

DADDY WAS A LORD OF THE REALM? NO, BUT GRAMPA WAS A TENNIS PRO!

Every family has its legends and myths which can help, ...or can hinder...the genealogist in pushing back the generations, taking a family "across the pond" and creating a truthful family history for current and future generations.

A number of family historians looking at early Virginia ancestors have just such a legend with **Robert Povall** and **Elizabeth Hooker**, ancestors of several lines in early Virginia. I came across this legend years ago, and I have been fortunate to resolve the legend, and push the ancestors back three more generations.

The earliest version of the story that I have found, and the least embellished, was published in 1887 in *Virginia Cousins*, by George Brown Goode, noted museum administrator, science historian, ichthyologist and descendent of Robert and Elizabeth.

The Povall Family – The name Povall, often pronounced and written Povey, is not uncommon in England, and was well known in Virginia in early days. We are indebted to our kinsman Peyton Rodes Carrington, Esq., of Boston Hill, near Richmond, for the following sketch of the family, which has been extended in some of the later generations by Mr. Brock.

He was indentured for six years, as a servant to Robert ("King") Carter of "Corotoman," Charles City Co., Va. Upon the adjoining plantation of Solomon Knibbs, was employed--so runs the tradition--a girl named Elizabeth Hooker, whom Robin knew and hoped to marry. Robin was one day in attendance as a servant at a dinner given by Carter to the neighboring gentry, when his master read a letter from England, in which enquiry was made concerning Elizabeth, daughter of "Lord Hooker," who had died leaving a large estate called "Malvern Hills"--this Elizabeth being his only daughter and heir.

Profiting by what he had learned, Robin at once married his sweetheart, and sailed with her for England.

In the records of Henrico Co., June 2, 1679, occurs the following minute:--

"A deposition of Elizabeth Hooker, aged 22 years or thereabouts, that she did see in the custody of Katherine Knibbs since the death of her husband, Solomon Knibbs, a small trunk or cabinet about half full of money, which she said her husband had resolved to carry with him to England, because he would not be beholding to his friends, & likewise in her custody, a dozen of pewter plates, one tankard y a salt seller, y 2 pewter porringers."

Arriving in England, the Povalls, the tradition continues, obtained possession of "Malvern Hills," having been re-married in England to satisfy legal requirements. The estate was then leased for 99 years, at the end of which period it is said it became escheated to the Crown.

Returning to America, they became possessed of an estate called "Malvern Hills," in Henrico Co., Va., where they were living in 1685. In 1686, Robert Povall was upon the jury lists of Henrico Co., and in 1687, it is recorded that a child was bound out to him.¹

In order to work our way through this legend, we can make an hypothesis that the legend itself is not true, but that within it there are 'truths' that will allow us to determine the probable course of events.

Looking back to Virginia about 1683, some of the documents quoted by G B Goode stood the test. Both a search of Edward Pleasants Valentine's papers², and the Library of Virginia early Virginia records (transcribed) support the Knibbe|Knibbs deposition, as well as a marriage return for one Robert Povall and Elizabeth Hooper (as transcribed), and notice to Jamestown that Robert intended to travel to England in 1682.

The deposition, however, is silent on the position of Elizabeth in the household of the widow Knibbs. She could have been an indentured servant, an orphan bound to the household, or a relative. From this, however, we do know that she was born about 1657.

¹ George Brown Goode, *Virginia Cousins: A Study of the Ancestry and Posterity of John Goode of Whitby* (Bridgewater, Va.: C. J. Carrier, 1963. Originally published in 1887), 68
<http://hdl.handle.net/2027/wu.89062874243>

<http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/~jwmurphy/shaw13.txt>

² Edward Pleasants Valentine, *Edward Pleasants Valentine Papers*. Vol. I-IV. (Richmond, Virginia, Valentine Museum, undated. Reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Company, 1979)

As to Robert and his indenture, however, there are significant problems. *"He was indentured for six years, as a servant to Robert ("King") Carter of "Corotoman," Charles City Co., Va. Upon the adjoining plantation of Solomon Knibbs, . . ."*

- Location: The Knibbes farm was at what is known as "Curles Neck." Nearby was Shirley and other plantations, but Corotoman was some ninety miles away on the Rappahanock River.
- Names: Robert "King" Carter was born at Corotoman about 1663. At the age of 17 or 18 he may have been operating the plantation for his mother, as his father died about 1669, but would have been nowhere near Curles Neck. He married Judith Armistead in 1688, and died at Corotoman.
- Shirley Plantation was in the hands of the Hill family, established in 1638, and not until after 1700, with the marriage of Elizabeth Hill, sole heir to the plantation, to John Carter (son of King Carter), did the Carters live at Shirley.

It is possible that Robert was an indentured servant at Shirley, for the Hill family, or up the hill at what was, even then, Malvern Hill, owned by Richard Cocke.

"Malvern Hills" was not named by Robert and Elizabeth (Hooker) Povall when they bought the property in 1685 from Wm. Humphries, as it was "Mamborne Hill" in the 1639 patent for Richard Cocke.



The Povall name does not appear in connection with the 1639 patent. I have been unable to find the 1636 patent.

There was one "Robert Povey" listed as a headright for Thomas Cocke about 1689, but it is unknown how far back that headright went. There was a Robert Povey found in many records, but it is clear that Robert Povey was not a someone's servant at this time.

Headrights, those opportunities to gain land from the crown by "paying" for the passage of various people, were listed on patents as they were claimed, not as they were paid for, and many headrights appeared on several different patents. Any of the people listed as headrights could have come to the colony at any time prior to 1689. Headrights were for relatives, employees, or the chance stranger. They were bought and sold, and so have become somewhat difficult.

A word about indentures, and indentured servants. An "indenture" is an agreement, originally torn (indented) in such a way that putting them together allowed for the agreement to be read. According to various sources, some 75% of early immigrants to Virginia arrived as indentured servants, some signing indentures in England, bound to a particular person, or, upon arrival in Virginia, were bound out to pay for their passage. Those indentured came from all social classes, including educated "second sons," teachers, craftsmen, and others who used this method to immigrate. Children were often indentured as "apprentices." The indentures were generally from four to five years. Indeed, Robert could have come either having an indenture before he left England, or a ship's captain paid his way and his indenture sold to a planter upon arrival. He would have worked for four or five years, got clothing, food, and "freedom dues" upon completion of the indenture.⁴

The first public records we have for Robert Povall personally are from 1681. He was a member of a Jury of Inquiry in Henrico County.

Robert Povall a member of a Jury of inquiry into the death of Walter Siers . June 21, 1681. Vol. 1677-1692.⁵

In 1682 Robert made notice in Jamestown that he intended to travel to England.

Robert Povall did this day give notice of his intended voyage to England by setting up his name at the Court House Door according to law. Oct. 2, 1682.⁶

He was also over 21, presumably, as infants were not allowed on Juries. While being on a jury in 1681 was not necessarily restricted to "freemen," it is very unlikely that an indentured servant would have been able to set himself up to travel to England. If he had been indentured, he had surely worked off the bill by 1681.

Meanwhile, in 1682, in England, one Oliver Gregory seeks to take the administration of the estate of his kinswoman, Mary Hooker, and notice is sent to Jamestown.

"682 Mary Hooker, spinster of Island of Virginia. Administration to cousin and next of kin Oliver Gregory October 1682."⁷

³ Library of Virginia "Land Office Patents No. 1, 1623-1643 (v.1 & 2), p. 707 (Reel 1)" <http://www.lva.virginia.gov/> (accessed 18 April 2011).

⁴ John M. Murrin, Paul E. Johnson, James M. McPherson, Gary Gerstle, *Liberty, Equality, Power Enhanced: A History of the American People*. (Belmont, CA: Thomson Higher Education, 2009)

⁵ Valentine, Vol. 1, p. 191

⁶ Valentine, Vol. 1, p. 227

⁷ Peter Wilson Coldham, *English Estates of American Colonist 1610-1699*. (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Company, Inc., 1980), 30

Why “Mary” and not “Elizabeth?” Without a baptismal record, there are two main possibilities. (1) Oliver did not know her name, or she was named Mary but called Elizabeth. “Maria Elisabeth” would not be uncommon. (2) There were two children, Mary and Elizabeth, and the fate of Mary is unknown. However, nowhere in the court records has there been found any further mention of “Mary.”

Then, we have the marriage license of Robert and Elizabeth in 1683.

Acct. of Licenses returned to Town this 3 day of Sept. 1683. viz; Robert Povall for marriage with Eliz Hooper⁸, (Gov. Fee) 20d, or 200 wt. Tobacco.⁹

A handwritten document titled "Acct. of Licenses returned to Town this 3 day of Septemb^r 1683 viz". It lists three marriages with associated fees in tobacco weight. The entries are: "m^r John Ball for Marriage wth Ellianor Barnott" (20 or 200), "Will Stacy for Marriage wth Mary Lynn" (20 or 200), and "Rob^t Povall for marriage wth Eliz Hooper" (20 or 200). The fees for the last two are grouped together with a bracket and the number 40. The document is signed at the bottom by "S^{er} H. Randolph" with a flourish.

There is no way to identify the actual date of marriage, but **Robert** had made notice in October 1682 that he intended to travel to England, and the two were in London filing an **injunction dated 28 July 1683**, identified as *Richard* Povall and Elizabeth, his wife, and according to the lawsuit they “did intermarry about three months since,” or April, 1683. [see below on the lawsuit] Some researchers, including Mr. Goode (above), think that they were married in England, and the September 1683 marriage return was sent to Virginia from England. However, as they stated, they were married “beyond the sea,” (Virginia) in April, and took a ship shortly thereafter. In 1661, marriage bonds became required as part of the licensing procedure, and parish *returned* a list of the licenses issued to the Secretary of the Colony every September.¹⁰ Therefore the “return” of 3 September 1683 included marriages that took place anytime during the previous twelve months.

Note that the Gregorian Calendar year started on March 25. Thus, October 1682, when Oliver Gregory’s request for administration for “Mary” Hooker and Robert Povall’s notice that he intended to sail for England, was six months into the new year and almost a year before Robert and Eliz married and sailed for England.

They were married “about three months” before the injunction, or April 1683. Had it been a bit more, it could have been “March 1682.”

We leave Robert now, with no further information on his origins. We don’t know whether he was originally from London, as some stated, so we will leave that research for another day.

The “truth” to the legend appears to be that Robert Povall and Elizabeth Hooker knew each other, may have lived close to each other, and married “about three months” before September 1683. “Lord Hooker,” as will be seen, meant something quite different than it does today, or was a “slight” exaggeration, and the truth much more interesting.

It does appear, however, that somehow the message from Oliver Gregory in 1682, looking for “Mary Hooker” had become known on the James.

⁸ This may be an alternate of the name “Hooker.” It shows up in various transcriptions as Hooker one time and Hooper the next, when it is clearly the same person.

⁹ *Ibid*

¹⁰ Alice Eichholz, *Red Book: American, state, county, and town sources*. (Provo, Utah: Ancestry; MyFamily, Inc., Provo, 2004), 700.

After finding the legend, the search began with an exchange of information on the Povall list on *Genealogy Forum*

with some other Povall researchers, one of whom had obtained a document involving one *Richard Povall* and his wife, *Elizabeth* (née *Hooker*), that involved a lawsuit filed in England in 1683. It turns out that “Richard” and Elizabeth were from “beyond the sea” – or Virginia. The researcher, *Gaynor Guth*, a descendant of a different Povall wrote, “I now have a document showing that *Richard Povall* and his wife *Elizabeth* were involved in a court case in London 1683. Apparently Elizabeth was entitled to the estate of her deceased uncle *Gideon Hooker*. She and Richard married 3 months before the court case and arrived in England two months prior the court case.”

Even with the name “Richard” rather than “Robert,” I ordered the lawsuit, *Povall v. Gregory*,¹¹ on a CD, and spent some time transcribing the contents.

I viewed the original of the plea for injunction very carefully, and it clearly says “Rithard” (see above) rather than “Robert” Povall. While I cannot account for it, I am certain, after reading the entire injunction, that it indeed was Robert Povall and his wife Elizabeth Hooper/Hooker. I can guess that this was a clerical error, in that the clerk making the final copy from the injunction plea was writing it from notes he or someone else had taken. In some 17th century hands, the word *Rob^t* could indeed resemble *Rich^d*.

