

298/558. JOHN VAN METER

Born (bapt) 14 Oct 1683 Kingston, Ulster County, New York

Died 1745 Frederick County, Virginia

Married (1) 299/559. Sara Bodine 1705 Somerset County, New Jersey

Born 1687

Died 1709

Children (1):

Sarah Van Meter

b. bapt 30 Oct 1706 Somerset County, New Jersey

d. after 07 Dec 1756

m. James Davis c1725

John (Johannes) J Van Meter

b. bapt 28 Apr 1708 Somerset County, New Jersey

d. c1730 Maryland

m. Rebecca Powelson

149/279. Mary (Maria) J Van Meter

b. bapt 26 Apr 1709 Somerset County, New Jersey

d. after 1752

m. 148/278. Robert Jones c1730

Married (2) Margaret Mollenauer c1710

Born c1687

Died after 13 Aug 1745

Children (2):

Rebecca Van Meter

b. c1711 Somerset County, New Jersey

d. c1770

m. Solomon Hedges c1735

Isaac Van Meter

b. c1713 Somerset County, New Jersey

d. c1748 Frederick County, Virginia

m. Elsje Scholl c1736

Elizabeth Van Meter

b. c1715 Somerset County, New Jersey

d. c1793 Shepherdstown, Berkeley County, Virginia

m. Thomas Shepherd c1733

Henry Van Meter

b. c1717 Somerset County, New Jersey

d. c1793 Berkeley County, Virginia

m. (1) Eve -----

(2) Hannah Pyle c1757

(3) Elizabeth Pyle 08 Apr 1777 (bond date)

Rachel Van Meter

b. c1719 Somerset County, New Jersey

d. before 17 Sep 1744

m. ----- La Forge c1736

Abraham Van Meter

- b. c1721 Somerset County, New Jersey
- d. c1783 Berkeley County, Virginia
- m. (1) Ruth Hedges c1742
- (2) Martha ----- Wheeler

Jacob Van Meter

- b. Mar 1723 Somerset County, New Jersey
- d. 16 Nov 1798 Hardin County, Kentucky
- m. Letitia Stroud 1741 Frederick County, Virginia

Magdalena Van Meter

- b. c1725 Somerset County, New Jersey
- d. after 13 Aug 1745
- m. Robert Pusey c1742/45

John Van Meter (Jan Joosten van Meteren), who died in Frederick County, Virginia, in 1745 was a son of Joost Jans van Meteren and his wife Sarah DuBois of Kingston, New York. Sara (Sarah) Bodine was a daughter of Jean Bodine and Marie Crocheron. Margaret Mollenauer was a daughter of Hendrick Mollenauer and a granddaughter of Sarah DuBois and Joost Jans Van Meteren. (THE CROCHERON FAMILY OF STATEN ISLAND, Charlotte Megill Hix, NEW YORK GENEALOGICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL RECORD, Volume 111, 1980, excerpt from Philip C. Ellsworth, Bethany, OK, 1986.)

John Van Meter moved from New York to Somerset County, New Jersey, where he married and lived during the period when his children were born. Later he migrated to western Maryland and then to the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. (THE VIRGINIA GERMANS, Klaus Wust, The University Press of Virginia, Charlottesville, 1969; data from Barry W. Downs, Leitchfield, KY; Alice Lewis Gunter, Independence, MO; and Betty Meredith Peger, Brownsville, KY, 1984.)

Kathleyn Bodine (Bodyn), wife of Isaac, and Joost Jans van Meteren were sponsors at the baptism of Sarah, first child of John Van Meter and Sarah Bodine on 30 October 1706 at the Reformed Dutch Church at Raritan (now Somerville), New Jersey. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY, Samuel Gordon Smyth, The New Era Printing Company, Lancaster, PA, 1909.)

John Van Meter attested to the appraisal, by Joris Van Neste and Hendrick Reinersen, of the inventory of the estate of his grandfather, Jan Joosten van Meteren, in Burlington, New Jersey, on 13 June 1706. Marked "Dutch," the instrument valued the estate at 245 pounds, 14 shillings and no pence. It included six negro slaves, a man, woman and four children, worth 145 pounds. (New Jersey Calendar of Wills, page 480, A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

John Van Meter and Henry Van Meter (Metere), of Salem County, New Jersey, were sureties on an administration bond for their brother Isaac Van Meter (Metere), also of Salem County, when the court appointed Isaac as executor of the will of Hendrix Mollenauer (Mullinar), one of the pioneer settlers on the South Branch of the Raritan River. Arience Mollenauer (Mullinar), son of Hendrick, and Isaac Bodine were named as executors of the will, which was probated on 04 March 1718/19, but they both renounced the appointment and the court named Isaac Van Meter in their stead. The will was administered in June 1719. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

On 16 November 1719 John Van Meter of Somerset County, Province of East Jersey, yeoman, and his wife Margaret (Margerat), conveyed to Hendry Millar (Hendrix Mollenauer?) 37 acres of land on the west side of the

South Branch of the Raritan River which was part of tract No. 1 of the 835 acres granted to Jan Joosten Van Metere by Governor Hamilton in 1700. The parcel was bounded by lands of John Campbell, John Drummond of Londine, other lands of John Van Meter, and the South Branch. The deed was signed John Vanmetere and Margret Van Metere, who made her mark: (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

All that tract of land situate lying and being upon the west side of the South Branch of Raritan River in the said County of Somerset aforesaid now in the peaceable possession and enjoyment of him the said Hendry Millar. Beginning at a Red Oak tree on the bank of the South Branch marked on the east side and running North West by West 120 chains, thence Southwest by South 44 chains, thence Southeast by East 147 chains to a Walnut tree at the said bank and point of the meadow marked on three sides thence along the South Branch to where it begins.

Previously, on 19 June 1714, John Van Meter, his brother Isaac Van Meter (Metre), his mother Sarah DuBois (du Bois), all of Salem County, and his uncle Jacob DuBois (du Bois) of Ulster County, New York, acquired 3000 acres in Salem County from Colonel Daniel Cox, Agent of the Proprietors of West Jersey at Burlington. The grantees divided their grant, with the DuBois taking the land on the north side of a line and the Van Meters taking the land on the south side (Liber DD, page 316, Salem Deeds, New Jersey State Archives, Trenton, A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.) The Van Meters continued to purchase land until they owned about 6000 acres, from the overshot mill in Upper Alloway Creek, near Daretown, southeasterly to Fork Bridge. (Shourd's HISTORY OF FENWICKS COLONY, pages 302-304, A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.) On 22 May 1716 John Van Meter (Metre) purchased 600 acres of land on Alloway Creek in Salem County from John Powell. (Liber DD, page 41, Salem Deeds, A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

John Van Meter engaged in extensive trading with the Indians and became very familiar with the western frontier areas where he began looking for new land upon which to settle in western Maryland and the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. (THE VIRGINIA GERMANS.) John Van Meter (van Metre) was the second person to settle in Frederick County, Maryland, on land which the settler owned personally. The survey for his land, which is where the city of Frederick stands today, was dated 21 April 1724. The tract of some 300 acres, which he called Metre, was the sixth parcel surveyed within the area of present-day Frederick. On 18 November 1725 he acquired another tract, named Meadow, which extended along Carroll Creek and now is the southeastern part of the city of Frederick, stretching from today's intersection of South Market and South streets eastward through a portion of the Fairgrounds. He built what was subsequently described as a "Dutch frame house 18 X 14 feet, clay and white-washed outside with a stone chimney, a log house 20 X 16 feet, a frame house covered with shingles, a house raised four feet from the ground 18 X 14 feet covered with boards." Here he and his family lived until 1735. John Van Meter, Jr. obtained 200 acres, named Pipe Meadow, on 01 August 1729 at the mouth of Beaver Run, which is now Carroll Creek. Adjoining his father's tract, Meadow, the two parcels extended their joint holdings from present-day downtown Frederick all the way to the Monocacy River. In 1729, 1731, 1732 and 1734, John Van Meter was appointed by the Courts as Constable of Monocacy Hundred, which encompassed all the lands of western Maryland from the mouth of the Monocacy River, extended north to Pennsylvania and eastward into what is part of today's Carroll County. In 1729 the Constable of Monocacy (Monocoughsin) Hundred reported to the Court that he had received many "abuses in the execution of his office insomuch that he is afraid to comply with the order of the Court and humbly prays for protection." Consequently the Court ordered Joseph Mounts and John Gratharm to join Van Meter (van Metre) in authority. Robert Jones also was appointed to serve as a constable with John Van Meter in 1729. (PIONEERS OF OLD MONOCACY, Grace L. Tracey and John P. Dern, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1989.)

The 300-acre Metre tract was granted to John Van Meter on 08 November 1726 and described as being at the mouth of Metre's Run, a tributary of Monocacy Creek, in Prince George's County. (Land records of Frederick County, Maryland, A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.) It has been said that

the Battle of Monocacy, during the Civil War, was fought on this property, but the battleground appears to be on the other side of the city. He acquired other land in Maryland, some on Antietam Creek in what became Washington County.

