

KING.

At the time of this writing, the year of 1943, I have not been successful in definitely tracing the KING line to the early immigrant. Tide-water Virginia was, as one historian expresses it, hard hit by wars. Records were destroyed and genealogists have been forced in many cases, to resort to what could be gleaned from indexes to wills, deeds and land grants. However, be that as it may, FAMILY TRADITION has played an important part.

We know that our ancestors settled in Tide-water Virginia. It was said the KING'S came from the north of Ireland and settled on the James River. Tradition handed down in the family, assures that point. All this is borne out in the findings of Mr. Roy Stevenson King, published in his "Ancestral Pilgrimage, Along Life's Pathway," a part of which I have included in this Chronology because of the data it contains. This is without any doubt, and borne out by my research, the KING family from whom we are descended.

In Early Virginia Immigrants, by Greer, we find the record, "Ann King, by John King, her husband, Charles City County, 1642."

There were eight original shires (or counties) in Virginia, of which Charles City was one. It extended on both sides of the James River. This fact makes a more complete agreement with our tradition that the Kings settled on the James. There are other grants to John King, but the one on record, as stated above, 1642, seems to have been the earliest.

Robert King, supposed to be the son of Robert King who married Dorothy Blount in Ireland, and grandson of Captain John King and his wife, Ann (Daniel) King, married Hannah Scarborough, dau. of Captain Edmund Scarborough. (or Scarburgh.) Their son, Captain William King, married Judith Peyton, dau. of Col. Valentine Peyton, of Westmoreland County.

We find record of our first traceable ancestor, Captain Edmund King, in Halifax County, about 1767.

Since the names Edmund and Peyton appear in various generations descending from Captain Edmund King, it is logical to assume that he was descended from Robert and Hannah (Scarborough) King, through their son William who married Judith Peyton, but I wish to emphasize that the above deductions should be used with care as they admit further proof before final acceptance. We can however, accept as authoritative our descent from the Kings who came from Ireland and settled on the James. This is corroborated in the ancestry of Vice President William Rufus King, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work, and who was a relative of Captain Edmund King.

KING FAMILY.

There seems to be some reason to think that the origin of the KING FAMILY as given here originated from the King Family of Thames County, Oxon and Woringhall County, Buck's England.

The origin of this ancient and honorable family cannot be clearly traced but all indications point to the Counties of Devonshire, Northamptonshire and in one instance to the County of Kent, as the home of the first to bear the name. The words "Descended from the ancient Saxon Kings of Devonshire" and the ARMS of the four ARMS OF KING appear on almost all of their monuments.

The Herald's Visitation give the ARMS of those of "King of Devonshire and Torcoator Co., N.;" and undoubtedly the early generations moved from Northamptonshire to Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire.

The ARMS were borne quarterly, first and fourth "King", and second and third "Gules, within a bordure engrailed, three lions passant or." Dalloway calls this last "Plantagenet or King Anciently."

Much concerning the family is learned in the annals of Christ Church, Oxford, and in Chichester Cathedral, Sussex, and from old manuscripts in the Bodleian Library, Oxford. The family was one of considerable wealth and importance before 1600, as Bishop ROBERT KING of Oxford amassed a large estate which descended in the line of Bishop Henry King.

It would seem probable that the family first settled in Thame, Oxon, in 1440, and if they came from Devonshire it must have been prior to this date. In the authenticated genealogy given from the College of Arms the name WILLIAM is given to the first traceable ancestor. He had a brother John, Vinter of Bicester.

John King of Thame, 1442-1469, had sons William and John, Vinter of Bicester. William King was born at Thame 1450; wife unknown, was living in 1508; children were Robert, William, Thomas, and another son. Robert became the first Bishop of Oxford. He died 1557. There is a portrait in the Hall of Christ Church.

William King married Anne, daughter of Sir John Williams, of Burfield, Buck's., by his wife, Isabella Moore, daughter and co-heir of Richard Moore and sister of John, Lord Williams. Their children were Robert, (heir) Edmund and Philip.

Philip King was page to Henry the Eighth and married about 1553, Elizabeth Conquest and had issue, twelve children, among whom was John, baptised 1559, who became Lord Bishop of London,

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and who was father of Henry King, Bishop of Chichester.

Dr. King, Lord Bishop of London, claimed descent from Sir Ralph King who fought at Agincourt. John King, Bishop of London, was Chaplain to Queen Elizabeth; Archdeacon of Nottingham and Dean of Christ Church; Consecrated Bishop of London 1611; entertained Pocahontas in 1616; collected 1000 pounds toward the proposed college at Henrico, Virginia; was admitted to the Virginia Company 1620; and chosen one of his Majesty's council for the Virginia Company. He died March 30, 1621.

