

SIR GEORGE YEARDLEY, GOVERNOR AND CAPTAIN-GENERAL OF VIRGINIA,

and

TEMPERANCE, LADY YEARDLEY, and SOME OF THEIR DESCENDANTS

Sir George Yeardley was one of the ablest and most popular of Virginia's Colonial Governors. His public acts are matters of history and, as many of them have been published and commented upon! I shall confine myself to giving a list of some of his descendants. If simply a matter of mentioning those who have borne the Yeardley surname, my list would be short and easy of compilation, for the name became extinct in the fourth generation and only one son and one grandson lived to have issue; and the surviving children of the latter were three daughters, neither of whom married a Yeardley, so that after their marriages, the name of Yeardley, except as a baptismal name, disappeared from Virginia. It is only recently that the maiden name of Temperance, Lady Yeardley, has again become known in this country. She came to Virginia in the "Falcon", Capt. Nelson Martin, in 1609 and was Temperance West when she married Sir George. Her parentage is still uncertain.

Ralph Yeardley, a brother of Sir George, was granted letters of administration upon the estates of Sir George and Temperance, in behalf of Elizabeth, Argall, and Francis Yeardley, "lawful and legitimate children of Dame Temperance Yeardley, (nee West)". She survived him but a short time for, although the executrix of his estate, she apparently had not had time to qualify as such and died intestate.

Although the name of Yeardley became extinct upon the marriage of their three great-daughters, yet the number of their descendants is legion and to trace them all will require considerable time and labor.

Sir George Yeardley was born between 1577 and 1580 and was married about 1618, and died November, 1627. There are some records to show that Temperance was not his first wife, but that she was the mother of his children is shown above.

1. Elizabeth Yeardley, if she married, she probably did not live in Virginia.
2. Col. Argall Yeardley, the eldest son and heir of Sir George and Temperance was born about 1621 and married first about 1640; the name of his first wife is not known though she died in 1648. In 1649, during a visit to Europe, he married Ann Custis, a daughter of John and Joane Custis, who were then living in Rotterdam but were born in England, not Ireland. He left children as follows; a. Argall, b. Edmund, c. Rose, d. Henry, e. Francis. No trace of the names of Henry or Edmund has been found since 1657, nor of any descendants. The Col. was a very prominent man. He was a member of the Council of State 1643 and was appointed Commander of Accomac, then comprising the whole of the Eastern Shore of Virginia.
3. Capt. Francis Yeardley, youngest son of Sir George and Temperance was a brave and dashing officer. He was appointed Capt. of militia. Some account of him is known but if there were any descendants, they cannot be traced.

It will be seen that the only issue left to perpetuate the name of Yeardley were the five children of Co. Argall Yeardley, mentioned above. Of these, two sons died without issue; Argall married Sarah Michael; Rose married Thomas Ryding, then Robert Peale; Francis married Lt. Col. Adam Thoroughgood. Of Col. Argall's sons, then Capt. Argall was the only one who married and left issue as follows.

A. Argall and John, both of whom died young; C. Elizabeth who married George Harmanson; D. Sarah who married John Powell; and E. Frances who married John West. Thus the Yeardley extended no further as a surname.

Elizabeth Yeardley married Col. George Harmanson. The Harmanson family is a very old and highly respected one in the Eastern Shore. Its members have been allied with the best families always and the traditional "black sheep" has been conspicuous by its absence. By the marriage of Col. George to Elizabeth Yeardley, he acquired considerable property in addition to his own and purchased other land. He survived his wife and in his will mentions his son, Argall, Argall's wife, Barbara, and grandsons Benjamin and George Harmanson; also his daughters Margaret, wife of Arthur Robins; Bridget, Isabel Leashe, etc. The children of Elizabeth Yeardley and George Harmanson were:

- I Argall who married Barbara and had issue hereafter mentioned.
- II Margaret who married Arthur Robins.
- III Bridget who married Littleton Eyre.
- IV Isabel who married ----- Harmanson.
- V Alicia who married Hillary Stringer.
- VI Rose
- VII Henrietta

Argall and Barbara had children as follows:

- a. Benjamin who married Elizabeth -----.
- b. George who married Hanna -----.

George and Hanna had the following:

- I Elizabeth
- II Mary
- III Susanna
- IV John, all Harmansons

Of these, Susanna is the only one who interests us. She married Dr. John Winder of Somerset County, Maryland, July 17, 1783. He died June 19, 1799. Their children were as follows:

- I John Harmanson Winder, (June 2, 1784) m. Comfort Gore of Maryland. issue as follows: a. Laretta, b. Charlotte, c. Susan Comfort.
m. Sarah Snead, issue:
a. Rose, b. John Edward.
- II Mary Harmanson Winder
- III Dr. George Harmanson Winder, m. Mrs. Haller, nee Hudgins
- IV Nathaniel James Winder, m. Sarah Bayley

(c) Susan Comfort, daughter of John (I above) married Dr. Robert Major Garret, Mayor of the city of Williamsburg and Supt. of the Virginia Eastern Hospital and had children, (1) Robert, (2) William, now of Nashville, Tenn., (3) Comfort Anna, (4) Susan Winder, (5) Henry Winder, (6) Dr. Van Franklin, (7) Charlotte, (8) Mary Winder, (9) Susan Comfort, all GARRETTs.

Dr. George Harmanson Winder married Mrs. Haller, nee Hudgins, had:

- I John Holden, who married Margaret Harwood. Children: (1) Sarah, (2) Mary, (3) Anna, (4) George, (5) Julia who married ---- Swift who had 6 children.
- II Levin Yeardley, (an officer in the Confederate Army) m. Anna DeCormis. here follows all of his children and grandchildren,
- III Penelope, m. Richard Roper Garrett, a brother of Dr. Robert Major Garrett and had George Richard Garrett who m. Mary Chisman of Hampton and Penelope and Eliza.
- IV Laura Winder, who was the second wife of Richard Roper and had (1) Penelope, (2) Mary, who married M. T. Hughes, (3) Florence, who married Dr. Shield, had Mary and Florence, (4) Laura, who married George Booker, and Alexander.
- V Mary Susan, who married DeCormis

(II) Levin Yeardley Winder m. Anna DeCormis and had children:

Mary Sue Winder, Annie Dec. Winder, Laura, Rosalie
M. M. M. M.

Arthur S. Segar Joseph W. Berret Campbell Lindsay
and had

Arthur S. Segar, Jr. **d. 1957**
M.

Eugenia Berret **d. 1962**
and had

Eugenia B. Segar M. Walter Huffman and had Eugenia Berret **d. 1962.**
Arthur S. Segar III **d. 1929**

Anne Granville Segar M. Harry G. Fowler and had Anne Yeardley
M. Robert F. Moore
and had
Robert F. Moore, Jr.
Anne Neves Moore
William Yeardley Moore