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MARYLAND BISTOISIGAL SOCIETY

THE <u>WOODLEYS</u> OF <u>ISLE</u> OF <u>WIGHT</u> COUNTY, <u>VIRGINIA</u>.

A STATEMENT BY JAMES FRANCIS CROCKER

PORTSMOUTH, VA.:

W. A. FISKE'S PRINTERY AND BINDERY,
1014.



1910050

57 1

CS Crocker, James Francis, 1828-

71 The Woodleys of Isle of Wight County, Virginia. A. M884 statement by James Francis Crocker. Portsmouth, Va., 1915 W. A. Fiske's printery, 1914.

40 p. front. (port.) 22cm.

No. 1 in a volume of five genealogical tracts, to which is prefixed a general t.-p.: The Woodleys of the Isle of Wight County, Va. and other ancestors. Portsmouth, Va., 1915.

47493

SHELF 458 1. Woodley family (Andrew Woodley, d. 1720?) 1. Title.

15-10361

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ONCOURE

THE WOODLEYS OF ISLE OF WIGHT COUNTY, VIRGINIA

The county court of Isle of Wight county, Virginia, on the 9th of March, 1693, entered the following order:

"These may notify that there is due to Mr. Andrew Woodley six hundred acres of land for the importation of himself foure tymes; his wife and two sons namely, Henry and Thomas and five negroes, namely Cowberry, Isabella, Maria, Ruben and Jenny into this county, being legally proved in court." See deed and Minute Book number one page 27.

This Andrew Woodley was our immigrant ancestor. He settled in Little Neck, Isle of Wight county, and became the owner of the greater portion thereof (about 900 acres). Little Neck lies between two branches of Pagan creek, which unite and flow into Pagan creek about a mile above Smithfield, more or less. One of these branches runs up to an old mill seat at one time known as Bell's Mill, and the other runs up to what has been recently known as Wilson's Mill or Factory pond, formerly Woodley's. In former years the main road from Blackwater to Smithfield ran through this Neck and crossed the last mentioned creek at the back of the present Glebe land by a bridge, the remnants of which I myself have seen, and some of which now probably exists. It was called the

Court-house Bridge, the court-house having been situated near it, on the Glebe land side. The road was known as the Court-house road. The first official record of the said Andrew Woodley being in the county is the deed of Edward Cobb and Dorothy his wife to him, bearing date on the 14th of September, 1691, Deed Book 1, page 42. subsequently made other purchases of land in Little Neck. On the 22nd of February, 1693, he bought of James Baron Four Square, containing 640 acres, being a mile square each way (Deed Book 1, page 297); and on the 5th day of June, 1714, (Deed Book 1, page —) he gives Four Square to his son Thomas Woodley, in whom and in whose descendants possession it has ever since been, now being in the possession of my brother Julius O. Thomas. The fact that the wife of Andrew Woodley did not unite in the deed aforesaid to Thomas Woodley indicates that she was not then living. I have never been able to ascertain the name of the wife of Andrew Woodley. It is a tradition of the family that she was an heiress, which term in that day indicated that she was of good family and of wealth. It is also a tradition that Andrew Woodley and his family came from England, but I am inclined to infer from the fact that they brought slaves with them that they came from the West Indies, from the Island of St. Christopher or Nevis, for there were Woodleys in those islands at the time of the immigration of Andrew Woodley. These West Indies Woodleys were of wealth and of high social standing, and one of them, William Woodley, became Governor

of the Leeward Islands, which include among other islands the island of St, Christopher and Nevis. When in England in 1895 we visited the Woodleys who are descendants of the said Governor William Woodley, at their seat Didworthy, near South Brent, Devon, and found them most delightful people. I will here state that we also visited Mrs. Mary Woodley, widow of James Woodley, at her beautiful home Halehanger, near Ashburton, Devon. This has been the seat of the Woodleys for several centuries. Although these Woodleys had no Andrew Woodley in the line of their lineal descendants, yet from all the circumstances. I am satisfied that we are descended from these allied branches of the Woodleys collaterally. Devon has been the seat of the Woodleys and Crockers and there has been some intermarriage between the families. The name Andrew has not been a leading name in our family. There was no other Andrew Woodley than the immigrant in the family until my grandfather Andrew Woodley who was the youngest child of his father John Woodley. He was a skilled surveyor. In his will he mentions his surveying books and instruments. By the order of Isle of Wight Court, October 1694, he was requested to assist the commission appointed to run, mark, and bound the line between Isle of Wight and Surry counties. In 1707 he made a deed of gift of slaves to his son Thomas and to his daughter Mary Copeland. He died testate. His will was dated September 25th, 1718, and probated August 22nd, 1720. See will published in Volume 7, page 306, William and Mary College



Quarterly. He had four children, Henry, Thomas, John and Mary.

Henry was one of the sons mentioned in the aforesaid order of the court as having come into the country with his father. We find no other reference to him than that on the 9th of November, 1699, he was a witness to a deed from Edward Cobb to Andrew Woodley. This fact indicates, I think, that he was then living with his father, and that he died shortly thereafter, doubtless unmarried and without issue.

Thomas Woodley lived on Four Square. He was a gentleman of wealth and influence. He was made captain and was for many years a vestryman and warden of the upper parish of Isle of Wight. He died in 1754, leaving a will (see Will Book 6, page 125). He had a son Henry who died unmarried and without issue, a few days before his father and whose will was admitted to record on the same day with his father's will. The said Thomas Woodley mentioned in his will two grandchildren, namely: Willis and John Wilson. These were the children of his daughter Sarah who married John Wilson, son of John Wilson and Frances. his wife of Day's Neck. These two grandchildren, Willis and John Wilson, died unmarried and without issue. Willis Wilson left a will, dated December 3rd, 1784, (Will Book 9, page 265). The said Thomas Woodley mentions in his will two other grandchildren namely, Mary and Samuel Milner, I have not been able to learn the name of their father nor of their mother, nor do I know what became of this Mary Milner. I find that Samuel



Milner and Ann, his wife, then of Smithfield, on September 1st, 1800, made a deed to John Woodlev. Besides these grandchildren he left the following children surviving him: Martha Woodley, Thomas Woodley and John Woodley, all of whom are mentioned in his will. I do not know what became of Martha Woodley. Thomas Woodley. went to New Hanover county, N. C. I find that on the 9th of June, 1759, Thomas Woodley and Elizabeth, his wife, executed a deed to Peter Rea, (Deed Book 10, page 90), and that Thomas Woodlev in New Hanover, N. C., on the 17th of September, 1762, conveyed to William Rand lot number 14 in Smithfield. The fact that his wife did not join in this deed indicates that she had died. He left a son, John, who died in Isle of Wight.

