

Colonel Richard Richardson with men of the Camden District of Craven County, along with the other Cobbs. He did not accompany them westward. It is a good guess that he was James Cobb (1), son of Henry and Mary Cobb, but there is no way to prove it.

C. A Henry Cobb died in Bertie and left his estate by will to Mary and Charles Cobb. An analysis of the families of Bertie at that time would suggest that this Henry Cobb was one of the "All my children" mentioned in the will of Henry (1). His mother was named Mary, and Charles might have been another of the unnamed children. If so, he died early for the first Charles Cobb of record was born much later. There is no proof whatever to support this supposition and he may have been some other unnamed son; but he lived, died and left a will to prove his existence.

The family of Edward Cobb (2) in Bertie:

Refer to Chart #3

1. James Cobb (2) was born about 1720, as an estimate, in Isle of Wight. He received 90 acres on the west side of Cedar Swamp, just south of Franklin on or near U. S. Hy. 258, in his father's will. He sold it for ten pounds on 10 Jan. 1748 to Simon Murfee of Surry County who was accumulating property in the section now Southampton County. The deed read "James Cobb, Nottoway Parish, Isle of Wight". He had other property there for he received a grant from the Honorable Thomas Lee on 15 Dec. 1749 of 135 acres on the north side of the Nottoway and Cypress Swamp along the lines of Albrighton Jones, Applewhite and his own. When he sold it to Simon Murfee also on 28 October 1751 for four pounds five shillings he was described as "James Cobb of North Carolina." Richard Murfree and David Edwards—a name to be very familiar—witnessed the deed. He had, therefore, gone to Bertie County, N. C. either in 1750 or 1751.

He married Elizabeth Kington in Bertie in the early 1750s. Her mother Bethiah Kington left a legacy in 1808 to her grandson, Jesse Cobb. They had a large family of four sons and five daughters.

His name is found as a purchaser in an estate sale in Bertie in February 1767 when he bought a mare and colt for three pounds fifteen shillings and a drawing knife for one shilling four pence. Before that time he and his brother Henry had been in Beaufort County, N. C. and witnessed a deed in 1755. Both returned to Bertie and settled there. He had either bought land by an unrecorded deed or had received property from his wife in Bertie before 1770 for on Christmas Day of that year he bought 300 acres adjoining his own from John Gladston for eighty pounds. Nothing is known about his participation in the Revolution but he was too old then to become actively engaged as a soldier. On 15 October 1787 he received a grant from Richard Caswell, Governor of North Carolina, of 490 acres adjoining his own on Meadow Branch for 50 shillings for each 100 acres plus a rental fee "yielding and paying to us yearly as the General Assembly shall direct." This made him a planter with considerable holdings, known to be over 800 acres and possibly a thousand. Nothing more is known about him during those anxious days when the nation was being formed. He was listed in the 1790 census with four sons and five daughters. He made

his will on 29 October 1792 and died immediately, for it was proved in the November term of court. It provided that "My *manner* land and plantation be equally divided amongst my four sons Henry, Jesse, William and George after my wife Elizabeth's death, the rest divided amongst my daughters."—but he did not name the daughters. He appointed his brother-in-law McGlaughan and cousin William Barrett Hardy as executors. It was witnessed by John Capehart who later married Nancy Cobb, his nephew John Cobb and Sarah Speight, possibly a daughter. Purchasers at his estate sale in 1793 were Elisha Ashburn, Henry Cobb, Thomas Ashburn, John Capehart and David Gaskins.

His wife Elizabeth lived a short while longer. Their son William was shown as the administrator of her estate in 1795. Court records do not show the distribution of his lands.

#### The children of James Cobb:

(1) Henry Cobb (2), son of James and Elizabeth Kington Cobb, was born about 1745. His wife was also named Elizabeth—surname not known. He had been given some land by his father for he and Elizabeth sold 2 acres on the south side of Bear Swamp on 31 March 1788. Hardy Bowen was a witness. He signed his name—Elizabeth made her mark. Just before his father's death he bought on 10 October 1792 100 acres on the south side of Bear Swamp. It was witnessed by John Sowell and James Costello—the latter a family with whom the Cobbs would intermarry. He bought 120 acres more in January 1793 on the main road to Wolf Pitt Branch. In August 1794 he paid 120 pounds for 300 acres more. He thus owned 520 acres that he had purchased himself, plus his inherited land and was a landholder of some importance.

In the 1784 census he had two sons, three females and one slave. In 1790 there were two more daughters and he owned two slaves. He was a purchaser at the sale of his brother James' estate in 1793. On 4 Nov. 1797 Henry and Elizabeth sold 100 acres to Elisha Williams on William Lawrence's and Pugh's line for \$150.

