taylor, Genealogy of Judge John Taylor and His Descendants (Detroit, Mich., 1886).
13 This was exposed very quietly by John E. Stillwell, Historical and Genealogical Miscellany Data: Relating to the Settlement and Settlers of New York and New Jersey, 5 vols. (New York, 1903–32), 5:43–44.
Onomastic evidence, however, does suggest a previously unnoticed possible parentage for Richard\textsuperscript{1} Taylor of Old Rappahannock County. Without proof, is it helpful to publish a speculative new theory, or is it in some ways just as irresponsible as disseminating old, groundless fantasies? In other words, will we have gained or will we have lost if, five years from now, the speculation proposed here—which is very far from proved—will nevertheless account for, say, one third of all online database entries which present a parentage for our Richard Taylor? On the premise that speculation, if responsibly presented, is an essential component of genealogical discourse—however it may be misused by some readers—I here present new evidence for a possible parentage and ancestry of Richard Taylor of Old Rappahannock County, Virginia, followed by a genealogical summary of the first generations in Virginia, which corrects and expands existing accounts in print.

Richard Taylor first appears in Old Rappahannock County on 12 March 1662/3, as witness to a deed by which Colonel Moore Fauntleroy (a wealthy planter on the north side of the Rappahannock) bought 2,600 acres on the west side of Farnham Creek.\textsuperscript{15} The Fauntleroy connection is important in two ways: first, a year later, on 9 July 1664, following Fauntleroy’s death, among other financial judgments, the county court ordered 800 pounds of tobacco to be paid to Richard Taylor for servant’s wages from the Fauntleroy estate.\textsuperscript{16} We will return to Colonel Fauntleroy in a moment.

Richard Taylor’s next appearance reveals another important connection. On 7 September 1664, a Richard Taylor witnessed the sale by William Barber to Francis Settle of land on Totuskey Creek, adjacent to land of Edward Lewis.\textsuperscript{17} Among other occasional mentions we then find a receipt on 22 May 1668 by one William

\textsuperscript{15} Old Rappahannock Co., Va., Deeds, Wills and Records, 1(1656–64):216–17 [Family History Library (FHL), Salt Lake City, film #1,929,926]; transcribed in Ruth and Sam Sparacio, \textit{Deed Abstracts of Old Rappahannock County, Virginia: Part II of 1656–1664 Transcript: Records, Deeds, Wills and Settlements of Estates, Part II, 3 July 1662–3 May 1665} (McLean, Va., 1989), 23. Taylor also witnessed a power of attorney related to the sale, bearing the same date. Throughout this article, the published Sparacio abstracts of Northern Neck county records are cited alongside the FHL films of the original books they abstract. Because the titles of the Sparacio abstracts of the Old Rappahannock Co. records are long and confusing, they are given in full. These abstracts are not particularly terse—ordinarily they approach full transcriptions—and I consider them to be reasonably faithful and complete. For many readers, however, it will be easier to obtain the original manuscripts than the Sparacio abstracts, which are not themselves available to consult on FHL microfilm.


Leer acknowledging delivery by “Richard Tailer, planter,” of one hogshead of tobacco, perhaps suggesting a stage on the path from youthful servant to established planter. On 1 May 1671, Richard Taylor did become a landowner, purchasing a plantation of two-hundred acres “situated and lying upon the north side of Rappahannock abutting upon the land of Edward Lewis” from John and Sarah Suggett, for 3500 pounds of tobacco. That Edward Lewis was a neighbor is important because Richard Taylor’s son Simon Taylor would marry Elizabeth Lewis, oldest daughter of Edward Lewis. As there are no other land transactions recorded in Richard Taylor’s name, it is logical to assume that the two-hundred-acre tract purchased from Suggett, abutting Edward Lewis’s land, is the same two hundred acres which Richard Taylor would dispose in his will. The will is what firmly establishes the continuity of this family thereafter:

I Richard Taylor, being sick . . . give to my sonne Richard & my sonne Symon my plantation and the land therunto belonging, being two hundred acres, and if my sonne Richard when he come to age will sell unto his brother Symon his part that then his brother shall give him five thousand pounds of Tobacco, and if not, then the land and plantation to be equally devided, and to cast lotts both of them for their shares. . . . [T]o each of them two cows with all their increase, both male and female, to take their choice. . . . [T]o my daughter Constance seaven head of catle, five female with all their increase both male and female, and two steeres; and one mare. [T]o my sonne Richard one mare, and to my sonne Symon one mare; and if any of them miscarry betwixt this and the last of May then what of them remainse to be equally devided amongst my three children. [T]o my loveing wife Sarah, one gelding and 23 head of catle, and all the rest of my estate; and [I] make her my sole executrix.

My desire is, I understanding my wife to be in a very weak condition that my loveing neighbours John English, Peter Ellis, Edward Friar would one a week give my children advice, and that they may be kept upon the plantation with my servant, and in case my wife should die, then I appointe & ordaine my loveing friend Colonne Leroy Griffin sole executor . . . Hand & seale 22 March 1678/9.

The names of the three children are important. Simon was not among the more frequent given names in the seventeenth century, and Constance was even

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As it turns out, Simon and Constance would both marry and are easily traced in the records of Old Rappahanock (by then Richmond) County—both Constance and Simon have countless living descendants—but the son Richard is lost among potential duplicates, or may not have lived long into adulthood.

Looking backward, it is also the unusual name Simon and the early connection to Moore Fauntleroy (Richard’s former employer) that provides the first clue to earlier origins. In the Northern Neck, and perhaps in all of colonial Virginia, the name Simon Taylor occurs only once before Richard gave it to his son. On 22 May 1650, Moore Fauntleroy had a land patent for 3,650 acres on the Rappahanock, granted in recognition of the transportation to the colonies of 107 persons, including a Simon Taylor. The coincidence of two men associated with Fauntleroy—and perhaps both in his employ—is a strong indicator that Simon of 1650 and Richard of the 1660s—father of another Simon—may have been related. It appears that Richard’s three children were born between about 1663 and 1671, so Richard would likely have been a boy in 1650 and Simon, if an adult, could have been that boy’s father.

Just how rare a name was Simon Taylor? The International Genealogical Index [IGI] was consulted to gauge roughly the frequency of persons named Simon Taylor baptized or married in England in this period. The IGI contains (as of 8 August 2007) precisely 105 entries for a “Simon Taylor” baptized or married in England from 1600 to 1650 (inclusive), though these entries concern—at most—fifty-one distinct individuals. Among these entries, one event (in two duplicate

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21 On name frequencies, see Scott Smith-Bannister, *Names and Naming Patterns in England, 1538–1700* (Oxford, 1997), especially in the appendix titled “The Fifty Most Common Names in Forty English Parishes,” which lists them by decade for the period 1538 to 1700. Simon is 29th in rank in the 1600s, 27th in the 1610s, 34th in the 1620s, below 50th in the 1630s, 38th in the 1640s, and 32nd in the 1650s. Smith-Bannister gives no actual frequencies in his rank tables, though it is clear that Simon is a marginal name and also declining in use throughout his period. Virginia Davis, “The Popularity of Late Medieval Personal Names as Reflected in English Ordination Lists, 1350–1540,” in Dave Postles and Joel T. Rosenthal, eds., *Studies on the Personal Name in Later Medieval England and Wales* (Kalamazoo, Mich., 2006), 103–14, at 111, wrote of Simon that “[b]y the second half of the fifteenth century this rather old-fashioned name had dropped out of the top twenty, though it briefly scraped back again in the early sixteenth century before disappearing from the mid-sixteenth-century lists” [of the top twenty names]. Smith-Bannister ranks Constance in 50th place in 1600–10, and below 50th in subsequent decades (though it attains 47th place in the 1660s).


