GENEALOGY OF THE DESCENDANTS OF HUGH HAMILTON

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Genealogy of the descendants of Hugh Hamilton by James Alexander Hamilton

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JAMES ALEXANDER HAMILTON

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A GENEALOGY OF THE DESCENDENTS

OF

HUGH HAMILTON

1921

JAMES ALEXANDER HAMILTON
SON OF JOHN W. HAMILTON



JAMES ALEXANDER HAMILTON

TO MY FOLKS

Dear Cousins:

As I knew but little relative to the Hamilton family, of which I have the honor of being a member other than that of my father's, some years since I conceived the idea of knowing more. With that end in view I started a correspondence with Hugh Cunningham Hamilton, my father's younger brother, who then lived at Lenoir, North Carolina, procured from him the name and possible address of James Hamilton, a son of his uncle John Hamilton, as Tallico Junction, Tennessee. I wrote to him and after a time I received a letter from Joseph W. Hamilton, a nephew, of that address, informing me that his uncle James had departed this life and giving me information as to other members of the Hamilton family, to a few of whom I wrote, receiving replies. However, owing to the press of business, could not spare the time to pursue the correspondence. A few years later was differently situated and spent a four weeks' vacation with my North Carolina and Tennessee relatives; returned feeling that had I remained a much longer time, I would not have worn out my welcome. From that time have spent as much time as possible gathering information. While I have acquired a mass of information, there is more that I would have been much pleased to have obtained. In subsequent vacations have visited in North Carolina and Tennessee, making many pleasant and enjoyable acquaintances; have also made many pleasant acquaintances by letter and have continued a correspondence with a goodly number. Have found relatives in a larger portion of the States of the Union. I desire to thank all who have rendered assistance in my undertaking as well as all those who have promptly responded to my letters of inquiry.

JAMES ALEXANDER HAMILTON.

Indianapolis, Ind., November 1, 1921.



A Genealogy of the Descendents of Hugh Hamilton

UOTING from Chambers Encyclopedia, "The first known of the name of Hamilton was Walter Fitz-Gilbert (son of Gilbert), called Hamilton, who in 1296 held lands in Lanarkshire, and swore fealty to King Edward I, of England." The family subsequently became very prominent in the affairs of both Scotland as well as that of Great Britain, intermarrying

with the Royal Family and that of the Douglas Family. One branch of the Hamilton Family moved into the north of Ireland and became somewhat prominent. The larger portion of that name settling in what is now the United States were from Ireland. Quite a number became converts to the teachings of William Penn, and came over with him, settling in Pennsylvania and New Jersey. One Andrew Hamilton was made Governor of the Colony of Pennsylvania; he, however, was a resident of New Jersey. At the time of the beginning of the Revolutionary War, a James Hamilton, of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, was the Governor of that colony, and continued to live in Lancaster County during the war.

During the early part of the eighteenth century there was a large and continuous migration from the north of Ireland, consisting of the Hamiltons, Wallaces, Dixons, Cunninghams, Milligans, Dicksons, Waynes and others who settled mostly in the counties of Chester, Lancaster, York and the immediate surrounding counties of Pennsylvania.

Tradition has it that four brothers of the name of Hamilton came over from Ireland, possibly in the seventeen thirties, and that one of them located in Lancaster or York County, having left his wife in Ireland; she came over later with her child Hugh and found that her husband had met death by some accident. She settled in York County. Hugh Hamilton was possibly an only child, as I have learned of his having no relatives other than cousins. Hugh Hamilton was married about 1760 to Margaret Dickson, daughter of James Dickson, of York County, Pennsylvania, whose will bore date of 1768. To Hugh and Margaret were born four sons, as follows:

James Hamilton, born September 29, 1761, as shown by family Bible, and in 1763 as shown by pension.

John Hamilton was born in York County, Pennsylvania. William Hamilton was born in York County, Pennsylvania. Hugh Hamilton was born in York County, Pennsylvania.

Early in 1770 Hugh with his family moved from York County, Pennsylvania, to Mecklenberg County, North Carolina, and took up land in that part now embraced in Cabarris, Northeast from Charlotte and Northwest from Concord; the same being almost in the extreme Northwestern part of Cabarris County. Not long after locating there he had the misfortune to be hurt in assisting a neighbor to build a house or barn. He did not think that he was seriously hurt, but one of his neighbors insisted on going with him to his home, and when he had reached a point within half a mile of his home, as it would take his neighbor a considerable distance out of his way to go farther with him, he insisted that he was all right and could get home without further assistance and prevailed on him to leave him, Not having reached home the next morning, search was made and he was found dead close to a spring a short distance from where the neighbor had left him; having been more seriously hurt than he supposed. He left his widow and his four children above named. His widow was subsequently married to a man named Phar or Farr. but pronounced Farr. They had six sons and four daughters. The sons subsequently removed to Tennessee.

JAMES HAMILTON, SON OF HUGH HAMILTON, THE FIRST

James Hamilton enlisted June 16, 1780, in the Company of Samuel Givens, in Col. George Alexander's Regiment, for service in the Revolutionary War. He was taken prisoner at the Battle of Camden, South Carolina, August 16, 1780; imprisoned in a prison ship at Charleston, South Carolina, until July 26, 1781, almost one year, when he was released and mustered out of the service. After the close of the war he returned to York County, Pennsylvania, and there learned and followed the gunsmilling trade. August 23, 1799, he was married to Martha Wallace, a daughter of John Wallace, in Chester County, Pennsylvania, and located at Peach Bottom, York County, Pennsylvania, and continued to live there until after the death of his mother in 1814. He became the owner of part of his father's farm in Cabarris County, North Carolina, when he moved back there. He settled on his portion of the farm and continued to live there until his death, October 21, 1842, at the age of a little more than seventy-nine years. He left surviving him, his widow and four sons and two daughters-John Wallace Hamilton, James Lot Dixon Hamilton, Thomas Henderson Hamilton, Hugh Cunningham Hamilton, Louisa Hamilton and Sarah Jane Hamilton. The widow continued to live on the farm in Cabarris County until her death, April 24, 1866, at the age of eightynine years, four months and fourteen days.