

**THE MAJORS AND THEIR MARRIAGES. WITH
COLLATERAL ACCOUNTS OF THE ALLIED
FAMILIES OF ASTON, BALLARD, CHRISTIAN,
DANCY, HARTWELL, HUBARD, MACON,
MARABLE, MASON, PATTESON, PIERSEY,
SEAWELL, STEPHENS, WADDILL, AND OTHERS**

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JAMES BRANCH CABELL

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"Fortuna non mutat genus"



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TO
BALLARD HARTWELL CABELL
IN COMMEMORATION OF HIS CHRISTENING

Acknowledgment at Large

MATERIAL for this volume has, for the most part, been drawn firsthand from the original Virginia county records, notably those of Charles City and York and Chesterfield. Equity demands, however, that the compiler confess his obligation to divers stray items in the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* and, especially, in the *William and Mary College Quarterly*, for very often indicating the most remunerative lines of investigation.

Among other volumes consulted and freely used should in particular be specified Mr. Lyon G. Tyler's *Cradle of the Republic*, Mr. W. G. Stanard's *Colonial Virginia Register*, Hotten's *Original Lists of Emigrants*, Hening's *Statutes at Large*, Neill's *Virginia Carolorum*, and Mr. Philip Alexander Bruce's monumental books, the *Institutional History*, the *Economic History*, and the *Social Life*, of Virginia during the seventeenth century.

To the last-named three histories in particular the compiler stands so deep in debt that it seems hideously ungracious to point out in Mr. Bruce's account of the Stephens-Harrison duel, as given on page 245 of the *Social History*, a curious misprint, whereby the wrong participant is killed; but, thus embalmed in a work of such perdurable worth, the error is of grave weight to all descendants of Captain Richard Stephens, since it untimeously bereaves them of their progenitor an awkwardly long while before his marriage. Yet—be it repeated,—it is only the splendor and the finality of Mr. Bruce's achievement which lends importance to any mistake therein, such as elsewhere might be trivial.

In conclusion, the compiler is under no little personal obligation to Mr. Morgan P. Robertson, for facilitating access to the Virginia State Archives; to Mr. Daniel M. Patterson, for assistance in investigating the Virginia Land

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