Since the date and place of birth and the early life of Nicholas Kain are unknown to us at this time, we must out of necessity, begin this narrative with certain assumptions relative to known data. The earliest data located at the date of this writing is the issuance of a warrant for one hundred acres of land to Nicholas Kane from the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, issued at Philadelphia on the 18th day of November in the year 1736. The warrant verbatum is as follows:

## Pennsylvania ff. By the Proprietaries

Whereas Nicholas Kane of the county of Bucks hath requested that we would grant him to take up one hundred acres of Land, the same being vacant, situated upon a Branch of Perkiomio and adjoining to Michael Wisely and Michael Fraley in the said County of Bucks for which he agrees to pay to our Use the sum of Fifteen Pounds Ten Shillings current money of this Province for the said Hundred Acres, and the yearly Quit-Rent of one Halfpenny Sterling for every Acre thereof; THESE are Therefore to authorize and require thee to survey or cause to be surveyed unto the said Nicholas Kane at the place aforesaid, according to the Method of Townships appointed, the said Quantity of 100 Acres, if not already surveyed or appropriated, and make Return thereof into the Secretary's office in order for further Confirmation; for

which this shall be thy sufficient Warrant; which survey, in case the said Nicholas Kane, fulfill the above Agreement within six Months from the date hereof, shall be valid, otherwise void. GIVEN under my hand, and the lessor seal of our Province, at Philadelphia, this 18th day of November, Anno Dom. 1736.

To Benjamin Eastburn, Surveyor-General

THO. PENN

So, using this warrant as a starting point, we herewith begin the following history of our Cain line.

Nicholas Kain, a young man of approximately twenty-five years leaves his father's home and with several other young men, travel north from the Colonial settlements of Philadelphia and Chester Counties into a beautiful and fertile land on the frontier. The Proprietaries of Pennsylvania have recently made available lands to settlers and development companies in this new frontier. The London Company has surveyed and opened a tract for settlement as has William Streyper of the Germantown Mennonites. These lands are on the Perkiomen, Tinicum and Tohickon Creeks in Bucks County, north of Philadelphia, and with the huge influx of settlers from the Palatinate and the Rhine River areas of Europe, it was rapidly being taken up.

Our Nicholas Kain was a stocky, solid, serious youth of fair

# Pennsylvania . S. By the Proprietaries.



HEREAS Nicholas Kane of the Country of Poucks?

hath requested that We would grant him to take up One hundreds.

Acres of Land, the fame being vacant, seituale upon a Branch of Perkernica

and adjourning to Michael Wisely & Michael Fraling.

in the

Jab Country of Bucks for which He agrees to pay to ease Use the Sum of

Fifreen Pounds Ten Shillings current Money of this Province for final Hundred Acres, and the yearly Quit-tent of one Half-printy Sterling for every Acre thereof THESE are therefore to authorize and require thee to survey or cause to be survey'd unto the said Wicholas Kane. In at the Place aforesaid, according to the Method of Townsnips appointed, the said Quantity of look Acres, if not already survey'd or appropriated, and make Return thereof into the Secretary's Office, in order for surther Consirmation; for which this shall be thy sufficient Warrant; which Survey, in easie the said Wicholas Kane. Sulfil the above Agreement within five Months from the Date hereof, shall be valid, otherwise Void. GIVEN under my Hand, and the lesier Seal of our Province, at Thiladelphia, this 18. Day of November Lanc Dom. 1736.

To Benjamin Eastburn, Surveyor-General.

complexion and keen eyes. He and his companions were single men and they were on the lookout for good land; for they were of good yoeman background. So it was not surprising that they would find what they were looking for in this central Bucks County area. And after locating a satisfactory tract they would build a small cabin, clear a few trees and plant a crop of corn. This would establish a claim until a warrant could be obtained.