John Woodley married Catherine Boykin, widow of — Boykin, who had by her first husband the said Boykin one child, Francis Boykin, who was a major in the Continental army, and who has descendants now living, of whom I will hereafter make mention. This Catherine Boykin was Catherine Bryant, of Northampton county, North Carolina, who is said to have been beautiful and a belle. John Woodley and the said Catherine were married before April 30th, 1756, for on that day by their deed, they conveyed to William Rand lot number 7 in Smithfield, (Deed Book 9, page 441). The said John Woodley received under the will of his father Four Square at which place he resided during his life. He died testate; his will is dated February 3rd, 1791, which was admitted to record October 3rd, 1791. He men-



tions his wife Catherine which would indicate that she was living at the time his will was written. He mentions in his will the following children: Willis Woodley, John Woodley to whom he gives the Days Neck farm, Samuel Woodley, Andrew Woodley to whom he gives Four Square, Elizabeth Woodley, and Molly Blunt, wife of William Blunt of Blunts Castle. He had two other sons, Thomas and Henry. According to a statement which my uncle, Col. Willis Harrison Woodley, made to his son, Willis Harrison Woodley, the said Thomas and Henry Woodley enlisted as volunteers in the Revolution under their half brother. Francis Boykin, who was second lieutenant in the company of which William Davies was captain, Willis Wilson, my great grandfather, first lieutenant, Francis Boykin, second lieutenant, and Jonathan Godwin, ensign, of the First Virginia Regiment; one of them died as a prisoner of war, and the other was supposed to have been killed at the storming of Stony Point. The said Francis Boykin became a major in the Revolution and was a distinguished and gallant officer. While the said John Woodley left a very valuable estate yet his fortune was greatly impaired during the Revolution, his home being visited by a part of Cornwallis' army, who not only destroyed valuable property but carried off all the family silver which had been buried, the place of burial being betrayed by some of the slaves.

Samuel Woodley died unmarried.

Elizabeth Woodley died testate and unmarried. Willis Woodley settled in Gates county, N. C.,

was a member of the North Carolina legislature and left issue, but I have not traced them up.

Andrew Woodley was born April 27th, 1769, married on November 9th, 1797, Elizabeth Hill Harrison, the daughter of John Harrison and Elizabeth Hill. This Elizabeth Hill was the daughter of Joseph Hill and Frances Woodley, daughter of John Woodley of Days Neck, a brother of the first Thomas Woodley, and son of the first Andrew Woodley, the immigrant. It thus appears that he married his cousin. They had the following children: Willis Harrison Woodley. Frances Hill Woodley, Andrew Boykin Woodley, Elizabeth Hill Harrison Woodley, Thomas Woodley, Mary Ann Woodley, and William Bryant Woodley. There were other children but they died before reaching maturity. They were: Merritt Woodley, born January 1st, 1803, died May 12th, 1805; Joseph Woodley, born Steptember 18th, 1816, died October 7th, 1816; Richard S. Woodley, born December 28th, 1820, died July 9th, 1822, and Harriett Woodley, died August 6th, 1810. Andrew Woodley died November 30th, 1829. He was a man of great force of character, active and successful in business, and took a leading part in the affairs of his county. He held the military rank of major and was for many years the presiding justice of his county court. He in 1919 built the present dwelling on Four Square. When he died the place looked like a busy village with its numerous outhouses, its servant cottages, its stores of merchandise and shops of varied mechanical industries

1807



Col. Willis Harrison Woodley was born February 12th, 1799, and on October 30th, 1822, married Avarilla Virginia Day, the daughter of Davis Day, of Days Neck, and Priscilla Sugars Blunt or Blount, of Southampton county, who was the daughter of John Blount, of said county, and Mary Ridley, who was the daughter of James Ridley, son of Robert Ridley, who came to Virginia in 1635 with his wife Elizabeth Abridgton. They had the following children: Maria Louisa Woodley, Alfred Day Woodley, Andrew Woodley, Priscilla E. Woodley, Thomas Andrew Woodley, John Davis Woodley, Virginia Elizabeth Woodley, Willis Harrison Woodley, and Richard Woodley.

Maria Louisa Woodley was born August 11th, 1837, died September 2nd, 1839.

Richard Woodley, born August 27th, 1823, died September 1st, 1825.

Andrew Woodley, born December 24th, 1832, and died June 7th, 1833.

Priscilla E. Woodley, born June 17th, 1834, died August 29th, 1834.

John Davis Woodley, born February 2nd, 1839, died June 13th, 1839.

Virginia Elizabeth Woodley, born August 18th, 1842, died May 16th, 1843.

Thomas Andrew Woodley was born November 3rd, 1836, married Georgie Higgins March 28th, 1866, had one child Lena V. who died April 30th, 1868. She died April 20th, 1871. He died October 22nd, 1878.

Alfred Day Woodley was born December 13th,



1829, married Lavernia A. Lorentz March 7th, 1855, died June 9th, 1864, of wounds received in the battle of Newmarket, Shenandoah county, Va., fought May 15th, 1864, belonging to Co. H, 62nd Va. Inf. He had the following children: Virginia, George, and Alfred Lee. Virginia Woodley was born December 6th, 1855, died May 11th, 1856; George Woodley, born February 16th, 1857, married Alice Key, has issue Carl; Alfred Lee Woodley was born October 1st, 1862.

Willis Harrison Woodley was born October 20th, 1843, married March 30th, 1876, Martha Ann Dickinson, daughter of Valentine and Eliza Dickenson, issue: Harry Eggleston Woodley, born August 5th, 1878; Thomas Oswald Woodley, born February 14th, 1881.

Col. Willis H. Woodley died December 24th, 1882, and his wife, Avarilla Virginia, died September 25th, 1882. He was educated at William and Mary College, was a lawyer, he was a man of distinguished ability, a fine scholar, and of the most courteous manners. He was for awhile in public life, and was for a number of years Proctor of the University of Virginia.

