

A GREAT ENGLISH FAMILY

By George E. Smith, Vineville, Macon, Georgia

That various nationalities who have given ancestors to the Georgia people as they are at present found is a very interesting fact, and accounts for their composite character. I have been studying Scotch, French and now propose to select a family of English and ancestry. I want it to be clearly understood these people are not genealogical, but historical, and in selecting certain families I have no reference to social position, but to their origin and their public services.

The Cobb family has for over a hundred years been prominent in public life in Georgia and done the state great service. In tracing this family back I find the Cobb family in Bedford, Kent, Norfolk and in Oxford.

These are nine families who are recorded in Burke's Heraldry as having coats of arms, but none are now registered as among the landed gentry. The name of Cobbs has disappeared but the name Cobb and Cobbe remains. They seem to have been in official position and it was Justice Cobb who sent John Bunyan to prison. As soon as Virginia was settled one of the name appears in the colony.

His name it is found in Hesmum was Joseph Cobbs, and he was in the colony in 1611, and his wife and sons joined him in 1621. He lived on the James at a place called Cobbham. This name Colonel Cobb gave to his place near Athens and the Cobbs of Albermarle to their family settlement. He had descendants, of whom doubtless there are scions in Georgia.

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Nicolas Cobbs and Ambrose Cobbs came in 1635. Ambrose settled on the Appomattox, near where Petersburg is now, and had an estate called Cobbs, which afterwards went into the hands of the Bollings. I find nothing more of him nor of his descendants until I found Robert and Thomas Cobb, both in York at the same time. They were evidently brothers - people of moderate wealth and high social position. The members of the family I have mentioned in my notes are Edmund, Otho, Ambrose, and at a later Colonel Samuel Cobbs. When the new country in Virginia was opened after 1720 a part of the family removed from the then old county of York to Arnalia, Goochland, and afterwards to Albermarle and Cumberland and Buckingham.

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To show how many of this family there were in Virginia, I give a list of those who received land grants as it is found on the land books in Richmond. The first comer was Joseph in 1611; Benjamin and Joseph, Jr., in 1621, his sons, Ambrose, 1635; Nicolas, in 1635; John in 1660; Samuel, in 1719; John, in 1720; Robert, in 1741; James, in 1748; Edmund, in 1719; Thomas, in 1738; Vinkler, in 1734 (Colonel Samuel, of Williamsburg, was colonel in the Revolution); of the Cobbs who came to Georgia there was: James, John, Joseph, Randall, Abel, Saumel, John, of Columbia; John, of Richmond; Ezekial.

It is evident that there were several families, who sprang from different roots, but of the Cobb families only two have reached political prominence in Georgia, and they were from the same Virginia family. These two scions were Thomas Cobb, of Columbia; and of his brother John, of Washington and Richmond. These two families were the only ones in Georgia known as Cobbs. They were I am sure descendants of the John Cobbs, of Goochland, and I am confident of the Ambrose who settled Cobbs in what was then Henrico County. If so, the children of Ambrose who I think were Robert and Thomas removed to York. When in York exploring the old records, a lady wrote the clerk from Kentucky asking for the will of a Robert Cobb, who was once living there. The clerk could not find his will, for he left none, but I found the inventory of his estate -

AND found many notices of him. He was church warden in 1651 to 1661; justice of the peace, county commissioner and high sheriff. He died in 1682. His inventory showed he had three white servants, three negro servants, sixteen cattle, 14,900 pounds of tobacco. His household furniture was two beds, three bolsters, two pillows, one Bible, some books, one dozen leather chairs, 100 pounds pewter, a brass kettle, 150 pounds sugar, twelve gallons of molasses and two dram cups. His children were Ambrose, Edmon, Ortho, and a daughter. The family of Ortho Cobb I found is eastern Virginia. Edmond died unmarried and Ambrose removed to New Virginia, where his will is on record. Captain McAllister of Atlanta, sprang from this family. I think he had a brother Ambrose and a brother Thomas.

Thomas, was, I am sure, the father of John, of Goochland, and grandfather of Thomas, who came to Georgia, and of John, his brother.

Old Tom Cobb, of Columbia, as he was irreverently called, was the oldest man as far as the records show, who ever lived or died in Georgia. He was born in Virginia in 1724, and died in Georgia in 1835.

He was the grandfather of Thomas Willis Cobb, who was guardian of Robert Toombs and the famous judge and senator. Colonel Cobb's home place still bears the name he gave it, Cobbham, and the old house still stands some six or seven miles north of Thomas, in McDuffie County. Colonel Cobb was a prominent man in the county for ever ~~XXXX~~ sixty years, and was a man of years when he came to Georgia following his grown son John, who died long before him. He was always known as Colonel Cobb and always wrote his name ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Thos. Cobbs. His will was made in 1831.