After marking his land and making some improvements, Nicholas then journeyed back to Philadelphia in the summer of 1736 and made application for a warrant and a survey. Due to the large demand for warrants, it was a wait of several months before he could receive his documents, and pay over his fifteen pounds, ten shillings. This was a considerable amount of money for a young man in the early Colonial period and it indicates that the Kain family was affluent to a certain degree. Many of the new settlers came as indentured servants and were not able to acquire land until they had served out their time. Since Nicholas Kain had the means to pay for his land, and he did not have to be naturalized, we assume that he was a British subject through birth regardless of his parents origin.

During this period of waiting, we do not know all that Nicholas might have done to pass the time. He may have visited his parents or his brothers and sisters. He may have traveled into Maryland or Virginia. One thing we do know is that he did woo and wed a good German girl, who would produce a fine family of sons and daughters and provide a good household for the future Kain family for many years in several frontier homes. To this date, we do not know Catherine's maiden name, for in later deeds and documents, she is listed as Catherine Cain, and her signature by hand is a mark of C.

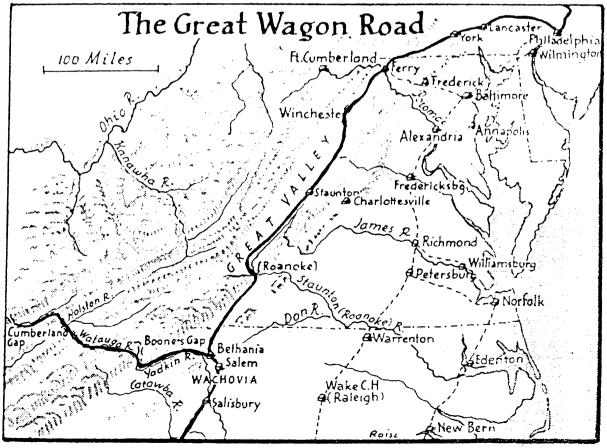
After receiving his warrant for the land, and making the trip with his new bride back to the Bucks County area, they returned in time to give thanks for a bountiful crop and a good harvest, plentiful game and a bright future. The winters in that part of Pennsylvania were severe with snow and cold; but a snug cabin, stocked with the summer's bounty, furs from the bear, beaver and otter, and fuel that a woodsman's ax could provide, would help the winter go fast.

So again, spring would come in Pennsylvania and the regular routine of clearing land and planting crops would begin. Many more settlers were crowding into the area, and the Penns were in the process of negotiating for additional land, with the various tribes of Indians which called this part of the country home. The relations with the Indians, then just before the infamous "Walking Purchase" was cordial and cooperative. However, this was soon to change.

The summer of 1737 held a lot of hard work and great expectations for Nicholas and Catherine, for in the fall their first child was born. It was a girl and she was given the name of Margaret. The Kain family was now acquiring a settled appearance and more children were to follow at regular intervals. A boy was born early in 1739. He was named James, a name which would be used by succeeding generations many times up until the present time.

In the summer of 1740, due to the many new settlers in the area and a need for better means of travel and communication, it was decided to petition the Justices of the County for a road from Deeprun to Perkisio, and for the formation of a new township. Accordingly, a petition was drawn up as follows:

THE HUMBLE PETITION OF THE INHABITANTS OF



Migration route of settlers down the Shanandoah Valley and west to Kentucky.

DEEPRUN: TO THE HONORABLE JUSTICES OF THE PEACE FOR THE COUNTY OF BUCKS, NOW MEET AT NEWTON.

We, your humble petitioners do humbly beg your assistance and favour to constitute and ordain your petitioners, the inhabitants of Deeprun into a township; Beginning upon Plumstead Corner running along that line to Hilltown Corner, and from that to Rockhill Corner and down Tohickon till it closes at Plumstead Corner, where it begins.

And further beg your honors may also take it to serious and judicious consideration in granting a road. Beginning at James Sterling's ford, going in a straight line by the Presbyterian Meeting House in Deeprun, to John Kelly in Perkisio and down by Butler's Mill, and your petitioners in duty bound shall pray.

