

POTPOURRI

December 3, 1705: to all to whom these presents shall come Greeting know yee, that I, Thomas Day, of the parish of South Farnham in the County of Essex in Va. being in a sickly weake and low condition and nee waies capable to take care of, or provide for myself and that Little Estate it hath pleased God to bestow upon me (it chiefly lying in Perishable creatures) have and by these presents doe Bargaine, Sell, Bind and firmly make over unto Jn'o Fargason (Ferguson) of the parish and county aforesaid planter all and singular my said Estate". In consideration Farqason (Ferguson) "to maintain and keep me the said Day Dureing my naturell life with sufficient accomodation of victuals Clothes washing and Lodging and give to Eliza Mary Angilliom Day my Daughter when she shall arive to the age Of Eighteen or when married one Cowe and Calfe. Signed Thomas (X) Day, John Fargason (Ferguson)

The father Of Ann Stubbleson was named Stubble Stubbleson. One of his ancestors states " He is also my ancestor, which permits me to remark that the name had always been to me the most county-punkin clod-hopper name I'd ever Seen, until this entry came tp light. He was an "alien". Otherwise a Dutch immigrant.

Jael Farguson, daughter of John and Sarah Farguson, the wife of Thomas Ryland was borne January 7, 1741. We have never heard the name Jael before.

May 19, 1763 - John Hammet Of Culpeper County and Sarah his wife to John Forgesonn of Faquier CO., for 1 Shilling sterling and love and affection, 200 acres on the northwest side of Henry's Branch.

Nov. 27, 1783 — Know All Men by these presents that we Lewis Furgerson & William Furgerson are held and firmly bound unto his Excellency Benjamin Harrison Esq. Governor of Virginia in the sum of fifty pounds current money to which payment well and tryly to be made to the said Benjamin Harrison & his successors we bind ourselves & each of our heirs, Executors and administrators jointly & severally firmly by these presents.

The Condition of the above obligation is such that whereas there is a marriage shortly intended to be solemnized between Lewis Furgerson & Molly Piper for which a license hath issued. Now, if there be no lawful cause to obstruct the said intended marriage then this obligation to be void or else to remain in force. Sealed and delivered in presence Of H. Brooke, I Benjamin Piper. do agree for Lewis Farguson to get Lisons for to my daughter Molley to be maryed from B. Piper.

11-10-1772 - Thomas Ferguson fined 10 shillings for breach of the Sabbath. 3-11-1779 - Thomas Ferguson appointed constable and Surveyor Of the road in Betacourt County. "Grandpappy" became less of a sinner in those seven years.

One of the major reasons it took the writer 27 years to put this document together was the number of "Johns" that were a part of the Ferguson families. We have done our best to separate these out in some kind of family order but cannot guarantee total accuracy. For example, there were two John Fergusons in Essex County in the period beginning about 1720. Both of these were married to Sarahs, Sarah Baker and Sarah Bridgeforth, Both had large families with Johns, Samuels, Joseph, William and here and there an Alexander plus daughters named Sarah, Catron, Mary, Jael and Ann's by the dozens. If you get confused reading this collection of histories, think nothing of it. It's par for the course!

John of Essex died 19 March, 1718 and was buried at Cherry Walk, the family cemetery. Ann Stubbleson Ferguson, executrix, returned John Ferguson's inventory 17 September, 1718, which included cash money, 2 negroes, pewter, bed, furniture, cattle, bull, sheep and land on South Piscataway roleing rode. Ann Stubbleson Ferguson's will of October, 1731, leaves grandson John, a negro boy, daughter Sara Redd, her cloak and hood Sons John and Samuel are her executors. will probated 15 December, 1735. will Book #5, 1730-35, Essex County, pg, 386.

Ann Stubbleson Ferguson's father was named Stubble Stubbleson, a most unusual name. On 21 March, 1692 Stubble was a will divisor to daughter Ann and her husband, John Ferguson. Stubble owned 149 acres in Rappahannock County, first granted 22 November, 1653 to Andrew Gilson and sold by him 6 May, 1657 to Thomas Reson, and by him sold to Stubble Stubbleson 29 June 1668 "which said tract of land upon the death of the said Stubble Stubbleson, an alien, escheat was granted by patent beginning 13 November, 1711 to Thomas Jewell. The term "alien" in those early days when Virginia was still a crown colony was used to describe an immigrant to this country who had not obtained citizenship for one reason or another, Stubble evidently hadn't given up his Dutch citizenship. The escheat part was usually used when someone died intestate and the crown appropriated any properties such person had. These properties were then sold or given for services as in the case of Thomas Jewell. There is some evidence Stubble died before 1 May, 1669. (Virginia Colonial Abstracts, Fleet) Vol. IX, Essex County Wills and Deeds, pg. 48.

Throughout the early history of the Fergusons, you will find them wheeling and dealing in land with larger tracts being swapped, sold or given away to their children. You will note an earlier reference to John Hammet selling 200 acres to a

John Ferguson, his son-in-law, for 1 shilling sterling and love and affection. A shilling in colonial America was worth about 12 to 16 cents. This type of dealing was not unusual.

A brief return to John of Essex who, before his death, gave his son-in-law Class Caston and wife Cary (John's daughter) 100 acres of land in Dragon Swamp. It is to be noted daughter Cary does not appear in John's will as an inheritor. It was common practice to give land or items of value before making a will and then excluding the donee from the will.

NOTICE: 4 May, 1738. To the Sheriff of Orange Co., I send you herewith all the body of William Frazer, brought before me for dangerously wounding Sml. Rose by shooting him and he having confessed the fact before, I charge and require you to keep Wm. Frazer in the gaol until he secure sufficient persons to be bound with him in a recognizance, each of the securities in the sum of £20 current and William Frazer in the sum of £40. Bond, 4 May, 1738, of William Frazer to make his appearance at the next Court to answer Saml. Rose's complaint for dangerously wounding him and, in the meantime to keep the peace. For £80 current money. Securities, James Cathay and Robert Turk. 14 May, 1738 Robert Ferguson of Orange Co. acknowledges himself indebted to our sovereign Lord, King George, in the sum of £40 current money to give evidence against Wm. Frazer concerning assault and wounding Saml. Rose. Signed, Robt. Fargison, Junr.

Cader Edwards, born 1705 in Wales; died March, 1782 at Halston Settlement, Sullivan County, Tenn. Married to Mary Gordon who was born in Scotland. Ten children: Sarah (Sally), Rachel, William, David, Alexander, Thomas, Ninean, John, Robert and Cader Jr.

Cader, Jr. born 17 Sept. 1776, died 2 December, 1855, Born in New River Valley between the Blue Ridge and the Allegheny mountains in Virginia near the North Carolina line. Moved to Metcalfe and then Warren Counties, Kentucky in 1797. Worked as a carpenter. Married Betsy Crain, an Irish girl, in 1794 in Portsmouth, Ohio and returned to the Kentucky "barrens". Lived two years in Frederick (later Lafayette) and then settled on land west of Knob Lick Creek where he and Betsy lived for nearly fifty years. Betsy's father and mother settled after his discharge from the Revolutionary Army in the "barrens". Children were William, Sarah (Sally), Rebecca, Alexander, Cader III, Stephen, Calvin & Elizabeth. Sarah married John Ferguson. These two were my great-grandparents. Sally Ferguson, at the age of 38 was left a widow with very little property and seven children to raise. She was of unusual energy and succeeded in paying for a good home before her young children were grown and until old lived independently and out of debt. She died at the age of eighty-five years in the year 1890, That is some kind of a great-grandmother to have.