

**Craven**

## The House of Cravens



Ruth H. McConathy



### DEDICATION

The collection of the matter  
contained within this volume  
was suggested by  
a desire to  
know something of my

### KINSPEOPLE

Having learned so much  
that seems worth preserving  
It is now published and  
dedicated  
To My Mother

Published privately - Charlottesville, Virginia  
1972

CRAVENS - (CRAVEN)

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN LINES AND ALLIED LINES

dedicated to  
Ethel Linda Cravens

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by  
Ruth H. McConathy

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ETHEL LINDA CRAVENS



"AN OLD FAMILY HEIRLOOM"

(Cravens)

## FOREWORD

"He who careth not from whence he came  
careth little whither he goeth."

This writing is intended only for those who are directly interested in its contents. No apologies are made for its degree of accuracy, omissions or errors. A humble effort has been made to assimilate and preserve ancestral knowledge for those of future generations who may desire to know of their beginning.

The writer has spent many years in researching and compiling this material, through travel, correspondence and personal contacts. Extensive research has been carried out in libraries such as, New York Public, New York State, New York Genealogical, The University of Virginia, Virginia State, in Richmond, The Historical Society in South Carolina, the Archives in North Carolina, The Historical Society in Pennsylvania, as well as county court and cemetery records in Delaware, Kentucky, New York, New Jersey, Virginia and the Carolinas. Recognized authorities have been used in so far as possible, including authentic published information available from the above sources along with family Bibles, first hand family recollections, and cemetery markers. To my knowledge, the data contained herein is as factual as has been possible to ascertain at this writing. It is impossible to prevent some errors from creeping into the writing of such a history, and no doubt additional material has been developed during this publication period.

If repetition appears excessive at times, this has been done to facilitate the understanding and ease of following lines of direct descent, which can become confusing in the development of so many generations. Perhaps a word of explanation as to the format and identification system used, might be expedient at this time.

In the English lines - Capitol letters of the alphabet have been used to designate successive generations, with the addition of a number, in the order of birth, where known, for each child of that generation. Thus, the first child of the first known ancestor (A) would become (B-1), the second child (B-2), etc. In the third gen-

eration, child number one of (B-1) would become (C-1-1); child two, (C-1-2), etc., and the child of (B-2) would be known by (C-2-1), and on down in each successive generation. Roman numerals are used for each child in each generation to denote the direct line followed.

Lines in America are denoted by assigning each individual a number. Starting with the immigrant ancestor, as (1), his children in order of birth, have one number added to his number. Example: First child would become (11), second child (12), etc. Each successive generation adds a number onto the first ancestor's number, as first child of (12) would have number of (121), second child (122), etc. This system identifies each line and works well, except beyond nine children, where an (0) is added for child number ten. Beyond that, an addition of (a), (b), (c), etc., is necessary. Direct lines of descent as followed through are denoted by using a Roman numeral opposite the name in each generation, as first generation (I), second (II), and so on, in addition to the identifying number.

Classification begins with what is denoted as "Clans", where each clan bears the name of one of the immigrant's sons or sons-in-law, and consists of the descendants of this son or son-in-law. The clans are in turn sub-divided into various "Lines", each line being denoted by the name of the individual through whom the ancestry is traced back to the founder of the "Clan." The exception being in the lines of the maternal descent, where the line is denoted by the husband's name.

It might be pointed out that "Lines" continue under the original heading until a new line is designated, thus avoiding undue repetition. The book is further divided into Parts I, II, III, IV and V, and sub-divided into chapters, thus continuing the allied lines of the maternal counterparts. Part I, is concerned mainly with the family name of "Cravens." All names have been indexed and source material referenced.

This volume is a historical and genealogical work on both the English and American lines, dating from the 12th Century to the present. In addition to the family of Cravens, an attempt has been made to follow allied family histories of such names as Cabell, Davis, Earle, Field, Fry, Goodrich, Hallmark, Harrison, Hopkins, Lightfoot, Rives, Settle, Slaughter, Thornton, Townsend, Walker, Wright and many others. There are over 5,000 names listed in the Index. Illustrations include, photographs, pedigree charts, legal documents and Coats-of-Arms of many of these families.

Time and space will not permit individual recognition to all

who have contributed so vitally to the compilation of this material. However, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the many helping hands that have made this writing possible. To those who have researched and made available their writings; to my numerous friends and relatives who have worked with me and for me; to cousin Lee Belle Cravens, the family Genealogist, who did not live to see the fruits of her labor; to my mother for providing and preserving family traditions and whetting my interest; and to my husband who has given encouragement, endured "who married whom", and drafted beautiful family charts. Without all of these invaluable contributions, this work could never have been achieved.

———— R. H. M.

May 30, 1970

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## INTRODUCTION

The last of the name of Cravens in my direct line of descent is that of Ethel Linda Cravens, who married Thomas J. Hallmark, on August 6, 1904, at Evansville, Indiana. She and her twin brother, Elbert Gooch Cravens, were the youngest of eight children born to John Gooch Cravens and his wife, Julia Ann (Settle) Cravens, on May 30, 1887, in McLean County, near Calhoun, Kentucky. Cravens ancestors were early settlers in Delaware, New Jersey, North and South Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky and later in Tennessee. Today those of the name are to be found in almost every state of the Union.

## EARLY CRAVEN FAMILIES

The name Craven, or Cravens, the [s] having been added to the name after their arrival in America, was also known as Crauen, as it was often spelled in the Ancient English and early American records, is derived from the residence of its first bearers in the district of Craven, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, England. Chiefly seated in early times in Yorkshire, the family also resided in Gloucestershire, Shropshire, Worcestershire, Berkshire and in London, England. These lines belonged to the landed and educated classes of the British Isles.

The earliest definite records of the name Craven in England includes those of Paulinus or Paul de Craven, who was recorded as a "freeman" of York as early as the year 1294 A. D.; Robert D. Craven, Rector of Bolton, near Bowland in Yorkshire in 1304; Agnes and Johannes or John de Craven, of Yorkshire in 1379; and Roger de Craven or Cruen of the same place and period, and a John Craven, circa 1485-1507, at Appletreewick in Craven, County of York, whose direct line we will follow through.

Craven was a name well known at a later period, particularly in London, where one of that name was twice Lord Mayor. Quoted in the "History and Antiquities of Northamptonshire", Rev. John Bridges, published in England in 1791, p. 606, reads as follows:

"John Lord Craven Baron of Ryton, second brother to William Earl of Craven, by his said will bearing date 18th of May 1647 gave the poor of the town of Winwick two hundred pounds to be reserved as a stock, and the interest of it to be annually divided at Christmas by the ministers and church wardens. This legacy was received from parliament commissioners in 1652, and lands were purchased in Cold Abbey. The remaining sum, all necessary expenses being deducted, is put out to interest. Mr. Thomas Hanwell gave a large silver flagon for the wine at the administration of the sacrament. The wake is on the Sunday after S. Michael."

Also quoted from the above reference is an interesting epitaph of Sir William Craven, Kt., of Winwick, Northamptonshire, who died in 1707, age 73 years, written in Latin and translated in English as below:

"Under this Weeping marble lyes the body of Sir William Craven of Winwick, Kt., youngest son of Thomas Craven of Appletreewick near Skipton in Craven in the County of Yorke, and of Margaret, his wife. He was the grandson by the father's side of Anthony Craven; He was the grandson by the mother's side of Robert Craven; He was the great grandson by the father's side of William Craven, and great grandson by the mother's side of Henry Craven; which Henry Craven was brother to Sir William Craven, Kt., twice Lord Mayor of the City of London, which Lord Mayor was father of William, late Earl of Craven and of Elizabeth Baroness of Powis, and of Mary Lady Coventry, Baroness of Aylesborough. The said Earl of Craven never married."

The above Henry Craven was the son of the John Craven of Appletreewick.

The Coat of Arms used by this Craven family is described as:

- Arms: - Arg., a fesse between six cross crosslets fitchee gu.
- Crest: - On a chapeau gu., turned up erm., a griffin, statant, wings elevated, erm., beaked and foremembered Or.
- Supporters: - Two griffins, wings elevated erm., beaked and foremembered Or.
- Motto: - Virtus in Actione Consistit  
(Virture Consists in Action)

Ref: Peerage & Baronetage - John and Sir Bernard Burke, C. B. (1826).  
A Complete English Peerage - Alexander Jacob (1767) London.



