

following list of Marriage Licenses between the years 1748 and 1774 is compiled from entries made by the Clerk on the fly leaves at the ends of the Fee Books. They can scarcely be complete even for those years that are noted. Probably the desire to be brief is the only explanation of the remarkable circumstance that only the names of men are entered.

After the establishment of the Commonwealth, ministers of any denomination might be authorized to celebrate matrimony by license from a court. They could act, however, only after a bond had been given in the Clerk's office as security that the marriage laws would not be violated by the issuance of a license to the parties, and the issuance of that license. These bonds were generally given by the prospective bridegroom and one or more of his friends as surety. In most cases, the parent or guardian of the woman gave a written consent, which was filed with the bond. The written consent was witnessed by two or more persons. The bond itself frequently bore the names of attesting witnesses. A copy of such a bond and consent is printed immediately before the list of marriage bonds.

After the marriage ceremony, the minister made a return to the Clerk's office of the fact, with its date.

The lists given herewith are complete within the period noted as far as could be determined from the files in the Clerk's office.

It will be noticed that the first four hundred and forty-eight notes of bonds are arranged in this form: First, the names of the man and woman to be married, with the date of the bond; second, the identification of the woman, and whether consent was given; third, the names of witnesses and surety. The remainder of the notes follow more closely the form of the bond—that is: first, the name of the bridegroom and his sureties, with date of the bond; second, names of the man and woman to be married; third, identification of the woman, or man, or both; fourth, whether consent was given; fifth, names of witnesses to the bond, or consent.

MARRIAGES LICENSES IN AUGUSTA COUNTY.

1748—February ———, Archibald Elliott and Sarah Clark.

1749—June 17, John Buchanan and Margaret Patton; June 20, Archibald Huston and Mary Stevenson; June 28, John Hinds and Jean Kerr; July ———, Robert Boyd and Eleanor Porterfield; August ———, John Driskell and Jane Burnett; September ———, Silas Hart and Jane Robertson; September ———, Elijah McClenachan and Lettice Breckinridge; December ———, Charles Whitaker; February ———, John McGill, John Jones, George Wilson; March ———, James Edmondson, John Ramsey, James Huston.

1750—March 19, Robert Finla, William McNabb; April ———, James Young; May ———, Joshua Mathews; June 2, Joseph White, Joseph Maze.

1751—April 15, Edward Beard, Henry Fuler; June 3, John Poage; June 15, Jacob Harman; April 4, Thomas Fulton; July 11, William Smith; September 10, Thomas Milsap; September 4, Andrew Leeper.

1753—November 22, John Montgomerie.

1754—February 4, John Bowyer; March 23, Fred Smith, John Patton; May 1, James Bratton; July 23, George Poage.

1756—November ———, Alexander Hamilton; August ———, Patrick Miller.

Ⓢ William McNABB married (2nd w.) MARTHA BENNETT, widow of RICHARD BENNETT, d. 1743.