

THE MUSTER

33

m^r JOHN BURROWES came in the
BRIDGETT his wife
MARA BUCK aged 13 yeares

[26]

James
Citty

SERVANTS

JOHN COOKE aged 27 yeares
NICHOLAS GOULDFINCH aged 19 yeres
JOHN BRADSTON*
THOMAS THOROWGOOD aged 17 yeres
ELLIAS GAILE aged 14 yeares
ANDREW HOWELL aged 13 yeres
ANN ASHLEY aged 19 yeres

Corne, 12 barrells; Fish, 12 hundred; Peeces, 4; Shott, 150 lb; Armour, 4;
Neat Cattell, 4; Swine, 4; Kidds, 2; Houses, 2; Boat, 1.

The Cattell belonging to m^r Bucks Children: Neat Cattell young & old, 30;
Goats, 18; Kidds, 5.

ELIZABETH SOOTHEY came in the *Southampton*
ANN SOOTHEY her daughter

Corne, 2 bushells; Meale, 1 bushell; Fish, 1 hundred; Swine, 1.

JOHN JEFFERSON came in the *Bona Nova*
WALGRAVE MARKS in the *Margrett & John*
Corne, 3 barrells; Powder, 2 lb; Peeces, 3.

WILLIAM MUTCH came in the *Jonathan*
MARGERY his wife in the *George* 1623
Corne, 5 barrells.

RICHARD STEEPHENS came in the *George* 1623

SERVANTS

WASSELL RAYNER aged 28 yeres came in the
THOMAS SPILLMAN aged 28 yeres in the *George* 1623
EDWARD PRISE aged 29 yeres in the *George* 1623
JOANE RAYNER wife of WASSELL RAYNER

Corne, 2 barrells; Meale, ½ hogshhead; Powder, 12 lb; Shott, 34 lb; Peeces, 8;
Houses, 3; Swine, 5; Boate, 1.

GEORGE MINIFIE arived in the *Samuell* July 1623

SERVANTS

JOHN GRIFFIN aged 26 yeares in the *William & John* 1624
EDWARD WILLIAMS aged 26 yeres in the same Shipp.

* In original "aged 18 yeres" lined out.

James
Citty

STEPHENS¹

+*1. RICHARD¹ STEPHENS, of London, "painter-stainer," received, 27 March 1622, "one share of land in Virginia" from among nine shares "passed over" by Francis Carter at a meeting of the Council for Virginia held in London.² He prepared to cross the seas and agreed with the Virginia Company, 4 July 1622, to "adventure and carry with mee to Virginia prouisions of victualls and apparrell to the value of £300."³ A notation, 31 July 1623, reveals that he had shipped 21 hogsheads weighing five and one-half tons on the *George*, which was "on Monday next to go down to Gravesend."⁴ A letter to the governor and council in Virginia, 6 Aug. 1623, directed that Richard¹ Stephens and John Hart were to decide upon "a place of seating" when the *George* arrived and suggested that they confer with some "worthy person" such as "Mr. Southerne" who would be likely to advise them well.⁵

When the 1623/4 census was taken, Richard¹ Stephens was listed "at James City and with the Corporation thereof,"⁶ where he was still living at the time of the muster, 1624/5. The first land grant recorded in the Virginia patent books was made in 1623 to Richard Stephens

for his better convenience &c, that others may be the more encouraged by his example to build and enclose some ground about their houses for gardining and other profitable pre[mi]s's to his heirs forever three score Rodds of ground situate and being about a conuenient dwelling house which he has lately builded and erected in James City, the which land lyeth South upon the way along the Great River, East upon the land of Capt. Ralph Hamor, West upon the land of ___ Jaxon, ...⁷

As a member of the House of Burgesses, 1624/5, representing "The Marchants,"⁸ he signed an agreement of the colony to pay the cost of a voyage to England by Councillor John Pountis "to solicit the general cause of the

¹ James Branch Cabell, *The Majors and Their Marriages* (Richmond, 1915), pp. 122-32.

