## MARYLAND HISTORICAL MAGAZINE MARYLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY Vol. XXXIII, Baltimore, 1928

## BERRY FAMILY OF CHARLES COUNTY. --ARTHUR L. KEITH.

Probably all the Berrys of Charles County prior to 1800 are derived from and connected with Samuel Berry who first appears on the records of this county in 1690 and is called an old man in 1732 and died before 1753. There were other Berrys in Maryland as far back as 1652. The only Berry whose importation is shown prior to 1680 is that of William Berry, son of James Berry, whose importation is placed at 1652. He appears to have settled in Calvert County. Richard Preston of Calvert County in his will, Sept. 16, 1669, prob. Jan. 8, 1669/70, mentions his grandchildren William and James Berry. They probably belong to the William Berry of 1652. William Berry (grandson of Richard Preston) left issue who may be traced in Calvert, Prince George, and other counties. James Berry (grandson of Richard Preston) disappears from the records unless he is identical with the James Berry of St. Mary's County who in 1686 had recently married Anne, widow of Dr. John Wynne of Popular Hill St. Mary's County, whose will is dated Jan. 22, 1683/4, prob. March 10, 1684/5. I hope to prove in my forthcoming Cawood article that before she married Dr. John Wynne she had been the wife of Stephen Cawood of Charles County, who died in 1676. The significance of this point lies in the fact that the Berry family of Charles County and the Cawood (also the Smallwood) family were closely connected in the records. The first Berry record found in Charles County is that of Sam Berry who brought suit against John Wilder, 1690 (Lib. R fol. 19). In 1697 William Hutchinson made deed to Humphrey Berry. So much we get from the index but Liber W (for 1697) to which the index refers has been lost, so no further information is to be had from that source. If he is identical with the Humphrey Berry (son of Samuel) he must have been very young at that time. No other Humphrey (unless this is an exception) aside from the son of Samuel has been found. On Oct. 2, 1704, Stephen Cawood (son of the Stephen Cawood who died in 1676, and about 1695 he returned from St. Mary's County) and wife Mary sold to Doctor Samuel Berry 100 acres, part of "Hull" (Lib. D No. 2, fol. 75). In March, 1713 Stephen Cawood and Samuel Berry sued James Maddox. Cause and issue not shown. In 1732 Samuel Berry petitioned

leaving no record of his death. In 1753 one Samuel Berry was the possessor of the 100 acres of "Hull," bought in 1704 of Stephen Cawood, but he was not the Samuel Berry who bought the land but the son of Humphrey Berry whose will probated in 1772 (see below) confirmed his son Samuel in the possession of this land. From this fact we may deduce Humphrey Berry as a son of Dr. Samuel Berry. Another Samuel Berry died in 1776 mentioning in his will his brother Humphrey's son Samuel, and sisters Elizabeth Berry and Ann Berry. These add other children to Dr. Samuel Berry. Also Sarah Roby of Charles County is described in 1734 as the daughter of Samuel Berry. I believe also that William Berry who died in Charles County in 1733 was another son. I shall speak of him later.

"Hull," patented for 600 acres by Stephen Cawood in 1675, lies in the Mattawoman River about three miles northwest of the village of Waldorf and about twenty miles south of Washington. It was bounded by early Smallwood tracts, and other Smallwood, Cawood, and Berry lands later were in the immediate vicinity. The writer visited the place in July, 1926, and "Hull' (it still goes by that name) is partly possessed today by men of the name Berry.