P A R T I

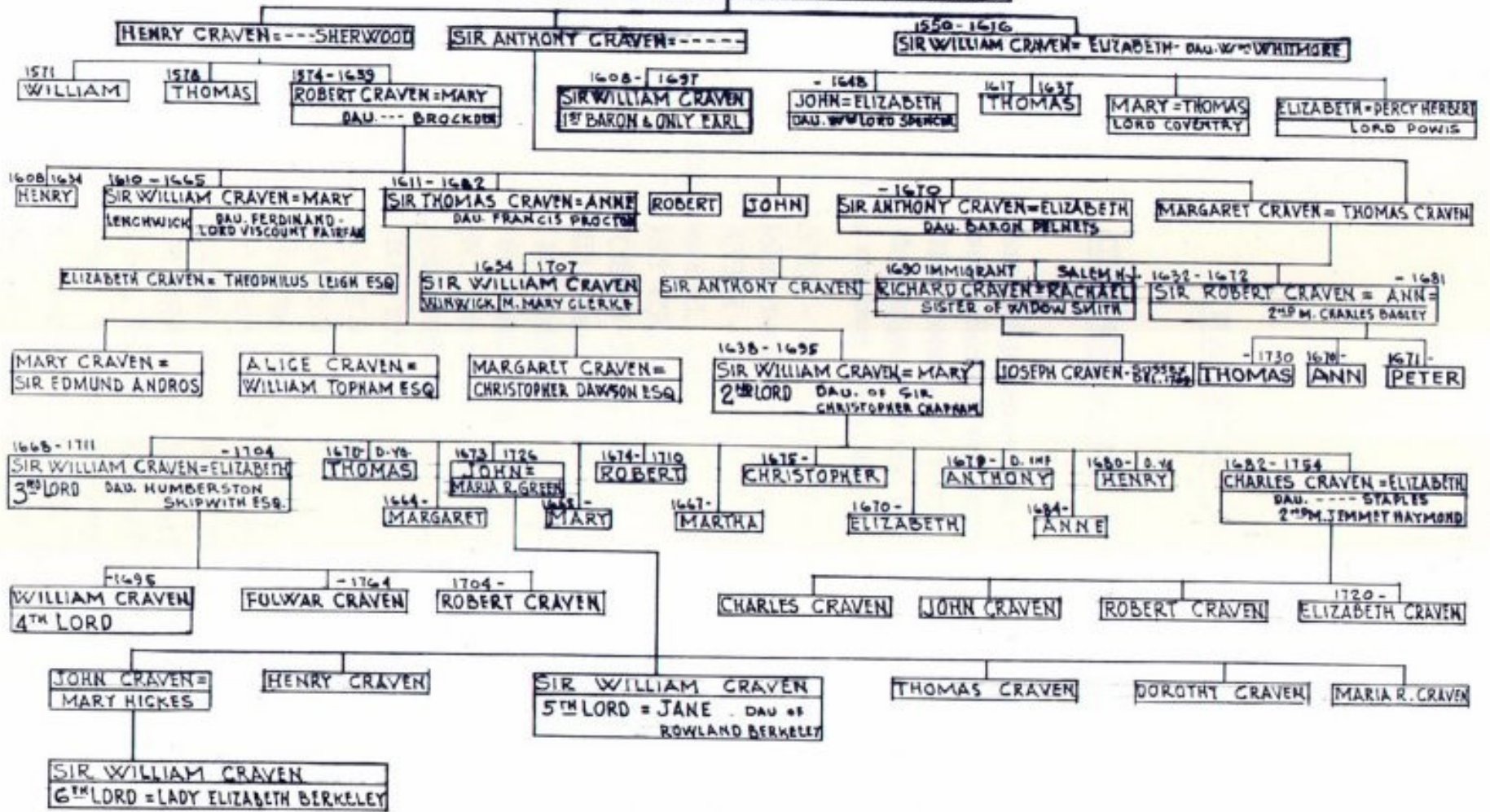
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CRAVEN - CRAVENS

ENGLAND - AMERICA

JOHN CRAVEN - (CA 1485-1507) = - SIMPSON

WILLIAM CRAVEN = BEATRIX - DAU. JOHN HUNTER



CRAVEN LINES OF ENGLAND  
15<sup>TH</sup> - 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

## CHAPTER I

### CRAVEN IN ENGLAND

Craven was a name of prominence and antiquity in England. Early ancestry of this noble family was found in Appletreewick near Skipton in Craven, in the County of Yorke, where lived a JOHN CRAVEN (A), during the reign of King Henry VII and VIII, circa 1485-1507. His wife's maiden name was -----Simpson. Issue:

- (B) WILLIAM CRAVEN - m. 1539, Beatrix (d. 1597),  
dau. John Hunter. Issue:
- (C) 1. HENRY CRAVEN - b. 1543; d. 1603; m. Margaret  
Sherwood (d. 1613).
- (C-II) 2. SIR ANTHONY CRAVEN - m. -----Issue:  
(D-I) 1. THOMAS CRAVEN - m. Margaret Craven  
(E - VII), dau. Robert Craven (D-III). See later.
- (C-III) 3. SIR WILLIAM CRAVEN - m. Elizabeth (b. 1550; d.  
1616-18), dau. William Whitmore.
- (C) HENRY CRAVEN, son of the above William (B), resided  
at Appletreewick. Issue of three sons:
- (D) 1. WILLIAM CRAVEN - b. 1571; d. without issue.  
2. THOMAS CRAVEN - b. 1578; d. without issue.
- (D-III) 3. ROBERT CRAVEN - b. 1574; d. 1659-61. Suc-  
ceeded to the Estate of Appletreewick and  
married Mary, dau. ----Brockdon. Issue:
- (E) 1. HENRY CRAVEN - b. 1608; d. 1634; unmarried.  
2. SIR WILLIAM CRAVEN - b. 1610; d. 1665, of  
Lenchwike, in the county of Worcester; m.  
Mary, dau. Ferdinand, lord Viscount Fair-  
fax of Cameron, Scotland. He was Knighted  
at Whitehall, September 29, 1639; died Oct.  
12, 1665, buried at Norton. Issue:  
1. Elizabeth Craven - m. Theophilus Leigh, Esq.

- (E) 3. SIR THOMAS CRAVEN - b. 1611; d. April 15, 1682;  
m. 1634, Anne, dau. Francis Proctor. (See  
issue later.)
- 4. ROBERT CRAVEN - d. unmarried
- 5. JOHN CRAVEN - d. unmarried
- 6. SIR ANTHONY CRAVEN - of Spersholt, in Berk-  
shire, d. 1670; m. Elizabeth, dau. Baron  
Pelnets of Mark, Germany. No issue.
- (E-VII) 7. MARGARET CRAVEN - m. Sir Thomas Craven  
(D-I), son of Sir Anthony Craven (C-II) of  
Appletreewick and great grandson of John  
Craven (A). (See issue later.)
- (C-II) SIR ANTHONY CRAVEN - second son of William of  
Appletreewick, had an only son - Sir Thomas  
Craven, as mentioned above, m. Margaret,  
dau. Robert Craven (D-III)
- (C-III) SIR WILLIAM CRAVEN - third son of William of Apple-  
treewick (B), was Sheriff of London in 1601,  
and Lord Mayor in 1611, under the reign of  
Queen Elizabeth and James I, respectively.  
He married Elizabeth, daughter of William  
Whitmore of London. He was born in 1550;  
died in 1616, possessed of a vast fortune.  
He was educated at Trinity College, Oxford.  
Issue by Elizabeth, two daughters and three  
sons:  
(D) (1) Mary Craven - m. Thomas, lord Coventry  
(2) Elizabeth Craven - m. Percy Herbert, lord  
Powis.
- (D-I) 1. WILLIAM CRAVEN - b. 1608; d. 1697 - His heir.  
(See further record.)
- (D) 2. JOHN CRAVEN - d. without issue in 1648; m. Eliza-  
beth, dau. William, lord Spencer. He was high  
in the esteem of King Charles I, inasmuch as by  
letters patent bearing date at Oxford, March 21,  
1642, in the 18th year of his reign, his Majesty  
conferred upon him the dignity of a baron of this  
real, by the title of Lord Craven of Ryton, in  
Shropshire. He was the founder of a scholarship  
at Oxford and Cambridge, Trinity College.

(D) 3. THOMAS CRAVEN - d. without issue.

WILLIAM CRAVEN (D-I), eldest son of Sir William Craven (C-3), was the First Baron and Only Earl (1608-1697). He was much affected by the Military exercises from the time of his youth, and signalized himself in Germany and in the Netherlands, under Henry, Prince of Orange. He gained much honor and upon his return was knighted at Newmarket, March 4, 1626, and in the same month and year was raised to the dignity of Baron by the title of Lord Craven of Hampsted-Marshall in the County of Berk, by letters dated March 12, 1626, by Charles I.

Although he did not personally serve King Charles against his rebellious subjects, he contributed large supplies during his exile and upon the Restoration was advanced to the high honor of Viscount, lord Craven, of Ussington, in the famed county of Berks, and to Earl Craven, of Craven, in the county of York. Among other favors granted by the Crown, by a patent dated March 24, 1663, Lord Craven along with the Earl of Clarendon, the Duke of Albemarle, Lord Berkeley and Sir John Colleton, was appointed one of the lord Proprietors, granting them the province of the Carolinas, from which circumstances old Craven County, South Carolina, (erected in 1674, as one of the original four counties) and present Craven County, North Carolina, derived their names. An order contemporaneous with the modifications of the Constitutions of the 10th of May, 1682, divided the province into three counties. Berkeley, embracing Charles Town extended from Sewee on the north to Stone Creek on the south; beyond to the northward was Craven County, and to the southward Colleton County, all extending within land to a distance of thirty-five miles from the seacoast. A county court was ordered to be established at Charles Town for all inhabitants. Craven County was sparsely settled until the Huguenots occupied the banks of the Santee, so that practically, there were but two counties at this period.

The act of 1704 provided for the building of six churches and the province was divided into ten defined parishes. The Huguenots on the Santee had petitioned that their settlement be made a parish, and that their minister should have the same allowance as ministers of other parishes, and so that part of Craven County known as the settlement on the Santee was made into a parish, and the church built in Jamestown in that settlement was declared to be the parish church of St. Jame's Santee.

Lord Craven served as President of the Board of Proprietors from 1681 to 1697, at his death. The Carolina province was deeded to the lord Proprietors, including Earl of Craven, by the Indians in a deed dated, February 13, 1683 and recorded August 20, 1684, described as being "bounded on the East and Southeast by the sea; North and Northeast with St. Helena Combake and other lands; and on the Northwest by the Applachian Mountains, for the sum of ten pounds lawful money of England and other valuable considerations. .". (Refer S. Carolina Archives - Proprietary Grants, Vol. 38, pp. 203- 204, Columbia, S. C.)

William, Earl Craven was by this time an elderly man who had been distinguished in love and war thirty years before. He had led the forlorn hope at Creutznaek with such courage that he had been patted on the shoulder by great Gustavis and was beleived to have won from a thousand rivals the heart of the unfortunate Queen of Bohemia. He had been elevated to the peerage by Charles I, and having afterwards, during the civil wars, zealously and ably espoused the Royal cause, was upon the Restoration created Earl. (Ref. Burke's Peerage.)