Frances Hill Woodley, my dear mother, was born February 18th, 1805, married January 21st, 1822, my father, James Crocker, son of Major William Crocker and Elizabeth Wilson, daughter of Willis Wilson, of Surry, and Sarah Blunt, of Blunts Castle, Isle of Wight county, and had by him three children: Eugenia Woodley Crocker, William Andrew Crocker, and James Francis Crocker; and married secondly Samuel Thomas,



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son of Jordan Thomas and Mary Hancock, on August 19th, 1830, and had by him Roswell Woodley Thomas, Julius Octavius Thomas, Richard Samuel Thomas, and Mary Elizabeth Thomas; and married thirdly Matthew Powell June 23rd, 1842, and had by him one child, Anna Woodley Powell.

The said James Crocker departed this life the 13th day of July, 1828, in the 25th year of his age; the said Samuel Thomas was born 14th July, 1792, and died the 9th of February, 1841; the said Matthew Powell died on the —— day of May, 1843. My mother, Francis H. Powell, died in Baltimore at the residence of her son-in-law, Dr. Archibald Atkinson, March 4th, 1874, and was buried in my cemetery lot, Portsmouth, Va.

Eugenia Woodley Crocker was born 16th May, 1823, and died 18th of October, 1825. She was a lovely, bright child, and was to my mother always to her last day a sweet and tender memory—the first born of her first love; and there is in the family a gold locket, a memorial of her.

William Andrew Crocker, named after his two grand-fathers, was born 4th of November, 1825, at the Crocker home which had been in the family since the beginning of the 18th century, married on November 16th, 1848, at Hampton, Va., Frances Keaton Jennings, daughter of William Jennings and Frances Brown Keaton. The said Frances Keaton Jennings was born April 5th, 1827. They are both living and have had the following children: Frances Ann, born in Hampton, Va., December 3rd, 1849; Eugene Woodley, born



at the Crocker home, Isle of Wight county, November 16th, 1853, died October 21st, 1857; Mary Elizabeth, born in Princess Anne county, Va., November 5th, 1858, died August 4th, 1859; William Jennings, born in Currituck county, N. C., July 7th, 1860; Frank Lee, born in Campbell county, Va., September 14th, 1865.

Frances Ann Crocker on October 29th, 1869, in Norfolk, Va., married Moreau Blackwell, of Northumberland county, Va., son of William Blackwell and Hannah A. C. Harding. They have the following children: Clara Eleanor, born June 24th, 1871; Woodley Crocker, born September 27th, 1872; Thomas Edgar, born July 19th, 1874; Hiram Harding, born February 14th, 1879; Fannie Hannah, born March 7th, 1884; Archer Lee, born September 23rd, 1887.

William Jennings Crocker graduated in 1880 at Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Va., taking the second honors of his class, and went to Texas as a civil engineer, and on October 17th, 1886, in Maysfield, Milam county, Texas, married Nellie Narcissa Williams, born September 25th, 1865, in Pickens District, S. C., her father was Williams Stanton Williams, of Pickens District, S. C., and her mother was S. Carrie Feaster, of Feasterville, S. C., who in 1874 moved to Milam county, Texas. They have two children: Margaret, born October 19th, 1891, at Waxahachie, Texas, and William Jennings, born November 10th, 1894, at Boyce, La., where they now live (1898).

Frank Lee Crocker took his degree of A. B. at Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, Va., in 1886,



and is now living in Portsmouth, Va., and with his uncle, James Francis Crocker, constitute the law firm of Crocker & Crocker.

The said Rev. William Andrew Crocker is a minister in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, which holy office he has discharged with great ability and success and consecrated devotion. He is a well known writer and author of several books. He was a patriotic soldier in the late Confederate War, and was chaplain of the 14th Virginia Regiment of Infantry, commanded by Col. James Gregory Hodges, and he was the founder and organizer of the Army Intelligence Office in Richmond, which became under his administration a most important Department of the Confederate service.

James Francis Crocker, named after his father and mother, born 5th January, 1828; received a collegiate education; came to the Bar in Isle of Wight county, Va., in 1854; represented the said county in the Legislature in the session of 1855-56; came to Portsmouth in 1856 and formed with Col. David 1. Godwin the law firm of Godwin & Crocker; was a soldier in the Confederate Army and served as Adjutant of the 9th Virginia Infantry, Gen. Armistead's Brigade; married in Portsmouth, June 28th, 1866, Margaret Jane Hodges, daughter of Gen. John Hodges and Jane Adelaide Gregory. Of this happy union there was only one child, James Hodges Crocker, born 19th February, 1868, and died 12th of August, 1868. Ah! if he had only lived. The sad loss to the hearts, to the lives and to the hopes of his mother



and father is pathetically told by the marble slab that rests over his grave: "Our only child."

The mother has followed. This added, desolating sorrow came to her surviving husband on the 25th of July, 1896. In the shadow of his great grief his heart claims a place for some kind words of mention and remembrance.

In respect to character, conduct, and natural gifts, so excelling and so perfect was she, that if half were told of her, it would sound to those who did not know her as extreme adulation of affection. Her career as a student in all her schools was distinguished. The written tributes of her teachers attest her perfect conduct and great success. Well is it remembered when she returned in 1858 a graduate from the Potapsco Institutehow she excited the admiration and love of all. She had a charming person; she was brilliant, vivacious, and had a bouyant presence. Her manners were gentleness itself. Her taste was exquisite. Her genuine kindness of heart made herself a friend to all, and all, friends to her. There was in her looks a gladness, and in her voice a tone, a heart tone, that unconsciously won. All saw and felt that she was ever true, ever sincere-that true principles and true feelings were at the foundation of her being-that these were the guides of her conduct. With all the sweetness and gentleness of her disposition she had a positive character; and to her fine discretion and judgment her friends appealed and yielded, and unhesitatingly accorded her leadership. No wonder she was a delight to her friends. And some saw



that her nature was full and rich and that she was capable of the deepest—an all absorbing devotion. And there was one who felt and realized in his deepest soul that the gift of her hand and heart would be the pride and the crown of happiness to the life of him to whom she might give them. Heaven vouchsafed that gift to one who returned to her an equal love-to whom she became his pride, his ambition, his admiration, his adoration. Heaven had no richer gift on earth than this, that she came into his life with all her sweet influences. In the days of his strongest manhood she was not only his infinite comfort, but he learned to lean on her and she became his stay and guide and safe adviser. Her perception of the right thing was instantaneous, and her judgment was quick, clear and always sound. They faithfully labored together and his success in life was largely due to her. She made his home bright and happy, and filled it with innumerable friends. She was true to her friends and no one ever had more, or more loving ones-she made them wherever she went. She was fond of society in its best sense, and was one of its favorties. She was a devout christian and deeply pious. She devotedly loved her church - Trinity Episcopal Church - and unfailingly attended its service, and led it in all its gracious benefactions. A friend in her husband's fresh grief said of her truly: "She was first in the home, first in the church, and first in society." She thoroughly enjoyed life. But her dearest joy was to have the presence of her husband. This was her constant yearning, and was her greatest satisfaction.



