

CENTRAL RESEARCH

BY

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GAR

'Tis true that eleven monthes and more,
 These gallant worthy wights
 Was in the shippe *Sea-Venture* nam'd,
 Deprived Virginia's sight.

The Seas did rage, the windees did blowe,
 Distressed were they then;
 Their shippe did leake, her tacklings breake,
 In daunger were her men.

And full eight hundred worthy men,
 Which to Virginia came;
 Their store was spent, and all things scant
 Opprest with weather againe.

Th' adventurers doe thus devulge—
 For that our worke is good,
 Wee hope to plant a nation
 Where none before hath stood.

—Composed from "NEWES FROM VIRGINIA"



UNTOLD WEALTH—the accumulation of ages . . . exotic spices . . . sugar . . . ivory . . . marvelous textiles, smooth as a rose petal, soft as gossamer . . . jewels of incalculable worth.

. . . Tales of these treasures inflamed the imagination and desire of European rulers and adventurers. "Where is India?" they demanded. "Far—far to the East, a five years' journey," the Venetian merchants answered.

GAR

"Then find the shortest route!"—a command that launched upon an uncharted sea the most daring band of adventurers the world has ever known. De Gama, who rounded Africa in a tiny bark and landed at Calicut . . . Magellan, who spanned the planet and lost his life . . . Hautmann, Cabot, Frobisher, Davis, Hudson, and Baffin, who looked for a northwest passage . . . and Columbus, who found a continent. All in search of the wealth of the Indies.

This activity lead to the incorporation of Russia, East India, the "Sommer Isles," and America.

Rich tradesmen, like the merchant princes of Venice of the sixteenth century, extended their commerce to all parts of the world, and gallant sailors—some of them educated and accomplished men—sought adventure and lands in the Indian Seas and on the Virginia coasts.

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Members of the English Cocke families were numerous in every activity of these adventurers. In Russia, Japan, the Indies, Virginia, and on the high seas, they were to be found.

Lieutenant-Colonel Richard Cocke, of Virginia, most likely came of a sea-faring environment. It was probably he who in 1627 was in Virginia waters as purser of the ship *Thomas and John*. In England, during this same year, it was perhaps his father, Richard Cocke, who died in Devonshire and who "got his living by the sea."

But of the English ancestry of Richard Cocke nothing definite is now known, but from his appearance in the Colony, which was quite early he occupied a very solid position. He was several times a member of the House of Burgesses and County Lieutenant of Henrico. He amassed considerable means for the times in which he lived. Besides politics and planting, he was undoubtedly interested in shipping. It is significant that all of his land grants, totaling about 10,000 acres in Henrico were for transporting to Virginia some 220 persons.

He lived at "Brema," granted to him in 1636. Adjoining is "Malvern Hills," which he patented three years later. The latter was a place of military importance from a remote period. "Brema" is now in-

cluded in "Curles." These estates are situated on the James River some twelve or fifteen miles east of Richmond.

Clayton Torrence, the well-known historian, writing of the Colonial period of Henrico County, in the *William and Mary College Quarterly* (Vol. XXIV) in connection with Col. Richard Cocke, says:

"His sons and grandsons, at one time or another, occupied nearly every office of dignity and profit in the county," and "the most powerful families were the Randolphins, Cockes, Eppses, Byrds, Kennons and Pleasantses, who continued to occupy the exalted positions which their founders in Virginia first occupied, to the very present."

"By the beginning of the eighteenth century these families, who had been so prominent in the earlier life of the community, were virtually swamped by the accumulation of large wealth (for that day) and political offices of greater responsibility and profit in the hands of the Randolphins, Cockes and Eppses."

"As the years went by and other parts of the Colony were settled and developed, we find later generations of the Cocke family occupying the foremost positions."

In the Virginia House of Burgesses, from 1632 onward, one or more members of this family sat in nearly every session.

The Cocke daughters are represented in hundreds of families distributed throughout the world and include such estimable names as:

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Abernathy, Adams, Aldrich, Amis, Anderson, Archer, Archinard, Ashton, Atkinson.