James Hughes Jacob Tatwaller Tilman Culp Robert Smith Jacob Letherman Christian Hamner George Lynar Ahraham Black Jacob Wessmore John Forett John Clyner Wm. Armstrong Nicholas Kean Wm. Graham John Ree Frederick Crossit George W. Forrus Joseph Townsend Henry Ground Adams Thompson Mehil Lott Miller Thos Darrock David Culp Mark Overholz Daniel Morcant Mortan Overholz John Bow Nicholas Ogeny Joseph Armstrong John Baffle Ralph Hough Fabter Byner Mahala Ree Andrew Hoan

Date of Petition 1740

It is not known how many settlers were in the area, but it is a matter of record that the township was formed and the road was built, and progress was on the way.

However, about this time Nicholas and some of his brothers decided that it might be a move of greater opportunity to explore the newly opened area of Virginia. Many new arrivals were coming to America and the land in Pennsylvania was rising in value. So Nicholas, with his brother, John, and the Custer and Humble men, made an explorative trip south and west down the Shenandoah Valley into Virginia.

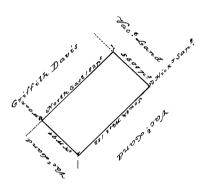
As a result of the political upheavals in Europe and the desire of people from Ireland and the Palatinate for freedom, land and opportunities, the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia seemed to be the Land of Promises. Immigrants and settlers were going south by the hundreds and new communities and towns were being started. As a general rule, the German, Dutch and Scotch-Irish settlers would sort themselves out and settle in a community with others of their own race and religion. Therefore, the Kains, Custers, Mauks, Trumbos and Shoemakers located land and staked claims in the valley of the North Branch of the River in the Gap of the Mountains, forming one of the first German settlements in that part of West Augusta County, Virginia.

Having decided to move to Virginia, it was necessary for Nicholas to return to Bucks County, Pennsylvania and find a buyer for his land there. This did not prove to be difficult and after having it surveyed, Nicholas and Catherine made preparations for the long trek into the new frontier. In the winter of 1740-41, they loaded the cart, hitched up the yoke of oxen and started on a new

adventure looking forward to a bright future.

Stopping first in Philadelphia, they acquired supplies and then with other hardy souls who wished to accompany them, they then proceeded on to Lancaster, then York and on to the Potomac River. Crossing the river just above what is now Harper's Ferry at Pack Horse Ford, they then set their course for a new settlement called Winchester. Here they picked up the Valley of the North Branch of the Shenandoah, which was to be the course until they came to the great Gap of the Mountains. This would be the location of the Kain family for the next 13 or 14 years.

The spring and summer of 1741 were busy times in the new settlement. In addition to the routine chores of cutting and clearing the land, building cabins, planting crops of corn and barley, and setting orchards of peach and apple on the hillsides, there was always the necessity of constant vigilance against marauding predators and Indians. The Germans were a peace-loving people and



By Verpue of a Warrant fum the Proprietaries Safed the 10th Day of November 1736 Survayed the Twonty Ninth Day of Oboton 1740 to Medoles Kain the above described Tract of Sand situate near Tohickon breek in the Bounty of Bucks bon tain I One hundred acres & 139 Gerches and also lowance of dir yob!

IN TESTIMONY that the above is a copy of the original remaining on file in the Department of Internal Affairs of Pennsylvania, made conformably to an Act of Assembly approved the 16th day of February, 1838, I have hereunto set my Hand and caused the Seal of said Department to be affixed at Harrisburg, this

day of January 189)

Jameo W. Fatta

Secretary of Literal Again

generally had friendly relations with the various tribes of Indians, which used the Gap in the Mountains as a pathway from the Northwest Territories to Virginia. Since the county of Augusta had recently been formed from its parent county, Orange, and it was of prime importance that the inhabitants form themselves into some sort of military organization for common protection, the Augusta County Militia was organized. There were a number of companies formed, each within its own community. Captain James Gill, who owned land on the North River was appointed Captain of Company #6. He was given the task of forming and training all able-bodied men of the Brock's Gap settlement. The Brock brothers, Martin Shoemaker, Cornelius Murley and Bernar McHenry along with Nicol Cain were all members and are listed on the record in the year of 1742.