Based on the transcript of the lawsuit, with an injunction dated 28 July 1663, they did travel to London, arriving “about two months since” or late May.

The substance of the injunction, very interesting of itself, gives many clues as to the origin of Elizabeth Hooker, her parentage, and her inheritance. In order to shorten and clarify the injunction, I have used the following symbols. Square brackets [] are used where I am unsure of the word or words in the plea for injunction. Curved brackets () are used to clarify or to summarize parts of the junction. Caret marks ^ ^ indicate where a word was written in above and between two other words. I have typed in modern English, rather than attempting some of the special characters we no longer use. Bold type is used to identify names and places that will appear in later documents. You will find a copy of the entire injunction in Appendix A.

The injunction begins by identifying “**Gideon Hooker** late of the Parish of St Martin’s in the Fields” who had an indenture (a legal agreement) with several gentlemen. The indenture, dated 1655, is detailed in the injunction as:

“Gideon Hooker of the first part and Michaell Seare of the Mosse in the Parish of Greate Chesham in the county of Bucks Gentleman of the second part John Duncombe of the aforesaid Parish of St. Martin’s in the Fields in the county of Middx Gentleman and John Bird of Covent Garden in the said county Gentleman of the third part and Daniell [Clark] of [Davies] Inn in the Parish of St Andrews Holborne in the said County Gentleman of the fourth part. . . 20 July 1655.”

To date I have not been able to find this indenture, nor any other documents relating directly to it. However, the language in the 1683 injunction indicates that the purpose of the indenture was to ensure the maintenance of Gideon’s wife Mary in the event of his death. It speaks of:

“ . . lands and premisses herin after mentioned of which the said Gideon Hooker was then squire in fee. . . did by the indenture for himself, his heirs and assigns doth grant to and with the said John Duncombe and John Bird and their heirs and assigns that the said Gideon Hooker his heirs and assigns should and would at all times and forever thereafter stand and be squires of all . . . formerly called or known by the name of the old Mosse situate lying and being in the Parish of Greate Chesham in the County of Bucks with all and singular the houses, buildings, barns, stables, yards, orchards, gardens, lands, meadows, pastures, woods, spring, [trees?] wayes, waterings, [---ments] profitts commodities and hereditaments whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining containing in the whole by estimation one hundred and fifty and five acres of Land pasture and woodground [be the same] now or before situate lyeing and being in Greate Chesham aforesaid and then in the possession of the said Michaell Seare party to the said deede . . . of all the said premises to the [use] and [uses] purposes and intents therein and herein mentioned limitted and declared and to noe other use or uses intents or purposes whatsoever that is to say first to the use and behoofe the said Gideon Hooker and Mary his wife and to the survivors of them without impediment of [Wast. .] dureing the terme of their naturall lives and after their decease and the decease of the survivors of them the said Gideon and Mary to the use and behoofe of the heires of the said Gideon Hooker by and upon the body of the said Mary ^lawfully^ begotten or to be begotten and for default of such . . . ”

¹¹ The National Archives of the UK (TNA): Public Record Office (PRO); 1683. C9/416/152.

The suit goes on to name several properties in the old Mosse: Brosset Forth, Blakemore, Barnefield, Broad Close, Wattage, Montwood, Blakemores Spring, Rushmore, Woodfields, Fullmore, Long Croft, Nether, and others. Together, the acreage of the closes is over 150 acres, the estimate of the Mosse holdings. It appears that this indenture was designed to give John Duncombe and John Bird, as well as their heirs, the use of the land, to maintain it and provide for his (Gideon's) heirs. It also appears, and will be further shown, that there was no intent to cut down any substantial amount of the woodlands held.

It is interesting that this is referred to as "squire in fee," (fief) meaning, by the late 17th century, that Gideon held a virtually unexpiring "right" to the property, rather than at the pleasure of an over lord. Squires were "landed gentry" – the owner of a manor house, a village, or a farm, which was held "for," ultimately, the king, but in practice the holdings were passed on from father to son, sold, rented out, and in general treated as real property as it generally is in the United States today. G E Aylmer, St Peter's College, Oxford, in "The Meaning and Definition of 'Property' in Seventeenth-Century England," quotes from the law dictionary produced by William Sheppard, Cromwell's legal advisor, Chapter 129, 'Of Property,' says: '*Property is the Right that a man hath to anything which no way dependeth upon another mans courtesie (echoes of Cowell): And he that hath this is called a Proprietary.*' Any royalist restriction on absolute (private) property in lands has been dropped."¹²

Chesham is a parish in Buckinghamshire about 29 miles from London to the northwest. Noting that Gideon and Mary died without issue, the plea goes on:

*"Your Orator and Oratrix further show that the said Gideon Hooker and Mary his wife are both dead without issue of their bodies the said Mary surviving and dying after the said Gideon by means whereof the said Estate [?] one part to the heirs of the said Gideon and the other to the heirs of the said Mary according and as the same is set out and [appointed] by the settlement aforesaid and your Orator and Oratrix further show that your Oratrix (Elizabeth Hooker Povall) is the daughter of **Joseph Hooker** deceased which was **own brother** to the said Gideon and who left no Sonne or other child living but your Oratrix soe that your Oratrix is heir att law to the said Gideon Hooker and well entitled to that part of the before mentioned estate which is settled and limited to the heirs of the said Gideon Hooker. . ."*

Finally, the problem addressed in the injunction, shortened considerably:

*"within a year when your Oratrix (Elizabeth) was beyond the seas one **Oliver Gregory** . . . (and) other persons as yet unknown . . . the said Oliver Gregory did (by some artifice have himself be declared heir of the property) and never gave any notice to (Elizabeth) or any of her friends (that she was the heir and) for want of defense made on your Oratrix part obtained judgement by default for . . . the said Oliver Gregory gave out the both to countenance the matter that your Oratrix was dead and that he was right heir att law to the said Gideon Hooker And your Orator and Oratrix ^[?]^ did intermarry about three months sints and came into England about two months sints and after they here arrived applied them [selves] to the said Oliver Gregory for the possession of their estate and to the tennant in possession"*

"But the said Gregory refuseth to acquitt the possession of the said premises soo obtained by . . . and practice aforesaid Wherefore your Orator and Oratrix have raised an [?] in Court to ^be^ brought in [order] [?] the same but the said Gregory and the tennant in possession and the rest of the confederates knowing that your Oratrix cannot bring the said action to tryall before the next Lent Assizes hee the said Gregory by the [combination] aforesaid hath caused greate quantity of tymbre and wood to be cutt down and [?] of the said [?] and hath sold some and some is lying on the said [?] and threatened that he will not leave any wood or timber on the said [?] but [?] great wast dayly on the said [?] or some parts thereof att which doings of the said confederates [?]"

[?] your Oratrix apparent wrong and injury in consideration whereof and for as much as your Orator and Oratrix cannot stay the confederates committing of wast upon the premises aforesaid but by the order of this honorable court neither [?] your Oratrix . . . therefore that the said Oliver Gregory and the rest of the Confederates . . . may be enjoined by the order and injunction of this court not to commit any waste upon any part of the said premises by felling or cutting wood or carrying away the same and that your Orator and Oratrix may be [?] in all and singular the premises attaining to [?] and Equity May it please your Lordship to grant unto your Oratrix his [majesty's] most gracious writte or writte of Subpona to be directed to the said Oliver Gregory and other the Confederates when discovered thereby removing them and every of them..."

¹² Leonard P. Liggio, ed. *Literature of Liberty*, Autumn 1981, Vol. 4, No. 3. Accessed from http://oll.libertyfund.org/titles/liggio-literature-of-liberty-autumn-1981-vol-4-no-3?q=17th-century+england#lf0353-15_1981v3_head_038 on 2014-08-30

In short, Oliver Gregory, and some unknown confederates, sometime between the death of Mary (widow of Gideon Hooker) in 1673, and 1682 when the news of the inheritance reached Virginia, did illegal things. One, he told the court that Elizabeth was dead, and two, that he was now the rightful heir. When Elizabeth and Robert arrived in May 1683, he took to avoiding them and, behind their backs, began to cut all the timber and wood he could. Because of the dates set for the courts, Assizes, which in this case would be the next Lent, or about the following February or March, Elizabeth wants to stop Gregory from continuing to have anything to do with the property, and save the timber and wood, or selling off any of the buildings, cattle, or anything else.

We do not have Gideon's will, (he was buried 9 July 1668 in St. Paul's Hammersmith¹³) but we do have his wife Mary's. It would appear that there were additional court actions as Mary's heirs that are clearly spelled out in her will, and these properties are not mentioned.

From the legend of the two stolen children, which at least held *name*, *date*, and *location* clues, we have the immediate parentage (at least the father) of Elizabeth Hooker, as well as the location of some of the property she inherited from her uncle Gideon Hooker.

So far, no "Lord Hooker," but Gideon *was* a member of the landed gentry. There is another usage, found in Dr. Henry Taylor's *Land Tenure in England at the close of the Seventeenth Century* that may have been in effect by 1683, and that is: "In some parishes in England practically all of the farmers of the seventeenth century owned the land which they cultivated. As a general rule, however, there was a squire or a gentleman or a greater landlord, who owned a large share of the land of the parish and who held important rights in a great deal of the land which he did not own. A parish dominated in this way by a landlord was called a **MANOR** and the landlord was called 'The lord of the manor.'"¹⁴ Ah, Lord Hooker...you have arrived!

¹³ John Wade. *Register of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, Commencing in 1664—St. Paul's Church, Hammersmith*. Obtained from the Archives of Hammersmith, by Charles Knighton, 2007. Copy in PLDunford file.

¹⁴ Henry Charles Taylor, Ph.D. "Land Tenure in England at the close of the Seventeenth Century" *The Decline of Landowning Farmers in England*. (Madison: University of Wisconsin Bulletin, June 1904). 1-8.

THOMAS HOOKER, GENTLEMAN

From the available transcribed records of baptisms, we quickly find Gideon: “07 Jun 1625 Gideon Hooker, bap. St Martin in the Fields, son of Thos and Mary.” Immediately next, we find: “07 Jun 1625 Joseph Hooker, bap. St Martin in the Fields, son of Thos and Mary.”¹⁵

It is likely that Gideon was the first born of twins, and thus, the oldest son of Thomas and Mary.

Looking further, we find most of the rest of the likely children, (with English names) all baptized in St. Martin in the Fields: ¹⁶

Maria (Mary), 27 Jun 1620;
Martha, 10 Mar 1622;
Jana (Jane), 25 Sep 1623;
Gideon and Joseph; 1625 (Gideon Hooker first borne & Joseph Hooker)
Thoma (Thomas), 28 Jun 1627;
Jacobus (James) 8 Dec 1628;
Guilielmus (William), 22 May 1632.

Looking for a marriage for a Thomas Hooker and Mary, shortly before 1620, we find only one, a Marriage License granted by the Bishop of London, 1619:

*21 Sep 1619 Thomas Hooker, Gent., of St Mary, Strand, Bachelor, 27, & Mary Pritchard, of same, Spinster, 26; consent of her mother, a Widow; at St Ann's, Blackfriars, London.*¹⁷

So, Thomas was a “gentleman.” In the *Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*, Sir Bernard Burke, in 1862, quotes lexicographer Bailey¹⁸ saying a gentleman is: “one who has received nobility from his ancestors, and not from the gift of any prince or state. . .” and further:

Another distinction among the gentry or minor nobility is that of Esquire, which has degenerated into the usual mode of addressing every reputable tradesman, and is abused so as to have lost its real meaning. One is often struck in examining family records of the 16th, 17th, and even the 18th centuries, such as monumental inscriptions, by perceiving the intermarriages of members of the same family sometimes with persons who are styled "Esquire," and sometimes with persons who are styled "Gentleman." The "Esquire" and the "Gentleman" were evidently different, and never were confounded together; at the same time they clearly belonged to the same grade of society: one generation of an ancient and honourable house intermarrying with the daughter of an "Esquire," and the next generation intermarrying with the daughter of a "Gentleman;" and, in like manner, two sisters, daughters of the same family, marrying the one a "Gentleman," and the other an "Esquire."

