

in the tradition to name the eldest son after one's own father. In his will in 1763, Hutchins¹ left to his son Robert only the sum of five shillings, indicating that he had already been provided for. It seems probable that as early as 1742 his father had seated Robert on lands up above the headwaters of Westham Creek in the parish precinct at the head of the Chickahominy River where Hutchins¹ is known to have held an estate;—the "Bacon" section of Henrico parish. John Williamson, who lived in that vicinity, was, like his father, a vestryman of Henrico. He was a prominent member of the Bacon clan, and was an executor of the will of Langston Bacon in 1755. In 1747, Langston Bacon, John Williamson and Robert Burton were witnesses to a deed of Robert Mosby to David Whitlock of Hanover county. The land conveyed lay on "Long Hungary." In 1754 Robert Burton and Nowell Burton (his brother) together with Ben Clarke were witnesses to a deed of William Burton who also had land in the Bacon precinct. In September 1754 Wm Burton, Jr., brought an action for trespass against Robert Burton and Luke Smith. From 1748 to 1752 a Robert Burton, together with John Williamson, Jr., a man of about the age of Robert the son of Hutchins, was an inspector of tobacco at Shoccoes warehouse (near Richmond). (Journal of the House of Burgesses). It is also true that a Robert Burton had been inspector of tobacco at Shoccoes as early as 1737; that would have been a year in which Robert the son of Hutchins could not have served—he was too young. The only other Robert Burton of Henrico available was his uncle Robert^{II} who died in 1748. The explanation of this apparently contradictory state of affairs is that Robert the son of Hutchins probably succeeded his uncle in this office upon the latter's death in 1748.

The inspector of tobacco was an important personage; all tobacco—the staple crop of Virginia—marketed in the district

must be deposited in his warehouse, and the inspector's warehouse receipt ran as legal tender for the year in which it was issued throughout the county. The office of inspector was hedged about by many legal restrictions, one of which was the requirement that he might not at the same time be a member of the House of Burgesses. The salary of the office was from £40 to £60 a year. It is more than likely that the Bacons, who were then the political "bosses" of North-Western Henrico, dictated these appointments at Shoccoes.

There are few references in Henrico records to Robert the son of Hutchins¹ Burton.

In June, 1758, the court ordered that the scire facias brought by Robert Burton against Samuel Gordon be dismissed. In 1761, the court directed Julius Allen (his uncle?) to pay Robert Burton 564 pounds of tobacco for attending court 6 days "as evidence and travelling 23 miles." This indicates that according to the calculation of the clerk, Robert lived 11½ miles from the county court house near Varina at the mouth of "Four Mile Creek." The radius of this distance would serve equally well to prove that Robert's home was at the Westham Creek plantations, or north east of there in the Bacon precinct (the Brook-Hungary Branch).

vi. The will of Hutchins¹ Burton does not mention his son David, who died six years before his father. David was of age on January 1751—2 since his name appears on the election poll of Henrico at that time. In 1751 he was processioner for the Henrico vestry precinct between Gilley's and Cornelius Creek. In 1755 he was mentioned in a deed made by his father as then holding in Cumberland county lands next to his brother Samuel.

About 1750 David married Mary Wiltshire, the widow of the man whose name is endowed with the most elastic spelling in the history of Henrico parish—Gilly Gromarrin,

Masters shows that his room-mates on the south side of the old dormitory staircase were Messrs. Todd and Shields (his cousin). In 1773 he was appointed a writing master, which marked a new era in the Burton family, as those who have read the preceding pages of this narrative will note. He left college in 1775.

On July 26, 1777, Christopher Anthony of Bedford county conveyed to Robert Burton of Fluvanna county (where he was evidently living with his brother Jesse) 200 acres in Bedford county adjoining the lands of Jefferson, Woodward and Rowland. (Bedford Deeds E. 522).

Robert Burton is mentioned again in the Bedford records of 1790 when his sister, the widow Mary Henry was about to remarry.

He was married though the name of his wife is unknown.

His will was dated August 6, 1818, and proved February 5, 1819. A brief abstract follows:

“Testator mentions his grandsons Robert B. Kelleay and Robert J. Robertson and his grand-daughter Harriet Ann Robinson (Robertson). He mentions his daughter Elizabeth Robertson, and appoints his friends George Whitlocke of Lynchburg and John North, Sr., of Bedford his executors.”

The will of Robert the son of Captain William Burton mentions no male issue. It is significant to note from his will that the old homogeneous type of Englishman in Virginia was passing; one of his daughters married an Irishman and the other a Scotchman. Up to this time the Burton stock in Virginia had remained almost purely English.

iii. The third son of Captain William Burton was named John Cobbs Burton, after his mother's father. The Douglas register records: “Captain William Burton and Rebecca Cobbs

a son John Cobbs (Burton) born January 27, 1758.” Like most of the European monarchs of his day, his birth was the most important event in his life. He died at the age of 18, unmarried. His will is recorded in Albemarle county (Liber II. 346). It was dated October 9, 1776, and proved the next month. This will was made, no doubt, with full knowledge of his father's will, but he certainly died before his father. An abstract follows:

“I, John Burton of Saint Anne's Parish in Albemarle county . . . I give to my sister Molly Burton, Sukey Burton, William Burton and Phil Burton all negroes that I have a right to from my father's last will and testament equally. To my brother William Burton and Phil Burton my part of the land left me by my father equally.” John Thompson and Jesse Burton were witnesses.

iv. William Burton, the fourth son, was a minor at the time his father made his will. He was at William & Mary College with his brother Robert in 1772. Like Robert, William later settled in Bedford county. A deed recorded in Bedford dated April 22, 1805, reads as follows:

“Charles D. Jones (et al) . . . to William Burton, Senior, of Bedford county, 35 acres in Bedford county part of tract formerly belonging to John Jones, deceased, adjoining land of said Burton (William) Senior.”

He is called “senior” because at that time his nephew William, the son of Jesse Burton was also a resident of Bedford. He married before 1785, and his wife was named Frances.

The will of William Burton of Bedford, dated November 3, 1810, and proved February 25, 1811, provided:

“that his estate should be kept together until December 1824, and then was to be divided among his sons and