He said he had outlived all his children and left bequests to his great-grandchildren, and the bulk of the estate to Sallie Cobb, wife of Peter Lamar. His sons had been William and John. Judge Thomas Willis Cobb, for whom Cobb county was named, was his grandchild, and was born in 1783. He was the oldest of the Cobbs in Georgia and once, when near a hundred years old, he came riding on horseback to the house of Chester Bostwick in Augusta. The servant man went out to help him from his horse. "Tut, tut; I don't want your help. I've come a-courting." GAR

His brother, Colonel John Cobbs, was founder of one of the most famous families in Georgia. He married a daughter of Howell Lewis of Granville, ~~XX~~ N. C., and because of this ~~XXX~~ many of his descendants think that he was a North Carolinian. This, I am sure, is a mistake, for I found a deed to him in 1784, in Georgia, reciting the fact that he was of Cumberland County, Virginia. He was, I am sure, the son of a John Cobbs, who patented land in Goochland, and who married in Savannah. He was, however, married to a Virginia lady, whose father, Howell Lewis, had moved with his brother, Robert, to Granville, County, North Carolina, before 1768. Her name still preserved in the family and handed down, was Mildred. Colonel John Cobbs may have lived in North Carolina a little while, but I think he did not. The only evidence I found was a deed to a small tract of land in 1769. He certainly came to Georgia in 1783 from Cumberland county, Virginia, and made his first stop in Augusta, where he was justice of the peace. He then settled a plantation in Washington, afterward Jefferson county, Georgia. He bought sundry large tracts of land, which he gave to his children by Mildred Lewis. He lost her and married a second time. He was a great speculator and to some degree an unfortunate one. He became involved and finally died in Columbia County in 1810. His sons were Captain Howell Cobb, the first, who was a member of Congress and a captain in the regular army. Captain Cobb married a Miss Roote, I think, but had no children by her. His next son, John Adderson Cobb, was the father of one of the most illustrious families in Georgia. General and Governor Howell Cobb was his oldest son. His career is too well known to require me to give an account of it. In the legislature, in congress, as a speaker, in the cabinet

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The Sylvanus Cobb family claims to be descended from one "Sylvanus or Henry Cobb of Plymouth, Mass." - apparently the same - and in this family there is a belief that the Cobbs settlers originally came from Wales.

Sylvanus Cobb, A Unitarian Minister who was born in Norway, Maine, belonged to this family. He had three sons, Sylvanus, a writer and Cyrus and Darius twins. They were born in 1834 at Malden, Mass., and studied art together. They had their own ideas about the way to study. They refused to go abroad for this purpose, wishing not to have any master but nature. While studying under the master Nature they used to rise before sunrise and retire after midnight.

Besides their art they studied mental arithmetic and were able to multiply large sums without the aid of paper or pen. This they did in order to increase their mental agility rather than because they felt it had any value in itself. Cyrus was a sculptor and painter of a good deal of celebrity and more than that, he studied law and had an excellent tenor voice and was greatly interested in music. He also wrote poetry. His brother took up another interest and served in the Forty-fourth Massachusetts Regiment in the Civil War.

The New Hampshire Cobb family though possibly a branch of the family of Barnstable, does not trace its ancestry farther back than George of Westmoreland, N. H. He was born in 1757 and he married Martha Booker for his first wife. Their children were: Esther, Martha, George, Elizabeth, Isaac, Elijah, Joseph, Barker, Abner, and Lydia. The descendants of Isaac can be found in Westminster, Vermont, those of Joseph in Michigan and elsewhere and those of Barker in the neighborhood of Paris, New York. Elijah served in the United States Army, where he contracted a disease from which he died. His grandson was George Pomroy Cobb, of Bay City, Michigan. He was in the Civil War and served later in the House of Representatives. He married Laura Munger of a Connecticut family of the name.

Thomas W. Cobb, the United States Senator from Georgia, an eloquent debater, prominent about the year 1819, was of the Virginia family.

The origin of the name Cobb is hard to determine. It is said by authorities that no monosyllable in any language has so many distinct meanings as this little word cob or cobb. Among other things it means to strike. It is also a word for a seed basket, a hay stack, a Spanish coin, a fish, a chief, and a horse.

The surname is probably derived in some way not lost to obscurity from one of these meanings. However, it is a very ancient surname and occurs in the instance of Lenricus Cobb, in the Domesday book, for Suffolk, and is doubtless of Saxon origin. When the heralds came to make up the coats of arms for the people who bore the name they usually ~~XXX~~ illustrate some one of the various objects which the word cobb indicates. They gave these armorial bearings because they did not know the true origin of the name any more than we moderns know it. So in the arms illustrated we find three fishes swimming - because cobb was an ancient name for a kind of fish. Sometimes it was used for a young herring, sometimes a bullhead. The arms are described as follows: Gules, a chevron wavy between three fishes naiant argent on a chief of the last two shovelers sable beaked and legged or.

If, as sometimes been claimed, Henry Cobb, the progenitor of the Barnstable Cobbs, ~~XXXX~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ was a younger son of the Baronet Cobb of Cobbs Court, County Kent, then this branch of the family may use the following coat of arms: Argent, a chevron between three cocks gules dombs and wattles or. Crest, out of a ducal coronet a demi lion rampant.

Cobb(s) Line
Court of Arms is given in Burke's

Ambrose Cobb(s) moved to Va. from England in 1613 when he was 23 yrs old. Settled in York Co. Do not know whom he married.

Robert Cobb(s) b. in Va. 1620 and D. in York Co. in 1682.
Church Warden 1651, Justice 1667. High Sherrif 1682

Robert Cobb (s) b. 1660 Do not know whom he married

John Cobb(s) B. 1708 in Va. Died in Goochland C. , Va. m. Susannah H. Addison, Who was a sister or daughter of the Eng. Admiral John Admiral.
Appears on records of Goochland Co. as early as 1736 and at various dates until 1750. After that date he is mentioned as "John Cobbs of Albermarle".
Name appeared on Albermarle Co. records as buying property 1750 until 1761.