*It would seem that according to the original meaning of the terms, "Gentleman" denoted a rank derived from birth, while "Esquire" denoted one derived from office. Legally, according to the heraldic definitions of the two or three last centuries, some men are ex-officio esquires who are not, strictly speaking, by birth gentlemen; and, on the other hand, some men are ancient gentlemen who have not the official rank of esquire. County magistrates, for the time being, and high sheriffs of counties, for life, are all officially esquires; and yet persons holding those situations may be of inferior birth, not entitled to bear coat armour, and thus not in the continental sense, noble; in fact, not gentlemen.*¹⁹

So, from the 1683 lawsuit, we see that Gideon was an “esquire,” while his father was a “gentleman.” I would suspect that, by definition, Gideon was also a gentleman, but the term esquire more fit the purpose of the times.

Using the names in the above documents, and finding the wills and other documents in the British Archives, we get more information.

¹⁵ J V Kitto, *The Register of St Martin-in-the-Fields, London 1619-1636*. (Salt Lake City: The Harleian Society, 1936).

¹⁶ Ibid

¹⁷ Col Joseph L Chester & Geo J Armytage, *Allegations for Marriage Licences Issued by the Bishop of London, 1611-1828. Vol II*; (London, 1887).

¹⁸ likely Nathan Bailey, d 27 Jun 1742, author of *Dictionarius Britannicum: or, a More Compleat Universal Etymological English dictionary than any Extant*. 1730

¹⁹ Sir Bernard Burke, Ulster King of Arms, *Genealogical and Heraldic Dictionary of the Landed Gentry of Great Britain and Ireland*, (London: Harrison, Pall Mall, 1862), Part I. pp vii-viii

Wills of many of these people were obtained from the British National Archives, Kew²⁰. From the wills (1632) **Thomas Hooker** (father to Gideon and Joseph) and (1673) of **Mary** (Ghest [or Bird]) Hooker, widow of Gideon, we begin to get an idea who these people are. John Bird is referred to as “brother” by Mary Hooker, but her unmarried sister is “Ghest.”

In her will, she leaves items and property to various of the nieces and nephews of her brother, John Bird. Further, **Emme Ghest**, Mary’s sister, in her will, leaves things to John Bird’s children as well.²¹ We could expect that either Mary’s mother was thrice married, or that John Bird was a brother-in-law for a deceased and unnamed sister to Mary and Emme. Regardless, he was one trusted with the property mentioned in the 1683 injunction.

GIVEN NAME AND SURNAMES

We have already addressed the “Robert” and “Richard” exchange, but there are many other instances of names not being what they appear. As I like to say, “there is no ‘correct’ spelling – shall we say ‘consistent spelling’ – before the beginning of the 20th century, and not always then.” Ghest, for example, is also found as “Gist,” “Geste,” and other forms. Some researchers have interpreted Elizabeth’s name on the marriage return as Hooper, probably because of the “k” is sometimes read (by modern readers) as “p” , and vice-versa. Since there were apparently “Hoopers” as well in the same time and place, we cannot “assume” a “k” either without checking for other sources.

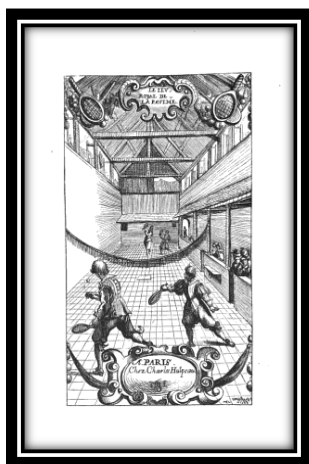
K, k	Ʒ Ʒ Ʒ
P, p	Ɔ ɔ p ʝ

We also have an instance where Thomas Hooker’s widow, Mary, apparently marries one “John Hooke” – not John Hooker in any records – and in a will for Gideon’s widow Mary Hooker, she is referred to as “Mistress Hooke.” However, the names have been confused in some records.

I have tried to maintain the spelling on the original documents, clarifying as necessary.

²⁰ The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey TW9 4DU and <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

²¹ The National Archives of the UK (TNA): Public Record Office (PRO); 11/426 Image Reference:309



from *ANNALS OF TENNIS*
By Julian Marshall

THE KEEPER OF THE TENNIS COURT

Looking at Elizabeth's grandfather, Thomas Hooker, we find that he was the "Keeper of the Tennis Court" for Charles I. In his will, he notes that Charles (his blessed sovereign. . .) owes him a large sum of money, which Thomas would like back, as his bequests for his daughters and the "childe in my wife's wombe" were to come out of this fund.

There were several "tennis courts" for "real (royal) tennis" at the time. The surviving court is at Hampton Court, but the court that Thomas Hooker was keeper of was at the Palace of St. James.

St. James was built by Henry VIII, by enclosing land and adding a tennis court, cock pit, and bowling green. Although there are no drawings left of this site, it would resemble this example at Whitehall, and the other drawings here.

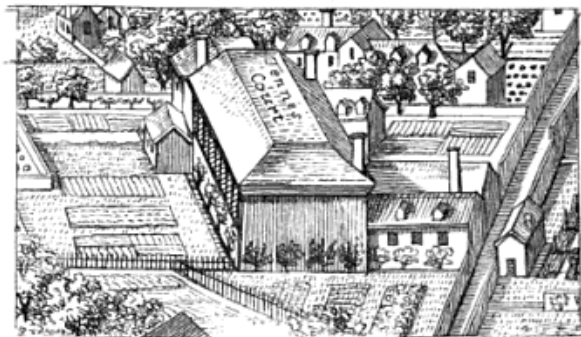


Plate 19.

The tennis court in St. James's Field was built between 1617 and 1619 by Gedeon Lozer. Lozer built the court and a dwelling house on a piece of ground in the south-west

corner of the field which measured 140 feet along St. James's Street and 80 feet along the old highway. The court itself measured 100 feet by 35 feet; it was built of brick, covered and paved with tiles, and on its east side was a lean-to or walk. In 1631 a reversionary lease of this property was granted to Thomas Hooker, keeper of the tennis court. By 1663 Hooker's lease had passed to Martha Barker, who in that year sub-let part of the house and the tennis court to Robert Havercampe, 'with the Curtaines and nets thereunto belonging together with the benefitt of the Rackets, balls, sockes and shoes belonging to the game of Tennis there exercised', and freedom to appoint 'the markers for the use of such as should play in the said Court'. When Pall Mall street was laid out along its present course the tennis court was left standing and projecting across the western end of the street; it was eventually pulled down about 1679²²

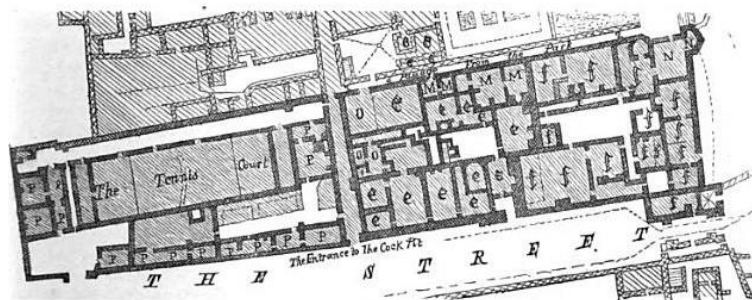


Plate 18.

Another, earlier, will dated 2 Feb 1617/18, Folio 265, for Simon Benson of Kingston upon Hull:

Simon [Symon] Benson of Kingston upon Hull, co. York, mariner. (Dat. 2 Feb 1617-18.) Exors: nephs. James and Wm. Benson, sons of my bro. Wm. Benson of Blackfriars, Lond., Tennis court keeper, whom I appoint overs: Mr. Robt. Ashwell; Thos. Hooker; John Yardley. [(ss) Symon Benson] Wits: Roger Richardson, George Brome, scr(ivener). (Adm. Gr. 3 Mar. 1619-20, to Wm Benson, bro of decd., who died abroad, Exors: being und. Age.)¹

The abstract of this will is confusing, so I have ordered a copy of the original. Kingston upon Hull, York County, is in north England. In the meantime, we do not know the connection of the Bensons. Was William Benson a tennis court keeper? If so, which tennis court? I could speculate that Simon Benson had an interest in the tennis court, and because nephews James and William Benson were under age, Robert Ashwell, Thomas Hooker and John Yardley were named overseers. This then would explain how Thomas came to be involved with the tennis court. Does it mean he was born in East Yorkshire

²² F H W Sheppard (General Editor), *The Bailiwick of St. James, Survey of London: volumes 29 and 30: St James Westminster, Part 1*, in British History Online, <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=40542&strquery=hooker> (accessed 16 April 2011)

On 6 November 1626, there was a “Warrant to pay to Thos. Hooker, Keeper of the tennis court at St. James's, £798. 3s. 2d., for provision of balls and other necessities, and for money lost unto him by his Majesty at play.”²³ In *the Annals of Tennis* there is a further mention, 8 Jun 1627, of an intimation to Lord Treasurer Marlborough of “his Majesty’s pleasure that Hooker, the Tennis-court-keeper, be paid.”²⁴

Later information on the (1630/31) Revisionary Lease comes from 1681, when Henry, earl of St. Albans petitioned the William Harbord, Surveyor of Crown Lands, to clarify his position on the property including the Tennis Court, which was the result of “an 80 year term granted 1631, Aug. 12, to Thomas Hooker, gent.”²⁵ He gained the lease in 1631, just prior to his death in 1632, and from then until the grant passed to the earl in 1648, one or another of the family was operating the court. However, the petitions to Charles I indicate that he was in charge of the St James court at least as early as 1626 (above).

According to this Treasury Reference, the earl built a “fair mansion” after pulling down part of the Tennis courts, and that the house is in the hands of one Francis Gaultier.

To give some comparison here, in 1633-1642, the average weekly wage for a plumber was 12 shillings, for a carpenter, mason, or bricklayer, about 7, and laborers around 5.5. After the English Civil War, these numbers had approximately doubled. For the gentry, in 1688, a gentleman may expect an income (annual) of £280, an esquire, £450.²⁶ It is clear that the debts owed the Hookers by Charles I were considerable.

“1637 Feb. 25

32. *Petition of Mary Hooke, keeper of the King's tennis court at St. James's, and John Hooke, her husband, to the King. Before the death of her late husband, Thomas Hooker, there was £3,000 due to him in 1630, whereof he abated £1,000 for renewing the lease of the tennis court, and by his will left the other £2,000 for the portions of his children. In May 1633 petitioner received £1,000, and for the King's play since 1630 to 2nd May 1636 there is due £632. 7s. Prays a Privy Seal for £1,632. 7s. [1½ p.] Underwritten.*

32. i. *Direction to the Lord Treasurer to give order for a Privy Seal for payment of what is due. St. James's, 25th February 1636–7. [¼ p.] Annexed.*

32. ii. *Statement of the accounts of the above petitioners, initialed by the King. [1 p.]*²⁷

As can be seen, Thomas is gone (reference the 1632 will, next) and Mary has remarried to John Hooke.

Further, we have a marriage for Mary Hooker, the sixteen year old daughter of Thomas and Mary Hooker, whose consent was given by John Hooke:

*Justice, William, gent., of St. Martin-in-the-Fields, bachelor, 20, and Mary Hooker, of same, spinster, 16, daughter of Thomas Hooker, late of same, gent., deceased, consent of her father-in-law, Mr. John Hooke—at St. Martin aforesaid. 30 April, 1636. B.*²⁸

THE WILL OF THOMAS HOOKER

Written 4 May 1632, the will of Thomas Hooker (Appendix B) gives a good idea of the family. After first commending his soul to God, and asking to be buried “within the chappall of Hamersmith in the countie of Midx either under or as close to my pew as can be.” In order of their appearance he names: his wife, **Mary**, his sons **James, Joseph, Thomas**, and **Gideon**. *Gedeon* is identified as the oldest *sonne*, thus his portion is set by law. Should Mary remarry before the majority of the children (and she did) then “all the rentals [] and profite of the said house and Tennis Court shall be reserved and employed for and towarde the [] and bringing up of all my children until said Gedeon shall accomplish his age of twentie and one years” when he should get all the rent profite and appurtances. He also bequeathed to his daughters, **Mary Hooker, Martha Hooker, Jana (Jane) Hooker** and **Anna Hooker**, one hundred pounds apiece to be paid them at seventeen years, as long as they are unmarried. But, if they marry without the consent of the executor and overseer, then they won’t get their portion until twenty-one years. And, for the “child my said

²³ 'Appendix', Calendar of State Papers Domestic: Charles I, 1625-26 (1858), pp. 533-582. British History Online, <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/> (accessed 16 April 2011)

²⁴ Julian Marshall, *Annals of Tennis* (London: The Field Office, ca 1878).

