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Story of the Stanley family in Va  
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Okla etc  
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The use of family names began in London and other more developed districts of England and worked outward around 1500 into the local countryside.

But just how this name was bequeathed to the Thomas Stanley who appeared in Colonial Virginia is not only uncertain - it seems to be unknown.

There are Stanleys in the New England colonies and some in Maryland and several others in Virginia but no connection can be found that would link these families, other than a common name. There seems to be no record of how Thomas Stanley appeared in Virginia--whether he was born in England or in the Colonies. He may possibly have been the Thomas Stanley who was transported to Virginia Colony in 1662 by Capt. Daniel Parks who received land in York County, Virginia, on the York River (14 p 399) - or he may have been one of the servants who were presented in Court at Charles City, Virginia, March 8, 1663/4 for a John Piles to have his age judged. At this presentation a Thomas Standly was judged to be fourteen years of age.\* All available records of Thomas Stanley show him as being in this area almost all of his adult life.

In the Parish Register of Christ Church in the section of Virginia that is within the present county of Middlesex there is an entry showing a daughter, Mary, born to "ye Tho and Rebecca Standley 18th April 1686." (5 p 30)

Old St. Peter's Church in New Kent County, Virginia lists in the Parish Register three sons of Thomas Stanley: "James, sone to Thom Stanley Bap<sup>t</sup> ye 15<sup>d</sup> of Aprill 1688; Thomas son to Thomas Stanly Bap<sup>t</sup> ye 23 day of Novem 1689; John son to Tho Stanly Bap<sup>t</sup> ye 11 of Oct<sup>r</sup> 1691." (6 p 392)

This Church, originally in the County of New Kent, had two parishes - St. John's which was north of the York and Pamunkey Rivers, and St. Peter's which was south of those streams. Later, St. Paul's Parish in Hanover County, Virginia, would be formed from St. Peter's.

Old St. Peter's is especially appealing to the imagination as later it was the parish church of Mrs. Daniel Parke Custis who became better known as Martha Washington. She lived only a few miles away on the Pamunkey River. (7)

Thomas Stanley is next found in the Friends' Records of Henrico Monthly Meeting and was first mentioned when he signed a certificate of a meeting of Friends in New Kent Meeting House (later called Black Creek Meeting House) 28 February 1700. (8 p 145-147)

Just when Thomas and his family became Friends is not known as it was Colonial law that all inhabitants of the Virginia Colony were nominally members of the Church of England. Hence, even Dissenters had their children baptized to be relieved of paying fines.

\* Maryland Hall of Records, Court at Charles City, 1663/4 Liber 3B No. 6 pg 452

The Quit Rent roll of 1704 in New Kent County records Thomas Stanley as holding 150 acres. (9 p 169) This roll shows those who held land owned by Her Majesty (Queen Anne) in the Parish of St. Peter's and St. Paul's (by this time the population had grown enough to cause the parish to be divided once again). These rolls show those who held grants made by the King or proprietor to individuals and was set at 2 shillings per hundred acres. It was the practice to require landowners to pay proprietors a small sum each year which was known as "Quit rents." These returns were sent to England.

The year 1705 was notable, in that the Virginia Legislature granted Quakers the privilege of affirmation in place of swearing oaths.

It is a surprise to see an entry where Thomas has been disowned by the Henrico Friends on 20 May 1706. On July 11 and 18 the same year he "condemned his misconduct" and was put on probation. Then, about two years later in February, he again was disowned.

In 1704, St. Paul's Parish in Hanover County was formed from St. Peter's with Hanover County being formed from New Kent County. There are several mentions of Thomas Stanley in the St. Paul's Parish Register in regard to him and "his gang" working on roads and "proccessioning" lands, so it would appear that after being disowned by the Quaker members, he again attended the Episcopal Church and took part in their work.

Virginia Land Patent Book #10 states that on 16 Dec 1714 Thomas Stanley Sr., James Stanley and Thomas Stanley Jr. were granted 800 acres of land "in this colony by the Honorable Alexander Spotwood, his Majesty's (King George I) Lt. Governor and Comrander in Chief of this Dominion." They had transported sixteen persons into the Colony of Virginia. It was the practice to give fifty acres of land for every person transported to Virginia, provided the person stayed three years and that the land be occupied, nominally at least, and a quit rent paid to the sheriff. Land claimed by transporting an immigrant was called a headright.