Dr. Samuel Berry (no clue has been found as to his wife's name) had the following children:

- 1. Humphrey Berry.
- 2. Samuel Berry.
- 3. Sarah Berry.
- 4. Elizabeth Berry (apparently died single).
- 5. Ann Berry (apparently died single). and probably also
- 6. William Berry.
- 1. Humphrey Berry (son of Dr. Samuel) made will in Charles County, Sept. 19, 1770, prob. Jan. 22, 1772. Wife Ann is named extx. He leaves to son Samuel Berry "Mt. Paradise," part of "Hull," and "Berry;" to son Humphrey Berry he leaves "Smallwood's Plains; "to son Hezekiah Berry he leaves "ISTutwell" and "Discord; "to son Benjamin Berry he leaves "Batchellor's Porest" and "Berry's Lott; "to son Joseph Berry he leaves one negro. Testator mentions daughter Martha Smallwood, son-in-law Samuel Smallwood, and granddaughter Letitia Smallwood. The will was witnessed by Samuel Hanson, Geo. Lee, and Matthew Moore, Jr. Humphrey Smallwood married 1. Mary Smallwood, daughter of Thomas Smallwood (see Maryland Historical Magazine, XXII, 151)

and had two children:

- 7. Humphrey Berry (for his descendants see *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXII, 171).
- 8. Thomas Berry (died without issue before 1779, probably before 1770, since his father's will of that date does not mention him).

Humphrey Berry married 2. Ann Lovejoy, daughter of Joseph Lovejoy of Prince George County. They had the following:

- 9. Samuel Berry.
- 10. Hezekiah Berry.
- 11. Benjamin Berry.
- 12. Joseph Berry.
- 13. Martha Berry (she married Samuel Smallwood. For her descendants see the *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXII, 176).
- 14. John Berry, born about 1752 (not mentioned in his father's will).
- 2. Samuel Berry (son of Dr. Samuel) deposed on Aug. 2, 1774, in regard to "Berry's Hazzard" of Thomas Berry, that he was 66 years old. His birth may be set at about 1718. Before 1742 he had married Ann Thomas, daughter of Daniel Thomas. He made will in Charles County, Sept, 7. 1775, prob. March 18, 1776. He leaves to sister Elizabeth Berry 50 acres on Cool Spring Branch; mentions sister Ann Berry; cousin Samuel Berry, son of Humphrey Berry; Elizabeth Willett (relationship not shown); and son

15. Thomas Berry, "his only heir."

His will is witnessed by Ben Cawood, Jr., Thomas Smallwood, Jr., and Mary Cawood, wife of Benjamin Cawood.

- 3. Sarah Berry (daughter of Dr. Samuel) married before 1734 to Roby. Their descendants have not been traced. Berry Bobey appears in the 1790 census of Montgomery County. There was also a Berry Robey, Jr., who in the same county married Lucretia Barton, Aug. 19, 1801. These two Berry Robeys probably descend from the marriage of Sarah Berry and Robey.
- 4. Elizabeth Berry (daughter of Dr. Samuel) made will in Charles County March 18, 1794, prob. April 7, 1794. She made bequest to nephew John Berry, his wife Elizabeth Berry, and their children William Berry and Mary Berry.
- (6) William Berry (probably son of Dr. Samuel) died about 1733. His account was presented in Charles County, Feb. 9, 1733 by his wife Esther Berry. No mention is made of children but here probably belongs one Esther Berry, born in

Charles County in 1729, died in March, 1828 in Washington County, Virginia. She married Stephen Cawood, born Aug. 6, 1724 (son of John Cawood, son of Stephen, son of Stephen, who died in 1676). They reared a large family of whom I shall treat in my Cawood article. Because of the close relations between the family of Dr. Samuel Berry and the Cawood family it seems almost certain that Esther Berry, born in 1729, was of that family. Among the many children of Stephen Cawood by his wife Esther Berry was one Berry Cawood who served in the Revolution under Gen. George Rogers Clark, and who was the ancestor of the Hon. C. Bascom Slemp of Virginia. 9. Samuel Berry (son of Humphrey, Sr.) had the following

