THE DEBNAM AND GRYMES-LEE FAMILY LINES OF VIRGINIA

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The author is posting this manuscript in the hope that it may be helpful to persons interested in these families. This is not a reference-worthy manuscript, but is a guide for research. Corrections are welcome with the proviso that they be well and fully referenced to accepted authorities. The author is not prepared to offer further information on these lines, but refers researchers to the biblography at the end of the manuscript. It is expected that any quotations from this manuscript, used by others, will be properly cited to the title and author.

Titles of publications that should appear in italics are designated here, of necessity, by quotation marks.

THE DEBNAM AND GRYMES-LEE FAMILY LINES OF VIRGINIA
WITH NOTES ON THE ALLIED FAMILIES OF TALIAFERRO, HOYLE, SMITH, CARTER, AND CATLETT

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Introductory Remarks

This report is compiled for the purpose of giving an overview of the Grymes and Lee descendants of Katherine (maiden name unknown), who was married to William Debnam of Charles River/York and Gloucester Counties, Virginia, and after his death, to the Reverend Charles Grymes of Gloucester County. The writer descends from Katherine through a child of her first known marriage, Katherine Debnam, who married Robert Taliaferro, Sr., of Ware Parish, Gloucester County, and subsequently of "Taliaferro's Mount" on the Rappahannock River in St. Mary's Parish, present Caroline County, Virginia. (These women's names are spelled variously as Katherine and Catherine; historian Henry G. Taliaferro suggests Katherine as the preferable spelling.)

It was long ago believed that the wife of Robert Taliaferro, Sr., was "Sarah Grymes," supposedly a daughter of the Reverend Charles and Katherine Grymes. Later it was found that Mrs. Robert Taliaferro's name was Katherine, not Sarah, and thus for a time she was given as "Katherine Grymes." Finally, more thorough research established that the wife of Robert Taliaferro was Katherine Debnam, a daughter of Katherine (Unknown) Debnam Grymes by her marriage to William Debnam, and thus a step-daughter, not daughter, of the Reverend Charles Grymes. No Sarah or Katherine Grymes is documented as a child of Katherine (Unknown) Debnam and Charles Grymes. The only child proven for them was a son, John Grymes I, an account of whom appears later in this report.

Few matriarchs in Virginia history produced so notable a progeny as Katherine (Unknown) Debnam Grymes, and one cannot help wondering at the mystery of her own name and origin. It is likely that she belonged to a gentry family in England, one already well known to the families among whom her children and descendants married in Virginia. While it has been supposed that she came to Virginia with her parents, or was born in Virginia, the possibility must be considered that she may have arrived from England with a husband prior to William Debnam. Until further facts are obtained, her early life remains a matter of conjecture. (Her identity was likely recorded with her marriage in the earliest and now evidently lost records of New Poquoson Parish, Charles River/York County.)

The present effort, drawn entirely from secondary sources, is not intended to break new ground in the study of

these families, nor is it by any means the last word on their history, but is merely intended to offer a glimpse of the Grymes descendants of Katherine (Unknown) Debnam Grymes, and some of their connections who include a number of the most distinguished families in Colonial Virginia, and therefore, in America. In pursuing this work, the writer expresses grateful appreciation for the research contributions of the late Mr. W. Wayne Rogers (1927-2008), an authority on the Taliaferro and allied lines. A particular note of appreciation is due to Mr. Henry G. Taliaferro of New York City, a leading authority on the Taliaferro and allied families, whose several corrections and suggestions for improvement of this manuscript are deeply appreciated. (See Sources at the end of this manuscript for reference to several of Mr. Taliaferro's published studies of the Taliaferro family).

County names divided by slash marks indicate how new Virginia counties were created from older ones, thereby changing the counties of families' residences while they often continued to live on the same estates. Individuals designated as being of a particular place are in this manner linked to the family estates which were their homes; these estate names are given in quotation marks. Finally, the authority for many of the statements appearing in the first segment below is Rudolf Loeser's well-documented study, "Katherine (___) Grymes and Some Relatives" (see under Sources at the end of this account).

KATHERINE (UNKNOWN) DEBNAM GRYMES, AND
HER CHILDREN BY HER MARRIAGE TO WILLIAM DEBNAM,
INCLUDING HER TALIAFERRO, HOYLE AND SMITH GRANDCHILDREN

1. KATHERINE (UNKNOWN), born probably by 1620, may have been born in Virginia or may have come to Virginia as a member of her parents' family, whose surname is unknown, or with a first husband, whose name is now lost. The circumstances of her presence in the colony before 1637/8 are not established. Her first known husband, William Debnam, is documented. (Variations of his family name include Dedman, Deadman, Debman, Debenham, and others; the present writer believes the name was likely Debingham and that it was contracted by English usage into "Debnam."

William Debnam first appears in extant Virginia records on 6 May 1636 as a headright for Captain (later Colonel) Christopher Calthorpe of "Thropland," one of the wealthy and influential men of Charles River/York County, proving Debnam's arrival from England by that date. William Debnam's own land in Charles River/York County lay in New Poquoson Parish and he held title to land there at the time of his death. By 1642 he was in possession of land on the Ware River, Mobjack Bay, Gloucester County, and received a Mobjack Bay patent in 1652, totaling 2,100 acres, this perhaps being merely a confirmation of his earlier holdings there. William Debnam died in 1657 in Gloucester County. He and Katherine Debnam had four known children: Katherine, William, Ann, and Mary, as follows. They became the ancestors of many distinguished families in Virginia and other states, families often characterized by habitual intermarriage among their established connections.

2. KATHERINE DEBNAM, ca.1638-post 1686, married by 1658, Robert Taliaferro, Sr.,1626-1670/1, then of Gloucester County, but soon to be of "Taliaferro's Mount," St. Mary's Parish, Essex/Caroline County, son of Francis and Bennett (Hale) Taliaferro and grandson of Bartholomew and Joane (Lane) Taliaferro, all of London. Robert Taliaferro came to Virginia by 1747, and lived twenty years in Gloucester County, his lands lying along Poropotank Creek and at the head of Ware River, until, in 1666/7, he moved to the place that came to be called "Taliaferro's Mount" on the Rappahannock River in Old Rappahannock/Essex/Caroline County, near the site of the present town of Port Royal. With his wife Katherine Debnam, he became the founder of a significant Virginia family. Descendant Henry G. Taliaferro has made a convincing case that by 6 January 1672/3, Katherine (Debnam) Taliaferro had married as her (2) husband, Colonel Cadwallader Jones, c.1652-post 1699, son of Richard Jones and his wife Frances (Baldwin) Townsend, she being of Chotank Creek in Upper Sittingbourne Parish, Old Rappahannock/King George/Stafford County, and the widow of Richard Townsend, a member of the Royal Governor's Council. Colonel Cadwallader Jones was an Indian trader, an explorer into the western regions of Virginia, a sheriff of Old Rappahannock County, and in 1689, while in London, was commissioned Governor of the Bahaman Islands, taking office in 1690 and holding it, amid some controversy, until 1694, after which he returned to Virginia. His whereabouts after 1699 remain unknown. (See Henry G. Taliaferro under Sources.)

