

The Fauntleroy Family

MARY EMILY FAUNTLEROY

The name of this family has been spelled *Enfans du Roi*, *Enfans le Rois*, and for many centuries *Faunt le Roy*; only in the past century has it been written as one word—Fauntleroy. The family was established in Dorsetshire, England, at a very early period, and was closely affiliated with the supporters of the early Normans, Plantagenets, and Lancaster kings.¹ They were people of education, heavy land-owners, charitable, supporters of the Church. They were in high standing in that part of England, where the family had been seated, and enjoyed the distinction of antiquity.

Arms were granted members of the Fauntleroy family by the College of Arms of England in 1600. Copies of this grant are found in the British Museum, London. The Shield was marked with the heads of three golden-haired boys. The Crest was added during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, the Fleur-de-lis between two azure wings above the shield. The Motto (or scroll) was "beneath the shield 'Fauntleroy.'" The English authorities consider the coat of arms just a pictorial device designed in Early England, illustrating the name with direct evidence as to its Norman or French origin. The ancient Anglo-Normans had for their coat of arms the same as that of the Fauntleroys. The name *le Roy* appears quite frequently in the ancient Norman rolls.

Walter Fauntleroy, born about 1273, married Juliana de Thornhull, daughter of Robert de Thornhull, of Sherborne, Dorsetshire, England. The history of the de Thornhull family begins as early as 1200 with definite records from John de Thornhull and his two sons, Ralph and Walter. It is recorded that Walter granted to his brother Ralph the estate of Alveston Manor in the year 1227. This name, Alveston Manor, appears later in the records of the Fauntleroy estates. Walter de Thornhull had a son Walter de Thornhull, Jr., who was married in 1274 to Cecelia Antioch, and died in 1307. Their son, Robert de Thornhull, married in 1294 (wife's name not given), and their daughter, Juliana, married Walter Fauntleroy, as stated above.

Walter and Juliana (de Thornhull) Fauntleroy were

¹ The typed record of the Fauntleroy family, compiled by Mary Emily Fauntleroy (80 pp. with chart and photographs) has been filed in the Genealogy Section of the Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, by the Society of Colonial Dames of Indiana.

the parents of two sons: John, recorded as being a witness in a law suit in 1333, and Adam, recorded as living at Alves-ton, part of the Fauntleroy estate, in 1340. Adam had but one son, whose name was John (living in Fauntleroy Marsh in 1373). This John had five sons: John, William, Nicholas, Richard, and Robert. John Fauntleroy (only son and heir of Adam Fauntleroy) was born in 1370 and died in 1440. John was married in 1397 to Joan Walyes (born in 1374; daughter of John Walyes). John Wayles was a man of wealth and prominence, and did homage to the Bishop of Sarum in 1428.

John Fauntleroy (the fourth), Sir Knight, and his wife Joan Walyes had but one son, John (the fifth), called John, Jr., who inherited his father's great wealth and much property from his mother's family. John Fauntleroy (the fifth) married Elizabeth Wadham of Merrifield, Somerset County, England. They had seven children: Peter, Bridget, William, John, Elizabeth, Agnes, and Tristram (spelled also Tristam). This seventh child, Tristram Fauntleroy, was born in 1452 at Fauntleroy Marsh, and died at "Priory," in Hampshire. He married Mrs. Joan Holt Viliers, widow of Robert Viliers of Crondall, Wiltshire, who had two children by her first marriage (William Viliers, who became a priest, and a daughter who married George Brooks). Tristram and Joan Fauntleroy had two sons, Byron and John. Tristram Fauntleroy died in 1538 at the "Priory," a short distance from Michel Marsh Church given to him for his services to Henry VIII in the settlements of church and state during the Reformation. He was master and squire of the Manor of Michel Marsh Church, one of the oldest in England. This church was restored about 1825. His portrait is shown in one of the restored windows, with the notation "Tristram Fauntleroy, who by his generosity and services to the State and Church has left a living memory." There are also two stone tablets on the wall of the chancel of the Church, and a much larger tablet in the church to the memory of Tristram and Joan Fauntleroy.²

After the death of Tristram Fauntleroy, his wife Joan and their two sons, Byron and John, resided at Crondall, Hampshire, on the estate that she inherited from her father.

