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NOTES ON SOME MOORE AND FRENCH FAMILIES IN VIRGINIA AND CAROLINA IN THE COLONIAL PERIOD.

By WILLIAM CABELL MOORE.

I.

THE MOORES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA.

The following notes relating to some of the Moore and French families of Tidewater and northern Virginia and of eastern Carolina in the Colonial period were made in a search for information concerning the ancestors of Jeremiah Moore, of "Moorefield," Fairfax county, Virginia, who was born in or near Dumfries, in Prince William county, Virginia in 1746¹. By no means all the available records that might throw light on the early Moore and French families in Virginia and the Carolinas have been studied, but considerable time was spent in collecting these notes, and they may be of value to future investigators.

Among Jeremiah Moore's descendants are two traditions with respect to his ancestry. One story relates that he was the grandson of John Moore, who came to America from the northern part of Ireland about 1700, and located first in South Carolina; the other, that he was descended from a John Moore who in 1620 came to Virginia from England and settled in Elizabeth City county.

Mention of his parents by name has not been found in the records of his time, but it has been understood in the family that the father of Jeremiah was named William Moore, and his mother, Angelina French Moore, and it seems reasonably certain that his parents were living in Prince William county in 1746, the year of his birth, for, as stated above, Jeremiah was born there, and he himself lived there during his youth, he married a Prince William county girl and when he was first grown he was a lay-reader in the Episcopal Church on Quantico in Prince William. Mrs. Kate D. Berryman, of Washington, a descendant of Jeremiah, has examined many of the old court records and other records in Prince William (and adjoining counties) and has found occasional mention of a William Moore, a Jesse Moore (Jeremiah named his oldest son Jesse) and of Jeremiah Moore in lists of voters, witnesses and other records in Prince William, but whether this William Moore was the father of Jeremiah is not known. The writer was told in 1932 by one of Jeremiah's great-grandsons that he had heard that Jeremiah's father was at one time a post-rider or mail-carrier, but no record has been found to verify this statement.

The name of Jeremiah's mother was not known to the writer until recently, when Mrs. Jessie Virginia Elgin Ritchey (Mrs. Charles A. Ritchey), of New York, and her sister, Mrs. Mary Elgin Mann, of Baltimore, stated in an affidavit given to the writer that they had been informed personally by their grandfather, George Washington Hunter Smith (1812-1896), who was a grandson of Jeremiah, that the mother of Jeremiah was named Angelina French, and that this was the reason Jeremiah's eldest daughter was named "Angelina French Moore", and the explanation for the name "French" occurring in the given names of two of his other daughters and one of his sons, and in the names of children of several of his children (Francis and Margaret) and for being handed

¹Moore, Francis: "Sketch of the Life of Jeremiah Moore," in an Obituary Notice, published in *The Latter Day Luminary*, Phila., 1818, vol. 1, pp. 518-520; and also in "Virginia Baptist Ministers," by James B. Taylor, 1st Series, 3rd Ed., Sheldon & Co., N. Y., 1860, p. 216. Francis Moore was a son of Jeremiah Moore.

down to a recent time in Mrs. Ritchey's family. The name Angelina French is unusual, but one other person with this name having been found in a search through many articles and books in the Library of Congress relating to the French family, an Angelina French who was born in 1862 near Camden, N. J.² There were several families named French living in the Northern Neck and in Northern Virginia in the time of Jeremiah, but up to the present a search for data relating to these families has not brought to light a single maiden named Angelina French.

Court records in Fairfax, Prince William, Stafford, Spotsylvania, King George, Westmoreland and Richmond counties during the period prior to 1800 reveal no evidence of an Angelina French or of a William Moore who had a wife named Angelina French, or of any early Moore who can be definitely connected with Jeremiah, but many records in these counties were destroyed or lost during the War between the States and there is little left.

FAIRFAX COUNTY.

Fairfax county was formed from Prince William in 1742. There are no court records in Fairfax throwing light on the ancestry of Jeremiah, though there are a few records in the Clerk's office in which Jeremiah himself is mentioned. Jeremiah left Prince William in 1773, when he was twenty-seven years of age, and settled in Fairfax county on Difficult Run. Some years later he moved to "Moorefield," near Vienna. He was a farmer as well as a preacher, and was evidently a good business man, for he left a fair sized estate for his time. It is possible that when in 1773 he became a Baptist and entered actively upon preaching this faith, then outlawed, he became estranged from his family, for he promptly moved from Prince William and his son, Francis, says in a sketch of Jeremiah's life³ that after becoming a Baptist he "lost the friendship of many of his former friends, all of whom belonged to the Episcopal Church, and some of whom were enemies of the Baptists." His parents and other members of the family may also have given him up.

There are two Moore wills in the Fairfax county Clerk's office recorded prior to 1800:

1. The will of William Moore (Will Book C, No. 1, p. 66), dated August 17, 1769, proved October 16, 1769, names his wife, Mary, his sons, James and Samuel, and daughters, Sarah Littlejohn, Mary Bucklin and Ann Tyler. One of the witnesses is Cleon Moore. The inventory of his estate (Will Book C, No. 1, p. 92), returned November 19, 1770, lists slaves and other property valued at about 500 pounds, and Henry Moore is mentioned among others indebted to the estate.
2. The will of Henry Moore (whether the Henry mentioned above is not known) (Will Book C, No. 1, p. 149), dated May 17, 1772, proved April 19, 1773, names him "of the town of Colchester," speaks of his wife but does not call her by name, and names sons, Cleon and Gato, the latter under age, daughters, Susannah, wife of George Summers, Sarah, Jane King and Ann Primer, and names also Mrs. Hannah Brent and her brother, Mr. Thomas Neale.

His inventory (Will Book C, No. 1, p. 176), returned October 18, 1773, lists property valued at over 1300 pounds.

²French Howard B.: "Genealogy of the Descendants of Thomas French," vol. 2, p. 264, privately printed in Phila., in 1913.

³See footnote No. 1.

Neither the above mentioned William Moore nor Henry Moore apparently has any relation to the family of Jeremiah.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY.

In *Prince William county* formed from Stafford and King George in 1731, the court records begin in 1732. No will in the name of Moore, dated prior to 1800 is to be found now in these records. The only items in the name of Moore, dated prior to 1800 to be found there now are:

1. Deed Book H, p. 58, Dec. 29, 1731, James Moore, yeoman, binds himself to serve John Nicholson, merchant, for seven years, on condition that Nicholson pay for Moore's passage to Virginia, and it is noted that the said James Moore "arrived within the Capes of Virginia April 18," (1732).
2. Same, p. 191, Nov. 24, 1733, William More, planter, leases from George Mason a tract of land on the Potomac river in the parish of Truro. In the lease are mentioned William More's wife, Mary, and his son James, but no others.
3. Bond Book, 1753-86, p. 31, March 27, 1758, a William More is mentioned as one of the executors of the will of Gabriel Moffett.
4. Deed Book Q, p. 272, April 1, 1765, William Moore and Margaret, his wife, of the county of Prince William leased from John Bayliss, a piece of property in the town of Dumfries. This lease was sealed and delivered in the presence of Thomas Attwell, Lewis Reno and George Carter. On the next page is recorded the release of this property April 2, 1765.
5. Deed Book U (XX), page 306, May 7, 1782, Foushee Tebbs gives to his daughter, Margaret, wife of Cleon Moore, two slaves named Charlotte and George.
6. Deed Book X, p. 32, June 4, 1787, Daniel Moore and Hannah, his wife, purchase a tract of land from a man named Johnston. Later Daniel mortgages this land to his brother Joseph, of West Jersey.

In the above mentioned notes we find mention of two men named William Moore. One, in 1733, had a wife named Mary, and a son named James. This suggests no relationship with "our" William. In the other record, wherein the wife is named Margaret, a William Moore in 1765 leases a piece of property in Dumfries from John Bayliss and one of the witnesses is Lewis Reno. The names here suggest some association, for our Jeremiah Moore married in 1765 Lydia Renno (or Reno) the daughter of Francis Renno and Elizabeth Bayliss Renno. Francis Renno was the son of Lewis Renno and had a brother named Lewis, and also a cousin of the same name. Jeremiah Moore was born in Prince William county in 1746, and his mother was living in 1771.⁴ While we think Jeremiah's mother was named Angelina French and he named his first daughter Angelina French, it is not certain that his mother was named Angelina. He named another daughter Margaret French. The name Margaret, occurs frequently in the French families of that period.

The Vestry Book of Dettingen Parish, Prince William county, 1745-1802, now in the Archives Division of the State Library in Richmond, shows that Jeremiah Moore was one of the lay readers of the church on Quantico, near Dumfries, but offers no suggestion concerning his ancestry.

⁴See footnote No. 1.

STAFFORD COUNTY.

In *Stafford county*, formed from Westmoreland in 1664, the following references to records made prior to 1800 under the name "Moore" are to be found in the Clerk's office:

1. Book marked "1664-1693," p. 21, March 13, 1689/90, a John Moore is mentioned as administrator of Edward Sandos.
2. Same, Nov. 9, 1692, it is "ordered that a cow and yearling heifer which did properly belong to the estate of John Moore, dec'd, be appraised."
3. Will Book Z, 1699-1709, p. 167, gives the inventory of James Moore, dec'd, dated 1702 (one carbine, one horse, bridle and saddle), which was sworn to by his wife Honoh Moore.
4. Book marked 1729-1748 (recently returned from the North, where it was taken during the War between the States) p. 249, June 9, 1737, contains the inventory of Richard Moor's estate.
5. Same, p. 273, contains the executor's acct. signed by Edw. Doane, and Mary his wife, administrators of Richard Moor.

None of these Stafford county items suggests any association with our subject. The Stafford county Clerk's office has record books also for the years 1748-1763 and 1780-1789, but no records for the years 1764-1779. There is no Moore will and no other reference to a person named Moore in the years prior to 1800 for which there are records.

The Parish Register of Overwharton Parish in Stafford, 1720-1760, now in the Archives Division of the State Library in Richmond, also contains no information that seems to offer a lead.

SPOTSYLVANIA COUNTY.

In *Spotsylvania county*, formed in 1721 from Essex, King William and King and Queen, the court records begin in 1722, and the following references prior to 1800 under the name Moore were the only ones found:

1. Will Book A—1722-1749. Photostat copy of the will of Samuel Moor, dated Feb. 2, 1725/26, probated Apr. 5, 1728, mentions wife Rachel and son Robert.
2. Will Book B, p. 85—Photostat copy of will of Robert Moor, dated Feb. 12, 1750, probated Dec. 3, 1751, mentions wife Rosanna, three eldest sons, Samuel, John and Robert, son George and son Thomas, the youngest, "not yet baptized," and his "loving mother Rachel."
3. Will Book B, p. 392. Photostat copy of bond given Dec. 5, 1758, by Bernard Moore and others, executors of John Spotswood dec'd. (Bernard Moore was the son of Augustine More, of "Chelsea," and the son-in-law of Governor Alexander Spotswood, an older brother of John Spotswood).
4. Will Book E, part 1, p. 167. Photostat copy of bond given Jan. 16, 1777, by Alice Moore, John Herndon and Shadrack Moore, executors of John Moore, dec'd.