On 25 March 1730 John Van Meter of Prince George's County, Maryland, yeoman, sold 200 acres in Salem County, New Jersey, to Cornelius Newkirk of Salem County. The tract was part of 3000 acres purchased from Daniel Cox on 19 June 1714 from which 400 acres were set off to John Van Meter, as his dividend, by Jacob DuBois, Sarah DuBois and Isaac Van Meter. The parcel consisted of fast land, marsh and swamp, and 20 acres for roads, according to a certificate by Benjamin Acton, surveyor. Witnesses were Catherine Van Meter, who signed with a II mark, John Millar and William Burkett. The other 200 acres of the original tract were sold to Elijah Bassett. (Liber DD, page 41, Salem Deeds, A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

On 23 March 1734 John Van Meter sold to Isaac Van Meter, for 200 pounds and divers other good reasons, all of an unspecified amount of land, marsh and meadow, excepting 110 acres, which had previously been conveyed to John Tyler. (Liber E, page 32, Salem Deeds, A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

In the meantime, John Van Meter obtained the rights to 30000 acres of land on the Shenandoah River in Virginia: (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

At a Council held at the Capital the 17th day of June, 1730 ... Several petitions being this day offered to the Board for leave to take up land on the River Sherando on the North-west side of the Great Mountains ... On reading ... the Petition of John Van Metre setting forth that he is desirous to take up a Tract of land in this Colony on the West side of the Great Mountains for the settlement of himself & Eleven children & also divers of his Relations & friends living in the Government of New York are also desirous to move with their families & Effects to Settle in the same place if a Sufficient Quantity of Land may be assigned them for that purpose & praying that ten thousand acres of land lying in the forks of Sherando River including the places called by the names of Cedar Litch & Stony Lick and running up between the branches of the sd. River to Complete that Quantity & twenty thousand acres not already taken up by Robert Carter & Mann Page, Esqrs., or any other - lying in the fork between the sd. River Sherando and the River Cohongaroola [Potomac] & extending thence to Opeckon & up the South branch thereof may be assigned for the Habitation of himself his family & friends. The Governor with the advise of the Council is pleased to give leave to the sd. John Vanmeter to take up the sd. first mentioned tract of ten thousand acres for the Set'lem't of himself and his family. And that as soon as the Petitioner shall bring on the last mentioned tract twenty families to inhabit on that this Board is satisfied so many are to remove thither Leave be & it is hereby granted him for surveying the last mentioned Tract of twenty thousand acres within the limits above described in so many Several Dividens as the petr. & his sd. partners shall think fit. And it is further ordered that no person be permitted to enter for or take up any part of the afsd. Lands in the meantime provided the sd. Vanmeter & his family & the twenty other families of his Relations and friends do settle thereon within the space of two years according to his proposal ...

The Virginia land grants of John Van Meter (Vanmeter), for 10000 acres in the forks of the Shenandoah (Shenando) River and 20000 acres on the south side of the Potomac River, on 17 June 1730, were in Spotsylvania County. On the same day, John's brother Isaac Van Meter got 10000 acres between Riverton and Millwood. John Van Meter sold his grant to Jost (Joist) Hite on 05 August 1731. On 12 June 1734 patents were issued to Hite and others for Van Meter land. (HOPEWELL FRIENDS HISTORY, 1734-1934, FREDERICK COUNTY, VIRGINIA, John W. Wayland, Strasburg, VA, 1936, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1975.)

The 40000 acres of land granted to John and Isaac Van Meter were described as being "on both sides of the Shenandoah" in the subsequent surveys which "embraced forty thousand acres each" and were confirmed to

the brothers on 12 May 1732. (THE VAN METERENS OF HOLLAND AND AMERICA, Amelia Clay Lewis Van Meter Rogers, REGISTER OF THE KENTUCKY STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Frankfort, Volume 34, Number 106, January 1936, pages 22-41, attributed to old files in State Library, Richmond, Virginia, and SHENANDOAH VALLEY PIONEERS AND THEIR DESCENDANTS, Cartwell, page 13.)

John and Isaac transferred this land to their relative Jost Hite on 05 August 1731, retaining for themselves two large choice tracts of 1786 acres and 885 acres on the west side of the Shenandoah which were patented to them on 03 October 1734, the year that this area became Orange County, Virginia. (THE VAN METERENS.)

John Van Meter, "descendant of a Holland Dutchman from New York," Jacob Stover (Stauber) from Switzerland and Hans Jost Heydt (Hite) from Alsatia were instrumental in promoting the settlement of the Shenandoah Valley by Germans. Stover and Hite, with their wives and one child each, sailed to England from Rotterdam on 15 July 1709 and to New York in 1710. Hite was married to Anna Maria DuBois, a French Huguenot and a relative of Sara DuBois van Meteren whose family migrated earlier from Mannheim and settled at New Paltz in Ulster County, New York. Hite lived with the DuBois family at New Paltz and he became acquainted with the van Meteren family of Kingston. Hite moved to Kingston by November 1711 and engaged in fur trading. He went to Germantown, Pennsylvania, about 1716 and bought a large tract of land on Perkiomen Creek in Montgomery County where he operated mills and weaving shops in addition to farming. In May 1728 "Yost Hyt" was among "ye Back Inhabitators about Falkner Swamp and New Coshahopin" who appealed to Governor Patrick Gordon of Pennsylvania for protection against Indian encroachments. When the government failed to support the settlers, many began looking for new homes. With the assistance of John Van Meter, Hite soon moved to Virginia. (THE VIRGINIA GERMANS.)

By deeds of lease and release dated 18 and 19 November 1736, John Van Meter (Van Metre) of Orange County, Virginia, bought from Francis Pritchard (Tencher, Pincher) of Orange County and his wife Sarah, for 20 pounds, a tract of land on Opequon (Opeckon) Creek on the west side of Shenandoah (Sharundo) River containing 100 acres that had been granted to Pritchard on 12 November 1735. The deeds were witnessed by James Porteus, Charles Stevens, Thomas Postgate and John Branham and proved by Porteus, Stevens and Branham on 25 November 1736. (Orange County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, pages 384 and 386, abstract, HOPEWELL FRIENDS HISTORY.)

On 23 and 24 March 1737 John Van Meter (Metre) of Orange County, farmer, bought from Jost Hite (Hites) of the same place, gentleman, and his wife Anna Maria (Mary) for 5 pounds and a bond in the sum of 200 pounds "475 acres on Opeckon Creek, part of a tract whereon John Lilbourn now dwell, which contains in the whole 700 acres ... for a division between John Van Metre and Jno. Lilbourn." On 23 and 24 August 1738 John Van Meter (Metre) of Orange County obtained for 100 pounds current money from Richard Morgan of the same place and his wife Jane "290 acres between the dividing of Josiah Jones and Charles Anderson's path ... near fish spring." (ORANGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, DEED BOOKS 1 AND 2, 1735 - 1738, JUDGEMENTS 1735, abstracts, John Frederick Dorman, Washington, 1961, deed book pages 449, 453, 437 and 442; no witnesses shown.) Josiah Jones must have been a relative of Robert Jones who married Mary Van Meter, daughter of John. Josiah Jones, Richard Paulson and Joseph Mounts obtained 834 acres by grant dated 03 October 1734, of which Joseph Mounts and his wife Katherine sold "317 acres on the west side of Sherrendo River and on Chongoluta River" to Jonathan Simmons on 09 and 10 January 1737. The deed was witnessed by Thomas Anderson, Richard Morgan and Morgan Morgan. (ORANGE COUNTY DEED BOOKS 1 AND 2, deed book pages 385 and 390.)

Mary Van Meter Jones witnessed an altercation that occurred at her father's home on 15 October 1736: (ORANGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, DEED BOOKS 3 & 4, 1738-1741, John Frederick Dorman, Washington, 1966.)

On 15 October 1736 Robert Yelldall, late of Orange County, labourer, came before me, Morgan Morgan, and assumed under penalty of L50 sterling, and Giles Chapman of the said county, farmer, undertook for Robert Yeldall in the penalty of L25, that Robert personally appear before the Justices on the third Tuesday in

November next to do what by the Court be enjoined and in the meantime keep the peace, especially toward John Vanmetre of Orange County.

Morgan/an

15 Oct. 1736. John Vanmetre declares that on 13 October there came to his dwelling house one Robert Yelldall in company with Cornelius Newkirk, in a riotous and inhuman manner did enter his dwelling house and abused his wife and scared her by this threatening and saying that he wood stand by one James Davis that had lately assaulted the deponent's house, and that he is not safe in his owne house by reason of the riots aforesaid.

John Vanmetere

Mary Jones of this county declares that on 13 October Robert Yelldall was with Cornelius Newkirk, and Robert Yelldall entered the house of John Vanmetere and asked Vanmetre's wife for a botle he left there. The woman answered that she did not know of any botle. He began to swear and say he wood have his botle, except she would cheat him of it, and if she did, he did not mater it, they were knaves, they had swore the peace against James Davis, but he would stand by him, and that James Davis was able to drive them and all their generations, and if not he wood stand by him, and after they had been gone a while, they came back to the house again. Robert Yelldall rod up to the house door, and the fore part of his horse entered the inside of the house, and John Vanmeter struck the horse back.

Mary (M) Jones Sworn before

Morgan/an.

James Davis, who was implicated in this dispute, may have been the husband or son of Sarah Van Meter.

James Davis obtained 1175 acres on Tullis Run in what is now Berkeley County, West Virginia, as one of the 70 families that settled in the Shenandoah Valley on land granted by patents on 12 November 1735 under the authority issued to Alexander Ross and Morgan Bryan. The will of James Davis, Sr. was probated on 07 December 1756 with his wife Sarah, his eldest son James Davis, Jr. and Mr. James Hedges, gentleman, as executors. He left his home plantation to son Jacob Davis and son Edward Davis was bequeathed land adjoining Peter Hedges. Sons James Davis, Jr. and John Davis were mentioned along with brother Robert Davis. The will was witnessed by Samuel Burrows, Isabel Burrows and John Parks. (HOPEWELL FRIENDS HISTORY.) One James Davis was killed by Indians during a raid on the upper Potomac Valley about 1752. (A HISTORY OF THE VALLEY OF VIRGINIA, Samuel Kercheval, first edition 1833, revised and reprinted, C. J. Carrier Company, Harrisonburg, VA, 1981.)

Solomon Hedges, who married Rebecca Van Meter, was the eldest son of Joseph Hedges and Catharine Stalcop who moved from New Jersey to Chester County, Pennsylvania, and then to Monocacy in Maryland, where Joseph died in 1732. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.) Solomon Hedges, who was born in 1710, bought 275 acres of land in Frederick County from Edward Davis on 10 April 1738. Edward Davis obtained 875 acres on Tullis Run in what is now Berkeley County, West Virginia, on 12 November 1735 as one of the 70 patentees under Ross and Bryan. (HOPEWELL FRIENDS HISTORY.) Identified as late of Orange County, Edward Davis disposed of this land on 10 April 1738 by three Orange County deeds of lease and release in which all three parcels were described as being "on the west side of Sherrendo River and Opeckon Creek, on a branch of Hungoluta River called Tulises Branch, part of 875 acres granted to Edward Davis 12 November 1735." The first deed was to Richard Morgan who bought 300 acres for 30 pounds current money. The tract was adjacent to land of Solomon Hedges. The deed was witnessed by Joshua Hedges, Solomon Hedges and Peter (X) Hedges. The second deed for 275 acres at 18 pounds current money was to Solomon Hedges. The parcel was described additionally as being next to land of Peter Hedges and near the mountain. The deed was witnessed by Richard Morgan, Peter (X) Hedges and Joshua Hedges. The third parcel was deeded to Peter Hedges who paid 30 pounds current money for 300 acres adjoining land

of James Davis and near the mountain. The deed was witnessed by Richard Morgan, Solomon Hedges and Joshua Hedges. All three deeds were proved on 24 August 1738. (ORANGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, DEED BOOKS 1 AND 2, deed book pages 475 -492.)

