

Notes from Helen May Hudgins After a Visit to Yelvington

Corrections had to be made after an October 25th visit to Yelvington and to the home of Colonel Benjamin Walker Hawes of Owensboro KY. Someday, I will write about the visit to the cemetery, and finding the foundations of the House of Richard and Clary (which burned), but want to say that Col. Hawes put in my hands a booklet, published in 1898, for private use, "Some Notable Families of America", written by a kinswoman, (Annah Walker Robinson Watson) showing the connections of those families.

When Isaac Allerton and William Brewster came to America in the Mayflower, and Isaac's son marries Faith (Brewster's daughter), 16 families in this booklet are shown to be connected, with this line being followed through Zachary Taylor -- the booklet ends in the generation of Oldmandaddy (Edwin Combe Hawes) -- his first cousin Charles Theodore Hawes of Hawesville Kentucky marrying Annah Allen Taylor, one of 15 children born to Hancock Taylor and his wife Anna Hornsby Lewis. Hancock Taylor was brother to Pres. Zachary Taylor. Of the 15 children, 12 survived.

The families are Allerton - Willoughby - Brewster - Thompson - Madison - Lee - Struther - Warner - Reed - Lewis - Merriweather - Walker - Maury - Thornton - Hornsby and Taylor.

I had already discovered Anne Aylett (1739 - 1768), and who has to be the second Anne Aylett that Freeman was speaking of when he said William Aylett (son of William Aylett of Fairfield) had two daughters named Anne, having married twice -- married Richard Henry Lee, of Stratford. Mary Aylett, another niece of Richard and Clary's grandmother, married another Lee of Stratford, Thomas Ludwell Lee who built Bellevue, while John Aylett courts and weds the youngest sister of Mrs. George Washington who was named Betsy Dandridge. That is in Washington's journal, but John dies young.

Col. Ben is going to send me more about Samuel Hawes I; also, Benjamin Walker, whose daughter Ann Walker marries Samuel Hawes II. The sketch of Dr. Thomas Walker and his fifteen children by his first wife Mildred Thornton (widow of Nicholas Merriweather) gives us further tidbits; two daughters Peachy and Savannah ("Sukey") marry into the Fry family. Maria Fry, daughter of Sukey and Rev. Henry Fry, married Hugh Walker, MD, brother to Clary. If I find that Benjamin Walker is related to THE Dr. Thomas Walker (who explored Kentucky and Tennessee 20 years before Daniel Boone and who named the Cumberland gap and Cumberland river for the Duke of Cumberland) I might be in such a shocking state that My usefulness on the typewriter is finished.

I "almost know" that Ann Tayloe who married William Allen of Fairfield was the daughter of John Tayloe but must prove it.

Dr. Edmund Jennings Lee, author of "Lee of Virginia" and Rev. Horace Edwin Hayden, author of "Virginia Genealogies" granted permission for use of their material for the privately-published booklet referred to above.

It may all seem confusing- just keep studying it - and the more you study, the more you come to realize the Hawes Family is a very distinguished one.