The land granted to Thomas Stanley and his sons lay on both sides of Cedar Creek.

DEED: Thomas Sr., James and Thomas Stanley, Jr., George Etc.  
To all etc.,

Know ye that for divers good causes and considerations but more especially for and in consideration of the importation of sixteen persons to dwell within this our Colony of Virginia, whose names are, Wm. Porter, Wm. Hodgkinson, Richard Baker, Henry Kiplin, Adam Newman, Wm. Slade, Thomas Millot, Isac Palmer, Robt. Boodle, John Draper, F... .. Haley, Daniel Hughes, Wm. Bagley, John Bignal, and Peter given, granted and confirmed by these presents, for us, successors, do give and confirm unto Thomas Stanley Sr., and Thomas Stanley, Jr. one certain tract or parcel of 800 acres and lying and being on both sides of Cedar Creek Parrish in New Kent County. Witness our trusty and well

Alexander Spotswood, Gov: at W

Under his seal of our Colony, Dec. 16, 1714

Signed: A. Spotswood, Gov.

(12 book 10)

Again in the Henrico Monthly Meeting Minutes Thomas Stanley with John Harris request that the meeting "lately set up at Cedar Creek be recognized." The request was granted 6 Nov. 1721/2 (the Julian Calendar had been changed to the Gregorian Calendar so the dates would vary approximately eleven days). This meeting was located in the new Hanover County. Thomas Stanley Jr. was appointed overseer of the new meeting the next May.

The Senior Thomas Stanley bought 251 acres laying on either side of Cawthorne Branch in Hanover County on 10 Dec. 1724. He paid 25 shillings. The land lay between the properties of John Williamson, William Harris, Mr. Morris, Mr. Chiswell, and also adjoined land already owned by himself.

This same Thomas Stanley Sr. declared in the Monthly Meeting 1 June 1724, his intention of marrying a woman who was not a Friend. The wedding was not allowed to proceed as the Meeting thought she was "not under a real conviction of the Truth." The last time his name appears on the Quaker records was 1 Aug 1726 when he was disowned for "marrying out of Unity," no doubt a second marriage to a non-Quaker but he spent the remainder of his years serving in Cedar Creek Meeting. The date of his death is not known. Neither is the name of the woman he married. His burial place is unknown.

We find him no more in any of the Friend's writings except through his three sons, James, Thomas and John, who seem to be quite active in the work of the Friends in the Henrico and Cedar Creek Monthly Meetings--and other meetings as they travel westward.

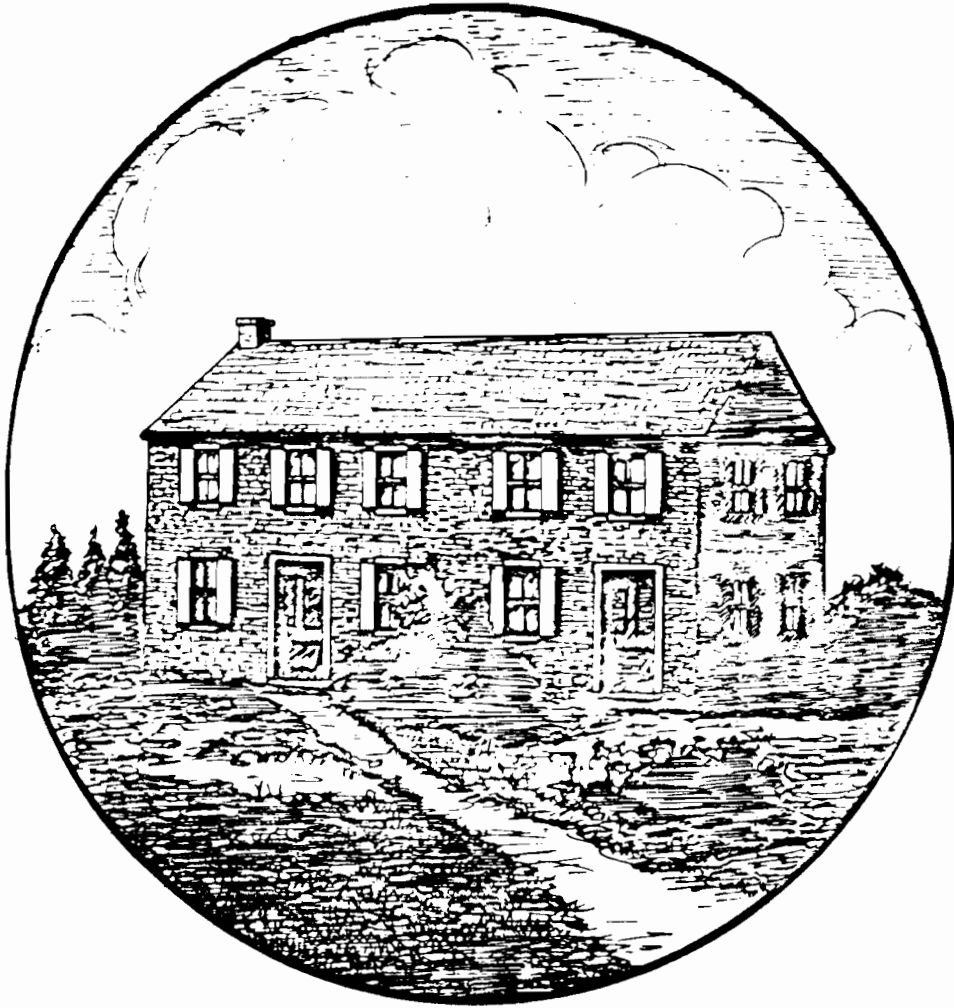
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During the 2 April 1724 Meeting, Thomas Stanley, Jr. reported to the Henrico Friends that three Friends of the Cedar Creek Meeting were imprisoned for refusing to pay tithes. John Stanley was among those in prison. The next month he was reported freed, his fine having been paid by one who was not a Quaker.