Bacon, Bailey, Baker, Balcom, Baldwin, Banister, Barba, Barksdale, Barnwell, Barr, Beardon, Beverley, Blair, Bolling, Bouldin, Bowdoin, Bowles, Boyd, Bradby, Bragg, Branch, Brent, Bridges, Brown, Brownloe, Browne, Buckingham, Bunch, Burges, Burton, Butterworth.

Cabell, Call, Calvit, Cameron, Camger, Campbell, Cannon, Carrington, Carter, Cary, Chick, Churchill, Clarke, Cole, Coleman, Coles, Collier, Cook, Cotton, Cox, Crawford, Crittenden, Cross, Cunningham, Curtis.

Dandridge, Daniel, Dashiell, Davies, Davis, Delafield, Dickens, Dickinson, Digges, Dodson, Downing, Duke, Dunlop, Duvall.

Early, Earp, Easley, Eaton, Edmunds, Edwards, Eggleston, Ellis, Elliott, Ely, Engleman, Eppes.

Fariss, Faulcon, Fergusson, Field, Finch, Finney, Fitts, Fletcher, Flournoy, Foar, Fourman, Francisco, Franke, Freeman, Friend, Fry, Funkhouser, Funsten.

Gamble, Gathright, George, Gilbert, Gilham, Gillespie, Gilliam, Glaze, Goodrich, Goodwyn, Graham, Grant, Gray, Green Gudebrod, Gunther.

Hague, Hall, Hamilton, Hamlin, Haralson, Harbison, Harwood, Hardy, Hare, Harris, Haskell, Hatch, Hayden, Heath, Heiskell, Henderson, Henley, Henneman, Hemphill, Hertzog, Hetherwick, Hightower, Hill, Hilton, Hobbs, Hobson, Hodge, Holland, Holt, Hooper, Hopkins, Horsley, Hubard, Hunter, Hurt.

Irving.

Jack, Jackson, Jennings, Jervey, Jewett, Johnson, Johnston, Jones, Jordan, Judkins.

Kennon, Kent, King, Kirk, Krumbaar.

Lacy, Latham, Lathrop, Lea, Leake, Leavell, Lee, Leigh, Lemessurier, Lester, Lewis, Lingo, Lynde.

McAlpine, McCandlish, McClaugherty, McDonald, McElroy, McKenney, McNeill, McNeill.

Marfield, Margnaud, Markham, Marshall, Mason, Masie, Masters, Matthews, Maupin, May, Meade, Meredith, Metcalf, Miller, Melvin, Minge, Minor, Mitchell, Montgomery, Moore, Morton, Moseley, Murdock.

Nash, Nelson, Nicholas, Niedinghaus, Norton.

Old, Orton, Owens.

Pace, Page, Park, Parrish, Patterson, Pearce, Perkins, Peter, Peterson, Peyton, Phillips, Pipes, Pittman, Pleasants, Powell, Poythress, Pryor, Puller, Pulliam, Purcell.

Raines, Randolph, Ransdell, Ransom, Read, Redford, Reed, Reese, Richards, Richardson, Ringgold, Robards, Robertson, Robinson, Rodman, Rogers, Royall, Ruffin, Ryley.

Sanford, Saunders, Scott, Sealy, Sharp, Shiflett, Shore, Simpson, Singleton, Skipwith, Slaughter, Small, Smith, Smithwick, Snelson, Southall, Spencer, Stalling, Starke, Stith, Stokes, Stone, Strachen, Strong, Sullivan, Suhling, Sykes.

Tabb, Talbot, Taliaferro, Tanner, Taylor, Terhune, Terrell, Thach, Threewit, Todd, Townes, Townsend, Thompson, Trezvant, Tucker, Tunstall, Turley, Tweedy.

Underwood, Upshur.

Valentine. Venable.

GA

Wadsworth, Wallace, Warfield, Watkins, Weems, Whitaker, Whitmore, Wilkerson, Williams, Willis, Wilson, Winchester, Winston, Woddrop, Wood, Woodruff, Woodward, Wooldridge, Worsham, Wortham, Wynn.

Further information regarding these and other descendants of Col. Richard Cocke would be much appreciated.

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