Writes Longingly of Food

If you have received the letters which I have written it is useless for me to write again about the certificate that I wish you to send me from Dr. Goodrich and Buford.

Mr. Purdy says if you could get a horse, his little boys (William and Nick) would bring us something to eat down in his jersey, but I do not make any calculation upon getting anything that way as it will be almost impossible for you to get a horse. People are not fond of loaning their horses even for a short trip in the neighborhood, let alone to go as far as this, so I had as well not say anything more about anything to eat. I reckon I'll take what Jeff gives me and make myself satisfied.

Our pickets will have a cold night of it and I am glad that I am not on. I hope the weather will be warmer and I may be better of my cold and sore throat before I shall have to go down about Dutch Gap again on picket.

The Yankees keep up a great fuss nearly all night with their drums and bands of music. They commence drilling in their camp before day of mornings. I expect the most of them are Negroes from the fuss they make over in front of us. I do not think there will be much fighting between the two rivers where our division is stationed as we are strongly fortified. We may miss a good deal of the fighting if we are not moved upon one of the flanks, where it is the opinion that most of the fighting will be done. I fear our division will be moved to the right after a while to relieve the troops that have been fighting all last summer about Petersburg.

Eggs $24 a Dozen

Eggs I understand bring $24 per dozen, lightbread $2.50 per loaf and a small loaf at that. In fact everything about here is so high that a soldier cannot think of buying anything to eat with what little pay he gets here. Some of us bought a little meal the other day at the rate of about $300 per barrel and very mean at that. Mr. Purdy and myself bought a quire of writing paper this evening for $3.50 which is the cheapest thing I have seen bought or sold since I have been here. Our preacher let us have that at what it cost him. Newspapers are 75 cents apiece. Some of us generally buy one every morning.

I will be glad when the time comes that I can get home and be with you and the children once more for one never knows what home is until they have been away some time and stands a good chance never to get back again. I will conclude as it is dark and a bad fire light to write by. I reckon I have already written more than you can make out as I have not taken any pains in writing and there is a great fuss around me.

Tell Jeff and Roger they must be good boys and not fight if they want me to bring them a Yankee horse.

Your loving husband,

Beverly Ross.

MILLS.

By Mrs. P. W. Hiden, Newport News, Va.

NICHOLAS MILLS OF HANOVER COUNTY.

The reason for these notes began in the search for the parents of a certain Anne Mills. There were Millses in Old Rappahannock Co. about 1654, there were Millses in Nansemond and Surry. But no progress was made in determining Anne Mills's antecedents until Miss Elma Hands, of Quincy, Ill., informed the writer that a family register in her possession described Ann as the "daughter of Charles and Ann Mills of Hanover Co." Around that starting point, other facts collected, and information supplied by Miss Lucy A. Mills, of Rapidan, was the "key word" that gave coherence to the earlier generations. A widespread family connection owes Miss Mills a debt of gratitude for her foresight in preserving the old wills, deeds and Bible records.

A Nicholas Mills was in New Kent Co. by 1687, for in that year St. Peter's Parish Register records the birth of his son Henry but omits his wife's name. As St. Paul's Vestry Book, Part 1, p. 5, on Oct. 9, 1705, mentions Nicholas Mills, Sr., it would seem that there was a Nicholas, Jr., of age at this time. Going over all the available facts, we posit therefore a Nicholas[1] with sons Nicholas,[2] Jr. (b. cir 1670) and Henry [2] (b. 1687). It is interesting to note that a Henry Mills was Burgess for Nansemond Co. in 1680, tho no connection can be established. As Nicholas Mills, Sr., drops out of the Vestry book after 1709, it is probable he died about this time. We find the lands of a Nicholas, Jr., being processioned between 1725 and 1730, evidently the Nicholas[3] of the third generation.

We now consider the wife of Nicholas[2] Mills, Ann, daughter of Wm. Clopton, the immigrant (b. 1655) and his wife, Ann Booth (1647-1717), dau. of Robert Booth, physician, clerk of York Co., and in 1653 Burgess from York. Ann Booth m. (1) Thos. Dennett, by whom she had several children. His will, dated in April, 1673, was proved in August of the same year, and if she followed Colonial custom Ann m. Wm. Clopton within a few months. Their dau., Ann Clopton b. probably about 1675 or 1676, m. probably about 1691 or 2 Nicholas[2] Mills.