23 It is important to remember that the 1650 grant merely represents a terminus ante quem for Simon Taylor’s passage to Virginia. A man listed as a headright might have immigrated years earlier, and the recipient of the certificate was not necessarily the original sponsor of the passage. On the timing and commodification of headrights and headright grants, see Edmund S. Morgan, “Headrights and Head Counts: a Review Article,” *Va. Mag. of Hist. and Biog.* 80(1972):361–71.
entries) stood out provocatively: the record of a marriage, dated 14 June 1641, of a Simon Taylor to a Constance Berryson at Stanford-on-Soar, Nottinghamshire. Simon and Constance together, two rare forenames, were both given to his children in the 1660s–1670s by a man who, by chronology, could have been born to this couple in the early 1640s. Were this Nottinghamshire couple the parents of Richard? Was the groom, Simon, the headright of 1650? In hopes of finding evidence to confirm or exclude this possibility, this marriage record became the focus of English research.

Now, the sources for both these IGI entries were not extractions from the original parish register, but records of Latter-day Saints sacramental activity—that is, information submitted by patrons from unrecorded sources. However, since one of the two records is explicitly flagged as a marriage license, we turned to a published index of Nottinghamshire marriage licenses in this period, and indeed found the record. Unfortunately the Stanford-on-Soar parish register, while it preserves a few entries from the 1630s and from 1649 to 1652, is only fragmentary prior to 1660. This marriage, if it took place at Stanford, is not found in the register. Nevertheless the bond and license, from the Archdeaconry of Nottingham, did unequivocally name both groom and bride as of Stanford, and identify Simon Taylor as a yeoman, and show (from a signature on the original bond) that he was at least marginally literate.

The marriage is not found in the fragmentary Stanford-on-Soar parish register, and neither, before or after, is any recorded event for a Taylor or Berryson. No likely corresponding records of baptism of Simon Taylor or Constance Berryson

24 The sources of these patron submissions were listed as batches of data derived from “Endowments for the Dead” and “Baptisms for the Dead” dated 28 July 1954, and “Sealings for the Dead” dated 10 Feb. 1955. The question was whether the source of Mormon “Temple work” was any sort of compiled pedigree showing descendants of this marriage. The absence of any group sheet for this Simon Taylor among the FHL archived “family group sheets” prior to 1969 suggests that this was not the case; examination of the IGI batches in which these records are found suggests that the name was drawn from lists of marriages and that the initiator(s) of the Mormon sacramental processes likely did not possess any independent genealogical information for this couple. On pursuing such patron submissions see the helpful document, “Tracing LDS Families: Research Outline: Temple Work,” online at <www.familysearch.org/Eng/Search/RG/guide/LDSRec20.asp> (accessed 20 Nov. 2006).


26 Archdeaconry of Nottingham (Diocese of York): Marriage Allegations, 1641–65 [FHL film #592,745].

27 The register was searched first in its published form (Phillimore’s Parish Register Series, v. 33: Nottinghamshire, v. 5 [London, 1903]), then in the Bishops’ Transcripts [FHL film #503,816], then via search of the original register on film at the Society of Genealogists (the FHL does not have the original registers on film).
are found in the IGI. Similarly, the probate index for the Archdeaconry of Nottinghamshire (diocese of York) yielded no Simon Taylor. The next step was to pursue the apparently very rare surname of “Berryson.” The name is so rare in the IGI that it results in only thirty-eight hits for the entire British Isles, from the sixteenth century to the present. However, two of these IGI records for Berryson are extracted baptisms from the parish of Hathern in Leicestershire, across the river Soar only two miles west of Stanford-on-Soar. The original register for Hathern revealed that these Berrysons (among a host of other spelling variants found in the IGI batch for that parish) are actually all “Berringtons.” Constance Berrington herself is clearly evident in the register. The addition of seven seventeenth-century Berrington wills from Hathern or nearby parishes in the Archdeaconry of Leicester allows a comprehensive reconstruction of the extended Berrington family in this period (no Berrington wills are found in Nottinghamshire).

Here follow the Taylor and Berrington records found in the parish register of Hathern, Leicestershire (from the beginning of the register in the 1560s down to 1670):

**Baptism**: 1. 1582 Thomas Berrington the sonne of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the xvij\textsuperscript{th} day of Aprill 2. 1587 Dorothy Berrington the daughter of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the ij\textsuperscript{th} day of Aprill 3. 1591 Alice Berrington the daughter of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the xxx\textsuperscript{th} day of March 4. 1609 Edward Berrington the sonne of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the xix\textsuperscript{th} day of November 5. 1611/2 Francis Berrington the daughter of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the xvijth day of January 6. 1613 Cathrine Berrington the daughter of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the xxij\textsuperscript{th} day of November 7. 1616 Constance Berrington the daughter of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the ffift day of November

\[\text{The IGI does contain approximate records for the birth/baptism of this same Simon Taylor “of” Stanford-on-Soar in 1616, likely guessed by the submitter based only on an average age of 25 at marriage for men. See below for the Simon Taylor bp. at Lockington, Leicestershire, in 1612.}\]

\[\text{Henry Hartopp,} \textit{Calendars of Wills and Administrations Relating to the County of Leicestershire, Proved in the Archdeaconry Court of Leicester, 1495–1649}. \ldots, \text{Index Library, 27(London, 1902)}; \text{and} \textit{Index to the Wills and Administrations Proved and Granted in the Archdeaconry Court of Leicester, 1660–1750}. \ldots, \text{Index Library, 51(London, 1920)}. \text{Original Berrington wills from this parish or neighboring ones, in the probate series of the Archdeaconry of Leicester: Edward, 1642 [FHL film #1,520,114]; Thomas, 1648 [FHL film #1,520,115]; Matthew, 1661 [FHL film #1,520,117]; George, 1663 [FHL film #1,520,118]; Thomas, 1669 [FHL film #1,520,120]; Edward, 1684 [FHL film #1,520,147]; Jennings, 1689 [FHL film #1,520,148].}\]

\[\text{Hathern, Leicestershire, Parish Register [FHL film #952,299].}\]

\[\text{The IGI baptismal entries which purport to be extracted from the original register (IGI batch C059342) include two entries which I did not find in the original register: Patientia, daughter of Thome [sic] Berrington, bp. 21 Oct. 1577; and Jone daughter of Thomas “Berison,” bp. 1 Feb. 1607 [i.e., 1607/8?]. It is possible that these may be found in the Bishops’ Transcripts or substantially out of sequence in the original register.}\]

1617  Thomas Berrington the sonne of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the ixth day of December
1619  Hugh Berrington the sonne of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the xixth day of October
1623  Anne Berrington the daughter of George Berrington was baptized the xvijth day of December
1623  Elizabeth Berrington the daughter of Matthew Berrington was baptized the xvijth day of December
1623  John Berrington the sonne of Thomas Berrington was baptized the xxv day of December
1625[/6] Edward Berrington the sonne of George Berrington was baptized the xixth day of March
1627  Alice Berrington the daughter of Thomas Berrington was Baptized the vth day of July
1628  Elizabeth Berrington the daughter of George Berrington was Baptized the xiiijth day of May
1632  Mary Berrington the daughter of Geo: Berrington was baptized the xxxjth day of June
1635  Francis Berrington the daughter of George Berrington was baptized the xxxjth day of March
1638  John the sonne of George Berrington carpenter and Elizabeth his wife was Baptized the xvijth day of November
1642[/3] Constance the daughter of Simon Taylor labourer and Constance his wife was baptized the vth day of February
1648[/9] Jane the daughter of Thomas Berrington tanner and Jane his wife was borne the First day of March 1648, and baptized the xxvijth day of March 1649
1650  Anne the daughter of Thomas Berrington tanner and Jane his wife was baptized the xiiijth day of April
1650  Eliz. the daughter of John Taylor shepheard and Mary his wife was bapt xiiijth day of November
1651  Jennengs the sonne of Thomas Berrington tanner and Jane his wife was bapt. xxvijth day of December
1654  Edward the sonne of Hugh Berrington baker and Dorothy his wife was borne the xxijth day of July and baptized the xxvth day of August
1658[/9] [blank] the sonne of Edward Berrington carpenter was born xxth March