²⁵ 'Entry Book: July 1681, 21-30', Calendar of Treasury Books, Volume 7: 1681-1685 (1916), pp. 233-240. British History Online, <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/> (accessed 16 April 2011)

²⁶ Henry Duff Traill, ed., *Social England: From the Accession of James the First to the Death of Anne*, vol. IV (New York: G P Putnam’s Sons, 1895).

²⁷ 'Charles I - volume 348: February 23-28, 1637', Calendar of State Papers Domestic: Charles I, 1636-7 (1867), pp. 457-478. British History Online, <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/> (accessed 16 April 2011)

²⁸ Joseph Lemuel Chester and John Ward Dean. *London Marriage Licences, 1521-1869*. (London: Bernard Quaritch, 1887), 779

wife now. . has in her womb” the sum of three hundred pounds to the child – if he is a son, at twenty one years; if a daughter, as the other daughters were given theirs.²⁹

It turns out that this child was a son, **William**, who was born 22 May, 1632. We have found baptismal/christening records for all the children except Anna. It may be that Anna was born in a different parish, and so would provide information as to other homes of the Hookers. Or, she might have been baptized with a different forename, we cannot tell.

Thomas leaves a freehold and copyhold in Hammersmith in the parish of Fulham in the countie of Wiltshire that is divided as follows:

“All my freehold land . . . to my dear and loving wife, Mary to hold the same with . . .profit until James . . one of my sonnns. . .(reach) his full age of one and twenty. . and then I give and bequeath all my said freehold and appurtances to him. . . and the heirs of this body. .and for want of heirs such issue go to Joseph Hooker. . . (then) to Thomas Hooker. . .” The copyhold property appears to have been similarly distributed. These three sons are set aside as Gideon will become heir to all that is not designated. Why “James” is mentioned before “Joseph,” Gideon’s twin, is not clear.

Thomas then turns his attention to his sovereign, Charles I. He asks him to pay the sum of about £2009, which was owing him and without which the children will go without. This is added to the £300 for the child in the wombe.

He expects also that wife and children will continue to live in the Tennis courts and take monies from the rentals and such there.

He mentions a brother, **Edward Hooker**, who is living in his house in St. Clement Danes; his cousin **Henry Duncombe** and Henry’s daughter **Mary**, Thomas’ godchild; some of his servants. Later, his brother **Ashwell** (or Athwell) and wife, sister’s daughter Mary [C?y]; Richard and Robert **Smithson**, his late mother’s brothers.

Mary is the guardian of the children, Athwell/Ashwell and friend George [Symrotte?] gentlemen, overseers. Witnesses were Thomas Bratt, Robert Athwell, Geo Symrotte; Jeremy Leighton, Thomas Levell, Robert Cooke, among others.

At the time, the overseers of the Tennis Court were *Mr. Robt. Ashwell; Thos. Hooker; John Yardley*.

Is the Robert Ashwell, the Tennis court overseer, and the witness to the will the same person as “my brother Ashwell”? Ashwell is a very uncommon name. It is possible that Robert Ashwell/Athwell is a brother-in-law.

From this, we can propose a family chart:

(--?--) **Hooker**, b. before 1600, d. before 1632

+ (--?--) **Smithson**, b. before 1600, d. before 1632

— **Thomas Hooker** , b. circa 1600 England, d. circa 1632, England, the Tennis Court Keeper

+ **Mary Pritchard** , m. 21 Sep 1619

— **Anne Hooker**, b unk

— **Mary Hooker**, b. 27 Jun 1620

+ **William Justice**, b. circa 1616, m 30 Apr 1636

— **Jane Hooker** , b. 11 Sep 1623

— **Martha Hooker**, b. 10 Mar 1621

— **Gideon Hooker**, b. 7 Jun 1625, d. before 1683

— **Joseph Hooker**, b. 7 Jun 1625, d. before 1683

+ (--?--) **Unknown**, d. before 1683

— **Elizabeth Hooker**, b. circa 1657

+ **Robert Povall**, m. Apr 1683

— **Thomas Hooker**, bap 28 Jun 1627

— **James Hooker** , b. 8 Dec 1628

— **William Hooker**, b. 22 May 1632

— **Ashwell Hooker**, b. circa 1610, d. after 1632

+ **Owen (or, Owen Hooker married to Robert Ashwell?)**

— **Edward Hooker** , b. circa 1610, d. after 1647/8³⁰³¹

²⁹ The National Archives of the UK (TNA): Public Record Office (PRO);prob/11/161 – Image Reference 492. Copy in my files.

³⁰ Edward Hooker is named in the sale of the Manor of Fulham lands, as “Edward Hooker, citizen of London, trustee for sale” 1647-8

³¹ H Miles, transcriber, *The Manor of Fulham; Deeds and Documents Relating to Hammersmith in the Archives of the Bishop of London’s “London Bishoprick Estate”*. 1959. Copy obtained by Charles Knighton from the Hammersmith Archives, 2007. Copy in my files.

We have been able to find neither Mary (Prichard) Hooker's, nor Gideon Hooker's will, but have been able to find the will for his wife, Mary **Ghest**.³² (See Appendix C)

Written on 30 January 1673, the will clearly assigns that property that is Mary's. That property that was her late husband, Gideon's, is not mentioned. She first names her brother, William **Ghest**, then his son William Ghest. Brother William Ghest also has six daughters. She follows with her brother, John **Bird**, and his grandson, Thomas Bird "of the new exchange in the parish of St. Martin in the Field". John Bird's children (at that time) were John Bird, Thomas Bird, Phillipp Bird, and Ethelored Bradsaw. Ethelored has a daughter, Mary Bradshaw. She has other unnamed daughters. Third, she names her sister Emme Ghest. She also names John Duncombe "of the new exchange." Later she names John Duncombe's wife Dorothy Duncomb and John Duncombe their son.

Then, "**Mistress Hooke**, my late husband's mother, **Martha Gregory**, **Ann Whitle**, **Jane Bodily**, three sisters of my said late husband."

Later, another brother appears, Anthony **Holland**, and his daughters Frances and Mary Holland, and an unnamed son. Cousins Emme Frances, Catherin [Mayes] James [Wybournes]; a niece Ann [Mayes] (all under age).

There were a number of recipients who were people she knew from her business and various others to "buy her mourning," as well as to pay business debts.

There is a question as to Mary's family name, as apparently her mother married at least three times, and she had at least two stepfathers. Because she begins with the Ghest family, and chooses her sister Emme Ghest, along with John Duncombe, as executors, I suspect her father was the Ghest. Further research may prove otherwise, if records of baptisms for the Mary and the siblings can be found.

Perhaps of interest is that Mary Hooker's shop appears to have been a goldsmith shop. She paid several people for "gold I have of received of him . . ." Was Gideon also a goldsmith?

From this we also know that Mary (Prichard) Hooker-Hooke died after 1673. Could it have been her death that started the ball rolling on Gideon's estate?

Here we can now complete the family chart:

(--?--) **Hooker**, b. before 1600, d. before 1632

+ (--?--) **Smithson**, b. before 1600, d. before 1632

- **Thomas Hooker** , b. circa 1600 at England (York?), d. circa 1632, England, the Tennis Court Keeper
 - + **Mary Pritchard** , m. 21 Sep 1619 d. aft 1673 (m2 John Hooke, bef 1636)
 - **Anne Hooker**, b unk, d aft 1673
 - + **Whitle**
 - **Mary Hooker**, b. 27 Jun 1620 d prob bef 1673 as she is not in Mary (Ghest) Hooker's will
 - + **William Justice**, b. circa 1616, m 30 Apr 1636
 - **Jane Hooker** , b. 11 Sep 1623, d. after 1673
 - + **Bodily**
 - **Martha Hooker**, b. 10 Mar 1621
 - + **Gregory**
 - **Oliver Gregory**
 - **Gideon Hooker**, b. 7 Jun 1625, buried 9 Jul 1668³³
 - + **Mary Ghest/Bird**, d ca 1673
 - **Joseph Hooker**, b. 7 Jun 1625, d. before 1673
 - + _____, d. before 1673
 - **Elizabeth Hooker**, b. circa 1657
 - + **Robert Povall**, m. Apr 1683
 - **Thomas Hooker**, bap 28 Jun 1627, buried 28 August 1667³⁴
 - **James Hooker** , b. 8 Dec 1628, d prob bef 1673
 - **William Hooker**, b. 22 May 1632, d prob bef 1673
 - **Ashwell Hooker**, b. circa 1610, d. after 1632 (or **Owen Hooker** and Robert Ashwell)
 - + **Owen**
 - **Edward Hooker** , b. circa 1610, d. after 1632

³² Public The National Archives of the UK (TNA): Public Record Office (PRO); Prob 11/344 Image Reference:346.
Copy in my files

³³ Wade, p 23

³⁴ Wade, p 14

Now, back to Cousin Oliver Gregory, the defendant in the lawsuit. There are two marriage entries for Oliver Gregory, both in 1683. First, on 4 January, Oliver Gregory, of St. Martin's in the Field, Midd., Bachr, abt 30, and Mary Squibb, of Swinn, Co. dorset. Spr (spinster), 25, with consent of her mother, her father dead; alleged by Martha Gregory, of St Martin's afsd; at Swin afsd. The second, 8 June 1683, Oliver Gregory, of St Clement's Danes, Midd., Esq., Bachr, abt 30, & Mary Woodroffe, Wid., abt 30; alleged by Richard Gilby, of St Martin's in the Fields, Midd.; at Putney, Surrey. The first is the most likely, as Oliver's mother was apparently around St. Martin's, and his mother was Martha, but we cannot rule out the Surrey marriage.

ACROSS THE POND

It appears that Joseph, his wife, and perhaps other children, did not interact with the legal system in London and Middlesex. It is still possible that we may find records, as only a fraction of the English records have been indexed.

With the birth records, wills, and marriages, it appears that Elizabeth Hooker of Virginia did indeed have an inheritance, but her grandfather, and probably therefore her father, was a "gentleman" not a "lord." Gideon was apparently "Lord of the Manor" and that may have been the cause of the confusion.

It appears that Robert and Elizabeth (Hooker) Povall are at least partially successful in their lawsuit, as by 1685, Robert has signed an indenture with one George Blythe, who will be his servant in Virginia. The indenture was made in London in June 1685, and filed in Henrico County, Virginia that same year.