JOHN KING of Thane, is undoubtedly a descendant of Sir Ralph King, who fought at Agincourt. He had a son, Thomas, of East Claydon, Buck's. This Thomas, among other sons, had one named William who married Johanne Beauchamp, who was a widow and a second wife and had married Beauchamp, for William Beauchamp is mentioned in their deeds. Their children were Arthur, Thomas, WILLIAM, Luke, Rafe, Mary and Johan King. As shown above this William King of East Claydon was related to John King, Lord Bishop of London. Johanne Beauchamp was said to have been a woman of some importance and was related to the Duke of Devonshire. She died in 1583.

Captain WILLIAM KING, son of WILLIAM KING and Johanne (Beauchamp) King, of Devonshire England, is the first Virginia ancestor of the Kings in America. His seal bore the imprint of the sprig of the Broom Plant (Planta Genista) which was the emblem of the Plantagenets.

In Vol. 16, page 154 of Burch's Pilgrims, it says:
"In the next year (1592) CAPTAYNE KING of Ratcliffe Road, with thirteen sayles, before Havanna, wayting for purchase."

In Vol. 19, page 2, it says:
"From Woolwich, the 15th of May, 1609, set sail to sea and put in at Falmouth The Diamond, Vice Admiral, wherein were Captayne Ratcliffe (Governor of Virginia 1607) and Captayne William King."

"On June 8, 1609, seven ships sailed for Virginia. Among these were the "Sea Adventurer", as Admiral, the "Diamond", Vice Admiral, and the "Falcon", Rear Admiral. Upon St. James day, being about one hundred and fifty leagues distant from the West Indies, in crossing the Gulf of Bahama, there happened a most terrible and vehement storm, which was the taile of the West Indian Horacanon; this tempest separated all our fleet one from the other. After our ships (four) had been in the Virginia harbour a few days, came in the Vice Admiral, The Diamond, having cut her main mast overboard, and many of her men very sick and weak."

The following extract is taken from a copy of a deciphered letter of Don Pedro de Zunign to the King of Spain dated High Gate, November 23, 1609: "Late in November the remnant of Sir Thomas Gates, his fleet, returning from Virginia, reached England. Two of the ships returning home perished upon the point of Ushant, on one of which, (The Diamond) Captayne William King

was master, and one man alone was left to bring home news of their perishing."



CAPTAIN WILLIAM KING lived in Chester England and married Blanche Mainwaring. They had the following sons: Captain John, Francis, Captain William, and Thomas, who was in Virginia in 1629. He brought the first sheep to America.



CAPTAIN JOHN KING, son of Captain William King, subscribed 37 pounds and 10 shillings to the Virginia Company. His father was also a member of the Virginia Company. Captain John was master of Prince Henry's ship about 1610. He went with Raleigh to Guiana in 1617, the only one of his officers who remained faithful to the last, assisting Raleigh in his attempt to escape. He was an intense royalist and won fame as the Commander of the "Falcon" to the Barbadoes, 1636, which carried loyalists to the Stewart cause. He married Ann Daniel in Chester England. Ann was the daughter of Piers Daniel of Royal Descent, it is said. Thomas, his brother, came over to Virginia with his father in 1609; he was Burgess for Warwick Co., Va., 1620, and married Mary Sackville, daughter of Sir John Sackville.

ROBERT, the son of Captain JOHN KING and his wife, Ann (Daniel) King, was born about 1600 and died 1650. He was educated in England and lived in Ireland. He married Dorothy Blount, (dau. of James Blount, son of Sir Walter Blount and his wife, Isabel Aston, dau. of Sir Walter Aston.) He was a Major in the Colonial Militia of Charles County, Va., 1638. This ROBERT KING is supposed to have had a brother Francis who married Dorothy Aston and came to Virginia with Giles Brent. ROBERT KING who married Hannah Scarborough and who settled in Northampton Co. Va., is supposed to have been a son. He was born 1625 and lived in Ireland.

ROBERT KING was a colonel in the Colonial Militia, Northampton Co., Va., and at one time, Justice. It has been stated by some commentators that two Robert Kings, cousins, came to America, one of whom went to Somerset County, Maryland, and the other to Northampton County Va.

The ROBERT KING who stayed in Virginia had been reared in Ireland, his relatives, the Blounts and Revells living there. John Revell, who died in Ireland, left his estate to Robert, John and William King.