None of these Spotsylvania items suggests any association with our subject. There is the will of a John Moore recorded in Spotsylvania in 1790, but this also has no relation to Jeremiah.

FREDERICKSBURG.

In the Clerk's office in Fredericksburg, where there are no records prior to 1782, the only early reference recorded in the name of Moore is the record of the will of Col. Francis Moore, of Orange County, dated August 15, 1792, probated May 13, 1799, in which are mentioned, sons Reuben, Francis, dec'd, Bernard, dec'd, daughter Sarah Spencer, wife of Jos. Spencer, granddaughter, Lucy Barbour Gaines, Mary Price, wife of Wm. Price, Ann Thomas, and a brother, Harbin. This Francis was apparently an old man when he died sometime between 1792 and 1798, and he left a large estate. He may have been related to Col. Augustine More, of "Chelsea" in King William county, who also had a son named Bernard. Col. Augustine More, of "Chelsea" died in 1743. He left no surviving son named Francis, nor did he have any surviving child born prior to 1714. His first wife and her only child died in 1713.⁶ Jeremiah Moore named his second son Francis but it is presumed that this Francis was named for his maternal grandfather, Francis Renno.

KING GEORGE COUNTY.

King George county was formed in 1721, but there are no records of Wills in the Clerk's office prior to 1752, the Will books for the period 1721 to 1752 having been carried off or destroyed during the War between the States, so the Clerk said. There were found here:

1. The will of John Moore (W. B. 1, p. 109), dated July 29, 1758, proved Dec. 6, 1759; mentions his wife, Rebecca, a son William, a daughter Jane Taylor, and two of his executors, Erasmus Taylor and James Madison.
2. The will of Rebecca Moore (W. B. 1, p. 115), dated Nov. 6, 1759, proved Mar. 6, 1760, mentions her late husband, John Moore, son William Moore, who was then under age, dau. Nellie Madison, son Francis Conway, and Sarah his wife, grandsons, James Madison, Jr., Francis and Ambrose Madison, Francis and Catlett Conway, granddaughter Mary Conway, niece Mary Gillison, wife of John Gillison, and Jane Taylor, wife of Erasmus Taylor.

A photostat copy of the Parish Register of St. Paul's Parish, King George county, for the years 1716 to 1793, was examined carefully for the years 1716 through 1746, the year of Jeremiah Moore's birth, and hurriedly thereafter. It is all difficult to decipher and parts of it are impossible to read, but in the lists of many births and marriages recorded, and the few deaths mentioned, not a single person with the name Moore or French was encountered. This book is in the possession of Mr. Cartwright, the Episcopal minister living in King George Courthouse, who kindly permitted it to be examined. There is a copy in the State Library in Richmond.

WESTMORELAND COUNTY.

Westmoreland county was formed in 1653. Here were found:

1. The will of Thomas Moore (W. B. 5, p. 158), dated Feb. 5, 1709, proved May 17, 1713; mentions his wife Margaret, whom he makes executrix, sons, William and Thomas, and dau. Margaret, under age.

⁵Clerk's office, Fredericksburg: "Bonds, Wills and Inventories, 1789-1851, A-3," pp. 127-131.

⁶Va. Mag. Hist. and Biog., Vol. 25, (October, 1917), pp. 433, et seq.; see also, Campbell, Charles: "Genealogy of the Spotswood Family," Albany, 1868; and W. & M. C. Q., vol. 19, (1910-11), p. 177.

2. The will of John Moore, of Copley Parish (W. B. 8, p. 270, copied in W. B. 8, vol. 2, p. 336), dated Jan. 4, 1733/4, proved Nov. 25, 1735; mentions son William, to whom he leaves all his wearing apparel, Alice Garland, to whom he leaves a silver tumbler, and his friend Jeremiah Garland, to whom he leaves everything else and whom he appoints executor.
3. The will of William Moore (W. B. 8, p. 328, copied in W. B. 8, vol. 2, p. 533), dated June 28, 1736, proved Jan. 30, 1737; mentions his wife Alice, who is named executrix, son William, to whom he leaves land, a feather bed, tools, gun, heifer and yearling, dau. Jane Creswick, to whom he leaves land, dau. Elizabeth, to whom he leaves a feather bed and a cow and calf, other children not named but mentioned as his "other children", with whom his wife, Alice, is to divide the rest of his estate. This will is signed with William Moore's mark in the presence of Wm. Grove and Wm. Moor, the latter signing also with his mark.
4. The will of Thomas Moore (W. B. 9, p. 234), dated Dec. 17, 1741, proved Aug. 31, 1742; mentions son William, to whom he leaves one half his land and a riding mare, son Thomas, to whom he leaves the other half of his land and the houses thereon, dau. Sarah, to whom he leaves a feather bed and furniture. His son Thomas is made executor, and the will is witnessed by John Self and William Grove.
5. The will of Thomas Moore, of the Parish of "Cople" (W. B. 11, p. 195), dated Feb. 4, 1749/50, proved Apr. 24, 1750, mentions his wife, Winifred, and sons, Thomas and James, his children being under age, as one is to go to Mr. Thomas McFarlane till he comes of age, the other to remain with his wife, to whom he leaves his property during her lifetime, Mr. Thomas McFarlane and his wife being named executors. He signs with his mark and the witnesses are James Clark and Frazier Wright.
6. The will of Robert Moore (W. B. 14, p. 122), dated Dec. 5, 1761, proved Mar. 30, 1762, mentions wife Elizabeth, to whom he leaves his plantation for her lifetime, sons, John and Robin, and dau. Eleanor, and speaks of children "under age," without naming them. His wife and son John are made executors, and the will is witnessed by Daniel Baley, John Baley and Wm. Crenswick.
7. The will of Jane Moore (W. B. 16, p. 96), dated Sept. 5, 1775, recorded but date of probate not given; mentions son James, dau. Dorcas, a Hannah Moore, a Jane Larkin Moore, a Sammy Larkin Moore, whose relationship is not stated, and a son Garland, who is named executor. She signs with her mark, and the witnesses are Wm. Rigmaiden, Molly Parker and Wm. Smith.

In Westmoreland county Inventory book No. 2, which covers the years 1746-1752, and which is not indexed, were found:

1. An auditor's report, dated Nov. 13, 1746, reporting an audit to settle a dispute between the children of William Moore, dec'd, and John Self, who had married William's relict, Elizabeth Moore. This William Moore's will was not found recorded.
2. An appraisal of Thomas Moore's estate, ordered by court, Apr. 20, 1750, and found to be valued at £10-1-3.

RICHMOND COUNTY.

In *Richmond county*, organized in 1692, were found no Moore wills, prior to 1765, the only Moore wills prior to 1800, being:

1. The will of Garland Moore (W. B. 6, p. 389), dated 1765; mentions wife, Anne, sons, Robert, Garland and Peter, and "daughter" (probably meaning son) Mathew Moore. His wife and his friend William Garland were named executors.
2. The will of Robert Moore (W. B. 7, p. 350), dated June 12, 1779, proved Oct. 4, 1779; mentions wife, Anne, and children under age, none by name.

Here was found also:

The inventory of John Moore (W. B. 7, p. 483), ordered by Court, Apr. 6, 1784, returned Apr. 4, 1785, and amounting to £12-10-6.

Nothing pointing definitely to a relationship to Jeremiah Moore was found in the early Will books in King George, Westmoreland and Richmond counties, or in the Parish Register of St. Paul's Parish, King George county, 1716-1793. The court Order books and other court records were not examined.

II.

THE MOORES OF TIDEWATER.

There is no known record to prove that Jeremiah Moore, of "Moorefield," in Fairfax county, was descended from John Moore, who came to Elizabeth City county, Virginia, in 1620, but this tradition has been handed down in one branch of the family, and a definite statement to this effect is contained in a letter⁷ to the writer from Mrs. Charles A. Ritchey, of New York, a great, great granddaughter of Jeremiah. Mrs. Ritchey states that her grandfather, George Washington Hunter Smith (1812-1896), who spent the last years of his life in her father's house, frequently spoke of his family and his Moore ancestry, and that she made notes at the time of what he said. He told her that his grandfather, Jeremiah Moore, was the son of William Moore and Angelina French Moore and that William Moore had a brother Daniel and a sister Martha, who married a Dixon, and that he thought that they were the children of Augustine Moore and his wife Mary Woolley Moore, of Elizabeth City county. Mrs. Ritchey's mother also told her that she remembered relatives named Dixon and some named Goodwin. It is known that the above mentioned Augustine Moore had a sister named Elizabeth who married John Goodwin.

Mrs. Ritchey having heard these things from her grandfather, and seeing in the "Baltimore Sun," of May 27, 1906,⁸ an article by Jane Griffith Keys, on "The Moore Family in Virginia," in which the names William Moore, Daniel Moore and Martha Dixon, children of Augustine Moore and Mary Woolley Moore, of Elizabeth City county, occur with others among the descendants of a John Moore who came to Virginia in 1620, naturally concluded that Jeremiah was descended from this John Moore.

But it is certain that William Moore, the brother of Daniel Moore

⁷Letter, dated May 13, 1932, to the writer. Mrs. Ritchey and her sister, Mrs. Mary Elgin Mann, of Baltimore, also made an affidavit to the same effect, June 30, 1932, and gave it to the writer.

⁸This paper may be seen in the Periodical Room, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

and Martha Dixon, and the son of Augustine Moore and Mary Woolley Moore, of Elizabeth City county, and a descendant of John Moore who settled in Elizabeth City county in 1620, was not the father of Jeremiah Moore, who was born in 1746, for this William Moore had another brother named Augustine, who died in 1737, who in his will written in 1736,⁹ proved in 1737, left property to a nephew and niece, children of "my brother William now deceased."

There are several mis-statements in the article by Mrs. Keys. She calls John Moore, who settled in Elizabeth City county in 1620, "Captain," and states that he was Burgess for Isle of Wight in 1652-54, but John Moore, of Elizabeth City county is not known to have had a title and was an entirely different person from "Captain" John Moore, of Isle of Wight, who served in the House of Burgesses in 1652-54.

Mrs. Keys states also that Augustine More, who built the "Chelsea" house in King William county, was the son of Daniel Moore, son of Augustine Moore and Mary Woolley Moore, and a descendant of John Moore, of Elizabeth City county, and assumes that this John Moore was descended from Sir Thomas More, Lord High Chancellor of England, in the reign of Henry the Eighth, but there is no proof that John Moore, of Elizabeth City county was descended from Sir Thomas More, the Lord High Chancellor, and it is questionable whether Augustine More, who built "Chelsea," was a descendant of John Moore, of Elizabeth City county, and it is certain that Augustine More, who built "Chelsea" was not the son of Daniel Moore, son of Augustine Moore and Mary Woolley Moore.

