

**THE AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL.  
RECORD. VOL. I. THE STEPHENS  
FAMILY, WITH COLLATERAL  
BRANCHES. VOL. II - PART I**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649712090

The American Genealogical Record. Vol. I. The Stephens Family, With Collateral Branches.  
Vol. II - Part I by Edward Stephens Clark

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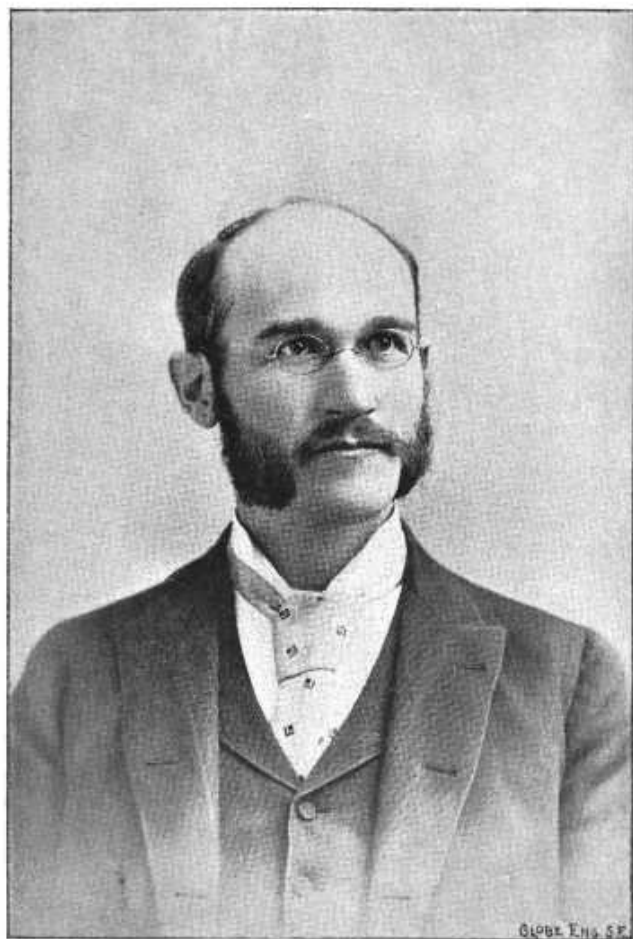
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**EDWARD STEPHENS CLARK**

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DR. EDWARD STEPHENS CLARK (162).

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THE

AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL  
RECORD

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Giving the Genealogy and History of some American  
Families, tracing their Ancestry to Ante-  
Revolutionary Times.

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\* VOL. I. \*

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THE STEPHENS FAMILY WITH COLLATERAL BRANCHES.

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BY

EDWARD STEPHENS CLARK, M. D.

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SAN FRANCISCO:

Jos. WINTERBURN COMPANY, BOOK AND JOB PRINTERS AND ELECTROTYPERS,  
417 Clay Street, between Sansome and Battery.

1892.

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## PREFACE.

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No apology is necessary in presenting this work. It was compiled and written for the benefit of those members of the Stephens family who are interested in their ancestry; others who care nothing for their genealogy will probably not trouble themselves to read the book, and if they should examine it, will no doubt discover errors and omissions, as it has been impossible for the compiler to visit personally every correspondent to verify and complete each record; and from so many sources of information some must necessarily be inaccurate.

The method of arranging and numbering the names has been adopted as the simplest for reference, and at the same time will allow additional facts to be published in succeeding volumes, without interfering with the present enumeration.

Nothing definite has been learned concerning the ancestry of Peter Stephens, and he has therefore been numbered (1) as being the head of the family; the succeeding numbers have been given as names were received. While several branches of the family of Peter Stephens are missing, yet the early county records of Frederick County, Virginia, contain numerous accounts of transactions, etc., of members of the family. These records are now being searched carefully and the results will be contained in succeeding volumes.

In regard to the nationality of Peter Stephens (1) there seems to be some doubt. According to Kercheval, he was probably a German, though others claim that he was of English or Welsh descent. Authorities in York, Reading and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have been written to and the archives searched, but nothing was discovered relating to him.

This work, although intended primarily as a record of the Stephens family, will also include any or all collateral branches whose genealogy can be obtained, especially when tracing back



their ancestry over one hundred years. This, while bringing in casually other families, they are properly included in a history of the Stephens family.

This record is certainly not as complete as it would be in a year or two, neither will it be as complete then as in five or ten years.

