

CLIMBING THE FAMILY TREE

The Daily Press NEW DOMINION
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HUDGINS FAMILY

HUDGINS FAMILY OF MATHEWS, GLOUCESTER, YORK AND ELIZABETH CITY COUNTIES, VIRGINIA. This data continues from previous issues of this feature and should be kept for future reference on the family and its connections with other families. One Mr. Edward A. Hudgins of 9417 Orleans Street, Norfolk, Va. 23503 has so helpfully given this data to be published requesting that any persons have early family Bibles and related data be sent to him. Since this gentleman does expect to accumulate the data for culminating into a book at a much later date, everyone having data should see that he has the assistance he requests. We continue with the Descendants of Houlder I and Elizabeth Anderson Hudgins.

Elizabeth Anderson (1774-1804), third wife of 'Houlder Hudgins I, was one of three Captain Mathew and Mary (Dabney) Anderson of "Exchange Plantation" which adjoined Bellefield. As previously stated, her two sisters, Susan and Mary Anderson, both married John Lewis Hudgins, son of Houlder I Hudgins by his second wife, Mary Gwyn.

Houlder Hudgins I and Elizabeth (Anderson) were married November 5, 1704 and had three children:

Ariadne Elizabeth Hudgins (1795-1856)
Robert Hudgins (1797-1859)
Houlder Hudgins II (1799-1868)

The named Ariadne Elizabeth Hudgins (1795-1856), named for her father's Aunt Ariadne, sister of Robert Hudgins of Liverpool, England, with whom he lived while attending Christ College at Bristol, England, was born at Clifton, October 10, 1795. She married James Moddy Vaughan, a prominent citizen of Mathews and a close friend of Houlder Hudgins I. James Vaughan was a witness to the will of Houlder Hudgins I.

The Vaughan family is written up in the William Mary College Quarterly of July 1935. They had children:

Robert Vaughan, who married Leavinia Smith.

Anna Vaughan, who became Mrs. Booker Jones. Henrietta Vaughan, who married Dr. John Hendon of Baltimore, Maryland. Dr. William Ryland Vaughan, who married Mary Anita Smythe and had six children (Robert H. Vaughan, Walter R. Vaughan, George Vaughan, Bernard Cassidy Vaughan, Ariadne Elizabeth who married John Latham of Staunton, and Virginia Hudgins Vaughan of Warrenton.)

Betty Vaughan, who never married. Robert Hudgins (1797-1859) was born July 7, 1797 at Clifton, died in 1859 at his own magnificent manor known as "Leamington" situated on the Back River area of Hampton adjacent to Old Point Comfort. (Note: This writer questions the area of "Leamington" being adjacent to Old Point Comfort, since it is quite a distance from Old Point Comfort. -Ed.) In 1829 he married Harriet Jones, daughter of Thomas Jones of "Kennington" King William County and they lived at "Leamington". In 1831 they had their first child, a boy, and it occurred Benjamin Franklin and his wife were visiting "Clifton" at the time and Mrs. Franklin gave birth to a son during this visit. Robert named his first child Benjamin Franklin Hudgins. The land at "Leamington" which Robert Hudgins was extremely fertile, he prospered greatly, was one of the largest slave owners in the area. The plantation is now owned by the United States Government and is part of Langley Air Force Base. Robert Hudgins and Harriet (Jones) Hudgins had six children:

Benjamin Franklin Hudgins (1831-1894)
Ella Hudgins (1834-?)
John Hudgins (1835-1836)
Selena Hudgins (1838-?)
Ann Elizabeth Hudgins (1840-)
Robert Hudgins, Jr. (1842-?)

Benjamin Franklin Hudgins (1831-1894) was born November 12th, 1831, at "Clifton", and died 1894 at Hampton, Virginia. He attended Hampton Military Academy and was

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graduated from the Virginia Military Institute. He was a Captain in the Hampton Grays in the Civil War, a unit composed of Hampton residents and commanded by graduates of Col. Cary's Academy. After the war he became a planter and merchant. He married November 14, 1855, Rebecca Bland Worsham (1831-1885), daughter of Dr. Henry and Frances (Bland) Worsham of Dinwiddie Co., Va. They had nine children, four of whom lived to maturity:

Maria Bland Hudgins (1859 -?)
Benjamin Franklin Hudgins, Jr.(1861)
Kenneth Worsham Hudgins (1866-)
Ashley Cooper Hudgins (1871-)

The above named Maria Bland Hudgins (b. 1859) married Henry Clay Marrow in 1884 and they had a son, Henry Clay Marrow, Jr., born 1886.