JUA.0284-2

Wm. Hammond, of Ratcliffe in Stepney Par., Middlesex, Great Britain, gent., son of Henry Hammond and Margaret Clopton, made his will July 9, 1732, which was proved in London July 17, 1732. In this will, he bequeathed his freehold farm at Thundersley and his two copyhold farms in the Par. of Eastwood in Essex "to my loving uncle, Wm. Clopton of Va. for his life, after which to such child or children of the sd. Wm. Clopton as shall be living at the time of my decease and their heirs forever, equally to be divided between them to hold as tenants in common and not as joint tenants." The residue of the estate after certain other bequests was also left to Wm. Clopton and such of his children as were living at the date of the testator's death. In W. & M. Quarterly, 1st series, vol. 10, p. 56, mention is made of a deed dated July 12, 1733, from Robert & Walter Clopton of New Kent Co., Nicholas Mills of Hanover Co. who married Ann Clopton, and Alexander Moss of New Kent Co. who married Elizabeth Clopton empowering Micajah Perry of London, Merchant, and Ebenezer Adams of New Kent Co. to get possession of the estate left by Wm. Hammond to Wm. Clopton and his children, and reciting that now in 1733 Robt. & Walter Clopton, Ann Mills & Elizabeth Moss were the surviving children of Wm. Clopton.

Wm. Clopton, born according to his deposition in 1655, was of the old Suffolk family of Cloptons, as is shown by the arms on his wife's tomb in St. Peter's churchyard, New Kent Co. The arms are thus described: Sable, a bend ermine between 2 cotises dancettee or; crest: a wolf head per pale or and azure. On the tomb the bend has a mullet for difference indicating that Wm. Clopton was a third son.

The exact date of Wm. Clopton's arrival in Va. is unknown. It must have been by 1673, for his marriage to Ann Booth occurred about that time. Wm. Clopton shortly after 1683 moved to New Kent Co. In the Vestry book of St. Paul's Par., which parish was first in New Kent and later in Hanover, Mr. Wm. Clopton is mentioned as deputy sheriff for New Kent Co. from 1706 to 1719. The exact date of his death is unknown.

The tomb of Ann Booth Clopton is in perfect condition and records that she died Mar. 4, 1717, in the 70th yr. of her age, leaving three sons and two daughters, Robert, Wm., Walter, Ann & Elizabeth. There is a tomb close to hers exactly similar in style and design but not a word of the inscription nor a detail of the arms is decipherable. From the fact, however, that they are identical in style it is probably the tomb of Wm. Clopton.

Since we are not dealing with the Clopton family, we shall not stop to consider Wm. Clopton's sons, but before passing on to his daughter Ann, with whom our chief interest lies, we shall mention briefly his daughter Elizabeth.

Elizabeth, b. by Jan. 23, 1683, since at that time (York Rec. Book 7, p. 55) Wm. Clopton made a deed of gift to his daus. Ann & Elizabeth, m. (1) Jan. 19, 1713, Wm. Walker who d. Sept. 12, 1718 (St. Peter's Par. Register). Apparently all three children born of this marriage d. young, tho the Par. Register records the deaths of only two. Elizabeth Clopton m. (2) Alex. Moss by whom she had a dau. Ann b. Sept. 30, 1724 (St. Peter's Register). Ann Moss m. Nov. 25, 1745 Wm. Diuguid (Goochland Marriage Bonds, W. & M. 1st series, vol. 7, p. 98). Wm. Diuguid lived in that part of Albemarle later Buckingham and his name occurs frequently in the first order book of Albemarle. He was Lt. of Albemarle Militia in 1745 (O. B. 1, p. 49). He died about 1764 and his mercantile business fell to his son Wm., who married in Amherst Co. Jan. 23, 1773, Lucy Pattison.

The will of Alexander Moss in Cumberland Co. Rec. (W. B. 2, p. 53), dated Feb. 10, 1772, and probated April 27, 1772, mentions his dau., Ann Diuguid, and her children Wm., Elizabeth Patterson, Jean Coile, Alexander, Geo., Ann and Martha Diuguid. Alexander Moss leaves to his grandson, George Diuguid, 30 a. of his plantation and all his farms, houses and woodlands "lying in Great Britain which I am now possessed of when he is 21", with the proviso that if he cannot establish a right to the estate in England he is to share equally with the other grandchildren in the remainder of the testator's property.