The children of Robert and Katherine (Debnam) Taliaferro were: (1) Robert Taliaferro, Jr., died 1688, married Sarah Catlett, daughter of Colonel John Catlett, Sr., and his wife Elizabeth (Underwood) Taylor Slaughter, later Butler (see later, Catlett Excursus), and lived at "Church Neck," Essex County; (2) Francis Taliaferro, died 1710,

married Elizabeth Catlett, sister of Sarah Catlett (see Catlett Excursus), and lived first at the head of Ware River in Gloucester County, and later at "Taliaferro's Mount," Essex County; (3) Colonel John Taliaferro, known as "The Ranger" for his military service to Virginia, died 1719, member of the House of Burgesses for Essex County in 1699, married his first cousin Sarah Smith, daughter of Colonel Lawrence and Mary (Debnam) Smith (see under 5, below; two of Colonel John Taliaferro's great-grand-daughters, both named Mildred Thornton and first cousins to one another, married Colonel Samuel Washington and Charles Washington, both full brothers of President George Washington); (4) Richard Taliaferro, died 1715, married Sarah Wingfield and died in Richmond County (he lived out of Virginia from 1688 to 1704, during which time he was a ship captain and owner and was Chief Judge and member of the Royal Council of the Bahaman Islands, 1699-1703, during the Bahamian governorship of his step father Colonel Cadwallader Jones; Richard was in Newport, Rhode Island, in 1704, and returned late that year to Virginia, King George County [Henry G. Taliaferro, "John Taliaferro of the Mount," under Sources]); (5) Katherine Taliaferro, died c.1699, married as his first wife, Colonel John Battaile I, from whom all the Virginia Battailes descend (member of the House of Burgesses, 1693 and 1696-97), a native of Essex, England, who lived in Essex County, Virginia, and who married second, Katherine Taliaferro's first cousin Elizabeth Smith (see under 5, below); (6) Charles Taliaferro, died 1735, married Mary Carter, and lived in Essex/Caroline County (the writer has been unable to identify this Mary Carter, but others have assumed that she was related to the "Corotoman" Carters of the Northern Neck).

Katherine (Debnam) Taliaferro and her second husband, Colonel Cadwallader Jones, evidently had only one child, a daughter, Frances Jones, who married Robert Slaughter (died 1726) of Essex County.

3 CAPTAIN WILLIAM DEBNAM, born after 1637, was listed in the Quit Rent Roll for 1704/5 with 1,250 acres of land in Ware Parish, Gloucester County. William Debnam, only son and no doubt heir of William and Katherine (Unknown) Debnam, through the representation of his step-father and guardian, the Reverend Charles Grymes of Gloucester County, was the plaintiff in a legal action against Colonel Christopher Calthorpe in 1657, regarding the land owned at the time of his death by William Debnam, Sr., in New Poquoson Parish, York County. The suit was ultimately settled to the satisfaction of the Debnam-Grymes interest. The name of Captain William Debnam's wife is presently unknown. Debnam descendants evidently continued to live for several generations in Gloucester County. In the mid-1700s, William Debnam of Gloucester married Frances Throckmorton, daughter of Robert and Mary (Lewis) Throckmorton of Ware Parish, Gloucester. (It is due mention that one Henry Dedman came early to Virginia and may account for some of the people who bore that form of the name.)

4. ANN DEBNAM, married Edward Hoyle (cousin of Colonel Lawrence Smith, below), and settled in Hanover Parish, King George County, where she inherited land from her stepfather, the Reverend Charles Grymes (see below). Edward Hoyle had come to Virginia by 1666 and was a son of Samuel and Anne (Townley) Hoyle of York, England. Only one child is proven for Edward and Ann (Debnam) Hoyle, a son, Samuel Hoyle, who in 1726 was of Hanover Parish, King George County. The writer has no further information on the Hoyle family in Virginia.

5. MARY DEBNAM, married c.1664, Colonel Lawrence Smith, 1629-1700, of "Severn Hall," Abingdon Parish, Gloucester County, son of Christopher and Elizabeth (Townley) Halstead Smith of Lancashire, England. Lawrence Smith, most often designated as Major Lawrence Smith, although in later years he was Colonel Smith, was transported to Virginia in 1652 by his uncle, Colonel Augustine Warner I of "Warner Hall" on the Ware River, Gloucester County, and was active in Virginia land acquisitions with Robert Taliaferro, Sr., involving thousands of acres in the Rappahannock River region. Lawrence Smith's home plantation, "Severn Hall," was located on the north bank of Severn River off Mobjack Bay. His land interests were among the largest in Virginia in his day.

The children of Colonel Lawrence and Mary (Debnam) Smith were: (1) Colonel John Smith, died 1719/20, of Gloucester County, married Elizabeth Cox, daughter of Henry and Arabella (Strachey) Cox, and was a member of the Royal Governor's Council in 1704; (2) Colonel Lawrence Smith, Jr., died 1736, of "Temple Farm," York County, married first, Mildred Chisman, daughter of Captain Thomas and Elizabeth (Reade) Chisman of York and Gloucester Counties, and married second, his first wife's cousin Mildred (Reade) Goodwin, daughter of Robert and Mary (Lilly) Reade of York County, and widow of James Goodwin (Colonel Lawrence Smith, Jr., was captain of militia, justice and sheriff of York County, member of the House of Burgesses for York, 1718-34, and