This Daniel Moore had a son named Augustine but this Augustine, the son of Daniel, was born in 1731,¹⁰ bought "Temple Farm" near Yorktown in 1769 from his brother-in-law, Robert Smith,¹¹ and lived there until his death in 1788, while on reliable authority¹² the Augustine More, who built "Chelsea," was born in England about 1685, came to Virginia about 1705, built "Chelsea" thereafter, living there to his death in 1743, and is buried there.

Dr. Lyon G. Tyler states¹³ that the Moore families of Elizabeth City, York and King William, in whom the name Augustine appeared to be a family name, were probably all descended from Augustine Moore who patented land in 1652, presumably the son of John Moore who came to Virginia in 1620. But Augustine (2), the son of this John and John's only son so far as known, had only two sons, so far as the record shows, Augustine, Jr., (3) and John (3). John (3) named no children in his will, proved Jan. 19, 1715-16,¹⁴ so apparently was childless. Augustine, Jr. (3), the grandson of John, the immigrant, is the Augustine Moore who married Mary Woolley and they had a number of sons and among them a son named Augustine (4), the one who died in 1737. This Augustine (4) in his will proved in Elizabeth City county in 1737, named no wife nor children of his own, and must have been childless when the will was written. So, clearly, unless Augustine (2), the son of John Moore the immigrant,

⁹A photostat copy of the will of Augustine More, of Elizabeth City county may be seen in the Clerk's office in Hampton.

¹⁰Tyler, Dr. Lyon G.: *W. & M. C. Q.*, vol. 2 (July, 1893), p. 14 (footnote); also, *W. & M. C. Q.*, vol. 9, (October, 1900), p. 126, Notes on the "Moore Family," in an article on "Old Kecoughtan," author's name not given, probably the editor, Doctor Tyler.

¹¹Tyler, Dr. L. G.: "Temple Farm," *W. & M. C. Q.*, vol. 2 (July, 1893), p. 14.

¹²Va. Mag. Hist. and Biog., vol. 6, p. 436; vol. 25 (Oct., 1917), p. 433; *W. & M. C. Q.*, vol. 14 (April, 1906), p. 266 (note); vol. 16 (Oct., 1907), p. 122; vol. 17 (July, 1908), p. 49; vol. 19 (Jan., 1911), p. 177; also, Campbell, Charles: "Genealogy of the Spotswood Family," Albany, 1868, p. 28; and Lancaster, Robt. A. Jr.: "Historic Virginia Homes and Churches," J. P. Lippincott Co., Phila., 1915, p. 266.

¹³*W. & M. C. Q.*, vol. 2 (July, 1893), p. 14.

¹⁴*W. & M. C. Q.*, vol. 6, No. 2 (October, 1897), supplement, p. 157.

had another son of whom nothing is known at this time, Augustine More, of "Chelsea," could not have been descended from him.

The descendants of Augustine More, of "Chelsea," claim¹⁵ that he was born in England and that he was sixth in descent from Sir Thomas More, the Lord High Chancellor of England in the reign of Henry VIII. Sir Thomas More's home near London was called "Chelsea." Hence the name "Chelsea" of Augustine More's home in Virginia. This Augustine More's tombstone at "Chelsea," in King William county, is said to have the coat-of-arms of Sir Thomas More engraved upon it. Also Augustine More of "Chelsea" usually spelled his name with one "o," "More," as did Sir Thomas More. Augustine More (4), of Elizabeth City county, who is descended from John Moore, the immigrant, in signing his will also spelled his name with one "o." John Moore, the immigrant, named his only son Augustine and there were one or more Augustines in each of the next two or three generations, so it would look as if there may have been a relationship between this family and the family of Augustine More of "Chelsea," in King William county, as Doctor Tyler inferred, but, if so, it probably goes back to England. Possibly they were both descended from a common ancestor there. There were other Augustine Moores in Virginia in the early days, one who patented 650 acres of land on the "Peayanketank" river in 1652,¹⁶ who may or may not have been the son of John, the 1620 immigrant, and one whose inventory was recorded in Northampton in 1655.¹⁷

Mrs. Keys evidently got some of her data on the Moore Family from the note on the "Moore Family" published in an article on "Old Kecoughtan," already referred to.¹⁸ This note reads as follows:

"MOORE FAMILY. The Moore family begins with John Moore, who patented 285 acres in Elizabeth City county in 1638. He came to Virginia in the "Bona Nova" in 1620, at the age of thirty-six. His wife, Elizabeth Moore, came in the "Abigail" in 1622. They were living at Elizabeth City in 1625 (Hotten). In 1676 Augustine Moore (2) of the Old Poquoson, Elizabeth City, patented the land formerly granted to his father, John. He married, perhaps twice, first Anne, named in a land grant in 1652, and second, Elizabeth, named in Elizabeth City county records. Augustine Moore (2) died before 1688. He had issue (1) John, (2) Elizabeth, who married Captain John Goodwin, (3) Capt. Augustine Moore, one of the justices of Elizabeth City county, who probably married Mary Woolley, since his wife, Mary, in 1677, in a deed in Lancaster county calls George Woolley "Brother." (Edmund Sweeny, died 1698, calls Moore brother.) Issue of Captain Moore (3); John, Edward, Merritt, Daniel, Martha, married Dixon, Ann, William and Augustine. Of these, Daniel Moore (4) lived in York county, married first, Elizabeth, daughter of James Sclater, second, Mary, daughter of Anthony Watts and widow of John Lewellin, third, Mary Kerby, widow of Anthony Robinson, Jr. Daniel Moore died in 1767, and his widow, Mary, and son, Augustine, lived at the "Temple Farm" York county and were there at the time of the surrender of Lord Cornwallis."

Reference to records in the State Land Office shows that a John Moore¹⁹ patented, July 3, 1635 (not 1638), 200 acres (not 285 acres) in Elizabeth City county, on the Little Poquoson adjoining Thomas Boulding and Thomas Garnett, and running south into the woods towards the head

¹⁵W. & M. C. Q., vol. 17 (July, 1908), p. 53.

¹⁶State Land Office, Richmond, Va., Patent Book 3, p. 203.

¹⁷Torrence, Clayton: "Virginia Wills and Administrators, 1632-1800," Richmond, 1931.

¹⁸W. & M. C. Q., vol. 9 (Oct., 1900), p. 126.

¹⁹State Land Office, Richmond, Va., Patent Book 1, Part 1, p. 202.

of Broad Creek, and that Augustine Moore²⁰ patented, June 19, 1676, 285 acres in Elizabeth City county, at the head of the Little Poquoson creek, 200 acres of which land was granted to John Moore, father of the said Augustine Moore, by patent dated July 3, 1635, and the other 85 acres found within the bounds of the aforementioned tract. A patent for 200 acres in Elizabeth City county was granted in 1638 to a Joseph Moore (not John Moore), and evidently the author confused the two.

Another note, seemingly on this Moore family, is contained in a footnote accompanying the article on "Temple Farm," previously referred²¹ to, which note reads as follows:

"Augustine Moore, patent June 29, 1652, headrights, Anne his wife, Augustine (2) his son. Capt. Augustine Moore (2) lived in the "Old Pococson" precinct in Elizabeth City county, of which he was Justice, High Sheriff, &c., in 1697, probably the son mentioned in the patent above (June 29, 1652). Daniel (3), probably the son of Augustine (2), lived in the "New Pococson" in York county, was Justice, Sheriff, &c, will proved 16 Mch., 1767, m. first, Elizabeth, d. of James Sclater (and Mary Sclater), son of Rev. James Sclater; issue:

1. Mary, b. Oct. 27, 1729, w. pr. 19 Apr., 1790,
m. Edmund Tabb (w. pr. 15 Mch., 1762), who had
Elizabeth, m. — Smith (issue:
Augustine and Fanny, m. — Powell).

II. Augustine, b. March 6, 1731, w. pr. 15 Sept., 1788.

III. Martha, b. May 1734, m. — Sweny.

Daniel Moore, married, 2nd, Mary, daughter of John Lewellin, who survived him."

There are several apparent discrepancies in the two notes on the Moore Family quoted above, but none except one of any particular importance. In one note Augustine Moore, son of John Moore, of Elizabeth City county, patents land in 1676, and in the other an Augustine Moore, seemingly the same Augustine, patents land in 1652. The patent granted Augustine Moore in 1676 was for the same land on Little Poquoson in Elizabeth City county granted his father, John Moore, in 1635, and this certainly places this Augustine. The patent granted Augustine Moore in 1652 was for 650 acres of land on the north-east side of Peayanketank river,²² in what was then Lancaster county, now Middlesex. And, among the thirteen headrights, all named in the record, are the patentee's own name, Augustine, and also the name of his wife, Anne, and of his son, Augustine, Junior, so that it seems likely that this is another Augustine Moore, who had just come to Virginia, though from what follows in the text of the note just quoted it would appear that Doctor Tyler, who made this note, thought that the two Augustines were one and the same person. Also, in one note Daniel Moore is credited with three wives, in the other with only two, and in one Daniel's second wife is the widow of John Lewellin, in the other she is John Lewellin's daughter.

The records in the State Land Office show a number of patents issued in the early days of the Colony to persons named Moore or More, but only three others in Elizabeth City county, in addition to those previously mentioned, two to Joseph Moore,²³ each for 200 acres on the old Poquoson river, one in 1636, the other in 1638, and the other to William Moore,²⁴

²⁰State Land Office, Richmond, Va., Patent Book 6, p. 614.

²¹See footnote No. 11.

²²State Land Office, Richmond, Va., Patent Book 3, p. 203.

²³State Land Office, Richmond, Va., Patent Book 1, Part 1, p. 357, and Patent Book 1, Part 2, p. 594.

²⁴State Land Office, Richmond, Va., Patent Book 4, p. 50.

son of Joseph, in 1656, for 200 acres previously assigned to his father. Joseph may or may not have been related to John. It is immaterial. There were a number of other patents issued in the name of John Moore, or More, particularly a John More in Isle of Wight, whose first patent was granted in February, 1632. He was evidently a wealthy man, was a member of the House of Burgesses, and was undoubtedly a different individual from the John Moore of Elizabeth City county. John More in Isle of Wight, and Augustine More in King William were by all odds the wealthiest and the most prominent of the early Moores in Virginia. The latter was granted his first patent in 1723, though he must have been in Virginia prior to that. Augustine is a frequently encountered given name among the Moores or Mores of that period, and, as Doctor Tyler says, they may all have had a common ancestor, and, therefore, have been related, though possibly remotely in some instances. Certainly Augustine, of King William, was a very different type of man from the Moores of York and Elizabeth City counties.

Both the "Moore Family" notes in the William and Mary College Quarterly, October, 1900, and in Mrs. Key's article in the "Baltimore Sun," May 27, 1906, give the same names to the eight children of Augustine Moore (3) and Mary Woolley Moore, of Elizabeth City county. And the will of Augustine "More" (spelled with one "o"), which will was written in 1736 and admitted to probate in 1737, mentions a number of these children, namely, a brother John, a brother Merritt, a brother Daniel, a sister Martha Dixon, and a brother William, who is said to be "deceased," all of whom are mentioned in the Quarterly article, and in Mrs. Keys' Article, as names of the children of Augustine (3) and Mary Woolley Moore, but the will does not mention Edward or Ann, names of other children of Augustine (3), and Mary Woolley Moore, mentioned both in the Quarterly article, and in Mrs. Keys' article. Mrs. Ritchey had assumed that William Moore, the father of Jeremiah, was the son of Augustine Moore (3), but naturally, this William (4), who was dead in 1736 when the will was written could not have been the father of Jeremiah who was born in 1746.