²Photographs of the portrait of Tristram Fauntleroy and the tablets mentioned are shown in the record mentioned in note 1. They were secured by Miss Fauntleroy while visiting in England, as was also a copy of the will of Tristram Fauntleroy, who died in 1538. She writes, "It is rather unusual to possess a portrait of an ancestor of four hundred years ago."

Byron, the eldest son, was heir and executor of his father's will made in 1538. His inheritance embraced Michel Marsh Manor and many other places. John Fauntleroy, the second son, married Margaret Moore. He died in 1598, his wife on April 5, 1613. Both are buried at Crondall, Hampshire, England.

Their son William Fauntleroy, of Crondall, eldest son and heir, married Frances ——— (buried May 24, 1636), and their son John was baptized January 13, 1588. John married Phoebe Wilkinson at Crondall in 1607. They had thirteen children. The second son, Moore Fauntleroy, first married Dorothy Colle on December 22, 1639. She died leaving two daughters who remained in England when Moore came to America. His first voyage to America was in 1641, but it was in 1643 that he left England for good for political reasons and settled in upper Norfolk County, Virginia. His home was called "Roger's Nest." He was commissioned captain in 1645 and major in 1647 in the county militia. He was granted a land patent February 20, 1643, and served in the House of Burgesses 1644-1648.

Moore Fauntleroy moved to the Northern Neck of the Virginia Tidewater in 1648, and settled on a tract of land at Naylor's Hole, on the north bank of the Rappahannock River, extending from the Rappahannock to the Potomac River in Lancaster County, Virginia. Of this large tract of land, five hundred acres was granted and confirmed by Act I, Grand Assembly of Virginia, March 23, 1660, in the twelfth year (reckoning from the execution of Charles on January 30, 1649) of the rein of King Charles II. This property was successively a part of Lancaster, Old Rappahannock, and Richmond counties. Moore Fauntleroy was justice and Burgher from Lancaster 1651, 1652, 1656, and from Rappahannock, 1656. He owned large tracts of land, many slaves, and several vessels, and transported many settlers from England. He died in 1667 at Crondall, a part of Naylor's Hole. He was buried there. His second wife was Mary Hill, daughter of Thomas Hill of Rappahannock County, Virginia. The marriage occurred in 1648. The coat of arms was given to him on December 8, 1633.

Moore Fauntleroy and his wife Mary Hill had a family of two sons and one daughter: William, Moore, and Elizabeth. William was born in 1658 at Crondall, Rappahannock

County, and died in 1686. He was married in 1678 to Katherine Griffin (b. March 16, 1664; d. 1703; dau. of Col. Samuel Griffin of Northumberland County, Virginia). William and Katherine Griffin Fauntleroy had three sons: Col. William Fauntleroy, Col. Griffin Fauntleroy, and Moore Fauntleroy.

Col. William Fauntleroy (third) born on March 31, 1684, lived at Naylor's Hole, Richmond County, Virginia. He was married in 1712 to Apphia Bushrod, daughter of Col. John Bushrod, of Bushfield, Westmoreland County, Virginia. He was a member of the House of Burgesses from Richmond County, 1736-1749. His will was dated December 5, 1757, at Naylor's Hole. He died in 1757.

Children of Col. William and Apphia (Bushrod) Fauntleroy:

William (Lieut. Col.)—b. 1713; d. 1793; m. (1) Elizabeth ———, (one child);³ m. (2) Margaret Murdock; 12 children.

Moore (Capt.)—b. 1716; d. 1791; m. (1) Ann Neal; (2) Elizabeth Mitchel.

John—b. 1724; d. 1766; m. (1) Judith Littlepage; (2) Elizabeth Waring, daughter of Thomas Waring.

Hannah—m. Capt. Maxmillian Robinson.

Apphia—m. Col. William Dangerfield.

Katherine—m. John Lewis.

Mary—m. Robert Brooks.

Ann—m. John Pettet.

Sarah—m. James Gray.

Children of Lieut. William and Margaret (Murdock) Fauntleroy:

Apphia—d. young.

William (M.D.)—b. 1742; d. 1775; student at the "Temple," Edinburgh, Scotland, and in London.