Elizabeth died a few days afterwards. Henry held a sale of her personal property before the end of the year; among the purchasers were Cader Cooper, Henry Cobb, Jesse Cobb (brother), Mourning Cobb (niece) and John Cobb.

In 1799 Henry attended another sale and bought "2 augers, 2 hammers, 1 broad-ax, 1 looking glass, 9 shoe lasts, 2 books, 1 bed and furniture" and a half pound of pepper. He died that summer, for "Hennery Cobb Jr." made an inventory of his personal estate on 10 August 1799. It is recorded in detail in Bertie County for anyone to see who is curious about what a household in 1790 contained. Some interesting articles include:

2 putor basons	2 putor dishes
5 putor plates	8 putor spoons
10 chaner plates	7 chaner bowls
4 sitting chears	1 spinning wheal
1 womans saddle	4 bee hives and bees
1 negro man named Dick	

Henry (2) left no will and there was no court ordered distribution of his estate to divulge the names of his children. The only one who can be reasonably determined is:

A. Henry Cobb Jr. (3) was in the census of 1810 as "Henry Cobb, Sr." with two sons and three daughters, owning two slaves. He was born after 1775 and probably in the year that Paul Revere made his famous ride—having his beginning at the same time as his Country. He married Sarah Kington on 1 May 1792. John Capehart, who married into the family, was surety. In 1810 his son Henry Kington was married, with one daughter. In 1830 one son was still at home as were three daughters.

In 1840 his son Henry Kington Cobb was dead, his wife was gone, only one daughter was left and he was handling the large plantation with a total of 13 slaves. The census showed that he was between 70 and 80 years old, which was a guess as others before had more definitely established his age. He had lived during a period when great history was made. It is a wonder that he never made a will. Just as his forefathers had done before him he left nothing to identify his family.

(2) Jesse Cobb was named in his father's will in 1792. In 1809 Bethiah Kington, his grandmother, left him some bequest in her will. There is no further record of him. A Jesse Cobb married Ruth Colies in Chowan County on 16 August 1820—there may have been some connection.

(3) William Cobb—named in his father's will.

(4) George Cobb—also named in his father's will.

(5) Others—from the census he appeared to have at least four daughters. None of them were named in his will—just "my daughters."

Reference has been made to the Cobbs who went to Haywood County, Tenn. in the 1830s. Among those in the 1850 census was Joseph K. Cobb, born in North Carolina in 1799. The "K" initial might be a clue to some of the family of Henry Cobb who carried the Kington name. Joseph's wife was named Kitty, born in 1808 in Virginia. Their first child was born in 1827.

2. Edward Cobb (3), son of Edward (2) who died in Isle of Wight in 1742, sold his inherited land there and migrated to Bertie County some time after 1744. His life there is very sketchy. His wife was named Elizabeth, but no one relates who she was or whether they were married in Virginia or North Carolina. He bought 150 acres on Bear Swamp and Horse Spring Branch from Richard and Mary Bell on 5 Dec. 1766. That is the only property he owned so far as is known.

He died in the Fall of 1777 while the Revolution was gaining steam. An inventory of his estate made on 9 Nov. 1777 was valued at 279 pounds 17 shillings. His widow Elizabeth married Stephen Buck a year later on 6 Nov. 1778; his name appears several times thereafter in the affairs of the Cobb family. The settlement of Edward's estate was not made until 1791 and later. The small remainder of his personal effects were sold at auction for a little over 9 pounds. His son John received his lands. The balance of his estate was divided on 24 Jan. 1792. One third of it was given to Stephen Buck, who married the widow—the items listed were valued at 30 pounds four shillings one pence. The balance was divided into five lots:

Lot #1 valued at 12 pounds two shillings three pence to James Costello, who had married Elizabeth Cobb on 19 July 1791.

Lot #2 of the same value was given to Smith David, who had married Happy Cobb on 5 Jan. 1790.

Lot #3, of like value, to John Cobb.

Lots #4 and #5 were to be sold.

Happily this gives the names of his children, for he left no will. This history will not follow the two daughters, whose marriages are shown, but some facts are known about the son:

(1) John Cobb (3) was born in the 1740s either in the Lower Isle of Wight that is now Southampton or in Bertie County, N. C., no one can be sure which. He married Sarah—whom?—in Bertie in the 1770s. His father Edward (3) seemed to have been moderately successful as a farmer; John was much more aggressive and displayed the desire to own land that marked his ancestry. He already owned some land in 1775, before inheriting some from his father. In 1788 he paid £50 to George Capehart for 98 acres on Salmon Creek and Middle Swamp and in 1789 bought 120 acres on the north side of Middle Swamp from John McGlaughon (see note on Elinor Cobb) for £80 specie. In 1794 he sold 150 acres, either part or all of his inherited land for £50 to Thomas Pugh. His brother-in-law and sister James and Elizabeth Cobb Costello witnessed the deed. He bought and sold properties in 1795 and 1796.

