

Colonial Families of the United States of America

Abney

JOHN RUTLEDGE ABNEY, *b.* in Edgefield County, S. C., 11th Jan. 1850; *m.* in Washington City, D. C., 21st Nov. 1896, Mary Lloyd PENDLETON, eldest dau. of Hon. Geo. Hunt PENDLETON, U. S. Senator from Ohio, and later U. S. Minister to Germany, by his wife, Alice (KEY) PENDLETON, the youngest dau. of Francis Scott KEY. (See KEY, Col. Fam. 1907.)

JOHN RUTLEDGE ABNEY was graduated at Wofford College, S. C., A. B. 1870, A. M. 1873, later finished education at Bonn University, Germany. He was a lawyer practicing in South Carolina until 1883; elected State Solicitor on ticket with Gov. Wade HAMPTON and was on his staff; delegate to Nat. Dem. Convention, Cincinnati, 1880. Practicing in New York since 1883. Member of Bar Assn., N. Y. City. Episcopalian.



Lineage

The family of ABNEY is of Norman-French origin. About twenty-five miles from Cherbourg and near Periers in France are the foundation walls of an ancient chateau, Aubigné. The domain surrounding it is known as the parish of Aubigné, constituted of two churches, St. Martin and St. Christopher. The owner of this chateau and domain accompanied William the Conqueror to England. He was the cup-bearer of the Conqueror on that expedition, and was called Néel de Aubigné. At the conquest he received lands in two or three counties in England. The ABNEYS are descended from him. At first the name was written de Aubigné in England, later de Aubigny, then de Abeney, and finally Abney, circa 1500. Burke, in "The Landed Gentry of England," says: "The family of Abney is of great antiquity in the County of Derby, where they were seated at Abney in the Peak, about the time of the conquest." This was the younger branch of Néel's family, and the seat is still known as "Abney." Another seat of that branch was at Seile in the southern part of

Derbyshire. About 1400 John DE ABENEY *m.* the eldest dau. and co-heir of William DE INGEWARDBY, of Wiveleslie, also in the southern part of Derbyshire and near Ashby-de-la Zouche, and became the owner of Wiveleslie Hall, now Willesley Hall. Here in a little church or chapel near his Hall and in his park he and his wife are said to have been buried. An alabaster sepulchral slab in the floor of the chancel bears the effigies of their descendant, John ABNEY, and Mary his wife, and an inscription in Latin stating that he *d.* on the first day of December, 1505. Another sepulchral slab beside it bears the effigies of George ABNEY and Ellene, his wife, and an inscription stating that George *d.* 1st Mar. 1578, and Ellene 3d Dec. 1571. She was the dau. of John DE WOLSELY of Wolsely, Staffordshire. George's will was recorded in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury and is among the early recorded wills in England.

ISSUE

- I. James, his heir, who *m.* Mary MILWARD, dau. of Henry MILWARD of Dovebridge, County of Stafford, and *d.* in 1620. Of them descended Sir Edward ABNEY, D. C. L., a learned civilian, lawyer and M. P., who *d.* in 1727; Sir Thomas ABNEY, a Lord Mayor of London, M. P., and one of the founders of the Bank of England, who *d.* in 1721, and Judge Thomas ABNEY of the Court of Common Pleas, who *d.* in 1750. This branch became extinct in the male line in 1791. Willesley Hall is now one of the seats of Charles ABNEY-HASTINGS, Earl of Loudoun.
- II. Robert, who *m.* Antheria HOWE, dau. of Robert HOWE, of Hertfordshire, and *d.* in 1602, leaving issue. Descended from him is Sir William de Wiveleslie ABNEY, K. C. B., now of Measham Hall, Derbyshire, and head of the family.
- III. Edmund ABNEY, *m.* Katherine LUDLAM of Leicester. He *d.* in 1604, and was buried there in the chancel of St. Mary's Church. His will was probated in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury.

ISSUE

- I. PAUL.
- II. Dannett, *m.* (firstly) Ann GLADWIN, dau. of Roger GLADWIN, Co. of Lincoln; *m.* (secondly) Joane SLATER; was Mayor in 1640 and 1660. He *d.* in 1669, without issue surviving him.

PAUL ABNEY, *m.* Mary BROOKESBY, dau. of George BROOKESBY of Stapleford, County of Leicester. He entered his pedigree with the Heralds of the College of Arms on their visitation to Leicester in 1619. He *d.* in 1634, and is also buried in the chancel of St. Mary's. His will and inventory are in the District Registry of the High Court of Leicester.

ISSUE

1. GEORGE, *bap.* 11th July, 1613.
2. Philip, *bap.* 23d Nov. 1623; *m.* Anne (surname unknown). He was Mayor in 1678; *d.* in 1697. His only son, John ABNEY, was Mayor in 1700; and the latter's only son, Rev. John ABNEY, was Vicar of Syston, and *d.* in 1744, he being the last male of Edmund's branch left in England. A monument to his memory was erected in the Church.

GEORGE ABNEY, *bap.* at St. Mary's 11th July, 1613. He *m.* Bathshua (surname unknown), in the troublous times of the Civil Wars. He *d.* in 1661, and was also buried in the chancel of St. Mary's on 3d May. He left no will, and administration of his estate was granted to his widow, May, 1661, by the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. She *m.* a second time in 1663, Rev. Joseph LEE, A. B. Oriel College, Oxon. 1641, and Rector of Cotesbach, Co. of Leicester.