for Gloucester County, 1736-38; his "Temple Farm" estate is now known as the Augustine Moore house at Yorktown, site of General Cornwallis's surrender to General Washington in 1781; Mrs. Augustine Moore was Lucy Smith, daughter of Colonel Lawrence Smith, Jr.; the Moore House is now a part of the Yorktown Battlefield Park; (3) Captain William Smith, died 1734 in Spotsylvania County, married Elizabeth Ballard, daughter of Colonel Thomas and Katherine (Hubbard) Ballard of James City and York Counties, he a member of the House of Burgesses, 1692-3 and 1696-1702, and sheriff of York County, 1694 and 1699, and son of Colonel Thomas Ballard, Sr., member of the House of Burgesses, 1666, 1680, 1682-1686, Speaker of the House 1680-84, and member of the Royal Governor's Council, 1666-1678/9; (4) Colonel Augustine Smith, died 1736 in St. Mark's Parish, Orange County, lived in Essex and Spotsylvania Counties,
where he was a Justice, and in Orange County, with his wife Susannah (maiden name unknown); (5) Captain Charles Smith, died c.1710, Essex County, married Dorothy (said to be Dorothy Buckner, daughter of William Buckner), who married second, John Roy, tobacco inspector for William Buckner at Port Royal, Essex/Caroline County, and later owner of the
Buckner tobacco warehouses and related businesses at that place; (6) Elizabeth Smith, married as his second wife, Colonel John Battaile I, widower of her first cousin Katherine Taliaferro (see under 2, above; both of Colonel Battaile's wives were grand-daughters of Katherine [Unknown] Debnam Grymes, thus all the Virginia Battailes are her descendants); and (7) Sarah Smith, married her first cousin, Colonel John Taliaferro "The Ranger" (see under 2, above).

Katherine (Unknown) Debnam next married, in 1657 (late in the year of her first husband William Debnam's death), the Reverend Charles Grymes, who was born in 1612 at Rainham, Kent, England, and died in 1661/2 in Petsworth Parish, Gloucester County, Virginia. He owned large tracts of land on the Rappahannock River in Lancaster County. He was a son of the Reverend John Grymes, 1579/80-1644/5, who was for many years rector of St. Peter's Church at Ightham, Kent, England, and his wife Elizabeth. The Reverend Charles Grymes came to Virginia by 1644, when he was rector of New Poquoson Parish (later named Charles Parish) in York County. He was afterward rector of Purton/Poplar Spring Church, Petsworth Parish, Gloucester. Charles and Katherine (Unknown) Debnam Grymes had one son, Colonel John Grymes I (6 below).

It is noteworthy, in regard to the following list of descendants of Katherine (Unknown) Debnam Grymes through her marriage to the Reverend Charles Grymes, that by her prior marriage to William Debnam she was the ancestor of Taliaferro and Smith descendants who married into the Virginia families of Armistead, Ball, Bankhead, Byrd, Carter, Catlett, Fitzhugh, Grymes, Lee, Lewis, Lightfoot, Mann, Marshall, Monroe, Nelson, Peyton, Randolph, Smith, Taylor, Townley, Warner, Washington, and Wormeley, among others — names often repeated in the following Grymes lineage.

GRYMES-LEE LINEAGE,
BEING THE GRYMES DESCENDANTS OF
KATHERINE DEBNAM GRYMES BY HER MARRIAGE
TO THE REVEREND CHARLES GRYMES

6. COLONEL JOHN2 GRYMES I (Katherine1), 1660-1709, of "Grymesby" on the Piankatank River, Ware Parish, Gloucester County, married Alice Townley, daughter of Lawrence and Sarah (Warner) Townley, the latter a daughter of Colonel Augustine Warner I of "Warner Hall" and his wife Mary Townley, who was the aunt of Colonel Lawrence Smith, above. (Augustine and Mary [Townley] Warner were ancestors of President George Washington and Queen Elizabeth II, the latter through her late mother Elizabeth Bowes-Lyon, wife of the Duke of York who became King George VI.) Colonel John Grymes I was a Justice of Middlesex County, colonel of the county militia, and a vestryman of Christ Church Parish. He owned lands in Gloucester County (1,400 acres according to the Quit Rent Rolls of 1704/5), Middlesex County, King and Queen County, and some 2,000 acres in Richmond County on the north side of the Rappahannock River.
The three known children of Colonel John and Alice (Townley) Grymes were:

7. Anne Grymes, born 1689 or by c.1700, died 1735, buried in the family plot at "Grymesby."

8. Colonel John Grymes II, born 1691, see later under Grymes Addenda.

9. Colonel Charles Grymes, born 1693, see below.

9. COLONEL CHARLES3 GRYMES (John2, Katherine1), 1693-1743, of "Morattico," North Farnham Parish, Richmond County, younger son of Colonel John Grymes I, married Frances Jenings (the family name often appears as Jennings), daughter of Edmund Jenings, Esq., of "Ripon Hall," York County, governor of Virginia 1706-10, and son of Sir Edmund Jenings, Member of Parliament, of Ripon, Yorkshire, England, and his wife Margaret Barkham, daughter of Sir Edward Barkham, Member of Parliament, of Norfolk, England, and granddaughter of the elder Sir Edward Barkham who was a member of the Virginia Company of London and of the East India Company. The younger Edmund Jenings, father of Frances (Jenings) Grymes, was married to Frances Corbin, daughter of Henry and Alice (Eltonhead) Corbin of "Buckingham House," Middlesex County, who had come to Virginia from Warwickshire, England, in 1654. Colonel Charles Grymes was a justice and sheriff of Richmond County in the Northern Neck, and served in the House of Burgesses, 1727-1734. He and Frances (Jenings) Grymes had two daughters;

10. Frances Grymes, born 1717, married Philip Ludwell III of "Green Spring" and "Rich Neck," James City County, son of Philip and Hannah (Harrison) Ludwell also of "Green Spring" and "Rich Neck," and grandson of Philip and Lucy (Higginson) Burwell Bernard Ludwell. (The second wife of this last Philip Ludwell was Frances [Culpepper] Stephens Berkeley, widow of Governor Sir William Berkeley of "Green Spring"; it was noted of her that she insisted on being addressed as "Lady Berkeley," even after her marriage to Philip Ludwell.) Philip Ludwell III was a Burgess in 1748-49, and a member of the Royal Governor's Council, 1751-60. He built the noted Ludwell-Paradise house in Williamsburg, later the home of his daughter, the famous eccentric "Mad Lucy," who married John Paradise and lived in London until his death, whereupon she returned to Williamsburg. Their daughter, Lucy Paradise, remained in Europe and married the Italian Count Antonio Barziza of Venice.