Ann Diuguid held the 370 acres bequeathed her by her father up to her death in 1805 (Powhatan Tax Lists), and her son, George, kept the 30 acres devised him until his death in 1803 (Powhatan Tax Lists).

According to Miss Grace Davidson, of Lynchburg, a descendant, George Diuguid was b. in 1762 and m. Nov. 9, 1784, in Goochland Co. Nancy Sampson.

We take up next Henry[2] Mills son of the first Nicholas[1] by an unknown wife. The name of Henry's[2] wife is unknown. As Henry[2] Mills of New Kent Co., he patented in 1723, 400 a. on the lower side of Lickinghole Creek adjoining the land of Nicholas Mills. In 1748, describing himself as Henry Mills[2] of Fredericksville Par., Louisa Co., he deeded 300 a. to Robt. Estes of the same county. (Louisa Rec. D. B. "A", p. 100.) He died a few years later, for in Louisa Rec. D. B. "B", part 2, p. 120, Nov. 23, 1756, Robert Estes and Mary his wife convey to Charles Mills of Hanover Co. & Wm. Mills of Caroline, exors. of the last will and testament of Mathew Mills of Caroline Co., decd., the land they had bought 8 years before from Henry[2] Mills. The reason given is as follows: "Whereas Henry Mills, father of the said testator Mathew Mills did in his lifetime sell to Robt. Estes a tract of land in Louisa, Henry Mills being at the time of such sale and at the time of conveyance of sd. land a weak man of

unsound mind & memory, after whose death, the sd. testator, Mathew his son and heir at law commenced a suit to compel Robt. Estes to reconvey such land, sd. Robt. Estes and Mary his wife do hereby convey to Chas. Mills & Wm. Mills the sd. tract of land."

Mathew,[3] oldest son of Henry,[2] and only child we can prove, lived in Caroline tho he had patented some 1700 a. in Albemarle on Mechums River. His wife Mary seems to have been a Terrell, dau. of Wm. and Susannah Terrell, for not only did they name a son Wm. Terrell Mills, but in Albemarle O. B. 1, p. 81, Nov. 28, 1745, we find the following: "Henry Terrell and Matthew Mills petition that the improvements on 2400 a. belonging to sd. Terrell and Mills in this County be valued". Henry Terrell we know was a son of Wm. Terrell for in the Quaker Records of Cedar Creek Meeting on the occasion of his marriage to his second wife, Sarah Woodson, he is so described. While this is not proof, the inference from the above would be that Mary, wife of Matthew[3] Mills, was a Terrell.

Mathew[3] Mills d. in Caroline about 1755 (Car. O. B. 1755-58, p. 29, Feb. 13, 1755). In his will he had made his wife Mary and Chas. Mills exors. but she later renounced the executorship and her son Wm.[4] or Wm. Terrell[4] Mills (he is called both by his first and by his full name) was appointed in her place. The destruction of the Caroline will and deed books prevents our having a copy of this will, but a deed in Albemarle Rec. (D. B. 7, p. 530) Feb. 23, 1781, from Mathew[4] Mills of Guilford Co., N. C., selling 575 a. on Mechum's River recites that it was land left him by his father Mathew[3]. Furthermore, we have the will of Wm. Terrell[4] Mills in Charlotte Co. Rec. (W. B. 1, p. 15), dated 1768 and proved Feb. 6, 1769, leaving his land in Lunenburg and the rest of his estate to be divided equally between his three brothers, Mathew,[4] Charles[4] & Menan[4] and two sisters, Molly[4] & Betty.[4] Matthew[3] Mills, Sr. & Mary his wife had therefore six children, who will be considered next.

First, Wm. Terrell,[4] who about 1756 joined the southward movement from Caroline Co. to Lunenburg where he became a merchant. In Louisa Co. D. B. "C", p. 30, June 27, 1760, as Wm. Terrell[4] Mills of Lunenburg, Merc[illegible], he sells 300a. to Thos. Paulett of Louisa. He apparently die[illegible] ...arried as neither wife nor children is named in his will.

Chas.,[4] s[illegible] of Mathew[3] & Mary Mills seems to have lived on some of his father s land which, patented in Albemarle, was later in Buckingham Co. In Albemarle Rec. D. B. 7, p. 19, Jan. 18, 1782, describing himself as of Buckingham Co., he sold to Richd. Woods 567 a. on Mechum's River, his brother Menan[4] witnessed the deed, and his wife Mary joined in it. Despite search it seems impossible to get anything tangible on him. From Buckingham tax lists, he seems to

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have died about 1784 and the Mary Mills who owns property later in Hanover may have been his widow.

