

NUMBERING SYSTEM AND THE FRAUDULENT ASCENDANCY

HENLEY, 1898

- 3A. JOHN RANDOLPH ROBERTSON, a descendant of "...the first chief of the clan, Duncan Robertson, who saved the life of James I, of Scotland..., the Lords Crichton and Stuart..., [and the] Houses of Mackenzie and Randolph...;" b. circa 1712, Scotland; m. "...1739, Mary, daughter of Captain Gower (who was killed by Indians);" "...first resided in Brunswick County, Virginia...;" moved to Wake County, North Carolina, 1754, to educate his children at Wake Academy.¹

SEAVER, 1928

- 1A. JAMES ROBERTSON: m. Ann MacKenzie, of Scotland; [and purportedly had son]
2A. JOHN [ROBERTSON]: m. Eliza Ann Randolph, of Belfast, Ireland, [and purportedly had sons]
3A. JOHN RANDOLPH [ROBERTSON]: b. Scotland, 1677; taken to Ireland with [4A] Charles Robertson; remained there a short time and then came to America; settled first in Brunswick County, Virginia, 1715; m. Mary (b. 27 Jan 1716; daughter of Captain Abel Gower, Naval officer); later to Wake County, North Carolina;
4A. CHARLES [ROBERTSON].²

BURKE'S PEERAGE, C1939

- 1A. JAMES ROBERTSON, son of John Robertson, m. Ann Mackenzie, and was [the purported] father of
2A. JOHN ROBERTSON, who went from Scotland to Ireland and m. Eliza Randolph of Belfast. Their [purported] son
3A. JOHN RANDOLPH ROBERTSON, went with his brother, [4B] James to America, and settled in Brunswick Co., Virginia, but moved later to Orange Co., North Carolina, and finally to Burke Co., N.C., b. 1712; m. 1739, Mary, dau. of Capt. Abel Gower, Master Mariner, who emigrated from England to Virginia....³

¹ Mrs. Charles Fairfax Henley, "Maj. Charles Robertson and Some of His Descendants," *American Historical Magazine* 3 (January 1898), 21-23.

² J. Montgomery Seaver, *Robertson Family Records* (Philadelphia, PA: American Historical-Genealogical Society, 1928), 59-61. The blending of real and fictional personages with sliding dates and dubious historical references has been a persistent problem in the line. There is evidence that [1A.] Reverend James Robertson existed, but Colonel Harlee established that he was not [6.] General Robertson's ancestor since [1A.] James Robertson did not marry Ann MacKenzie until 1752 and since [6.] General Robertson was born June 28, 1742.

³ Burke's Peerage, Ltd., *Distinguished Families of America* (London, England: Burke's Peerage, c1939), 2891.

VIRKUS, 1942

- 1B. JOHN ROBERTSON, of Scot., the beginning of the Robertson clan; King James II conferred the Coat of Arms on him for saving him from a would be assassin;
- 2A. JOHN [ROBERTSON], went to Ire. With his bro. [4B.] James, when King James II attempted to colonize that island with Scotch Presbyns. to supplant the Irish Catholics; m. Eliza Randolph, of Belfast, Ire.;
- 3A. JOHN RANDOLPH [ROBERTSON] (b. ca. 1712), from Ire. With his bro. [4B] James; settled in Brunswick Co., Va.; to Orange Co., N.C., thence to Burke (now Buncombe) Co., N.C.; m. 1739, Mary Gower (Capt. Abel, sea capt., Eng. To Va.)...⁴

KELLEY, 1973

- 2A. JOHN ROBERTSON, "...an exile from Perthshire, Scotland...; [m.] around 1710, ...Ann Elizabeth Randolph of Belfast, Ireland..." [and purportedly had sons]
- 3A. JOHN RANDOLPH ROBERTSON, "...born about 1712...[came from Ireland to] America...through Philadelphia...; established his home in Brunswick County, Virginia...; around 1740...married Mary Gower the daughter of Lord Abel Gower, a British sea captain. ...About 1750...moved to Wake County, North Carolina, where his children could attend better schools."
- 4A. CHARLES ROBERTSON.⁵

KELLEY, 2000

- 2A. JOHN ROBERTSON, "...of Guay [Perthshire, Scotland,]...was arrested and placed in Newgate Prison, although he escaped. While he fled to North Ireland, his Perthshire lands were confiscated by the crown. ...He lived [there] as a political exile the rest of his life, but married...Ann Elizabeth Randolph, ...the daughter of John Randolph, ...around 1716." [They purportedly had sons]
- 3A. JOHN RANDOLPH ROBERTSON, "...born circa 1718, and [4A] Charles Robertson, born circa 1720...in the Presbyterian settlement northeast of Belfast near Larne."⁶

⁴ Frederick Adams Virkus, editor, *The Abridged Compendium of American Genealogy*, 7 volumes (Chicago, IL: Institute of American Genealogy, 1925-42), 7: 366-367.

⁵ Sarah Foster Kelley, *Children of Nashville: Lineages from James Robertson* (Nashville, Tennessee: Blue & Gray Press, 1973), 2-3.

⁶ Sarah Foster Kelley, *Scotch-Irish Origins of General James Robertson* (College Grove, Tennessee: E. S. Kelley, Jr., 2000), "Introduction" & 51.