Within the closed doors of her home, it was with them both as if all the world was within. It was a happy home, full of the sweet contentment of love. The only light that now comes to that darkened home is that hope of eternal life which shall re-unite them in everlasting love.

Obituary published in the "Southern Churchman":

CROCKER.—At her home in Portsmouth, on the 25th of July, 1896, MARGARET J. CROCKER, the wife of James F. Crocker, in the 58th year of her age.

She was the daughter of General John Hodges and of Jane Adelaide Gregory, and sister of Colonel James Gregory Hodges, who upon the heights of Gettysburg offered up a noble life to his country and to his God.

Mrs. Crocker was one of those rare characters, that blending uncommon strength of mind with extraordinary sweetness of disposition, become a blessing to their families and to the communities in

which they live.

Endowed with fine natural powers, noted for quickness of apprehension and solidity of judgment, trained in the best schools at home and abroad, fond of reading, with a genuine love of literature, urbane in manners, with an instinctive kindness of heart that ever placed the pleasures of others above her own, she soon became conspicuous in her community as a girl for that grace of manner and flowing courtesy that springs as naturally and as sweetly from innate, unconscious love and kindness as

the perfume does from the flower.

Married in 1866, her highest earthly ambition being to please her husband, she awoke and stimulated in him a similar ambition; and from the hour of her marriage to the moment of her death she reaped the rich reward of a devoted affection. The joy, the peace, the harmony of that household was known not only in the community in which they lived, but throughout the State and elsewhere where either was ever heard of. All that talents, all that industry could do, were laid lovingly at her feet as the poor and insufficient tributes to the wife who, for her husband's sake, made her home attractive with all the graces of a cultivated mind and with all the beauties of an exquisite taste. Ever eager to expand the one and to enrich the other, after her



return from Europe in September, 1895, she visited the Atlanta Exposition in November, and then the city of New Orleans. This may have been too much for a strong, active, enquiring mind, that felt no need of rest; and the apoplectic stroke that came in December may have been the penalty of too much exertion of mind and of body. It came suddenly, and without any premonition, in the quietude of a happy home; and from the 10th day of December, 1895, to the 25th of July, 1896, she lingered, with occasional hopes of recovery, blessed in sickness, as she had been in health, with everything that the absorbing love of her husband and the devotion of tireless friends could give her.

Abandoned business, neglected households, not for a day nor for a week, but for seven long months, was the daily tribute of husband and of friends to

departed worth.

A plous Christlan—for many, many years a communicant of Trinity Church, Portsmouth—a loving wife, a tender sister, a devoted friend, a silent giver of charities, and a munificent dispenser of hospitalities, she sank to rest with the love of her husband, the church, her friends and her whole community.

This tender regard manifested itself not only in an overflowing home, and a crowded church, and tears of the bereaved, but also in a perfect wealth of flowers, that she loved so well, adorning in vastest profusion the person, the casket, the bier and the grave, as though she was carrying back to the God that gave them the choicest blessings of earth—the love of friends and the most beautiful gifts of nature.

Such a life and such a death is a blessing and a benediction to us all!

May we draw the lesson, catch the inspiration, and realize the fact —

"She is not dead, but sleepeth."

R. S. T.

Roswell Woodley Thomas was born on the 24th day of August, 1831, and died on the 15th day of September, 1833.

Julius Octavius Thomas, born the 6th day of February, 1834; was married the 22nd of November, 1855, to Martha Watson Jordan, daughter of Watson Pendleton Jordan and Anne Marshall Boy-



kin, and has had the follownig issue: Nannie Jordan Thomas, born 4th day of September, 1856; Richard Sydney Thomas, born the 26th day of April, 1858, died October 8th, 1866; Jessie Woodland Thomas, born 17th day of November, 1859, died the 23rd of July, 1860; Frank Lee Thomas, born 16th of May, 1863, died August 11th, 1865; Martha Watson Thomas, born 6th of April, 1865, married on the 12th of April, 1893, John William Johnson, of Edgecombe county, N. C., died February 29th, 1896, leaving surviving her one child, Martha Watson, born 5th day of January, 1896; Juliet Woodley Thomas, born the 5th day of April, 1868, died June 21st, 1881; Julius Waverly Thomas, born 5th day of April, 1870; Richard Sydney Thomas (the second), born 26th day of June, 1872.

Richard Samuel Thomas, born 15th day of March, 1837, and married on 16th of November, 1882, Francis Boykin Jordan, daughter of Watson Pendleton Jordan and Anne Marshall Boykin.

Mary Elizabeth Thomas, born November 30th, 1839, married November 2nd, 1858, Dr. Archibald Atkinson, son of Archibald Atkinson and Elizabeth Chilton, and have issue: Mary Chilton Atkinson, born in Baltimore, Md., April 17th, 1860, married January 17th, 1889, in Baltimore, Md. John Ruse Larus, son of John Ruse Larus and Theresa Tucker, and has issue, John Ruse Larus, born in Baltimore August 4th, 1890; Louis Woodley Atkinson, born in Smithfield, Va., February 20th, 1869.