Col. John Cobb(s) of Columbia Co., Ga. m. 1769 Mildred Lewis, daughter of Howell Lewis of Granville, Co. N. C. Col Cobb(s) must have been born in Va. He had a brother, Tom, who also came to Ga. They lived at Cobbham, Ga. near Athens. John died at son's home Columbia C. See records in Appling
Children of Col. John Cobb and Mildred Lewis:

Henry Willis Cobb m. Obedience Dutiful Bugg, daughter of Benjamin Bugg
Susannah Cobb m. Capt. Chesley Bostwick of Goochland Co., Va.
Capt. Howell Cobb m. Martha Rootes. He is buried at Cherry Hill Cobb Plantation, near Louisville, Ga. No children
John Addison Cobb m. Sara Rootes, these were the parents of Gov. Howell Cobb, Gen. T. R. R. Cobb, etc.
Mary Willis Cobb m. Robert Flournoy
Mildred Lewis m. William H. Jackson

GA

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b. Cobbham 1770 b. 1788 d. 1846 Thomsaon, Ga. buried Bugg plantation near there d. 1824

Children of Henry Willis Cobb and Obedience Ditofil Bugg

Martha m. James Pace
Edmund m. Mary Telfair of Savannah. Was visiting relatives in Marianna, Fla when he died, is buried on Long Plantation
Susan Amanda Cobb m. Gov. John Milton Both buried in Marianna
Eliza m. Dr. Robert Kennedy moved to La
Mildred m. Leonard Weissinger, Marion, Ala

my great-great grandmother

Susan Amanda Cobb Milton is buried in St. Lukes Episcopal Cemetery, Marianna, Fla. by her husband, Gov. Milton. She was originally buried on the old Bugg Plantation near Thomson, Ga., but was moved to Marianna in 1928 by her granddaughters.

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cabinet, as governor, as general in the field or commanding a department, he was always distinguished. Socially he was a most delightful companion, so I have been told, for I never met him. My friend, Dr. Josephus Anderson, who was pastor in Quincy, Fla, while General Cobb was commander of the department, became much attached to him, and showed me some letters which expressed very positive religious convictions. He became a believer in the divinity of Christ after the war by reading "Young's Christ of History." His wife was a devout Baptist, and his brother a Presbyterian elder, and his warm friends were among the Evangelicals. He never joined the church, but his attachment to it was very strong.

His younger brother, General Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb, was, as all know, if ^{not} the first man of a great time second to none. He was a marvel of industry and of legal learning. He prepared the most valuable digest of Georgia laws and wrote the book on slavery which was one of the most remarkable productions of that time. It was not a defense of slavery, but a full history of it and an exhibit of its legal aspects. It is still in demand and I have a request today for two copies if they can be found. He was, all knew, a grand soldier who gave his life for his state, and he was the chief mover in a great educational reform and through his efforts a revival which swept the state in 1857 which was known as the laymens' revival, which began in Athens. Lucy Cobb Institute owes in inception to him. One of this family in a judge of the supreme bench and another a judge of the city court, shows that public servants sprang from Colonel John Cobb, are still here. I think no one will question the fact that for devotion to the interests of Georgia and for great ability and unquestioned integrity, no family has ever taken a higher place than the descendants of Colonel John and Colonel Thomas Cobb. Not only have the family been famous for the men who have sprung from but the daughters of Colonel John Cobb have been scarcely less notable. One of his daughters married the famous General Flournoy. He was the nabab of his time and was not famous for his piety, but his wife was a saint of whom the world was not worthy. She was a Methodist of the olden time and sadly opposed held on her way to the end. She was the Grandmother of Rev. H. J. ~~XXXX~~ Adams, Mrs. Waterman, who was another noted saint in Georgia was the granddaugther of old Colonel Cobb. It strikingly illustrates the composite character of our people when one knows that in the children of Howell Cobb there are the Urquharts, Highlanders; the Lamars, French Huguenots; the Robertsons, Scotch-Irish; the Cobbs, old ~~XX~~ English; the Lewis, Welch.

(GAR)

It can be from natural grounds, but little wonder that they were the virile men ~~XXXX~~ they were. They were born freemen and born soldiers and sprang from the best blood in the land. Every family except the Lamars ~~XXXX~~ who were French, has a place in the college of Heralds and yet ignoramuses still say the up country Georgians were crackers and rumagates. It makes one tired to hear such pitiable ignorance under pretense of historic knowledge.

The Cobbs Family

The Family in Virginia and the Family in
Plymouth, and Their Early Histories.
Ambrose and His Family and Henry and His
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Inventoried in Elder Cobb's Estate - The
Cobb Twins of Norway, Maine - Puzzle of the
Name's Origin and Some of the Coats of Arms
for Cobbs.

"If you are an American Cobb you may be either a descendant of one of the first families of Virginia" or you may be a proud descendant of the early Plymouth folk. Which of these you may claim to be depends on whether you derived your name from the planter Ambrose, Cobb or the Puritan Henry Cobb, who, although they came to this country within the same decade, are, so far as any records show, no relation to each other.