On 2 Nov 1724, Thomas Jr. was condemned for "endavering" to take a wife in this Meeting contrary to the advice of Friends; he accepted the Friends' advice and just a couple of months later married Elizabeth Crew on 8 Sept. 1726 in Friends Meeting House in Charles City.

Thomas Jr. had been married sometime before 1715 to Elizabeth Maddox and had two children: Maddox born 17 Aug 1715 and Elizabeth born 29 March 1718.

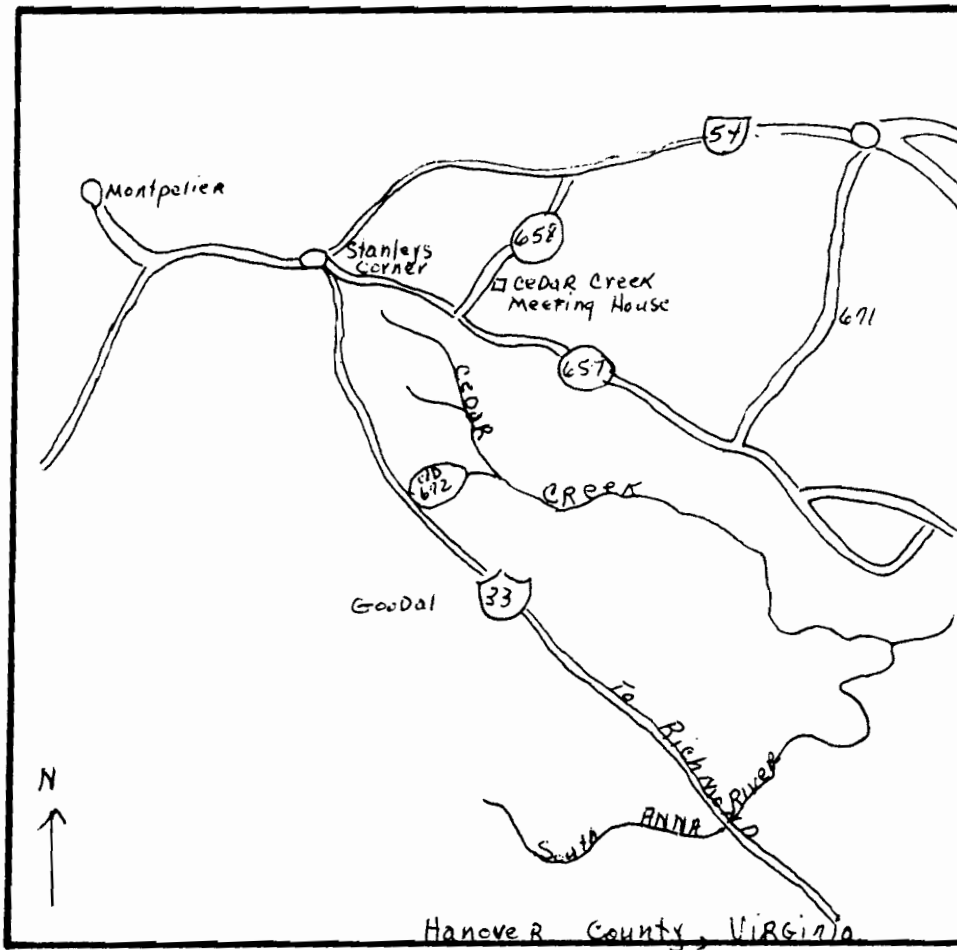
During this period the Colonists were in an almost perpetual struggle with the British, fighting the French for possession of the Colonies -- from King William's War in 1680, the War of Spanish Succession (Queen Anne's War) of 1702, War of Austrian Succession in 1744, King George's War, Seven Year's War 1754 and into War of the Revolution 1776.