11. Lucy Grymes, born 1734, see below.

11. LUCY4 GRYMES (Charles3, John 2, Katherine1), born 1734, known as the "Lowland Beauty" who was said to have refused the hand of young George Washington, married in 1754, Colonel Henry Lee II, 1727/9-1787, of "Leesylvania," Potomac River, Prince William County. He was a son of Henry Lee, Sr., 1691-1747, and wife Mary Bland of "Lee Hall," Westmoreland County. Mary (Bland) Lee, 1703-1764, was a daughter of Richard, 1665-1720, and Elizabeth (Randolph) Bland, 1680-1719/20, of "Jordan's Point" on the James River, and granddaughter of Theodoric and Anne (Bennett) Bland of "Westover" on the James (later the William Byrd estate), and Colonel William Randolph of "Turkey Island," James River, who came to Virginia from Warwickshire, England, sometime between 1669 and 1674, and married Mary Isham, daughter of Henry and Katherine Isham of "Bermuda Hundred" on the south side of the James. Because of the prominence of their descendants, and their widespread family connections, William and Mary (Isham) Randolph of "Turkey Island" were long-ago dubbed "the Adam and Eve of Virginia Society." Randolph descendants included US President Thomas Jefferson.

The Lees, too, had a long history in Virginia, where their descendants included President Zachary Taylor. The immigrant, Colonel Richard Lee, 1618-1664, son of John and Jane (Hancock) Lee and grandson of John and Alice (Harte) Lee, all of Worcester, Worcestershire, England (see Neil D. Thompson under Sources), came to Virginia in 1640 and secured properties in Gloucester and other counties. Colonel Richard Lee's houses included "Paradise" in Gloucester County and "Dividing Creek" in Northumberland County, the latter being his final home. He married Anne (Constable) Owen and they were the parents of Colonel Richard Lee, c.1647-1714, of "Machodoc"/"Mt. Pleasant," Westmoreland County, who married Letitia Corbin, daughter of Colonel Henry and Alice (Eltonhead) Corbin of "Buckingham House," Middlesex County (see earlier).

The children of Richard and Letitia (Corbin) Lee included sons Henry Lee, Sr., above, and Thomas Lee. Thomas Lee, 1690-1750, married Hannah Ludwell, daughter of Philip and Lucy (Higginson) Burwell Bernard Ludwell. It was this Thomas Lee who in 1730-8 built "Stratford Hall" in Westmoreland County, and who was the father of two signers of the Declaration of Independence, Richard Henry Lee and Francis Lightfoot Lee. Thomas and Hannah (Ludwell) Lee were also the parents of Philip Ludwell Lee who married Elizabeth Steptoe, daughter of John Steptoe and his wife Elizabeth Eustace, widow of John Eustace of Northumberland County. Philip Ludwell and Elizabeth (Steptoe) Lee were the parents of Matilda Lee who was the first wife of her cousin Henry Lee III ("Light Horse Harry" Lee), who is given below. His grandfather was Henry Lee, Sr., of "Lee Hall," and his father was Henry Lee II of "Leesylvania," the subject of this segment. The children of Colonel Henry II and Lucy

(Grymes) Lee of "Leesylvania" were:

12. Henry Lee III, born 1756, see below.

13. Charles Lee, 1758-1815, who married (1) 1789, his cousin Anne Lee, daughter of Richard Henry Lee, 1731-1794, of "Chantilly," Westmoreland County (a Virginia signer of the Declaration of Independence and son of Thomas and Hannah [Ludwell] Lee of "Stratford Hall"), and his (2) wife Anne (Gaskins) Pinkard (daughter of Thomas and Sarah [Eustace] Gaskins of Northumberland County), and married (2) 1809, Margaret (Scott) Peyton, 1783-1843, daughter of the Reverend Gordon and Elizabeth (Gordon) Scott, and widow of Yelverton Peyton.

14. Richard Bland Lee, 1761-1827, who married Elizabeth Collins, daughter of Stephen and Mary (Parish) Collins.

15. Theodoric Lee, 1766-1849, who married Catherine Hite, daughter of John Hite.

16. Edmund Jenings Lee, 1772-1843, who married his cousin Sarah Lee, daughter of Richard Henry and Anne (Gaskins) Pinkard Lee.

17. Lucy Lee, born 1774, died unmarried.

18. Mary Lee, born c.1775, who married Philip Richard Fendall.

19. Anne Lee, 1776-1867, who married William Byrd Page of "Fairfield," Clarke County, son of Mann Page and wife Mary Mason Selden of the "Rosewell" Pages.

12. HENRY5 LEE III (Lucy4 Grymes, Charles3, John2, Katherine1), 1756-1818, known as General "Light Horse Harry" Lee, a general in the Revolutionary War and governor of Virginia, married (1) in 1782, his cousin Matilda Lee, 1763-1790, daughter of Philip Ludwell Lee, 1726-1775, of "Stratford Hall," Westmoreland County, and wife Elizabeth Steptoe, and (2) after 1790, Ann Hill Carter, 1773-1829, daughter of Charles Carter and his wife Anne Butler Moore of "Shirley" on the James River; he a son of Elizabeth Hill of "Shirley" and John Carter II of "Corotoman," son of Colonel Robert "King" Carter also of "Corotoman," and his (1) wife Judith Armistead. Colonel Robert Carter was Speaker of the House of Burgesses, Treasurer of the Colony, member and president of the Royal Governor's Council, and acting Governor of Virginia in 1726-1727. (The Carter family was founded in Virginia by Robert "King" Carter's father, Colonel John Carter of "Corotoman," 1613-1669, and his fourth wife Sarah Ludlow. The Carters came in 1643 from Middlesex, England, to Lancaster County, Virginia, where Colonel John Carter was a Burgess and member of the Royal Governor's Council. His son Robert was made Virginia agent for the wealthy Fairfax family and thereby became the greatest landowner in Virginia; this and his powerful public offices were the source of his unofficial designation as "King Carter" or "King Robin Carter." See later, Carter Excursus.) Anne Butler Moore was a daughter of Bernard Moore and wife Anne Catherine Spotswood of "Chelsea," King William County, and a grand-daughter of Governor Alexander Spotswood, who is perhaps most noted in connection with the "Knights of the Golden Horseshoe." By his (1) wife Matilda Lee, Henry Lee III was the father of:

20. Nathanael Greene Lee, died infancy.

21. Philip Ludwell Lee, 1784-c.1794.

22. Lucy Grymes Lee, 1786-1860, married in 1802, Bernard Moore Carter, born 1780, of "Shirley," son of Charles and Anne Butler (Moore) Carter and brother of Ann Hill Carter, above.

