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**VIRGINIA FAMILIES**

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## GOODWYN OF SURRY AND SUSSEX COUNTIES, VIRGINIA

Thomas Goodwyn of Surry County, Virginia, mariner, was residing there prior to August 1717, in the parish of Southwark. Of his ancestry, there is no positive knowledge, though it seems probable he was of the family of Cambridge in England, a member of which family, Thomas by name, is said to have emigrated to Virginia. On August 8th, 1717, Thomas Goodwyn executed a power of attorney to Henry Harrison, gentleman, of Surry County. In 1720 he made a deed to John Scott, jun., who had married his daughter, Amy Goodwyn. These two documents are perhaps all that remains of the records of his activities excepting his will, which is dated 7 February 1730 and was proved 20 October 1731, and is recorded in Surry County Court. This will, though much torn and obliterated, shows that his wife's name was Mary, and that he had at least three sons, John, Francis and William, and a daughter, Penelope, who had married a Taylor. He also mentioned a grandson, Thomas Goodwyn, though whether the son of John, Francis or William Goodwyn or of still another son whose name is lost through the destruction of parts of the will, he did not say. The name of his daughter, Amy Scott, is also not mentioned—or is obliterated—yet from the deed to John Scott, jun., we know of her. This fragmentary will has been published in the *WILLIAM AND MARY COLLEGE QUARTERLY HISTORICAL MAGAZINE*, Vol. VIII, No. 2, Supplement, pp. 148-9.\* We are able to say, therefore, that:

Thomas Goodwyn, of Surry County, gentleman, died in the parish of Southwark in 1730 or 1731. By Mary, his wife, he left at least five children, perhaps others whose names are lost to us through the obliteration by time of portions of his recorded will. His known issue were:

I. John Goodwyn (or Goodwynne as it is sometimes written) of Surry County; later, on the formation of Sussex County he resided within the new county, in the parish of Albemarle, the Register of which parish, now in the Virginia Historical Society at Richmond, furnishes us with the names of nearly all of John Goodwyn's children. He seems to have been a man of prominence in Sussex, in his day and time, and was living there as late as 1754. He married Winifred, daughter of ——— Tucker, by whom he had:

1. Francis Goodwyn, born 7 Nov., 1747.
2. Patty [Martha?] Goodwyn, born 15 Jan., 1752.
3. Robert Goodwyn, born 15 March 1739.
4. William Goodwyn, born 24 Jan. 1745/6.
5. James Goodwyn, born 16 Aug. 1741.
6. Amy Goodwin, born 31 Aug. 1732; died ———; m. Thomas Mitchell, the elder, of Sussex County. He dying in 1761 or 1762 she

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\*Pages 725-726, this volume.

m. secondly, in 1762, Capt. John Raines, of Prince George County. While the birth of Amy Goodwyn is not recorded on the pages of Albemarle parish register, it was found recorded in the family Bible of Thomas Mitchell, the younger, her son (who married Ann Raines, daughter of Captain Nathaniel Raines of Prince George County), who removed to Georgia and who died in Thomas County, 27 July 1826. The writer is descended from Amy Goodwyn through both of her marriages.

II. Francis Goodwyn, of Prince George County. (Untraced.)

III. Penelope Goodwyn, m. ——— Taylor.

IV. Amy Goodwyn, m. John Scott, Jr., of Prince George, in 1720.

V. William Goodwyn (untraced). Can he possibly be identified with the William Goodwyn mentioned on page 27 of the *WILLIAM AND MARY QUARTERLY SUPPLEMENT* for October, 1899.\* The appearance of the names Francis, Amy, John and William among his family would seem to lend some weight to the hypothesis.

Let us now return to the children of John Goodwyn, of Sussex, and Winifred Tucker Goodwyn, his wife. This is surely debatable ground. Of the descendants of John Goodwyn's sons, Francis, Robert and William, we know nothing. Can we say more of the descendants of his son, James Goodwyn? Judge John S. Goodwin, in the *Supplement to WILLIAM AND MARY QUARTERLY* for October, 1899, page 135, seems to have chanced upon this line, though the name is there spelled with an "i" instead of "y." In this line the appearance of the name *Winnie Tucker Goodwin* is very strong evidence. Up to the present time, these facts relating to the Goodwyns of Surry and Sussex have not appeared in print, so far as I am aware. I give them, therefore, to stimulate research and criticism and to set at rest the persistent attempt of impatient genealogists to foster a connection between the Goodwyns of Surry and Sussex and the family in Dinwiddie of which Colonel Peterson Goodwyn was a member. There seems no shadow of a cause to connect these two families this side of England. Can Doctor Tyler, Mr. Torrence or any of the readers of *WILLIAM AND MARY COLLEGE QUARTERLY* throw further light upon the vexed question of the tidewater Goodwyns? And who can settle the question of the ancestry of Thomas Goodwyn of Surry who made his will in 1730?

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\*For pp. 27 and 185 see pp. 604 and 712, this volume.