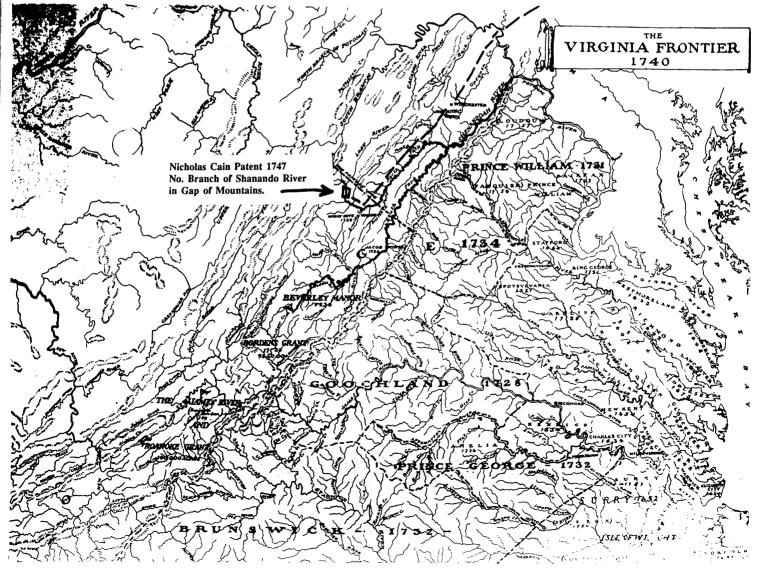
The next few years were years of solid, substantial growth for the young settlement and for the Cain family as well. Several more sons were born: John in 1742, Daniel a year later and Edmond, Cornelius, Jesse and David were all born here in this part of Augusta County, Virginia.

Nicholas applied for and received a warrant for 100 acres of land. The patent was issued on August 20, 1747 and it was duly surveyed with an additional 400 acres by Tho. Lewis, County Surveyor, in 1750. In 1745 Uriah Humble and his brother-in-law, Arnold Custer, arrived from Bucks County, Pennsylvania and settled close to the Cains in the same community. These two

families were to be very close associates and the children and grandchildren of Uriah Humble, Arnold Custer and Nicholas Cain would travel together, settle together and intermarry many times throughout the next hundred years in Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Indiana and Missouri.

For the next ten years, life here in the valley settled down into one of common everyday work and growth. Nicholas and his brother, John, made frequent hunting trips west into the unsettled lands of present day West Virginia. The French and Indians of the Northwest were, so far, at peace. There was a feeling of tranquility and security. But in the summer of 1755, an event happened that changed the destiny of the Cain family and many other settlers of northwest Virginia.

General Edward Braddock, on his march to Fort Dequesne was ambushed and defeated by a combined force of French and Indians. General Braddock died of his injuries, and his army, decimated, withdrew. This left the entire area of northwest Virginia open to the depredations of the many Indian tribes, who now took up the scalping knife and tomahawk against the settlers. Many of the settlers found that the safer path was to abandon their cabins and seek safety south and east in a more settled part of Virginia. So it is no surprise that Nicholas and Catherine Cain also made the decision to see if another move might be advisable. Sometime in 1756, Nicholas made a trip south into Orange and Louisa Counties between the heads of the two Anna Rivers in what is





"Ho Babe, Git along Blue."

now Albemarle County, Virginia. He subsequently bought 250 acres from James Coleman. The deed was recorded after the final payment in 1760.