Ambrose Cobb appears in the haze of early colonial records in 1639, when he patented three hundred and fifty acres upon the Appomattox River "for the importation of himself, Anne, his wife, Margaret, his daughter, and Robert, his son". He had two other sons, Ambrose and Thomas, who are mentioned elsewhere.

Robert, who was born in England in 1627, later lived in Marston parish, York County, Va. where he was a church warden in 1658. After Bacon's rebellion he was appointed justice of that county. In the earliest records of his father the name is spelled Cobbs, but in the records of Robert the name is spelled sometimes Cobb and sometimes with the final s. His wife's name was Elizabeth, and she was born in 1638. Robert died in 1682 and his wife survived him but two years. He left a personal estate of eighty pounds, twelve shillings.

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The children of Elizabeth and Robert were Edmund, who had no surviving issue, Ambrose, Otho, who probably left no children, and Robert.

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Burton Church*

Ambrose, here mentioned, was a church warden of Burton parish church. He married a young woman named Elizabeth and had the following children: Frances, Robert, Thomas, John, Edmund and Ambrose.

Such were the beginnings of the now distinguished Cobbs family of Virginia.

Henry Cobb of New England, came to the new country probably in 1629, ten years before the first appearance of Ambrose Cobb. He landed in Plymouth and removed later to Scituate, where he was one of the founders of the first church in 1635. Later he settled in Barnstable.

Henry married, first Patience James, and second, Sarah, daughter of Samuel Hinckley, a sister of the Governor of Plymouth colony. This Henry or "Elder Cobb" as he is usually called, is described in Otis' "Barnstable Families" as one of the most prominent men in the community. "He was not a man of brilliant talents", says Otis, "But he was a useful man and an exemplary Christian."

The inventory of his estate shows an interesting grouping of personal belongings. Among the items mentioned are: "A bed bolster pillowes Rugg blanketts pillow coat", "sheet pillow coates Table Linnine", "Glass Bottled a jugg pailles, barrel tubs and trayes", "Chests chaires bedsteeds Tubb wheels and cards", "Books Chshens sickles sythes", "Hosekind sheep lambes a saddle and bridle a frying pan, and "Some other smale things".

A CORNER IN ANCESTORS
Frances Cowles

His page

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He was the grandfather of Thomas Willis Cobb, who was guardian of Robert Toombs and the famous judge and senator. Colonel Cobb's home place still bears the name he gave it, Cobbham, and the old house still stands some six or seven miles north of Thomson, in McDuffie County. Colonel Cobb was a prominent man in the county for over ~~XXXX~~ sixty years, and was a man of years when he came to Georgia following his grown son John, who died long before him. He was always known as Colonel Cobb and always wrote his name ~~XXXXXXXX~~ Thos. Cobbs. His will was made in 1831.

He said he had outlived all his children and left bequests to his great-grandchildren, and the bulk of the estate to Sallie Cobb, wife of Peter Lamar. His sons had been William and John. Judge Thomas Willis Cobb, for whom Cobb county was named, was his grandchild, and was born in 1783. He was the oldest of the Cobbs in Georgia and once, when near a hundred years old, he came riding on horseback to the house of Chester Bostwick in Augusta. The servant man went out to help him from his horse. "Tut, tut; I don't want your help. I've come a-courting." GAR

His brother, Colonel John Cobbs, was founder of one of the most famous families in Georgia. He married a daughter of Howell Lewis of Granville, ~~XX~~ N. C., and because of this ~~XXX~~ many of his descendants think that he was a North Carolinian. This, I am sure, is a mistake, for I found a deed to him in 1784, in Georgia, reciting the fact that he was of Cumberland County, Virginia. He was, I am sure, the son of a John Cobbs, who patented land in Goochland, and who married in Savannah. He was, however, married to a Virginia lady, whose father, Howell Lewis, had moved with his brother, Robert, to Granville, County, North Carolina, before 1768. Her name still preserved in the family and handed down, was Mildred. Colonel John Cobbs may have lived in North Carolina a little while, but I think he did not. The only evidence I found was a deed to a small tract of land in 1769. He certainly came to Georgia in 1783 from Cumberland county, Virginia, and made his first stop in Augusta, where he was justice of the peace. He then settled a plantation in Washington, afterward Jefferson county, Georgia. He bought sundry large tracts of land, which he gave to his children by Mildred Lewis. He lost her and married a second time. He was a great speculator and to some degree an unfortunate one. He became involved and finally died in Columbia County in 1810. His sons were Captain Howell Cobb, the first, who was a member of Congress and a captain in the regular army. Captain Cobb married a Miss Roote, I think, but had no children by her. His next son, John Adderson Cobb, was the father of one of the most illustrious families in Georgia. General and Governor Howell Cobb was his oldest son. His career is too well known to require me to give an account of it. In the legislature, in congress, as a speaker, in the cabinet

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cabinet, as governor, as general in the field or commanding a department, he was always distinguished. Socially he was a most delightful companion, so I have been told, for I never met him. My friend, Dr. Josephus Anderson, who was pastor in Quincy, Fla, while General Cobb was commander of the department, became much attached to him, and showed me some letters which expressed very positive religious convictions. He became a believer in the divinity of Christ after the war by reading "Young's Christ of History." His wife was a devout Baptist, and his brother a Presbyterian elder, and his warm friends were among the Evangelicals. He never joined the church, but his attachment to it was very strong.