Articles of agreement made 24 June 1685 by & between George Blythe , son of George Blythe of ¶ Parish of St. Margaretts, Westminster , in ¶ Co. of Middlesex, Souldier , decd. and Robert Povall of ¶sd. Parish of St. Martin's in ¶ ffields in ¶ County of sd. Mariner . The sd. Blythe for himself, Exors., admrs., assigns, &c. & for consideracons hereafter named; covenants, agrees, to serve the said Povall from & after the Feast of ¶ birth of our Lord Christ next ensuing for the term of six years. The sd. Povall in consideracon of sd. Blythes services, promises to provide for sd. Blythe "good, wholesome & sufficient meat, drink, washing, lodging & apparell during ye sd. term & at end of term" double apparell and three barrells of corn & other allowances according to the custom of the Country where he shall serve his time as afsd."
Witnesses-Robert Hearne , Will Lawson , Joseph Chassor [?] , Edmund Bell , Notar. Publ , in St. James's Markett Street. Recorded-Henrico Co. Va. Court, 18 Dec. 1685.³⁵

In October, 1685, Robert has purchased 150 acres on the already named "Malborn Hills" from William Humphreys. Malvern Hill appears to have been named by the original owner, Richard Cocke.³⁶

Additionally, the same names appear on more than one patent, and for more than one patentee. As we will see, by 1685 the deed for the property transfer from William Humphreys to Robert Povall reads:

7 Oct 1685 Robert POVALL, Planter of Henrico Co deed from WM. (X) HUMPHREY, of same Co. planter. 90 pounds: sterl. or value thereof in goods at the choice of sd. HUMPHREY & 2 years accommodation of the sd. HUMPHREY, in hand paid or secured to be paid. 150 acres on Malborn hills whereon sd. HUMPHREY now lives (mentions a board of warranty signed & sealed by Mr. Richard COCKE, senr. dated last of October 1669). 18 Xbr 1685 Recorded.³⁷

From this point on, Robert is represented frequently in the early records in Henrico county, as a juryman, witness to wills, and so on.

Elizabeth is not named in any documents, including the will of Robert, dated 16 September 1728.³⁸

In this will, Robert names son John, son Robert, daughter Sarah, daughter Mary Carter. Some sources have Sarah as "Roach" others as "Royal." Recent re-reading of Robert's will calls both Roach and Royal into question. Daughter Mary's marriage to Giles Carter, while not proven, fits in with the practice of the day of providing something to a son-in-law in a will.

RETURNING TO THE MYTH

He was indentured for six years, as a servant to Robert ("King") Carter of "Corotoman," Charles City Co., Va. Upon the adjoining plantation of Soloman Knibbs, was employed--so runs the tradition,-- a girl named Elizabeth Hooker, whom Robin knew and hoped to marry. Robin was one day in attendance as a servant at a dinner given by Carter to the neighboring gentry, when his master read a letter from England, in which enquiry was made concerning Elizabeth, daughter of "Lord Hooker,"

³⁵ Valentine, Vol. III p.1298

³⁶ VA Patent Book No.1, p.707

³⁷ Valentine, Vol. III p 1298

³⁸ Valentine, Vol. III p 1303

who had died leaving a large estate called "Malvern Hills"--this Elizabeth being his only daughter and heir.

From the basic myth here, we now know that

- Robert Povall was not indentured to King Carter, as Corotoman did not adjoin the Knibbs plantation, but he certainly may have been indentured to a neighbor of the Knibbes
 - Perhaps someone would like to investigate the relationship between the King Carter and Giles Carter families.
- It is possible that the wily Oliver Gregory sent a letter using the term "Lord"--although no evidence of such a letter has been found. Such a letter would more likely have come from the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. The only extant document to date is one where Oliver is looking to take the execution of the estate from the "absent" and probably dead, "Mary."
- As to being the "daughter of the Lord" -- well, she was at least the heir to a considerable property.

As myths go, this one is closer than some. Fortunately, with the power of the internet, and the interaction of researchers, the proof of one of America's earliest families has been found.

From the wills, we know that Thomas' mother was probably named Smithson. We know that Gideon's wife, Mary (Ghest) Hooker, had a goldsmith shop. Her sister, Emme's name was Ghest, as were two brothers. Another brother was named John Bird. In the very early 1600s, there is frequent mention of one Nicholas Hooker, Goldsmith, London, as well as John Byrd, of London, "Goldsmith," freeman of the 'Goldsmith's Company,' . . . father of Colonel William Byrd of Virginia."³⁹

There is a marriage return for one William Hooker, of St. Peter Westcheap, London, goldsmith, and Elizabeth Cumber, of St. Peter, Cornhill, widow of Thomas Cumber, late of same, cook -- at St. Peter, Cornhill. 31 Oct 1598. (Mis-read? A goldsmith to a cook? ⁴⁰

An additional curiosity that the "names of the adventurers" to Virginia include Nicholas Hooker and George Hooker. Nicholas is listed among the signatories of the Third Charter of Virginia, March 12, 1612. George Hooker, gent. signed the second Charter of Virginia, 1609.

Was Nicholas Hooker a brother to Thomas Hooker, senior, and therefore uncle to Gideon, Joseph and the rest? Is it possible that "George" was actually "Joseph?"

ROBERT POVALL

About Robert Povall, we have very little information. Perhaps the best clues are from the indenture between Robert and George Blythe, made 24 June 1685, prior to Robert and Elizabeth returning to Virginia.

*Articles of agreement made 24 June 1685 by & between George Blythe, son of George Blythe of the Parish of St. Margaretts, Westminster, in the Co. of Middlesex, Souldier, decd. And Robert { X } Povall of the sd. Parish of St. Martin's in the fields in the County of sd. Mariner. . . . Recorded Henrico Co. Va. Court 18 Dec 1685.*⁴¹

Now, Robert could be "of the Parish of St. Martin's in the fields" on his own behalf, or because that was where Elizabeth's family was from. There appears to be an internal problem with Valentine's "sd. Mariner." A look at the original record is required here. A look at the microfilm of these early records from Virginia, might resolve some of the possible transcription issues.

The questions remain:

- What happened to Joseph?
- Who were Robert Povall's parents and from where did he come?
- Was Robert Povall a mariner?

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Tucson, Arizona

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³⁹ Horace Edwin Hayden. *Virginia Genealogies: a genealogy of the Glassell family of Scotland and Virginia. . . [etc].* (Wilkes-Barre, Penn'a. 1891). p xiv

⁴⁰ Chester, 707

⁴¹ Valentine, Vol. III p. 1298.

20 [th] [day] July 1683

To the Right Honorable Sir Francis North Knight
Lord Keeper of the Great Seal of England

Humbly complaying showeth unto your Lordship your Orator and Oratrix Richard Povall and Elizabeth his wife that Gideon Hooker late of the Parish of St Martin's in the Ffields in the County of Middlesex Gentleman did by his Indenture and [Qnadreptite] made between ^him^ the said Gideon Hooker of the ffirst part and Michael Seare of the Mosse in the Parish of Greate Chesham in the County of Bucks Gentleman of the second part John Duncomb[l]e of the aforesaid Parish of St Martin's in the Ffields in the county of Midd[le]se[x] Gentleman and John Bird of Covent Garden in the said county Gentleman of the third part and Daniell [Lorb] of [D]avies Inn in the Parish of St Andrews Holborne in the said County Gentleman of the fourth part and bearing date the twentieth day of July in the year of the reign of our most gracious Sovereign Lord Charles the Second by the grace of god of England Scotland France and Ireland King Defender of the Faith in the seaveteenth Anno one thousand and six hundred sixty and ffive so consideration of the [person] he had with Mary his then wife and for the love and affection he bore to her and for her livelyhood and maintainant[ci]ce for shee should survive him the said Gideon Hooker her husband and for the settling of the [revision] of the Lands and premisses herein after mentioned of which the said Gideon Hooker was then squire in Ffee[.] He the said Gideon Hooker did by the said Indenture for himself, his heirs and assigns doth covenant grant to and with the said John Duncombe and John Bird and their heirs and assigns that the said Gideon Hooker his heirs and assigns should and would at all times and forever thereafter stand and be squires of all that ~~xxx~~ mal[] [form ?] or [tenent?] withstanding [xxxoe] formerly called or known by the name of the old Mosse situate lying and being in the Parish of Greate Chesham in the County of Bucks with all and singular the houses, buildings, barns, stables, yards, orchards, gardens, lands, meadows, pastures, woods, spring, [trees?] wayes, waterings, [---ments] profitts commodities and hereditaments whatsoever thereunto belonging or in any wise appertaining containing in the whole by estimation one hundred and fifty and five acres of Land pasture and woodground [be the same] now or before situate lying and being in Greate Chesham aforesaid and then in the possession of the said Michael Sea[re] party to the said deede and the [reversion and reversions, remainder, and remainders] of all the said premises to the [use] and [uses] purposes and intents therein and herein mentioned limitted and declared and to noe other use or uses intents or purposes whatsoever that is to say first to the use and behoofe the said Gideon Hooker and Mary his wife and to the survivors of them without [impediment?] of [Wast?] dureing the [terme] of their naturall lives and after their decease and the decease of the survivors of them the said Gideon and Mary to the use and behoofe of the heires of the said Gideon Hooker by and upon the body of the said Mary ^lawfully^ begotten or to be begotten and for default of such issue [ab bout and] concerning the said massauges and tenement and other [the. . .] and buildings yards orchards and gardens and all those closes and parcels of land in a Schedule to the said deed annexed [---osser?] and here and therein after particularly mentioned (that is to say) one Close called Brosset Fforth containing by estimation six acres one other Close called Blakemore containing by estimation six orchards one other house called Barnefield containing by estimation twelve acres, one other hose called [Har. . .s] containing by estimation fifteen acres one other Close called Broad Close containing by estimation [two] acres, one other close called Wattage containing by estimation nine acres one other close called Montwood containing by estimation eight acres, ----- of pasture or mowing ground about the house containing by estimation four acres and one spring of woodground called Blakemores Spring containing by estimation five acres with [their] and every of their appurtenances to the use and behoofe of the heirs and assigns of the said Gideon Hooker forever and as ---- and ----- all those other houses and premises(?) and all other the ----- and parcels of land in the said schedule [annexed?] expressed and therein and herein particularly mentioned (that is to say) the barn and yard hovell and outlet on the east side of the said massauges and greater yard four closes lying together called Rushome/Rushmore(?) and containing by estimation thirty four acres two other closes called Woodfields containing by estimation ^eighteen acres^ x x x x one other house called Ffullmore containing by estimation eight acres one other house called Long Croft containing by estimation seven acres one other close called [Nether] Close containing by estimation seven acres one parcel of arrable land containing by estimation four acres and one other parcel of mowing or pasture ground lying next the same adjoining to the massage called Water R... with a parcel of woodground therein containing by estimation two acres with their and every of their appurtenances to the use and behoofe of the heirs and assigns of the said Mary Hooker forever in case she should happen to survive the said Gideon her husband if she should die before the said Gideon then to the use and behoofe of the heirs of the said Gideon Hooker

forever and to and for no other use intent or purpose whatsoever as by the said deed of settlement duly executed by the said Gideon Hooker [mo.er att largor] [may appard Ano] Your Orator and Oratrix further show that the said Gideon Hooker and Mary his wife are both dead without issue of their bodies the said Mary surviving and dying after the said Gideon by means whereof the said Estate [.oshemovd] one part to the heirs of the said Gideon and the other to the heirs of the said Mary according and as the same is set out and [appointed] by the settlement aforementioned and your Orator and Oratrix further show that your Oratrix is the daughter of Joseph Hooker deceased which was own brother to the said Gideon and who left no Sonne or other child living but your Oratrix soe that your Oratrix is heir att law to the said Gideon Hooker and well entitled to that part of the before mentioned estate which is settled and limited to the heirs of the said Gideon Hooker but now so it is may it please your Lordship that within ----- when your Oratrix was beyond the seas one Oliver Gregory ----and combining with those -----to the said premises and with other persons as yet unknown to your Oratrix who when discovered your Oratrix pray they may be made defendant to this Bill he the said Oliver Gregory did by the combination aforesaid raise a declaration in -----ent to be brought in the name of one of the confederates by his appointment and in this doing so----- for all the lands aforesaid and the same being left with the ----- who by the combination aforesaid ---- the same and never gave any notice to your Oratrix or any of her friends by which means the ---- ----ment for want of defense made on your Oratrix part obtained judgement by default for ---- aforesaid Lands and the said Oliver Gregory gave out the both to countenance the matter that your Oratrix was dead and that he was right heir at law to the said Gideon Hooker and your Orator and Oratrix --- did intermarry about three months since and came into England about two months since and after they here arrived applied their --- to the said Oliver Gregory for the possession of their estate and to the tennant in possession but the said Gregory refused to acquitt the possession of the said premises so obtained by ---- and practice aforesaid ---- your Orator and Oratrix have raised an ---- in Court to be brought in order ---the same but the said Gregory and the tennant in possession and the rest of the confederates knowing you're your Oratrix cannot bring the said action to trial before the next lent decided he the said Gregory by the combination aforesaid hath caused greate quantities of timber (?) and wood to be cutt down and felled of the said ----and hath sold some and ---- lying on the said ----- and threatened that he will not leave any wood or timber on the said ----- but ----- great ---- dayly on the said ----- or some parts thereof at which doings of the said confederates ----- your Orator apparent wrong and injury in consideration whereof and for as ---- as your Orator cannot stay the confederates committing of waste upon the premises aforesaid but by the order of this honorable court neither can your Orator ----- and combinations aforesaid --- the end therefore that the said Oliver Gregory and the rest of the Confederates when discovered may true ---- to all and singular the --- and that they maybe injured by the order and injunction of this court not to commit any waste upon any part of the said premises by felling or cutting wood or carrying away the same and that your Orator and Oratrix may be ----- in all and singular the premises according to ----- and Equity May it please your Lordship to grant unto your Orator his ----- most gracious writ or ---- of Subpena to be directed to the said Oliver Gregory and other the Confederates when discovered thereby ---- them and every of them at a certain day and or a certain point the ---- to be ---- personally to be and approved before your Lordship in the High Court of Chancery then and there upon their Corporal Oaths to set forth the truth of all and ----the premises and further to stand to and abide ----- order and ----- therein unto your Lordship shall soon make according to right Equity and good cont--- and your Orators ----- in duty bound shall offer prayer

Initial transcription by Gaynor Guth, expanded by Patricia Dunford, 2007.