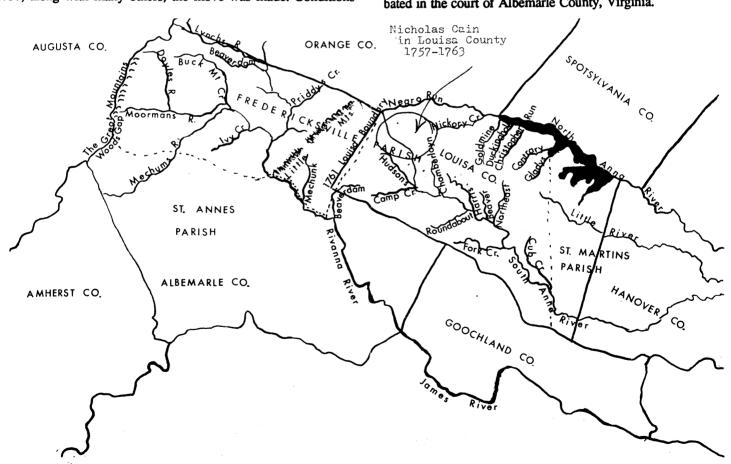
Speed was of the utmost importance, and in the spring of 1757, along with many others, the move was made. Conditions

had deteriorated and several friends of the Cains, who were still in the Brock's Gap area, were killed or taken prisoner. Among them were Nicholas' brother, John, and a close neighbor, Arnold Custer, who both died in the spring of 1759.

After the death of John Cain and Arnold Custer, several of Nicholas' sons returned to the Brock's Gap, for they still had land and cousins there and the Custer family had need of help. There is no evidence to show that Nicholas returned for other than brief visits. He mostly stayed in Albemarle County until his death.

By 1776, several of Nicholas and Catherine's sons were married and had moved out into the western frontier. John and Daniel had gone west into what is now Harrison County, West Virginia James and Edmond southwest into Greenbrier County, and Jesse David and Cornelius south to the New River settlements Margaret and her husband, John Shaw, had also left for the western territories, leaving Nicholas and Catherine with the youngest daughter, Ann, still in central Virginia. Nicholas had sold some of his land in 1763 to Ludwell Grimes, but he still retained 100 acres on Key's Mill Creek. It was here that he wrote his will in 1783. Catherine, by this time had passed on, but he listed nine living children. He also had many, many grand children, some he had never seen and some he had no knowledge of. For his decendants were by this time, scattered in West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio and Tennessee.

Nicholas Cain died in the fall of 1787, and his estate was probated in the court of Albemarle County, Virginia.



FREDERICKS VILLE PARISH

Dotted line shows parish line in 1762

# The Genealogy of Nicholas Kain

Nicholas Kain (1)
Born 1705-1710, probably America.
Married ca 1736, probably Pennsylvania.
Died fall of 1787, Albemarle County, Va.

#### Children:

- Margaret Cain (2) born ca 1737, Bucks County, Pa. Married John Shaw, Augusta County, Va. Died.
- James Cain (2) born 1739, Bucks County, Pa. Married Elizabeth Custer ca 1768, Va. Died 1 Feb., 1836, Adams County, Oh.
- John Cain (2) born 27 Dec., 1742, Augusta County, Va. Married Charity Booth in Va. Died 11 Dec., 1834, Harrison County, Va.
- Daniel Cain (2) born ca 1743, Augusta County, Va. Married Susannah in Va. Died after 1806, Oh.
- Edmond Cain (2) born ca 1746, Augusta County, Va. Married Mary (Polly) Custer ca 1767, Va. Died after 1810, Champaign County, Oh.
- Cornelius Cain (2) born ca 1747, Augusta County, Va. Married.
   Died probably in Tn.
- Jesse Cain (2) born ca 1748, Augusta County, Va. Married Elizabeth Edwards ca 1772, Va. Died 1795-1799, Robertson County, Tn.
- David Cain (2) born ca 1750, Augusta County, Va. Married ca 1779, Va. Died after 1828, Union County, Tn.
- Ann Cain (2) born Va.
   Married Mr. Hipple in Va.
   Died.