He served the Stuarts for twenty-odd years and was to survive all other grantors. As sole survivor of the original Proprietors at age 80 years, he was in command of the Coldstream Guards, and was ready to resist the foreign troops of Prince Orange, "swearing that he would rather be cut in pieces than yield possession his post", and only doing so at the command of James in his 87th year. He still presided at the Board of Proprietors as Palatine until his death on April 9, 1697, at age 88, and 10 months.

Lord Craven died without issue and unmarried. He was buried at Binley, near Coventry, April 20, following his death. Both of his brothers, John Craven and Thomas Craven (D-4 & D-5), were dead without issue, therefore, the title of Lord Craven of Hampsted-Marshall was passed on to a Cousin, Sir William Craven, son of Sir Thomas Craven (E-3), and his wife Anne Proctor. (See further record later.)

(E-3) SIR THOMAS CRAVEN, third son of Robert Craven (D-III), and Mary Brockden, his wife, was born in 1611 and died in 1682, married Anne, daughter of Francis Proctor of Beckwith, in the Parish of Horton, in the County of York. Sir Thomas died on April 15, 1682, in his 71st year of age and was buried at Burnsall in Craven.

E-3) Sir Thomas Craven and his wife, Mary, had issue of three daughters and one son as follows:

- (F)
1. Mary Craven - m. Sir Edmund Andros of the Isle Guernsey.
  2. Alice Craven - m. William Topham, Esq. of Hebden, in Craven, County of York.
  3. Margaret Craven - m. Christopher Dawson of Langcliff Hall, near Settle, in Craven in the county of York.
  4. WILLIAM CRAVEN - m. Mary, Daughter of Sir Christopher Clapham of Beamsley, in the county of York, Knight.

(F-4) SIR WILLIAM CRAVEN, above, 2nd lord Craven, as previously mentioned, was born August 26, 1638, and in the reign of Charles II, the dignity of lord Craven, of Hampstead-Marshall was entailed on him, thus he became the Second Baron. He died suddenly in his parlour at Combe-Abbey on October 28, 1695, and was buried in the new vault in Binley Church, near Coventry, the 2nd of November following. He was succeeded by his eldest son and heir, William Craven, born 1668. Sir William and his wife, Mary, had issue of eight sons and five daughters as follows:

- (G)
1. WILLIAM CRAVEN - b. October 4, 1668, became 3rd lord Craven, and Third Baron, succeeding to the title from his father. (See further record.)
  2. THOMAS CRAVEN - b. June 14, 1670; d. young.
  3. JOHN CRAVEN - b. Nov. 23, 1673; d. Dec. 6, 1726; m. Maria Rebecca, dau. Henry Green of Wykins. He was the father of 5th lord Craven. (See further record.)
  4. ROBERT CRAVEN - b. Dec. 3, 1674; d. Nov. 1710.
  5. CHRISTOPHER CRAVEN - b. May 7, 1675; d. unmarried.
  6. ANTHONY CRAVEN - b. Dec. 16, 1679; d. an infant.
  7. HENRY CRAVEN - b. Nov. 12, 1680; d. young.
  8. CHARLES CRAVEN - b. May 6, 1682; d. Dec. 27, 1754. (See further record.)
  9. Margaret Craven - b. Dec. 16, 1664.
  10. Mary Craven - b. Aug. 13, 1665.

- (G)
11. Martha Craven - b. Nov. 1, 1667.
  12. Elizabeth Craven - b. Sept. 1, 1670.
  13. Anne Craven - b. Feb. 1684.

(G-1) SIR WILLIAM CRAVEN, above, 3rd lord Craven, succeeded to the title of lord Craven and was elected lord Palatine of the Province of Carolina in 1708, the 7th year of the reign of Queen Anne. He married Elizabeth, daughter of Humberton Skipwith, Esq., son and heir apparent of Sir Fulwar Skipwith of Newbold-hall in Warwick County, baronet. He died in 1711, at Combe-Abbey in Warwickshire. His wife died in childbirth of the fourth son, May 16, 1704. Sir Fulwar Skipwith was admitted to the Board of Proprietors as guardian to Lord Craven's son, his successor, also William lord Craven 4th, then an infant. He surrendered to the Crown about 1727-1729. Sir William (G-1), and his wife, Elizabeth, had issue:

- (H)
1. WILLIAM CRAVEN - 4th lord Craven, no issue.
  2. FULWAR CRAVEN - d. without issue.
  3. ROBERT CRAVEN -
  4. JOHN CRAVEN -

Brothers of William Craven (H-1), Robert and John, came to America in 1732, Robert settling in Pennsylvania, and John located in Randolph County, South Carolina.

(G-3) JOHN CRAVEN, son of Sir William Craven (F-4), and his wife, Mary, was born on November 23, 1773, and died December 6, 1726. He married Maria Rebecca, daughter of Henry Green of Wykins and had issue:

- (H)
1. SIR WILLIAM CRAVEN - m. Jane Berkeley, dau. Rowland Berkeley. He became 5th lord Craven, since the 4th lord William Craven (H-1), above, had no issue. He and his wife, Jane had no issue.
  2. JOHN CRAVEN - m. Mary Hickee and had issue:
- (I)
1. WILLIAM CRAVEN - m. Elizabeth Berkeley.
  3. HENRY CRAVEN -

(I-1) SIR WILLIAM CRAVEN - above, became the 6th lord Craven since his father, John Craven's brother, Sir William (H-1), died without issue, the title passed to his cousin, and the title still descends from him. Sir William and his wife, Elizabeth, had issue:

- (J)
1. Elizabeth Craven -
  2. Maria Craven -
  3. William Craven -
  4. Margaretta Craven -
  5. Georgianna Craven -
  6. Henry Augustus Craven -
  7. Keppel Craven -

(G-8) CHARLES CRAVEN - Eighth son of Sir William Craven, 2nd lord Craven, and his wife, Mary (Clapham), was born May 6, 1682, and died December 27, 1754. He married Elizabeth, daughter of ... Staples, Esq. He had the feat of Lenchwike in Worcestershire, and was constituted governor of Carolina in the reign of Queen Anne in 1712, being appointed by the Proprietors to replace Gov. Tynte.

He was already in Carolina and had been appointed Secretary to the Province. He showed himself bold and vigorous during the Indian uprising and the massacre of St. Bartholomews. (Charlestown) Upon the death of his brother, Anthony Craven, in England, he was given permission by the Proprietors to return to England in 1713, but due to the crisis, he had not done so at that time, but now that the Indians had been defeated he felt at liberty to do so and left on April 25, 1716, and Col. Robert Daniel, Deputy Governor was left in charge.

Governor Craven, upon his arrival in England, attended upon the Lords Proprietors, who desired him to continue his office and to return to the Carolinas, but he stated that his affairs in England were of such a nature as to prevent his doing so and requested to be excused, and that their Lordships would nominate another Governor to succeed him. The Proprietors, therefore, agreed to nominate Robert Johnson, son of Sir Nathaniel, as Governor, and the Secretary was instructed to prepare letters for the Royal approbation of the nomination. They offered Governor Craven a present of 1000 lbs. for his services. It was not until April 30, 1717, that his Majesty's approval had been obtained and all other preliminaries arranged so as to allow the Proprietors to issue Mr. Johnson's commission.

Charles Craven (G-8), and Elizabeth, his wife, had issue:

- (H)
1. Charles Craven - d. without issue.
  2. John Craven - Rev. of Chilton House, Wilts.
  3. Robert Craven - d. without issue.
  4. Elizabeth Craven - b. Dec. 30, 1720.

CHARLES CRAVEN (G-8), Governor, died December 26, 1754. His widow, Elizabeth, married 2nd, Jemmet Haymond in 1755.

(E-VII) MARGARET CRAVEN - daughter of Robert Craven (D-III), and his wife, Mary Brockden Craven of Appletreewick, son of Henry Craven (C-I), married Sir Thomas Craven (D-II), son of Sir Anthony Craven (C-II), brother to Henry Craven (C-I), and both were descendants of John Craven (A) of Appletreewick.

Margaret Craven and Sir Thomas Craven had issue:

- (F)
1. SIR ANTHONY CRAVEN -
  2. SIR ROBERT CRAVEN - b. 1632; d. 1672 (See further record.)
  3. SIR WILLIAM CRAVEN - b. 1634; d. 1707; m. Mary Clerke of Waterford (See further record.)
- (F-IV) 4. SIR RICHARD CRAVEN - m. before 1676, Rachael... (See further record.)

(F-3) SIR WILLIAM CRAVEN - Knight, born 1634, and died 1707 at age 73, of Winwick, Northampshire was known as Sir William of Winwick, and an account is given of his epitaph in Bridge's History of Northamptonshire, as stated at the beginning of "Early Craven Families."

During the exile of King Charles II, William of Winwick was with the aforementioned William, Earl of Craven, First Baron, in the courts of the Hague and Heidelberg, and in other courts of Germany. After the Restoration of King Charles, he returned into England with the said Earl of Craven. He served as a volunteer in the Dutch wars in Sir Robert Holms' ship, where he behaved himself with very great courage and bravery, and gained much reputation. He married Mary Clerke, eldest daughter and co-heiress of George Clerke of Waterford in the county of Northampton, upon which marriage the said Earl of Craven settled upon him and his male issue, the manor of Winwick and Hundred of Guildsbrough and diverse other manors and estates in this country and in Sussex, Middlesex and London. "He was eminently endowed with Virtues and accomplishments both of body and mind. He had a most happy wit, sound judgement, a sweet temper and an obliging address, which rendered him agreeable both to superiors and inferiors alike. He understood and spoke most languages, he was skillfull in most Sciences. He

was a true lover of his country; he was a most loving and indulgent husband and a constant and faithful friend." He died the 18th of March, 1707 in his 73rd year. His virtues never die.

On a black marble on the pavement at his burial place:

"Here lyes the body of  
Sir William Craven  
of Winwick, Kt.  
Obiit 18th Mar. Anno Dom 1707.  
AETATIS SUAE 73."