Appendix B – Will of Thomas Hooker

In the name of God Amen: the fourth

day of May A[nno] D[o]mo[ni] 1632 and the the fifth year of the reign of our sovaaigne Lord Charles by the grace of God King of England, Scotland, France and Ireland defender of the faith[] I: Thomas: Hooker, of St James in the parish of St Martins in the field in the county of [Midl] being at this

[] in good and [perfect] mynde and memory thankes be given to Almighty

God I doe make and ordain this my last will and testament in manner and

form following that is to [] [] and principally commend my soule into

the hande of Almighty God my heavenly father a[] trusting upon

and by the [] and [] of Jesus Christ my savior and []

to [] [] forgiveness of all my sins and for my body I comit to the earth

with my [] and will is that be buried within the [] chappall of

Hamersmith in the countie of Midx either under or as close to my pew as

can be And I give and bequeath for the poor people of Hamersmith aforesaid

the some of [fower] pounds to be payd and distributed amongst them at the

discretion of the church wardens and overseers of the poor of the said

[parish] and of my executors and overseers within one month, next after my

funeral and I also give to the poor people of the parish of St Martins in

the field aforesaid [] pounds to be paid and distributed among []

them at the discretion of the church wardens and overseers of the poor of []

[] of my executors and overseers within one month after my

death and my will and meaning is that my body shall be buried in decent

manner with such mourning as to my executor and overseers hereafter named

Shall thought fitt and [] the disposition of my freehold and copyhold

Lande lying and being in Hamersmith in the parish of of Fulham in the countie

of Wilt[shire] I give and devise the same in manner and form following

(that is to say) all my freehold land and appurtances thereunto belonging

unto my dear and loving wife Mary Hooker to hold the same with the []

profitte [] unto her the said Mary during and until James Hooker one

of my sones shall accomplish and [] his full age of one and twenty

years and then I give and bequeath all my said freehold and appurtances

to him the said James Hooker my sone and to the heirs of his body lawfully

to be begotten and for want of heirs such issue go to Joseph Hooker ann other of

the sonnes of me the said Thomas Hooker and to the heires of his body lawfully

begotten and for [] of said [] to Thomas Hooker and other of my sonnes

and to the heires of his body lawfully to be begotten and for want of

Such issue to the rightful heires of [] the said Thomas Hooker for ever

Also I give and bequeath this [old] [] tenement and[barne] that

ground there unto belonging adjoining to the tenant in the tenure of

[Wes] Burke in Hamersmith aforesaid with all the profitte and appurtances

thereunto belonging unto my said [] wife Mary Hooker, to hold

and enjoy the same to her the said Mary [] the landes and profitte

thereunto untill my said sonne Joseph shall accomplish his full age of twenty

and one years and then I give and bequeath the said lande and []

unto him the said Joseph and to the heires of the body of him the said Joseph

lawfully begotten and for want of [issue] to my said sonne Thomas

Hooker and to the heires of his body lawfully begotten and for want of

further issue of my said sonne James and to the heirs of his body lawfully

to be begotten and for want of [issue] to the right heires of [me?]

the said Thomas Hooker for ever Also I give my other great messauge

House on Tenent in Hamersmith aforesaid [] the []

[next page]

of [] with the [overhand] barnes and ground conteyning five acres

or thereabouts thereunto belonging with all and [] their appurtances

to my said loving wife Mary Hooker together with all the rented

and profite of the same to hold during and until my said sonne Thomas Hooker shall accomplish his said full age of twentie and one years And then I give and bequeath the said ^ [] house Tenant orchards [] grounds and appurtances unto him the said Thomas Hooker and to the heires of his body lawfully begotten and for want of further issue to my said sonne Joseph and for the heires of his body lawfully to be begotten and for want of further issue unto my said sonne James and to the heires of his body lawfully to be begotten and for want of further issue to the rightful heires of me the said Thomas Hooker forever And also I give and bequeath my copy hold lande lying in the comon field of Hamersith Parish aforesaid containing five acres or thereabouts [] [pp] & tenents thereunto belonging and all the rente and profite of the same unto my said loving wife Mary to hold and [] during and until my said sonne James shall accomplish his age of twenty and one years. And then I give and bequeath the said lande and [] to him the said James and to the heires of his body lawfully begotten and for want of further issue to my said sonne Joseph and the heires of his body lawfully begotten and for want of further issue to the heires of my said sonne Thomas and to the heirs of his body lawfully begotten and for want of such issue to the rightful heirs of me the said Thomas Hooker for ever Also I give and bequeath unto my said loving wife Mary Hooker all my [] dwelling house and Tennis Court of [] [] aforesaid with all the profit [] and app[urtenances] thereunto Belonging to hold the same ~~to hold the same~~ to her for and during the term of her naturall life (if she the said Mary does keep her selfe unmarried for [] tyme) and doe and shall keep and bring upp all my said children out of the [] and [] thereof And if happens that the said Mary do [] or marrie within [] [tyme] after my deathe or before my oldest son Gedeon shall accomplish his age of twentie and one years, that then my will is that all the rentals [] and [profitte] of the said house and Tennis Court shall be reserved and employed for and towarde the [] and bringing upp of all my children until my said son Gedeon shall accomplish his full age of twentie and one years and then I doe fully and absolutely give devise and bequeath all the said house and tenant [] with all the rent profite and appurtances to my said son Gedeon Hooker and to the heires of his body lawfully to be begotten and for want of further issue to my said sonne Joseph and to the heires of his body lawfully to be begotten, and or want of further issue to my said sonne Thomas Hooker and to the heires of his body lawfully begotten and for want of issue to my said son James and to the heires of his body lawfully begotten and for want of further issue to the right heires of my said son Thomas Hooker for and during the tie mentioned in my [] Also I give and bequeath unto my daughters Mary Hooker, Martha Hooker, Jana Hooker and Anna Hooker [] hundred pounds a piece to be paid them as their severall ages of seaventeen years, if they [] themselves so long unmarried, and if they shall marrie without the consent and good [] of my executor and overseer then my will is that their and every of their several portions shall not be paid to them or any of them till their several age of twentie and one years And [page 3] my will is that the same portion shall in the [] [] be put out and [] of for the [] benefitt an advantage of my said daughters And if any of my said daughters shall happen to dye before their said age of seaventeene years and one and twenty years before mentioned and intended Then my minde and will is that her and their [] soe dying shall [] and be paid to the rest of the said daughters remaining equally between them Also I give and bequeath to the child my said wife now [] withal and hath in her wombe the some of three hundred poundes to be paid unto the said child he be a sonne at his age of twentie and one years and if a daughter at ther age of seaventeen years and in the

same manner as my other daughters portions [] befor [] to paid
 And my minde and will is that the [] of my said daughters Mary,
 Martha, Jane, and Anne shall be had and paid out of the some of two
 thousand and nine pounce or thereabout [which is] [owing] unto me by my
 most gracious sovaigrne Lord and Master [King] Charles whom I trust will
 paid the some for the [] of my said children And my will
 also is that the three hundred pounce [] to the child now in my
 said wives wombe before mentioned shall had and paid out of the debt
 of three hundred and odd pounce with his said [majesty] doth owe me for
 Tennis Balls and to me [over] and [above] the debts of two thousand
 and [nine] pounce aforesaid And I do hereby by make and appointe my
 said wife sole guardian to my said children to [] and bringe upp all of
 them my said children well and carefully untill they shall accomplish
 their several full ages before mentioned not doubting that she will be a loving
 mother unto them and that they wil be all dutiful and obedient
 children unto her And my will and [] further is that if the said severall
 somes of two thousand pounce, and three hundred and odd pounce owing to
 me by his [majesty] aforesaid shall not be had and received that then my
 said wife shall [] [] portions out of all my [] for my said daughters
 and child in her wombe and shee and my said overseers shall []
 For them according to my [] And if the said several somes shall be obteyned
 and received from his [Magestie] as aforesaid that then my said daughters and
 child now in my said wives wombe being [] [] for the aforesaid
 my will and desire is and [] that my said wife shall and will [advance?]
 all my sonnes portions out of the said Tennis Court whereby they
 may live in [] manner they carrying themselves obediently and
 dutifully to her as aforesaid And whereto I have agreed with my brother
 Edward Hooker for my [] and interest in my house in parish of St.
 Clemente Danes in the Countie of Midd aforesaid wherein he now dwelleth
 my will and [] is that my said brother [] to my said wife the
 full some of three[] and [] pound and []shillings shall [] my
 death of the said house [] over to him or to [] as [] shall appoint
 And whereas my [cousin?] Henry Duncombe [] owed me by bond and book
 three and twentie pounce or thereabout I doe give the same to his daughter
 Mary My godchild to be paid unto her at her age of sixteen years upon
 condition that he the said Henry do [] the twentie pounce for noth
 A[] bounde as [] noth him to Wenles Harfo and his wife Also I give
 and bequeath unto my servants Margery Bun the sum of Tenn pounce to be
 paid her in three years next after my death by equall portions and I give
 unto my Servant [] [] [] pounce to be paid him within a year
 after my death and I give unto my servant William Honor forty pounce if
 he be loving to his wife and per[] to his mistress Also I give and bequeath

[page 5]

Unto my brother Edward Hooker my brother [Ashwell?] and his wife, Owen
 [], Robert Cooke, Samuel Sambrook, Thomas Liba, Robert Clarke
 to each of them [], [] [] shillings a piece and my will is that []
 [Lampd] in [Bla] Shall make all the [] rings and [] give to him
 the said [] Kempe? a [] of [] shillings [] to wear for my sake
 Alsoe I give [] Sambrooke wife ten shillings for a pair of gloves, and to
 My two servants four shillings a piece beside their wages Also I give to
 my sisters daughter Mary [C y] three pounce, and to John Barnette
 carpenter five pounce, out of the debt he now oweth unto me Alsoe I
 give unto my two [uncles?] Richard and Robert Smithson Brothers to my
 late mother []shillings a piece to be paid them within a yeare after my
 death Alsoe I do ^ [] ^ forgive unto John Barnes all such [] and somes of []
 money [] [] unto me by bonds bill booke or otherwise hon[]
 The [] and [] of all and singular my goode plate []
 and [] whatsoever after my debts paid and funeral expenses discharged

I freely give and bequeath unto my said deare and loving wife Mary Hooker
poor as the [] for the bringing upp and the advancement of my children
as aforesaid And I do hereby make ordanne and appointa her the said Mary
my wife and my said sonne Gedeon Hooker my executor of this my last will
and testament And I do hereby make my said brother [Athwell?] and my loving
[friend] George [Symrotte?] gent to be my Overseer in [] them to [] this
my last will thankfully performed And I doe hereby renounce an revoke all
former wills by me heretofore made and make this my last will and testament
conforming sixe [] of paper to [] whereof I have putt my
bond and [here] also sealed and [] my will and published the same
in this [] of witnesses hereafter named Thomas Hooker, Signed
sealed and delivered by the said Thomas Hooker he being in perfect memorie
in the [] of Thomas Bratt, Robert [Athwell?] [Geo Symrotte] [] Jeremy
Leighton, Thomas Levell, Robert Cooke marke.