*Cedar Creek Meeting House*

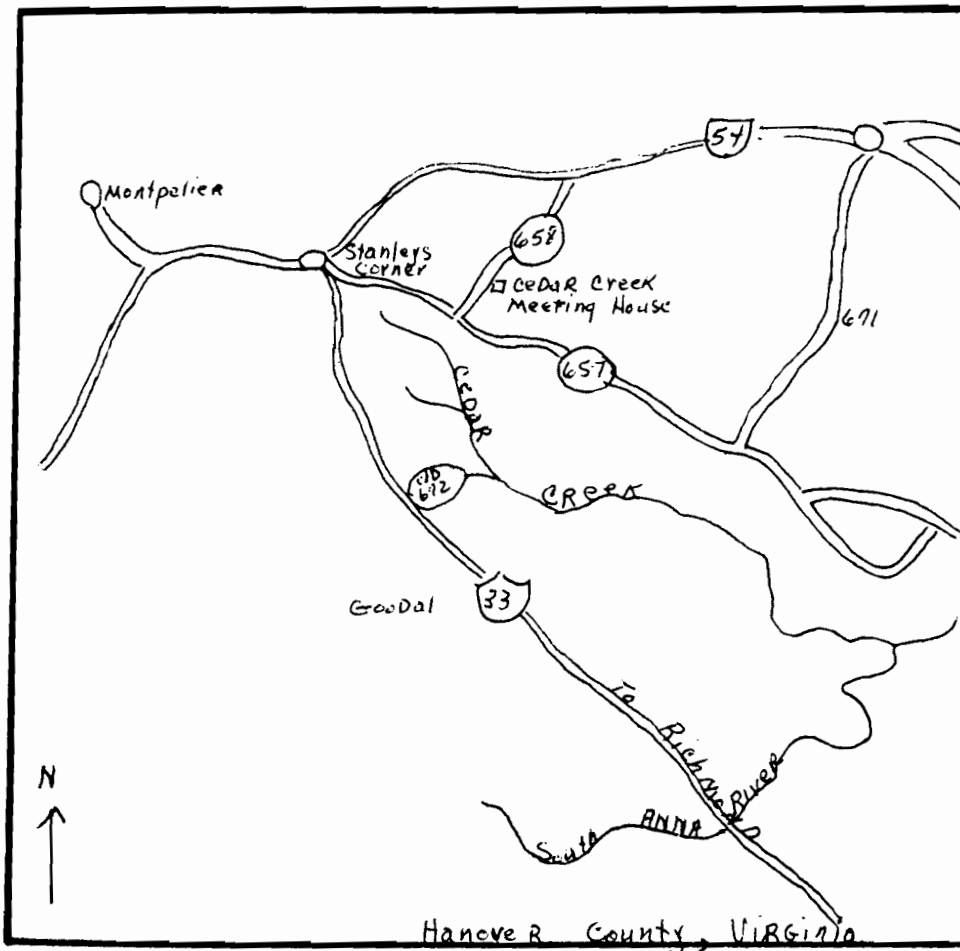
"Highway No. 658 is today known as Cedar Creek Road. It formerly connected with the now abandoned road passing Cedar Creek Meeting House and joined Highway No. 672, which runs into the old Mountain Road, now U.S. Route No. 33. This entire north-south road was once known as Cedar Creek Road and took its name from the Meeting House." (17)

Not only did Thomas Stanley and his sons contribute to the new congregation their time, energy and money but they gave the land that the meeting house stood on. James and Thomas Jr. served as overseers of the meeting, being responsible for the pastoral care of the members.