His younger brother, General Thomas Reade Rootes Cobb, was, as all know, if ^{not} the first man of a great time second to none. He was a marvel of industry and of legal learning. He prepared the most valuable digest of Georgia laws and wrote the book on slavery which was one of the most remarkable productions of that time. It was not a defense of slavery, but a full history of it and an exhibit of its legal aspects. It is still in demand and I have a request today for two copies if they can be found. He was, all knew, a grand soldier who gave his life for his state, and he was the chief mover in a great educational reform and through his efforts a revival which swept the state in 1857 which was known as the laymens' revival, which began in Athens. Lucy Cobb Institute owes in inception to him. One of this family in a judge of the supreme bench and another a judge of the city court, show that public servants sprang from Colonel John Cobb, are still here. I think no one will question the fact that for devotion to the interests of Georgia and for great ability and unquestioned integrity, no family has ever taken a higher place than the descendants of Colonel John and Colonel Thomas Cobb. Not only have the family been famous for the men who have sprung from but the daughters of Colonel John Cobb have been scarcely less notable. One of his daughters married the famous General Flournoy. He was the nabab of his time and was not famous for his piety, but his wife was a saint of whom the world was not worthy. She was a Methodist of the olden time and sadly opposed held on her way to the end. She was the Grandmother of Rev. H. J. ~~XXXX~~ Adams, Mrs. Waterman, who was another noted saint in Georgia was the granddaughter of old Colonel Cobb. It strikingly illustrates the composite character of our people when one knows that in the children of Howell Cobb there are the Urquharts, Highlanders; the Lamars, French Huguenots; the Robertsons, Scotch-Irish; the Cobbs, old ~~XX~~ English; the Lewis, Welch.

GAR

It can be from natural grounds, but little wonder that they were the virile men ~~XXXX~~ they were. They were born freemen and born soldiers and sprang from the best blood in the land. Every family except the Lamars ~~XXXX~~ who were French, has a place in the college of Heralds and yet ignoramus still say the up country Georgians were crackers and rumagates. It makes one tired to hear such pitiable ignorance under pretense of historic knowledge.

Cobb(s) Line
Court of Arms is given in Burke's

Ambrose Cobb(s) moved to Va. from England in 1613 when he was 23 yrs old. Settled in York Co. Do not know whom he married.

Robert Cobb(s) b. in Va. 1620 and D. in York Co. in 1682.
Church Warden 1651, Justice 1667. High Sherriif 1682

Robert Cobb (s) b. 1660 Do not know whom he married

John Cobb(s) B. 1708 in Va. Died in Goochland C. , Va. m. Susannah H. Addison, Who was a sister or daughter of the Eng. Admiral John Admiral. Appears on records of Goochland Co. as early as 1736 and at various dates until 1750. After that date he is mentioned as "John Cobbs of Albermarle". Name appeared on Albermarle Co. records as buying property 1750 until 1761.

Col. John Cobb(s) of Columbia Co., Ga. m. 1769 Mildred Lewis, daughter of Howell Lewis of Granville, Co. N. C. Col Cobb(s) must have been born in Va. He had a brother, Tom, who also came to Ga. They lived at Cobbham, Ga. near Athens. John died at son's home Columbia C. See records in Appling
Children of Col. John Cobb and Mildred Lewis:

Henry Willis Cobb m. Obedience Dutiful Bugg, daughter of Benjamin Bugg
Susannah Cobb m. Capt. Chesley Bostwick of Goochland Co., Va.
Capt. Howell Cobb m. Martha Rootes. He is buried at Cherry Hill
Cobb Plantation, near Louisville, Ga. No children
John Addison Cobb m. Sara Rootes, these were the parents of Gov.
Howell Cobb, Gen. T. R. R. Cobb, etc.
Mary Willis Cobb m. Robert Flournoy
Mildred Lewis m. William H. Jackson

GA

Henry Willis Cobb m. Obedience Dutiful Bugg
b. Cobbham 1770 b. 1788 d. 1846 Thomson, Ga. buried Bugg plantation near there
d. 1824

Children of Henry Willis Cobb and Obedience Ditoifil Bugg

Martha m. James Pace

Edmund m. Mary Telfair of Savannah. Was visiting relatives in Marianna, Fla when he died, is buried on Long Plantation

my great-great grandmother Susan Amanda Cobb m. Gov. John Milton Both buried in Marianna
Eliza m. Dr. Robert Kennedy moved to La
Mildred m. Leonard Weissinger, Marion, Ala

Susan Amanda Cobb Milton is buried in St. Lukes Episcopal Cemetery, Marianna, Fla. by her husband, Gov. Milton. She was originally buried on the old Bugg Plantation near Thomson, Ga., but was moved to Marianna in 1928 by her granddaughters.

DESCENDANTS

of

AMBROSE COBBS

of

VIRGINIA.