Menan[4] Mills, son of Mathew[3] Mills, was born, according to his pension application, in Caroline Co. in 1750, and died 1838 in Montgomery, Ohio. (Data from his great-great-granddaughter, Mrs. Geo. R. Davis, Miami, Florida.) He lived in Albemarle on the 567 a. he had inherited from his father until 1800 when he sold it and bought property in Charlottesville. In 1811, all his possessions were sold under deeds of trust and he removed to Ky. In 1833, when he made application for a pension, he was living in Anderson Co., Ky. He married in Albemarle, April 21, 1791, Frances Jouett. By this marriage there were four children: (1) John Jouett Terrell[5] Mills, b. in Charlottesville Feb. 8, 1792, d. 1833 at Lexington, Ky.; (2) Frances[5] Mills, (3) Margaret[5] Mills, and (4) Wm.[5] Mills.

Mathew,[4] another son of Mathew[3] & Mary Mills, apprenticed himself Sept. 25, 1759, to John Chiles, of Fredericksville Parish (Louisa Rec. D. B. "B", p. 335). He most likely joined his brother and lived for a while in the part of Lunenburg that was later Charlotte. In the Charlotte marriage bonds is the bond of Mathew Mills[4] and Sarah Challice Sept. 28, 1775. Wm. Watson is the surety and the witnesses are Martha Challis and Fanny Wager Challis. By 1781 he was in N. C., and the deed he made for the land in Albemarle bequeathed him by his father Mathew[3] is the last reference we have to him. But in Pittsylvania Rec. W. B. 1 (1802-1845) p —, we fortunately have the will of his widow, Sarah Mills, of Rockingham Co., N. C., which gives a good deal of information. Her will, dated July 2, 1838, proved Mar. 16, 1840, names sons Mathew,[5] Menan,[5] Chas.,[5] and Wm. T.[5] Mills, sons-in-law Jas. Larimore & Wm. T. Ellington, dau. Sarah[5] Stubblefield, "to my beloved brother in the Lord, John Stadler, $20.00," dau. Martha[5] Ingram, dau. Frances W.[5] Ellington, grandsons Peyton[6] & Wm.[6] Stubblefield; "my son Chas.[5] Mills as exor. of Susan Mills, decd. is due me $60.00 which I bequeath to Peyton Holderby, dau. of Joseph & Martha Holderby"; "there is in the office of Rockingham a judgment in favor of me against my brother John Challis, I give sd. judgment to son-in-law Wm. T. Ellington"; Exors. Jos. Holderby, Aaron P. Robertson, Green Daniel & Alvis Dan[illegible] Witt.: Jas. Geo. & Jas. P. Dejarnette. The reference to her bro. Challis identifies her as the Sarah Challis of Charlotte who m. [illegible]atthew[4] Mills.

Mary[4] dau. of Matthew[3] and Mary Mills m. May [illegible] 1758, David Rodes, bro. of the Clifton Rodes who became guardian for one of the children of her bro. Menan[4] Mills. David Rodes and Mary[4] Mills had the following children: Mary,[5] Elizabeth,[5] John,[5] Mathew,[5] Nancy,[5] Ann,[5] Lucy,[5] Martha[5] and Mildred.[5] Mary[4] Mills Rodes d. April 10, 1781. (Va. Mag. Vol. 7, p. 203, and "Rodes Ancestry" by Shelley Rodes Patterson).

Elizabeth[4] the other dau. of Mathew Mills cannot be positively traced.

Henry[2] Mills, besides the son Matthew,[3] may have had a son Henry. Car. O. B. 1765-67, Sept. 14, 1765, p. 222, Garrett Hackett sues Henry Mills, estate of defendant attached for 2 cows & calves to pay suit. In the same book, p. 503, June 11, 1767, is this entry: Henry Mills to be levy free. The final entry is in Car. O. B. 1777-80, p. 120, Sept. 20, 1778, Deed from Pleasant Terrell & Caty his wife proved by the oath of Henry Mills.