Augustine "More" (4) in his will mentions two children of this brother William (4), an Augustine (5), and an Elizabeth (5), but he does not mention a William (5), or a Daniel (5), or any other child of his brother William (4), or a child of any of his other brothers or sisters, though his brother Daniel had three children living at this time, and Augustine (4) may have had other nephews and nieces also living in 1735. The will of William Moore (4) is not in the Clerk's office in Hampton.

ELIZABETH CITY COUNTY.

There are, however, in the Clerk's office in Hampton photostat copies of five other Moore wills of the period between 1700 and 1800. If other Moore wills of this period or prior thereto had been on file there, they were destroyed or carried off during the War between the States, when many records were lost. The five other Moore wills prior to 1800, in the Photostat books in the Clerk's office in Hampton are:

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| John Moore | dated Sept. 13, 1762, proved 1762, recorded on page 165. |
| Anne Moore | dated 1767, proved 1768, recorded on page 194. |
| Ann Moore | dated 1767, proved 1768, recorded on page 196. |
| Augustine Moore | dated Nov. 9, 1793, proved Jan. 26, 1795, recorded on page 486. |
| Merritt Moore | dated 1798, proved 1798, recorded on page 530. |

In the will of John Moore, dated Sept. 13, 1762, are mentioned a wife, Ann, a daughter Elizabeth, and a nephew Augustine, but no son William, and no nephew William. Since Augustine "More," who died in 1737, had a brother John and at least two nephews named Augustine, then living (Augustine the son of his brother William, and Augustine the son of his brother Daniel), it is likely, but not certain, that this John, who died in 1762, was the brother of the Augustine, who died in 1737.

The two wills, one signed Anne, the other Ann Moore, both dated 1767 and proved in 1768, are practically the same in substance and are believed to have been written by the same person. In these two wills are mentioned certain sisters, but no children. This Ann may have been the wife of the John Moore, who died in 1762. This John Moore's wife was named Ann.

In Augustine Moore's will, dated Nov. 9, 1793, are mentioned his wife, Ann, sons William, Augustine, Merritt and John, daughters Ann and Jane, and a son-in-law, George Booker, husband of Jane. This Augustine is probably the nephew of the Augustine "More," who died in 1737, and the son of this Augustine's brother William. Augustine's eldest son was named William, presumably for his grandfather, the next son Augustine, his father's and a family name, and the next two sons, Merritt and John, also Elizabeth City county Moore family names. Augustine died in 1795, so if he was the nephew of the Augustine who died in 1737, he was in all probability only a boy at that time, but at that he might have had a brother William who could have been the father of Jeremiah in 1746.

This Augustine Moore's will was recorded Jan. 26, 1795, by "Merritt Moore, Clk.," who wrote a very scholarly hand. His grandfather, Capt. Augustine Moore (3), according to Doctor Tyler,²⁵ was alive in 1697. This Captain Augustine's father Augustine Moore (2), son of John who came to Virginia in 1620 at the age of thirty-six, died before 1688.²⁶ Chronologically it is possible for William who was dead in 1736 to have been born early enough to have had a son who could have been the father of Jeremiah in 1746, but this is doubtful. The Augustine (4), who died in 1737, left his seal ring and snuff box and silver spoons to his nephew Augustine. The Augustine, who died in 1795 does not mention these things. He may have given them to his sons before his death, or they may have been lost or he may never have had them. Augustine (4) who died in 1737 left a considerable estate. He left land to both his nephew and niece, and made bequests to each of three brothers and a sister. His brother Merritt was made residuary legatee and was appointed executor.

The will of the Merritt Moore, who died in 1798, was witnessed by Augustine Moore, Jr., evidently the son of the Augustine who died in 1795, and by Ann — Moore, probably the sister or the mother of Augustine Jr. (The name "Ann" occurs frequently among these Moores. They were evidently much given, too, to using family names for their children). This Merritt Moore could hardly have been the brother of Augustine Moore (4), who died in 1737. He must have belonged to the succeeding generation. He may have been the son of Augustine, who died in 1795. This Augustine had a son named Merritt.

The will of Daniel Moore, brother of the Augustine who died in 1737, was proved in York county, March 16, 1767.²⁷ This Daniel lived in the "New Pocoson" district in York county, just across the line from the "Old Pocoson" district in Elizabeth City county, where his ancestor had settled, and when his brother, Augustine, wrote his will in 1737, Daniel had then been married for at least eight years, for he had a daughter Mary, born Oct. 27, 1729. Daniel's only son, Augustine, married Lucy

²⁵W. & M. C. Q., vol. 2, p. 14.

²⁶W. & M. C. Q., vol. 9, p. 126.

²⁷York county Records, Wills and Indentures, vol. XXI, p. 323.

Smith, and in 1769, two years after the death of his father, Augustine bought the "Temple Farm"²⁸ from his wife's brother, Robert Smith, for 1200 pounds.

This Augustine died in 1788 without issue, and left the "Temple Farm" to his "Ever worthy friend, Gen. Thomas Nelson," subject to the life estate of his wife. General Nelson, by his will, proved Feb. 16, 1789, devised the reversion in fee subject to the life estate of Mrs. Lucy Moore, in the said tract of land, to his son, Hugh Nelson.²⁹ Bishop Meade was therefore mistaken when he stated in his "Old Churches, Ministers and Families of Virginia,"³⁰ that the place had once belonged to Governor Spotswood and that Governor Spotswood was buried there, and that the name, "Moore" house, arose from the fact that Bernard Moore, son of Augustine More, of "Chelsea," and son-in-law of Governor Spotswood, was living there at the time of Cornwallis' surrender. Robert Smith, from whom Augustine Moore bought, inherited the place from his father, Col. Lawrence Smith, in whose family it had been since 1686. It was probably called "Temple Farm" because of the ruins of old York church in the garden.

There were recorded just subsequent to 1800 in the Elizabeth City county Clerk's office the following Moore wills:

Ann Moore, Feb. 9, 1801, probably the wife of Augustine, who died in 1795.

John Moore, April 26, 1803, probably son of Augustine, who died in 1795.

Augustine Moore, Jan. 31, 1822, probably son of Augustine, who died in 1795.

This clears up the Moores of this period in Elizabeth City county so far as the wills in the Clerk's office are concerned. There may be land records or other papers recorded there that will aid in throwing light on this subject. The sons of Augustine (3), John (4), Daniel (4), and Augustine (4), have been eliminated as possible progenitors of Jeremiah. There remain William (4), who has not been entirely eliminated, Edward (4) and Merritt (4), one of whom might have had a son, William (5), who might have been the father of Jeremiah, but about whose children nothing is known.

Some of this family moved to York county, adjacent to Elizabeth City. Daniel Moore (4) and his son Augustine (5) lived there, as we have seen, and there are a number of records in the York county Clerk's office prior to 1800, referring to persons named Moore, but only one that might have a bearing upon the ancestry of Jeremiah, the will of a John Moore, who died in 1748, and who had a son William. However, nothing is known of this William Moore.

YORK COUNTY.

The following wills and other court records, dated prior to 1800 are at the present time in the York county Clerk's office or in the Archives Division of the Virginia State Library:

1. York county records, vol. IV, 1664-1672, p. 368 (new book, page 529) in Archives Division, Virginia State Library, Richmond. James Moore—Will, dated May 27, 1670, proved Dec. 1, 1671, mentions his wife (no name given, but on p. 370 in another record her name is given as Anne), daughter Anne, not yet of age, brother Alexander, a "Cozen" James Moore, also a Thomas Crichton and an Elizabeth Chappel. His inventory is recorded Jan. 5, 1671/2, on p. 377 (new page 543) and shows a fair sized estate for the time.

²⁸Deed acknowledged Feb. 20, 1769. W. & M. C. Q., vol. 2, pp. 13-14.

²⁹York county Records, Wills and Indentures, vol. XXIII.

³⁰J. P. Lippincott Co., Phila., 1860, vol. 1, pp. 226-28.

2. Same (new book, page 547), one John Moore, of London, Merchant, is designated Attorney, factor and assignee of Phillipp Foster, of Surry.
3. York county records, vol. V, 1671-1694, p. 10.
Jeffery Moore—Will, dated Jan. 8, 1671, proved Feb. 25, 1672, directs that he be buried by his wife, Isabell More, in the old orchard of Sara Overstreet, mentions Thomas Overstreet, son of John Overstreet, Jane Grimes, daughter of William Grimes, Mary Rifle, daughter of John Rifle, Robert Jones, son of Robert Jones, widow "ffacs" (?) widow Morris, and Mr. John Baskeroyle, who apparently was county clerk. Jeffery Moore speaks of himself as "Clerke and Reader of the parish."
4. Same, p. 133, Dec. 10, 1675.
Alexander Moore—Administration of estate granted to Anne, his relict and administratrix. Inventory, p. 149, Dec. 21, 1675, in which Richard Moore is listed among those owing him money (or tobacco).
5. York county records, vol. VI, 1675—1684 (no index) p. 213.
Richard Moore mentioned. p. 220—Richard Moore sworn as under sheriff of the county.
6. Same, p. 267, Oct. 11, 1680.
Mary Moore—Inventory and appraisement of estate, by George Hambliton, executor, mentions that Bryan Moore is due eight cows and a mare.
7. D. O. & W.—vol. XI, part 2, p. 410-415, 1700.
John Moore—Inventory—amounting to 74 pounds—mentions his brother, Starboy (or Starkey) Moore.
8. Same, p. 424, 1700.
Will of Amy Moore, wife of John Moore, "dowaged" (?) in Charles parish, York county, mentions: Sons, Charles and John, daughters, Amy, Elizabeth Mofford, May and Sarah, son-in-law, Peter Starboy (or Starkey).
9. O. W. & C.—vol. XIV, p. 124, p. 127, 1711/12.
Elizabeth Moore, widow, Deed of Gift, dated Jan. 21, 1711/12, signs her mark "E", gives to daughter Elizabeth, seven pounds sterling, when she comes to age of 18, daughter Lucy, the same, and son John the same, when he reaches the age of 21.
10. O. W. & C.—vol. XVI, part 2, (restored) p. 604, 1729.
Richard Moore, will dated Oct. 3, 1728, proved 1729, signed with his mark, mentions wife (no name given) and six daughters, but mentions no sons. Joseph Mountfort was one of the witnesses. Part of this record is obliterated, but it seems clear that no sons are mentioned.
11. O. W. & C. vol. XVI, part 2, p. 614, 1729.
Richard Moore, inventory, signed by "Jane Moore," and recorded July 21, 1729. A small estate—amount not given.
12. Wills and inventories—vol. XVIII (restored) pp. 55-56, 1733.
Starkey Moore—Will, mentions wife Anne, and brother John. Witnesses: Richard Hurst, Daniel Lamb and Will Parsons. Inventory, p. 63—Ordered May 18, 1733, reported July 16, 1733, amounting to 193 pounds.

