

randum which was prepared by a granddaughter of Ralph Shelton, in which the spelling is *Gizzage*.

In an order book of Amherst County Court I found last summer that on the 2d June, 1766, there was presented to the court "an Indenture of Feoffment between Ambrose Jones of the one part and John *Gizzage* Fraser of the other part," etc.; and on the 4th July, 1768, "an Indenture of Bargain and Sale between John *Gizzage* Frazer of the one part and Ambrose Jones of the other part proved by the oaths of Lansford Lomax Jun'r, George Seaton and Edmund Wilcox, three of the witnesses"—these names indicating, as I think, that the parties were all of King William county. Some of my relations were born at "Mr. *Gizzage's* Old Plantation," in King William. This place was at or near "Aquinton Quarter"—*quarter* meaning a division or part of the estate, formerly common in Virginia, on which the overseer and farm hands resided, detached or at some distance from the mansion of the tract. It derived its name "Aquinton" from Aquinton Creek, even as an old church in the same vicinity was called "Aquinton Church." The Creek flows into Pamunkey River on the north side, about midway between the White House and Piping Tree Ferry.

A year or two after I had left college I was on a business trip for my father, travelling through Charlotte county on horseback, and knowing of the residence in that county of an old aunt of my father, to whom he was very partial indeed, I rode from the court-house to her house, and spent a night and a day there. The visit was one of great pleasure to me. This lady was the daughter of Richard Shelton, of Amherst, who was a son of the Ralph Shelton, of King William, mentioned by Mr. Powell in his article (page 124) as the son, by a previous marriage, of *Mrs. Sarah Gessedge*, who, in 1703, was about to be married to *Joseph Bickley*. On the 1st of January, 1801, Sarah Shelton, of Amherst, was married to the Rev. John Chappell, of Charlotte county.

While on that visit to my great-aunt, I found in her possession a family Bible containing several pages of family register relating to both the Sheltons and the *Gizzages*. The copy of that register, which I carefully made, was probably burned in the Chicago fire of 1871. Several years later, when preparing for publication in the *Amherst Enterprise* a series of articles on the

Shelton Family, I made particular efforts to recover the family Bible which I had seen at Mrs. Chappell's house, but was not able to do so, and I apprehend it has been lost. Her husband was a Baptist preacher, and he must have been one of the early ministers of that denomination in Virginia. I have in my possession a letter written to him by his father-in-law, Richard Shelton, and directed "To Mr. John Chappell, Preacher of the Gospel, Charlotte county," sent by one of Captain Shelton's servants with a present of some garden seeds and other things mentioned. He left two sons, John and Richard-Shelton Chappell, who survived their mother and continued to live at her old homestead in comfortable circumstances. Richard never married; the last I heard of him was that he was living near Eagle Eyrie, in Bedford county, the life pretty much of a hermit, from which retreat he sent me a friendly message. John married and left children, and they removed, I understood, to the Southwestern part of Virginia, but I have not met or corresponded with any of them. I have no special memorandum relating to Rev. John Chappell, though I remember to have seen in an old file of the *Richmond Enquirer* a report of the proceedings of a convention or association of ministers and laymen, held in Charlotte or Prince Edward county, from which I inferred he was highly esteemed. The object of the meeting, as well as I recollect, was to promote greater unity and zeal among the different denominations of Christians in evangelical work. The address they published was signed by some eighteen or twenty members of the convention, and among them John Chappell. There can scarcely be a doubt, I think, that he belonged to the Chappell family of whom Mr. Philip E. Chappell, of Kansas City, Mo., gives account in *The Virginia Magazine of History and Biography* (Vol. III., No. 4, and Vol. IV., No. 1), tracing them in Virginia to Thomas Chappell, who came over from Gravesend, on board the ship *America*, in 1635, and settled in Charles City county.

Bickley.

The maiden name of my father's paternal grandmother was Susannah Harding, daughter of Thomas Harding and Mary Giles, of Henrico county. She was born in that county in the year 1721-'22; was married in the "hard winter" of 1739-'40 to Charles Ellis of the same county, and removed with her husband