Moore (M.D.)—b. 1743; d. 1802; student with his brother William at Edinburgh; inherited the old plantation at Naylor's Hole.

John (Capt.)—b. 1745; d. 1798; m. Mrs. Judith (Ball) Griffen (dau. of Col. James Ball of Bewly).

Griffen Murdock (Capt.)—b. 1747; d. 1794; m. Ann

³ Elizabeth (Betsy) dau. Lieut. Col. William and Elizabeth Fauntleroy; b. 1736; m. (1) John Adam; m. (2) Capt. Bowler Crooke; d. 1792. This Betsy, the "Lowland Beauty," made an impression upon the youthful and susceptible heart of George Washington.

Belfield of Mars Hill (dau. of John Belfield, a Revolutionary soldier). Griffen was an officer in the Revolution, first lieutenant in the Virginia Militia, April 5, 1779, and later made captain.

Jane—b. 1748; m. Col. Thomas Turner of Washington, Westmoreland County, Virginia.

Sally—b. 1752; m. ——— Turner.

Molly—b. 1753; d. young.

Joseph—b. 1754; d. 1815; m. Elizabeth Foushee Fauntleroy (dau. of Capt. Bushrod and Elizabeth Foushee Fauntleroy).

Henry (Capt.)—b. 1756; killed in the battle of Monmouth, New Jersey, June 28, 1778.

Robert—b. 1758; d. 1832; m. Sarah Ball.

Apphia (first Apphia died in infancy)—b. 1760; m. Capt. John Champe Carter.

Children of Capt. Griffen Murdock and Ann (Belfield)

Fauntleroy:

Margaret—m. Capt. Thomas Yerley of Frederick County, Virginia.

Belfield—d. young.

Mary—m. John Campbell of Kiran, Westmoreland County, Virginia.

Ann—m. Raphael Thompson, renowned artist; removed to Kentucky.

Elizabeth—b. 1790, Mars Hill, Richmond County, Virginia; m. Thomas Jones of Bathurst; d. August 31, 1865, in Frederick County, Virginia.

Joseph—b. 1787, Mars Hill; d. 1832 at New Harmony, Indiana; m. Emily Carter Fauntleroy (first cousin; a dau. of Joseph and Elizabeth Foushee Fauntleroy; moved to New Harmony in 1827, attracted by the inducements of the Robert Owen movement and founding of New Harmony; were accompanied to New Harmony by four brothers of Emily Carter Fauntleroy; namely, William Moore Fauntleroy, Laurence Butler Fauntleroy, Joseph Murdock Fauntleroy, and Robert Henry Fauntleroy. Joseph who married his cousin Elizabeth Foushee Fauntleroy, had eleven children, several of whom died young. Of the brothers of Emily Carter Fauntleroy, wife of Joseph Fauntleroy, coming to New Harmony, the record of Robert Henry Fauntleroy will be given.

*Children of Joseph and Emily C. (Fauntleroy) Fauntleroy:*⁴

Eliza Griffin—b. April 8, 1812, near Danville, Kentucky; m. George W. S. White; buried in Evansville on October 1, 1875; lived in New Harmony. George W. S. White was the son of Isaac White of Tippecanoe fame.

Emily C.—b. December 6, 1813, at Greenville, Virginia; m. Nelson Nettleton, a man of means and prominence in early New Harmony; one daughter, Virginia; one son, Fauntleroy Nettleton.

Thomas Moore—b. September 22, 1815; died unmarried.

Frederick—b. February 7, 1818, at Greenville, Virginia; m. Marry Trotter in Texas, where they lived. They had four sons and one daughter.

Henry—b. January 2, 1820, at Greenville, Virginia; m. Isabella Smythe, of Vincennes, Indiana; moved to Chicago, bought land, and became quite wealthy; had three sons (Thomas, in whose honor the story, *Little Lord Fauntleroy*, was named, Samuel Smythe, and Eugene Smythe).

Josephine—b. Nov. 25, 1821, at Greenville, Virginia; m. (1) ——— Baker; m. (2) ——— Faith; m. (3) ——— Fisher. Josephine had one daughter by her first marriage, Emily, who married and lives in Louisville with her two daughters.

Ferdinand—b. March 16, 1824, at Greenville, Virginia; m. Chloe Biscoe in Texas; six children; one grandchild, Schuyler William (living in Memphis, Tennessee).