Anna Woodley Powell, born April 9th, 1843,



married April 9th, 1863, Ralph Dunlap Williams, son of Hon, J. W. Williams, of Person county, N. C., and M. S. Dunlap, of Lancaster, S. C., and has issue: Mary Frances Williams, born February 24th, 1864, married February 22nd, 1888, George Simpson Sartin, of Caswell county, N. C., son of Ansolom Sartin and Frances Elizabeth Gibson, of Caswell county, issue, Ralph Ellis Sartin, born November 23rd, 1888, George Simpson Sartin, born May 19th, 1891, and Francis Woodley Sartin, born July 3rd, 1893: Ralph Powell Williams, born October 2nd, 1866, married December 30th. 1897, Cora Lee Overby, daughter Lee Overby, of Clarksville, Va., and Mary Forte, of Raleigh, N C., issue, Anna Lee Williams, born April 19th, 1894, Mary Forte Williams, born April 23rd, 1897; Julius Dunlap Williams, born September 18th, 1868, died October 30th, 1869: Robert Woodley Williams, born March 17th, 1870; Roswell Thomas Williams, born September 25th, 1871, died July 27th, 1872: Elizabeth Virginia Williams, born June 6th, 1873, married June 17th, 1894, Edwin S. Sheppe, son of John Sheppe and Susan Samuels, of Staunton, Va., issue, Dorothy Samuel Sheppe, born December 10th, 1897: Florence Pauline Williams, born December 29th, 1876: Jane Dunlap Williams, born April 2nd, 1882.

Having given the descendants of our dear mother, I deem it well that I should let her remote posterity know something of her. It must be remembered that she was the first-born daughter of a wealthy, refined and influential family. She was reared with the tenderest care

and according to the traditional policy of her ancestors every attention was paid to her education and culture. She was sent to school at Smithfield, then at Murfreesboro, N. C., and then to Richmond. Soon after her return from school she married my father. They had been lovers from early years. It will be seen that when they married she had not reached her seventeenth year, and he not his twentieth. I have often heard her describe the brilliancy of their wedding-that the table was set off not only with the Woodley silver, but that her kinswoman, Mrs. Cowper, the daughter of Colonel Josiah Parker, brought her silver to Four Square to add to it, and the lights and decorations made it a beautiful scene. My father took his girl-wife to the Crocker home which had been given him by his father. I have often heard my mother say that when she married she knew absolutely nothing about domestic life, and how embarassing it was to her to become the mistress of the household of an extensive plantation, and how she devoted herself to learning all the details of the farm. She soon became a splendid manager of affairs. She had a robust mind and a magnificent judgment and great energy. I do not remember ever seeing her idle. She always found in her domestic duties, or in books, something to do. She was tall, well shaped and comely, her face was intellectual, softened by the expression of benevolence. Her manners were graceful, affable, yet dignified. She was kind and tender-hearted and approachable by all classes of people. But that about her which impressed me most from my infancy and through all

her life was her deep piety and sincere christian character. She was a true believer and illustrated in her daily life her living faith. Her children saw and felt the sweet influence of her religious life which has abided with them as a saving grace. We have always been proud of our dear mother—proud of her intellectual gifts, of her nobleness and goodness and gentleness, and our admiration of her has been surpassed only by our tender, fond love for her.

Our brother Julius Octavius Thomas is the owner of the Woodley ancestral home, Four Square. He inherited a strong mind and the combined energy of his parents. He has devoted himself to practical business instead of to a profession and has achieved great success. He is big-hearted, noble, generous and kind.

Our brother Richard Samuel Thomas is a lawyer and has won success and distinction in his profession. From early years he has manifested a literary taste and a love of books. He has contributed to the history of his state a number of valuable papers and able addresses, and has a well established literary reputation. He has accumulated a fortune and lives in a most lovely home in Smithfield where he dispenses elegant hospitality.

Dr. Andrew Boykin Woodley, to whom his father gave the Woodley Home, Four Square, was born March 19th, 1801, and on February 6th, 1828, he married Ann Lucretia Collins, daugther of John Collins and Sallie Wiles, of Portsmouth, Va., and died January 20th, 1832, leaving surviving him his



wife and two children: Joseph Rea Woodley and John Collins Woodley.

John Collins Woodley was born on September 8th, 1831, and died September 1st, 1855, unmarried.

Joseph Rea Woodley was born January 8th, 1829, married - day of May, 1854, Mary Susan Nash, daughter of John Nash and Elizabeth Edwards, of Portsmouth, Va., who died ---- day of July, 1866, leaving surviving her said husband and the following children: Nannie L. Woodley, John Collins Woodley, Mary Susan Woodley, born August 5th, 1858, died September 18th, 1878, unmarried, and Lizzie Edwards Woodley, born December 8th, 1860, unmarried. Nannie L. Woodlev. born March 25th, 1855, married December 12th. 1878. Thomas W. Nottingham, of Northampton county, Va., had by him one child, Charlotte Susan Nottingham, born October 12th, 1879; married secondly, October 23rd, 1888, William H. Chapman, of Norfolk, Va., and has by him issue: Robert Woodley Chapman, born November 18th, 1889, and Sarah Eleanor Chapman, born October 29th, 1893. John Collins Woodley, born October 17th, 1856, married August 27th, 1890, Ida Allen, has issue: Lucy Allen Woodley, born March 6th, 1892, and Susan Nash Woodley, born June 16th, 1894. Joseph Rea Woodley married secondly, October 29th, 1872, Annie W. Woodley, widow of Gusatvus W. Woodley, daughter of Hezakiah and Elizabeth F. Shelton, and died without issue by her on September 29th, 1897. He was a dentist, stood eminently in his profession, was president of

the Dental Association of Virginia, was a lieutenant in the Confederate service connected with the signal corps, was at the time of his death a member of the vestry of Trinity Episcopal Church. He was thoroughly good, of a kind and noble disposition, frank and true, and enjoyed the confidence and respect of the community.

Mrs. Ann Lucretia Woodley, widow of Dr. Andrew Boykin Woodley, married John Nash, of Portsmouth, Va., now deceased, and is now living in her 88th year, having been born on August 9th, 1809. She was a great belle, noted for her beauty and sweetness of disposition. She was greatly admired and tenderly loved by all the Woodleys, and their descendants have always regarded her as a near and dear kinswoman. At the corner of High and Crawford streets, this City, there is a marble tablet commemorating the visit of Lafavette October 25th, 1824. On which occasion she was selected to make an address of welcome and to present a wreath of flowers to Gen. Lafayette. which, it is said, she did in a most charming manner.