Marriages:
1635  William Wylde and Kathrin Berrington was married the xxxjth of August.
1638  Edward Berrington tanner and Sarah Parsons spinster both of this parish were married the xxvijth of April having here published 3 several dayes
1647[/8] Thomas Berrington tanner and Jane Moore spinster were married at the parish church of St Peter in Derby, the xiiijth day of January
1657  Edward Berrington of this parish and Alice Sadler of Loughborow were married at Garnradon the viijth of November being publishede there several markett dayes in the mar- kette place at Loughborow

Burials:
1618  Agnes Berrington sepult. the xxixth day of August
1634  Frances the daughter of Tho: Berrington was buried the xxijth of Julii
1634  Mary the daughter of Geo: Berrington was buried the vijth of September
1640  John Berrington an infant was buried the ixth day of September
1642  Edward Berrington Tanner was buried the vijth day of Maii
1643  Constance uxor Simon Taylor was buried the xxixth of March
1645  Anne the daughter of Thomas Berrington was buried the xiiijth of August
1647  Thomas Berrington senior tanner was buried the xijth of May
1649  Jane the daughter of Tho: Berrington was buried the xth of Aprill
These records confirm that Constance “Berryson” who was licensed to marry Simon Taylor at Stanford-on-Soar is actually Constance Berrington of Hathern. We see concrete records of her parental and marital families here. But we fail to confirm the birth of a hypothesized son Richard to Constance and Simon Taylor. What is more, there is now only a very narrow chronological window into which the hypothesized birth of Richard might fit. Simon Taylor and Constance Berrington were apparently married in June 1641, by license. A daughter, Constance, was baptized at Hathern twenty months later, in February 1642/3 (we know nothing of her fate); the mother, Constance (Berrington) Taylor, died just one month after that, in late March 1643 (just after the new year began at the Annunciation). It is possible that Simon and Constance had an earlier child, in or before the spring of 1642. (It is of course also possible that Simon Taylor remarried elsewhere, and had Richard one or two years later by a later wife. Richard of Virginia could then have named children after his father and his sister.)

Without the Stanford-on-Soar parish register, where supportive (or contradictory) evidence might have been found, we are left only with a possibility—though a possibility which is supported by onomastics, chronology, and finally by demography. Historians have shown that most laboring men emigrated to Tidewater Virginia as single men.32 Simon, a rootless laborer, soon widowed and perhaps unwelcome in his wife’s family, might well have gone across the ocean in the late 1640s to an early death on virgin plantations along the creeks of the Northern Neck. He might have brought with him, or sent for, a boy Richard Taylor, who would grow up to marry, buy land, and commemorate his two parents in the names of his own children.

In addition to the possibility that he went to Virginia by 1650, what else might have happened to Simon Taylor, widower of Constance Berrington? As has been

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said, Simon Taylor combines a relatively rare forename with a very common surname, and there were certainly over fifty men of that name in all England during the half-century of our focus. In an IGI search for likely baptisms of a Simon Taylor in the vicinity of Hathern, one stands out. A Simon Taylor was baptized in the parish of Lockington, Leicestershire—just four miles north of Hathern—on 27 October 1612. And while no probate records for any Simon Taylor are found in Nottinghamshire, there is one probate record for a man of (perhaps) this same generation in Leicestershire. On 8 April 1663 Sarah Taylor, widow, took out an administration bond on the estate of her husband Simon Taylor of Whitwick, Leicestershire, who died intestate (Whitwick is five miles southwest of Hathern). Perhaps the man who married Constance was the Simon who was baptized at nearby Lockington in 1612, making him four years her senior? And perhaps the decedent at Whitwick was Constance’s widower, later remarried to a Sarah? Nothing has been found to confirm the identity of the Whitwick decedent with either the Hathern man or the Lockington baptism. It is possible that all four records pertain to the same man: baptism in Lockington, a brief marriage in Hathern, a sojourn in Virginia, and a later wife and death in Whitwick. But I suspect that the man transported to Virginia in 1650 is unlikely to have returned home to marry.

It bears repeating, and emphasis, that our speculative scenario—that Simon Taylor, widower of Constance Berrington, may have gone to the Fauntleroy plantation in the Northern Neck of Virginia; and that he and Constance may have been parents of the Richard Taylor who appears at the same plantation, and who named his children Simon and Constance—is only a guess, or a series of guesses. But whether it is ultimately true or not, it is surely instructive to weigh these possibilities—however slim they may be—against the airy and naive assertions of earlier descendants of this Tidewater family.

BERRINGTON:
GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

1 THOMAS BERRINGTON, floruit 1570s–1580s at Hathern, Leicestershire. The name of his wife or wives is not known, but it is likely that one man was father of

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33 Lockington, Warwickshire, Parish Register [FHL film #819,694]. The register is difficult to read, but no other Taylor entries have been found nearby. Another Simon Taylor was baptized at Gumley, Leicestershire, on 20 Jan. 160[8]9, but Gumley is 25 miles away near the Northamptonshire border (IGI, controlled extractions, batch C059772).

34 Archdeaconry of Leicester, probate series, administrations 1662–64, 1663 no. 1 [FHL film #194,507]. Cosigner of the bond was William Gardner, laborer (of a parish which is illegible and not recognizable).

35 Unfortunately, Whitwick has not yielded any useful parish register data. Whitwick Bishops’ Transcripts are available on microfilm [FHL film #596,077] but are too dark to be legible on film.
the four children baptized as sons or daughters of “Thomas Berrington” at Hathern, Leicestershire, from 1577 to 1591:

i (pos.) PATIENCE BERRINGTON, perhaps bp. Hathern, 21 Oct. 1577.36

2 ii THOMAS BERRINGTON, bp. 17 April 1582. Chronologically likely to be the man of that name in the next generation at Hathern, with children baptized from 1607 to 1627.

iii DOROTHY BERRINGTON, bp. 2 April 1587.

iv ALICE BERRINGTON, bp. 30 March 1591.

This list may not represent all children. In the next generation there were two adult male Berringtons contemporary to the younger Thomas Berrington: George Berrington (d. testate 1663), who had children baptized from 1623 to 1638 and who left sons Thomas (d. testate 1669) and Edward (d. testate 1684); and Matthew Berrington (d. testate 1661), who had a daughter baptized in 1623, and who left a legacy to Hugh, son of Thomas Berrington (2.vii below). George and Matthew could be sons of this first Thomas, but could also be nephews or cousins.

2 THOMAS BERRINGTON (Thomas?), a tanner, is likely the Thomas Berrington, son of Thomas, who was baptized at Hathern, Leicestershire, on 17 April 1582. He was buried at Hathern on 11 May 1647. Perhaps with wife ALICE —, whom he names in his will, he had a family at Hathern from 1607 (or 1609) onward. He wrote his will on 3 December 1646, and died the next May; his will was proved at the Archdeaconry of Leicester a year later, 7 May 1648. It reads (abstracted):

3 Sept. 1646: I Thomas Berrington of Hatherne in the Countie of Leicester, Tanner, being weake in bodye but whole of minde . . . commende my bodye . . . to be buryed . . . in the parish churchyard of Hatherne . . . [T]o my sonne Thomas Berrington the lease of my house where I now dwell after the decease of my wife Alice Berrington and the tanne faste. [T]o Hughe Berrington my sonne 5s. To my sonne John Berrington 5s. To grandchilde Thomas Gadd 5s. To every one of the rest of my grandchildren, 12d. apiece. All the rest of my goods and chattells (deebts and funerall expenses discharged) I give to Alice Berrington my wyfe, Thomas Berrington my sonne, and Alice Berrington my daughter, whom I make executors, to be equally devided. If my daughter Alice doe marrye with the consent of her mother and brother, that then shee shall have her portion. . . . If either my son Thomas or my daughter Alice [die] before they devide the said goods that then they maye dispose of them as their owne to whome the please. And I doe entreat my loving sonne in lawe William Wilde and my loving sonne Hughe Berrington to be overseers of this my last will and testament.