ISSUE

- I. PAUL.
- II. Dannett, *bap.* at St. Mary's, 26th Feb. 1659; came over to Va. with his step-brother, John LEE, of Nansemond County, 1692; *m.* Mary ———, became a planter, and having done his share in helping to conquer the forests, *d.* in March, 1733, leaving issue. From him descended Capt. Nathaniel ABNEY of the Revolution, and his cousin, Dr. Nathaniel ABNEY, a surgeon in the Revolution, both of whom had removed to South Carolina prior to that time, Col. Joseph ABNEY of the Civil War, Dr. John Pope ABNEY, Dr. John Bey ABNEY and Dr. Mathe Wills ABNEY, surgeons in the same war, from that State, and Captain William ABNEY of Augusta County, Va.

PAUL ABNEY, *bap.* at St. Mary's 14th Jan. 1652-3; went to the Spanish Main and Virginia as a Lieutenant on the Frigate Josiah; settled in Nansemond County, Va., as a planter 1690, and *d.* there circa 1696; *m.* Mary LEE.

ISSUE

1. George, of Henrico Parish, Va.; *m.* Unity ———; was a planter, and owned lands in Henrico, Lunenburg, Halifax and Charlotte Counties. He *d.* on his plantation in Halifax County in 1766. His will was proved there on the 16th Oct. 1766.

ISSUE

1. WILLIAM.
2. Samuel, *d.* 1802; was devisee of his father of lands in Virginia a grantee of lands in South Carolina, whither he removed in 1771. Administration at Edgefield, S. C.; *m.* Mary ———.

COLONIAL FAMILIES OF THE UNITED STATES

ISSUE

- 1¹. Samuel, Jr., who *d. s. p.*
3. Dannett, was devisee of his father of lands in Virginia, and obtained lands in South Carolina, where he *d.*; *m.* Cassandra ———.

ISSUE

- 1¹. Dannett, Jr., who *d. s. p.* 1811.
4. Michael, was a devisee of his father of lands in Virginia. He also obtained lands in South Carolina and removed to that State, where he *d.*

WILLIAM ABNEY, was a devisee of his father of lands in Virginia and grantee of lands on Saluda River in South Carolina; and went to that State in 1774 as a planter. On the breaking out of hostilities in that Colony in 1775 he enlisted as a Lieutenant, and later became Captain on the Colonial side. He lived to a great age and *d.* on his plantation in South Carolina in 1832. Administration at Edgefield, S. C.; *m.* Mary CLARK.

ISSUE

- I. WALTER.
- II. John, removed to Alabama in 1837, and *d.* a few years later; *m.* Susan TROUP, leaving issue.
- III. William, *d.* in 1811, leaving no male issue. His will is recorded at Edgefield, S. C.; *m.* Barsheba POPE.

WALTER ABNEY, *d.* 1827; was a planter and *d.* on his plantation in South Carolina. Will probated at Edgefield, S. C., 17th Dec. 1827; *m.* Susan BROOKS.

ISSUE

- I. JOHN RUTLEDGE.
- II. Masten, *d. s. p.* 1837.
- III. Simeon, *d. s. p.* 1836; *m.* Sophia BLACK.
- IV. William ABNEY, *d.* leaving no male issue; *m.* (firstly) Nancy BLACK; *m.* (secondly) ——— CHAPPELL; *m.* (thirdly) Julia MAY.

JOHN RUTLEDGE ABNEY was a planter, and *d.* on his plantation on Saluda River in South Carolina in 1827. Administration at Edgefield, S. C.; *m.* Alesey LINDSEY, dau. of Caleb LINDSEY of Newberry District, S. C.

COLONIAL FAMILIES OF THE UNITED STATES

ISSUE

- I. James Madison, *b.* 10 Aug. 1827; *d.* 23d June, 1889. Became a medical student with his uncle, Dr. James Madison LINDSEY, at Cleburne, Ala then the capital of that State, but left off that study and returned to his plantation in South Carolina, preferring to lead the life of a planter like those who had gone before him. Is buried at Edgefield, S. C., where monument to his memory now stands; *m.* Martha LIVINGSTON, dau. of Daniel LIVINGSTON.

ISSUE

1. JOHN RUTLEDGE, the subject of this memoir.
2. George Warren, M. D., of Florida, *m.* (first) Martha ABNEY, dau. of Dr. John Pope ABNEY; *m.* (secondly) Helen CRAWFORD.
3. Laura, *m.* Edwin Atwood GLOVER, Nashville, Tenn.
4. Benjamin Lindsey, lawyer, Columbia, S. C.
5. Ursula, *m.* James Conway HUNTER, Atlanta, Ga.

Arms—Or, on a chief gu, a lion passant, arg.

Crest—A demi-lion rampant or, a pellet between the paws.

Motto—Fortiter et honeste.

Residence—19 E. 86th St., N. Y. City, Garden City, N. Y., "Cave Cliff," Newport, R. I., and "Abney Peak," Shinnecock Hills, N. Y.

Clubs—Metropolitan, Church, Newport Golf.

Societies—Southern (former President), Sons of the Revolution, Derbyshire Archaeol and Leicester Archaeol, of England, Virginia Hist. and South Carolina Hist.