Cohongoluta (Hungoluta) or Cohongoruton were old names for the Potomac from its junction with the Shenandoah at Harper's Ferry to the Allegheny Mountain. (HOPEWELL FRIENDS HISTORY.) John Van Meter (Metre), Morgan Morgan and Morgan Bryan appraised the estate of Robert Worthington in Orange County on 07 August 1736. John Van Meter, Morgan Morgan and Richard Beeson (Presson) took inventory of the estate of Thomas Curtiss on 23 July 1741, John Van Meter, Richard Beeson and William Johnson inventoried the estate of Mary Curtiss on 24 February 1741/2. Mary Curtiss was a daughter of Morgan and Martha Bryan. (ORANGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, WILL BOOK 1 AND 2.)

On 09 November 1739, John Van Meter of Orange County, Virginia, yeoman, made a bond to Joseph and Thomas Palmer of Westchester County, New York, agreeing to sell them 300 acres called Metre on Monocacy River in Prince George's County, Maryland. On 05 August 1741 deeds were accomplished to Thomas Palmer for three parcels of land, totalling 138 acres, and to Joseph Palmer for another three tracts, totalling 162 acres, all parts of Metre in Prince George's County. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

The area of Virginia, where the Van Meters lived, became Spotsylvania County in 1721, Orange County in 1734 and Frederick County in 1743.

Two of the eleven children of John Van Meter died (but left issue) before 17 September 1744 when he made a deed of gift to his children. Although son Isaac was identified as the eldest son in the deed, the description should be interpreted as the eldest living son. In his 1745 Frederick County will John Van Meter referred to his deceased son Johannes as his eldest son: (Frederick County, Virginia, Deed Book 1, page 143.)

To all Christian People to whome these presents shall Come I John Van Meter of Frederick County in the Colony of Virginia Yeoman ... for Love and Affection that I Bear unto Isaac Van Meter Eldest Son of the said John Van Metre Henry van Meter Second Son Abraham Van Meter third Son & Jacob Van Meter fourth and youngest Son of the said John Van Meter & Maudlena Wife to Robert Bewsey my Youngest Daughter, Solomon Hedges Esqr Thomas Shepard James Davis & Robert Jones Sons-in-Law I the said John Van Meter ... have given granted & confirmed ... my Outlying Stalyons Geldings Mares & Colts of Whatsoever Kind now Runing in the Woods Branded on the Left Sholder with the Leter M ... to be Equally Divided ... Excepting ... four Young Likely Mares ... to the use of my Grand Sons Johanus Van Meter Son to Johanus Van Meter deced & John Le Forge Natural Son of my Daughter Rachel deced ... Equally ... at ye Age of Twenty One years ... I reserve unto my Self for my Use one brown Stalyon ... by the Name of Buck one Bay Gelding by the Name of Jobber One Young Bay Gelding of four Year Old with Star on his forehead One Younge Black Horse of four year Old & One bay Stallion one Ear Croped at Home ... that if ... Robert Jones Do not Quit Claim of or to a Pretended Right to One hundred Acres of Land & other pretended Demand on me ... for which he hath no right then the proportional part of said Creatures & Increase that should have fallen to the said Robert Jones as his part shall be given to my Daughter Mary Wife to said Jones & to her Children ... Seventeenth day of September Anno Domi one Thousand Seven hundred forty four

John Van Meter (Seal)

The deed was witnessed by Jonas Hedges and Joseph Carroll and proved in Frederick County Court October 1744.

In 1745, John Van Meter gave his power of attorney to Baltis Fouts of Prince George's County, Maryland, to make a deed to Michael Raymer for 150 acres called Meadow in Prince George's County. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

John Van Meter of Frederick County, Virginia, died after 13 August 1745, when he wrote his will, and before 03 September 1745 when it was proved in Frederick County Court. He left his wife Margaret 1/3 dower share of his estate. Son Abraham inherited the land bought from Francis Pritchard on Opequon (Opeckan) Run adjoining land formerly bequeathed to him, some land on Opequon (Opeckan) Run and Alum (Allum) Hill bought from Jost Hite and part of a tract coming from a patent due from Jost Hite. Son Isaac got part of the home plantation, provided that he sell the land that he had at Monocacy (Manocacy) and invest three-fourths of the proceeds in improving his part of the home plantation and giving one-fourth to his brother Jacob. Son Henry received the land in Frederick County on Opequon (Opeckan) Run upon which he was living with the stipulation that the legacy should not pass to his wife Eve if he died before her without heirs of age. Son Jacob was bequeathed part of the home plantation with the provision that the first child of his wife, which was not his, be eliminated as a subsequent heir. The heirs of daughter Sarah Davis, wife of James, received part of the dwelling plantation. Daughter Mary Jones, wife of Robert, got part of the dwelling plantation. Daughter Rebecca Hedges, wife of Solomon, inherited part of the home plantation. Daughter Elizabeth Shepherd, wife of Thomas, received part of the home plantation and a tract of land called Pell Mell (Pelmel) in Prince George's County, Maryland, which adjoined a tract named Antietam (Antetum) Bottom on the Potomac (Potowmack) River. Daughter Magdalena was bequeathed 20 shillings as her full legacy. Her heirs received part of the home plantation, to be theirs at age 21. Grandson John Le Forge, son of deceased daughter Rachel, was left land and two breeding mares. Grandson Johannes (Johanus) Van Meter, son of eldest son Johannes (Johanus) Van Meter, received two breeding mares and part of the Hite tract with the stipulation that he deliver an equal share of his tract in Monocacy (Monockasy), or the value of it, to his sister Joanna (Joana), daughter of Johannes (Johanus) Van Meter, deceased. If any mines were to be discovered on any of the various tracts bequeathed, they were to be shared equally with all of the devisees. All personal estate after the widow took her dower was also to be divided equally among the children. Son-in-law Thomas Shepherd and sons Abraham Van Meter and Jacob Van Meter were named as executors. The will, signed John Meter, was witnessed by Edward Morgan, Andrew Corn and Joseph Carroll: (Frederick County, Virginia, Will Book 1, page 52.)

In the Name of God Amen, the thirteenth Day of August one Thousand seven Hundred and Forty Five I John Van Meter of Frederick County in the Colony of Virginia being sick of Body but of Sound mind and Memory praise be given to God for the same, and Calling to mind the Uncertainty of this Transitory Life, am Willing through Divine Assistance, to Settle & Dispose of these Temporal Blessings which it hath Pleas'd God beyond my Deserts to bestow upon me, and therefore making this my Last Will & Testament Disanulling all other Wills and Testaments heretofore made by me &c. Imprimis, I commend my Soul into the hands of God that gave it, Hoping thru' the Merits of the Lord Jesus Christ it will be accepted and my Body to be Interred, with Deacency at the Discretion of my Executors hereafter Named I also Will that all my Just Debts & Demands whatsoever in Right or Conscience is Due to any be Discharged and Paid (as also my Funeral Expences) By my Executors, and as to my Real and Personal Estate I Will Dispose Devise Give and Bequeath it in the manner Following That is to say. 1st My Will is that my well Beloved Wife Margaret Van Meter Have the third part of my Moveable Estate, Also one Room which she likes best, to Dwell in, in my Dwelling House, and one third part of the Orchard next the Run, Together with the Keeping of one Riding Horse & two Milch Cows, Linnin & Wooling Yarn to be wove her Bed & Bedding, the said Room & Liberties to be by her Possessed Dureing Life, without Controle hindrance or Molestation of any Person whatsoever. 2d Item, I give Will Devise & Bequeath unto my Son Abraham Van Meter and his Heirs Lawfully Begotten, a Certain Parcel Tract of Land Bought by me of Francis Prichard on Opeckan Run against the Land formerly Bequeathed to him, said Tract Begins at an Elm Tree being the East Corner of the said Tract, and Runneth thence South Eighty Degrees East Ninety Nine Poles, between a Line Tree Hickory Saplin & the aforesaid Elm Saplin By Opeckan Run side thence down the same to the Beginning Tree of the afsd. Prichards Tract, thence South fifty five Degrees West, One Hundred and Ten Poles, to the afsd. Begining Elm Tree, Containing by Estimation one hundred Acres of Land be it more or Less, Provided there should be no Heirs Male or Female of my said Son or Sons, (hereafter Named) Live to

