

Neither is it known just how many children were born to Richard (II) and Sabrina although we do know of at least four sons, Richard Jr. (III), John, William and Francis. There may well have been daughters, but, unfortunately, no will for Richard (II) has been found to give us a clue. This may be due to the fact that many of the courthouses in northern Virginia, where he lived out his last days, were burned by Federal Forces during the Civil War...thus destroying many important early records.

During the early colonization of Virginia tobacco was the major crop of the planters. As soil conservation was an unknown factor at that time and tobacco took many of the nutrients from the soil, new fields were constantly needed to replace the worn out land. A number of the Westmoreland planters, including Richard (II), moved away from the Tidewater area into "greener pastures" in what was then called the Northern Neck of Virginia. This did not prove to be an advantageous move for Richard (II). While his younger brother Robert remained in Westmoreland County and became a prosperous planter, Richard (II) seems to have suffered financial reverses after he moved to the frontier.

Perhaps in preparation for his move away from Cople Parish, Richard (II) sold 200 acres of land on the Yeocomico to William Metcalf on November 30, 1719 (Westmoreland County Order Book, 1705-21, Wills & Deeds, p. 384). This was part