23. Henry Lee IV, 1787-1837, known as "Black Horse Harry" Lee to distinguish from his father, died in Paris, married 1817, Anne Robinson McCarty of "Pope's Creek," Westmoreland County. By his (2) wife Ann Hill Carter, Henry Lee III was the father of:

24. Algernon Sidney Lee, 1795-1796.

25. Charles Carter Lee, 1798-1871, of "Windsor Forest," Powhatan County, married 1847, Lucy Penn Taylor, 1827-1914, daughter of George and Catherine (Randolph) Taylor of "Fine Creek," Powhatan County.

26. Anne Kinloch Lee, 1800-1864, married in 1825, William Lewis Marshall, 1803-1869, of "Buck Pond," Woodford County, KY, and later of California. He was a son of Dr Lewis and Agatha (Smith) Marshall of "Buck Pond," and a nephew of Chief Justice John Marshall of Richmond.

27. Sydney Smith Lee, 1802-1869, married Anna Maria Mason, 1811-aft. 1895, daughter of John and Anna Maria (Murray) Mason (a son was Major General Fitzhugh "Fitz" Lee, CSA).

28. Robert Edward Lee, 1807-1870, General, CSA, see below.

29. Catherine Mildred Lee, 1811-1856, died Paris, married Edward Vernon Childe.

28. ROBERT EDWARD6 LEE (Henry III5, Lucy Grymes4, Charles3, John2, Katherine1), 1807-1870, born at "Stratford Hall," Westmoreland County, died Lexington, Rockbridge County; Commanding General, Army of Northern Virginia, Confederate States of America, and president of Washington College (Washington and Lee University); married his cousin Mary Anne Randolph Custis, 1807-1873, of "Arlington" on the Potomac River, daughter of George Washington Parke Custis and his wife Mary Lee Fitzhugh, daughter of Anne Randolph of "Chatsworth" and William Fitzhugh of "Eagle's Nest" and "Ravensworth." (Mary Lee Fitzhugh was a great-grand-daughter of Richard and Letitia [Corbin] Lee of "Machodoc"/"Mt. Pleasant," Westmoreland County, through their daughter Anne Lee who married (1) William Fitzhugh, and (2) Daniel McCarty; through William Fitzhugh's son Colonel Henry Fitzhugh of "Eagles Nest" who married Lucy Carter, daughter of Robert "King" Carter of "Corotoman" and his (2) wife Elizabeth Landon; and Colonel Henry Fitzhugh's son William Fitzhugh, the father of Mary Lee Fitzhugh.) G. W. P. Custis was a son of John Parke Custis and wife Eleanor Calvert, and grandson of Martha Dandridge and her (1) husband Daniel Parke Custis of "White House," New Kent County, son of John and Frances (Parke) Custis of "Arlington" on the Eastern Shore. After the death of Daniel Parke Custis, Martha Dandridge married as her (2) husband, George Washington of "Mount Vernon," commanding general of American forces in the Revolutionary War and first President of the United States. As President Washington had no children, he adopted the Custis children and brought them up as his own. George Washington himself was a cousin of the Grymes-Lee line through the Warners of "Warner Hall" and the Townleys into whom they married.
The children of General Robert Edward and Mary Anne Randolph (Custis) Lee were:

30. George Washington Custis Lee, 1832-1913, of "Ravensworth," Fairfax County, Major General, CSA, unmarried.

31. Mary Custis Lee, 1835-1918, unmarried.

32. William Henry Fitzhugh "Rooney" Lee, 1837-1891, of "White House," New Kent County, and "Ravensworth," Fairfax County, Major General, CSA, married (1) in 1859 at "Shirley," Charlotte Georgiana Wickham, 1840-1863, daughter of George and Charlotte (Carter) Wickham, the latter a daughter of Williams Carter of "Shirley"; and married (2) in 1867, Mary Tabb Bolling, 1846-1924, daughter of Washington and Martha Stith (Nicholas) Bolling, and through the Bollings a direct descendant of Pocahontas and Capt. John Rolfe of Jamestown fame.

33. Anne Carter Lee, 1839-1862, unmarried.

34. Eleanor Agnes Lee, 1841-1873, unmarried.

35. Robert Edward Lee, Jr., 1843-1914, of "Nordley," Fauquier County, married (1) in 1871, Charlotte Taylor Haxall, 1848-1872, daughter of Richard and Octavia (Robinson) Haxall, and married (2) in 1894, Anne Juliet Carter, 1860-1915, daughter of Thomas Hill and Susan (Roy) Carter.

36. Mildred Childe Lee, 1846-1905, unmarried.

GRYMES ADDENDA

Demonstrating the nature of repeated connections among the Virginia gentry is the following account of the family of Colonel John Grymes II, grandson of Katherine (Unknown) Debnam and the Reverend Charles Grymes:

8. COLONEL JOHN3 GRYMES II (John2, Katherine1), 1691-1748, eldest son of 6 Colonel John and Alice (Townley) Grymes of "Grymesby" (see earlier), married in 1715, Lucy Ludwell, daughter of Philip and Hannah (Harrison) Ludwell of "Green Spring" and "Rich Neck," and lived at "Brandon" in Middlesex County (not to be confused with "Brandon" on the James, which was a Harrison estate). Hannah Harrison was a daughter of Benjamin II and Hannah Harrison of "Wakefield," Southwark Parish, Surry County, and sister of Nathaniel Harrison I of "Brandon" on the James River, and of Benjamin Harrison III of "Berkeley" (originally called "Berkeley Hundred" and later known as "Harrison's Landing") on the James, whose son Benjamin Harrison IV married Anne Carter, daughter of Robert "King" Carter of "Corotoman" and his (1) wife Judith Armistead, and in 1726 built the present house at "Berkeley." (Benjamin Harrison III and his wife Elizabeth Burwell, daughter of Lewis Burwell II of "King's Creek," York County, were the ancestors of Benjamin Harrison V, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and of two Presidents of the United States, William Henry Harrison and Benjamin Harrison.) As previously noted, Philip Ludwell of "Green Spring" and "Rich Neck" was a son by his first wife of the earlier Philip Ludwell who had married (1) Lucy (Higginson) Burwell Bernard (widow of Lewis Burwell I of "Fairfield"/"Carter's Creek," Gloucester County, and of William Bernard of Isle of Wight County), and (2) Frances (Culpepper) Stephens Berkeley (Lady Berkeley), the widow of Lord (Governor Sir William) Berkeley of "Green Spring."