(transcribed by Patricia Dunford, 2007)

Appendix C – Will of Mary (Ghest/Bird) Hooker, widow of Gideon

In the Name of God Amen I Mary Hooker of the parish of Saint Martin in the fields in the county of Midd[lesex] widow [com] swearing that nothing is more [certain] than death and nothing more [uncertain] than the time and manner of death and being thank[ful] [] be to my gracious God at this time in good health and memory doe this thirtieth day of January In the year of our Lord God 1673 and in the Sixt and Twentieth yeare of the raigne of our Suervaigne Lord King Charles the Second doe make this my last will and testament ffirst I doe heartily and th[ank?]fully reli[?] and bequeath my immortall soule unto God who gave it firmly trusting by the meritts of Jesus Christ and my assured ffaith in him after this life is ended to have [eternally] in heaven Item I give unto my brother William Ghest all my massauges, lands and tenements situat and being at a plase called the moores in the parish of [chesham?] in the county of [Burks] and [hertford] with all and singular theire and every of theire appurtements to hold unto the said William Ghest for the terme of his naturall life and after his death I give and devise the said massauges lands and tenements with theire appurtements unto William Ghest oldest sonn of my said brother William Ghest and to the heirs made of the body of the said William Ghest the sonn to be begotten and for want of furth[er] issue, unto Thomas Bird [] son of my brother John Bird of the new Exchange in the parish of St Martin in the field in the County of Midd[lesex] milliner and the heires and assignes of the said Thomas Bird the sonn forever Item I give and devise all that my remayning [ferme?] of and in a [] shopp in the said exchange known by the name of Jarobe Well and all my title and interest therein unto my brother John Bird his [] and administrators Item I give unto my sister Emme Ghest the summ of three hundred pounds Item I give unto John Bird Thomas Bird Phillipp Bird and Ethelored Bradsaw being ffower children of my brother John Bird aforesaid three hundred pounds a peece Item I give unto James [] bourne [] wiggmaker ffifty pounds and unto [Mr/Wm] Thomas T[implar] of the new Exchange [] [] pounds to buy mourning Item I give to my Goddaughter Mary Bradshaw daughter of Ethelored Bradshaw one hundred pounds and my will is that if the said Mary Bradshaw dye that then ^ ^ her [next?] sister shall have the said one hundred pounds [] if both the said Mary and her [] sister dye then ^ that^ the same shall be equally divided amongst the six[?] daughters of my ^saide^ brother William Ghest Item I give unto John Duncombe [the elder?] of the new Exchange .. foresaid one hundred pounds Item I give unto M[istress?] Ann Hills wife of Robert Hills of the new Exchange afore: said one hundred pounds Item I give unto Mary [V?]ane wife of Anthony [V]ane Esquire Twenty pounds to buy her mourning Item I give unto M[istress] Hooke my late husbands [mother [] and also unto Martha Gregory Ann Whitle and Jane Bodily three sisters of my said late husband ten pounds a peece for mourning Item I give unto Margaret Shaw Mary B[] Alice Barnett formerly my apprentice and to M[aster] Perkinson ten pounds a peece to buy mourning Item I give ^un^ to Gideon Lawson the yongir Mary Harmon daughter of [. .] Harmon and Mary Herring formerly ^one of^ my shopp maids twenty pounds a peece Item I give unto Dorothy Duncomb wife of John Duncomb the [older?] of the new Exchange aforesaid and unto John Duncombe theire sonn and unto Robert Hills of the Exchange aforesaid at the Adam and Eve ten pounds a piece to buy them [] [] mourning Item I give fifty pounds [next page] to be disposed] of by my Executors as they shall think fit to putt forth and find ffive boyes of the parish of St Martin in the Ffields aforesaid apprentices[?] Item I give all my wearing clothes and lynnens whatsoever and all my

household stuff and goods excepting my plate [] Etholored
 Ghest Item I give unto Emme Ghest daughter of my brother Edward Ghest
 two hundred and fifty pounds and my will is that the said Emme Ghest shall
 retaine the interest of the said ^[] of^ two hundred and fifty poundes for
 her maintenance untill shee be putt fourth an apprentice and then my will
 is that fifty pounds part of the said two hundred and fifty poundes --
 shall be paid by my executors herein after named to putt forth to the said Emme
 Ghest an apprentice and that the remaining two hundred poundes
 shall be paid unto the said Emme when she shall attaine the age of
 eightene years or at the time when her apprenticeship shall be expired
 which shall first happen and in the meane time she shall receyve the
 interest and proceed of the said two hundred pounds Item I give to my
 said niece Etholored Ghest daughter of my said brother William Ghest
 two hundred pounds Item I give to the other sixe daughters of my
 said brother William Ghest fifty pounds a peece and my will is that
 if either of the said sixe daughters dye before their respective dayes of
 marriage that then the fifty pounds hereby given to the said daughter
 so dying shall be equally devided amongst the surviving sisters Item I give
 unto Frances Wolland and Mary Wolland daughters of my brother Anthony
 Wolland fifty pounds a peece and also to my brother Anthony's youngest
 sonn now lyving fifty pounds Item I give to my {cosns?} Emme Frances and
 Catherin Mayes fifty pounds a peece I give unto my [cosn] James
 [Wybournes] two daughters by my neece Ann Mayes one hundred pounds
 a peece and my will is that the same shall be paid unto them when they
 come to their several ages of eightene yiares an if either of them dye
 then the survivor to have the same hundred pounds of her so dying and if
 both of them dye then my will is that the said two hundred pounds shall
 by equally divided between the said sixe daughters of my brother William
 Ghest if living or to the survivors share and Share like Item I give unto M[aste]r
 Thomas Chapman thirty pounds for gold receyved of him and unto M[aste]r
 Barrow for gold receyved of him tenn pounds and unto M[aste]r Robert E[] for
 gold receyved of him ffyve pounds Item I give to Joseph Willard and unto
 Andrew Kendrik forty shillings a peece Item I now give and bequeath unto
 Anthony [V/L] Jane Esquire one of the Grooms of her Ma[gestys] privy chamber the sum
 of one thousand pounds and I doe hereby [constitute?] him the said Anthony
 [V/L] Jane, my sister Emme Ghest and John Duncomb the [] of the new Exchange
 aforesaid Executors of this my last will and testament and I desire to be
 decently buried at the Parish Church of Hamersmith in the County of Midds
 as near the place where my late husband Gideon Hooker was buried as
 conveniently may be and I do give unto the poore of the said parish of
 Hamersmith twenty pounds to be distributed at the discretion of the overlord
 of the poore of the said parish and my further will is that my said executo[rs]
 shall not expend more than one hundred and fifty pounds in the []
 of my funerall ^Mary Hooker^ This is the last will and testament of mee Mary Hooker
 contayned] in two sheets of paper and signed sealed and published to be my last will in the
 presence of Richard Newman Thomas Osborne[?]. / [something scratched off here]
 A Codicil to be added to the last Will and Testament of mee Mary
 Hooker dated the thirtieth day of January last and to be a[r omded] as part
 of my last will.

[next page]

Whereas in my ^said^ last will and testament I have given and devised all that
 my remayning terme of and in a [retinue?] shopp in the new Exchange in the
 Strand in the County of Midd knowne by the name of [Jarood Well] unto my
 brother John Bird his executors and administrators I do hereby declare
 and my will now is that after the d[] of my said brother John Bird the
 said terme or [Lease] of the said shopp and the profite thereof shall come ^to^ and
 Be enjoyed by my sister Emme Ghest Also I doe give unto my nephew__
 John [Lawton] an apprentice now to my said brother John Bird the sum
 of fifty pounds and wheareas ^[ra]^ I have __ __ given by my said last will
 twenty pounds unto the poore of the parish of Hamersmith I doe now

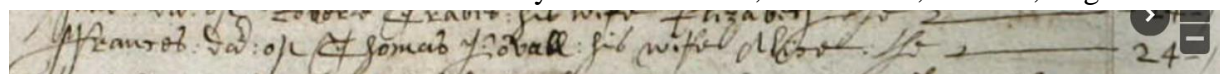
revoke the said gift and do give only the summe of tenn pounds unto
the said poore of Hamersmith, and I doe also give tenn pounds more
unto the poore of the parish of Ilston in the county of Leister where
I was borne Witness my hand and sale this eighteenth day of ffebruary
Ano Dom[ini] 1673. Mary Hooker In the presence of [] Etholored Bradshaw Etholored Gheast.

(Transcribed by Patricia Dunford, 2007)

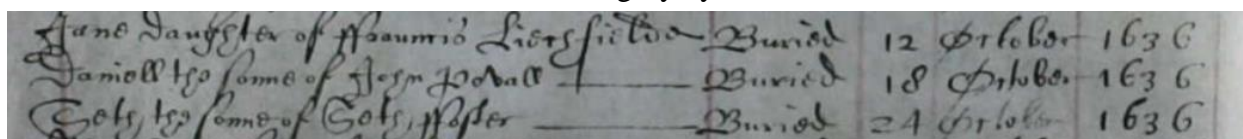
Notes January 2017

London, England, Church of England Baptisms, Marriages and Burials, 1538-1812, from Ancestry.com. Spelling as transcribed by Ancestry.com

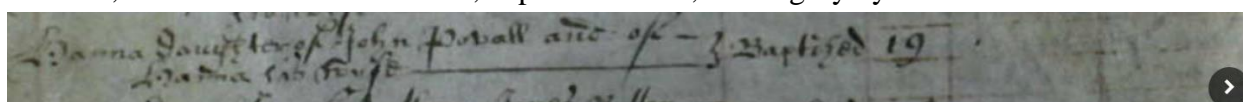
Frances d Thomas & Alice Povall 24 May 1622 St Bride's, Fleet Street, London, England



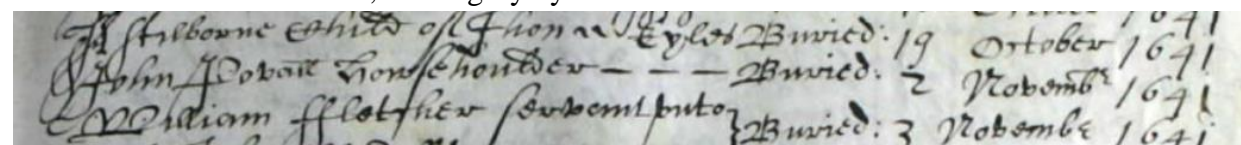
Daniell Povall, s/John, bur 18 Oct 1636, St Gregory by St Paul



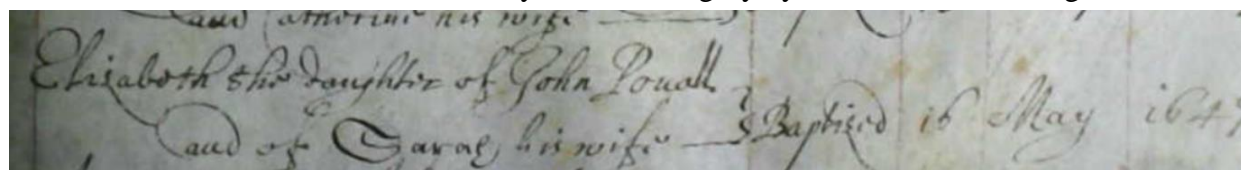
Hannah, d/o John and Hanna Povall, bap 19 Jun 1639, St Gregory by St Paul