John Harrison Woodley was born July 17th, 1811, married June 6th, 1833, Nancy B. Holleman, born August 30th, 1812, daughter of Capt. William Holleman, whose farm joined the Crocker plantation, and died July 6th, 1846, leaving surviving his wife who has recently departed this life, and three children: George C. Woodley, born January 12th, 1835, was a lawyer, an officer in the Confederate service, killed in one of the battles around Richmond, unmarried; Charles Fenton Woodley, born



May 10th, 1837, died in Kinston, then living with his uncle, Dr. Thomas Woodley, September 5th, 1852; and Andrew Woodley, married a Miss Johnson, died in Nansemond leaving issue.

Dr. Thomas Woodley was born May 21st, 1813, married June 20th, 1848, Mary Francis Elizabeth Green, daughter of James R. and Elizabeth Ann Green, of Lenoir county, N. C., had two chlidren: Bettie Knight Woodley, who died October 20th, 1853, aged 34 hours, and Charles Beauregard Woodley. Dr. Thomas Woodley, died on 1st day of October, 1862, and his wife died on 15th day of June, 1864.

Charles Beauregard Woodley was born in Kinston, N. C., on the 10th day of June, 1861, married November 20th, 1895, in Baltimore, at St. Bartholemew's Church, Mrs. Bessie Norris Tull, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Briscoe Norris, of said City, has issue Elizabeth Charles Woodley, born 15th day of October, 1897. He is a skillful and successful practitioner of medicine in Kinston, N. C. Dr. Thomas Woodley, on the death of his brother, Dr. Andrew Boykin Woodley, purchased Four Square and held it until lie sold it to my brother, Julius O. Thomas, who now owns it. After graduating at the University of Virginia and at the University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, he settled in Kinston, N. C. He had great skill in his profession and acquired a high reputation both as a physician and surgeon. He was the favorite brother and uncle of his family. He was handsome, chivalrous and bright. He was extremely generous and was the advisor and helper of every needing member



of his family. He was in the habit every Christmas of visiting my mother, and we children hailed his coming with the greatest joy for he never came empty-handed. He was my guardian and my dearest memories cling around him. He was our beau ideal of a perfect gentleman, nor have I found in all my life any one in this respect to excel him. He was talented, brilliant in conversation, but in fondness and affection for others was as simple as a child.

William Bryant Woodley was born the 3rd day of ———, 1807, and died in Mississippi in May, 1842.

Elizabeth Hill Harrison Woodley, born January 20th, 1815, and died September 3rd, 1883, unmarried.

Mary Ann Woodley was born November 15th, 1817, and on November 15th, 1835, married Rev. John Dailey Halstead, of the then Virginia Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church. was born in North Carolina January 27th, 1801, and died August 6th, 1883. Mary Ann Halstead died May 12th, 1882. They had the following children: Richard Baxter Halstead, John Emory Halstead, born October 22nd, 1838, died January 14th, 1855, unmarried, Robert Newton Halstead, born September 3rd, 1840, died September 5th, 1852, unmarried, Andrew Woodley Halstead, born October 6th, 1842, died August 5th, 1847, Melville Halstead, born June 30th, 1843, died August 12th, 1844, Susannah Wesley Halstead, Lucy Harrison Halstead, born 1847, died May 20th, 1851, and Mary Dailey Halstead (Minnie).



Halstead Styll, born August 7th, 1876; Julia Woodley Styll, born May 26th, 1879, died March 17th, 1881; and Lillian Styll, born April 15th, 1881.

JOHN WOODLEY, SON OF ANDREW WOODLEY, THE IMMIGRANT.

And His Descendants, including the Hills and Harrisons.

John Woodley is mentioned in the will of his father, Andrew Woodley, which was dated September 25th, 1718, and admitted to record 22nd of August, 1720, and to whom his father gave slaves, and his home farm containing 900 acres in Little Neck. He married Frances Wilson, the widow of John Wilson of Days Neck. The said John Wilson, left one child a son John Wilson to whom descended his father's farm in Days Neck. This son John Wilson subsequently married Sarah Woodley, the daughter of Thomas Woodley of Four Square, and left two sons, John Wilson and Willis Wilson, who are mentioned in the will of the said Thomas Woodley and are accounted for in the foregoing account of the descendants of the said Thomas Woodley.

The said John Woodley left surviving him his widow Frances Woodley and two children, John Woodley and Francis Woodley, all of whom are



His son John, to whom he devised all his real estate, seems to have died young without issue, for we find some years afterwards the farm in Little Neck in the possession of his sister.

Frances Woodley, the daughter of the said John Woodley, married Joseph Hill.

Joseph Hill was the son of Thomas Hill and Mary Hill, nee Mary Marshall the daughter of Humphrey Marshall. Thomas Hill's will dated the 23rd of May, 1719, was admitted to record on the 25th day of July, 1720. He mentions in his will his wife Mary, sons, Thomas and Joseph, and daughters Ann and Mary. He lived on the farm that was devised by Sylvester Hill, daughter of Edward Bennett and widow of Col. Nicholas Hill, to be sold for the benefit of the poor of the parish. It was sold under order of the court by Alexander Forbes and Henry Baker, special commissioners, to Lawrence Baker by deed of October 16th, 1714, and Lawrence Baker conveyed it to Alexander Forbes by deed May 24th, 1717, and Alexander Forbes conveyed it to Thomas Hill by deed May 27th, 1717. This farm was situated just outside of Days Neck and reached the James river in a point



at the Rocks and extending back containing 300 acres more or less and at the time that it was sold to Thomas Hill it lay between other lands of Sylvester Hill and the land of John Goodrich, and before the war belonged in whole or part to W. Chapman Edwards.