Colonel John Grymes II represented Middlesex County in the House of Burgesses, 1718-22, and in the latter year was commissioned Receiver General for the Virginia Colony, with his office located in the capitol building in Williamsburg. In 1723 he purchased the residence now known as the William Robertson (Robertson-Grymes-Nelson-Galt) house on Francis Street in Williamsburg (dating from c.1695-1709, it is the oldest house standing in the town and is said to be the oldest frame house standing in Virginia today). He was a member of the Royal Governor's Council, 1726-1748, and frequently appears in the 1739-1741 diaries of William Byrd II of "Westover." Colonel and Mrs. Grymes are buried at Christ Church, Middlesex. The children of Colonel John and Lucy (Ludwell) Grymes of "Brandon," Middlesex, were:

37. Hannah Grymes, born 1717, married Dr. Henry Potter of Christ Church Parish, Middlesex County.

38. John Grymes, 1718-1740, a member of the Honourable Society of the Inner Temple, died in London while attending the Inns of Court and was buried in the Rounds of the Temple
Church, London.

39. Lucy Grymes, born 1720, married in 1737/8, Carter Burwell, 1716-1756, son of the Honorable Nathaniel and Elizabeth (Carter) Burwell of "Carter's Creek"/"Fairfield,"
Gloucester County, and grandson of Robert "King" Carter and his (1) wife Judith Armistead of "Corotoman," Richmond County. On the marriage of Nathaniel Burwell to Elizabeth
Carter, her father gave the couple a plantation on the James River near Williamsburg in James City County, the place that came to be called "Carter's Grove." After Nathaniel Burwell's death in 1721, the estate passed to his son Carter Burwell, who was living on the property by 1738, and by 1755 had built the present house of "Carter's Grove." Today, following alterations and improvements executed by Mr. and Mrs. Archibald McCrae after their purchase of the estate in 1927, "Carter's Grove" is considered by many authorities to be the finest example of Georgian architecture in America. Mrs. McCrae dubbed the
drawing room the "refusal room," asserting that it was there that Miss Mary Cary refused the hand of young George Washington, and on a separate occasion, Miss Rebecca Burwell
refused the hand of young Thomas Jefferson. A son of Carter and Lucy (Grymes) Burwell was Nathaniel Burwell of "Carter Hall," Frederick County, who married as his (1) wife his cousin Susanna Grymes, daughter of John Randolph Grymes and his wife Susanna Randolph (see below under 40, Philip Ludwell Grymes). Other Burwell children included Mary Burwell who married as his (2) wife Colonel Edmund Berkeley V of "Barn Elms," Middlesex County (his [1] wife was Mary Judith Randolph of "Tuckahoe," daughter of
William and Maria [Page] Randolph), son of Colonel Edmund and Mary (Nelson) Berkeley; and Sarah Burwell

who married the Reverend John Bracken, who was rector of Bruton
Parish Church in Williamsburg, 1773-1818, and became president of the College of William and Mary. A brother of Mary (Randolph) Grymes was Peyton Randolph, attorney, speaker of the House of Burgesses, and president of the Continental Congress which convened in Philadelphia in 1774.

40. Philip Grymes, 1721-1762, of "Brandon," Middlesex County, married in 1741, Mary Randolph, daughter of Sir John Randolph and wife Susanna Beverley of "Tazewell Hall"
near Williamsburg (now moved to Newport News), and grand-daughter of William and Mary (Isham) Randolph of "Turkey Island." Sir John Randolph was the only native Virginian knighted by the English crown. Children of Philip and Mary (Randolph) Grymes included Lucy Grymes, who married General Thomas Nelson of "Nelson House" (now called "York Hall") in Yorktown, a member of the Royal Governor's Council, delegate to the Second Continental Congress, signer of the Declaration of Independence, Brigadier General in the Revolutionary War, and governor of Virginia in 1781. (Emmie Ferguson Farrar, in "Old Virginia Houses Along the James," in discussing the Nelson houses in Yorktown, wrote that of the eleven children of General Thomas Nelson and Lucy Grymes, seven married into the Page family, including their daughter Susannah Nelson who married Francis Page of "Rosewell" and "Shelly," they being the parents of Thomas Nelson Page, who married his cousin Julia Randolph, and they in turn were parents of the Virginia novelist Thomas Nelson Page, 1853-1922, of "Oakland," Hanover County.) Sons of Philip and Mary (Randolph) Grymes of "Brandon" included Philip Ludwell Grymes of "Brandon," who married (1) Sarah Randolph, daughter of Virginia Attorney General and Loyalist John Randolph and his wife Ariana Jennings of the "Tazewell Hall" Randolphs, and (2) Judith Wormeley, daughter of Ralph Wormeley of "Rosegill," Middlesex County; and John Randolph Grymes, who married Susanna Randolph, sister of Sarah Randolph who married his brother Philip Ludwell Grymes. A daughter of John Randolph and Susanna (Randolph) Grymes was Susanna Grymes who married Nathaniel Burwell of "Carter Hall," Frederick County, son of Carter and Lucy (Grymes) Burwell of "Carter's Grove" on the James (see above, 39 Lucy Grymes). John Randolph Grymes, like his father-in-law Attorney General John Randolph, was a strong Loyalist and lived in London during the Revolutionary War, but later returned to Virginia. (A brother of Susanna Randolph Grymes and Sarah Randolph Grymes was Edmund Randolph, 1753-1813, governor of Virginia, first US Attorney General under President George Washington, and US Secretary of State under his cousin President Thomas Jefferson.)

41. Charles Grymes, 1723-1727.

42. Alice Grymes, 1724-ante 1747, married in 1743, as his (1) wife, Mann Page II of "Rosewell" on the York River, Gloucester County. (Mann Page II married [2] in 1747, Anne Corbin Tayloe, daughter of the Honorable John and Elizabeth [Gwynne] Tayloe of "Mt. Airy" in Richmond County in the Northern Neck, and grand-daughter of the Honorable William and Anne [Corbin] Tayloe of Lancaster/Richmond County.) Mann Page II was a son of Mann Page I and his (2) wife Judith Carter, daughter of Robert "King" Carter of "Corotoman" and his (1) wife Judith Armistead, and grandson of Matthew and Mary (Mann) Page of "Timberneck Hall," York River, Gloucester County, whose later home on the York occupied the future site of "Rosewell." (Begun in 1725 by their son Mann Page I, "Rosewell" was considered in its day the finest house in America.) A son of Alice Grymes and Mann Page II was John Page of "Rosewell," governor of Virginia. Mrs. Farrar wrote that Governor John Page married Miss Fanny Burwell, a cousin of the Burwells of "Carter's Creek." Governor Page had a residence in Williamsburg known officially as the Robert Carter House on Palace Green.