ROBERT KING married Hannah Scarborough, the daughter of Captain Edmund Scarborough and his wife, Hannah (Butler) Scarborough.

Robert King and his very close friend or relative, Richard Ayliffe, came to Virginia at some date shortly before or about the year 1662, for in that year on Feb. 4th, they secured patents and obtained grants to lands which were laid out for them in what is now Westmoreland Co. They brought the family of

Robert King into the colony, together with several other persons whose passage they secured with their own funds as is shown by the rights named for them in the patents given them.

To encourage colonization in Virginia at that date, the Crown granted to each free man a head-right of fifty acres; also a head-right of fifty acres for each person transported into the colony. Robert King and Richard Ayliffe proved that they had transported themselves and others and were thus entitled to a certain acreage based upon this claim as shown by the land grants in the Virginia State Land Office, Richmond Va.

Robert King and his wife Hannah, had children: Robert, Jr., William, Richard, Elizabeth. There may have been other children.

ROBERT KING, the immigrant, settled upon land granted to him in Nicomaco, in Westmoreland County, (formerly old Northumberland) and he died there in the year 1693, and before the Court held Nov. 29th of that year. On the old court order book of 1690-1698, p. 112, is the record: "Upon the petition of Alex. Spence, Atty. for Johanna King, relict and widow of ROBERT KING, decd., the probate of the will and the letters testamentary of this estate is granted to the said Johannah King." The pages of the will book of this date have perished so we do not have a full copy of his will, but the deeds of later dates made by his descendants and other such records in connection with his lands and his family give such information. Hannah King survived her husband and was living in 1695.

Of the children of Robert and Hannah King:

1. Robert King, Jr., married Mary----, (or Ann.) left a will dated Aug. 12, 1689, and proved April 7, 1690, in Stafford Co., Va. His widow, Mary King, was granted letters of testamentary on his estate ~~on his estate~~ with Richard Ayliffe and John Ererston on her bond as securities. The will book for this period in Stafford Co., is missing. We have the index to the book only and the court orders for that time. Deeds of the descendants of this Robert King in their transfers of lands which they held from bequests made in his will, establish their line of descent from him. The full list of the children of Robert King, Jr., is not certain. He left at least sons, Joseph, Benjamin and Robert.

Joseph King was probably the eldest son of Robert King, Jr., and his wife, Mary King. He lived in Stafford Co., St. Paul's Parish. His death is recorded on the Parish Register Sept. 26, 1727. There is in Stafford County an index to the old wills and deeds, (will book missing,) and this index checks with the Register of St. Paul's Parish, on the death of Joseph King. The will was proved by Susan King, widow of Joseph King. Their son, Joseph King, Jr., was born about 1700-1706, and was residing in Prince William Co., 1746. Married 1731, Sarah Cavies, Stafford Co., Va.

Benjamin King, second son of Robert King, Jr., inherited jointly with his brother, Joseph King, a tract of 400 acres of land, until 1703 when they made a division and sold this land. In 1705 and 1708, Benjamin King and his brother Joseph, made deeds to lands in which description of location and boundaries show that these lands are the same as held by their father, Robert King, Jr.

Robert King, 3rd, living in 1718, had a wife, Ann. He held 850 acres of his father's estate and sold it in 1718.

- 2. Richard King, second son of ROBERT KING, the immigrant.
- 3. Elizabeth King, married Robert Ball, of Westmoreland, Co., Va.
- 4. William King, married Judith Peyton, died in Stafford Co., Va., 1702. Left a will naming sons William Alfred and Thomas. He served in the Colonial Militia as Captain in the Middlesex County Troops.

Northern Neck grants (between the Rappahannock and Potomac Rivers) "Book 1, p. 128, dated March, 1694-5. Sam Cox has 378 acres laid off which lies partly in Stafford and partly in Richmond Counties, and adjoins land of GEORGE KING, etc....." The above George King seems to have gotten some of the land which previously had been granted to Robert King, (the immigrant) which indicates that he may have been another son.

SUMMARY.

Our earliest ancestor to reach the shores of the New World was Captain William King, Commander of the ship "Diamond," Vice Admiral of the ships sent to Jamestown in 1609 and who lost his life on his return voyage to England. The King's, Mainwaring's, Daniels, Scarboroughs, Chews, Burgesses, Montjoys, Peytons, Astons, and others, played a very important part in the settlement of Virginia and Kentucky. The story of their lives make interesting reading and add many thrills to those stirring times which helped to shape the destiny of our nation and this great Commonwealth.



(The Ancestral Pilgrimage Along
Life's Pathway,
Roy Stevenson King.)