Hand and seal (autograph).


Proved 7 May 1648 before John Angel, priest, on oath of Alice Berrington, Thomas Berrington, and Alice Berrington, daughter.37

36 This baptism is found among the IGI batch of extractions from the Hathern register; however, I could not locate it in the original Hathern register (if it is there, it is quite far out of sequence).

37 Archdeaconry of Leicester, Wills, 1648–49 [FHL film #1,520,115].
It is unfortunate that the will is not more specific about grandchildren (unnum-
bered and unnamed) or even children other than heirs, but the will and the parish
register support the following family group:

Children of Thomas Berrington and (perhaps) Alice, b. or bp. at Hathern, Leicestershire:

i (poss.) **JOAN BERRINGTON**, perhaps bp. Hathern, 1 Feb. 1607/[8?]. 38 If Joan is Thom-
as’s daughter, she could be the Joan who was wife of a **THOMAS GADD** at nearby
Sutton Bonington, Notts. (two miles northeast of Hathern), and who had a son
**Thomas Gadd**, bp. there 26 Nov. 1637, 39 who could be the grandson Thomas Gadd
mentioned in Thomas Berrington’s will. No Gadd–Berrington marriage has been
found at Hathern or anywhere in the IGI.

ii **EDWARD BERRINGTON**, bp. 19 Nov. 1609. An Edward Berrington m. Hathern, 28
April 1638, **SARAH PARSONS**. Edward Berrington, tanner, son of Thomas Berrin-
gton, was bur. Hathern, 7 May 1642. His brief will, written 2 May 1642 (when sick),
makes his father, Thomas, his sole executor, and divides his estate between his
father and brother Thomas, with a legacy to wife **ELIZABETH** —. 40 It is therefore
not clear whether the Sarah Parsons marriage could belong to this same individual.
There is no burial of a Sarah Berrington recorded at Hathern, nor any marriage of
an Edward Berrington to an Elizabeth.

iii **FRANCES BERRINGTON**, bp. 18 Jan. 1611/2, bur. 22 July 1634.

iv **CATHERINE BERRINGTON**, bp. 21 Nov. 1613; m. Hathern, 31 Aug. 1635, **WILLIAM
WYLDE**. “Daughter Wylde” is mentioned in the will of her father.

v **CONSTANCE BERRINGTON**, bp. 5 Nov. 1616.

vi **THOMAS BERRINGTON**, bp. 9 Dec. 1617. He was named in his brother Edward’s will
(1642) and his father Thomas’s will (1646). Likely the Thomas Berrington, tanner,
who with wife **JANE** — had several children bp. or bur. at Hathern: **Anne Berrington**,
bur. 23 Aug. 1645 [though she could be Anne, daughter of George]; **Jane Berrington**,
b. 1 March 1648/9, bp. 28 March 1649, bur. 10 April 1649; **Anne Berrington**, bp. 13
April 1650; and **Jennings Berrington**, bp. 28 Dec. 1651. This is not the Thomas who
made a will dated 15 Sept. 1669, who appears to have been the son of George.

vii **HUGH BERRINGTON**, bp. 19 Oct. 1619, named in his father’s will, bur. Hathern, 23
March 1655/6. A baker; with wife **DOROTHY** —, he had one child: **Edward Berrin-
grton**, b. 22 July, bp. Hathern, 25 Aug. 1654. Named as legatee of (cousin or un-
cele) Matthew Berrington in 1661.

viii **JOHN BERRINGTON**, bp. 25 Dec. 1623.

ix **ALICE BERRINGTON**, bp. 5 July 1627, unmarried in father’s will.

(to be continued)

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38 This entry is found in the IGI Hathern parish register extraction batch, but not present in
regular sequence in the original register.
39 IGI, extraction from parish register, batch C061202.
40 Archdeaconry of Leicester, Wills, 1642 [FHL film #1,520,114].
THE FALSE AND POSSIBLY TRUE ENGLISH ORIGIN OF RICHARD I TAYLOR OF OLD RAPPAHANNOCK COUNTY, VIRGINIA

By Nathaniel Lane Taylor

(concluded from p. 173)

3 Constance Berrington (Thomas, ?Thomas), baptized at Hathern, Leicestershire, on 5 November 1616, is identical with the “Constance Berryson” who was licensed by the Archdeaconry of Nottingham to marry Simon Taylor, yeoman, by bond dated 14 June 1641. Both parties were said to be of Stanford-on-Soar, Nottinghamshire (two miles east of Hathern), where the marriage was to take place, but whose original parish register and Bishop’s Transcripts do not survive from before 1649. The (undated) Protestation Return for the parish of Stanford-on-Soar, made some time in 1641 or early 1642, was checked. Simon Taylor was not present (and unfortunately returns for Leicestershire do not survive).41 Twenty months after their marriage, Simon Taylor, “laborer,” and Constance his wife, had one child, Constance Taylor, baptized at Hathern on 5 February 1642/3, shortly before the mother, Constance (Berrington) Taylor, died and was buried there on 29 March 1643. Chronologically, it is possible that they had another child before Constance, perhaps in Stanford-on-Soar (whose register does not record baptisms in this period), though the chronology is tight if we assume conception after marriage. However, since one of the reasons for obtaining a (potentially expensive) marriage by diocesan license was to bypass the ordinary customs of published banns and family consent, it is not inconceivable that the couple married while pregnant and against Constance Berrington’s family’s wishes. Thomas Berrington’s will of 1646 leaves a legacy to be paid to his youngest daughter, Alice, only if she marries with her brother’s consent, though such a clause was at that time conventional (but not universal).

As discussed in part one of this article, it is tempting to consider as a candidate for the man who married Constance Berrington, the Simon Taylor, son of John Taylor, who was baptized at nearby Lockington, Leicestershire (four miles north of Hathern), on 27 October 1612.42 He is by far the closest Simon Taylor found in the IGI and the chronology is appropriate (this Simon would have been 27

41 Protestation Returns, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire [FHL film #919,509]. Stanford-on-Soar is in the Hundred of Rushcliffe.
42 Lockington, Leicestershire, Parish Register [FHL film #819,694]. The register is difficult to read, but no other Taylor entries have been found nearby.
years old at the time of the marriage; Constance Berrington was 25). It is also possible that this man may be the Simon Taylor who died at Whitwick, Leicestershire, some time before 8 April 1663, when his widow, Sarah Taylor, received an administration bond. And on onomastic grounds, it is also possible that this Simon Taylor may be the man who was transported to Virginia at the expense of Col. Moore Fauntleroy, a planter along the Rappahannock River, named in a land patent dated 22 May 1650. It is also possible that Richard Taylor, who appears in 1662/3 as a young adult, also servant of Col. Fauntleroy, might be a son of Simon and Constance (Berrington) Taylor. Whoever was the Simon Taylor whose transportation was referred to in the 1650 patent—and who was surely connected to the later Richard—he may have soon died or returned to England, for he does not appear in any subsequent Northern Neck records.

Children of Simon and Constance (Berrington) Taylor:

i (poss.) child, b. to this couple soon after (or even before) their marriage was solemnized, say in 1641 or early in 1642. Such child may have been Richard Taylor (below).