The above named Benjamin Franklin Hudgins, Jr., born May 9, 1861 at Leamington. In 1890 he married Louisa LaMar Holladay, daughter of LaMar Holladay of Baltimore, Maryland. They moved to West Palm Beach, Florida, and had eleven children: Rebecca Bland Hudgins; Georgia Louisa Hudgins; Selina Hudgins; Maud Eloise Hudgins; Fannie Worsham Hudgins; Maria Hudgins; LaMar Hudgins; Thelin Hudgins; Benjamin Franklin Hudgins III; Virginia Hudgins; Lelia Hudgins.

Kenneth Worsham Hudgins was born September 29, 1866 in Dinwiddie Co., Va. He attended Washington & Lee University, subsequently moved to Norfolk, Va. where he went into the lumber and building materials business with his brother, Ashley Cooper Hudgins. In 1895 he married Mary Holmes Love, daughter of Dr. William Love of Winchester, Va. by whom he had three children: Elizabeth Faulkner Hudgins; William Love Hudgins; Roderic Malcolm Hudgins.

The named Ashley Cooper Hudgins was born March 25, 1871 at "Leamington". He attended Virginia Military Institute and William & Mary College. He joined his brother

Kenneth Worsham Hudgins in business in Norfolk.

He was married in 1808 to Ann Whiting Watkins, daughter of James and Mary Bassett Whiting, and they had one daughter, Mary Worsham Hudgins, who married Bruce Wagner.

(Note: The information on the family of Robert Hudgins of "Leamington" was supplied in 1943 by Mrs. Henry Clay Marrow, his daughter, who at that time was living in Richmond, Va. It is interesting to note that the family manor is repeatedly referred to as "Lamington" by members of the family but the official records of Mathews County Virginia spells it "Leamington", which is logical since that is the proper English spelling.)

Ella Hudgins was born at Leamington, married wealthy merchant, James Downey, of Salem, North Carolina.

Selina was born in 1838, married Sidney Nicholas, son of Judge John Nicholas of Richmond, Va.

Ann Elizabeth Hudgins, born 1840, married Robert Drury of Richmond, Va.

Robert Hudgins, Jr., was born at "Leamington" in 1842, served in the Old Dominion Dragoons during the Civil War. After the War he built a plantation and manor house known as "Bloomfield" next to "Leamington" (now a part of Langley Air Force Base). He married a widow, Mrs. William Cansey, who owned "Chesterville" in Mathews. They had one son, Major Robert Hudgins, who lives in Washington, D. C. (I know Maj. Hudgins quite well, as a matter of fact he was for a short time on my staff during World War II, as representative of the Department of the Interior to the War Plants Location Board, of which I was Chairman. He has a son Houlder Hudgins, at whose wedding I acted as best man in the Spring of 1942. (NOTE: This added note was from the material of the Mr. Hudgins who

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originally compiled the material.
Ed.)

Houlder Hudgins II (1799-1868) was born at "Clifton" on October 2, 1799, the third and last child of Houlder Hudgins I and Elizabeth (Anderson) Hudgins. He died at "Clifton", which he inherited from his father, on July 23, 1868.

He was the namesake favorite of his father, who endeavored to make him follow in his footsteps. He was educated at the University of Virginia, traveled extensively as a young man, worked in his father's business, built his own manor house, "Freewelcome", on his father's lands, became a pillar of the Baptist Church, was active in politics, and was a patriot in the true sense of the word.

At the age of 13, while attending Colonel Carter's Hampton Military Academy, he enlisted as a private in the 61st Regiment of Virginia Militia. This service entitles all lineal descendants to membership in the Society of Daughters of the War of 1812.

Upon his father's death in 1815, he (Houlder Hudgins, II) inherited the vast pretentious "Clifton" Manor, and, in addition, the plantation known as "Bushy Forest" in Hanover and "Ceeley" in Newport News, a large number of slaves and the full business assets of his father's shipping and shipbuilding enterprises.

In 1828 he was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates from Mathews County (Va.) defeating Carter M. Braxton. He was elected without opposition from Mathews from 1829 to 1834, ran from Middlesex, defeating Montague and thereafter running alternately without opposition from Mathews and Middlesex through 1840. He was elected Sheriff of Mathews in 1840, County Magistrate from 1842 to 1850, Chief Magistrate thereafter to his death.