**Richard Vawter3, (John2, Bartholomew1)**

Richard Vawter was the son of John Vawter and Margaret Noel. John died between May of 1750 & Jan 1752 in Essex Co., VA. John's wife, Margaret Noel was the daughter of Daniel Noell and the granddaughter of the original emigrant Cornelius Noel. Margaret died in Sept 1756 in Essex Co., VA.

A history of the Vawter family can be found in the book *The Vawter Family in America* by Grace Vawter Bicknell, Indianapolis, Hollenbeck Press, 1905. This book has been reprinted and is found in most large genealogical libraries including the State Historical Library, Indianapolis, IN. While many errors are found in early records, it gives a good over view of the family and later records which are accurate. This Richard is many times referred to as Richard Beverly Vawter. No evidence of his middle name being Beverly exists and this probably comes from the fact that Bicknell lists him as two separate people, Beverly and Richard, with part of the children listed under each section.

Frances Towles was born on 8 May 1730 in Middlesex Co., VA as proven in the Middlesex Co. Christ Church Register and died about Dec 1811 in Culpeper Co., VA. Book- *Marriage of some Virginia Residents 1607-1800* Vol. II pub. 1986 By Dorothy Ford Wulfeck p. 130.

GJNote: Richard Vawter3 son of John, will dated 1803; m. Frances Towles, b. 8 May 1730, dau. of Stokeley Towles and Ann Vallott.

Stokeley Towles b. ca 1690 Accomack Co., VA d. 6 Jun 1757 in Culpeper Co., VA. He married (1) Ann (Hannah) Vallott 21 Oct 1708 in Christ Church Parish, Middlexsex Co., VA dau. of Claud Vallott and Ann Jenkinson. He married (2) Jane Sparks Wharton ca 1747 in Orange Co., VA dau. of John Sparks and Mary Mason. Jane married (1) Thomas Wharton and had 2 children Sarah and John Wharton.

Genealogies of Virginia Families from *Tyler’s Quarterly Historical and Genealogical Magazine*, Vol. III, Genealogical Pub. Co., Baltimore, 1981.

Stokeley Towles’ children (except Oliver and Henry) went with him to Orange, or soon joined him. His wife Ann was alive there in 1742. On February 28, 1748, he made settlement at Orange of the estate of Thomas Wharton, whose widow, Jane, he had married. Jane was a daughter of John Sparks, whose widow Mary married, second, Spencer Bobo. Jane’s brothers were: Zachary (whose widow Sarah married Anthony Foster), Thomas (who married Towles daughter Mary -first of that name) and William Sparks and the wife of Jasper Haynes was her sister. By her first husband, Thomas Wharton, she had two children, Sarah and John.

Frances Towles moved with her family from Middlesex (Essex) about 1737 to Orange Co., VA and located at the foot of Thoroughfare Mountain. Richard who prob. came to Orange ca 1745 would have soon after, met and married Frances in Orange. John, Richard’s father received land by the “Mountain” in a patent dated July 1736. Richard and Angus who along with Ephraim Rucker divided 700 acres of John Vawter’s land in Orange County and they probably went to this land as soon as they came of age or could handle the development of the property. In the will of John this land is mentioned as along “Mountain Road” and was probably near the Towles property.

The Towles and Vallot families are original emigrants to Virginia and have had considerable histories written on the families. The most complete Towles genealogy is in the *Virginia Genealogist* Vol. 8 p. 220 et. seq. and Stokeley our direct line is found thoroughly researched in *Tyler's Quarterly Historical* Vol. XIII, pub. 1932, article of *Towles and Clarks* by William Newman starting on page 23 and continuing through several volumes. The Stockley/Stokeley family lines go back to 1609 and the original immigrants of brothers Francis and John Stockley. They located on the Eastern Shore of VA in Accomac County.

Book *Virginia Revolutionary Publick Claims* by Abercrombie and Slatten, Vol. 1, Ibernia Pub. Co. p331. Essex County court held at Tappahannock 15 Apr 1782 p.6. Claim of Angus Vawter 2 beefs 500# £6-5. Claim of Richard Vawter beef 275# £3-8-9.

Book- *Genealogical and Historical notes on Culpeper Co., VA, revising the edition of Dr. Philip Slaughter’s History of St. Mark’s Parish* pub. 1978, Regional Pub. Co. by Raleigh Travers Green. Pages 3-5.