There is considerable evidence that there is a Nicholas Cain, Jr. However, since he is not mentioned in the will, it is assumed that he is not a son of Nicholas Sr., but perhaps a nephew.

So ends the brief biography of Nicholas and Catherine Kain, our ancestors, and we shall take up the known data on as many of their descendants as we can in future chapters.

## Transcribed Patent for Land to Nicholas Cain, August 20, 1747

GEORGE the Second, by Grace of God in Great Britain, France and Ireland, King, Defender of the Faith and to all whom these presents shall come. Greeting, KNOW Ye that for diverse good causes and considerations, but more especially for and in consideration of the sum of TEN SHILLINGS of good and lawful money for our use paid to our Receiver General of our Provinces in this our Colony and Dominion of Virginia. WE HAVE given,

granted and confirmed and by these presents for us, our heirs and successors, DO give, grant, confirm unto Nicholas Cain one certain tract or parcel of land containing one hundred acres lying and being in the County of Augusta on the North River of Shanando within the Gap of the Mountain and bounded as followth to wit: BEGINNING at three white oaks corner to Bernard McHenry, then with his line east forty poles to a white oak and a hickory on the river side, then up the several course of the river to a marked white oak, north seventy nine degrees west twenty four poles to a Spanish oak, south thirty degrees west one hundred fifty two poles to a white oak, south twelve degrees west one hundred and sixty poles to the beginning. WITH all woods, underwoods, swamps, marshes, low grounds, meadows and feedings, and his due share viens, mines and quarries as well discovered or not discovered within the bounds aforesaid and being part of the said quantity of one hundred acres of land and the rivers, waters and watercourses therein contained together with the priviledges of hunting, hawking, fishing, fowling and all other profits, commodities and hereditaments whatsoever to the same or any part thereof belonging or in any way appertaining. TO HAVE, hold, possess and enjoy the said tract or parcel of land and all other the before granted premises and every part thereof with their, or every of their appurts unto the said Nicholas Cain and to his heirs and assigns forever. To the only use and behoof of him, the said Nicholas Cain, his heirs and assigns forever. To be held of us, our heirs and successors as of our manner of East Greenwich in the county of Kent in free and common soccage and not in capiteos by Knights Service. YIELDING and paying unto us, our heirs and successors for every fifty acres of land, and so proportionably for a lessor or greater quanity than fifty acres the fee rent of one shilling yearly to be paid upon the feast of St. Michael the archangel and also cultivating and improving three acres, part of every fifty acres of the tract above mentioned within three years after the sale of these presents. PROVIDED always that if three years of the said fee rent shall at any time be in arrears or unpaid, or if the said Nicholas Cain, his heirs or assigns do not within the space of three years next coming after the sale of these presents cultivate and improve three acres, part of every fifty of the tract above mentioned, then the estate hereby granted shall cease and be utterly determined and thereafter it shall and may be lawful to and us our heirs and successors to grant the same lands and premises with the appurts unto such other person or persons as we, our heirs and successors shall think fit. IN WIT-NESS whereof we have caused these, our Letters Patent to be made., WITNESS our trusty and well beloved sir William Gooch, our Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief of our said colon and Dominion of Williamsburg under the seal of our said colony, the twentieth day of August, one thousand seven hundred and forty seven, in the twenty first year of our Reign.