arrive to the Age of Twenty one Years, that after the Decease of my sd. Son or Sons, afsd. or their Heirs, that then their part of Land to be equally Divided amongst the rest of my Surviving Divisees hereafter Mentioned. Furthermore I also give Unto my sd Son Abraham Van Meter one Certain Tract of Land being & scituate on Opeckon Run in the County afsd and to his Heirs Lawfully Begotten, being part of Four hundred and Twenty five Acres of Land Bought of Jost Hite, Beginning at or about Two Yards below a Pine Tree on a high Bank on Opeckan Run Called the Allum Hill, and runing thence by a Division Line North Sixty five Degrees East Sixty Poles, to a small Hickory, thence North Twenty Degrees West Twenty Eight Poles to a Black Oak then North Twenty Degrees West Sixteen Poles then North fifteen Degrees East Two hundred & Nine Poles to a Spannish Oak, another Corner of the Original Survey, thence North Twenty Degrees West Sixteen Poles to the first Beginning tree of the Survey of the Original Tract by Opeckan Run side, near a white Oak markt thus JVM, thence up Opeckan Run to the Beginning Pine Containing by Estimation Two Hundred and thirty Seven Acres of Land be it more or Less &c the same I also Give Devise Will and Bequeath to him my Son Abraham and his Heirs Lawfully Begotten, Under the same Restrictions and Limitations as I have Bequeathed unto him the above Mentioned Land Bought of Francis Prichar, also I give and Devise unto my said Son Abraham (after my Wife afsds. thirds of my Moveable Estate and Legacies are paid) one Proportional Childs part arising therefrom as well of Lands to be Disposed of if any there be as of all things also &c. 4thly. Fourthly, I also Will Devise Give and Bequeath unto my Son Abraham Van Meter and to his Lawful Heirs the Southermost part & Half Moity of four Hundred Acres of Land for me & in my Name to Survey for him his Heirs afsd. which Land I have Jost Hite's Bond for Procuring a Pattennt, which if he shall not Obtain the sd. Pattennt he is to have the sd. Bond for Recovering so much as Will Amount to his Share or Proportion According to his Dividend of sd. Tract, and the same Land to be held and Enjoyed by him under the same Restrictions and Limitations as the above Mentioned Land, Namely the Land Bought of Francis Prichar &c. 5thly. Item, I Devise, Give and Bequeath unto my Son Isaac Van Meter and his Heirs Lawfully Begotten one part or Tract of Land being part of the Tract of Land whereon I now Dwell, Beginning at a Bounded Stake at the end of Sixteen Poles in the first Line of the Original Tract Running thence with the said Line South thirty Degrees West Sixty four Perches then South Eighty one Degrees East one hundred & Eighty Eight Perches, then North five Degrees East Ten Poles then South Eighty one Degrees East one hundred & Eighty Poles Until it Intersects the Line of the Intire Tract, then North one hundred Poles to two white Oaks or Corner of the Intire Tract then North fifty Two Degrees West forty Poles to a Black Oak another Corner of the Intire Tract then North Eighteen Poles then South Seventy Six Degrees West to the Beginning Stake, Containing by Computation two Hundred and forty three Acres of Land be it more or Less, Provided the said Isaac Van Meter make Sale of the Land he has at Manocacy, and Delivers one fourth part of the Price thereof to his Brother Jacob and the other three fourths to be either Applied towards Improving the Land herein Bequeathed otherwise laid out in other Lands and the sd. Land to be held Under the same Restrictions and Limetations, as those Lands Will & Bequeathed to my Son Abraham as aforementioned, Also, I give & Devise Unto my said Son Isaac Van Meter after my aforesd. Wifes Thirds of my Moveable Estate and Legacies are paid an Equal Proportional Childs part arising therefrom as well of my Lands which are to be Disposed of if any there be as of all else my Moveables &c. 6thly. Item. I Give, Devise & Bequeath unto my Son Henry Van meter his Heirs Lawfully Begotten, one Certain Parcel or Tract of Land Scituate and being in Frederick County on Opecken Run whereon the said Henry now Dwells Beginning at a Spanish Oak standing by Opeckan at a Lick in the Branch of sd. Run and Running thence into the Woods, East Twenty Poles to a Black Oak thence South Eighty three Degrees East Ninety two Poles to a white Oak then East One Hundred and fifty one Poles to a Hickory in the Line of the Original Survey thence down the same to a Run that falls into Opeckan Run thence down the same into Opeckan Run where a Spring is at the Mouth thereof then up Opeckan Run to the Beginning Spannish Oak Containing by Estimation about four Hundred Acres of Land be it more or Less, with Liberty to such as Possess the Land below the Mouth of the said Run to get Water and have and Possess part of the said Spring at the Mouth of the said Run, and hold & enjoy the said Land Under the same Restrictions and Limitations as my Son Abraham & his Heirs &c. And if my said Son should Decease before his Wife Eve, then my Will is that the said Eve be Immediately Dispossessed and Extirpated out of the said Lands & Dwelling never to have any Claim Right Title Interest or Demand on said Land or Dwelling place Least she should bear Burthen & Ruin for the afsd. Heirs Also I give & Devise unto my said Son Henry After my aforesd. Wifes Third of my Moveable Estate and Legacies are paid an Equal Proportional Childs part arising therefrom as well of any Lands which are to be Disposed of if any there be as of

all else &c. 7thly. Item, I Will Devise Give & Bequeath Unto my Son Jacob Van Meter and his Heirs Lawfully Begotten or Supposed to be Gotten from the time that his Wifes first Child was Born not being his, one Piece or Tract of Land, being part of the Tract where on I now Dwell, Begining at a bound Hickory standing at the End of Eighty Poles in the first Line of the Original and Runing thence with the said Line South thirty Degrees West fifty Six Poles thence South Seventy one Degrees East Two hundred & Twenty four Poles then North Sixty Six Degrees East Twenty four Poles then North Eighty two Degrees East Eighty Poles then North Eighty five Degrees East one Hundred and Forty Poles then North fifteen Degrees West Twelve Poles to a Black Oak being one of the Corners Trees of the Original Tract then North Forty Two Degrees West Eighty two Poles to a Hickory then North Sixty Eight Poles until it Intersect Isaac Van Meters Line Traversing the several Courses of the said Isaac's Line to the Beginning Containing by Estimation Two Hundred and Thirty Three Acres of Land with that part of the Plantation whereon I now Dwell together with all the Houses Orchards on the said part parcel Tract of Land, Excepting as before Excepted unto my Wife to hold and enjoy the same Under the same Restrictions and Limetations as is aforementioned unto my Son Abraham and his Heirs &c. Also I give Devise and Bequeath unto my said Son Jacob after my afsd. Wife's Third part my Moveable Estate and Legacies are paid an Equal Proportional Childs part arising therefrom as well of my Lands which are to be Disposed of if any there be as of all Else &c. 8thly. Item I Will Devise Give and Bequeath Unto the Heirs Begotten on the Body of my Daughter Sarah Wife to James Davis one Piece or Tract of Land, part of the Tract of Land whereon I now Dwell Begining for the same at the first Beginning Tree of the Intire Tract and Runing thence South thirty Degrees West Sixteen Poles to a stake then North Seventy five Degrees East Two Hundred & Ninety Two Poles across the Intire Tract then round the several Courses Joining Rebecca's Heirs Land to the Beginning Containing by Computation Two hundred & Twenty Acres of Land more or Less to be held under the same Restrictions titles Limetations as aforesd. Also I Give and Bequeath unto to my said Daughter after my said Wife's Thirds of my Moveable Estate and Legacies are paid an equal Proportional Childs part arising therefrom as well of my Lands wh. are to be Disposed of if any there be as of all else, Provided and it is my sole Intent and meaning that James Davis together with his Wife Sarah Give Good and Sufficient Security unto my Executors, for the Sum of her Proportional part of my Moveable Estate arising to be paid unto their Heirs, Equally Divided amongst them when they shall arive at the Age of Twenty one Years, and on Refusal of such Security the Proportional part so arising to remain in the Hands of my Executors until the Heirs afsd. arive at Age afsd. &c. 9thly. Item. I Will Devise Give and Bequeath Unto my Daughter Mary Wife of Robert Jones and to the Heirs of her Body Lawfully Begotten one Certain piece or Tract of Land being part of the Tract whereon I now Dwell Begining at a Large White Oak by a hole in the Ground it being a Corner of the Original Survey of the whole Intire Tract and Runing from the said Oak South Twenty one Degrees West Two hundred and Eight Poles then South forty Two Degrees West Forty Two Poles to a white Oak by a Meadow a Corner of the Original Tract thence South Forty Two Degrees East Sixty poles thence North fifty four Degrees East three hundred and forty Poles until it Intersect the Line of the Intire Tract then with the same Eighteen Degrees East Sixty five Poles to a Hickory on Corner of the Original Tract thence North thirty Degrees East Eighty Poles to the afsd. white Oak by a Spring it being another Corner of the Original Tract thence North fifteen Degrees West Seventy Poles thence South Eighty Three Degrees West Eighty Poles to a Black Oak then South Ten Degrees West fifty Six Poles to a Stake by a Corner of a Fence then East by the said Fence to another Stake then thirty Degrees then West one hundred & Sixty four Poles to another Stake then North West Sixty Six Poles to the Beginning Containing by Estimation three hundred & fifty Acres of Land be it more or Less the same to be held and Enjoyed under the same Restrictions and Limetations above Mentioned in the Lands Will'd & Bequeathed to my Son Abraham Van Meter and his Heirs &c. Also, I Give & Devise unto my said Daughter Mary Wife to the said Robert Jones after my afsd. Wife's Thirds of my Moveable Estate and Legacies are paid an equal Proportional Childs part arising therefrom as well of my Lands which are not to be Disposed of if any there be as of all Else, Provided, and it is my sole Intent and meaning that Robert Jones with his Wife Mary give Good and Sufficient Security unto my Executors for the Sum of her Proportion as Part of my Moveable Estate arising to be paid unto their Heirs equally Divided amongst them when they shall arive to the Age of Twenty One Years, And on Refusal of such Security, the Proportional part so arising to Remain in the hands of my Executors until the Heirs afsd. arive at age afsd. &c. 11thly. Item, I give Devise and Bequeath Unto my Daughter Elizabeth Wife to Thomas Shepherd and to the Heirs of her Body Lawfully Begotten one Certain Tract or Piece of Land being part of the Tract whereon I now Dwell beginning at the South Corner of the above