TAYLOR: GENEALOGICAL SUMMARY

1 Richard Taylor (?Simon) was a planter in the Northern Neck of Virginia. Likely born by 1642 (to be of age by the time of his appearance as a witness in deeds, and his marriage), but not necessarily much earlier, he may have emigrated from England to Virginia in the 1650s (as a boy), but certainly by 1662/3, when he witnessed a deed for Col. Moore Fauntleroy. Because of his association with Fauntleroy and the fact that he named a son Simon, it is likely that his father was the Simon Taylor who is listed as a headright of Col. Fauntleroy in a Northern Neck land patent dated 22 May 1650. Richard Taylor died in North Farnham Parish, Virginia, between 22 March 1678/9 and 7 May 1679 (drafting and proving of his will). His wife, to whom he was apparently married by about 1663, was named SARAH —; her surname, parentage, and place and date of birth and death are unknown.

On 12 March 1662/3, Richard Taylor witnessed a deed by which Moore Fauntleroy purchased 2600 acres on the west side of Farnham Creek. On 9 July 1664, by court order, Richard Taylor was paid 800 pounds of tobacco from the late Col. Fauntleroy’s estate for servant’s wages. Within the next decade, Richard Taylor

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43 Archdeaconry of Leicester, probate series, administrations 1662–1664, 1663, no. 1 [FHL film #194,507].
44 See note 15 above.
45 See note 16 above.
progressed from servant to planter, or landowner. On 7 September 1664, Richard Taylor witnessed a sale by William Barber of land on Totuskey Creek adjacent to that of Edward Lewis.\textsuperscript{46} On 6 February 1665/6, a Richard Taylor was granted power of attorney for Robert Mussell.\textsuperscript{47} Richard Taylor also witnessed the delivery of a county warrant against one Thomas Pattison on the last Saturday of February 1667/8.\textsuperscript{48} On 22 May 1668, William Leer acknowledged the receipt of one hogshead of tobacco from “Richard Tailer, planter,” suggesting that Richard Taylor perhaps already controlled or leased his own land and was understood to be of the “planter” class.\textsuperscript{49} On 28 and 29 August 1669, Richard Taylor witnessed two separate deeds of the Tandy family.\textsuperscript{50}

On 1 May 1671, Richard Taylor purchased a plantation of 200 acres, “lying upon the north side of Rappahannock” and abutting land of Edward Lewis, from John and Sarah Suggett for 3500 pounds of merchantable tobacco.\textsuperscript{51} Edward Lewis had bought 400 acres on the Rappahannock in 1660; he patented 1140 acres on Totuskey creek in 1662/3, in partnership with one Thomas Richardson. (A Thomas Richardson, perhaps the same man, had been named as a headright in the Fauntleroy patent of 1650 along with the Simon Taylor who was possibly father of Richard\textsuperscript{1} Taylor.) Since Edward Lewis’s oldest daughter, Elizabeth, would marry Richard’s son Simon\textsuperscript{2} Taylor, it would seem that these men were associates from the time of their first arrival in the Northern Neck.

Richard Taylor witnessed a sale and quitclaim by Gyles Cale and Mary his wife on 7 May 1673,\textsuperscript{52} and he witnessed a power of attorney between John Rowsie and James Harrison on 5 May 1674.\textsuperscript{53}

\textsuperscript{46} See note 17 above.
\textsuperscript{49} See note 18 above.
\textsuperscript{50} Old Rappahannock Co. Deeds, 4:94–95 [FHL film #1,929,927], transcribed in Sparacio, \textit{Deed Abstracts of Old Rappahannock County, Virginia (1668–1670): Part I of Deed Book No. 4 (1668–1672), 4 November 1668–2 March 1670} (McLean, Va., 1989), 54. One of the co-witnesses was “George Taylor”; there is no known relationship between our family and this George Taylor.
\textsuperscript{51} See note 19 above.
\textsuperscript{53} Old Rappahannock Co. Deeds, 5:214–15 [FHL film #1,929,927], transcribed in Sparacio, \textit{Deed Abstracts of Old Rappahannock County, Virginia (Part II of 1672–1676 Transcript):
As there are no other extant land transactions in his name, Richard Taylor’s purchase of 1671 is probably the same parcel of land referred to in his will, made on 22 March 1678/9 and proved on 7 May 1679 (see abstract, above, p. 165).²⁴

Sarah (—) Taylor may have married again after her husband’s death, to one Richard Haile, who appears in the county first on 28 October 1679. On 5 April 1682, Richard Haile granted to his “son-in-law Richard Taylor,” “a yearling mare colt of a dark bay colour branded with two docking Irons, mealy mouthed and a star in the forehead.”²⁵ However, Richard Haile appears with wife Mary in deeds of sale of 1 April and 6 August 1685.²⁶

Children of Richard¹ and Sarah (—) Taylor, b. Old Rappahannock Co., Va.:

2  i CONSTANCE² TAYLOR, b. probably by about 1665; m. (1) WILLIAM GLEW, m. (2) ARTHUR MAGUIRE.

ii RICHARD TAYLOR, b. perhaps on or before 23 March 1666/7. He is possibly the “son-in-law” Richard Taylor to whom Richard Haile gave a horse on 5 April 1682; Haile might have been his stepfather (see above). Richard Taylor, son of Richard Taylor, deceased, came of age on or before 23 March 1687/8, when he was freed from indentured service to Roderick Jones.²⁷ Presuming a legal majority of 21 years fixes his birth year as 1666/7.

It is possible, but at the same time highly unlikely, that this teenaged or young adult apprentice could be the same Richard Taylor who, by 4 Dec. 1684, was m. to a daughter of Nathaniel Baxter. On that day, Baxter’s widow’s new husband, Humphrey Perkins, was ordered to pay Richard Taylor, who “hath married one of the daughters of sd. Baxter,” 2029 pounds of tobacco.²⁸ On 27 July 1685, Richard Taylor received a grant of 300 acres from (the younger) Nathaniel Baxter, his brother-in-law, on the south side of Piscaton Creek (that is, south of the Rappahannock in what would later become Essex Co.), in return for life maintenance of Baxter.²⁹ Richard Taylor and Barbara his wife subsequently sold 200 acres on the

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²⁴ See note 20 above.
south side of Piscaton Creek to one Benjamin Mathews on 15 Feb. 1686/7. A Richard Taylor also bought 50 acres of land from William Dunne, abutting his own [Taylor’s] and William Leake’s land, on 18 Oct. 1691. On 10 May 1705, Richard Jones exchanged 50 acres of land with Richard Taylor of Essex Co. Taylor’s part was on the south side of Piscaton Creek, part of a tract previously held by Nathaniel Baxter.

This last deed shows certainly that the Richard Taylor who was involved with Baxter on Piscaton Creek lived south of the Rappahannock in Essex Co. An adult Richard Taylor is attested in Essex Co. for another ten years or more. Richard Taylor of Essex Co. was licensed to keep an ordinary in 1715 and 1716. Richard Taylor, “planter, of South Farnham Parish,” with wife Susanna, sold on 11–12 Aug. 1714, a tract known as “Richard Taylor’s quarter,” which had belonged to Robert Taylor, who d. there in 1699/1700 (apparently childless, leaving his estate to his wife Hannah, who with her 2nd husband sold some of it to Richard Taylor). It is unclear whether Richard Taylor of Essex Co., with wife Susannah, is the same as the earlier Richard with wife Barbara. And it is further doubtful that a man who was married in 1684 could still be an indentured servant three years later, and not yet of age.

A Richard Taylor d. in North Farnham Parish, Richmond Co., 23 Jan. 1716/7. This is unlikely to be the Essex Co. Richard (or one of two such men), and is more likely to apply to a hypothetical Richard3, son of Simon Taylor.

iii Simon Taylor, b. apparently after 1667 but probably by 1671, in North Farnham; m. Elizabeth Lewis.