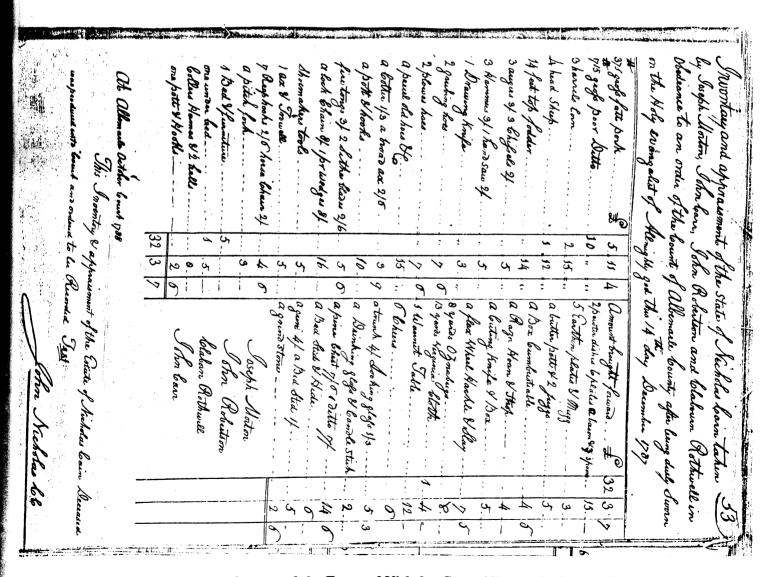
WILLIAM GOOCH



# Transcribed Peppercorn Deed of land from Nicholas Cain to Andrew Trumboe August 14, 1766

THIS INDENTURE made the fourteenth day of August in the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and sixty six between Nicholas Cain of the county of Albemarle and the Colony of Virginia and Catherine, his wife of the one part and Andrew Trumboe of the county of Augusta and Colony of aforesaid of the other part. WITNESSTH that the said Nicholas Cain and Catherine his wife for and in consideration of the sum of five shillings of the current money of Virginia to them in hand paid by the said Andrew Trumboe at or before the sealing and delivery of these presents the Receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged hath Granted, Bargained and Sold, and by these presents Doth Grant, Bargain and Sell unto the said Andrew Trumboe and to his heirs forever a certain tract of land containing one hundred acres lying and being in the County of Augusta on the North River of Shanando within the Gap of the Mountain. Granted to said Nicholas Cain by Patent bearing Date and the twentieth Day of August one thousand seven hundred and forty seven and bounded

as followth to wit: Beginning at three white oaks, corner to Bernard McHenry then with his line east forty poles to a white oak and hickory on the river side, then up the several courses of the river to a marked white oak, north seventy nine degrees west twenty four poles to a Spanish oak, south thirty degrees west one hundred and sixty poles to the beginning, and all houses, buildings, orchard ways, waters, watercourses, profits, commodities, and appurtenances whatsoever to the said premises hereby granted or any part thereof belonging or in anywise appertaining and the Reversion and Reversions, Remainder and Remainders, Rents, Issues and profits thereof. To his executors, administrators, and assigns from the day before the date hereof for and during the full term and time of one whole year from thence next Insuing fully to be compleat and ended. Yielding and paying therefore the rent of one pepper Corn on Lady Day next Insuing if the same be lawfully demanded to the intent and purpose that by virtue of these presents and of the statute for transfering uses into possession, the said Andrew Trumboe may be in actual possession of the premises and be hereby enabled to accept and take a Grant and release of the Reversion and Inheritance thereof to him and his



Inventory and appraisement of the Estate of Nicholas Cane, Albermarle County, Va., 1787.

heirs. In Witness whereof the said Nicholas Cain and Catherine Cain, his wife, hath here unto set our hands and seals the Day and year first above written. his Sealed and Delivered

Nicholas 7 Cain in the Presence of Rudy Mauk mark her Joseph Dictim Catherine C Cain George Shoemaker

mark

John Cain

The Pepper Corn indenture was more or less a lease to purchase, or would probably today be called a Contract for Deed, for on the following day, August 15, 1766, another indenture was exexcuted from Nicholas Cain and Catherine Cain, his wife to Andrew Trumboe for the same tract of land. The second indenture was a firm transfer of the land and today it would be called a warranty deed. Both indentures were put on record at the court on November 19, 1766, but were not delivered until November 8, 1774, which was probably when the final payment was made.

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