(Ref. Bridge's History of Northamptonshire - p. 606.)

(F-2) SIR ROBERT CRAVEN - second son of Margaret Craven (E-VII) and Sir Thomas Craven (D-II), was born in 1632 and died in 1672. He is buried in St. Peters Church in Bath with this inscription over him:

"Sir Robert Craven, Kt., sometimes master  
of the horse to the Queen of Bohemia,  
(sister to King Charles the First)  
died 4 October, 1672. AEat. 40."

He is supposed to have married Ann---, who came to America following Robert's death and settled in Salem, New Jersey. (See record under Cravens In America.)

Sir Robert Craven and his wife, Ann, had issue:

- (G) 1. THOMAS CRAVEN  
2. ANN CRAVEN - b. 1670  
3. PETER CRAVEN - b. 1671

All came to America with their widow mother in about 1677. Widow Ann married 2nd, in Salem, Charles Bagley in 1679. She died in 1681. (See further record of this account in Cravens In America.)

(F-IV) SIR RICHARD CRAVEN - believed to be the son of Margaret Craven (E-VII), and Sir Thomas Craven (D-II), was married before 1676 and had children near grown by 1690, when he immigrated to New Castle, Delaware and came to Salem, New Jersey, the same year and settled near Widow Ann Craven, late of Lyme House, Middlesex, England. He became the executor of the estate of Robert Craven, his brother. He married Rachael---, sister of Elizabeth,

the widow of John Smith, who had previously settled in Salem.

Sir Richard Craven and his wife, Rachael, had issue:

- (G) 1. RICHARD CRAVEN, JR. - (See further record in Cravens In America.)

(G-II) 2. JOSEPH CRAVEN - Came to America with his parents and settled in Lewes Town, Delaware, where he is on record as signing a Deed in 1709, indicating that he must have been at least of legal age by that time. He is thought to be the father of Robert Cravens, born 1696, married Mary Harrison in Sussex County, Delaware in about 1721, line of which we follow in the chapters of Cravens In America.

#### Symbol Explanation

Capitol letters of the alphabet for Generations.  
Roman numerals designate direct line of descent.  
Descendants are numbered in order of birth.

## CHAPTER II

### CRAVEN (s) IN AMERICA

The earliest of the name of Craven (s) in this country to have known descendants seems to have been the widow of Robert Craven, known as Sir Robert Craven (F-2), died 4 October 1672, in England as previously mentioned. She was Ann Craven who settled under Fenwick in old Salem, New Jersey about 1677. According to a paper entitled "Craven's Choyce", by Richard Sharpe, (Salem County Historical Society), the widow Craven, while a resident of Shadwell, London had bought of John Eldridge, also of Shadwell, 500 acres of Salem land on March 20, 1676 - 1677. Also on the "tenth day of the Seventh Mo'th commonly called September In the Yeare by the English Act. One thousand Sixe hundred seventie and nyne."

John Fenwick, the Proprietor of Salem Tenth, executed a deed, "for and in consideration of the sum of Nyne pounds good and Lawfull money of England, to ... Ann Craven, late of Lynne House in the Parish of Stepency in the County of Middl. (sex) within said kingdome of England and now the Town of New Salem in the said colony (New Jersey) widow," for 300 acres of land, "to be called Craven's Choyce," on "Monmouth River, heretofore called Allowayes Creek." (Salem Deeds, Libre B, p. 67, at Secretary of State's Office in the capitol at Trenton, New Jersey.)

In a marriage contract drawn up on the "5th, 11th Mo. , (Jan.) 1679, between Charles Bagley, now or late of Maryland... and Ann Craven of New Salem in West Jersey, Widdow," Bagley promised to pay 15 pounds, in English money or 18 pounds, 15 shillings, in goods, to Thomas Craven, eldest son of the said Ann, when 21 years old; 15 pounds in English money or 18 pounds, 15 shillings, in goods to Peter Craven, the youngest son of the said Ann, when 21 years old; and 20 pounds in English money, or 25 pounds in goods, unto Ann Craven, daughter of the said Ann, when 16 years old. (See Collection of the

Genealogical Society of Pennsylvania, Vol. IV, Monthly Meetings, Men's Minutes - Quaker Records of Salem, New Jersey - 1676 - 170, p. 222, at Pennsylvania Historical Society.)

At the death of the widow Ann Craven, in 1681 - "A Memoriall of Ye Evidence" states that "Charles Bagley stands obligated by an instrunt. Bearing date Ye 5th of Ye 11th month, 1679, to pay to three children (viz) Thomas, Peeter and Ann Craven, being the issue of his late deceased wife to her first husband, Rob't. Craven by Severall Spells the sum of fifty pounds or more...." (Salem Wills, 1676, p. 32 at Trenton, New Jersey.)

Indications are that Peter Craven, orphaned in 1681 should be taken "to tutor and bring up for eleven years to come", was 10 years old at that time. Also Ann Craven, "the 27th of 7th Mo. , 1686, being upwards of the age of 16 years." Assuming that Peter was born in 1671, Ann born in 1670 and Thomas being the eldest, would have been born before 1670, would lead to the fact that Ann Craven, Widow, having had as her first husband the Sir Robert Craven (F-2), second son of Margaret Craven (E-VII) and Thomas Craven (D-II), descendants of John Craven of Appletreewick, who died at age 40 on October 4, 1672, and buried in St. Peters at Bath, England. Margaret Craven's father was also named Robert Craven (D-III). (Reference in English line preceding.) Also (Refer Craven's Choyce, Edward Sharpe, p. 10 - "Thomas, Peter and Ann, children of Robert Craven, whose widow became the wife of Charles Bagley.")

THOMAS CRAVEN - son of Widow Ann, was deeded 200 acres of land near Alloways Creek, by Bagley, on April 15, 1687, and bought other tracts in 1696 and 1698. (Salem Deed Book 3, p. 259; No. 6, p. 104 and No. 7, p. 213.) His will dated September 13, 1721 and proven December 23, 1730, names a son, Nehemiah, under age, and daughters, Elizabeth, Rachael and Ann. Ann married Benjamin Ruge of Salem, March 30, 1731.

PETER CRAVEN - youngest son of the Widow Ann, was also assigned land by Bagley, October 18, 1697. He died without issue and left no will. He was born in 1671 and is mentioned as late as 1734, in the settlement of an estate of Thomas Crabb, of Salem, on May 27th of that year.

ANN CRAVEN - only daughter of Widow Ann, married Isaac Warner, October 30, 1692, at Philadelphia, Pa. (Ref. American Marriage Records Before 1699 - William Montgomery Clemens, p. 67.)

In a "Memoriall of Ye Evidence" given before Thomas Olive, Robert Stacey, Mahon Stacey, Thomas Budd and Thomas Lambert, Commissioners for the Province of West Jersey, in a "case of Charles Bagley of Salem in Ye Sd. Pvince," under date of 31st, 6th mo. 1681, "George Deacon affirms after a Solemn manr. in our Prsents that where as Charles Bagley Stands Obligated by an Instrunt. Bearing date Ye 5th of Ye 11th Month, 1679, to pay to three children (Viz), Thomas, Peeter and Ann Craven being the issue of his late Deceased wife to her first husband "Rob't. Craven" by Severall Spells the sum of fifty pounds or more... that he was to have an Estate of 800 acres of Land made Over to him wth so much psonel Estate together Wth Ye Sum of four score & fifteenpounds Sterl... and for as much as Ye land was near made over but neglected. Therefore this evidence is given before uss"... , etc. (Salem Wills, 1676; p. 32 at Trenton.)

Six years later on April 12, 1687, "Charles Bagley of Caesariee River in the Province of West Jersey aforesd. Plantr. on the accmpt of the Estate of "Richard Craven" of Lime House in the Countie of Middlex," purchased 500 acres of land "neare the head of Mun Muth River alias Allowayes Creek and next adjoining the Widow Smith's 500 acres, "from William Penn, Proprietor, and Governor of Pennsylvania, Sam Hodge of Hodgefield, John Smith, Smithfield and Richard Tindall of Tindall's Bowery, in the Tenth and Province of West Jersey, executors of John Fenwick of Fenwick's Colony, Esq., late Proprietor of Salem Tenth, etc. (Salem Deeds at Trenton, New Jersey.)

This conveyance apparently refers to the Robert Cravens of the "evidence" above. Salem land, however, had been long known in London, and Richard Craven may have been an executor and/or brother of Robert Craven.

As quoted from a paper written by Thomas Shrouds and read before the Historical Society of Salem County, New Jersey, Jan. 27, 1886, entitled, "Our Early Settlers" - Viz: - "In 1676 the wife of John Smith of Amesbury, wrote to her sister, Rachael and her husband Richard Craven, giving them a description of this country and advising them to come to America, which they accordingly did and

landed at New Castle, (Delaware) in 1690, and came to Salem the same year. One of their sons settled in the State of Delaware." This son is believed to have been Joseph Craven (Craun), and the father of the American line of Robert Cravens - born 1696 and died 1762, the ancestor of our American line of Cravens.

Shroud seems to have used the names of Robert Craven and Richard Craven interchangeably in writing of the late husband of Ann Craven, Widow, of Salem. Since we know that Richard was the 1690 immigrant and is referred to as being the husband of Rachael, sister of the wife of John Smith, he could not have been the late husband of Ann, but was thought to have been the executor and brother of the late Robert Craven of Lime House, Middlesex County, England, as previously mentioned, and the son of Margaret Craven (E-VII) and Thomas Craven (D-II).