Probably no one would wish to wait ten years for it, yet a number of correspondents have advised delaying publication until the entire history of the family could be obtained. Desirable as this would be, it is practically impossible, and the more so because these same correspondents are the very ones who wait from three to twelve months before replying to a letter asking for information. To wait for all would leave the final publication for our grandchildren.

It has therefore been found advisable to publish the data already obtained, and as new facts are learned and other branches of the family heard from, new volumes will be issued. And furthermore, facts once published are not so liable to be forgotten as if the memory alone of hundreds of individuals was depended upon to retain their knowledge.

While we cannot say positively that our ancestors were in any way celebrated, yet their names are not entirely unknown in history, and we may certainly not be ashamed of them.

Nearly all who were of age in 1776 were soldiers of the Revolution, and there were many hardy pioneers among them. Peter Stephens (1) was among the first to settle in the Shenandoah Valley, in Virginia, and founded the town of Stephensburg. His son Peter (4) penetrated further up the same valley to Wythe County, Virginia. His grandsons, Joseph (7), William (8) and Joseph Lawrence (16) were among the pioneers of Kentucky. John (19) in Tennessee and Ohio, and Joseph (7), mentioned above, was one of the first settlers in Cooper County, Missouri. In regard to later generations, as may be seen in the text, there have been, and still are, among them a number of prominent capitalists, politicians, lawyers, physicians and merchants, and without regard to occupation they are, as far as can be learned, honest, law abiding citizens.

It is but just to acknowledge our indebtedness for valuable information to Samuel Kercheval, in his "History of the Valley

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of Virginia"; to Henry C. Levens (345) and Nathaniel M. Drake in their "History of Cooper County, Missouri"; to Lawrence D. Stephens (252) of Woodland, California; to Thomas K. Cartmell, Clerk of County Court, Winchester, Frederick County, Virginia; and to B. A. Cecil Stephens of Los Angeles, California, Ex-Secretary of the Historical Society of Southern California. It may be stated here that Mr. B. A. Stephens is also compiling a record of his branch of the family, and though tracing his ancestry to early in the eighteenth century, when they settled in Berks County, Pennsylvania, we have as yet found no relationship.

We take this opportunity to thank all our correspondents for the interest they have shown and the general care they have taken in supplying local history.

EDWARD S. CLARK, M. D.

San Francisco, Feb. 1, 1892.

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## NOTICE.

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Volume II of the AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL RECORD will be published the coming Fall, and will contain, in addition to the continuation of the records and genealogies of the families in this book, the records and genealogies of the following named families, all tracing back to ante-revolutionary times: 1, Joshua Stephens, Sr.; 2, Ezekiel Groome; 3, Samuel W. Cecil; 4, Matthew Parr; 5, Peter Overshiner; 6, Richard Stephens; and their collateral branches.

The second volume will be jointly edited by Dr. E. S. Clark and B. A. Cecil-Stephens. Prospectus and Circulars will be sent out in a few weeks.

### SPECIAL REQUEST.

If any errors or omissions are discovered, please notify the author, and they will be printed on a slip of paper and sent to every subscriber. Or if any additional facts are learned, or new branches of the family are heard from, send for the necessary blanks, write out the records as completely as possible, and send for insertion in succeeding volumes.

The following are names of some of the Stephens', so far unidentified, but most certainly descendants of Peter Stephens (1). The names are taken from the Register of Marriages at Winchester, Virginia.

Angus T. Furman	and Eleanor Stephens	.....	married 16 Oct.,	1735
David Stephens	and Susannah M. Graw	.....	" 22 April,	1790
Samuel Cleveland	and Mary Stephens	.....	" 1 Sept.,	1791
Thomas Ewen	and Corele Stephens	.....	" 22 March,	1791
Jacob Enslow	and Elizabeth Stephens	.....	" 31 Oct.,	1793
Joshua Myers	and Tabitha Stephens	.....	" 2 July.	1793
John Wright	and Elizabeth Stephens	.....	" 14 Jan.,	1807
Charles Grimes	and Mary Stephens	.....	" 30 July,	1810
Abner Peters	and Mary Stephens	.....	" 7 Nov.,	1822
Christopher Slonaker	and Mary Stephens	.....	" 1 Dec.,	1825
Joseph L. Stephens	and Mary H. Ritenour	.....	" 7 April,	1830
Isaac Piper	and Margaret C. Stephens	...	" 3 Dec.,	1831
James L. Hale	and Alice Stephens	.....	" 31 May,	1832
George Eroley	and Deborah Stephens	.....	" 25 Dec.,	1836
James H. Nelson	and Elizabeth E. Stephens	...	" 1 Oct.,	1844
Benjamin Daily	and Margaret I. Stephens	....	" 31 Oct.,	1844