We return now to Nicholas,[2] son of the first Nicholas and husband of the Ann Clopton whose line has been traced. There is a Dr. E. C. Mills, of Columbus, Ohio, who nearly forty years ago undertook an account of the Mills family. He got in touch with Mrs. Mary Wyatt[6] Mills Eastham (David,[5] Joseph,[4] David,[3] Nicholas,[2] Nicholas[1]), and the writer has seen some of his letters to her and copies of several of hers to him. The remarkable thing is that among her family papers Mrs. Eastham had a copy of the will of Nicholas[2] Mills of St. Martin's Par. In her letters to Dr. Mills, Mrs. Eastham gave extracts from the will, and it is these extracts that give proof of the descendants of Nicholas[2] Mills. The following is from a letter of Mrs. Eastham's, dated Feb. 7, 1895, to Dr. Mills: "We also have the will of Nicholas Mills of Hanover Co. * * * * In his will, he mentions his children and grandchildren. The children's names are: the eldest Charles Mills, Nicholas Mills, Jane Rice, David Mills, Robert Mills, Ann Jackson, Elizabeth Anderson, given here as in the will. The grandchildren, Nicholas Mills, a son to Charles Mills" (to whom) "he gave 200 acres of land in Goochland Co., Va.; then the remainder of his Goochland land was to be sold and the money equally divided among Wm. Mills, son to Robert, and Nicholas Rice, son to Jane Rice, Frances Jackson dau. to Ann, and Wm. Anderson son to Elizabeth. This will was written 6th day of April 1741". In another letter, Mrs. Eastham copies the preamble of the will in which Nicholas[2] describes himself as "sick and weak". She also mentions the fact that his wife's name was Ann. The exact date of Nicholas's death has not been found, but it was probably soon after his will was made. Certainly, he was dead by 1749, for on April 20th of that year (Louisa Rec. D. B. "A", p. 341), Thos. Rice of Hanover sold to Ann Mills of Par. of St. Martin's, Hanover Co., 125 a. On Jan. 28, 1752 (p. 448 of same book), Thos. & Jane Rice sold to John Watkins 50 a. on Cub Creek beginning at Ann Mills's line, and at the same time they sold 150 a. in Fredericksville Par. to Wm. Lane, this land being described as beginning on Watkins's line thence to the widow Mills's line, thence to Robt. Anderson's line. The identity of Ann Mills as the widow Mills is therefore plain and we recognize her as Ann Clopton, widow of Nicholas[2] Mills. The date of her death has not been found.

(To be continued.)

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WILL—ROBERT DINWIDDIE—1796.

Communicated by J. ADGER STEWART, *Louisville, Kentucky.*

IN THE NAME OF GOD, amen, I, ROBERT DINWIDDIE of Jacksons River, Bath County and State of Virginia, now in the late evening of my days, but of sound mind and memory, thanks be to God, and knowing that its appointed for all men once to die, and calling to mind the mortality of my body, do this twenty-first day of June, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and ninety six, make and ordain this my last Will and testament.

Principally and first of all, I recommend my soul to God who gave it and for my body, I recommend it to the Earth to be buried in a Christian like and decent manner at the discretion of my Executors, nothing doubting but at the General Resurrection, I shall receive the same again by the mighty power of God and as touching my worldly estate what God has bestowed upon me, I dispose in the following manner and form, to-wit:

To my son, William Dinwiddie, I leave my plantation, all the land I possess, to him his heirs and assigns forever, upon the account that he keeps four cows and two horses for his mother, providing winter forrage for them and all other necessaries for her that she wants during her natural life, and

To my dear wife, Elizabeth Dinwiddie, I leave all my moveable estate to her forever, to be at her disposal at her death.

I leave to John Dinwiddie, that I have kept from a child, thirty pounds, to be paid said money by my son, William Dinwiddie to the said John Dinwiddie, at five pounds per year until whole be paid and no more.

Now, its my Will and orders that if my son, William Dinwiddie, sells the land at any time, I leave the half of what the land will be valued to by three free-holders thats acquainted in the parts and knows the land, let him sell it as he will to my Grandsons, to-wit:

Robert Dinwiddie, my son James's son. Also to Mathew Patent and John, his brother, sons belong to my daughter, Elizabeth. Also to William Kinkead, son to my daughter Mary, and also to Thomas, Robert, Charles, James, William and Stephen Willson, sons belong to my daughter Jane.

To James Dinwiddie, my son, Stephen Wilson and his wife, James Patent and John Kinkeade, and his wife, to each of them I leave five shillings current money of Virginia and no more.

I allow my son, William Dinwiddie, to be my Executor to this my Will in Trust.

I revoke and disannul all other gifts, grants or legacies ever