13. Same, p. 178-9, 1734.
Jane Moore, of York, Hampton parish, will, dated Apr. 19, 1733, proved Feb. 17, 1734, mentions daughter Martha; kinswoman, Mary Sor Luray (?), "daughter of my kinsman, Edmund Smith."
Witnesses: W. Cary Brown and W. Cary Roads.
On p. 183, is Jane Moore's inventory, dated March 17, 1734, and amounting to 102 pounds.
14. Same, p. 470, Feb. 19, 1738.
Judith Moore, widow of John Grigs Moore, dec'd, who died without making a will, petitions the Court and is given letters of administration.
15. Same, p. 485, 1738.
John Grigs Moore, inventory, dated March 19, 1738, amounting to 27 pounds.
16. Same, p. 632, Aug. 18, 1740. On motion of Daniel More, it is ordered that the negroes of Anthony Robinson, Jr., dec'd., be divided and assigned and one third part given to Daniel More, and Mary, his wife, late the widow of said dec'd, for her dower therein.
17. Same, pp. 682-3, 1740.
John Moore, will, dated Jan. 27, 1740, pr. Feb. 16, 1742, mentions wife Mary, and "my three children," William, John and Philmer. Wife made sole executrix and to give no security &c.
Witnesses: Elizabeth Baptist, Bethia Morris, Anne Hill, Jones Irwin. p. 1691—Inventory ordered March 16, 1740, upon request of Sam'l Reade and John Ballard.
18. Wills and Inventories, vol. XX, p. 2.
Starkey Moore—Appraisal ordered May 20, 1745; returned Sept. 16, 1745, by Peter Goodwin, Merritt Moore and Edward Tabb, and amounted to 128 pounds.
19. Same, pp. 223-4.
Judith Moore, of the Parish of Charles, in the County of York. Will, dated Apr. 17, 1751, probated May 20, 1751, mentions cousin Mary Hatton, dau. of John Hatton, and Elizabeth Hurst, wife of Richard Hurst. Witnesses: John Stacey and Thos. Pescud.
P. 227—Appraisal ordered May 20, 1751; returned July 15, 1751; by James Burcher, Thos. Pescud and Thos. Pescud, Jr., and amounted to 43 pounds.
20. Wills and Inventories, vol. XXI, p. 323.
Daniel Moore, of Charles Parish—Will, dated Feb. 12, 1767, probated March 16, 1767, mentions son Augustine, dau. Martha Sweny, wife Mary, and wife and son named executors. Witnesses: Elizabeth Brody, John Brody and Richard Cary.
21. Wills and Inventories, vol. XXII, p. 352.
John Moore—Appraisal returned Aug. 19, 1776, amounting to 138 pounds.
22. Same, p. 361.
Filmer Moore—Appraisal ordered Feb. 19, 1776 and returned Nov. 18, 1776, amounting to 96 pounds.
23. Same, p. 522.
Mary Moore—Will, dated Oct. 6, 1781, proved July 15, 1782, mentions grandson John Moore and Robert Roberts who was given most of her estate. Witnesses: Edward Wright, William Jones and John Garrison.

24. Wills and Inventories, vol. XXIII, p. 95.
Mary Moore—Appraisal, ordered Sept. 20, 1785, returned Oct. 18, 1785, by Edward Wright, Benjamin Hansford and Richard Hansford, and amounted to 93 pounds.
25. Same, p. 121.
Mary Moore (Presumably another person than the preceding). Appraisal ordered June 19, 1786, returned Sept. 18, 1786, by Philip Dedman, Jno. Dickeson and Thos. Wynne, and amounted to 146 pounds.
26. Will Book—vol. XXIII, (1783-1811) p. 163.
Mary Moore, of Charles Parish, will dated Apr. 5, 1774, pr. Sept. 15, 1788, mentions daughter Mary Sweny, and son Anthony Robinson. Witnesses: Kinde Russell and Sarah Russell. (Evidently the third wife and widow of Daniel Moore who died in 1767, and the stepmother of Augustine Moore who lived at "Temple Farm").
27. Will Book, vol. XXIII, p. 164.
Augustine Moore, will dated Nov. 8, 1787, (codicil dated July 20, 1788), pr. Sept. 15, 1788. Mentions wife Lucy, sister Mary Tabb and her three children, Elizabeth, Augustine and Fanny, and his "worthy friend" General Thomas Nelson, of the town of York. Witnesses: David Jameson, John Smith and Thomas Smith. (This is the Augustine Moore who lived at "Temple Farm").
28. Same, p. 376.
Merritt Moore, will dated July 6, 1790, pr. Apr. 15, 1793. Mentions wife Anne, daughter Anne, sister Robinson, and "sister's three children," Merritt Moore Robinson, Edward Robinson and Anne Todd. Witnesses: Robert Sheild, John Randall and Thomas Newman.
29. Same, p. 484.
William Moore, will dated Oct. 29, 1796, pr. July 17, 1797, mentions son John, wife Franksy, young children, Sally, Merritt, William and Starkey. Executors: Wife and Edmund Patrick. Witnesses: Thos. Hunt, Robert Willing and Edmund Patrick.
30. Same, p. 492.
Lucy Moore, will dated Apr. 17, 1797, pr. Oct. 16, 1797, mentions nieces, Mildred Smith and Lucy Smith, nephews, John, Thomas and George Smith, and Dr. Augustine Smith who is appointed executor. Witnesses: Wm. Reynolds and Abraham Archer. (This is probably the widow of Augustine of "Temple Farm").

The Daniel More mentioned in item 16 listed above is obviously Daniel Moore (4), son of Augustine Moore (3). Mary Moore mentioned in item 26, is this Daniel Moore's (4) widow, his third wife, who after Daniel's death lived at "Temple Farm" with her stepson, Augustine (5), whose will is mentioned in item 27.

There may be other Moore records in the York county Clerk's office that were overlooked by the writer. Many of the books have been rebound, but some of the records are far from being legible and some of the books have no index.³¹

³¹Mr. Holloway, Clerk of York county, says there is a Jeremiah Moore, whom he knew, son of a John W. Moore, of York county, and he thinks this Jeremiah Moore now lives in Norfolk. He says there are many Moores in York at the present time, some named Merritt, some Edward, some Augustine, &c.

The Register of Charles Parish in York county,³² containing lists of births from 1648 to 1789 and deaths from 1665 to 1787, was also examined. It contains the date of birth and date of death of many with the name of Moore, and gives the names of the parents, but nothing that points to a relationship to Jeremiah Moore. The Register does not contain a single entry, birth or death, of a person with the name of French.

III.

THE MOORES OF CAROLINA.

Whether the paternal ancestor of Jeremiah Moore originally settled in South Carolina, or in Elizabeth City county, Virginia, or came direct to Prince William or Stafford county, is not definitely known. The writer was informed many years ago by Miss Bettie Moore, of Berryville, Va. (1844-1930) and also by Mr. A. Moore, Jr., of Berryville (1846-1929), descendants of Jeremiah, that they had understood that Jeremiah was the son of a William Moore who had come to Virginia from South Carolina, and that William was the son of John and that there was a connection somewhere with a Governor of South Carolina. Mr. James M. Engle (b. 1854) also a descendant of Jeremiah and of the same branch of the family as Miss Bettie Moore and Mr. A. Moore, Jr., in "A History of the Engle Family in the Shenandoah Valley and Family Connections,"³³ says that the father of Jeremiah was William, the son of John Moore who came to America from the northern part of Ireland, and located in South Carolina and that James Moore, a brother of John, was governor of South Carolina in the early part of the eighteenth century.

In substantiation of this tradition it is found that a James Moore, who married Margaret Berringer (daughter by a former marriage of Lady Margaret Yeamans, of Barbados) settled in South Carolina and was in 1700 a member of the State Council. Upon the death of Governor Blake, Sept. 7, 1700, he was chosen by the Council to act as Governor and filled this office until June 18, 1702.³⁴ In another sketch of this James Moore it is said that he married the widow Lady Margaret Yeamans, herself, but this appears to be a mistake. It is said³⁵ that this James Moore was born in Ireland in 1640 and emigrated to South Carolina about 1685. His will was proved Nov. 6, 1706.³⁶ He had five sons, viz: James, who was Governor of South Carolina, 1719-1721, Roger, who became very wealthy, built "Orton," and was known as "King Roger," Maurice, who in 1724 founded the town of Brunswick, N. C., on the west side of Cape Fear river, Nathaniel, and John who married Justina Smith and lived on the Cape Fear. In the will of this Justina Moore,³⁷ proved August 20, 1743, in Philadel-

³²Bell, Langdon Covington: "History and Registers of Charles Parish, York county, Virginia," published by the Virginia State Library Board, Richmond, 1932.

Note: Torrence ("Virginia Wills and Administrations 1632 to 1800," published 1931) lists the following Moore wills in Norfolk county: John, 1681; William, 1683; Morggon, 1689; and William, 1764. Torrence also lists an Augustine Moore in Northampton in 1655, and an Edward in Accomac in 1717; and John, 1688; Thomas, 1696; John, 1704; George, 1714, in Isle of Wight, and other Moore wills and inventories in other parts of Virginia.

³³Privately published in 1906; p. 22. Copy in possession of the writer.

³⁴South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine, vol. 19, p. 69 and pp. 155-156, and McCrady, Ed.: History of South Carolina under the Proprietary Government, 1670-1719.

³⁵"Biographical History of North Carolina from Colonial Times to the Present," edited by Samuel A. Ashe, vol. 8, pp. 380-381.

³⁶South Carolina Historical and Genealogical Magazine, vol. 25, p. 176.

³⁷S. C. Hist. & Gen. Mag., vol. 22, p. 107.

phia, where she died while visiting her daughter who was married and lived there, she describes herself as the relict of John Moore late of Cape Fear and mentions sons James and John, and daughter Rebecca, but no other children.

Whether the elder James had a brother John who had a son named William has not been established by documentary proof, but some of Jeremiah's descendants were evidently under this impression. Nor is it known that any of James Moore's family moved to Virginia. They were an interesting and prominent family, active in South Carolina and North Carolina politics, and it would seem that their descendants and relatives would have been so proud of them that the fact would surely have been handed down. If Jeremiah had been of this family, Francis, his son, in the sketch of his father, published shortly after his death,³⁸ would hardly have been content to say only that the parents of Jeremiah were "respectable though poor". He would probably at least have mentioned these South Carolina, Irish connections, but Jeremiah may have been estranged from his parents and Francis may have been resentful.