Ambrose Cobbs was a brother of ^{GAR} Joseph Cobbs who is registered as having landed at Jamestown, Va., in 1606. He came as a passenger on board the "Treasurer", just six years after the first permanent English settlement in the new world was effected at this point. His wife and two children, Benjamin and Joseph, came "Bonnie Bess", in 1624. The date when Ambrose arrived is unknown, but he appears on the land grants in 1635, at which time the name of Joseph also appears among the patentees, and the presumption is that, if they did not come together to America, they were separated in coming by only a short interval. ^{GAR}

Robert Cobbs appeared in 1651 as a church warden and as a resident of the county of York. In 1667, he was a justice of the peace for the same county; in 1681 a commissioner, and in 1682 a high sheriff. He died intestate in the year last named and to his son, Edmund, were granted letters of administration. Edmund died in 1692, leaving a will in which he divides his property between a son-in-law, Matthew Pierce, and three brothers, Robert, Ambrose, and Otho. It was the first of these who carried on the line. Robert Cobbs had three sons, Thomas, John, and

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Robert, whose names appear frequently in the records of Henrico and Goochland, between the years 1736 and 1750, chiefly in the county last named, which was formed from Henrico. (GAR) These constitute the heads of three distinct lines of the Cobb family in the United States: I. THOMAS, II. JOHN. III. ROBERT.

(GAR)

According to the early records, there are Cobb connections in both the Lee and the Randolph families of Virginia. We find in the Lee family, for example, a distinct branch, known as the Cobbs Hall Lees, and in the Randolph family, a distinct branch, known as the Randolphs of Cobbs. Through the Lewises, another group of ancient families is brought into the Cobb connection, including the Meriwethers, the Warners, the Washingtons, etc.

I.

Descendants of THOMAS COBBS, of Goochland County, Va., afterwards, of Columbia County, Ga.

GA Thomas Cobbs, whose name first appears among the records of Goochland, is also found in Hanover, Albemarle, and Buckingham counties, Va., in Granville county, N.C., and in Columbia county, Ga. GA Like a typical member of the Aryan race, he seems to have been always on the move; but he was a contradiction rather than a proof of the old adage that "a rolling stone gathers no moss". He became possessed of an abundance of worldly goods, acquiring extensive tracts of land, scattered over three states, but he finally settled in Georgia, where he spent the last fifty years of a life protracted to a phenomenal age, some say 120 years. He is known, in the family traditions, as "Grandpa" Cobbs, and was usually addressed as "Colonel", a title which he doubtless acquired in the colonial wars in Virginia.

Mr. McAllister, in his work on the Lewis family, devotes a number of pages to the Cobbs, and is perhaps the best authority on the antecedents of this family, though his work is not without mistakes. He does not tell us whom the old patriarch married, but, according to an old tradition, preserved in the Benning line of descent, the name of his wife was Sarah, and she married either a Dandridge or a Moore; and, if this be true, her descendants are

connected with such aristocratic families of Virginia as the Spotswoods, the Henrys, and the Washingtons. Mr. McAllister's work, which we have not hesitated to correct, when errors were found, is entitled: "The Lewis and Kindred Families", by J.M. McAllister and Lura B. Tandy, The E.W. Stephens Co., Columbia, Mo. Mr. McAllister died before this work came from the press in 1906, and did not get to read the proofs. Otherwise, he would have made no doubt the necessary corrections.

(GM) One of the children of the old patriarch was Thomas Cobbs Jr., who was an officer of the Revolution. I am inclined to think that Thomas Sr. was too old to do much fighting in the struggle for independence, and that his services to the country in a military way were rendered in colonial times. Still he was a true patriot, and though past fifty when the Revolution began, he was ready to fight with the youngest. Dr. White, in his Collections of Georgia, states that he was an officer of the Revolution, and this is the information which his descendants have received by way of tradition.

(GAR) Thomas Cobbs Jr. married when quite young. His wife's name is unknown, but he left issue: Robert H., Napoleon B., Catharine, Nancy, Julia, James, Stirling, and Mary. Nancy married a Smith and from her descended, in the second generation, General Edmund Kirby Smith, one of the most distinguished of Confederate generals, who, in 1863, became commander of the Trans-Mississippi Department. He was also noted after the war as an educator, was President at one time of the University of Nashville, and died while holding a professorship in the University of the South at Sewanee, Tenn.

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John Cobbs, another son of Thomas, Sr., was also a soldier of the Revolution, and one of the first members of his family to drop from his name the final "s". He became the father of Hon. THOMAS WILLIS COBB (1784-1830), who illustrated Georgia on the bench and in the Senate of the United States. ^(GAR) It was this distinguished member of the Cobb family, for whom Cobb county was named in 1832, soon after his death. Moreover, he was the first of the Cobbs to achieve a national reputation. He died while a judge of the Superior Court for the Ocmulgee Circuit. ^(GAR) His son Joseph Beckham Cobb removed to Mississippi, where he became an important figure in the politics ~~of the State~~ of the State, but died early in life. He was a man of letters, and wrote a novel, entitled: "The Creole", besides two other books containing sketches of life in Mississippi in ante-bellum days.

Sarah Cobb, a daughter of the old patriarch of Columbia, married John Benning, an officer of the Revolution, whose family escutcheon was brought to this country by Antoine Benein, a refugee from France. The children of John Benning, by his wife, Sarah Cobb, were: Pleasant M., Susan, Elizabeth, Sarah Cobb, and perhaps others.

