



SLAUGHTER FAMILY

(Compiled by the late John S. Carpenter, Louisville, Ky.)

ARMS: Argent, a saltire azure.

CREST: Out of a ducal coronet, or, an eagle's head between wings ad-dorsed, azure, beaked or.

MOTTO: Invictae Fidelitatis Praemium.

The above described arms are found on a seal to a bond bearing date of 1685, signed by William Slaughter, High Sheriff of Essex County, Va. They correspond with the arms of the Slaughters of Gloucester and Worcester in England, as given by Burke in his "Landed Gentry."

The Slaughters were among the earlier settlers in Virginia. There were two of the name, John and William, in Virginia prior to 1620. William was killed in the great Indian Massacre of March 22, 1622.

1. JOHN SLAUGHTER had numerous grants of land, by purchase and for the importation of immigrants, between the years 1620 and 1635. He had three sons. [This is only a conjecture.—EDITOR.]

2. I. FRANCIS.

II. WILLIAM.—He was High Sheriff of Essex County in 1685.

He married Phoebe, daughter of Colonel Toby Smith of Rappahannock, and widow of William Hodgkins, who died in 1673. She married as her third husband William Peachey and died in 1710, her will having been proved in Essex County on April 10 of that year. William Slaughter left no issue.

III. RICHARD.—He had grants of land in 1652, 1655, 1679, 1689, etc. No record of his marriage or of his having left issue.

2. CAPTAIN FRANCIS SLAUGHTER,² (John¹) the eldest son of John, was born about 1630 and died 1656-7. He was Captain of Militia, Justice for Rappahannock, a planter and merchant. He married about 1652, Elizabeth Underwood, sister of Colonel William Underwood, and his wife Margaret. Elizabeth (Underwood) Slaughter married secondly, Colonel John Catlett, Presiding Justice for Rappahannock, who was killed by the Indians in 1671, while defending a frontier fort. In 1672-3, the twice widowed Elizabeth Underwood married the Rev. Amory Butler. She died in 1673. The following is an abstract of her will:

Legatees: "son, Francis Slaughter, all the furniture of my chamber, except a chest of drawers, which I give to my daughter, Sarah, and a close-stool to my son, John Catlett—to son, Francis Slaughter, all goods, money, plate, and rings, mentioned in an account in the hands of Mr. Daniel Gaines; also one negro boy, and an equal share of my stock of pewter, brass and iron also a great chair, a small couch, a chest, and such other things in the house as my mother gave me by her will,—to daughter Elizabeth, the bed and furniture now in the dining room, the press and cushion—great looking glass, drawing table and Turkey Carpet, and my childbed linen, blankets, and fine basket, my wedding ring, my biggest diamond ring, gilded bodkin, necklace with the biggest pearls, a small bible, silver sucking bottle and the small Cabinet. To daughter, Sarah, two of my biggest stone rings, the small pearl necklace, silver bodkin, my new trunk, napkin press, a small bible, small testament, a dram cup, my wedding ring and an oval table.—to son, John, a small diamond ring, the map in the dining room, a rapier, a great cutlash, a pair of silver buttons, a pair of silver buckles, and the antimonial cup.—to son, William, a small cutlash, a ring with the stone enameled blue, a silver seal.—to two daughters, all my wearing apparel, clothes and linen.—to sons, John and William, all my books, according to the inventory.—to sons, John and William, and two daughters, all of my plate, except three spoons, and also

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bequeathed.—to three sons, each a carbine.—to the four children of husband, John Catlett, a gray mare and furniture; to cousin, Wm. Underwood the elder, one colt.—to cousin, Humphrey Booth, a chest and goods which were my mothers.—to cousin, Catherine Booth, a silver candle cup which was her grandmother's—to sister Pierce, a mourning ring. My executors shall supply what tobacco may be needed for my children's education in England, according to my deceased husband's will. What money remains in the hands of Messrs. Gifford and Munford in London, to be used for the purchase of furniture for my son Francis Slaughter, in lieu of what his father-in-law owed him—Beloved husband, Amory Butler, executor, and my cousin, Captain Thos. Hawkins, my brother, Edward Rowzee and Mr. Daniel Gaines, overseers of my will—to brother Booth's children, several cattle.—to beloved husband, Amory Butler, a bed, furniture, and a mourning ring."