Richard Craven was married by 1676, and no doubt had children by that time, since one of his granddaughters, Rachael Craven married Joseph, son of Richard and Mary Pledger Woodnutt. They had one son and three daughters. One daughter, Hannah, married Samuel Hedge the 4th. Richard Craven, son of the 1690 immigrant to Salem, in will of 27th October, 1748, proven 15th November 1748, names wife, Patience and sons, John and Wheat, under 15 years and daughters, Grace and Rachael under 16 (Calendar, N. J. Wills, Vol. II, p. 123.) John Craven of Salem, married April 18, 1764, Phoebe Smith and Richard Wheat Craven of Cumberland, married October 10, 1766, Rhoda Shepherd. (Archives of N. J., 1st Series, Vol. 22, p. 79.) According to Sharpe, the Cravens were prominent citizens in the public affairs of Salem and did not remain Quakers very long.

Hotten lists in early immigrants to America, a Richard Craven, under "Patents granted Settlers in Virginia" - 1626 - 150 acres on Hog Island, Blunt Point - 10 miles by the Riverside. "Warosquo-eacke Plantacon", Corporation of "James Cittie" - 1626 (page 272). Also listed is a Thomas Craven, aged 17, as "licensed to go beyond the seas to Virginia", embarked from London 24 July, 1635 on the "Assurance de Lo", Ship Masters, Isack Bromwell and George Peensie, came to "Towne of Gravesend", (page 112). James Craven of 1639 and Thomas of 1642, appear in Greer's lists as immigrants to Virginia, a Susan Craven in 1655 and a James Craven in 1643 (p. 82).

Among other early Craven (s) settlers in America were those in North and South Carolina, following the reign of the Lord Proprietors, settling old Craven County, South Carolina, erected in 1674,

at now Craven County, North Carolina, at New Bern and engulfing Marion County. St. James Parish and St. Stephens Parish on the Santee River are the burial places for these early settlers. The old church still stands, following repairs, at Pineville, South Carolina, near Moncks Corners, Eutaw Spring. At Charleston, there is a marker for the Old Craven Fortress on the Customs House.

In the 1790 Census (Mill's Atlas - Marion District, S. C., 1825 - County Map), appears:

Craven, Mrs. - Page 35 - 2 sons - 1 over 16; 1 under 16.

Cravens, Capt. Robert - Page 85 - wife; 3 sons - 3 daughters - (1 over 16) - (3 under 16); 3 slaves.

Cravins, Wm. - b. 1764; Page 31 - 2 children (female) Wife.

Cravin, Jeremiah - Page 29 - 3 daughters.

Other Craven and Cravens families settled in Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Arkansas and Kentucky.

CHAPTER IIITHE DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT CRAVENS, SR.GENERATION IROBERT CRAVENS, SR. - (1696-1726) - "Gentleman Justice"

(1) Captain Robert Cravens, Sr., was the first of the Cravens name definitely known and on record in this country, in our direct line of descent. He was born in 1696, probably in the lower regions of Delaware, and died in May, 1762, in Augusta County, now Rockingham County near Harrisonburg, Virginia, at his home plantation located about three miles south of that town on "The Great Road," today's "Long Grey Trail", or better known as the Valley Pike or Route 11. In his will, recorded in Staunton, Virginia, in Will Book No. 3, p. 122, he left to his son Robert Cravens, Jr., who married Hester Harrison, "Half of the home during his mother's life time and at her death, the whole property of the home plantation became his."

The exact place of birth, or the parentage of Robert Cravens, Sr., (1) has not been proven, as far as this writer is aware. However, the fact that Robert and his sister, Margaret Cravens (b. 1702), both married into the Harrison family in Sussex County, Delaware, would indicate that their parents were living in Sussex or vicinity, by 1721, and to the brother and sister as having become of age there. If they were not born in this area, they may have been brought there from Great Britain as immigrant children, by their parents.

In the Sussex County records, is a deed witnessed by Joseph Cravens [Cravan], signed in 1709, indicating that he must have been of legal age by that time. (See Photo copy following page, from original Deed, Delaware Papers Vol. 1, plate 8, Historical Society of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia - Also Deed Book A, No. 1, p. 234, at Georgetown, Delaware.) This aside from references to Robert, is apparently the only reference of Cravens on the Sussex records, most



Whatever Robert Cravens' birthplace, whether Great Britain, or on the Delaware, he was associated in Sussex with people of influence and means. He came to the Valley of the Shenandoah well supplied with funds for the adventure, despite the fact that his land in Sussex, Delaware remained unsold until 1747. He is first found mentioned on the Orange, Virginia records as Robert Cravens, Gent., at which time, 29th July, 1743, he appears along with Daniel Harrison, Gent., (brother-in-law) before the court and was sworn into his Military Commission of Captain of Horse. (Order Book 1741-43, p. 506).

That Robert Cravens was of good report and well recommended is further attested by his being commissioned one of the "Gentlemen Justices" for the first court of Augusta, formed December 9, 1745, by Governor Gooch, 30th October, 1745.

Robert's first land patented was dated 1744, and in all, he and his sons were granted some 2,513 acres (Patent Books, Land Office, Richmond, Virginia.) In addition, he purchased for 40-4 lbs., 670 acres of land on the "north side of Linville's Creek", 19th June, 1746, of "McKay, Hite, Green and the said Green sole heir extr. of Wm. Duff", part of 7,009 acres granted Robert McKay, Just. Hite, Wm. Duff, Robert Green, Gent., by patent 26th March, 1739" - Delivered to John Cravens (executor) 1762. Also some time prior to 1760, Robert purchased of "Epipha Fowler", 165 acres on the "Southside of the North Branch of Shenando River, against the mouth of Fort run", which land he and his wife, Mary, deeded to John Halpe, 18th August, 1760. (Deed Book 8, p. 426.)

Robert Cravens and his brother-in-law, Thomas Harrison, the founder of Harrisonburg, settled as near neighbors. Their first patents were granted on the same day, and their lands were practically adjacent. Thomas' first surveys were dated December 18th and 19th, 1739 and Robert's evidently were also made about this same time.

The five Harrisons, brothers of Mary Harrison, John, Daniel, Thomas, Jeremiah and Robert Harrison, along with their father Isaiah Harrison, migrated and were pioneers, and along with Alexander Herron, and Robert Cravens and his wife, Mary, settled in Orange County (now Augusta County), which was erected into Rockingham County following the Revolution, near Harrisonburg, Virginia, in the spring of 1737. Robert Cravens' Dry Fork tract was located as early, at least, as August 1741, and joined Robert Harrison's line of the later Smithland estate, to the northeast of Harrisonburg.

The Head Spring of the Dry Fork is commonly called Flock's Spring, but a small tributary of the fork rises further to the south and directly to the east of Harrisonburg, and it was on this that Robert's land was located.

By far the greater part of Captain Cravens' land was located on the waters of Cook's Creek to the south of Thomas Harrison, and it was in this direction that he settled. Robert Cravens' home was on the "Great Road" of 1755, today's "Long Grey Trail", now Route 11, and was probably within a mile or two of the present southern limits of Harrisonburg.

Captain Cravens was evidently one of the first inhabitants to accommodate "Valley Tourists", as on 14th April, 1746, "License is granted to Robert Cravens, Gent., to keep Ordinary at his house, he having paid the Governor fees and with John Lewis and Robert Pickens, Gentlemen, his securities acknowledge their Bond for the same which is adm'd. to record." (Order Book No. I, p. 22.) On the 20th of August, 1747, the court appointed Robert Cravens and Samuel Wilkins road overseers, Vice Alexander Herron, Thomas and Jeremiah Harrison, "from the Court House [Staunton] to the Indian Road, near the said Cravens."

The day his license was granted him to keep ordinary, Cap't. Cravens declined the honor of re-appointment as a Justice under the Governor's forthcoming commission of June 13, 1746 (Order Book I, p. 68.) Shortly there after, he bought his 670 acres of land on Linville's Creek, and from this time on, his activities were mainly those of a large land owner, but his interest in public affairs continued. His appointment as a road overseer in 1747, was followed on September 3rd, the same year, by his appointment as precessioner, along with Thomas Harrison, from Samuel Wilkins, to the Fairfax line.

In many of his services to Augusta, Robert was associated with his brothers-in-law, the Harrisons and Alexander Herring. On 29th August, 1751, he and Daniel Harrison were named - "Daniel Harrison and Henry Smith having according to an order of this Court laid a way from the South branch (of Shenandoah or Linville's Creek) to Swift Run Pass, it is ordered that Robert Craven and James Bally be surveyors of the same, and that the said Harrison lay off their Precints & appoint the Tithable persons that shall clear the same." (Order Book 3, p. 187.)

As an appraiser of land values, Captain Cravens was highly

regarded, the court having named him twice at the same term, 27th November, 1751. First along with his son, John, and Daniel Stringer, to value the improvements made by James Wood, Gent., on 400 acres of his Muddy Creek land. Second, "on the motion of John Harrison for a view and valuation of the Improvements by him made on four hundred acres of land on the Dry Fork of Smith's Creek. It is ordered that Robert Cravens, Michael Warren and Alexander Herron (Herring) or any two of them being sworn before a Justice of the Peace of this county, do meet to value the "Same having regard to expenses and make report of their proceedings to the next court." (Order Book 3, pp. 203 & 207.)

The valuations were to establish record that the condition of the patents to the land had been complied with; no controversy being involved, the relationship of the viewers to the owners was manifestly no bar to appointment. Both Cravens and Herring were brothers-in-law of Harrison and Warner and was a close friend.

At this time wolves were still infesting the country and a bounty had long been offered for their heads. For the head of an old one, Robert Cravens and Hugh Campbell were paid 160 pounds of tobacco. Although the Captain was now past military age, he was no doubt still familiar with his gun - which he treasured highly and passed it on to his son, John, when he made his will.

On February 21, 1751, Robert and Mary Cravens deeded their first tract of 400 acres of land patented in 1744, to John Wright, with Peter Schnoll and Samuel Newman as witnesses. This being Robert's first conveyance of land in Augusta, he signed as in Delaware, with his characteristic "R" mark, and Mary with a simple "plus" mark.