PLEASANT M. BENNING, married a Miss White, and became the father of General Henry L. Benning, whose gallantry on the field won for him the soubriquet of "Old Rock". He afterwards became a judge of the Supreme Court of Georgia. He married a dau. of Hon. Seaborn Jones, a member of Congress. One of his daughters, Laura, married Samuel Spencer, afterwards president of the Southern Railway system, and one of the South's industrial captains. He lost his life in 1906 in a railway wreck on one of his own lines. Another

II.

Descendants of JOHN COBBS, of Gouchland, father of the JOHN COBBS, who came to Georgia, and brother of THOMAS, of Gouchland. Children: Edmund, Samuel, and John.

EDMUND COBBS, mar. Sarah Lewis. He died intestate, leaving several children, the eldest of whom was John Lewis Cobbs. He married first ^{GA} Susannah Hamner and second Judith (Price) Noel. By his first wife, he had twelve children, of whom the eldest was Nicholas Hamner Cobbs (1796-1861), who became the first Bishop of the Diocese of Alabama. Bishop Cobb's family have retained the final "s". ^{GA}

SAMUEL COBBS, mar. Mary Lewis. His will, probated in 1758, shows that his brothers were: Edmund and John. He died early in life, and was survived by his brother Edmund for nearly fifty years. The latter's estate was appraised in 1799. Mary Lewis whom he married was the dau. of Robert Lewis, of Bervoir, Albermarle Co., Va. The only offspring of this union was Robert Cobb, (1754-1829), whose dau. Sarah married Capt. W.C. McAllister, and became the father of John Meriwether McAllister, the genealogist. Robert's son, Dr. John Reindexter Cobb, mar. a dau. of Hon. David S. Garland, a mem. of Cong. from Va.

JOHN COBBS, mar. Mildred Lewis, dau. of Howell Lewis, of Granville county, N.C. The marriage occurred on Sept. 6, 1769. Most of the children who sprang from this marriage were born in Granville, where John must have lived for some time. Issue: Howell, John Addison, Mildred Lewis, Mary Willis, Susannah, and Henry Willis.

HOWELL COBB, born 1770, died 1830. He came a member of Congress, serving from 1807 to 1812, when he resigned to accept a captain's commission in the army of U.S. Mar. Martha Jacqueline Rootes

JOHN ADDISON COBB, born in 1773, died 18-- He became one of the largest planters in the State, removing from Jefferson county to Athens, to educate

daughter, Mary, married Reese Crawford, Esq., a bright young lawyer, and a son of Judge Martin J. Crawford, of Columbus, for many years a judge of the Supreme Court of Georgia.

See Genealogy of J. H. B.

SUSAN BENNING, married Thomas Moore, a pioneer in the manufacture of cotton in the South, who built the Princeton factory near Athens, and whose son Judge Benning B. Moore, became a superior court judge, and a legislator, who, at different times, represented three different counties: Columbia, Clarke, and Thomas. His son, ~~xxxxxxx~~ Daniel Chandler Moore, for a number of times, represented Columbia. Judge Moore mar. his first cousin, Antonia Lamar, a dau. Col. Peter Lamar and Sarah Cobb Benning.

ELIZABETH BENNING, married a Thompson. ^{GAR} Her daughter Julia married a Gartrell. ^{GAR} Her daughter, Ann Eliza, married Major Wm. S. Grady, a gallant Confederate officer, who surrendered his life at Petersburg, Va. Major Grady, at one time owned the gas works at Athens, Ga., and was a man of means. From the marriage of Major Grady to Ann Gartrell, sprang HENRY WOODFIN GRADY, the South's great orator and editor, who made the Atlanta Constitution famous, and who, in the language of the epitaph, inscribed upon his monument, in the heart of Atlanta, "literally died loving a nation into peace".

SARAH COBB BENNING, married Colonel Peter Lamar, of Lincoln Co., Ga., a member of the celebrated family of Huguenot origin, long distinguished in Georgia. He was a wealthy planter and a man of affairs, styled the "King of Lincoln". Issue:

CAPT. LAFAYETTE LAMAR, who died in 1861 at Warrenton, Va., a man of rare gifts, educated for the bar, and marked for Congress.

SARAH, who married Porter Fleming, the father by a subsequent marriage of Hon. Wm. H. Fleming, mem. of Cong. Their dau. Sarah Elizabeth became a Missionary to China and lies buried in the Far East.

PRUDENCE BERTHA, who married a Howell. ANTONIA, who married her cousin, Judge Benning B. Moore, and who was named for her Benning ancestor, Antoine Bennein,

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the immigrant. One of their children was Daniel Chandler Moore.

LAMAR, married Joshua Daniel, a native of Nash Co., N.C. Mary Ann Daniel possessed the Lamar intellect and was a woman of unusual charm and force of character. Their were born to Joshua and Mary Ann Lamar Daniel the following issue:

Capt. WILBERFORCE DANIEL, a gallant Confederate officer, after the war a cotton merchant, and sheriff of Richmond Co., Ga. mar. Mary Winn, of Washington, Ga.

REGINA P., who married an Ingles and removed to Mexico, at the close of the Civil War. She died in Mexico, leaving one son.

MARTHA ANN, who married A.L. Sheppard, a young lawyer, who died early, leaving one son, James Longstreet.

JANE P. who mar. Absalom F. Fleming, a tobacco merchant, and had issue, two sons, Paul Lamar, and Frank Lamar.