² *R, Va. Co. I*, p. 625.

³ *Ibid.*, IV, p. 245.

⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 257.

⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 269.

⁶ Hotten, p. 175.

⁷ Patent Bk. 1, p. 1.

⁸ Leonard, p. 5

Country to his Majesty and the Counsell."⁹ He was a member of the Council, 1632-36,¹⁰ and was named commissioner for Warwick River, 1632,¹¹ having, by then, taken up land in the area which became Warwick River County.¹²

Before 28 April 1624 Capt. Richard¹ Stephens was a principal in the first duel fought in the English colonies of which there is a record. George Harrison, his opponent, received a slight wound in the knee and later died from complications which set in.¹³

About 1628 Capt. Stephens had married 2. *Elizabeth² Peirse*y, daughter of the affluent cape-merchant, Abraham Peirse (see PEIRSEY). By this marriage he acquired the headrights of ten persons transported by Peirse and he used them to patent 500 acres on Waters' Creek in Warwick, which he exchanged, 22 Nov. 1631, with Richard James, Clerk, for 500 acres "towards the head of Blunt Point [Warwick] River." This was repatented 23 Sept. 1637 by Mrs. Elizabeth Stephens and probably was a part of the "Bolthrope" tract acquired by William Cole from Sir William Berkeley and Dame Frances his wife, 26 April 1671, she having inherited the land from her (1) husband, Samuel² Stephens.¹⁴

On 27 April 1630 Richard¹ Stephens had patented 2000 acres between Chesapeake Bay and Harris' Creek, Elizabeth City. This was repatented 20 Sept. 1636 in the name of young Samuel² Stephens as "due by right of descent from his father Captain Richard Stephens," reserving to Elizabeth Stephens, mother of the said Samuel, her dower rights.¹⁵

About 1638¹⁶ Elizabeth (Peirse) Stephens married (2) Sir John Harvey, governor of Virginia, 1630-35 and 1636/7-1639. She returned with him to England where she died by 1646.¹⁷

Issue: 2. SAMUEL²; 3. WILLIAM².

⁹ *R*, Va. Co. IV, p. 585.

¹⁰ Leonard, p. xxi.

¹¹ *H I*, pp. 169, 187.

¹² Patent Bk. I, p. 484, 23 Sept. 1637, mentions land taken up by the late Capt. Richard Stevens.

¹³ *Va. Carolorum*, p. 88; *MCGC*, pp. 44, 170.

¹⁴ Patent Bk. I, pp. 387, 484; *H II*, pp. 321-25.

¹⁵ Patent Bk. I, p. 387.

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 484, 645. She was Mrs. Stephens 23 Sept. 1637 but Lady Harvey 11 May 1639.

¹⁷ P.C.C. 113 Pembroke, in *V XVIII*, pp. 305-06, will of Sir John Harvey (see PEIRSEY, note 21).

2. SAMUEL² STEPHENS (Richard¹), born about 1629, had patents issued to him as early as 20 Sept. 1636 as son of Capt. Richard Stephens and was called "son and heire" of Richard¹, 20 July 1639, when he received a patent for 2000 acres in the Upper County of New Norfolk [later Nansemond County].¹⁸ On 20 Jan. 1644/5 Dame Elizabeth Harvey asked the court to substitute Richard Kemp and Capt. William Peirce as trustees in place of Capt. Samuel Mathews, Capt. D. Gookin, George Ludlow and Capt. Thomas Bernard, former trustees under a feoffment made by said Dame Elizabeth for the use of Samuel Stevens, Gent., her son by a former marriage.¹⁹

Samuel² Stephens married 25. Frances³ Culpeper (see ST. LEGER) soon after 1 Jan. 1652/3 when he made a marriage contract conveying his 1350 acres in Warwick County, later known as "Bolthrope," in trust to Warham Horsmanden and George Hunt, who, by a previous agreement, reconveyed the land to Stephens during his lifetime. At his death "the said plantation and premises" were to become the property of "Frances his wife ... and her heirs by Samuel Stephens ... or, for default of such issue, to her and her heirs forever."²⁰