James and Katherine Stanley lived in the Cedar Creek area for many years. Their path can be traced through the minutes of the Quaker Meetings from Henrico when James requested permission to marry Katherine at the 4 Jan 1728 Monthly Meeting. He and his brothers and their father had lived in the Cedar Creek area for some years. "Cathron's" name appeared for the first time in the Cedar Creek Minutes 9 Oct 1739 when she served on a committee.

Katherine was the daughter of Nicholas and Mary Watkins (daughter of Henry) Hutchins who had been married in a Quaker ceremony in Henrico County. The Hutchins had previously been married by a priest but Nicholas condemned this marriage of 1699 (8) and they were remarried by Quaker rites in 1701. Katherine was the oldest child, having two sisters, Mary and Martha, and a brother, Strange-man. (16) Nicholas Hutchins died sometime before October 1729 and his widow, Mary Watkins Hutchins, married a man named Holme--as in 1736 the Henrico minutes carries a notation that James was aided as he was "at great charge in keeping his wife's mother, Mary Holme, who had been helpless for some time."



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James and Katherine's eight children were all born in Hanover County and listed in the Cedar Creek Quaker Minutes. They were:

William born 11 June 1729 (married Elizabeth Walker 28 Nov. 1758)  
 James born 26 March 1731 (married Elizabeth Ellyson)  
 Mary born 27 June 1733 (married Anthony Hoggatt 1754)  
 Martha born 21 March 1736 (married Thos. Thornbrugh Sr. 1783 New Garden NC)  
Micajah born 28 November 1739 (married Barbara Walker at Bush Creek, Md.)  
 Agnes born 20 June 1743 (married Caleb Jessop, Roan Co. N.C. 4 Mar 1772)  
 Strangeman born 7 November 1745 (married Jemima Mills)  
 Elijah born 7 October 1750 (married Hannah Mills, Deep River, N.C.  
 18 August 1768)

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In 1755 James was granted 400 acres of land in what is now Louisa County. It was situated on both sides of Clarks road and a branch of Great Creek, adjoining land of William Biggers, Mr. Saunders, William Woods and Mr. Clivers. (20)

John Woolman, a Quaker preacher, who made frequent missionary journeys exercising his ministry and "publishing truth" mentions James Stanley in his journal. He notes in May 1757 that "lodged at James Standley's father of William Stanley, one of the young men who suffered imprisonment at Winchester last summer on account of their testimony against fighting, and I had some satisfactory conversation with him concerning it."

It would seem William was of a missionary nature as there are several mentions of him being on missionary visits. On 13 Oct 1753 the records show he and Ann Chiles were granted certificates to travel as companions of Jane Hoggitt on her missionary visits. Late in 1758 he was released as overseer of the Cedar Creek Monthly Meeting and in May the next year he presented to the Monthly Meeting an expense account "of travelling to Opeckon as a guide to John More & Samuel Emlen." He evidently returned to being overseer of the meeting as in October 1764 he resigned and at the same meeting he and his wife and three children were granted certificates to New Garden Monthly Meeting in North Carolina. William and Elizabeth were faithful to their Quaker calling.

They died within two days of each other - November 9 and 11, 1807 - and are buried in the same grave at New Garden, North Carolina.

William Stanley, son of James and Katherine, born 6-4-1729 (O.S.) married Elizabeth Walker 28 Nov 1758. Elizabeth was born 26 Sept 1732 (O.S.)\*

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 \* O.S. abbreviation for Old Style Calendar (Julian). In 1751 an Act of Parliament, Great Britain decreed that the Julian Calendar (O.S.) would be changed to Gregorian (N.S.) Calendar on 2nd day of September, losing eleven days from the year.

himself & his Heirs the Said Tracte of Land & Premises & every parte thereof against themselves & their Hairs & all other persons whatsoever to the sd Micajah Stanley his Heirs & assigns shall & will by these presents forever warrant & Defend in Witness whereof the Said Wm. Stafford hath hereunto sete his hand & affixed his seal the Day Month & Year above Written

Signed Sealed & Delivered in-presence

William X Stafford (Seal)

Signed Sealed and Delivered

In presence of

North Carolina )  
Guilford County)

November Court 1797

Able Knighte

James Stanly

Manlove Stanly\*

Manlove Stanly proved the Execution of the within  
did in Open Courte & on Motion Lete it be recorded  
Test John Hamilton CC