2 Constance Taylor (Richard1, Simon) was born in Old Rappahannock County, Virginia, likely by about 1665, as she must have first married, by about 1681, William Glew. In county records the surname Glew appears spelled as Glew, Glow, and Glue (and probably other variants as well); it has often been mistranscribed as Glen. Glew had become guardian of Constance’s brother Simon Taylor on 23 March 1687/8, co-signing (together with one Thomas Colley) a bond for 5,000 pounds of tobacco as surety for his custody of Simon Taylor’s

61 Old Rappahannock Co. Deeds, 8:266–67 [FHL film #1,929,929], transcribed in Sparacio, Deed Abstracts of Old Rappahannock County, Virginia, 1688–1692: Deed Book No. 8, 1 January 1688/9–1 May 1692 (McLean, Va., 1990), 123.
inheritance. On 16 February 1679/80, Glew received of Roderick Jones (Richard1 Taylor’s executor) some cattle and one mare from the estate of Richard1 Taylor, to be held as property for his ward Simon Taylor. Presumably shortly after becoming Simon Taylor’s guardian, Glew married Constance Taylor.

William Glew died, intestate, before 4 October 1704, when the order for his inventory was made. On 6 December 1704, John Glew chose his uncle Simon Taylor as his guardian; Simon took into custody the estate as “uncle and Godfather of the said John.” Inventories were filed on 6 December 1704 and 13 January 1704/5; William Glew [his son], already of legal age, was administrator.

Interestingly, by 6 December 1704, the date that her first husband’s inventory was ordered, Constance (Taylor) Glew had already remarried, to ARTHUR MAGUIRE (also found as McGuier, Mackgyer, etc.). The appraisal of Glew’s estate was to take place “att the house of Arthur Maguire,” which presumably had been Glew’s house. Capt. John Tarpley was asked by the court to administer an oath to Constance, “wife of the said Arthur Maguire, for the true discovery” of the estate.

Constance and Arthur Maguire would have at least two daughters, Mary and Elizabeth. Constance died sometime in the next few years, and by the time of his own death, Arthur Maguire had a new wife, Mary —. Mary Maguire received administration of the estate of her late husband, Arthur Maguire, on 7 June 1721. The inventory was returned on 5 July 1721, at the same court session which proved the will of John Glew, son of Constance and William, who had written his will on 16 May 1721.


68 See note 66 above.


70 Richmond Co. Order Book, 9(1721–32):1 [FHL film #33,708], transcribed in Sparacio Richmond County, Virginia, Order Book 1721–1722 (McLean, Va., 1996), 7. John Glew’s will and
Elizabeth Maguire, who were therefore daughters of Arthur Maguire by Glew’s mother Constance Taylor. These two girls were in custody of their stepmother, Mary Maguire, until 6 September 1721, when Simon Taylor was appointed guardian of orphans Mary Maguire and Elizabeth Maguire. \(^1\) At the next court session, 4 October 1721, Simon Taylor brought suit against Mary Maguire, relict of Arthur Maguire, in his capacity as guardian of the orphans Mary Maguire and Elizabeth Maguire, seeking for her to turn over a portion of Maguire’s “considerable personal estate” for the benefit of his heirs, the children, “which she refuses to do etc.” After several court sessions’ delay, the suit between Simon Taylor’s nieces and their stepmother Mary was resolved in favor of the two girls, in the amount of £1 17s. 7½d., on 7 August 1723. \(^2\)

It is difficult to justify such a long time-lapse between the births of three children to Constance Taylor by her first husband, William Glew, in 1683 to 1688, and the births of two daughters by Arthur Maguire, presumably after 1704. It is remarkable that Constance had three children with Glew in quick succession, probably in her late teens to early twenties, and then two more with Maguire in her early forties, but this scenario is proved by the deed of Philemon and Mary (Maguire) Bird cited below.

Children of William and Constance Taylor (Taylor) Glew, recorded in the North Farnham parish register: \(^3\)


\(^3\) All exact birth, marriage, and death dates from this parish, in the remainder of this article, are taken from George Harrison Sanford King, The Registers of North Farnham Parish, 1663–1814, & Lunenburg Parish, 1783–1800, Richmond County, Virginia (Fredericksburg, Va., 1966) (hereafter cited as King, North Farnham and Lunenburg Registers); see also his compilation Marriages of Richmond County, Virginia, 1668–1853 (Fredericksburg, Va., 1964). The register exists now in two copies, in which the entries have been resorted alphabetically by first letter of surname. The older copy [FHL film #32,637] was made about 1770; it presents most January–March dates from before 1754 as single-year old-style dates, but does preserve a few explicit double-year dates. I have compared this manuscript to King’s transcript, retaining the manuscript’s few explicit split dates as split dates here (e.g. 5 Jan. 1682/3, the birth date for William Glew); but I have resolved single-year dates into split style in brackets (e.g., 11 Jan. 1688[9], the birth date for John Glew). Several of the ‘B’ pages are missing from this MS or from the film; dates for the Bird family were checked against the second copy of this MS [FHL film #33,746], which was made for the Richmond Co. Clerk only a few years later.
ii Simon Glew, b. 15 Aug. 1686. Because he did not choose a guardian in 1704 when his brother John did, he was likely dead by then. He was not named in John’s will of 1721.

iii John Glew, b. 11 Jan. 1688[/9]. His uncle Simon² Taylor became his guardian on 6 Dec. 1704. His will, written 16 May 1721 and proved 5 July 1721, named Simon² Taylor executor, and included a bequest of a horse to John Taylor, probably his cousin John³ Taylor (Simon³, Richard¹); it also names “my sisters Mary and Elizabeth Maguire.”

Children of Arthur and Constance² (Taylor) (Glew) Maguire:

iv Mary Maguire, b. say 1705–7, named in her half-brother John Glew’s will. On 6 Sept. 1721, Simon Taylor became her guardian. She m. in North Farnham Parish, 25 Feb. 1727/8, Philemon Bird. On 13 April 1741, “Phillomon” Bird and Mary his wife sold to Edward Morris 50 acres, “being part of 200 acres formerly belonging to John Glew, and by his will bequeathed to his half-sister Mary Mac-Givier, now wife to the abovesaid Phillomon Bird.” Philemon Bird’s death on 7 Jan. 1751[/2] was recorded in the North Farnham parish register. His will, made 2 Jan. 1751/2 and proved 2 March 1751/2, mentioned his loving wife Mary Bird, son John Bird, and four daughters Mary Ann Bird, Betty Bird, Joanna Bird, and Sarah Bruce. If all his issue should become extinct, the estate was to go to his brother-in-law “Job Tillery’s proper heir at law.”


v Elizabeth Maguire, b. say 1705–7, named in her half-brother John Glew’s will. On 6 Sept. 1721, Simon Taylor became her guardian. The North Farnham parish register records that she m. North Farnham, 27 Aug. 1730, as his 2nd wife, Job Tillery. The death of an Elizabeth Tillery on 13 June 1745 is recorded in the North Farnham parish register; this could be either mother or daughter, or another woman entirely. Job Tillery does not appear to have left a will, nor is there a probate record in the will books, although the account books show that the estate of one Job Tillery was liquidated in the period 1764–68, which could refer either to father or son.


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74 For John Glew’s will see note 70 above.
75 Richmond Co. Deeds, 9:657 [FHL film #33,691], abstracted in Richmond County, Virginia, Deeds, 1734–1741 (Miami Beach, Fla., 1991), 70.
3 Simon Taylor (Richard, ?Simon) was born apparently between 1667 and 1670; his death on 10 January 1728/9 was recorded in the North Farnham parish register. He was heir to half of his father’s 200 acres on Totuskey Creek, as noted in his father’s will and his brother’s coming-of-age settlement. Upon his brother Richard Taylor’s coming of age on 23 March 1687/8, Simon chose William Glew as his guardian. Glew became his brother-in-law shortly thereafter, if he was not already.