Wright was undoubtedly a near kinsman of Mary Cravens. Samuel Harrison was her half brother. James Wright, on the 16th of August, 1756, patented 175 acres "on the head of the Dry Fork of Smith's Creek, on the east side of a tract of land belonging to Robert Cravens." (Patent Book 33-1, p. 109, Land Office, Richmond, Va.) This land later descended to John Wright, the surviving heir and was devised by him to James Wright, Jr., (Chalkley, Vol. III, p. 547.) John Wright and John Cravens, son of Robert Cravens, were associated together in owning land near James Wright.

Captain Robert Cravens, the pioneer and Justice of the First court of Augusta County, died, as revealed by the proving of his will, in the spring of 1762, during the French and Indian War. In the pre-

vious autumn, when he signed his will, he was in failing health, from which apparently he never rallied. By his passing, old Augusta lost one of her noble company of settlers, whose descendants were to add further luster to her name, and whose children's children, like so many others, were to go forth from Virginia to help "make other states great."

By his will Captain Robert Cravens appointed his wife, Mary and his son, John Cravens, his executrix and executor, who on the 18th day of May, 1762, the day of the proving of his will, gave bond with Edward Shankland and Andrew Erwin, for 2,000 pounds. On the 5th of July, 1762, his estate was appraised by Matthew Thompson, Archibald Huston and John Stewart, the appraisement being recorded 17th of August, the same year. His will is recorded at Staunton, Virginia in Will Book No. 3, p. 122, and reads as follows:

"IN THE NAME OF GOD AMEN, October ye second in the year of our Lord One thousand Seven hundred and Sixty One viz 1761 and I Robert Cravens of the county of Augusta and Colony of Virginia being sick and weak in body and in perfect mind and memory blessed be to God for it and calling to mind the mortality of my body and knowing that it is appointed for all men once to die, do make and ordain and appoint this as my last Will and Testament that is to Say

first, and principally of all I give and Humbly Recommend my soul to God who gave it and my body to the earth to be buried in a Christian like and decent manner at the direction of my loving wife and son John Cravens whom I do make and appoint my sole Executors in this my last will and Testament and as touching such wordly estate as it has pleased God to bless me in this life with I give, devise and dispose of the same in the following manner.

First, I desire all my lawful debts to be paid which I have legally contracted.

Imprimis, I give and bequeath to Mary, my Dearly beloved wife one young four year old dapple gray horse and side saddle her own bed and bed clothes and her great and little wheel five cows and calves ten head of sheep five hundred of hogs Sixty pounds in cash and all the household goods three beds and furniture thereinto (The great iron pot only excepted.) and the negro wench called Knelly during

her natural life and at my wifes decease I will the wench be sold and if Knelly has any children during my wifes lifetime I will my wife shall give and bequeath them to any of my children that their mother please and half of my dwelling house and half of my plantation dureing her natural life and five acres of the Great Meadow.

Item. I give unto my son John Cravens one negro boy named Tom and the smooth bore gun that he has in possession to him and his heirs forever.

Item. I give unto my son William Cravens the tract or parcel of land commonly known by the name of the Great Meadow containing 141 acres (five acres only excepted for his mother.) to him and his heirs forever but in case he has no issue it shall become his Brethern and their heirs forever and sixh pounds in money and forty pounds to be paid by his Brother John for the negro boy named Sip which I will to John but if John refuses to pay the forty pounds the negro Sip shall become Williams, and I allow a receipt for Thirty Seven pounds to be given on a bond that I have of Williams.

Item. I give unto My Daughter Mary a tract or parcel of land she now lives on containing 124 acres to her and her heirs begotten of her body forever and one great iron pot.

Item. I give unto my two Grand Children Zebuñon and Robert Harrison that tract or parcel of land containing 200 acres lying on the East side of Linville Creek to them and their heirs forever and one negro child called Dina and her increase for them and their heirs forever but I will that my Daughter Margaret Harrison shall have the service of the girl Dina if she desires it during her natural life.

Item. I give unto my Daughter Agnes the tract or parcel of land she now lives on to her and heirs begotten of her own body forever.

Item. I give unto Magie my Daughter sixty pounds in money.

Item. I give unto my son Robert Cravens the half of my dwelling house and half of my plantation I now live on during his Mother's Natural life and at her decease the whole to him and his heirs forever but in case he should die without legitimate male issue the land to become his Brethern and their heirs forever.

Item. I give unto my daughter Elizabeth Cravens one bay horse with a white foot four year old three cows and calves sixty pounds in money and one negro girl named Venus about six years old and in case she should decease without issue her part to become her sisters and equally divided among them.

Item. I give unto my grandson Robert Cravens that tract or parcel of land containing 160 acres of land commonly known by the name of Wait's Cabbn lying on the Creek below Joseph Cravens to him and his heirs forever. But in case he should die without heirs legally begotten of his own body the sd. land shall become his fathers and his heirs forever.

And to his Brother John Cravens my grandson I give ten pounds in cash to help to school him ten pounds to Mary Black my Grand daughter and a tract of land containing 470 acres of land I will to be sold where Samuel Lowry now lives on.

Item. And all my debts, legacies and funeral charges being first paid I will and desire the remr. of my estate to be divided among my loving wife and nine children John, Agnes and Magee to have two shares for each others one share.

This I trust will be done and all truly fulfilled by my loving wife and son John Cravens whom I do appoint whole and sole Exors. of this my last will and Testament and I do hereby utterly disallow, revoke, and disannul all and every other former Testaments, wills, legacies, Bequests and Executors by me in any ways before this time willed and bequeathed.

Ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and testament in witness whereof I have herinto set my hand and seal this day and year above written.

his  
Robert "R" Cravens (Seal)"  
mark

"signed sealed published and pronounced and declared by the said Robert Cravens as his last will and testament in the presence of us subrs.

vis. Archd. Huston  
Matthew Thompson  
Daniel Love.

At a court held for Augusta County May 18th, 1762."

"This last will and testament of Robert Cravens decd. was proved by the oaths of Archd. Huston and Danl. Love, two of the witnesses and ordered to be recorded on a motion of Mary and John Cravens the Executors therein named who made oath according to law certificate is granted then for obtaining a probat therof in due form they having with security entered into bond."

Test.

(Original Will is also on record at Staunton, Va.)

In his Will, Robert Cravens mentioned "nine children" but names only eight, Joseph Cravens is referred to as owning land nearby. Joseph was the unnamed child in the Will. A deed dated 22 August 1768, of John Madison to son John, 141 acres called Great Meadows, upon a branch of Cook's Creek... "lying between the lands of John Cravens and his brother Joseph Cravens," land purchased by John Madison, Sr., 19th March, 1764, "of William Cravens brother of said John and Robert Cravens." (Deed Book XV, p. 148 at Staunton.) This being the only known record of Joseph Cravens, but linking the name to an earlier Joseph in Delaware as previously stated.

Mary Harrison Cravens, widow of Captain Robert Cravens,

Sr., (I), the pioneer, died testate in Rockingham County, Virginia, in April or May 1781, the spring preceeding the surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

"At a court held for Rockingham County, Monday the 28th day of May 1781, the last will and Testament of Mary Cravens, dec'd. was proven by Alexr. Miller & John Gwine two of the wits. & admitted to record, also a Codicil was proven by the oath of Alexr. Miller & Jno. Magill, the executors therein named... Certifications... granted..." etc. Also 28th of May 1781, Bond of Samuel Hemphill, John Magill, Francis Erwine and James Shannen to Daniel Smith, William Nalle, Henry Ewing and Reuben Harrison, Gentlemen Justices of the Court of Rockingham County for 100,000 pounds current money of Virginia, as executors of the last will and Testament of Mary Cravens, deceased. (Rockingham County Executors Bond, - 1778-1815, No. 24 at Harrisonburg, Va.)

On the 24th September, 1781, the "appraism't. of Mary Cravens' Estate ret'd & O to be recorded, also the Vendue Bill ret'd. & O to be recorded." (Rockingham Court Order Book No. 1, Part I, pp. 92 and 101 at the State Library.)

Due to the destruction of the Rockingham records in the war of 1851-65, Mary's Will was reduced to ashes - such being the respect of the "preservers of the Republic" for the records of the founders of the same. Mary and Robert Cravens contributed at least two sons as soldiers in the cause of Independence, and supplies were furnished by Mary, her executors filing claim with the court June 9th, 1781, for payment on "7 Bushels of Corn @ 2/Each .14's" furnished for the Continental Army, the same being recorded and forwarded to Richmond by the clerk of Rockingham Court amongst the "Filed MS Claims against the Revolutionary Army" - Folio 22 - "The different accts. sent you In this Book is - A True acc't. of the different claims as they were produced in Court, Certified by me, Henry Ewin (Ewing) C.R.C." (State Library, Richmond, Va.) Mary's executors gave bond in Revolutionary wartime currency. One of these executors, Hemphill, was certainly her son-in-law, and most likely Magill also. Alexander and John Miller were probably her grandsons or brothers-in-law of her daughter, Elizabeth, who married Jacob Miller.

ROBERT CRAVENS, SR., (I) and Mary Harrison Cravens (14) issue:

- (11) JOHN CRAVENS - b. 1722; d. July 24, 1778; m. 1759 c. Margaret, nee Hiatt, widow of William Dyer. After John's death, Margaret married 3rd - 1782, Dennis Lanahan (Book A, p. 52, Court Records, Harrisonburg, Va.) (See further record.)
- (12) MARGARET CRAVENS - b. 1724 c.; d. 1800 c.; m. 1st Mr. Primrose; m. 2nd, July 23, 1747, Zebulon Harrison, son of John Harrison, Sr., grandson of Isaiah Harrison (I). (See further record.)
- (13) MAGGIE CRAVENS - b. ....; d. ....; m. before 1761, Robert Black and removed with him to Mecklenburg County, N. C. about 1764. M. 2nd, Henry Smith on April 2, 1792 (?).
- (14) JOSEPH CRAVENS - b. ....; d. 1763; m. .... (no record)
- (15) WILLIAM CRAVENS - b. 1730 c.; d. ....; m. Jane [Harrison], and is said to have had four sons, Major Bob (Robin), James, John and Joe, and that Robin and his Uncle Robert married sisters. (Harrisonburg Court Records)
- (16) MARY CRAVENS - b. ....; d. 1801 c.; m. before 1761, Samuel Hemphill (d. 1809) (See further record)
- (17) AGNES CRAVENS - b. ....; d. ....; m. before 1761, John Magill (?).
- (18) ROBERT CRAVENS, JR. - b. 1733; d. March 1784; m. Hester Harrison, c. 1760, dau. Jeremiah Harrison, b. 1738 c.; d. after 1784. (See further record.)
- (19) ELIZABETH CRAVENS - b. ....; d. ....; m. Jacob Miller.