On 9 Oct. 1662 Capt. Samuel² Stephens received a commission to be "commander of the southern plantation" [Albemarle, N.C.] and in Oct. 1667 he was appointed by the Lords Proprietors to a three-year term as governor of Albemarle. He retained this office until his death before 7 March 1669/70.²¹ On 21 April 1670 "Mrs. Frances Stephens, relict of Captain Samuel Stephens," was put in possession of "all the housing Lands and personal property made over to her by her said husband by deed of gift to her and her heirs ..." Four days later she, as administratrix of Mr. Samuel Stephens, was ordered to return an inventory of his estate.²²

Samuel² Stephens and his wife had no issue. She married (2), June 1670, Sir William Berkeley (1608-1677), Governor of Virginia, and they conveyed the "Bolthrope" tract to William Cole, 26 April 1671, as stated. She married (3), as his (2) wife, Col. Philip Ludwell (1638-after 1711), governor of Carolina.

¹⁸ Patent Bk. I, pp. 387, 667.

¹⁹ *Va. Carolorum*, p. 415.

²⁰ *H II*, pp. 321-25.

²¹ *MCGC*, p. 507; John W. Raimo, *Biographical Directory of American and Revolutionary Governors, 1607-1789* (Westport, Conn., 1980), p. 284.

²² *MCGC*, pp. 211, 219.

3. WILLIAM² STEPHENS (Richard¹), born after 1630, took up the trade of a cooper, a profitable business in a period when so many casks were required for the shipment of tobacco, the main crop of the colony. However, he did not long survive to benefit by the profits of his trade for, 18 Nov. 1656, "William Stephens, son and heir of William Stephens, Cooper," was vested, as a minor, with title to 320 acres in Warwick County.²³

William² Stephens married Margaret ____,²⁴ presumably a widow, who died 12 Feb. 1675/6.²⁵ She married (3) Daniel Wyld, who deposed, 24 Jan. 1661/2, he was aged 37,²⁶ was sheriff of York County and was burgess, 1669-71,²⁷ and left will, 2 Sept. 1676-25 Oct. 1676, as resident of Stepney, Middlesex.²⁸ At an Orphans Court, 10 Sept. 1658, Daniel Wyld appeared as "guardyan of William Stephens, sonne and heyre of William Stephens, late of Warwick County, deceased" and was granted his petition to render the account of the orphan's estate "when he comes of age."²⁹ However, at an Orphans Court, 10 Sept. 1659, Thomas Ballard of James City, one of the executors of the will of William² Stephens, appeared with the document and had it recorded to show that "the cattle, negroes, mares and their increase were given to the said heir," and, in consequence, Wyld was ordered to render his accounts to the court yearly.³⁰

The will of William² Stephens of Mulberry Island Parish, Warwick County, now lost, was dated 6 April 1656. A part of the land patented in Warwick County, 1637, by Elizabeth (Peirse) Stephens had been bequeathed by her to her son William², who in turn bequeathed the land to his son William³, who was the ward of Daniel Wyld in 1658.³¹

²³ Patent Bk. 4, p. 97 (144), repatent of 570 acres, 1 May 1657. For Daniel Wyld's claim to the land at the death of William³ Stephens, see *MCGC*, pp. 312, 326.

²⁴ The statement in Cabell, *loc. cit.*, that she was Margaret Vaulx is without proof.

²⁵ Bruton Parish Register.

²⁶ York Co. Deeds, Orders, Wills &c 3, 1657-62, p. 146.

²⁷ Leonard, p. 40.

²⁸ P.C.C. 133 Bence, in Waters, *Gleanings*, II, pp. 1050-51.

²⁹ York Co. Deeds, Orders, Wills &c 3, 1657-62, p. 33.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 64.

³¹ York Co. Deeds & Bonds 2, 1701-13, pp. 86-90.