William Theodore—b. July 7, 1826, at Greenville, Virginia; m. Rachel Homer in 1855, English by birth, a teacher for many years, a charter member of the Minerva Club of New Harmony, and later made an honorary member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs; b. 1830; d. 1914; husband died in 1906; both buried in New Harmony Cemetery; children: Ida Eliza (b. August 10, 1856; m. Dr. I. C. Watts, of Bowling Green, Kentucky; d. 1896; buried at Evansville in the Dr. Isaac White cemetery lot); Homer (b. 1866; m. (1) Hanse Goodloe; m. (2) Maud Miller in 1905; one son by the first marriage; Mary Emily—b. April 14, 1858; living in New Harmony).

Virginia—b. August 22, 1839, in New Harmony; m. John Preaus (a brilliant man who came from Prussia);

⁴ Miss Fauntleroy's record, mentioned in notes 1 and 2, tells that Joseph and Emily Carter Fauntleroy were married on March 12, 1811. They lived near White Post at Salem, Virginia, and in 1827 moved to New Harmony.

charter member of the Minerva Society of New Harmony; bright mind and very beautiful; removed to Louisiana in 1873; five children.

Robert Henry Fauntleroy—tenth child of Joseph and Elizabeth (Foushee) Fauntleroy and brother of Emily Carter Fauntleroy, was born March 23, 1806, and died December 13, 1848. He came to New Harmony in 1827, and married Jane Dale Owen, daughter of Robert Dale and Caroline Owen in New Harmony on March 23, 1835. Robert Henry Fauntleroy⁵ was appointed to the staff of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, and became chief of the Coast Survey in 1846. He also made the first survey of the Miami River, and built five bridges near New Harmony.

Children of Robert Henry and Jane Dale (Owen) Fauntleroy:

Son—b. and d. in infancy in New Harmony, date unknown.

Constance Owen Fauntleroy—b. January 15, 1836; d. May, 1911; m. Rev. James Runcie, a clergyman of the Episcopal Church; writer of prose and verse; organized the Minerva Society in New Harmony; husband d. in St. Joseph, Missouri, and was buried there; children: Blessing Constance, (m. Elliot St. John Marchall); Elinor Dale, (d. Dec. 1834); James F. (d. 1836); Perc Owen, (unmarried).

Elinor Owen Fauntleroy—b. July 15, 1838; d. Nov. 19, 1909, in San Francisco; m. George Davidson (b. May 9, 1825, in Nottingham, England; assistant to Robert Henry Fauntleroy in the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey; named many of the bays, inlets, and peaks of the Olympic Mountains after the Fauntleroy family; complete list of his work on file in the New Harmony Library; four children).

Arthur Robert Fauntleroy—b. Jan. 11, 1842; d. Dec. 1884 of pneumonia, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, while on government work; followed closely along the scientific work of his father; lived in New Harmony; loved and respected; never married.

Edward Owen Fauntleroy—b. 1841; d. 1866, in San Francisco; was associated with his brother-in-law, George

⁵ George Browning Lockwood, *The New Harmony Communities* (Marion, Ind., 1902), 267. For Robert Owen's marriage, see *ibid.*, 65-66; Arthur H. Estabrook, "The Family History of Robert Owen," in *Indiana Magazine of History* (March, 1923), XIX, 63-101. See also the general index to the *Indiana Magazine of History* (1905-1929) for references to New Harmony and the Owen family.

Davidson, and was his assistant in the western survey; never married.

It seems rather remarkable that this line should reach from 1273, Walter Fauntleroy, down to 1939, still carrying the original name (Mary Emily Fauntleroy), and it is interesting to know that I am descended from two brothers, of the early 1600's; the two lines having connected twice after several generations. I have four Fauntleroys for my grandparents and four Fauntleroys or my great-grandparents. Through this line of descent, I have been elected to the Society of Colonial Dames of America on many lines, and the Daughters of the American Revolution on four lines. I am a charter member of the Society of Indiana Pioneers on five lines. I had the privilege, because of my inheritance, of purchasing the Old Fauntleroy Home in New Harmony. In 1924, I sold this home to the Indiana Federation of Women's Clubs and it has become a shrine for all club women.