43. Benjamin Grymes, 1725-ca.1776, Gentleman, of "Smithfield," Spotsylvania County, married (1) in 1747, Elizabeth Landon Fitzhugh, daughter of Lieutenant Colonel Henry Fitzhugh of "Eagle's Nest," Stafford/King William County, and his wife Lucy Carter, daughter of Robert "King" Carter of "Corotoman" and his (2) wife Elizabeth (Landon) Willis. Colonel Henry Fitzhugh was a son of William Fitzhugh of "Eagle's Nest," a member of the Royal Governor's Council, who had married Anne Lee, daughter of Colonel Richard and Letitia (Corbin) Lee of Westmoreland County; and grandson of the immigrant Colonel William Fitzhugh and his wife Sarah Tucker, and of the immigrant Richard Lee and his wife Anne Constable (see earlier). A daughter of Benjamin and Elizabeth Landon (Fitzhugh) Grymes was Mary Fitzhugh Grymes who married as her (2) husband, Lieutenant Colonel Richard Kidder Meade (aide-de-camp to General George Washington, and whose [1] wife had been Elizabeth Randolph, daughter of Richard and Jane [Bolling] Randolph of "Curles") and their (the Meades') children included Episcopal Bishop William Meade, author of "Old Churches, Ministers, and Families of Virginia," a classic of Virginia history published in Philadelphia in 1857. Benjamin Grymes married (2) Priscilla Rootes, daughter of Major Philip Rootes of "Rosewall," Stratton Major Parish, King and Queen County, and his wife Mildred Reade, daughter of Thomas and Lucy (Gwyn) Reade of Gloucester County.

Benjamin Grymes of "Smithfield" was presiding justice of Spotsylvania County, which he represented in the House of Burgesses in 1761-64, and 1766-71. His financial interests included planting, merchandising, tobacco exporting, land speculation, iron manufacturing and mining, although by 1767 he had suffered extreme financial reverses and in subsequent years he lost the bulk of his properties.

44. Sarah Grymes, 1729-1731.

45. Charles Grymes, 1730-1732.

46. Ludwell Grymes, 1733-ante 1795, of "Burlington," Orange County, married Mary Dawson, daughter of William Dawson, D.D, who was president of the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg and a member of the Royal Governor's Council.

CONCLUSION

All seven of the Virginia signers of the 1776 Declaration of Independence (Richard Henry Lee and his brother Thomas Lightfoot Lee, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Harrison, George Wythe, Carter Braxton, and Thomas Nelson, Jr.) were connected by marriage to descendants of Katherine (Unknown) Debnam Grymes. The two Lees, Jefferson, Harrison, and Nelson have all been noted in the preceding account. George Wythe was married to Elizabeth Taliaferro, daughter of Major Richard and Elizabeth (Eggleston) Taliaferro of "Powhatan," James City County. Carter Braxton of "Elsing Green," King William County, was a grandson of Robert "King" Carter of "Corotoman," by his (2) wife Elizabeth Landon, whose (Robert "King" Carter's) children had several ties of marriage with Katherine's Grymes descendants as shown in this report.

CARTER EXCURSUS

So complicated are the connections among these families that an overview of the Carters may be helpful. As previously stated, the Carters were one of Colonial Virginia's wealthiest and most influential families. Robert "King" Carter, ca.1663-1732, son of Colonel John Carter of "Corotoman" and his fourth wife Sarah Ludlow, married first, Judith Armistead, 1665-1699, daughter of the Honorable John and Judith Armistead of "Hesse," Mathews County. To this marriage were born five children: (1) John Carter II of "Corotoman," Virginia Secretary of State and member of the Royal Governor's Council, who married Elizabeth Hill, daughter of Colonel Edward Hill, Jr., of "Shirley," and his wife Elizabeth Williams (after the death of John Carter II, Elizabeth [Hill] Carter married second, Bowler Cocke, and lived at "Shirley"); a daughter, Elizabeth Hill Carter, married William Byrd III of "Westover"; (2) Elizabeth Carter, who married first, Nathaniel Burwell of "Carter's Creek"/"Fairfield," son of the Honorable Lewis and Abigail (Smith) Burwell of "King's Creek," Gloucester County (a son of Nathaniel and Elizabeth [Carter] Burwell was Carter Burwell of "Carter's Grove" who married 39 Lucy Grymes, given earlier), and married second, Dr. George Nicholas of Williamsburg (a son was Robert Carter Nicholas of Williamsburg, Treasurer of the Colony of Virginia in the years preceding and during the Revolutionary War); (3) Judith Carter 1, died young; (4) Sarah Carter 1, died young; (5) Judith Carter 2, who married as his second wife, Mann Page I of "Rosewell," son of Matthew and Mary (Mann) Page of "Timberneck Hall," Gloucester County (a son of Mann I and Judith [Carter] Page was Mann Page II of "Rosewell" who married 42 Alice Grymes, given earlier).

Robert "King" Carter married second, as her second husband, Elizabeth (Landon) Willis, 1684-1719, daughter of Thomas and Mary (de Lavel) Landon of Middlesex, England, and widow of Richard Willis. Born to this second marriage were ten children: (1) Anne Carter, who married Benjamin Harrison IV of "Berkeley," son of Benjamin Harrison III and wife Elizabeth Burwell (Anne [Carter] Harrison was the mother of Anne Harrison who married William Randolph III of "Wilton," and Benjamin Harrison V who was governor of Virginia); (2) Councillor Robert Carter II of "Nomini Hall," Westmoreland County, who married, as her first husband, Priscilla Bladen Churchill, daughter of William and Elizabeth (Armistead) Wormeley Churchill of "Bushy Park," Christ Church Parish, Middlesex County (a son was Councillor Robert Carter III of "Nomini Hall," who married Frances Anne Tasker, daughter of Governor Benjamin Tasker of Maryland; a tutor in their household in 1773-74 was the much-quoted diarist Philip Fithian); Priscilla (Churchill) Carter married second, Colonel John Lewis of "Warner