Captain Slaughter's will was proved in Essex County in 1657. Legacies to his mother-in-law, Margaret Upton, (she had married as her second husband, Lt. Col. John Upton); to brother-in-law, Col. Moore Fauntleroy, rapier and saddle mare; to brother-in-law, Humphrey Booth, cloth for suit of clothes to his overseer, etc; wife Elizabeth, executrix. issue:

3. I. FRANCIS.

3. FRANCIS SLAUGHTER,³ (Francis² John¹) only son of Captain Francis and Elizabeth Underwood Slaughter was born in Essex County about 1653. He was a planter in Richmond County, and died in 1718, his will dated Nov. 6, 1718, having been proved on March 4, 1718-9. He directs that his goods made over to his wife by a deed of gift before marriage be well and truly paid, and that as, with his wife's consent he had sold a negro called Frank, given her by that deed, which was in lieu of dower, he directs that she be given a negro called Caesar. His will further provides that his wife be given corn in the ground and other necessities for the maintenance of her family. All the rest of his estate, real and personal he bequeathed to his daughters, Mary and Elizabeth. Son-in-law, John Taylor, sole executor. By his wife, Margaret Hudson, whom he married about 1679, Francis Slaughter has issue:

4. I. ROBERT. [Though most probably a son of Francis, no record evidence of the fact is given.—Ed.]
- II. WILLIAM. He was a beneficiary under the will of his father's half-brother, Col. John Catlett, the second.
- III. MARTHA (or Margaret). She was probably the wife of John Taylor, son-in-law and executor named in Francis Slaughter's will.
- IV. MARY.
- V. ELIZABETH.

4. ROBERT SLAUGHTER⁴ (Francis^{3,2} John¹), was born about the year 1680. He was a prosperous planter of Essex County, where he lived and died. He had extensive grants of land in Spottsylvania County (1719 and 1723), part of which was transferred to his sons during his lifetime, and the remainder bequeathed to them by his will. He married about the year 1700 Frances Anne Jones, daughter of Lt. Colonel Cadwalader Jones, and grand-daughter of Richard Jones, a wealthy merchant of London, and the owner of a considerable landed estate in County Devonshire, England. The following is an abstract of Robert Slaughter's will, dated Feb. 5, 1725, and proved in Essex County on August 16, 1726:

"To loving wife Frances Slaughter, two negro men named Jack and Tony; to son Francis one thousand acres of land lying in the forks of the Rappahannock River, one negro boy named Fanny, one negro girl named Cate and their increase; to son Robert one negro woman named Moll and her two children named Harry and Toney and their increase, one cow and calf; to son Thomas, one tract of land lying at the Little Mountains containing two hundred and fourteen acres, one tract of land lying at the Black Walnut Run, and one tract of land lying on the Mounts Creek containing three hundred acres, also negro boy named Ben, negro girl Beck and their increase; remainder of estate to loving wife Frances and to sons Francis and Thomas. Executor Francis Slaughter.

Robert and Frances Anne Slaughter had issue:

5. I. FRANCIS.

6. II. ROBERT.

7. III. THOMAS of Caroline County.

5. COLONEL FRANCIS SLAUGHTER⁵ (Robert⁴, Francis^{3,2}, John¹), eldest son of Robert and Frances Anne (Jones) Slaughter was born in Essex County about 1701. After his father's death he removed to Culpeper, where he died in 1766, his will dated Sept. 18, 1765, with codicil dated Sept. 22, 1765, having been proved in May 1766. He was a large landowner in Culpeper and Orange. He was commissioned Captain of Militia on Feb. 2, 1730; later Colonel of Militia, Justice, Vestryman, Church Warden, etc. He married on June 3, 1729, Ann Lightfoot by whom he had issue:

8. I. FRANCIS.

9. II. JOHN.

III. REUBEN—born 1733.

10. IV. CADWALADER.

V. FRANCES, born 1737. She married Captain William Ball, Vestryman of St. Mark's Parish. He was the son of Samuel³ (William^{2,1}) Ball and of Ann Catharine (Taylor) Ball, and a cousin of Mary Ball, the mother of Washington.