

History of the Dade Family



William and Mary College Quarterly Historical Magazine, Vol. 12, No. 4 (Apr., 1904),
245-250.

Stable URL:

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Here lieth Interred the
Body of Mrs. ALICE
GRYMES, who Departed
This Life in the Year of
Our Lord, 1710.

Here lies the Body of M^{rs}
ANNA GRYMES, Daughter of
M^r John & M^{rs} Alice Grymes,
Who lies near this Place. She
Departed this Life the 17th day
of December Anno Dom. 1735,
In the 16th year of her Age.

HISTORY OF THE DADE FAMILY.

(Copied by Miss Kate Mason Rowland from the copy made by Mr. Washington Peace.)

Francis Dade, the first of the family in Virginia, was generally known as *Major John Smith*, and the tradition is (on what authority I know not) that he was the celebrated Capt. John Smith, the first Governor of the infant colony.* By the records he appears to have been a man of education and considerable substance. His widow married Major Andrew Gilson, a merchant, and not knowing her maiden name I have set her down by the name of Gilson. I cannot ascertain the date of John Smith's death. In 1662 he was alive, and a purchaser of lands in 1654, viz.: 1300 acres adjoining the Townshend Patent, which bears date February, 1650. He died at sea in 1672, and his will is recorded in Northumberland. *Francis Dade* was the only child of *John*. He died in 1698. He married Frances Townshend, one of the co-heiresses of Col. Robert Townshend, by whom he had four sons, (Robert) Townshend, Cadwallader, and Francis. Col. Robert Townshend's mother was the daughter of a Mr. Baldwin, of Glassthorpe, in the county of Northumberland, England. His wife Mary was the daughter of Mr. Needham Langhorne, of Newton Brownshall, in the same county, Sir William Langhorne being the eldest son of the family. Robert

* Capt. John Smith had no children.

Townshend, the younger, had a brother Francis Townshend, of London, who owned a large estate on York River. This estate, with another on the Potomac, he devised to his uncles, Robert Baldwin, of London, merchant, and William Baldwin, of Glass-thorne, in Northumberland, in trust for his mother, then wife of Col. Robert Williams.* The other daughter of Col. Robert Townshend and Mary Langhorne his wife, married John Washington, and was alive in 1727. After the death of Francis Dade, his widow intermarried with Rice Hooe, from whom was descended lineally Col. Robert Townsend Hooe, late of Alexandria.

Townshend Dade, Lieutenant-Colonel Commandant of Stafford, the second son of *Francis*, married a daughter of Phillip Alexander. His brothers, *Cadwallader* and *Francis*, married two other daughters of the same Phillip Alexander. Francis Dade died without issue, and Cadwallader is the ancestor of General Lawrence T. Dade and Capt. Francis L. Dade, of the United States Army. Robert's descendants I cannot so well trace by the records which are the only basis of this memorial, but I understand the Dades of Maryland, and the female branches which intermarried with the Hooes and Peytons are descended from him. Robert's widow intermarried with Daniel French, of Fairfax, from whom the Dulans derive that name. Frances Alexander, with whom Townshend Dade intermarried, was the granddaughter of John Alexander, who was first High Sheriff of Stafford in 1664, when it was founded out of Westmoreland. He owned the estate called Talisburg, which but lately passed out of this family. I cannot trace this family beyond John. Townshend Dade had several sons, the second of whom, *Horatio Dade*, married as his second wife Mary Massie, the widow of Sigismund Massie, and whose maiden name was Stuart. She was the daughter of David Stuart, a Scotsman, who had been in the service of the Pretender (to whose family he was said to have belonged), in the Rebellion of 1715, and having fled from Scotland, he after some time returned to Eng-

* Her second husband was named Jones, by whom she had a son Cadwallader Jones, a colonel in the British service, from whom the name of Cadwallader came into the family.