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In reading Micajah's last will and testament, friends Michael Stanley and Jesse Stanley are shown as executors. Both were first cousins of Micajah. It is quite probably another case of the person not moving about, but counties and districts being changed around him as the population grew and the need for more courts and offices set up to take care of its needs. At any rate, Micajah was listed as being from Roaan (Rowan) County, Province of North Carolina, on his marriage certificate; as being in Randolph County when he died (Fairfax M.N. Minutes), but when his will was drawn he was in Guilford County.\*\*

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WILL OF MICAJAH STANLEY (Book B, Page 82, Guilford County, N.C.)

Whereas I Micajah Stanley of the County of Guilford & State of North Carolina being in common health, of sound mind & memory. Do endeavor to leave behind me this my last Will & Testament: well knowing the uncertainty of time & the certainty of Death. And first it is my will & desire that all my just debts & funeral charges be first paid. --And as touching my worldly substance it is my will that my Daughter Catherine Stanley have the use of my House together with the benefit of forty Acres of my land during the time that she may live single or otherwise her maintenance or support of the proffit of my Land if in case she should not be able to get a living and at her marriage or death it is my will and desire that all my Lands belong to my Son Isaac Stanley. And I give all unto my Son Isaac Stanley all the remaining part of my Lands for his use and at the marriage or Death of My Daughter Catherine Stanley the whole of my Lands to be my Son Isaac Stanleys, his heirs or assigns forever provided he pay unto my Son Anthony Stanley the sum of Fifty Two Dollars & fifty cents. It is my will that my Daughter Catherine Stanley have one Horse & one Cow & all my household furniture. And I give unto my Son Isaac Stanley all the remaining part of Stock both Horses Cattle Sheep & Hoggs for his use and Profit - - And

\* This must be Mahlon as this name has never appeared in any other Stanley records.

\*\* Guilford County was formed from Orange and Rowan Counties after 1760. Randolph County was formed from Guilford County in 1779.



I give unto my Son Isaac Stanley all my farming Tools & Carpenters Tools provided he the said Isaac Stanley pay unto my Sons Mahlon Stanley & James Stanley and my Daughter Sarah White the Sum of fifty Cents. I therefore appoint my Friends Michael Stanley & Jesse Stanley, sons of Strangeman Stanley as whole & sole Executors to this my last will & Testament.

Signed Sealed and acknowledged to be my Last will & Testament in the presents of

William Stanley (Jurat) his  
this 5 of the 2 mo 1819 Micajah X Stanley  
State of North Carolina mark  
Guilford Co.

Probated August Term 1819 Test. Jno. Hanner

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Barbara died 13 March 1813. Micajah died 25 May 1819. (23 p 515) Since both deaths are shown in the New Garden minutes, they likely are buried in New Garden Friends Cemetery next to the Meeting House. It was early practice for Quakers to not mark graves since they believed in all men being equal. Later they would mark their graves with initials only, still later with very plain stones but the full name and date of death. Eventually, tombstones would be an individual matter and became quite conventional.

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Mahlon (Malon) was the oldest child of Barbara and Micajah. The Friends' records in Fairfax Monthly Meeting show his parents' marriage certificate but seven months prior to his birth. This is not unusual since clerks might wait some time before entering their records. However, the Loudon County Marriage records show Barbara and Micajah were married 10 October before Mahlons birth on June 10, 1766.

Mahlon married Hannah Lloyd (Loid) on September 10, 1795 at New Garden. Hannah was the daughter of Humphrey and Jane Lloyd. She was born November 7, 1772, and had eight brothers and sisters: Samuel (born 1-6-1769), John, Mary, Thomas, Jane, Samuel (born 3-7-1781), David, and Rebekah.

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From New Garden Monthly Meeting Minutes, September 10, 1795

Whereas Mahlon Stanley of the County of Guilford & State of North Carolina Son of Micajah Stanley and Barbara his wife and Hannah Lloyd Daughter of Humphrey Lloyd deceased and Jane his wife of the same place having declared their intention of taking each other in Marriage Before several Monthly Meetings of the people called Quakers held at Newgarden in the County & State aforesaid according to the good order used amongst them and having consent of parent and parties concerned their proposals were approved and allowed by said Meetings and they left at their liberty to accomplish their marriage according to the Good order this which they did the tenth