MARGARET CRAVENS - sister of Robert Cravens, Sr. (I), born ca. 1702 and died in 1753. She married about 1724, Daniel Harrison (16), half brother of Mary Harrison, wife of Robert Cravens, Sr., soon after the Harrisons settled in Delaware. Daniel Harrison was the son of Isaiah Harrison and his second wife, Abigail Smith Harrison, b. 1701 and died July 10th, 1770. He became a Captain in the French and Indian Wars and migrated to Augusta County, Virginia along with the other Harrisons and Cravens families. He married second, Sarah

Stephenson, widow of William, in July, 1761 (Boogher's Gleanings).

Margaret Cravens and Daniel Harrison had issue:

- (161) ROBERT HARRISON - b. 1725; d. May 25, 1761, unmarried.
- (162) DANIEL HARRISON, JR. - b. 1727; d. ....; m. Sarah....
- (163) JESSE HARRISON - b. 1729; d. 1817 c.; m. bet. 1750-55, Sarah.....
- (164) MARY HARRISON - b. 1733; d. ....; m. 1st Henry Bowyers, d. 1760, at sea; m. 2nd, William Kavanaugh.
- (165) JANE HARRISON - b. 1735; d. 1796; m. 1751, Cap't. Daniel Smith, son of Cap't. John Smith.
- (166) ABIGAIL HARRISON - b. 1738; d. ....; m. Oct. 1764, Jeremiah Ragen.
- (167) BENJAMIN HARRISON - b. 1741; d. 1819; m. Aug. 8, 1763, Mary McClure, d. 1815, dau. John McClure.

(Birth dates from Boogher)

All but the last named were born in "Sussex on the Delaware", on "Maiden Plantation."

(See further record under Harrison Line.)

THE DESCENDANTS OF ROBERT CRAVENS, SR.GENERATION II

(11) JOHN CRAVENS - (1722-1778), eldest son of Robert Cravens, Sr. (I), and his wife, Mary Harrison Cravens (14), was born in 1722 in Sussex County, Delaware and brought in childhood, by his parents to Augusta County, Virginia, about 1739. About 1759, he married Margaret, widow of William Dyer. John Cravens died intestate on 24 July, 1778 in Rockingham County, Virginia. Upon his death, his widow married her third husband, Dennis Lanahan.

Margaret was the daughter of John and Margaret Hiatt. The Hiatts were Quakers and are said to have come from the British Isles. John Hiatt, Sr., and his son John, Jr., were both granted land by Lord Fairfax between the years of 1759 and 1762. In 1762, "John Cravens and Margaret, his wife, late Margaret Dyer, Administratrix of William Dyer, deceased," brought a bill of complaint vs. Charles Wilson, regarding payment of a bond of Wilson, to Dyer, dated 24 December, 1752, (Augusta Court Judgements A, 1762). On 20 March, 1765, Cravens was appointed guardian of Roger and John Dyer, "infant orphans of William Dyer, deceased." (Order Book 9, p. 248.)

John Cravens and Margaret made their home on Cook's Creek, a few miles southwest of his father and near Thomas Harrison, at a place called Fisher's Spring, not far from the present sight of Dayton, Virginia. In addition to his home plantation, he also acquired land on the old Linville Creek community at his father's death. His first land was obtained by purchase 21 February, 1751, by deed from John Wright and his wife, Lydia, for 40 pounds, 200 acres on a branch of Cook's Creek. Several of his children attended school at the Springs, along with those of Benjamin Harrison. John Cravens

served as a tax collector of Augusta County in 1748, and was also a constable.

At the time of his death, John was a large landowner, and Margaret, his widow, is listed as owning 750 acres of land in Rockingham in 1782, at the appraisalment of his estate. (Land Book, Rockingham Co. - Personal Property List - State Library.) The home place consisted of "upwards of 100 acres of good plow land, 70 acres excellent meadow and 45 or 50 acres of pasture, exclusive of meadow, together with a grist mill" - 200 or 300 bushell of tall grain annually. His widow, Margaret, and his brother Robert Cravens, Jr., with sureties, furnished bond to the justices of Rockingham Court as administrators of all goods and chattels of John Cravens, deceased, 24 August, 1778.

Upon Margaret's third marriage to Dennis Lanahan on 20 March, 1782, she moved with him, to become one of the early residents of Harrisonburg. Lanahan was an Irishman, a brickmaker, stone mason and what today would be called a general contractor. He built many of the first houses in the town and kept one of the first taverns.

During the Revolution, Margaret furnished supplies to the Army - two instances appear:

"Nov. 7, 1781 - Margaret Cravens - 400 lbs. of beef a 2 d pounds, # 3-6-8.

June 10, 1781 - Margaret Cravens - 1 Sheep 15 S."

JOHN CRAVENS (11) and Margaret, his wife had issue:

- (111) MARY CRAVENS - b. 1760 c.; d. before 1810; m. Josiah Harrison in 1779, son of Cap't Reuben Harrison - (See Harrison Line) (Book A, p. 6, Harrisonburg County Court Records.)
- (112) HANNAH CRAVENS - b. 1762 c.; d. . . .; m. June 1779, Jothan Evans.
- (113) ROBERT CRAVENS - b. 1764; d. Dec. 10, 1793; unmarried.
- (114) WILLIAM CRAVENS (Rev.) - b. Apr. 2, 1766; d. 1826; m. Jean Harrison (b. 1678), dau. Col. Benjamin Harrison. Removed to Indiana. (See further record) (Book A, 774, p. 563, Harrisonburg Court Records)
- (115) JOSEPH CRAVENS (M.D.) - b. May 20, 1769; d. 1842; m. Nov. 30, 1790, Mary (Polly) Nickel, dau. John. b. Apr. 10, 1774; d. Nov. 28, 1847. (See further rec.)

- (116) JAMES CRAVENS - b. Apr. 12, 1773; d. 1821; m. Ann (Nancy) Love, 1797, dau. Thomas Love of Tennessee. Removed before marriage, to Green County, Tenn., thence after marriage, to Selma, Ala., where he died. (See further record.)
- (117) MARGARET CRAVENS (Peggy) - b. Aug. 26, 1775; d....; m. 1793, Joseph Snapp. (Book A, p. 547, Harrisonburg County Court Rec.) (See further record.)

(12) MARGARET CRAVENS (1724 ca. -1800 ca.), eldest daughter of Robert Cravens, Sr., and his wife, Mary Harrison Cravens (14), was born near Lewes, Delaware and married there, to a Mr. Primrose. In 1747, she was residing at or near Morristown, N. J., where the same year she married second, Zebulon Harrison (121), July 23, 1747. He was the son of John Harrison, Sr., died 1792. (See Harrison Line.)

Margaret (Cravens) Primrose Harrison outlived her second husband, and is mentioned as late as April 11, 1795, in the old church records. She probably died soon afterwards.

MARGARET CRAVENS HARRISON (12) and Zebulon Harrison (121), had issue:

- (1211) JOHN HARRISON - b. 1749 c.; d. before 1803; m. Hannah Lincoln, dau. "Va. John Lincoln", b. March 9, 1748; d. a widow in 1803. She was the sister of Abraham Lincoln, grandfather of President Lincoln. (See further record under Harrison and Lincoln Lines.)
- (1212) ZEBULON HARRISON, JR., - b. before 1761; d. after 1811; m. -----.
- (1213) ROBERT HARRISON - b. before 1761; d....; m. dau. William Young. (See further record.)
- (1214) PHOEBE HARRISON - b. before 1768; d....; m. James Dyer. (See further record.)
- (1215) JOSIAH HARRISON - b....; d. 1824 c.; m. 1786, Margaret Miller, dau. Mrs. Janet Miller, mentioned as widow in the marriage bond. (See further rec.)

- (1216) POLLY HARRISON - b....;d....; m. 1784, Robert Harrison (1621), son of Col. Benjamin Harrison. (See further record.)
- (1217) GIDEON HARRISON - b....;d....; m. Mary Brian on Apr. 24, 1784, at Harrisonburg, dau. John Brian. She married 2nd, January 1801, John Luckey, of Green Co., Ga., will dated 1808. Gideon went to Green Co., Ga. in 1790, from North Carolina and died there after 1790.
- (1218) NEOMIA HARRISON - b....; d. 1856; m. Zebulon Dyer, in 1845, in Christian Co., Ky.
- (1219) RUTHA HARRISON - b....; d....; resided in Howard Co., Missouri.
- (1210) MARGARET HARRISON - b. 1765 c., in Virginia, m. JEREMIAH CRAVENS (181), son of Captain Robert Cravens, Jr. (18), and his wife, Hester Harrison. (See further record under Jeremiah Cravens, generation III.)

All of the last three children, above, were mentioned in the will of Josiah Harrison, recorded November 18, 1820, in Christian Co., Kentucky, November Court, 1824, along with the daughters of Gideon Harrison.

Margaret (Cravens) Primrose Harrison (12) and Zebulon Harrison (121) are both buried in an unmarked burial ground, east of Lacy Springs, near Harrisonburg, Va.