Simon Taylor was married in or before 1691 to Elizabeth Lewis, who was born in North Farnham Parish on 8 March 1674/5, and died there on 7 October 1727, oldest of the five daughters of Edward Lewis and his wife Mary (—). Edward Lewis held several hundred acres in the Northern Neck, dating back to an initial purchase in 1660 and a patent (in partnership with Thomas Richardson) in 1662/3; he had been a neighbor of the Taylors for some years.

On 3 March 1704/5, Simon Taylor and Elizabeth his wife, Thomas Jesper and Anne his wife, and Christopher Pridham and Mary his wife—the wives all daughters of Edward Lewis—sold two parcels totaling 888 acres in Richmond and Northumberland counties to Joseph Deake and William Lynton, for 3000 pounds of tobacco. Elizabeth separately quitclaimed her dower right in this land on 6 August 1706.

78 Old Rappahannock Co. Court Orders, 2:58 [see above, note 66].

79 A good one-page pedigree and summary of Edward Lewis and his daughters is found in the appendix to George H. S. King, Marriages of Richmond County, Virginia, 1668–1853 (1964; repr. Easley, S.C., 1986), 253. More complete compiled biographical data on Edward Lewis is presented in Robert J. C. K. Lewis, Lewis Patriarchs of Early Virginia and Maryland: with Some Arms and Origins, 2nd ed. (Bowie, Md., 1991), 30–33 (hereafter cited as Lewis, Lewis Patriarchs). See also Michael L. Cook, Pioneer Lewis Families, 5 vols. (Evanston, Ill., 1978–86), 4:35ff, with emendations in subsequent volumes. Both Lewis and Cook present speculative theories of Edward Lewis’s parentage. Cook’s theory is that he was a son or grandson of John Lewis of Poropoteake Creek, King and Queen Co. (Pioneer Lewis Families, 4:54–56, 5:36, etc.). For a further speculative extension of the John Lewis ancestry, see Grace McLean Moses, The Welsh Lineage of John Lewis [1592–1657], Emigrant to Gloucester, Virginia (McLean, Va., 1984). Lewis’s theory makes Edward a son of John Lewis of Warwick Co., Va., descendant of an armigerous family of “Gladesdry and Brecon, Wales” (Lewis Patriarchs, 30–33). Neither theory has any evidentiary foundation. Edward Lewis’s wife Mary was possibly daughter of Humphrey Booth, who in his will of 1665 left a legacy to “Edward, son of Edward Lewis,” who predeceased his five sisters (William Montgomery Sweeney, ed., Wills of Rappahannock County, Virginia, 1656–1692 [Lynchburg, 1947], 45).


On 1 January 1722/3, Simon Taylor bought 100 acres from Patrick Doran and Frances his wife; the parcel apparently adjoined land already held by Simon, described in the deed as “Simon Taylor’s Old Plantacion.” Perhaps some of the purchase price was unpaid some years later, as Patrick Doran brought suit against Simon Taylor on 3 March 1725/6 to recover 2011 pounds of tobacco; the court ordered payment but there is no further record.

As a planter, Simon Taylor occasionally appeared as an estate administrator, witness, or juror in court business and deeds in the records of Richmond County. In a county court session on 5 February 1706/7, Simon Taylor was among a jury impaneled to hear a suit by John Dalton and Mary Dalton against Elizabeth, administratrix of Stephen Lynch, over a loan which defaulted when a crop was not taken in. The jury found for the plaintiffs, though Elizabeth Lynch’s attorney responded that Simon Taylor had been hired by the defendant’s partner William Miller to take in the crop, but had not done so—therefore the jury’s verdict could not be impartial. The court denied Mrs. Lynch’s objection and upheld the verdict. On 5 April 1716, Simon Taylor was appointed at the county court to appraise the estate of James Biddlecomb, deceased; similar appointments occur thereafter. On 3 March 1719/20, Gabriel Alloway brought suit against Richard Applebee for 1026 pounds of tobacco, with Simon Taylor named as surety for the defendant. On 6 April 1720, Applebee failed to appear in court, leaving Simon jointly liable with him for the full amount; there is no further record of the case. On 6 September 1721, Simon Taylor became guardian of Mary and Elizabeth Maguire, children of his sister Constance (Taylor) (Glew) Maguire. He subsequently sued their stepmother, Mary Maguire, over the children’s legacies (on which see above).

Simon was also occasionally targeted in the court records on moral grounds, as on 2 January 1722/3, when he was cited for having been drunk and swearing the previous 26 October. Elizabeth (Lewis) Taylor’s death on 7 October 1727 is recorded in the parish register. In the following summer, 4 July 1728, Simon

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Taylor was again cited by the Richmond County grand jury for “being a Common Drunkard” and gave surety of £20 for good behavior. The next month Simon Taylor drafted his will, 18 August 1728. He died, according to the parish register, on 10 January 1728/9, and his will was proved on 5 February 1728/9. It is given here in abstract:

18 Aug. 1728. I, Simon Taylor of Richmond County in the parish of North Farnham, sick. To son John and the heirs of his body “this plantacion whereon I now live with halfe the land to it which I alwaies was used to hold,” with reversion to son George and the heirs of his body, then “to the next heir at law.” To son William and the heirs of his body the “old plantacion from whence I lately removed with the other halfe of the aforesaid tract of land,” with reversion to son Thomas and the heirs of his body, then to the next heir at law. To son Septimus and to the heirs of his body “that plantacion whereon Patrick Doran now lives and all the land formerly belonging to it or which I bought with it,” with reversion to son George and the heirs of his body, then to the next heir at law. To daughter Sara Jasper one thousand pounds of tobacco. To granddaughter Elizabeth Jasper one two-year-old heifer. To son John the feather bed “I comonly lye on” with its furniture; to son William “that feather bed in the old house,” with its furniture; the next two best feather beds, with furniture, to sons Thomas and Septimus. To the four sons last named, the best four iron pots. To son George “my Negro woma n named Jeney.” Sons John, William, and Septimus to be executors. To all five sons the residue, equally divided, after debts paid. Hand and seal.

Of the six children mentioned in the will, only one, Sarah, has a birth recorded in the North Farnham parish register. Other than the children named in the will, it may be assumed that the Richard Taylor and Simon Taylor whose deaths were recorded in the parish register in 1716/7 and 1718, respectively, were also sons; there was perhaps one other child who died young, since one may assume because of his name that Septimus was born a seventh son, and George seems to have been born later than Septimus. John, obviously the oldest son, is also the only one whose birth year is fixed by a stated age in a court record. Thomas was the only son to die testate, and must have been of age to make his will. Beyond these clues, the sons’ birth order and approximate birth years remain conjectural, based on their marriage order and order of substitute succession in the will.

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89 Richmond Co. Will Book, 5:126–27 [FHL film #33,677]; briefly abstracted in Headley, Wills of Richmond County Virginia, 1699–1800, 64 (see note 67 above).
Children of Simon² and Elizabeth (Lewis) Taylor, b. in North Farnham Parish.⁹⁰

i SARAH³ TAYLOR, b. 28 Sept. 1692; m. in or around March 1710/1, as his 2nd wife, her uncle (by marriage), THOMAS JESPER.⁹¹ Thomas’s 1st wife had been Ann Lewis, sister of Sarah’s mother Elizabeth (Lewis) Taylor.