There was a William Moore, of "Moore Hall," in Chester county, Pennsylvania, whose father was named John, and who was a prominent and conspicuous figure in Chester county.³⁹ This John is said to have come from England to South Carolina about 1680 and to have been Secretary of the Colony of South Carolina. It has also been stated that he was a brother of the first Governor James Moore of South Carolina. He moved to Philadelphia about 1697 and became Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, which office he held for sometime. His son William above-mentioned was born in Philadelphia May 6, 1699, and died at "Moore Hall" May 30, 1783.⁴⁰ William had a number of sons but no son named Jeremiah. This John Moore, father of William Moore of Chester county, was clearly from England where he was born about 1658, and was prominently connected, whereas James Moore, the Governor of South Carolina in 1700, was clearly from Ireland.⁴¹

It is certain, therefore, that John Moore, Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, and father of William of "Moore Hall", in Chester county, was not a brother of Governor James Moore, of South Carolina, and that William Moore of "Moore Hall" was not the father of Jeremiah Moore of "Moorefield" in Fairfax county, Virginia.

There was another John Moore in South Carolina at about this time who had a son named William, but whether this John was a brother of Gov. James Moore is not known. This John Moore died in 1735. His will, dated Jan. 27, 1735, was proved March 15, 1735,⁴² and mentions his wife Rachel, and sons, William and John, and daughters, Anne Ellory, wife of Thomas Ellory, and Elizabeth. John and Elizabeth were minors.

³⁸See footnote No. 1.

³⁹Pennypacker, Samuel W.: "Annals of Phoenixville and its Vicinity," Bavis and Pennypacker, Printers, Philadelphia, 1872, pp. 45-70; and "Historical and Biographical Sketches," Robert A. Tripple, Phila., 1883, pp. 229-240.

⁴⁰There is a sketch of this William Moore's family and descendants in "The Life and Correspondence of the Rev. William Smith," by Horace Wemyss Smith, Philadelphia, 1880, vol. 2, pp. 488-501, and pp. 541-563; see also Pennsylvania Mag. of Hist. and Biog., vol. 4, p. 377.

⁴¹Appleton's Cyclopaedia of American Biography, vol. 4; "Biographical History of North Carolina," edited by Samuel A. Ashe, vol. 8, pp. 380-81; Connor, R. D. W., "History of North Carolina," 1919, vol. 1, p. 148 (footnote); Waddell, Alfred Moore: "A Historical Sketch of the former Town of Brunswick on the Cape Fear river," contained in "A Colonial Officer and his Times," 1890, pp. 204-233.

⁴²Revill, Janie: "Abstract of Moore Records of S. C., 1694-1865," The State Co., Columbia, S. C., 1931, p. 13.

This John Moore's son William died in 1736,⁴³ so he could not have been the father of Jeremiah Moore.

Another Carolina possibility is found in a John Moore, of Northampton county, North Carolina, whose will, dated Sept. 1, 1753, was proved in November, 1753,⁴⁴ and mentions sons: Mark, John, Isham, *William*, Nathaniel, Richard; and daughter Sarah; and wife *Tabitha*. Jeremiah named one of his daughters Tabitha.

Roger Moore of "Orton," son of the first Governor James Moore, had a son named George, who lived at "Moore Fields" on the west side of the Cape Fear river.⁴⁵ The name of this plantation, "Moore Fields," attracts attention as being almost identical with the name of Jeremiah's home in Fairfax county, "Moorefield," but, of course, there is no connection between the two places.

A number of men named John Moore settled in South Carolina in the early days of the Colony, but nowhere has definite, documentary proof been found to show that the first Governor James Moore had a brother named John who was in South Carolina with him and whose descendants or some of them settled later in Virginia or elsewhere. The idea that Jeremiah Moore was the son of William Moore who was the son of John Moore, a brother of the first Governor James Moore of South Carolina is based purely upon a tradition handed down in the family of one of the sons of Jeremiah and Lydia Moore, and came to me from three separate and independent sources. It seems to me to be reliable.

Nowhere in the records have the names of William and Jeremiah Moore been found associated as father and son except in the tax lists of Lunenburg county,⁴⁶ and there not until 1772, too late a day to be referring to Jeremiah Moore, of "Moorefield," and his father. Had Jeremiah's ancestors first lived in South Carolina, and migrated from there to northern Virginia, they may or may not have stopped in Lunenburg county on their way, but other members of the family may have done so. According to Torrence,⁴⁷ no will in the name of Moore is recorded in Lunenburg prior to 1781, and wills recorded later than 1781 would contain no information bearing upon the ancestry of Jeremiah.

MOORE LAND GRANTS IN VIRGINIA 1633 TO 1776.

There were many persons named John Moore and many named William Moore living in Virginia in the early days of the Colony. Eighteen named John and fourteen named William Moore were granted patents for land prior to 1746, the year of Jeremiah Moore's birth, and ten named John and six named William took up land in Virginia during the next thirty years. They lived in various parts of the Colony.

LAND PATENTS—Recorded in the State Land Office, Richmond, in the name of JOHN Moore.

200 acres in Warwicksqueick (later, Isle of Wight), Mar. 6, 1633, recorded in Book 1, p. 127.

200 " on Little Poquoson, in Elizabeth City county, July 3, 1635, recorded in Book 1, p. 202.

⁴³Webber, Mabel L.: "Moore of St. Thomas' Parish," South Carolina Hist. and Genealogical Mag., vol. 27, pp. 156-169.

⁴⁴Grimes, J. Bryan: "Abstract of North Carolina Wills, compiled from original and recorded wills in the office of the Secretary of State," Raleigh, 1910.

⁴⁵Sprunt, James: "Chronicles of the Cape Fear River, 2nd Ed., 1916, pp. 69-70; Battle, Kemp P.: "Letters & documents relating to the early history of the Lower Cape Fear," 1903, pp. 6-7, S. C. Hist. & Gen. Mag., vol. 30, pp. 11-12 (note).

⁴⁶Bell, Landon C.: "Sunlight on the Southside—Lists of Tithes, Lunenburg county, Va., 1748-1783," George S. Ferguson Co., Phila., 1931.

⁴⁷See footnote No. 17.

- 900 " in Warrasquiocke, Oct. 25, 1635, recorded in Book 1, p. 291.
- 550 " in Isle of Wight, Oct. 10, 1637, recorded in Book 1, p. 509.
- 200 " in James City Co., Chickahominy river, Sept. 4, 1638, recorded in Book 1, p. 596.
- 400 " on Narrasquibo river, Nov. 2, 1638, recorded in Book 1, p. 613.
- 2250 " in Isle of Wight Co., Nov. 20, 1742, recorded in Book 1, p. 860.
- 300 " on W. Br. Nansemond river, Mar. 11, 1664, recorded in Book 5, p. 210.
- 300 " in Isle of Wight Co., Apr. 23, 1681, recorded in Book 7, p. 68.
- 1356 " (Broken land and sand banks), Apr. 20, 1682, recorded in Book 7, p. 152.
- 490 " in Isle of Wight Co., Apr. 20, 1682, recorded in Book 7, p. 164.
- 481 " in Nansemond Co., Nov. 7, 1700, recorded in Book 9, p. 281.
- 97 " in Nansemond Co., Oct. 20, 1704, recorded in Book 9, p. 637.
- 130 " in Surry Co., Mar. 23, 1715, recorded in Book 10, p. 262.
- 150 " in Nansemond Co., July 15, 1716, recorded in Book 10, p. 333.
- 175 " in Amelia Co., July 21, 1738, recorded in Book 18, p. 54.
- 400 " in Henrico Co., Aug. 20, 1745, recorded in Book 22, p. 407.
- 170 " in Brunswick Co., Aug. 28, 1746, recorded in Book 24, p. 369.
- 200 " in Goochland Co., June 5, 1747, recorded in Book 25, p. 620.
- 243 " in Brunswick Co., July 25, 1749, recorded in Book 27, p. 284.
- 150 " in Albemarle Co., July 12, 1750, recorded in Book 29, p. 245.
- 800 " in Albemarle Co., June 1, 1750, recorded in Book 30, p. 108.
- 76 " in Brunswick Co., July 12, 1750, recorded in Book 30, p. 208.
- 370 " in Albemarle Co., Aug. 15, 1764, recorded in Book 36, p. 643.
- 390 " in Halifax Co., Sept. 16, 1765, recorded in Book 36, p. 885.
- 400 " in Louisa Co., July 14, 1769, recorded in Book 38, p. 665.
- 124 " in Albemarle Co., July 14, 1769, recorded in Book 38, p. 783.
- 66 " in Halifax Co., July 5, 1774, recorded in Book 42, p. 703.

LAND PATENTS—Recorded in the State Land Office, Richmond, in the name of WILLIAM Moore.

- 300 acres in Timberneck,
S. side Rappahannock river, Oct. 17, 1649, recorded in Book 2, p. 194.
- 300 " on S. Br. Nansemond river, Dec. 6, 1652, recorded in Book 3, p. 141.
- 200 " on Old Poquoson,
in Elizabeth City county, Mar. 25, 1656, recorded in Book 4, p. 50.
- 800 " in Nansemond Co., Apr. 20, 1670, recorded in Book 6, p. 311.
- 400 " in Nansemond Co., Dec. 16, 1673, recorded in Book 6, p. 504.
- 200 " in Lower Norfolk Co., Oct. 21, 1684, recorded in Book 7, p. 428.
- 400 " in Princess Anne Co., Oct. 25, 1695, recorded in Book 9, p. 31.
- 92 " in Surry Co., Mar. 23, 1715, recorded in Book 10, p. 277.
- 100 " in Princess Anne Co., Nov. 13, 1721, recorded in Book 11, p. 68.
- 300 " in Henrico Co.,
N. side Appomattock river, Aug. 17, 1725, recorded in Book 12, p. 239.
- 380 " in Spotsylvania Co., Sept. 27, 1729, recorded in Book 14, p. 362.
- 400 " in Goochland Co., Sept. 22, 1739, recorded in Book 18, p. 479.
- 350 " in Prince George Co., Oct. 15, 1741, recorded in Book 20, p. 73.
- 275 " in Orange Co., Mar. 15, 1744, recorded in Book 22, p. 212.
- 45 " in Henrico Co., July 5, 1751, recorded in Book 30, p. 455.
- 75 " in Sussex Co., July 10, 1755, recorded in Book 31, p. 484.

- 400 " in Prince George Co., Sept. 10, 1755, recorded in Book 31, p. 618.
 400 " in Albemarle Co., Aug. 16, 1756, recorded in Book 33, p. 312.
 190 " in Lunenburg Co., Mar. 3, 1760, recorded in Book 33, p. 742.
 80 " in Augusta Co., June 27, 1764, recorded in Book 36, p. 557.

Among other persons named Moore, with other given names, who were granted land in various parts of Virginia, were: Aaron, Augustine, Allick, Barnabas, Bryan, Cason, Diana, Edmund, Edward, Epaphroditus, Epes, Eppes, Francis, George, Henry, Hugh, Jacob, James, Joseph, Lambath, Mark, Martin, Mary, Morgan, Patrick, Pelham, Richard, Roger, Samuel, Seth and Thomas Moore. There was found no grant to a Jeremiah Moore, and none to a single individual named French.

IV.

FRENCH FAMILY NOTES.

Whether or not the mother of Jeremiah Moore, of "Moorefield," in Fairfax county, Virginia, was named Angelina French there must have been some close family relationship between his family and some family named French, for he named his eldest daughter Angelina French and two other daughters Elizabeth French and Margaret French and one of his sons William French, and the name "French" was handed down in the given names of the children for several generations.

