

CHAPTER V

THOMAS GARNER (—— - 1726)

Thomas² Garner, son of John¹ and Susanna (Keene) Garner, settled in Stafford County, Virginia, which had been formed from Westmoreland in 1664—in that part which in 1730, after his death, became Prince William County, and in 1759, Fauquier County, which it remains today. Thomas may have moved to Stafford by September 10, 1700, on which date he was a witness to the will of Diana Downy in that county. (Staff. W. B. Z, p. 36) Robert Bennett Bean¹ states that a Garner (he gives only surname) was among the earliest settlers of Fauquier County. In 1714 Thomas Garner patented 1000 acres (Va. L. Gr. B. 5, p. 100) and on December 13, 1715, 1400 acres (Co. L. Gr. B. 27), both grants on Tinpot Run and Licking Run Creeks, branches of the Occoquon River. April 15, 1725, he was granted another 489 acres in Stafford and King George counties, adjoining James Withers, John Jackson, Col. Rice and others (N. N. L. Gr. B. A, p. 137); also 625 acres in the same counties on Tinpot and Licking Runs, adjoining Welch and Hedgman on May 10, 1725. (N. N. L. Gr. B. A, p. 144) April 15, 1725, the land had been granted to Thomas Welch of King George County adjoining Nathaniel Hedgman on Tinpot Run to an oak marked "J W" (probably James Withers), then to Thomas Garner's on a ridge between two branches of Tinpot Run. (N. N. L. Gr. B. A, p. 138) July 7, 1722, Richard Tullos of Northumberland County and St. Stephens Parish and wife, Eliza, appointed Thomas Garner and John Adams of Stafford County, planters, "or either of them" to act as attorneys in the sale of 200 acres of land in Stafford to William Muncy of Northumberland. (North. R. B. 1718-26, p. 233)

Thomas Garner married Mary Bushnell, daughter of Charles Bushnell. The will of John Willis of Richmond County, dated January 7, 1715 and recorded July 6, 1718, mentions Mary Garner, also his sons, John, David, Charles, William and Thomas Willis.

Thomas Garner died in the summer of 1726. His

1. Robert Bennett Bean, *The Peopling of Virginia* (Chapman and Grimes, 1938), p. 149.