JOHN BENNING DANIEL, who died unmarried. He was a private soldier, C.S.A. and became a wholesale druggist and manufacturer, and built up a large business.

CLARA CORINNE, who married Capt. George Walton Knight, an officer in the Confederate army, an educator, and a lawyer. Issue: MARIE BERTHA, who married Thos. R. Hardwick, and LUCIAN LAMAR KNIGHT, State Historian.

his children. These were:

HOWELL COBB (1815-1868), who married Mary Ann Lamar, dau. of Colonel Zachariah Lamar, of Milledgeville, Ga., by whom he had issue, see below. He became Speaker of the national House of Representatives, Secretary of the Treasury, under Buchanan, President of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States at Montgomery, in 1861, and a Confederate Major General. His children were:

HOWELL, judge of the city court of Athens, and father of Thos R.R. a brilliant young lawyer, whose widow nee, Maude Barker is now STATE LIBRARIAN. Hon. Zach Lamar Cobb, of El Paso, Texas, is another son of Judge Howell.

LAMAR, known as Major Cobb, for years secretary of the Board of Trustees. married a Miss Newton. Children: Basil, Mary Newton, who married E.D. Sledge; Olivia, who married W.C. Davis, and Lamar, an engineer, who has risen to prominence in the West.

ANDREW J., a former judge of the Supreme Ct. of Ga., a prof. in the Lumpkin Law Sch. of Athens, mar. a Miss Campbell.

MARY ANN, who married Judge Alex. S. Erwin.

SAKAM, who married Hon. T.W. Rucker, a former mem. of Cong.

JOHN A., ordinary of Sumter
Co., Capt. U.S.A.

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LADRED LEWIS, who married Col. Luther J. Glenn, a successful lawyer, and was the mother of Hon. John T. Glenn, Mayor of Atlanta. Her dau. married a Mr. McBride, and had children, Sallie, T.H. and J. Sallie and T.H., married George Adair, as first and second wife. J. married Frank Rice Mitchell. T.H. was named for her uncles Tom and Howell. J. was named for her uncle Jud. They were known as the "initial children".

(GAR) MARTHA, who married Major John C. Whitner, of Atlanta, by whom she had a number of children, including John A., Thomas Cobb, Chas. F., Eliza, Sarah, who married Warren Howard, Mary, who married B.C. Milner, and Martha, who married W.J. Milner.

LEWIS COBB, a dau. of John Cobb, and sister of John Addison Cobb, married Wm. H. Jackson, a son of old Governor James Jackson, and from this union sprang:

MARTHA COBB, who married Colonel John T. Grant, by whom she had one son:

COLONEL WILLIAM D. GRANT, a distinguished financier and man of affairs, father of John William Grant, and Sarah, the wife of Governor John M. Slaton.

MRS. JACKSON (1819-1887), a member of Congress, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Georgia, and a man of unblemished life and character. His children include:

MRS. SCRUTCHIN, wife of J.G. Scrutchin.

MRS. SLATON, wife of Prof. Wm. Wm. M. Slaton, a brother of the Governor.

THOMAS R.R. COBB (1823-1862), who married Marian, dau. of Chief Justice Joseph Henry Lumpkin, wrote "Cobb on Slavery", a legal master-piece. Became an eloquent fire-brand of Secession, styled a "Peter the Hermit" Member of the Provisional Congress of the Confederate States. Organized Cobb's famous Legion. Became a Brigadier General, and was killed at Fredericksburg, Va., in 1862. Children:

MRS. HULL, wife of Augustus L. Hull, of Athens, and mother of Dr. Marion Hull, of Atlanta, among other children.

(GAR) MRS. JACKSON, wife of Capt. Henry Jackson, a distinguished lawyer of Atlanta, and a son of Gen. Henry R. Jackson, of Savannah. Marion Jackson, of Atlanta, a successful lawyer, interested in reform work is a son, and Mrs. Wilmer L. Moore, Mrs. Aquilla J. Orme, and Mrs. Shepard Bryan, are daughters

Mrs. HOKE SMITH, wife of the former Governor, Secretary of the Interior, and United States Senator. His son Marion is a leading lawyer, and of Atlanta.

MAJOR JOHN B. COBB, mar. 1, Mary Lamar, 2, Alice Cutler. *John B. Cobb is a son of John B. Cobb*

LAURA, who mar. Prof. Williams Rutherford. Children: Mrs. Mary Ann Lipscomb, and Miss Mildred Rutherford, both noted educators, the later Historian General, U.D. C., an author, and a woman of letters; *Col. John C. Rutherford, a noted lawyer.* B.F.

MARY WILLIS, who married first an Erwin, by whom she had one son, Hon. Howell Erwin, and second Dr. J.M. Johnson, by who she had children, among them, Mrs. Lucian Cocke, of Roanoke, Va.

Wellborn Hill
she mar. Mary
Lucy

III.

Descendants of ROBERT COBBS, of Goochland, and later of Henrico.
Va.

GA
This branch of the Cobb family has not been traced, but Chancellor Cobbs, of Alabama, comes of this line, and is a descendant of Robert Cobbs, of Henrico, a brother of John and Thomas Cobbs of Goochland. Bishop Cobbs, though like the Chancellor he retained the final "s", was a descendant of John of Goochland, brother of Robert.

GA