Jeremiah was born in 1746 in Prince William county, Virginia,⁴⁸ in or near the town of Dumfries, on Quantico river near the point where the Quantico empties into the Potomac river. Both the town and Quantico river at Dumfries are insignificant in the present day, but from about 1750 to 1770 Dumfries was an important town, the county seat of Prince William and a port from which much tobacco was shipped, and the Quantico was broad and deep enough for sailing vessels, mainly from Scotland, to come up to the town. Jeremiah Moore was married in 1765 to Lydia Renno, daughter of Francis Renno,⁴⁹ of a Huguenot family that had come to Prince William in 1688.⁵⁰ Jeremiah and his wife lived for a time in or near Dumfries, for prior to 1772 Jeremiah was for a time a lay reader in the Episcopal Church on Quantico near Dumfries⁵¹ and must have been living near by in order to have attended to his Church duties. In 1773, he was living in Fairfax county on Difficult Run. After 1789 he moved to "Morefield," near Vienna, also in Fairfax, and continued there to his death in 1815. He seems to have been fairly well-to-do.

There is not a single land patent recorded in the State Land Office in Richmond under the name of French. The French family, or families, seem to have settled primarily in the Northern Neck, in the part of Virginia that had been given to Lord Fairfax's family, and they had to buy from him or from earlier settlers who had bought from him. Deeds for this property were recorded in the counties. Some of the French families were quite well-to-do.

⁴⁸Moore, Francis: "Sketch of the Life of Jeremiah Moore," published in the 'Latter Day Luminary,' Phila., 1818, vol. 1, pp. 518-520.

⁴⁹The will of Francis Renno, of Prince William county, dated Oct. 18, 1794, proved Oct. 2, 1797, Prince William county record, Will Book H, p. 224.

⁵⁰Prince William county records, Minute Book, 1752-53, p. 174. This book is kept in the bottom part of an old cupboard in a small room back of the Clerk's office in the Court House in Manassas, Va.

⁵¹Meade, Bishop William: "Old Churches, Ministers and Families of Virginia," J. P. Lippincott & Co., Phila., 1857, vol. 2, p. 215.

The following wills and inventories in the name of French are listed by Torrence⁵² as having been recorded prior to 1800 in the counties indicated:

| | | |
|----------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| Essex county | Robert French | 1743 will. |
| Fairfax | Daniel | 1749 " |
| | Daniel | 1772 " |
| Frederick | John | 1750 " |
| Hampshire | James | 1773 " |
| Henrico | Seath | 1740 " |
| King George | Margaret | 1749 inventory. |
| | Hugh | 1770 administration. |
| Powhatan | Thomas | 1785 inventory. |
| Princess Anne | Thomas | 1735 " |
| Prince William | Daniel | 1736 " |
| | James | 1743 will. |
| Richmond | Hugh | 1701 " |
| Stafford | Hugh | 1737 " |
| | Hugh, Jr. | 1740 " |
| | Angle ⁵³ | 1744 inventory. |
| | Mason | 1752 will. |
| | Daniel | 1756 " |
| Surry | Samuel | 1730 inventory. |
| Westmoreland | Mason | 1746 " |
| | Daniel | 1756 " |
| | Catherine | 1759 " |

The above list shows that the earliest French will recorded in Virginia, or at least now on record and available for examination, is the will of Hugh French, of Richmond county, proved in 1701. This will is also mentioned in an article in the William and Mary College Quarterly,⁵⁴ wherein this Hugh French is referred to as Hugh French of the parish of St. Mary's, Richmond county.

His will dated June 20, 1700, proved Dec. 3, 1701, is recorded in the Clerk's office in the Court House in Warsaw, in Will Book 2, on page 34. He names his wife, Margaret, his sons Hugh, Daniel and Mason, and daughters, Mary and Margaret. After his death his widow, Margaret, married John Somerville, and in September, 1705, his son Hugh, who is said to have been then over sixteen years of age, petitioned the Court, it is said in the article above mentioned, but for what reason is not stated in the article.

In this same article in the Quarterly is mentioned also Daniel French, of King George county, who died in 1736, leaving a will, of which his brother, Hugh French was executor. There are no Will Books in King George county prior to 1752, but in King George Order Book No. 2, covering the years 1735 to 1751, on page 62, at a Court held April 2, 1736, is the following statement:

"The last will and testament of Daniel French, dec'd, being produced by Hugh French, the said Hugh took the Oath of an Executor, who together with Daniel McCarty acknowledged their bond in one thousand pounds for his faithful administering the s'd estate."

⁵²Torrence, Clayton: "Virginia Wills and Administrations, 1632-1800," The William Byrd Press, Richmond, 1931.

⁵³Reference to the Record shows that this name, which Torrence spells, "Angle," is really "Hugh." See Stafford county records, Will Book 1729-1748, p. 404. The word in the record looks remarkably like "Angle," but unquestionably it is "Hugh."

⁵⁴W. & M. C. Q., vol. 12, p. 269.

And on p. 64, at a Court held May 4, 1736, concerning an order for the appraisement of the estate of Daniel French, dec'd, mentions his daughter, Margaret, and his estate on Muddy Creek.

And on p. 74, at a Court held June 4, 1736:

"Margaret French, widow and relict of Daniel French, dec'd, by her deed (?) under hand proved by the oath of William Gott and John Pratt, declared her dissent to the said Daniel's last will and testament which is admitted to record."

This Daniel French, of King George, who died in 1736, is also spoken of in "William Strother of Virginia, and his Descendants," by Thomas McAdory Owen⁵⁵, and his wife is said to have been Margaret Pratt, daughter of John Pratt and Margaret, his wife, of King George. She is probably the Margaret French, whose estate was appraised in King George Mar. 2, 1749, by Will Gott, George Davenport and Henry Drake at 639 pounds sterling. (King George Inventories, 1745-1765, p. 55.)

It is said also that this Daniel French belonged to a prominent family of that name of Roscommon county, Ireland, and that his daughter, Margaret, married James Strother (3), of King George county, the son of Jeremiah Strother (2), the son of William Strother (1), the immigrant. The will of William Strother (1), the immigrant, dated December 30, 1700, proved November 6, 1702, in Richmond county, names his wife, Dorothy (Savage), his eldest son, William, and other sons, James, *Jeremy*, Robert, Benjamin and Joseph.

It is said further that *Jeremiah* Strother (2), son of *William*, the immigrant, was a freeholder in Westmoreland county in 1703, and subsequently a planter in King George, until probably as late as 1736, when he moved to Orange county (now Culpeper), where he died in 1741. His will, dated June 7, 1740, proved March 26, 1741, is recorded in Orange county,⁵⁶ and names his wife, Eleanor, sons, James, William, Francis, Jeremiah, Lawrence and Christopher, and daughters, Catherine and Elizabeth.

Of James Strother (3), son of Jeremiah Strother (2), it is said, that he lived in King George county, was deputy in 1733 under his uncle, Benjamin Strother, sheriff of King George county, was himself sheriff and justice in 1741, and inspector at Falmouth (then in King George) in 1742. He married *Margaret French*, daughter of Daniel and Margaret French, of King George, and their eldest son was named Francis (?). Other sons were French and James Strother. The latter died in 1764, unmarried. There was also a daughter named Mary, who married George Gray.

The names Margaret French, Jeremiah and William are suggestive, though William and Jeremiah are here found in the Strother family, and not in the French family. Jeremiah Moore, born in 1746, son of William Moore, named a daughter Margaret French. Margaret French, named above, who married James Strother, belonged to a generation preceding the generation or period of Jeremiah Moore. It may be that she had a sister, Angelina, who was the mother of Jeremiah.

In the William and Mary College Quarterly article (vol. 12, p. 269, et seq.), previously alluded to, it is stated that there is a deed, dated July 2, 1760, which recites that Daniel French, then of Fairfax county, and Margaret French, late wife of James Strother, were children of Daniel French, late of King George county, who gave some slaves to his said daughter Margaret in his will, of which his brother, Hugh French, was executor.

⁵⁵Owen, Thomas McAdory: "William Strother of Virginia and his Descendants," Publications of the Southern History Association, Harrisburg, Pa., Publishing Co., April, 1898, p. 42.

⁵⁶Orange county records, Will Book 1, 141.

The will of this Daniel French, of Fairfax county, dated May 20, 1771, proved May 19, 1772, and an inventory of his estate are recorded in the Fairfax county Clerk's office.⁵⁷ His inventory shows that he was a wealthy man. This Daniel French's will names his wife, Penelope, his wife's brother, Mr. Harrison Manley, his only daughter, Elizabeth French, his nephew, Mr. French Strother, a Mr. Hugh French, "who lives with me," a John French, "who formerly lived at my quarter in Loudoun" (county), his niece, Mrs. Sarah Triplett, wife of Mr. Thomas Triplett, his brother-in-law, Mr. Townsend Dade, his friend, Col. George Mason, and a William Spencer. He lived at "Rose Hill," which, according to a note in the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*,⁵⁸ was located five miles south of Alexandria, and in the neighborhood of "Mount Eagle," home of Lord Fairfax, and of "Hayfield," which belonged to one of the Washington families.

Another Daniel French lived at an earlier day in Fairfax. His will, dated October 16, 1748, proved May 16, 1749, and his inventory are recorded there.⁵⁹ His will names his wife, Elizabeth, and mentions also an Elizabeth Minor, daughter of John Minor, of Fairfax county, a godson of Daniel Sanford, and a sister, Margaret Hansbury, but no children of his own. He was probably a relative of Daniel French, of "Rose Hill," but his estate was very modest indeed in comparison with that of Daniel French of "Rose Hill."

From the above notes it would appear that Daniel French, of King George county, who died in 1736, was probably the son of Hugh French, of Richmond county, who died in 1701, and the father of Daniel French, of "Rose Hill," in Fairfax county, who died in 1772, and of Margaret French who married James Strother and who died prior to July 2, 1760. Whether this Daniel French of King George, who died in 1736, had other children has not been shown, but it is likely that he had. Large families were the vogue in his day. It seems barely possible that Jeremiah Moore's mother, Angelina French, may have been a daughter of this Daniel French who died in 1736, and a sister or half sister of the Margaret French who married James Strother, and of Daniel French, of "Rose Hill." Unfortunately Daniel French's will is not on record in the King George county Clerk's office. There are no wills on record in King George prior to 1752.

Hugh French, of Richmond county, who died in 1701, probably the father of the Daniel French who died in King George in 1736, had two other sons, Hugh and Mason. The Hugh French, of Stafford county, who died in 1737, left a will, dated Oct. 5, 1736, proved September 13, 1737,⁶⁰ in which he names sons, Hugh, Daniel and Mason, and daughters, Elizabeth, Margaret and Ann. This Hugh French was most likely the son of the Hugh French, of Richmond county, who died in 1701. The names of his children suggest it.