Devised Land and Runing thence with the same North fifty four Degrees East three Hundred and forty Poles until it shall Intersect the Line of the Intire Tract thence Traversing the Lines of the Intire Tract round to the Begining, Containing by Computation three hundred Acres of Land. Also one other Tract of Land Lying Scituate and being in Prince Georges County in the Province of Maryland known by the Name of Pelmel Begining at a Bounded Ash standing at the uper End of a Tract of Land Called Antetum Bottom on the Bank of Potowmack River Containing one Hundred and Sixty Acres of Land According to the Certificate of Survey Under the same Title Restrictions and Limatations as in the afsd. Bequest & Devise unto my Son Abraham Van Meter and his Heirs. Also if Robert Jones should be Scarce of Water or his Heirs or any other the Devisees or their Heirs into whose Hands the Lands shall come into, then it shall and may be Lawful for them to Digg a Trench to Convey the Water from the Run into the said Land without Interruption of him the said Thomas Shepherd or his Heirs aforesd. Also I Give & Devise unto my said Daughter Elizabeth Wife to Thomas Shepherd after my afsd. Wife's Thirds of my Moveable Estate and Legacies are paid an equal Proportional Childs part arising therefrom as well of my Lands which are to be Disposed of if any there be as of all Else &c. Provided and it is my sole Intent and meaning that Thomas Shepherd and Elizabeth his Wife Give Good & Sufficient Security unto my Executors for the Sum of her Proportional part of my Moveable Estate arising to be paid unto their Heirs equally Divided amongst them when they shall arive at the Age of Twenty one Years, And on Refusal of such Security the Proportional part so arising to Remain in the Hands of my Executors until the Heirs afsd. arive to the Age afsd. &c. 12thly. Item I Devise Give and Bequeath unto my Daughter Magdalana the Sum of Twenty Shillings as her full Legacy whereby when paid or Tendered to her by my Executors is Discharged and fully Acquited from any Right Title or Interest or in or to my Real or Personal Estate and I do Devise Will and Bequeath unto her Heirs Lawfully Begotten on her Body a Certain piece or Tract of Land being part of the Tract whereon I now Dwell Begining at a marked Red Oak Saplin being a Corner of the Original Survey of the Intire Tract and Runing thence North thirty Degrees East Twelve Poles then South Seventy one Degrees East Two hundred and Twenty four Poles then North Sixty Six Degrees East Eighty four Poles then South Eighty Poles then South Ten Degrees West fifty Six Poles then East Twenty Poles then North West Sixty Six Poles to a white Oak by a hole being a Corner of the Survey of the Intire Tract then with the Line of the same to the Begining black Oak Saplin Containing by Estimation two hundred and fifty Acres of Land be it more or Less to be held and Enjoyed by the Heirs of my said Daughter under the Limatations and Restrictions according to the Devise made to my Son Abraham Van Meter's Heirs &c. Also I Give and Devise unto the Heirs of my said Daughter Magdelana after my Wifes Thirds of my Moveable Estate and Legacies are paid an Equal Proportional Childs part as in the other Bequests Given, But still Reserving and it is my Will that the part of my Moveables so arising to remain in the hands of my Executors until her Heirs arive to the Age of Twenty one Years & theirs Equally Divided between them and for want of such Heirs to be Divided Equally amongst the Other Devisees &c. 13thly. Item. I Will, Devise, Give and Bequeath unto the Son of my Daughter Rachael Deceased, (Viz.) John Leforge a Certain Tract of Land Containing two Hundred Acres being part of Four hundred Acres of Land which my Son Abraham Vanmeter hath Divided to him which Two Hundred Acres of Land are to be held and Enjoyed under the same Restrictions Limetations and Intails as afore mentioned &c. Also also Two Breeding Mairs, and if it so happen that he should Die that then the said Mairs shall be Given to his two Cousins Namely Johanes Van Meter Son of Johanas Van Meter Deceased and Joana Daughter to the sd. Johanas Deceased &c. 14thly. Item I Will, Devise & Bequeath unto my Grandson Johanas Van Meter Son of my Eldest Son Johanas Van Meter Deceased and to his Heirs Lawfully Begotten a Certain parcel or Tract of Land being the upermost part of the afsd. four Hundred and Seventy five Acres of Land which I Purchased of Jost Hite Beginning at the afsd. Pine Tree Mentioned in the Second Clause of my Bequest to my Son Abraham Van Meter out of part of the same Tract and Runing thence with the same Division Line Between him and my Son Abraham, North Sixty Degrees East Sixty Poles to a small Hickory Saplin standing on the Line of the Survey of the whole Intire Tract then with the same South twenty three Degrees East Two Hundred and fifty Seven Poles to a white Oak standing at a Corner of the Original Survey and is the upermost Corner of the Land Mentioned in Jost Hite's Deed then Runing with the Line of the said Deed to Opeckan Run and Down the same to the afsd. Pine Tree Containing by Estimation two Hundred and Thirty Eight Acres be it more or Less, Provided the said Johanus Delivers an Equal Share of his Land at Monockasy or the Value thereof to his Sister Joana Daughter of Johanus Van Meter Deceas'd, then this Land Willed and Bequeathed to my Grandson Johanus Van Meter is to be held by him Under the same Restrictions and Limetations as aforementioned in

Abraham's Bequest. Also I Will that my said Grandson Johanus have two Breeding Mairs &c. 15thly. Item, I Will that if any Veins or any sort of Mines should at any time hereafter be Discovered on any part of my Lands herein Mentioned, Given Willed Davised and Bequeathed and that the same should arise amount or become of more value than fifty Pounds that then such mines to be Equally Divided amongst my Devisees and every of them to have equal Share or proportion of the same with Liberty of Roads to and from the same for Transporting of such Mine also Liberty to Digg and make search and Trial for such Mines in Copartnership with the rest of my Devisees &c. 16thly. Item. I also Will Devise Give and Bequeath the Sum of Ten Pounds Virginia Money to be paid by my Executors to my Grand Children to Johanus Van Meter & to Joana Van Meter the Sum of fifteen Pounds when they arive to the Age of Twenty One Years of Age &c. 17thly. I Do hereby Nominate Constitute and Appoint my Son in Law Thomas Shepherd Abraham Van Meter and Jacob Van Meter my Sons Joint Executors of this my Last Will & Testament Impowering them to Act and perform According to what is Contained in every Clause, being Contained in five Sheets of Paper Disanulling and making Void all other Wills and Testaments by me in any wise by me heretofore made Confirming this & no other as my Last Will and Testament. In Witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and Seal the Day and Year above Written Signed Sealed Published Pronounced and Declared by the said John Van Meter John Meter (Seal) as his Last Will and Testament in the Presence of us

his
Edward E Morgan
mark
Andrew Corn
Joseph Carroll

At a Court held for Frederick County on Tuesday the 3d. Day of September 1745. This Last Will & Testament of John Van Meter Deceased was presented into Court by Abraham Van Meter & Jacob Van Meter two of the Executors therein Named, and was Proved by the Oaths of Edward Morgan, Andrew Corn, & Joseph Carroll the Evidences thereto, and the said Executors having made Oath thereto According to Law, the same is Admitted to Record

Exam

Test. J Wood Cl. Cur

Know all Men by these Presents, That we Abraham Van Meter, Jacob Van Meter, Thos. Swearinghan Thos. Shepherd & John Hite are Held and firmly Bound unto Morgan Morgan Gent the first Justice in the Commission of the Peace for Frederick County; for and in Behalf, and to the Sole Use & Behoof of the Justices of the said County, and their Successors in the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds Curr. Money, To be paid to the said Morgan Morgan his Executors, Administrators, and Assigns; To the which Payment well and Truly to be made, we Bind our selves, and every of us, our and every of our Heirs, Executors, and Administrators, jointly & severally, firmly, by these Presents. Sealed with our Seals. Dated this Third Day of September 1745. The condition of this Obligation is such, That if the above bound Abraham Van Meter & Jacob Van Meter Executors of the Last Will & Testament of John Van Meter Deceased, do make or Cause to be made, a true and Perfect Inventory of all and Singular the Goods, Chattles, & Credits of the said Deceased, which have or shall come to the Hands, Possession, or Knowledge of the sd. Abraham & Jacob or in the Hands and Possession of any other Person or Persons for them and the same so made, do exhibit into the County Court of Frederick at such Time as they shall be thereunto required by the said Court; and the same Goods Chattles & Credits, and all other the Goods, Chattles & Credits of the said Deced which at any Time after shall come to the Hands, Possession or Knowledge of the said Abraham, and Jacob, or into the hands & Possession of any other Person or Persons for them do well and truly Administer According to Law; and further do make a true and just Account of their Actings & Doings therein when thereto required by the said Court: And also shall well & truly pay and Deliver all the Legacies contained & Specified in the said Testamt. as far as the said Goods Chattles & Credits will thereunto extend, and the Law shall Charge, Then this Obligation to be Void and of none Effect, or else to remain in full force & Virtue Sealed & Delivered

Abraham X Vanmeter (Seal)

mark
his

Jacob J Vanmeter (Seal)
 mark
 Thos. Swearingen (Seal)
 Thos. Shepherd (Seal)
 Jno. Hite (Seal)

At a Court held for Frederick County on Tuesday the 3d. Day of September 1745. Abraham Vanmeter & Jacob Vanmeter, Executors of the Last Will and Testament of John Vanmeter Deceased, Together with Thos. Swearingen, Thos. Shepherd, & John Hite their Security Acknowledged this their Bond for the said Abraham and Jacob's true and faithful administration of the Estate of the said Deceased, which is admitted to Record
 Exam Test J Wood Cl Cur

The exclusion of Eve, the wife of Henry Van Meter, as a residuary heir, suggests that Henry was the only child without issue at the time the will was written. Since the husband of Magdalena was not identified in the will, he may have been the cause for her disfavor and practical disownment by her father. It seems that John Van Meter was not overly fond or trustful of his sons-in-law in general. He certainly took pains to keep the family estate within his direct descendants.

John Van Meter made bequests totalling 2688 acres of land:

	Abraham	100 acres (Pritchard tract)
	Abraham	237 of 425 (475) acres (Hite tract)
	Abraham	southern part (200) of 400 acres (Hite bond)
	Isaac	240 acres of dwelling plantation
	Henry	400 acres
	Jacob	233 acres of dwelling plantation
	Sarah	220 acres of dwelling plantation
	Mary	350 acres of dwelling plantation
	Rebecca	200 acres of dwelling plantation
Elizabeth	300 acres of dwelling plantation	
	Elizabeth	160 acres in Maryland
	Magdalena's heirs	250 acres of dwelling plantation
	Rachel's son	200 of 400 acres divided with Abraham
	Johannes' son	238 of 475 acres divided with Abraham

The tract Pell Mell was located directly across the Potomac River from Shepherdstown (West Virginia) in what is now Frederick County, Maryland. Antietam Bottom was owned by Israel Friend. (PIONEERS OF OLD MONOCACY.) This is near Sharpsburg, Maryland, the site of the Battle of Antietam during the Civil War.