The first mention I find in the records of Isle of Wight clerk's office of the said Thomas Hill father of Joseph Hill is in Book 1, page 2, October 9th, 1693. The record here refers to a suit by him against William Whitfield. It appears that he obtained judgment, and appeal was taken by the defendant to the General Court, which court sustained the verdict below; and a new suit was brought and judgment obtained by Hill. This suit was entered in 1692. The next mention I find of him is in the will of Humphrey Marshall dated 18th December, 1711, Book 2, page 532. From this will it appears that he married Mary, the daughter of the said Humphrey Marshall. Among the provisions of the will is "I give the land the Point where Thomas Hill lives to my daughter Mary Hill and her heirs forever," This land is situated in Smith's Neck. He left three daughters, Mary, wife of Thomas Hill, Ann, wife of Henry Applewhaite, and Sarah, wife of —— Scutchins. In this connection I will say that the first of the Marshalls of Isle of Wight whom I find mentioned is John Marshall, to whom was issued on the 8th of June, 1655, a patent for 200 acres of land in Smith's Neck. The will of John Marshall dated 4th of October, 1687, admitted to record 9th of June, 1688, mentions brother



Humphrey Marshall, and son Humphrey Marshall and daughter Mary. There is a will of Robert Marshall dated 18th of July, 1698, admitted to record 9th of August, 1698, which mentions wife, Mary Marshall, and children, John, Elizabeth, Humphrey, Joseph, Mary and James, witnessed by Anthony Holladay, Humphrey Marshall, John Penny, all residents of Smith's Neck. There is a power of attorney from John Day of the City of Bristol, merchant, to Humphrey Marshall dated 28th of April, 1697, witnessed by Anthony Holladay and another, authorizing the said Humphrey Marshall to collect debts for him in Virginia. I think this Humphrey Marshall is the testator above mentioned. There is a bequest in the will of the said Humphrey Marshall which appears to me to be very significant. It is the bequest to John Thomas the son of Elizabeth Thomas, and the bequest to the said Elizabeth Thomas. My opinion is that this Elizabeth Thomas was the wife of the William Thomas mentioned in the will of Sylvester Hill, and who was the daughter of the said Sylvester Hill as will appear from the will of John Jennings dated 31st of December, 1695, and admitted to record June, 1698. He married Mary a daughter of Sylvester Hill and calls the said William Thomas brother.

I should have stated that Humphrey Marshall by his writing bearing date the 16th day of October, 1699, confirmed a deed executed by his father John Marshall to William West bearing date 6th of June, 1667, conveying to him a certain parcel of land containing 160 acres more or less being on



the western side of a dividend of land granted unto John Marshall by patent bearing date the 5th day of Apirl, 1667, and I am of the opinion that this Humphrey Marshall is the testator above mentioned. John Marshall was a prominent Bacon man in Bacon's Rebellion and was one of the signers with other prominent citizens of Isle of Wight of the noted written complaint of Isle of Wight. After the suppression of the rebellion he was forced to make on his bended knees before the court apology for and retraction of his part of the said complaint.

Mary Hill continued to live on the farm of her said husband which was processioned in her name as will appear by the old vestry book until about 1733 when it was processioned in the name of her son Thomas Hill and was processioned in his name until about 1739. George Wilson qualified on the estate of this Thomas Hill about 1739-40, (see audited account of George Wilson, administrator of Thomas Hill, 28th December, 1741, Will book 4, page 387). John Newsom, of Surry, qualified as guardian of Thomas Hill the son of the last named Thomas Hill in 1739-40. I have not ascertained what became of this Thomas Hill. His father, Thomas Hill, the son of Thomas and Mary Hill was clerk of the vestry of the Old Bay Church in 1723. There is a letter from him to the vestry recorded in the vestry book of that date saying that he was about to sail for England which would prevent his attendance on the vestry. In 1723 in the report of the processioners they state that they did not run the line between Mrs.



Mary Hill and John Woodley's because her son Thomas Hill was then out of the country.

Nathaniel Parker mentioned in his will which bears date the 29th of June, 1730, his wife Ann and his son Nicholas. It is my opinion that this Ann Parker was Ann Hill one of the daughters of Thomas Hill mentioned in his will. This opinion is based upon two facts, first, that the report of the processioners of 1739-40 of the lands in Smith's Neck mentions that they ran a line between James Bagnall and Nicholas Parker and that Joseph Hill was present. Why should Joseph Hill who lived in Little Neck at that time be present to represent the processioning of the land of Nicholas Parker? He must have been there as a kinsman or guardian. Nicholas Parker was then an infant and according to my conjecture was the nephew of Joseph Hill. The other fact is that the Cowpers, Frederick Cowper and Leopold C. P. Cowper, always called my mother cousin Fanny and the relationship was always recognized. They are descendants from Nicholas Parker. I cannot trace the relationship by any other way than this. I once thought that the relationship arose through Ann Copeland who married the above mentioned Nicholas Parker, father of Col. Josiah Parker. But I have not been able to show that this Ann Copeland was a descendant of Joseph Copeland and Mary Woodley, on the contrary it appears that she was the daughter of Thomas Copeland and Holland Applewhaite.

Joseph Hill and Frances (Woodley) his wife lived in Little Neck on land that was given by



Andrew Woodley to his son John Woodley who devised it to his son John and on his death descended to the said Frances Hill. The vestry book shows that they lived on said lands. The will of Joseph Hill bearing date the 29th day of October, 1775, was admitted to record the 4th day of January, 1776, and mentions his wife Frances and his son Joseph Hill and his daughter Mary Hill and his daughter Elizabeth Hill. He was captain of the militia of his district as will appear by the orders of the county court.

Mary Hill the daughter of the said Joseph and Frances Hill in 1763 married her cousin Henry Hill who was then living in Granville county, N. C., as will appear from a deed of gift of Joseph Hill and Frances Hill dated 1st of May, 1763, of certain slaves to their daughter Mary as her portion in marriage. I have never been able to ascertain what became of this Mary and Henry Hill. The will of Frances Hill, the widow of Joseph Hill, bearing date June 4th, 1788, was admitted to record September 5th, 1791. In this will she mentions her son Joseph Hill and her daughter Elizabeth Harrison, wife of John Harrison.





MARTHA his wife in 1790 show that they were then living in Southampton. I have not been able to ascertain what became of them afterwards.

ELIZABETH HILL daughter of JOSEPH and FRANCES HILL married JOHN HARRISON of Isle of Wight the son of that HENRY HAR-RISON whose will dated September 13th, 1771. was admitted to probate October 1st, 1772. The will of the said JOHN HARRISON bearing date the 1st of April, 1790, was admitted to probate the 7th day of February, 1791. He left surviving him as it appears by his will his wife ELIZABETH HARRISON and three daughters, HARRIET HARRISON, ELIZABETH HILL HARRISON and WOODY HARRISON. ELIZABETH HILL HARRISON on November 9th, 1797, married her cousin ANDREW WOODLEY, as before stated, they are my grand-parents and I have already given an account of their descendants.