The Hugh French, Jr., of Stafford county, who left a will,⁶¹ dated Oct. 21, 1739, proved May 15, 1740, was undoubtedly the son of Hugh French of Stafford, who died in 1737, for he describes land left him by his father in terms which identify it with land described in the will of Hugh French, who died in 1737. In the younger man's will are named his wife, Betty, and a son "Mayson" (Mason), and mention is made of an unborn child. Other Stafford county records show that this child, which

⁵⁷Fairfax county records, Will Book C, No. 1, p. 134 and p. 168.

⁵⁸Va. M. H. & B., vol. 33, p. 165, footnote.

⁵⁹Fairfax county records, Will Book A, No. 1, p. 269.

⁶⁰Stafford county records, Will Book, 1729-1748, p. 247.

(This book was carried away by Federal soldiers in 1862, and sent to Elizabeth, N. J., where it was kept until 1927, when it was returned to the State of Virginia by the Union County Historical Society, of Elizabeth City.)

⁶¹Stafford county records, Will Book, 1729-1748, p. 288.

was born later, was a daughter who was named Rachel, and that the widow, Betty, was a daughter of Nath'l Brittingham, of Pocomoke, and that, after the death of her husband, Hugh French, Jr., she married again, prior to 1746, James Waugh, who was the executor of the will of Hugh French, Jr., and guardian of his two children, Mason and Rachel.

There are also recorded in Stafford county the wills of a Mason French, who died in 1752, and a Daniel French, who died in 1756. The will of this Mason French⁶² is merely an ante-mortem statement made April 22, 1752, the day before he died, to his wife, who certified that he made this statement to her when she asked him his wishes regarding the disposition of his estate. Her name is not mentioned and no children are mentioned. This Mason French was probably the son of Hugh French who died in 1737 in Stafford county. Mason French, the son of Hugh French, Jr., who died in 1740, was probably too young to have been married in 1752.

The will of Daniel French, of Stafford county, dated September 19, 1755, proved March 9, 1756,⁶³ in which he speaks of himself as "Daniel French of Stafford county, Planter," names only his mother, "Catherine French, of Westmoreland county," to whom he leaves his entire estate, real and personal, after his debts are paid, and his "beloved friend John Washington," whom he appoints executor of his will. No wife and no children are mentioned, so he was doubtless unmarried and childless. This Daniel French was not Daniel, the son of Hugh French, of Stafford, who died in 1737, though this Hugh French had a son named Daniel who as yet is unaccounted for, for this Hugh French does not mention his wife in his will, so she was probably dead when the will was drawn, and the Daniel French, of Stafford, who died in 1756, had a mother, named Catherine, who was alive and living in Westmoreland county in 1755 when he made his will. Daniel himself probably came to Stafford from Westmoreland. Catherine French's inventory ordered, Feb. 27, 1759 (Westmoreland Order Book, No. 4, p., 92) was valued at twenty pounds. There are no wills in the name of French in Westmoreland, but there are three inventories, namely, Mason French's inventory, dated May 27, 1746, amounting to 158 pounds (Inventory Book 1, p. 335), Daniel French's inventory, dated March 30, 1756, amounting to 41 pounds (Inventory Book 3, p. 75), and Catherine French's inventory dated Feb. 27, 1759, mentioned above, indicating that they all three had property in Westmoreland and that all three died sometime prior to the dates of the respective inventories. Catherine was probably the "Mother Catherine French, of Westmoreland county," to whom Daniel French of Stafford, who died in 1757, left his entire estate, and she was probably the wife of either Mason or Daniel whose estates were inventoried in Westmoreland in 1746 and 1756 respectively. These names suggest descent from Hugh French, of Richmond county, who died in 1701, leaving three sons, Daniel, Hugh and Mason. The Daniel French, of King George, who died in 1736, may have been one of these sons. Hugh French, of Stafford, who died in 1737, was probably another. And this Mason, whose estate was inventoried in Westmoreland in 1746, was probably the third.

Daniel French, who died in Stafford in 1756, may also have left property in Westmoreland, and this 1756 Westmoreland inventory may have been an inventory of his Westmoreland property. In this event, he may have been the son of Mason and Catherine French of Westmoreland. If not their son, then we do not know who his father was.

There are still two other Daniel Frenches listed by Torrence to be accounted for, one in Fairfax, who died in 1748, the other in Prince William whose estate was inventoried in 1736. This inventory⁶⁴ was ordered by

⁶²Stafford county record, Will Book O, 1748-1763, p. 238.

⁶³Stafford county records, Will Book O, 1748-1763, p. 315.

⁶⁴Prince William county records, Will Book C, p. 81.

the Court, April 21, 1736, was presented and sworn to May 19, 1736, and amounted to a little less than 350 pounds, a fair sized estate in those days. No mention is made of the other members of his family. He could not have been Daniel, the son of Hugh French, of Stafford, who died in 1737, for dying before his father he probably would not have had such an estate. He may have been the Daniel French of King George who died in 1736, and who may have owned property in Stafford also.

The will of the Daniel French who died in Fairfax in 1749 has already been alluded to.⁶⁵ He named no children in his will, and the inventory of his estate shows that he left a very modest estate. There is no mention in his will or his inventory of anything by which to place him, or to show a relationship to Hugh French, of Westmoreland county, who died in 1701.

There is in Prince William also the will of a James French,⁶⁶ dated November 2, 1741, proved May 3, 1743, in which he speaks of being "sick and weak in body." He signs his will with his mark. He names a son, William French, to whom he leaves most of his estate, his dwelling, plantation, riding horse, clothes, gun, chests, pewter, and all his carpenter's, cooper's and shoemaker's tools. He names also his wife, Elizabeth and a daughter, Mary Ann. Jeremiah Moore named one of his sons, born in 1781, William French Moore, but there is nothing to connect Jeremiah with the family of this James French of Prince William.

Virkus, in his "Compendium of American Genealogy,"⁶⁷ mentions a number of people named French and among them a James French, a planter, who came to Stafford county, Virginia, from North Ireland, whose wife was named Elizabeth, and who died about 1743. This would seem to be the same James French whose will was proved in Prince William in 1743.

Virkus mentions also a William French who was born in 1725 and died in 1792, a planter who lived in Stafford county, and whose wife, named Winifred, was born in 1722 and died in 1786. This William is said to be the son of James above mentioned.

Wirt J. Carrington, in a "History of Halifax County, Virginia,"⁶⁸ speaks also of a William French, who was born in Ireland April 29, 1725, and of his descendants. This would seem to be the same man who was said by Virkus to have lived in Stafford county. It is unlikely that he was related to the Richmond county-King George county family, but he may have been the son of James who died in 1743 in Prince William.

David E. Johnston, in a "History of Middle New River Settlements,"⁶⁹ wrote of a family named French, which started with a John French who came from Wales and settled in Westmoreland county, where about 1735 he married a lady also of Welsh extraction. About 1750 he moved to the South Branch of the Potomac and shortly after died. His widow later married a Captain Cresap. Among this John French's children were Matthew, William, James and Esther. Matthew later returned east, married Sallie Payne, and for a time lived in Culpeper county. It is also unlikely that he was related to the Richmond county-King George county family.

In 1904 and 1905 several articles on the "French Family" were published in the Richmond, Virginia, "Times-Dispatch."⁷⁰ The first article contains information about a Hugh French, who settled in Powhatan county in 1801, coming from Loudoun county, the eldest of twelve children, six sons and six daughters, his brothers being named Robert, Lewis, Mason, James and

⁶⁵See footnote No. 59.

⁶⁶Prince William county records, Will Book C, p. 421.

⁶⁷Virkus, F. A.: "The Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy," 1926, vol. 2, p. 143.

⁶⁸Carrington, Wirt J.: "A History of Halifax County, Virginia," 1924, p. 180.

⁶⁹Johnston, David E.: "A History of Middle New River Settlements and Contiguous Territory," 1906, p. 402.

Daniel, and his sisters being named Nancy, Louise, Elizabeth, Ann and Margaret, and there was another, unnamed, who died in infancy. From their names it seems likely that this family was related to the Richmond county-King George county family. The next article relates to Daniel French of King George county and states that he was the first of his family in Virginia, that he married the widow of Sir Francis Dade, that she was the mother of Townsend Dade, and that Daniel French had two children, Margaret, who married James Strother, and Daniel French, of "Rose Hill" and "Claremont" in Fairfax county. This article also states that the first named Daniel French's will, dated March 3, 1734, is recorded in King George county, and that he died October 8, 1734. This date does not agree with the date of the death of Daniel French, the father of Margaret and Daniel, as given in the William and Mary College Quarterly and in the book on the Strother Family by Thomas McAdory Owen, both of which have been previously alluded to, and in both of which Daniel French, of King George is said to have died in 1736. The fact that his will was proved in 1736 also indicates that he died in 1736.

The "Times-Dispatch" article is also not in agreement with Thomas McAdory Owen with regard to the name of the wife of Daniel French of King George county. The "Times-Dispatch" says that he married the widow of Sir Thomas Dade and that she was the mother of Townsend Dade and also of Daniel French's two children, while Thomas McAdory Owen says that he married Margaret Pratt, daughter of John Pratt, of King George. It is noted that John Pratt was one of those who appeared with her when she dissented from her husband's will (See King George county Order Book, No. 2, p. 74). Of course, Margaret Pratt may have been a widow when Daniel French married her, or she may have been Daniel's second wife, and Daniel French, of Fairfax, may have been the half-brother of Townsend Dade. Daniel French, of Fairfax, in his will calls Townsend Dade his brother-in-law, which would indicate that Townsend Dade married either a sister of Daniel French or a sister of Penelope Manley, Daniel French's wife. In the will of Henry Fitzhugh, of King George county, dated June 25, 1782, proved June 5, 1783 (King George, W. B. 2, p. 44), Henry Fitzhugh speaks of a daughter Susanna Dade and son-in-law Townsend Dade, indicating that Townsend Dade was married to a Miss Fitzhugh in 1782. The will of Daniel French, of "Rose Hill," who alluded to Townsend Dade as his brother-in-law, was written in 1771. The Dades are mentioned frequently in the St. Paul Register, 1716-1793. It is quite possible that Townsend Dade may have been Daniel's half-brother and have married Penelope's sister, but it seems a bit puzzling, and if one takes what Mrs. Keys wrote about the Moore Family as an example,⁷¹ newspaper genealogy is not always accurate. The third "Times-Dispatch" article deals with the family of William French, who was born in Ireland, April 29, 1725, and who had a wife named Winifred.

Torrence⁷² does not list a single will recorded in Virginia prior to 1800 under the name of "William French," and neither has this search revealed any.

Nowhere has a trace of Angelina French or of Jeremiah Moore been found in this study of the French family prior to 1800, but additional study may bring something to light, and there still remain other parts of Colonial Virginia and of the Carolinas to be searched.

⁷⁰The "Times-Dispatch," Richmond, Va., Sunday, Sept. 18, 1904, Comic Section, p. 9; Sunday, Oct. 30, 1904, Comic Section, p. 10; and Jan. 22, 1905, Magazine Section, p. 2. These papers may be seen in the Periodical Room, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

⁷¹See preceding section II, and footnote No. 8.

⁷²See preceding footnote No. 52.