Isaac Van Meter (Matre) died intestate before 07 February 1748 in Frederick County, Virginia. On that date Elsje Van Meter (Alice Van Matre) obtained a bond as administratrix of Isaac's estate: (Photocopy of Frederick County, Virginia, Will Book, pages 243-244.)

Know all men by these presents that We Alice Van Matre Thomas Swearingen & Richard Morgan are held & firmly bound unto Marques Calmees the first Justice in the Commission of the peace for Frederick County for & in behalf & to the Sole Use & Behoof of the Justices of the said County & their Successors in the Sum of five Hundred Pounds Sterling: To be paid to the sd. Marques Calmees his Exors. Admrs. & Assigns: To the which

payments well & truly to be made We Bind ourselves & every of us & every of our Heirs Exors. & Admrs. jointly & severally firmly by these Presents. Sealed with our Seals Dated this 7th day of February 1748. The Condition of this Obligation is such that if the above bound Alice Van Matre Administratrix of all the Goods Chattels & Credits of Isaac Van Matre Deceased, Do make or cause to be made a true & perfect Inventory of all & singular the Goods Chattels & Credits of the said Deceased Which have or shall Come to the hands possession or knowledge of her the said Alice or into the hands or possession of any other person or persons for her, And the same do make & Do exhibit or cause to be Exhibited into the County Court of Frederick at such time as she shall be thereto required by the said Court And the same goods Chattels & Credits & all other the Goods Chattels & Credits of the sd. Deceased at the time of his Death which at any time after shall Come to the hands or possession of the said Alice or into the hands and Possession of any other person or persons for her Do well & truly Administer according to Law. And further Do make a just & true account of her Actings & Doings therein when thereunto required by the said Court: And all the rest & residue of the said Goods Chattels & Credits which shall be found remaining upon the said Administratrix Account the same being first examined and allowed by the Justices of the Court for the time being shall Deliver & pay unto such person or persons respectively as the said Justices by their Order or Judgement Shall Direct pursuant to the Law in that Case made & provided, And if it shall hereafter Appear that any last Will & Testament was made by the sd. Deceased & the Executor therein named Do exhibit the same into the said Court making request to have it allowed & approved accordingly, if the said Alice being thereunto required Do Render & Deliver up her Letters of Administration, Approbation of such Testament being first had & made in the said Court: Then this Obligation to be void & of none Effect or Else to remain in full force & Virtue Sealed & Delivered

her in the presence of

Alice Van E Matre (Seal) The

Court mark

Thos. Swearingen (Seal)

Richd. Morgan (Seal)

At a Court held for Frederick County on Tuesday the 7th day of February 1748. Alice Van Matre Administratrix of Isaac Van Matre Decd together with Thomas Swearingen & Richd. Morgan her Securities Acknowledged this their Bond for the sd. Alice her true & faithful Administration of the sd. Deceased's Estate which was Admitted to Record

Teste J Wood C:C

It is interesting to note that, despite the anglicization of her name to Alice by the court, Elsje Van Meter signed her bond of administration with her initial E.

On 02 October 1744, before his death, Isaac and Alice Van Meter sold a tract called Isaac's Inheritance, containing 200 acres, at the mouth of Liganore Creek, which empties into Monocacy Creek in Prince George's County, Maryland, to Jacob Stoever of Prince George's County. Alice Scholl Van Meter married (2) -----Morgan about 1751. Captain William Morgan, son of Captain Richard Morgan, was referred to as Cousin William Morgan by children of Thomas Shepherd and Elizabeth Van Meter. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

According to tradition, John Van Meter (Vanmeter) of New York discovered the fine lands on the Great South Branch of the Potomac River some years prior to the first white settlement there. This stream was known by the Indians as Wappatomaka or Wappatomac from their word wapacomo (wild plum). Described as "a kind of wandering Indian trader," John Van Meter reputedly had a close acquaintance with the Delaware tribe and once accompanied one of their war parties to the south for a raid against the Catawba tribe. The Catawba intercepted the raiders near the site of Pendleton courthouse (West Virginia) and inflicted heavy casualties on the Delaware in defeating them. John Van Meter is credited with describing the land immediately above "The

Trough" of the South Branch as the finest he ever saw during his journeys in the west. John probably established his eldest son Johannes, who was about 18 years old in 1726, on the Maryland tract that he acquired that year and then moved his entire family west from New Jersey between then and 1730 when he got his land in the Shenandoah Valley. It was reported in 1833 by a descendant of John's brother, Isaac, that Isaac Van Meter made several trips between New Jersey and the frontier. In 1736 or 1737 Isaac made a tomahawk improvement on the lands immediately above the Trough, where Fort Pleasant was later erected and which was owned in 1833 by Isaac Van Meter (Vanmeter), Esquire, of Hardy County which is now in the state of West Virginia. (A HISTORY OF THE VALLEY OF VIRGINIA.) The Trough is a steep-sided syncline valley six miles in length through which the South Branch of the Potomac flows straight as an arrow. After making his tomahawk improvement, Isaac Van Meter returned to New Jersey and when he came back to Virginia he found a man named Coburn settled on his land. He bought out Coburn and returned again to New Jersey, finally bringing his family out to Virginia about 1744. During the bloody battle of the Trough in 1756, it has been said that "old Mr. Van Metre mounted his horse, rode to a high range and witnessed the battle." Isaac was killed by Indians in 1757 and his will was probated on 12 December 1757. (PIONEERS OF OLD MONOCACY.)

Opequon Creek is a tributary of the Shenandoah River. It rises in Little North Mountain, west of Winchester, Virginia, and flows east, past the town of Opequon and between Winchester and Stephens City, into Clarke County, Virginia, to join the Shenandoah which flows north into the Potomac River. The Monocacy River in Frederick County, Maryland, begins north of the city of Frederick and flows south into the Potomac River at the Montgomery County line, south of where the Shenandoah enters the Potomac. Antietam Creek rises near the Pennsylvania border and flows south past Hagerstown in Washington County, Maryland, to the Potomac, upstream from the Shenandoah. This area of western Maryland was Prince George's County in 1745 when John Van Meter wrote his will.

The first settlements along the Monocacy River probably occurred about 1710. John Van Meter claimed land in the area in 1724. By 1740, Pennsylvania Germans, following the Monocacy Trail, settled in the vicinity of Grayson, Creagerstown and Frederick in Prince George's County which was erected in 1695. Frederick County was established in 1748 to govern the western part of Prince George's County. (MARYLAND RECORDS, Volume 1, Gaius Marcus Brumbaugh, M.S., M.D., Baltimore, 1915, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1975.) The Monocacy Valley was settled as early as 1725 by Quakers from eastern Pennsylvania and the Monocacy Meeting was associated with the Hopewell Meeting in Frederick County, Virginia. (HOPEWELL FRIENDS HISTORY.)

Isaac Van Meter (Vanmetera), Robert Jones, Evan Jones, Solomon Hedges, Charles Hedges, Joshua Hedges and William Sheppard, Jr. were taxpayers in Monocacy (Monocosie) Hundred, Prince George's County, Maryland, in 1733. (CALENDAR OF MARYLAND STATE PAPERS, Number 1, The Black Books, The Hall of Records Commission, Annapolis, 1943, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1967.)

Letitia Stroud who married Jacob Van Meter was a daughter of James Stroud (Strode) of Frederick County, Virginia. She was born on 30 August 1725 and died on 25 December 1799 in Hardin County, Kentucky. Jacob and Letitia are buried on their farm on Severns Valley Creek, about two miles above the present site of Elizabethtown, where they settled in 1780, the year that this part of Kentucky County became Jefferson County, Virginia. Prior to migrating to Kentucky, Jacob and Letitia moved from Frederick County, Virginia, before 1770 to southwestern Pennsylvania where they settled near the present community of Carmichaelstown on Muddy Creek, a tributary of the Monongahela River. Jacob and Letitia had twelve children, Eleanor who married----- Kline, Abraham who married Elizabeth Kline, Rebecca who married (1) Edward Rawlings and (2) Frank McKenzie, Susan who married the Reverend John Garrard, Elizabeth who married (1) John Swan, (2) Thomas McNeil and (3) Judge John Vertrees, Rachel who married Isaac Pritchard, Mary who married (1) David Hinton and (2) Major William Chenoweth, Isaac who married (1) Martha Hubbard Hoagland, widow of Captain Henry

Hoagland, and (2) Jane Carson, Margaret who married Samuel Haycraft, Jacob, Jr. who married Elizabeth Rhoads, John who married Dinah Holtzclaw House, daughter of Henry and Nancy Holtzclaw, and Alosey who married Jacob Rhoads. (WHO WAS WHO IN HARDIN COUNTY, Hardin County Historical Society, Elizabethtown, 1941, photocopy from Barry W. Downs.) David Hinton, the husband of Mary Van Meter, drowned in the Ohio River on the trip to Kentucky. Samuel Haycraft and John Garrard (Gerrard) also came to Kentucky with Jacob Van Meter. Haycraft and two others of the expedition, Captain Thomas Helm and Colonel Andrew Hynes, erected blockhouses about a mile apart, in a triangle, where Elizabethtown now stands. Haycraft's was on the hill above the cave spring, Helm's was on the site of the later residence of Governor John L. Helm, and Hynes' completed the triangle. In 1780, these and Jacob Van Meter's fort in Severns Valley were the only settlements between the Falls of the Ohio and the Green River. When Jacob Van Meter died, his son Jacob, Jr. placed a sandstone marker on his grave, upon which was engraved "Here lies the body of Jacob Vanmatre died in the 76 yare of His age November 16 1798." (HISTORY OF KENTUCKY, Lewis Collins, 1847, revised Richard H. Collins, A.M, LL.B., 1874, reprinted Kentucke Imprints, Berea, 1976.)

Jacob Van Meter was appointed as guardian of Susanna Jones, aged 10, and Sarah Jones, aged 8, orphans of Michael Jones, deceased, in Jefferson County, Virginia, Court on 08 April 1784: (Jefferson County, Kentucky, Court Minutes, THE FILSON CLUB HISTORY QUARTERLY, Volume 6, Louisville, 1932.)