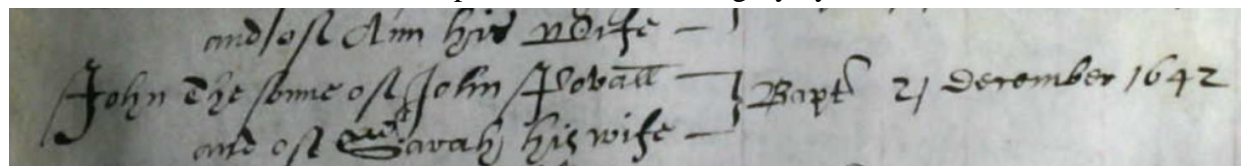
John Povall bur 2 Nov 1641, St Gregory by St Paul



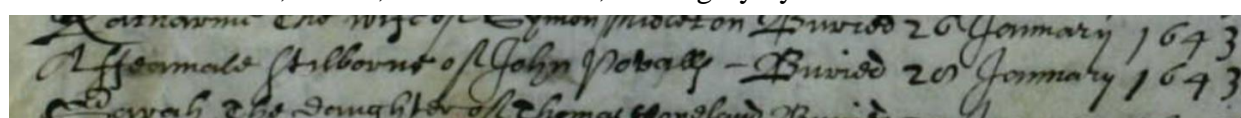
Elizabeth Pouall s John & Sarah, 16 May 1647 St Gregory by St Paul, London, England



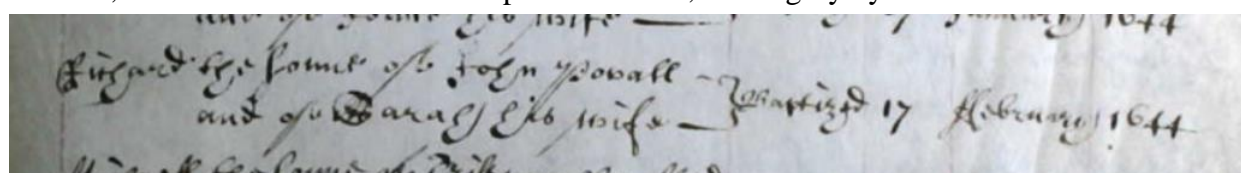
John Povall s/o John and Sarah, bap 21 Dec 1642 St Gregory by St Paul



A...male stillbourne, s/John, bur 28 Jan 1643, St Gregory by St Paul



Richard, s/o John and Sarah Povall. bap 17 Feb 1644, St Gregory by St Paul



John Ponall s/o John & Sarah, 8 Jun 1648 St Gregory by St Paul, London, England

Handwritten church record for John Ponall's baptism. The text reads: "John sonne of John Ponall and of Sarah his wife" followed by a bracket and "Baptized 8 June 1648".

Daniel Pouall, s/o John and Sarah, 10 May 1649, St Gregory by St Paul

Handwritten church record for Daniel Pouall's baptism. The text reads: "Daniel the sonne of John Ponall and of Sarah his wife" followed by a bracket and "Baptized 10 May 1649".

Robert Pouall, s/o John and Sarah, 1 Nov 1652, St Gregory by St Paul

Handwritten church record for Robert Pouall's baptism. The text reads: "Robert sonne of John Ponall and of Sarah his wife" followed by a bracket and "Baptized 1 November 1652".

Robert Ponall s John burial 13 May 1653 St Gregory by St Paul, City of London

Handwritten church record for Robert Ponall's burial. The text lists three burials: "Martha daughter of James Banton Buried 10 May 1653", "Robert sonne of John Ponall Buried 13 May 1653", and "M^r Goddard Buried 16 May 1653".

William Ponall s John burial 13 May 1653 St Gregory by St Paul, City of London

Handwritten church record for William Ponall's burial. The text lists three burials: "John sonne of William Symmons Buried 16 September 1653", "William sonne of John Ponall Buried 25 September 1653", and "Nathanael sonne of Edward B... Buried 25 September 1653".

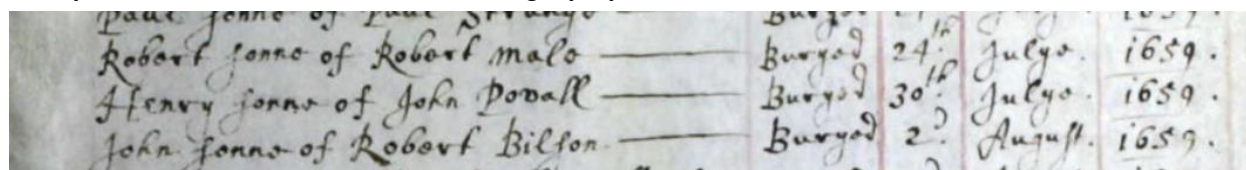
Hannah, d/o John and Sarah Povall, bap 18 Mar 1657, St Gregory by St Paul

Handwritten church record for Hannah's baptism. The text reads: "Hannah y^e daughter of John povall" followed by a bracket and "Baptized 18th March 1657". Below this, it says "and Sarah his wife, Borne y^e 3rd and 9th of 1657".

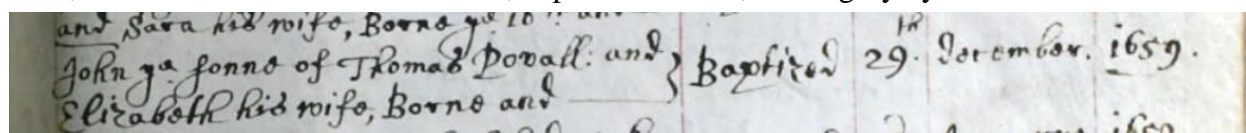
Hannah, d/o John, bur 2 Jun 1658, St Gregory by St Paul.

Handwritten church record for Hannah's burial. The text lists four burials: "John sonne of John Balhoo Buried 22nd May 1658", "Hannah daughter of John povall Buried 30th May 1658", "Richard ffreson vntener Buried 2nd June 1658", and another entry "Buried 3rd June 1658".

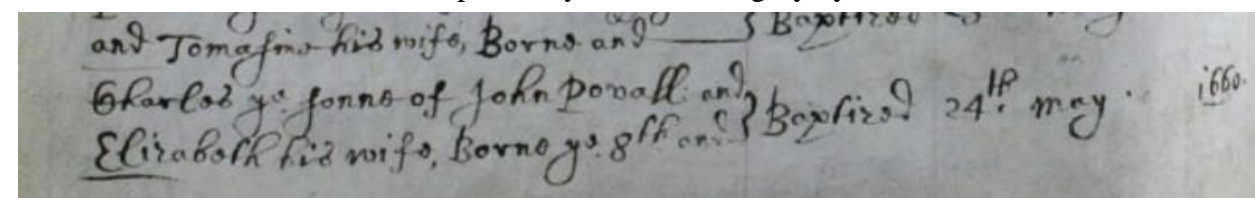
Henry, s/o John, bur 30 Jul 1659, St Gregory by St Paul\



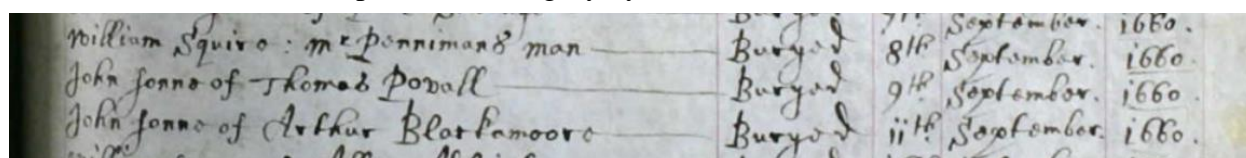
John, s/o Thomas and Elizabeth Povall, bap 29 Dec 1659, St Gregory by St Paul



Charles, s/o John and Elizabeth, bap 24 May 1660, St Gregory by St Paul

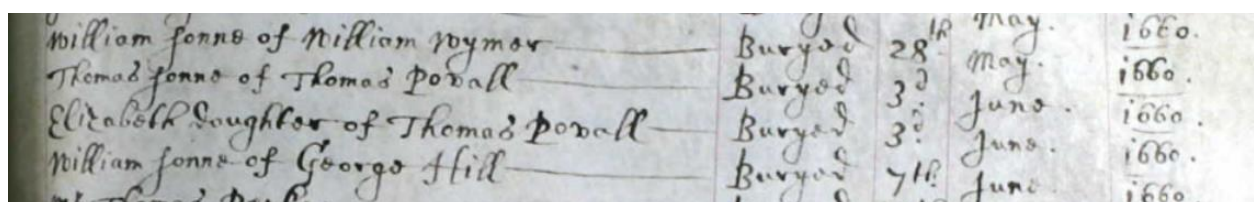


John, s/o Thomas, bur 9 Sep 1660, St Gregory by St Paul

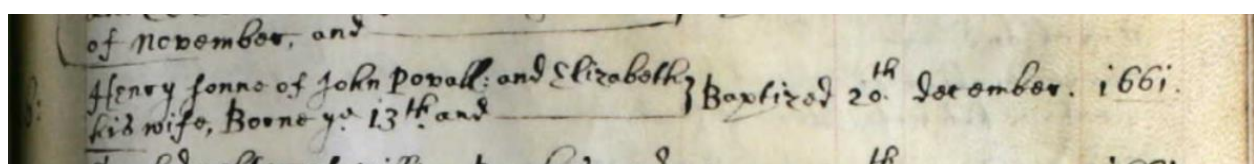


Thomas, s/o Thomas, bur 3 Jun 1660, St Gregory by St Paul

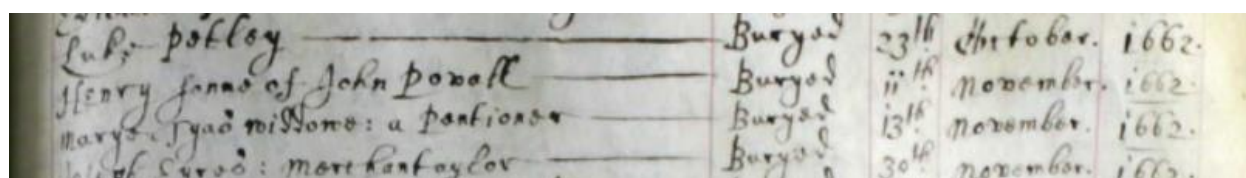
Elizabeth, d/o Thomas, bur 3 Jun 1660, St Gregory by St Paul



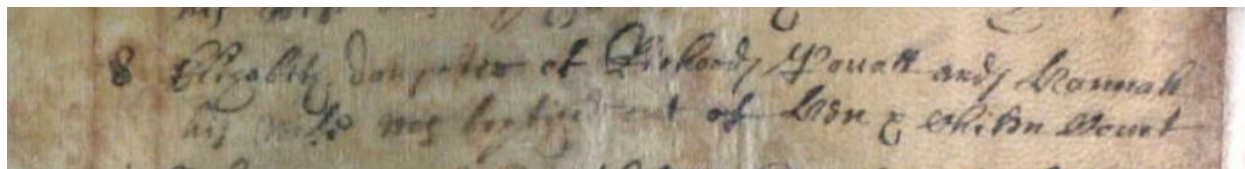
Henry, s/o John and Elizabeth Povall, bap 20 Dec 1661, St Gregory by St Paul



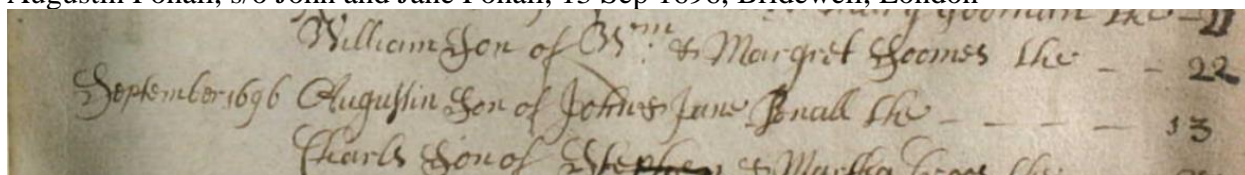
Henry, s/o John, bur 11 Nov 1662, St Gregory by St Paul



Elizabeth Pouall, 8 Dec 1668, d/o Richard and Hannah, St Dunstan in the West



Augustin Ponall, s/o John and Jane Ponall, 13 Sep 1696, Bridewell, London



Daniel Povall [Blutktay] 23 Dec 1683, St Giles, Cripplegate
(Blut...is an occupation)