land to take orders as a clergyman, and there married Hannah Gibbons, the sister of Sir John Gibbons, Bart., and M. P. for Essex. Her sister came with her to Virginia, and married the ancestor of the Brents, of Aquia. *Langhorne Dade*, bred at the College of William and Mary for the church, but afterwards became a lawyer, and died in 1811, was the oldest son of the above marriage. *William A. G. Dade* was the only son of Langhorne by his wife Sarah Ashton, daughter of Col. Henry Ashton and Jane Alexander, a descendant of the Alexanders above mentioned. The first of this Ashton family was Col. Peter, who died in 1669, in Stafford (now King George), and was one of the earliest, most substantial and influential of the colonists on the Potomac. By his will he devised his estate called Chatterton, on the Potomac, to his brother James Ashby (Ashton?), of Kirby Underwood, in Lincoln, England, and 2,000 acres adjoining thereto to his brother John Ashton, of South, in Lincolnshire. It is probable that both of them came to Virginia, as the connection of the present Ashton family is not easily traced. I cannot go further than Col. Henry Ashton, my mother's grandfather, who owned an estate at the mouth of the Nomini, a part of which he devised to his daughter Grace, who intermarried with Phillip Lee, of Blenheim, in Maryland, and from an ejection brought by Conter, one of his descendants, in the Superior Court of Westmoreland, I ascertain this fact. My mother lived much with this Mrs. Lee while a girl. It is said the Ashtons and Alexanders intermarried very early, and the circumstance of old John Alexander having made Charles Ashton his executor corroborates this report.

The above tables and notices are made out from the old records of the county of Stafford, which at my leisure in the circuit, I have carefully examined. The tradition of the ancestor of the family being the celebrated John Smith is, of course, oral. It seems very improbable, and yet I have understood from the oldest members of the family that it was generally believed. The first notice I have of Major John Smith, whose true name was Dade, and was certainly the head of the family, is a deed from Robert Ryland to him recorded in Northumberland county as early as 1655 (though indeed in recurring to my notes I find an earlier deed, in 1654, from Gervas Dodson to him for land in

Stafford), I cannot ascertain when he died. Capt. John Smith was living in England between 1640 and 1650, he being notoriously attached to the Stuarts. The intermarriage of his son with a family so respectable as the Townshends repels the idea of his having been mean or obscure. But to satisfy myself, I have carefully examined the criminal records of the old General Court to see whether the name had been changed on account of a criminal prosecution, and can find nothing to countenance the idea.

SOME MEMORANDA OF MY EARLY ANCESTORS IN VIRGINIA AND GREAT BRITAIN.

Francis Dade, Sep. 13th, 1694. Francis Dade's inventory 8th June, 1698. Robert Dade (son of Francis) receipt to Rice Hooe for the estate of his father as guardian of his three brothers, 13th February, 1705 (F. 306). Robert Dade, son of Francis, to H. Fitzhugh, 6th October, 1708 (429). The above Francis Dade, the son of John Dade (sometimes called Smith), left four sons, viz.: Robert, who died before 1714; Townshend, Francis and Cadwallader. See their acquittance to Daniel French, who married Robert's widow (H. 144). Townshend married the daughter of Phillip Alexander (see Lib., H. 272). It appears that Frances Townshend, one of the daughters of Col. Robert Townshend, who first married Francis Dade (first above mentioned), and had by him the above named four sons, after his death, married Rice Hooe. The other daughter, Mary Townshend (the son died in infancy), married John Washington.

Memo.—The Townshend Patent bears date 17 February, 1650 (H. 173, 194, 5, 6, 7, 8). The deed recorded in the above pages gives estates entailed in the Townshend Patent to Francis, Cadwallader and Townshend Dade. These deeds bear date in 1715. Mary Townshend married Capt. John Washington and in 1727 conveyed a part of the Townshend Patent to her son John Washington (Lib. 1, 496). In 1654, Gervas Dodson assigned to John Smith a patent of 1300 acres of land lying in Upper Machodock Neck adjoining the Townshend Patent. In 1659, John Smith assigned this Patent to Hugh Dowding. By the power of attorney annexed to his deed it appears that this John Smith left a widow named Bethlen, who afterwards married Andrew Gilson (Lib. A. 183-24). A patent of 600 acres on

Machodock Neck to Major John Smith, dated 1662, and an assignment of part of that patent by Francis Dade to John Harvey or Haney, the said Francis acknowledging that the said John Smith was John Dade, and had assumed the name of Smith, or App. Maid (?) (Lib. D. 1341).