Hall," Gloucester County, son of Colonel John and Elizabeth (Warner) Lewis of "Warner Hall"; (3) Sarah Carter 2, who died infancy; (4) Betty Carter, who died young; (5) Colonel Charles Carter of "Cleve," King George County, who married first, Mary Walker, daughter of Joseph Walker; second, Anne Byrd, daughter of Colonel William II and Maria (Taylor) Byrd of "Westover"; and third, Lucy Taliaferro, daughter of Captain William and Anne (Walker) Taliaferro of Essex County, where Captain Taliaferro was a Justice, grand-daughter of Francis and Elizabeth (Catlett) Taliaferro of "Taliaferro's Mount," great-grand-daughter of Robert and 2 Katherine (Debnam) Taliaferro of "Taliaferro's Mount," and great-great-grand-daughter of 1 Katherine (Unknown) Debnam Grymes. (Lucy [Taliaferro] Carter married second, Colonel William Jones [son of Catesby Jones, who was a near relation of the naturalist Mark Catesby]; her daughter, Ann Walker Carter, married her cousin, the John Catlett who about 1776 built the present "Timberneck Hall" in Gloucester County.); (6) Ludlow Carter, who died young; (7) Colonel Landon Carter of "Sabine Hall," Richmond County, who married first, Elizabeth Wormeley, daughter of the Honorable John and Elizabeth Wormeley of "Rosegill"; second, Maria Byrd, daughter of Colonel William II and Maria (Taylor) Byrd of "Westover" (a daughter was Maria Byrd Carter, who married Robert Beverley of "Blandfield," Essex County); and third, Elizabeth Beale, daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth (Tavener) Beale of "Chestnut Hill," Rappahannock River, Richmond County; (8) Mary Carter, who married the Honorable George Braxton II of "Newington," King and Queen County, and became the mother of Carter Braxton of "Elsing Green" and "Chericoke," King William County, signer of the Declaration of Independence; (9) Lucy Carter, who married first, Colonel Henry Fitzhugh of "Eagle's Nest," Stafford County, son of Colonel William and Anne (Lee) Fitzhugh of "Eagle's Nest"; and second, the Honorable Nathaniel Harrison II of "Brandon," Surry County, son of the Honorable Nathaniel and Mary (Cary) Harrison of "Wakefield," Surry County; and (10) George Carter, who was unmarried.

Other members of families allied with descendants of Katherine (Unknown) Debnam Grymes were governors of Virginia and presidents of the United States, the latter category including the four presidents who constituted what history calls "The Virginia Dynasty": George Washington, who descended from the Townley-Warner line; Thomas Jefferson, of the Randolph line; James Madison, through the Catletts a cousin of the Catlett-Taliaferro line; and James Monroe, whose family was connected by several marriages to Debnam descendants. Relatives of President Zachary Taylor also weave through these genealogical configurations, and it will be remembered that his daughter, Sarah Knox Taylor, was the first wife of Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America, 1861-1865.)

CATLETT EXCURSUS

The Grymes family and their descendants were all cousins to the Taliaferros, but various Taliaferros and their kin, including the Catlett relations, also married into the families appearing in this report, compounding their relationships. The first of the Catletts in Virginia was Colonel John Catlett, Sr., 1625/6-1670, of Occupacia Creek, Sittingbourne Parish, Lancaster/Rappahannock/Essex County, who came in 1650 from Sittingbourne Parish, County Kent, England. He was a son of John Catlett, Gentleman, of Kent, and his wife Sarah Hawkins, who married as her second husband Ludowick Rouzee, "Doctor of Physic," and became the mother of Ralph Rouzee of Virginia, and five other Rouzee children, three of whom (including Ralph) came to Virginia.

Colonel John Catlett, Sr., of Virginia married Elizabeth (Underwood) Taylor Slaughter, widow of Dr. James Taylor and of Captain Francis Slaughter, both of Surry County; after Colonel Catlett's death she married the Reverend Amory Butler. Her mother was Margaret (Unknown) who married (1) (William?) Underwood, (2) Lieutenant Colonel John Upton, and (3) Thomas Lucas. The Underwoods were connected to the prominent Northern Neck families of Williamson, Ball, Booth, Brooke, Fauntleroy, and others. The Balls of this connection were near relatives of Mary (Ball) Washington, the mother of President George Washington.

Colonel Catlett was a large landowner along the south side of the Rappahannock River, including the area where the town of Port Royal was later founded. He was a surveyor, a vestryman of Sittingbourne Parish, named for his home parish in Kent, England, Justice of the Old Rappahannock County Court, and colonel of the militia. He took part in John Lederer's third expedition into the Blue Ridge Mountains in August, 1670, and, according to his great-great-grandson President James Madison, was soon afterward killed in a fight with the Indians at a fort in the vicinity of present Port Royal. Among Colonel Catlett's descendants, echoing his own exploration to the Blue Ridge, was Captain Meriwether Lewis of the famous Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1806.

Two daughters of Colonel John Catlett, Sr., and his wife Elizabeth (Underwood) Taylor Slaughter Catlett, married sons of Robert and Katherine (Debnam) Taliaferro of "Taliaferro's Mount": (1) Elizabeth Catlett married Francis Taliaferro, and (2) Sarah Catlett married his brother Robert Taliaferro, Jr. (after whose death she married second, Samuel Sallis). The remaining Catlett children who lived to maturity were Colonel John Catlett, Jr., and William Catlett. Colonel John Catlett, Jr., 1657/8-1724, who married Mary Gaines, daughter of Daniel Gaines, and was a member of the House of Burgesses from Essex County in 1693, 1696, and 1700-02, a justice of the Essex County Court and colonel of the county militia, was a great-grandfather of President James Madison. William Catlett, 1669/70-1697/8, was a planter of Essex County whose widow Elizabeth (said to have been Elizabeth Thompson) married Benjamin Moseley, son of Captain William and Martha (Brasseur) Moseley of Old Rappahannock/Essex County.

Debnam, Smith, Taliaferro and Grymes descendants will be interested to see how many of the families mentioned in this report figure into the history of Virginia and its historic buildings, the designs of several of which are credited to Major Richard Taliaferro, 1705-1779, of "Powhatan," James City County. ("Powhatan" was the ancestral estate of his wife's family, the Egglestons, although its imposing 18th Century manor house was designed by and built under direction of Major Richard Taliaferro). This gentleman-architect is the subject of Claude Lanciano's book, "Our Most Skillful Architect: Richard Taliaferro and Associated Colonial Virginia Constructions" (Gloucester, Va.: 1981). Major Richard Taliaferro was a son of Francis and Elizabeth (Catlett) Taliaferro of "Taliaferro's Mount," St. Mary's Parish, Essex/Caroline County; grandson of Robert and Katherine (Debnam) Taliaferro of "Taliaferro's Mount"; and great-grandson of Katherine (Unknown) Debnam Grymes of Gloucester County, and her first (known) husband, William Debnam.

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