ELIZABETH HARRISON, the widow of JOHN HARRISON, afterwards married DAVID BRADLEY.

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THE HARRISONS

I have not been able to definitely determine who was the father of HENRY HARRISON. He had a brother WILLIAM HARRISON whose will was admitted to probate November 4th, 1762, (Will Book 7, page 200). The said HENRY HARRISON had the following children who are



mentioned in his will: HENRY, JOHN, RICH-ARD, CONSTANCE, SALLIE, CHRISTAIN, and BETSY. I do not know what became of HENRY HARRISON.



ANDREW WOODLEY, the said ELIZABETH HILL WOODLEY being their sole heir. Their aunt HARRIET HARRISON had previously died without issue.

JOHN WOODLEY

JOHN WOODLEY, son of John Woodley and Catherine Bryant Boykin and brother of Major Andrew Woodley, lived in Days Neck, Isle of Wight county, married Anne Doyne, whose mother was Anne Howard and who had a brother named Rev. Joseph Doyne, who were from Charles county, Md.

The said John Woodley and Anne Doyne his wife had the following children: James Howard Woodley, Robert Doyne Woodley, Thomas Woodley, Mary Woodley and Catherine Woodley. Thomas and Mary Woodley seemed to have died young without issue. Robert Doyne Woodley was a Catholic priest and lived at Port Tobacco, Md., and died there on the 25th of October, 1857.

Catherine Woodley married Dr. Lemuel C. Holland, of Suffolk, Va., and died on the 26th of March, 1872, in her 59th year, leaving two children, Granville S. P. Holland and Elfrida C. Holland.

James Howard Woodley married Mary Wilson, the daughter of William Wilson and Sarah Delk. The said James H. Woodley died in October, 1856, and his wife, Mary Woodley, died December 13th, 1861. They had the following children: William



Henry Woodley, born 29th of April, 1819, married Leonora M. Wood in New York in 1850, supposed to have died during the war: Joseph Doyne Woodley, born July 11th, 1828, and died in New Orleans 23rd September, 1867: Cornelia Emeline Woodley, born July 22nd, 1825, and died without issue: Gustavus Wilson Woodley, born September 1st, 1830, married Annie Shelton on 29th July, 1858, and had one child Shelton L. Woodley who died --- October, 1865, aged 6 years; he was killed in the war on the 30th of July, 1864; his widow married Dr. Joseph B. Woodley, of Portsmouth, Va., who has recently died leaving her surviving him: Eugenia Anne Woodley, born December 11th, 1832, now living in Norfolk, Va., unmarried, and Mary Catherine Woodley, born February 6th, 1835, married John J. Sturdivant October 21st, 1868, in Smithfield: she has two children, John Woodley Sturdivant, born July 17th, 1870, and William Gilliam Sturdivant, born July 11th, 1873, now living in Norfolk. See my Blunt and Wilson papers, October, 1899.

JAMES FRANCIS CROCKER.

October 18th, 1899.

THE COPELANDS

Mary Woodley, the daughter of our immigrant ancestor, Andrew Woodley, married Joseph Copeland, the grand-son of Major Thomas Taberer and



Elizabeth his wife. Major Thomas Taberer was in his day one of the most prominent citizens of Isle of Wight county. In 1657-8 he was a member of the House of Burgesses. In 1667 he was a member of the court. He was the owner of the famous plantation known as Basse's Choice, which at one time had a representative in the House of Burgesses. It was situated on the east side of Pagan Bay formed by Pagan Creek. By his will probated February 9th, 1694, he gave the said plantation to his said grand-son, Joseph Copeland. (William and Mary College Quarterly, Vol. VII, No. 4).

Joseph Copeland in his will dated 28th Febrnary, 1726, and probated 25th July, 1726, mentions his wife Mary, son John, daughter Elizabeth and son Thomas. After giving to his wife and children special legacies he directs that the remainder of his estate be equally divided between his wife and children. Among the legacies given to his daughter, Elizabeth, was a gold ring, the poesie being "As God decreed, we agreed." John Copeland died in 1736 intestate and without issue. Elizabeth Copeland is presumed to have died intestate and without issue in the lifetime of her mother. Thomas Copeland was living on Basse's Choice plantation in 1740 as appears by the report of the processioners of that year. There is no trace of him beyond that date. It is presumed that he died without issue leaving his mother surviving him. In 1743 the plantation was processioned as owned by one John Mallory. It appears that this John Mallory married Mary Cope-



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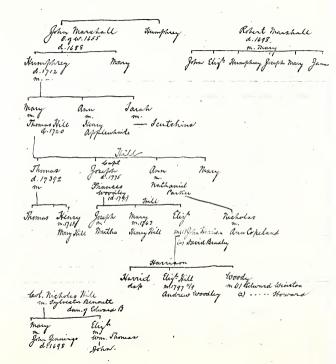
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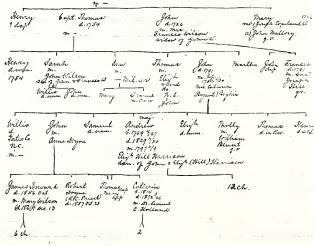




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7. Thomas Woodley (M. D) 4. 1913 May 2 4. 195 a 0 st. 1 10. 196 June 20 Morry Frances Clipt Green dawng James R. + Elyt Man Green (d. 1964 June 16)

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8. Wijabeth Will Harrison Woodley 4.1815 Jun 20 4.1883 Lept. 3 ann.

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P. Joseph Woodley

11 Richard J. Woodley 4. 1820 . d. 1820

12. Harriet Woodley



land, the widow of Joseph Copeland, who was the heir of her deceased children. He had previously married and had children by his first wife. By his will dated the 30th of December, 1788, and probated February, 1789, he mentions four daughters, Martha, Mary, Frances and Kesiah—the children by his first wife; and he also mentions another daughter, Angelina, who married Captain Mallory Todd. He mentions two grandchildren, Martha Van Wagner and William Todd, the latter the son of Angelina and Captain Mallory Todd.

JAMES F. CROCKER.

July 7th, 1914.







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