Ordered that Susanna Jones, aged 10 years, and Sarah Jones, aged 8 years, orphans of Michael Jones, deceased, be bound unto Jacob Vanmatre according to Law. [Marginal notation:] rec'd.

The description of Michael Jones as deceased is puzzling since he was identified as living in 1790 when Sarah Jones got married: (NELSON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, MARRIAGES, photocopy from Christine Rice, Carbondale, IL, 1986.)

George Wiseheart married Sarah Jones. Surety, William Bush. Consent signed by Jacob Vanmeter, uncle of Sarah, who says her father lives in the "settlement" and that she lives with him. Witness, William Bush. November 29, 1790.

The marriage of George Wiseheart and Sarah Jones was performed by Josiah Dodge in December 1790. The day date was illegible: (Nelson County, Kentucky, Ministers' Returns, 1785-1793, Book 1, photocopies.)

Nolin December -- 1790

I Do Here By Sertify that the Marag Betwen George Wiseheart and Sarah Jones Was Performed acording to Law By Me Josiah Dodge

Since Sarah Jones Wiseheart was not a daughter of a sibling of Jacob Van Meter, she must have been a niece of his wife Letitia Stroud Van Meter, which indicates that the first wife of Michael Jones was a daughter of James Stroud (Strode) of Frederick County, Virginia.

Michael Jones, who was born in Prince George's County, Maryland, before 25 February 1718, was a son of David Jones and Margaret Morley. He married (1) Elizabeth Stroud Freeman, widow of Samuel Freeman, and (2) Sabina Symmes Thomas, another widow, in Hagerstown, Maryland, in 1780, and died in Mason County, Kentucky, after 17 July 1794, when he made his will there.

The will of Michael Jones of Mason County, Kentucky, was dated 17 July 1794 and named as heirs his wife Sabina, eldest son William Jones, eldest daughters Susanna Devers and Sarah, two youngest sons Michael and Thomas, and youngest daughter Mary: (HISTORY OF MAYSVILLE AND MASON COUNTY, Wills of the Pioneers, photocopy from Christine Rice.)

... I, Michael Jones, of Mason County in the State of Kentucky ... I give and bequeath to my loving wife Sabinah Jones all my personal estate to be at her disposal and also to possess and enjoy all my plantation I now live on to farm and to plant as she sees fit her lifetime. Item I give and devise to my eldest son William Jones one hundred and fifty acres lying on the Meamee tract in Mason County him paying my daughter Susanna Devers twenty pounds in trade at the expiration of eleven years after this date and if he the said William Jones should die without heirs I give the forementioned land to my two eldest daughters Susanna and Sarah to be divided share and share like. Item I give and devise to my two youngest sons Michael and Thomas all the rest and residue of my land to them after their mother's death and to their heirs paying my two youngest daughters Sarah and Mary twenty pounds each at the expiration of eleven years after this date to be paid in trade and if Michael and Thomas should die without heirs I give and devise their part to Mary Jones my youngest daughter and lastly I do hereby constitute and appoint my dear wife Sabinah Jones to be sole executor of this my last will and testament. Revoking and disannuling all former wills by me heretofore made ratifying and confirming this and none other to be my last will and testament. In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my conclusion hand and affixed my seal this seventeenth day of July one thousand seven hundred and ninety four.

Michael Jones (Seal) Signed sealed

published and declared by Michael Jones the above named Testator as and for his last will and Testament in the presence of us who at his request and in his presence have subscribed our names as Witnesses thereto Isaac Day Herod Newland James Ambrose

The premature declaration of the death of Michael Jones in 1784, when Jacob Van Meter assumed responsibility for his daughters, must have been the result of a misunderstanding caused by a lack of communication from Michael during an extended absence from home. For example, it has been written that after Daniel Boone was away from North Carolina for a couple of years, exploring the West, and his family had no news of him, they considered him dead. Needing the support of a man, his wife Rebecca, lived with Daniel's brother, by whom she had a child, before Daniel finally returned one day. Maybe Michael Jones was also an explorer and adventurer.

Robert Jones, who married Mary Van Meter, sister of Jacob Van Meter, was of the same generation as Michael Jones and the Van Meter connection makes it a reasonable likelihood that they were closely related.

Only one other child of David and Margaret Morley Jones has been identified, a younger son, Thomas Jones, who may have been the Captain Thomas Jones who accompanied the group of 100 families, including that of Jacob Van Meter, from southwestern Pennsylvania to Kentucky in the late 1780's. (LIVING HISTORY OF PERRY COUNTY, INDIANA, by Jo. H. Mosby, reprinted Unigraphic Press, Evansville, IN, 1977; correspondence from Christine Rice.)

Robert Pusey, who married Magdalena Van Meter, was the son of Caleb Pusey and Prudence Carter of Marlborough Township, Chester County, Pennsylvania, who were married on the 05th of the 9th month 1712. Their son Robert was born on the 16th of the 10th month 1715. Caleb Pusey, who was known as Caleb, Jr., and his brother William Pusey, lived with their uncle Caleb Pusey, who was known as Caleb, Sr., in Chester County. Caleb Pusey, Sr., who operated the Chester Mills, and his wife Ann had no sons. Caleb Pusey and Robert Jones paid taxes in Marlborough Township in 1715 and, with John Strode, were neighbors there in

1728. (HISTORY OF CHESTER COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, J. Smith Futhey and Gilbert Cope, Louis H, Everts, Philadelphia, 1881, reproduced Unigraphic, Inc., Evansville, IN, 1978.) Alexander Ross, who with Morgan Bryan, promoted early settlement of Shenandoah Valley, was an apprentice with Caleb Pusey, Sr. from about 1693 through 1703. Morgan Bryan was married to Margaret Strode. (HOPEWELL FRIENDS HISTORY.)

Robert Pusey (Pewsey) filed a court action against Jacob Van Meter on 07 May 1745 which was decided in favor of the plaintiff on 06 August 1745. On 04 October 1745 Robert Pusey (Pewsey) was ordered to pay Jacob Van Meter 100 pounds of tobacco for attending court for four days to testify in the case of Pewsey vs. Ann Lilburn. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILIES.)

Robert and Magdalena Van Meter Pusey moved to southern Virginia, where they had land in the area that became Franklin County, near William and Margaret Jones Cook and where Robert and Mary Van Meter Jones also lived. Later Robert and Magdalena Pusey were in Mercer County, Kentucky, when on 28 May 1804, Magdalena (Maudlina) Pusey conveyed to Isaac Pritchett her interest in any land from her father John Van Meter. (Berkeley County, Virginia, Deeds 19/489, THE AMERICAN DESCENDANTS OF CHRETIEN DU BOIS, Part 9, data of Philip C. Ellsworth, Bethany, OK, 1986.) Isaac Pritchett was Isaac Pritchard who married Rachel Van Meter, daughter of Isaac Van Meter and Letitia Stroud, and was an early settler at Harrodsburg in Mercer County, Kentucky. (Data of Philip C. Ellsworth.)

Robert Pusey (Pewsey) was on the 1750 tithe list for Lunenburg County, Virginia. (GENEALOGY NEWSPAPER COLUMNS OF ROBERT E. TURMAN, SULLIVAN COUNTY LIBRARY, edited by Bettie Cummings Cook, C.G., Tri-State Genealogical Society, Evansville, IN, 1981.) He was the defendant in two lawsuits brought before the Halifax County, Virginia, Court on 20 June 1753, by Clement Read, attorney for Daniel Ryan (Ryon). An Alias Supoena and an Alias Capias were awarded in the cases; both returnable to the next Court. (Halifax County Pleas No. 1, May Term 1752-March Term 1755, abstract, Marion Dodson Chiarito, MAGAZINE OF VIRGINIA GENEALOGY, Volume 24, Number 1, The Virginia Genealogical Society, Richmond, February 1986.) Robert Pusey witnessed a deed in Halifax County on 20 May 1755 and he sold some livestock to Merry Webb on 20 February 1756. (HALIFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA, DEED BOOK 1, pages 135 and 169, Marian Dodson Chiarito, The Clarkton Press, Nathalie, VA, 1985.) In 1754 he was granted 400 acres on Otter Creek in Pittsylvania County, Virginia, where he was recommended at one time as a Justice of the Peace. (GENEALOGY NEWSPAPER COLUMNS OF ROBERT E. TURMAN.) On 10 September 1755 Robert Pusey received a patent for land on Blackwater River in what became Franklin County: (ABSTRACTS OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY DEED BOOKS FRANKLIN COUNTY, VIRGINIA, Volume I, Sara Motisher Beck, Franklin County Bicentennial Commission, Rocky Mount, VA, 1978, Deed Book 2, pages 542-543.)

22 Jun 1786 Francis Thorp of Bedford County to Shadrach Woodson of Franklin County, for 5 shillings, 160 acres on Rich Run, a branch of the South Fork of Blackwater River, by Patent Granted unto Robert Pusy Sep. 10, 1755 ...

Franklin County was formed in 1786 from parts of Bedford and Henry counties. Henry County was erected in 1777 from Pittsylvania County which was organized in 1767 from Halifax County. Robert Pusey, a Quaker, was residing on Otter Creek, a tributary of Smith River, in March 1758 when he and his wife were among 26 settlers captured by a force of Shawnee, Delaware, Wyandot and Mingo Indians which invaded the area under the leadership of the French. In a petition to the Virginia Assembly in 1784, he claimed that the Indians killed or stole 22 of his horses and 20 of his cattle. He lost a child and he and his wife were prisoners for many years. The captives were marched to Detroit and imprisoned there by the French. Pusey's farm was sold to purchase his freedom. (HENRY COUNTY, VIRGINIA, A PROUD LOOK BACK, excerpt, data of Philip C. Ellsworth.) After Robert Pusey was released, he was in Pittsburgh for a time, as noted by trader

James Kenny in his journal, in the 7th month, 1762: (JOURNAL OF JAMES KENNY, 1761-1763, PENNSYLVANIA MAGAZINE OF HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY, Volume XXXVII, excerpt, data of Philip C. Ellsworth.)