(15) WILLIAM CRAVENS - son of Robert Cravens, Sr., (I) and his wife, Mary Harrison Cravens (14), was born in Sussex County, Delaware near 1723/4. In 1744, he married Jane Harrison in Rockingham County, Virginia, having migrated with his family to a spot near the now Harrisonburg. He is the second child mentioned in his father's will and two of his children, Robert and John are also included as being the grandchildren of Robert, Sr. Since the oldest son, John, did not have children born until 1764, it would seem likely that William was the second oldest child of Robert and born before the 1730 date as given in Harrison's "Settlers."

William Cravens served as an Ensign in the French and Indian War, and as a Captain in the Revolutionary War. The Musters of Augusta County, 1742, lists Wm. Cravens in Capt. Geo. Robinson's

list. (Vol. II Records Augusta Co., p. 509, by Chalkley.) He settled near his father on Cook's Creek, where he owned a tract of land called "Great Meadow." (Land Entry Book No. 1, July 11, 1748 - lists William Cravens-400 acres.) About the time of Robert Black's removal to North Carolina, William sold his Great Meadow land and a few months later is mentioned as "going out of the Colony." In 1766, he was in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina, where his sisters, Maggie, Mary and Elizabeth had migrated with their families. Here he joined Black in witnessing Samuel Stewart's deed to Jacob Calpin.

William Cravens' stay in North Carolina was relatively brief, as in 1773, he patented land on Cook's Creek near his old home, and in 1778 was repelling the Indians in Tygart's Valley. A claim against the Revolutionary Army was certified on 20 August, 1782 - dated 29 April, 1779 to William Cravens for 1 horse 18 dys. at 1/6 per day. (Va. State Library.) On the 27th of October, 1788, William Cravens and Robert Cravens, gave bond that "Robert shall truly pay and deliver to Joseph Cravens, orphan of John Cravens, deceased, all effects due this orphan." (Guardian Bonds, 1788, Rockingham Co., Va.) William seems to have been living in the country as late as 1792, when he probably moved to West Virginia, and later to Kentucky, where some of his children lived in Christian Co., by 1808.

WILLIAM CRAVENS (15) and his wife, Jane had issue:

- (151) MAJOR ROBERT (ROBIN) CRAVENS - b. c. 1760; d. 1830; m. 1st Abigail Harrison, sister of Hester, who married brother of William, Robert, Jr. (18), and dau. of Jeremiah Harrison. M. 2nd, a Miss Harrison, a relative of his first wife. (See further rec.)
- (152) JAMES CRAVENS - b....; d...., in Kentucky; m. in Virginia. Issue:  
James, Joseph, William and Robert.
- (153) JOSEPH CRAVENS - b...; d.... young.
- (154) JOHN CRAVENS - b....; d....; m. in Virginia, moved to Tennessee.

(Order of above children's birth taken from a manuscript by W. L. Cravens, of Patterson's Bluff, Arkansas, dated June 16, 1889.)

(16) MARY CRAVENS - daughter of Robert Cravens, Sr. (I) and his wife, Mary Harrison (14), died in 1801. She married Samuel Hemphill before the date of her father's will in 1761. Her husband died testate in Rockingham County, Va., in 1809. His will dated 19 March, 1802 and proven in April 1809, a copy of which appears in "Kyle vs. Smith, 5 May, 1816", names besides John Pattorff, and three grandchildren, the following children of his own:

- (161) JOHN HEMPHILL - b. 1759; eldest son.
- (162) AGNES HEMPHILL - m. Jacob Miller in 1795.
- (163) ROBERT HEMPHILL - "second son."
- (164) SAMUEL HEMPHILL - "youngest son"; m. in 1799,  
Clarinda Solfora (Solford), Strickler's  
Rockingham County Marriages, p. 64.

This Hemphill family was from Pennsylvania. Mary Cravens and her husband apparently lived in North Carolina for a brief period.

II (18) ROBERT CRAVENS, JR. - (1733-1784) is the direct line which we shall follow down through the generations to the present time. He was the son of Robert Cravens, Sr. (I) and his wife, Mary Harrison Cravens (14). He was born in Sussex County, Delaware in 1733, the eighth child of nine, and was one of the youngest children brought by his parents to Virginia in 1739, where they settled in Rockingham County, then Augusta County.

Robert Cravens, Jr., married Hester Harrison, his cousin, about 1760, in Augusta County, Virginia. She was the daughter of Jeremiah Harrison and his wife, Catherine, and was born about 1748, the youngest of five or six children. Her father, Jeremiah Harrison and the wife of Robert Cravens, Sr., were half brother and sister. Mary being the child of Isaiah Harrison and Elizabeth Wright Harrison, his first wife and Jeremiah the child of Isaiah and his second wife, Abigail Smith Harrison, formerly of Oyster Bay, Long Island, New York. Hester Harrison Cravens died April 27, 1781, in Rockingham County, Virginia. (See further record under Harrison Line)

Under his father's will, proven in 1762, Robert Cravens, Jr., inherited his home plantation on Cook's Creek, a mile or so southwest of "Thomas Harrison's." That he had owned no land prior to his father's death is evidenced by the processioners returns for the Cook's Creek neighborhood in 1760. During their rounds various landowners were listed in their returns as Robert Cravens, Sr.,

John Cravens and Joseph Cravens but no Robert Cravens, Jr. In 1767, Robert, Jr. was himself a processioner, and by that time owned land as shown in his returns. He lived and died on the land of his father's plantation, which he inherited. He became executor of his father's estate at the death of his brother, John, on August 27, 1781.

Robert Cravens, Jr., as his father before him, was a Captain of the Militia. He was an officer in the Indian wars and the Revolution. He entered the conflict early and was "seldom at home" during the war. He added luster to the family name, and before the armies were disbanded, he was promoted to a Major, on August 25, 1782.

He was among the officers named by the court of Augusta County, in whose companies the tithables were ordered taken, 20 August, 1777. (Order Book XVI, p. 222, Chalkley Vol. I, p. 193.) Upon formation of Rockingham County, he was one of the Captains taken over into the military organization of this county - 28 April, 1778, "Wm. Herring appointed Lieut. in the Captain Cravens' Company," etc. (Rockingham Court Order Book I, pp. 3 & 4.) In the same year, he served under Col. Benjamin Harrison, in General McIntosh's Campaign against the Indians in Ohio, returning a few days prior to the first of January, 1779. His commission expiring a short time after his return, he again offered his services--" at a court cont'd & held for Rockingham County, Tuesday, 23rd March, 1779, Rob't Davis, Rob't. Cravens, Andrew Johnson and John Rush, produced commissions as Captains of the Militia in this county & were sworn into their office which is ordered to be certified." (Rockingham Court Order Book i, p. 30.)

Captain Cravens and his company, as a part of the Virginia militia, participated in the brilliant campaign of Generals Green and Morgan, which resulted in Lord Cornwallis' retirement from North Carolina. Among Cravens' men at the time was one John Young, who had served under him in the McIntosh campaign and whose declaration of service has been noticed. (Chalkley, Vol. II, p. 486.) In his testimony, Young further relates that he volunteered in September 1780, under Captain Robert Cravens of the Virginia Militia, as a volunteer rifleman, and served under General Greene and General Morgan - according to McAllister's - Virginia Militia In The Revolutionary War', p. 43. Captain Robert Cravens' company was at the battle of Cowpens in 1781.

On the 26th of August, 1782, Robert Cravens qualified Major (Rockingham Court Order Book I.) While hostilities had ceased, not all of the British were yet out of the country - only the month before they had departed from Savannah, and it was not until the 30th of November, the same year, that the Independence of the United States was acknowledged by England.

Major Robert Cravens died in March, 1784. On the 27th of April, 1784, the administration of his estate was granted to Hester Harrison, his widow, and to Benjamin Smith, his son-in-law. (Rockingham Court Order Book I, and Court case Cravens vs. Lanahan.)

ROBERT CRAVENS, JR. (18) and his wife Hester had issue:

- (181) JEREMIAH CRAVENS - b. 1762; d. 1830, in Scott Co., Missouri; m. Margaret (Peggy) Harrison, b. c. 1765; d. 1830, dau. Zebulon Harrison (121) and his wife, Margaret Cravens Harrison (12). He removed to South Carolina and thence to Kentucky and finally to Missouri. (See further record.)
- (182) ELIZABETH (NANCY) CRAVENS - b. 1763; d. 1837; m. 1782/3, Benjamin Smith, son Col. Daniel Smith, removed to Ohio. (See further record.)
- (183) WILLIAM CRAVENS - b. 1764; d. 1832; m. Mary Lamma of Virginia, d. 1832, in Madison Co., Missouri. (See further record.)
- (184) NEHEMIAH CRAVENS (MI) -b....; d....; m. Sallie McCullough of Wheeling, West Virginia, went to Kentucky and then to Washington Co., Missouri. (See further record.)
- (185) MARGARET (PEGGY) CRAVENS - b....; d....; m. April 2, 1792, Henry Smith, son Captain Abraham Smith (Strickler's Rockingham County Marriages, Book A, p. 505.) (See further record.)
- (186) ROBERT CRAVENS, 3rd - b... (youngest son); d. 1885; m...., lived in Kentucky and then moved to Georgia.
- (187) ELEANOR CRAVENS - b....; d....; m. Samuel C. Harkins on March 29, 1808 in Christian Co., Kentucky and moved to Mississippi.
- (188) ABIGAIL CRAVENS - b....; d....; m. Thomas Hays, Nov. 20, 1812 in Christian Co., Ky., moved to Miss.

All of the above children were born in Rockingham County, Virginia.

None of the descendants of Captain Robert Cravens are today known to be in the county of Rockingham, certainly none of the name. However, their valued contributions to the community in which they have chosen to identify themselves in Kentucky, other counties in Virginia, Ohio, New York, Arkansas, Kansas, and no doubt many other states, have continued to furnish an interesting illustration of inspiration to a special heritage, from the days of "yester-year."