Griffith's patent for 1,000 acres of land, at the mouth of Upper Machodock Neck, dated 8th Aug., 1662. This patent was assigned, 29th Dec., 1663, to Frances Dade, son of Major Francis Dade, who died at sea the year before, as by his nuncupative will appears, and at his death without heirs, to his widow Bethlen. Robert Townshend to Leut.-Col. Robert Williams, letter of bellio? April 21, 1664. Admr of R. Williams' estate granted Francis Williams' relict, June, 1665. Robt. Baldwin, Gent., of London, and William Baldwin, of Glassthorpe, county of Northumberland, renunciator of the executorship of the estate of Francis Townshend, of London, merchant, son of Mrs. Francis Williams, July, 1660. These Baldwins were the uncles of Francis Townshend, who by his will made them trustees of an estate on Charles River, York county, Va., for the benefit of his nephew. Also of an estate of 800 acres on the Potomac River. Robert Townshend, brother of Francis, was in London, 1664. See his letter to R. Williams. Mrs. Williams' first husband seems to have been Townshend; her second, Jones. Dodson to Smith; deed, August, 1654. Peter Ashton's will, 6 Sept., 1669. Place called Chatterton, containing 560 acres, to his brother John Ashton of Kirby Underwood, in Lincoln, England; 2,000 acres adjoining the same to his brother James Ashton, of South, in Lincolnshire; remainder to his kinsman John Ashton, of Roswell Street, Covent Garden, London, Haberdasher.

A transcript from the tombstone at Albion:

"Here lyeth the body of Robert Townshend, son to Mr. Richard Townshend, of Virginia, and husband to Mary Townshend, daughter to Mr. Needham Langhorne, of Newton Brownshall, in Northamptonshire, by whom he had two daughters and one son, Frances, Mary and Robert Baldwin. He departed this life Sept. A. D., 1675, aged 35."

I think it should be the 11th April. On the 17th May, 1724, the remains of the above mentioned Robert Townshend were removed by me to the family graveyard.

LANGHORNE DADE, JR.

I certify these copies to be correctly copied from the original papers of my father, Judge Wm. A. G. Dade, now in my possession, by J. A. L. Norman.

LUCIEN DADE.

The above was copied by me May, 1856.

WASHINGTON PEACE.

COL. NATHANIEL POPE AND HIS DESCENDANTS.

(Continued.)

In addition to the three children of William and Penelope (Edwards) Pope previously named, viz., Penelope, John and Jane, the compiler is able to give five others, as follows:

William, second son, born January, 1775; died May 29, 1844; was a prosperous farmer in Jefferson county, near Louisville, Ky. He married January 23, 1800, Cynthia Sturgess, by whom he had a large family. His children, who lived to be married, were John, William H., Robert, Godfrey, Charles and Ann.

Alexander, third son, prominent lawyer of Louisville, Ky.; married October 4, 1806, Martha M. Fontaine, daughter of Aaron Fontaine, of Louisville, by whom he had two sons and three daughters, viz.: Henry, Fontaine, Maria, Martha and Penelope.

Nathaniel, fourth son, lawyer and jurist; settled at Kaskaskia; appointed by President Monroe United States Judge for the district of Illinois. He married Lucretia Backus, and had two sons and four daughters—William, John, Penelope, Elizabeth, Lucretia and Cynthia. It was his second son John who was Major-General in the United States army. (This Nathaniel Pope, erroneously stated in several published sketches as the son of John Pope, M. C. from Kentucky, in 1811-'12, was so improperly set down in the first installment of these notes.)

Elizabeth, third daughter, married (1) Gen. George Trotter, of Lexington, Ky., by whom she had two sons—John and James. She married (2) the Rev. Nathan H. Hall, a Presbyterian clergyman, and removed to Missouri. They had two children—William and Florida.

Hester Pope, fourth daughter, married her first cousin, Presley Edwards, a distinguished lawyer of Russellville, Ky., and had two children—George T. and Mary.