

University, Virginia,
Box 1582

Dear Cousin Anne:

30 March 1932

Our ancestor, Captain William Payne, is buried at "Clifton", Fauquier County, Va. Close by him are also buried his wife, his sister-in-law, his daughter-in-law, two of his grand-children, and his daughter-in-law's sister. His son Arthur and his daughter Marion Morson, wife of Dr. Clarkson, are buried in the Columbia, Mo. Cemetery. His daughter Mrs. Scott is buried in Fredericksburg. His daughter Mrs. Green is buried near Fredericksburg- in Stafford County.

The graves at "Clifton" are not marked in any way except by depressions in the ground and some scattered, rough stones without inscription.

The record of these burials has been preserved in family Bibles and other memoranda which I have inspected.

The graves of Captain William Payne's brothers Richard in Culpeper and John in Westmoreland are marked with inscribed marble head-stones.

Several of his descendants have from time to time expressed to me their regret that Captain William Payne's grave is not appropriately marked. It is therefore proposed that we place a bronze tablet over these graves and enclose it with a stone wall of sufficient height to protect it from damage by cattle.

The ground is preserved to the family in the deeds to the property on record in Warrenton. From it the 3 homes - Clifton, Granville and Bellevue are simultaneously visible.

In order that we may all share alike in this tribute, I am asking that each descendant receiving this letter will contribute five dollars towards its construction.

Enclosed you will find a print of the proposed bronze tablet, which is 20 by 24 inches in dimension. The cost of the tablet is \$60. The total cost of the block carrying the tablet and the surrounding wall is estimated at \$350 at the most- probably less. Please return photographic print.

Captain William Payne, or "Captain Pepper" as he is so often called by his descendants, was an officer in the Revolution, as you know. Many of us have availed ourselves of his military service to join certain patriotic societies; most of us cherish his memory and love to quote the incidents of his career.

I think, therefore, that we would all take pleasure in sharing in this permanent memorial to him and to his loved ones buried with him.

We plan to have a gathering of the clan at Clifton at the time of the formal dedication of this memorial-say this Autumn- at which Mrs. Julien Keith, the present owner of Clifton, has asked to be our hostess.

I hope you will unite in this tribute by mailing me your contribution at an early date. I will keep you informed as to the progress and finances of the undertaking.

Only

Cordially yours

Brooke Payne

Captain William Payne

m. Marion Andrew Morson

Eliza Anne Payne

m. Duff Green

• Arthur Morson Payne

• m. Mary C.M. Fitzhugh

Isabella Scott Green

m. W. H. T. Lewis

Charles E. F. Payne

m. Jeannie M. Brooke

Anne Payne Lewis

Brooke Payne