- children as shown by the Piscataway Parish records:
- 16. Joseph Berry, born Aug. 7, 1751.
- 17. Samuel Berry, born Jan. 2, 1753.
- 18. Benjamin Berry, born Feb. 21, 1756.
- 19. Mary Ann Berry, born May 7, 1758.
- 10. Hezekiah Berry (son of Humphrey, Sr.) married and had the following children:
- 20. Hepburn S. Berry.
- 21. George M. Berry.
- 11. Benjamin Berry (son of Humphrey, Sr.) is probably identical with the Benjamin Berry who made will in Charles County, July 2, 1802, prob. Nov. 6, 1804. He mentions wife Chloe Berry, daughter Binder (Verlinde?), "my single daughters," and " all my children." The will is witnessed by Jacob Roby, Hezekiah Berry, and Jerome Osburn. (It is possible that the Benjamin of this will was not the son of Humphrey, Sr., but of Humphrey, Jr., or of Samuel, son of Humphrey,
- 14. John Berry (son of Humphrey, Sr.) is not mentioned in his father's will but must belong here for the reason that Elizabeth Berry (sister of Humphrey, Sr.) calls him her nephew, and Thomas Berry (son of Samuel, 1718-1776) in his will, dated Oct. 24, 1778, calls him " cousin John Berry, son of Humphrey Berry." The Prince George County census of 1776 gives the age of John Berry as 24, and makes him a neighbor of William Smallwood. John Berry was born, therefore, about 1762, married Elizabeth (see will of Elizabeth Berry, above) and had:
- 22. William Berry.
- 23. Mary Berry.
- 15. Thomas Berry (son of Samuel who died in 1776) apparently died single. He made will in Charles County, Oct.
- 24, 1778, prob. Oct. 31, 1778. His will contains a wealth of

suggestions which if properly followed out would solve some of the doubtful connections of the Berry, Smallwood, and Cawood families. He makes bequest to aunt Elizabeth Berry, aunt Ann Berry, to cousin John Berry, son of Humphrey Berry; to Mary Eleanor Atchison (no relationship shown); to Anne Conner, wife of Richard, during her life or until married (sic!); to William Smallwood (of John) "the upper part of my plantation in Prince George County \* \* \* so long as he conducts himself properly as a tenant; " to Charles Inness, 100 acres where he now lives, to remain as a tenant; to Samuel Berry Atchison, son of Mary Eleanor Atchison, lands called " Duck Pond," " Porkhall," and " Batchellor's Delight " (the last two were once Smallwood holdings), lying in Charles County, also certain negroes; to Benjamin Cawood, Jr., land on east side of Duck Pond where the said Benjamin Cawood now lives. Good friend Benj. Cawood, Jr., is appointed exor. The will is signed "Tho Berry of Samuel." It is witnessed by ISTotley Eord, John Ford, and John Acton, Jr. On Aug. 4, 1802, Samuel Atchison Berry sold part of "Porkhall." I regard him as identical with Samuel Berry Atchison of Thomas Berry's will. No record has been found showing that the change of name had been made legally.

I next give records of Berrys who apparently belong to this line but whose exact place has not yet been found. Bassil Berry and wife Jemima Berry had daughter Elizabeth Berry, bapt. April 10,1768, in St. John's or Piscataway Parish, Prince George County. In 1778 Bassil Berry was living in Montgomery County.

Verlinda Berry owned part of "Hull" in 1782.

Ann Berry made will in Charles County in 1798, mentioning daughters Lyda Marlow and Verlinda Acton; grandchildren Hanson Marlow (son of John Marlow), William Marlow, John Marlow, and Barbary Acton.

Benjamin Berry is mentioned as son-in-law in will of William Brawner, 1802-03, Charles County. Lucy Berry is at same time mentioned as testator's daughter.

Samuel Berry was granted license to marry Ann Berry in Prince George County, Jan. 30, 1810.

A much earlier reference is found in the will of John Contee, gentleman, whose will was probated in Charles County, Aug. 21, 1708. (See *Baldwin III*, 111). In this will he mentions sister Agnes Berry of England. In the probate of the will depositions are taken from Col. James Smallwood, Eliza: Berry, spinster, aged 30, and others. The association of the names Berry and Smallwood is very suggestive. This may be

a valuable clue to those who wish to trace the Berry family back to England, assuming of course that this Elizabeth Berry is of the family of Dr. Samuel Berry.

Other Berry references may be found in my article on the Smallwood family. See *Maryland Historical Magazine*, XXII, 139.