He and David Ryan made an interesting agreement on 1 August 1796. Ryan wanted to put a dam across Salmon Creek that might flood some of John's property. He paid John 100 Spanish milled dollars and agreed to indemnify him against further loss should any occur. In November 1775 he is recorded as buying two "chunk bottles" for two pence—a worthy transaction to put into the records. He witnessed his Uncle James Cobb's will on 9 October 1792.

George Gaskins and John W. Costello witnessed his will on 8 Sept. 1809. It was proved two months later in the November court. He left his estate to his wife Saray and to his seven children:

A. Mary "Polly" Cobb married Henry Cobb. It is difficult to tell which one of the several Henrys there were at the time but it appears that he was Henry Cobb (3)—see Chart #3.

B. Charles Cobb was in the 1830 Bertie census indicating that he was born between 1780 and 1790. He was not in the 1840 census but his land division is recorded on 19 Oct. 1846 to his five children:

(A) John Cobb, born in 1813. His wife was Clarissa, born 1816. He was missing from the 1860 census but his children were listed:

a. Mary D.—born 1847—married John H. Percy 19 Nov. 1872.

b. Charles T.—born 1849—shown as "deaf" in 1860.

c. Harriet M.—born 1850—married Bennett B. Robinson on 13 Jan. 1876.

d. Sarah, born 1851—possibly married Joseph Faraless on 15 Jan. 1874—identification not positive.

e. Susan—born 1854. No further record.

(B) Mary Cobb—married Joseph Phelps.

(C) Martha "Mattie" Cobb—married James Phelps.

(D) Emily Cobb

(E) Clarkey Cobb—married Cader Browning.

C. Chloe Cobb—married John Gaskins on 24 Nov. 1804.

D. Nancy Cobb—believe married John Capehart 5 Feb. 1806.

E. Mourning Cobb—married David Outlaw. They moved to Haywood County Tennessee in the 1830s along with her brother John H. Cobb, Henry Gaskins, John D. Costello and others. In the 1840 census they had four sons and one daughter at home. She died in the '40s and David remarried. None of the children were living with him in 1850—several were listed that may have been their sons but there is no way to identify them.

F. Fanny Cobb—no further identification.

G. John H. Cobb, born in 1800. He married Harriett Costello in Chowan County on 28 April 1820—they were included in the 1830 census with one son and two daughters. On 3 March 1834 he made a deed to his brother Charles to 125 acres on Middle Swamp next to his own for \$150. This was his inherited land. Michael Capehart and Michael Maddry were witnesses. He went to Haywood County, Tenn. within the next few months. He had bought some property with John Thomas while still in Bertie, and on 19 May 1835 he executed a deed to him for his half interest in the 150 acres. He was described as "John H. Cobb of the State of Tennessee, County of Haywood" in this deed that was witnessed by his brother-in-law David Outlaw.

In the Haywood census of 1850 he was shown as age 50, Harriett was 45. If this was correct she was only 15 when they married: however another marriage record gives the year as 1821—either may have been correct. They probably had children other than the ones listed with them at the time but we cannot tell which ones they were. Every one of ten Cobb family heads listed were born in North Carolina. The children indicated were:

(A) William, born in 1833 in North Carolina.

(B) Adeline, born in 1839 in North Carolina. This is incorrect unless they made a trip back home, for he was in Haywood in 1835.

(C) Jenison ?, born in 1841 in Tennessee. The name is illegible.

(D) Harriett, born in 1846 in Tennessee.

(There was a John Cobb, age 20, living near them with Thomas and Mary Costello, all born in N. C., that may have been a son.)

(2) Elizabeth Cobb, daughter of Edward (3), married James Costello on 19 July 1791. He witnessed deeds for the Cobbs at various times. His relationship to Harriett who married her brother is not known.

(3) Happy Cobb, married Smith David on 5 Jan. 1790.

3. Thomas Cobb, the third of the sons of Edward Cobb (1) to go to Bertie County, bought 50 acres in Bertie on 7 Sept. 1764 on Bear Swamp "Whereon Thomas Cobb now lives." Evidently he had been there a while—but is not heard of again. The only information about his family is:

(1) Edward Cobb (4) was shown once in the 1790 census, and then appears

again on a deed when he sold his father's land in 1795 to Stephen Buck, who had married the widow of Edward Cobb (3). Then he disappears, too.

(2) A Thomas Cobb married Ann Smith in Bertie in 1787. It is only a guess that he is a son—there were no other Thomas Cobbs in the family of marriageable age at the time to our knowledge. He also disappears, but neither he nor his brother were in the Haywood, Tennessee group in later years.