22d - Robert Pusey (a Cossen of Joshua Pusey) came here from ye Shawana Town being a Prissoner there about 5 years; he brought a Tooth weigh'd 4 1/2 lbs & says that these Teeth are Esteem'd, that there are some Teeth too Heavy to be carried, that the re are Horns about 12 foot Long, as I suppose is ye Eye teeth of Elephants. 23rd - None of ye Indians can remember of seeing any of these Creatures alive, neither do they Know who kill'd them, but that there is a little Stone fortification made near the Lake where it is believ'd ye Indians that kill'd them ambuscad'd themselves.

26th - Amongst other things, I am Inform'd by Robert Pusey that this Summer was four years ago, when Nanticoke Will came here from amongst ye Shawanas being ye first of them that came to See us; ye Account I gave him of ye Matters in Adjetation & ye Advice with ye List of ye Prices of Goods and Peltry with us, had such effect when he return'd home as to Stop about fourty or fifty Warriors just then going against ye English having held a Council & Stop't them; also that they profess a Great regard for ye Quakers & was against their Warriors coming to Pennsylvania at all, but are Still Spitefull against Virginia.

Joshua Pusey, who was born on the 11th day of the 09th month 1714, was a son of William Pusey and Elizabeth Bowater. (HISTORY OF CHESTER COUNTY.)

A lawsuit from District Court of Winchester to the Virginia Court of Appeals in 1794, Pendleton vs. Vandevier, dealt with the estate of John Van Meter (Vanmeter) who died before September 1745 with a will dated 13 August 1745. Two of his children were mentioned in the suit, Abraham Van Meter (Vanmeter), who had issue (unnamed), and Magdalena who had a daughter Prudence, who was born in 1744 and died in 1769, and a son who died in infancy. The record also mentions Jacobus Vandevier who had a son James Vandevier but their connection to John Van Meter is not shown. (VIRGINIA WILL RECORDS, Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1982.) The published abstract shows that Magdalena Van Meter was born in 1744 as well as her daughter. Magdalena had to have been born much earlier.

Prudence Pusey married (1) Elijah Harbour and (2) Thomas Flowers. Benjamin Turman, Jr., brother of John Turman (Thurman) who married Rachel Jones, daughter of Robert Jones, Jr. and Martha Riley, married Sarah Harbour, daughter of Elijah Harbour and Prudence Pusey, about 1790, migrated to Kentucky in 1794, then in 1796 to Mad River in Ohio and finally in 1810 to Sullivan County, Indiana, where he died in 1818. Their daughter Mary Turman, who married Josiah Bryant in Ohio in 1809, wrote a letter before 1858 which stated that, "Before we went to Ky. (1796) Grandfathers Flowers and Pusey had moved there ..." (GENEALOGY NEWSPAPER COLUMNS OF ROBERT E. TURMAN.)

Rebecca Powelson, who married John (Johannes) J. Van Meter, probably was a descendant of Captain Hendrick Pauelson, whose family settled on the North Branch of the Raritan River in New Jersey. It has been said, without substantiation, that Rebecca Powelson Van Meter married (2) her nephew, a son of Jonas Hedges and her sister, Agnes Powelson. Johannes (John) Van Meter, Jr. and Rebecca Powelson had two children, Johannes (John) Van Meter III, who was born about 1730, married (1) Josinah Taylor, (2) a young

German woman about 1790, when he was 60, and died about 1818, and Joanna Van Meter, who was born in Monocacy, Prince George's County, Maryland, about 1732, married William Burns (1718-1806) and died on 21 August 1801, aged 69. Jacob Van Meter (Metre), who lived on the Hockhocking River near Lancaster, Ohio, about 1801, and died at age 92, was identified as a grandson of Johannes (John) Van Meter III and Josinah Taylor. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY, quoted from correspondence of Mrs. C. E. Van Metre.)

Jacob Van Meter of the Hockhocking River apparently lived previously in Berkeley County, Virginia, and married Catherine de Moss. The eldest daughter of Jacob Van Meter and Catherine de Moss was named Josinah. She was born on 22 January 1768, married Joshua Hickman on 13 January 1785 and died on 03 June 1857. Since Josinah was the first daughter of Jacob and Catherine, they probably were married only a few years before her birth, at most, which suggests that Jacob was born after 1740 and, if he lived to 92, died after 1842. Joshua Hickman was a son of Ezekiel Hickman and Elizabeth Trammel. He was born on 10 April 1766 in eastern Virginia and died on 18 August 1842. After their marriage, Joshua and Josinah Van Meter Hickman settled on the Monongahela River near what is now Fairmount, West Virginia, where he was minister of the old-school predestinarian Baptist Church. They moved to Henry County, Indiana, about 1830. They had twelve children and ninety-eight grandchildren. (THE MELLETT AND HICKMAN FAMILIES OF HENRY COUNTY, INDIANA, Volume 2, Franklin Miller, Jr., Gambier, OH, 1974.)

Isaac Van Meter and Elsje Scholl had three children, Peter Van Meter, who was baptized on 23 July 1738 at the Raritan Dutch Reformed Church, Johannes Van Meter, who was baptized on 06 June 1740 at the same church and married Elizabeth -----, and Margaret Van Meter, who was baptized there on the same day. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

Henry Van Meter, third son of John Van Meter and Margaret Mollenauer, was appointed overseer of the road from Noah Hampton's Mill to Cape Capon, near James Cody's, on "xi of 7ber 1744." On 05 April 1757 Henry Van Meter and his wife Hannah, transferred 150 acres to Abraham Van Meter that had been granted to Henry and Abraham jointly by Samuel Bryan on 12 November 1747. On the same day Henry and Hannah conveyed 64 acres that Henry and Abraham Van Meter acquired from Jacob Van Meter. In September 1758 Henry Van Meter and Joseph Van Meter were paid 7 shillings for service against the Indians, as privates in Captain Thomas Speaks' Company of the Virginia Colonial Militia. Later Henry had land on Muddy Creek in southwestern Pennsylvania near his brother Jacob. Then Bedford County, and later Washington and Green counties, Pennsylvania, this area was under jurisdictional dispute between Virginia and Pennsylvania for some time and references to the Van Meters appear in records of Yohogania and West Augusta counties, Virginia. On 18 April 1776 Henry Van Meter and Ebenezer Zane were appointed viewers of the old road from Conrad Walter's to the mouth of Wheeling River in West Augusta County, Virginia. For his military service, Henry Van Meter received a warrant for 400 acres of land in Washington County, Pennsylvania, on 25 May 1785, and 250 acres more in 1786. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

The will of Henry Van Meter (Mater), Sr. of Berkeley County, Virginia, was dated 03 March 1790 and proved on 17 December 1793. He left all landed estate in Berkeley County, including the plantation upon which he lived, to son Nathaniel. A tract of land on the "west side of Ohio River in Indian Country, & devolved to me by the death of my son Joseph" was bequeathed to son Joshua. Another tract of land that belonged to son Joseph in Suffering (?) Valley was devised to grandson Joseph, son of son Nathaniel. Wife Elizabeth, daughter Alice and son Henry were mentioned. Son Nathaniel and William Garrett were named as executors. (VIRGINIA WILL RECORDS.) However Henry Van Meter, Sr. has been described as the father of John, Joseph, Henry, Jr., Isaac, Jacob, Hannah, Ruth, Nathan, Joshua and Hester; with Hester being an heir instead of Alice. (A GENEALOGY OF THE DUKE SHEPHERD VAN METRE FAMILY.)

Henry Van Meter probably was the grandfather of Morgan Van Meter, a pioneer settler of Clinton County, Ohio. Morgan Van Meter was the eldest son of Joseph Van Meter who moved from Maryland to Virginia where he lived on the south branch of the Potomac River. Morgan Van Meter was born there in 1765 which suggests that his father Joseph was born about 1740 and the son of Henry and Eve Van Meter. Joseph Van Meter had four other sons, Isaac, Abraham, William and Joseph, Jr. In 1770 Joseph Van Meter, Sr. moved to the Ohio River with the Zane brothers. The Zanes settled at the mouth of Wheeling Creek and Joseph Van Meter made his home a few miles upstream on Short Creek. A stockade was erected at West Liberty on Short Creek in Ohio County in September 1777 which became known as Van Meter's Fort. Joseph and Morgan Van Meter were involved in the Indian fighting in the area at that time. Joseph Van Meter resided on Short Creek until the end of his life. His manner or place of death is unknown. He went fishing and never returned home. His body was never found. He may have drowned and his corpse washed far downstream or, perhaps, he was captured by Indians. Morgan Van Meter moved to Harrison County, Kentucky, and then about 1796 or 1797 apparently settled at Deerfield in Warren County, Ohio, with his brothers Isaac and Joseph, Jr. In 1797 Joseph, Jr. resided at the mouth of Dodson's Creek on the south side of the East Fork of the Little Miami River, about a mile below Lynchburg in what is now Highland County, Ohio. Isaac settled nearby. In 1798 or 1799, Morgan Van Meter moved from Deerfield to near Snow Hill in Clinton County, Ohio, where he maintained a tavern on the road from Chillicothe to Cincinnati. He died there between 28 March and 21 June 1813. Joseph, Jr. and Isaac Van Meter moved to Illinois about 1814. (THE HISTORY OF CLINTON COUNTY, OHIO, W. H. Beers and Company, Chicago, 1882.)

Joseph Van Meter, Sr. apparently was declared dead by 1781 when an account of the estate of Joseph Van Meter (Vanmetre) was filed in Ohio County, Virginia. His son Abraham apparently died shortly thereafter, since an account of the estate of Abraham Van Meter (Abram Vanmetre) was recorded in Ohio County in 1782. (VIRGINIA WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS, Clayton Torrence, reprinted Genealogical Publishing Company, Baltimore, 1978.)

Abraham Van Meter whose will was filed in Berkeley County, Virginia, in 1783, (VIRGINIA WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS) probably was the son of John Van Meter and Margaret Mollenauer, who married Ruth Hedges about 1742.

An inventory of the estate of an Isaac Van Meter (Vanmatre) was submitted in Botetourt County, Virginia, in 1798. (VIRGINIA WILLS AND ADMINISTRATIONS.)