Children of Thomas and Sarah (Taylor) Jesper, recorded in the North Farnham parish register: 1. Elizabeth Jesper, b. 22 May 1712. 2. Ann Jesper, b. 5 Dec. 1714. 3. Richard Taylor Jesper, b. 10 June 1717. 4. Simon Jesper, b. 13 Jan. 1720/[1]. 5. Sarah Jesper, b. 21 Feb. 1723/4, d. 20 Aug. 1728. 6. Sarah Jesper (again), b. 11 Nov. 1729. Thomas Jesper (the father) made his will 1 Jan. 1747/8, which was proved in Richmond Co. on 3 Oct. 1748.⁹² In it he named his “dear and well beloved wife” Sarah Jesper; sons Thomas Jesper, Richard Taylor Jesper, Simon Jesper, and John Jesper; and daughters Mary Connor, Elizabeth Jesper, Anne Hines, and Sarah Jesper. Children Thomas and Mary were with his first wife Ann; since son John’s birth was unrecorded in the parish register, he might be with either wife. The death of a Sarah Jesper, presumably widow Sarah (Taylor) Jesper, on 24 Jan. 1749/[50] was recorded in North Farnham Parish.⁹³

ii (prob.) RICHARD TAYLOR. The North Farnham parish register records the death of a Richard Taylor, 23 Jan. 1716/[7], who may be a son of Simon² Taylor, since more sons are needed to justify the use of Septimus as a given name.

iii (prob.) SIMON TAYLOR. The North Farnham parish register records the death of a Simon Taylor, 2 Feb. 1718/[9], likely another son of Simon² Taylor, since more sons are needed to justify the use of Septimus as a given name.

iv JOHN TAYLOR, b. ca. 1704,⁹⁴ d. North Farnham Parish, 28 Feb. 1740/1, intestate; his inventory was recorded Richmond Co., 11 Aug. 1741.⁹⁵ He m. by 1728, HANNAH —, likely (given the use of the surname as a given name for their 2nd son) a HARRISON.

Children recorded in North Farnham Parish: 1. Simon⁴ Taylor, b. 11 March 1728/[9]. 2. Elizabeth Taylor, b. 26 Sept. 1731; m. Absalom Hammond.⁹⁶ 3. Harri—

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⁹⁰ For further details on these children and subsequent generations (with male-line descendants down to the seventh generation from Richard¹ Taylor), see Nathaniel Lane Taylor, An American Taylor Family: Descendants of Richard Taylor (d. 1679) of North Farnham Parish in the Northern Neck of Virginia (Cambridge, Mass., and Rumford, R.I., 1992–2009), online at <www.nltaylor.net/taylor/>.

⁹¹ Recorded by the County Clerk that month in a retrospective list of marriage licenses in Richmond Co. Deeds, 6:274 [FHL film #33,689]; transcribed in Sparacio, Deed Abstracts of Richmond County Virginia, 1714–1715 (McLean, Va., 1993), 53.

⁹² Richmond Co. Will Book, 5:562-63 [FHL film #33,677]; abstracted in Headley, Wills of Richmond County Virginia, 1699–1800, 96 (see note 67 above). On 29 July 2008, I was contacted by Ian Brabner, an antiquarian book and manuscript dealer in Wilmington, Del., he having seen information on this family on my website. Mr. Brabner offered, and sold me, the original, signed and sealed will of Thomas Jesper.

⁹³ For more on Sarah (Taylor) Jesper, see Taylor, An American Taylor Family (above, note 90), family 3.1.

⁹⁴ He testified to being about 35 years of age in 1739 (Hoffer and Scott, Criminal Proceedings, 200).


son Taylor, b. 11 Aug. 1735. 4. Richard Taylor, b. 8 Nov. 1738. Simon, Elizabeth, and Harrison have well-documented descendants.97

v William Taylor, apparently the second surviving son, b. presumably by 1709 if he married when of age, and if he was (as is likely) the William Taylor who m. North Farnham Parish, 8 Oct. 1730, Elizabeth Henderson. They had one child recorded in the parish register, Ann Taylor, b. 9 Sept. 1734. William Taylor does not appear in Richmond Co. records between 1736 and 1740 (when published transcriptions end); he may have migrated out of the county around 1736.98

vi Thomas Taylor, b. by 1709/10 if he was of age when he made his will, 5 Jan. 1730/1; he d. North Farnham Parish, 9 Jan. 1730/1, unmarried.99 The will names (in order) brothers John, William, Septimus, and George, and (nephews and niece) Simon Jesper, Richard Taylor Jesper, and Ann Jesper.

vii (poss.) son Taylor. An additional non-surviving male child would be necessary to make Septimus a 7th son if Septimus were older than George.

viii Septimus Taylor, presumably a 7th son, b. by 1711 if he married when of age; d. before 7 March 1747/8, when his estate was inventoried in Richmond Co.100 He m. by 1732 (perhaps on 13 Aug. 1728), Bridget —, sometimes called Bridget Henderson.101 Children recorded in North Farnham Parish: 1. Sarah Taylor, b. 19 Nov. 1733. 2. Ann Taylor, b. 23 Sept. 1735. 3. Charles Taylor, b. 8 Jan. 1737[6]. 4. Katherine Taylor, b. 1 Oct. 1740. 5. John Taylor, b. 25 Dec. 1742. 6. Septimus Taylor, b. 29 Sept. 1745. The son Charles has traceable descendants; the fate of the others is not known. An Ann Taylor, perhaps this one, had a bastard child, William Dudley, whose birth was recorded in North Farnham Parish, 23 July 1755.102

ix George Taylor, b. by 1719 if he married when of age; d. in North Farnham Parish, 25 Oct. 1749, intestate; his inventory was ordered 2 April 1750.103 He m. by 1740, Mary Tarpley, daughter of William Tarpley (James, John, William) and Mary (—).104 Children recorded in North Farnham Parish: 1. William Taylor, b. 7 April 1741. 2. Tarpley Taylor, b. 23 Feb. 1742[3]. 3. Simon Taylor, b. 9 March 1744[5]. 4. George Taylor, b. 21 Oct. 1747. 5. Lucy Taylor, b. 19 Feb. 1749[50]. Descendants

97 For more on John Taylor and his descendants, see Hayden, “Hammond Families” (see previous note), at 161–62 et seq.; and Taylor, An American Taylor Family (above, note 90), family 3.2 et seq.
98 For more on William Taylor, see Taylor, An American Taylor Family (above, note 90), family 3.3.
100 Richmond Co. Will Book, 5:540–41 [FHL film #33,677]; brief notice in Headley, Wills of Richmond County Virginia, 1699–1800, 94 (see note 67 above).
101 The marriage record does not appear in King’s transcription of the North Farnham Parish Register, or in King’s Marriages of Richmond County, Virginia, 1668–1853 (see above, note 73); however, it does appear widely distributed in descendant compilations. I do not know the source of the date of or Bridget’s presumed surname.
102 For more on Septimus Taylor and his descendants, see Taylor, An American Taylor Family (above, note 90), family 3.5 et seq.
103 Richmond Co. Will Book, 5:612 [FHL film #33,677]; brief notice in Headley, Wills of Richmond County Virginia, 1699–1800, 100 (see note 67 above).
are well documented from the son Tarpley, and it is possible that at least one other son left descendants perpetuating Tarpley or Tapley as a given name.\textsuperscript{105}

Addendum and Corrections to part one:

83:162 note 4 refers to a typescript by William P. Carrell II, which discusses John Taylor of Lancaster Co., Va. Now Mr. Carrell has graciously shown me his more complete, unpublished article on John Taylor, “A New First Family of Virginia: John Taylor and His Descendants for Five Generations” (typescript, 34 pp.).

83:161: John Taylor’s death is given as “1651/2,” but it was actually some time before 10 Jan. 1652/3 when intestate estate proceedings began (Carrell, “A New First Family,” 7).

83:172: Thomas Berrington’s will is misstated in the text to have been made 3 Dec. 1646, but the abstract bears the correct date, 3 Sept.

(continued)

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\textsuperscript{105} For more on George Taylor and his descendants see Taylor, \textit{An American Taylor Family}, family 3.6 et seq.