*Culpeper in the Revolution. Culpeper was distinguished in the Rev. war by the important service of her gallant Minute men, who “were trained in a minute, armed in a minute, marched in a minute, fought in a minute and vanquished in a minute.” Immediately on the breaking out of war in 1775, Patrick Henry, summoned men for assistance. Upon his summons, 150 men from Culpeper, 100 from Orange, and 100 from Fauquier, rendezvoused here, and encamped in a field the property of John S. Harbour, ½ m. west of the village of Fairfax. An old oak marked the spot. These were the first Minute Men raised in Virginia. There flag was inscribed “The Culpeper Minute Men”, on one side and “Liberty or Death,” and beneath “Don’t Tread on Me”. They dressed in green hunting shirts with “Liberty or Death” on the front and wore in their hats buck-tails and in their belts tomahawks and scalping knives. Their savage, war-like appearance excited terror. The religions of the area, Baptist and Methodist, were encouraged to form into separate companies and the Baptists were among the most strenuous supporters of liberty.*

In the book *"Old Churches, Ministers and Families of Virginia"* by W. Meade the following: Upon a branch of Blackburn's Creek called Church Swamp stands Vauter's Church, built, as indicated by a date inscribed upon its walls, in 1731. This church is in a good state of preservation. (GJNote: This church is still standing (2004) and is in Essex Co., VA, this is not to be confused with the two churches below in Madison Co.)

On p. 103 the churches of Madison and Rappahannock are noted. Mrs. Lewis, who is descended from the Pendletons and Gaines of Culpeper, the Vauters of Essex and the Ruckers, from her I learn that there were two churches the brick church, called F.T. which stood near what is now known as Slate Mills. It took its name from Frank Thornton on who’s line (land) was the starting point of the survey and the South Church, which was about sixteen miles distant and four miles below the present site of the Madison court house. It was a frame building and stood on the land of Richard Vauter. Both buildings were old at the commencement of the Revolutionary War. The Episcopal families around these churches were the Ruckers, the Barbours, Beales, Keastleys, Lewises, Blafords, Vauters, Strothers, Thorntons, Burtons, Conways, Gipsons, Pannells, Gaineses.

The two Vauter churches are clarified by the following found information. *William and Mary College quarterly Historical Magazine* Vol. X 1901-1902. Reprinted 1966. Page 257-58.

SALE OF A COLONIAL CHURCH, by Dr. Andrew G. Grinnan.

Broomfield Parish, In Madison county, VA., was cut off from St. Mark’s Parish by act of Assembly in 1752; its western corner is a John Spotswood’s corner, on Crooked Run, near Wayland’s Mill, and the boundary line runs northeast to the junction of White Oak Run with the Robinson River, thus including what is now Madison and Rappahannock counties. (See St. Mark’s Parish, page 81.)

St. Mark’s Parish was taken from St. George’s in 1731; Orange county from Spotsylvania in 1734; Culpeper county was taken from Orange in 1748, and in 1752 Broomfield Parish was taken from St. Mark’s. In 1792 Madison was taken from Culpeper. The chief church was called Vawters, which must not be confounded with Vawter’s, in Middlesex county, now Essex county. It was on the south side of the public road from Madison Court-house to Wolf Town, about four miles from Madison. It was standing in 1798, in which year the following advertisement appeared in the *Fredericksburg Herald*:

“To be Sold. - A House built for a church, the main body 26x24 feet, well framed, of white oak timber and outside of Pine plank, with feathered edges shingled with chestnut shingles, the interior adorned with pulpit, type, pews, railing, and two galleries with seats and aisles. It is nearly in the midst of the Robinson Fork. The time of payment will be agreed upon at the day of sale. (Signed by ) Richard Vawters. Madison County.”

So far as the writer knows, the last rector was a Scotchman named Meldrum; he moved to Frederick county; he was one of the persons who voted for General Washington when he was a candidate for the House of Burgesses for that county. What part of church furniture is type?

Note. - In “St. Mark’s Parish,” Slaughter says that the Vawters were a prominent family of Broomfield Parish, and while much as been said about the spoilation of colonial churches by persons outside the church, it would seem probable that Vawters Church, in Madison county, was offered for sale, or rather was advertised for sale, by one of the congregation.

The writers reference to “Spoilation” refers to the fact many English churches were torn down or destroyed after the Rev. War in protest. That the Vauter’s Church of Essex remains today is no small miracle. Since Broomfield Parish was removed in 1752 and he indicates the Vawters were active members there, they must have moved in the dates indicated about of 1745-48.

*The Virginia Herald* , July 13, 1798 1:3
To be sold. To the highest bidder, on Thursday the first day of November next, (if fair, if not, the next fair day) by the subscriber, a house built for a church, and one acre of land, whereon it stands, the house is 60 feet by 26, the main body; T 26 by 24 feet, well framed of white oak timber, weather boarded with feather edge pine plank, well ceiled with the same, shingled with chestnut shingles, inwardly adorned with a pulpit, desks and type, pews below, two galleries, seats and rails, &c. The time of payment to be agreed upon at the day of sale, which will be reasonable. Richard Vawler.
N.B. It is neatly seated on the middle of my land Robinson Fork, Madison county.

GJNote: As further explanation because all people were required to attend a church for the purpose of the levy of taxes and quitrents, some of the newer parishes did not have a church convenient for travel. This was solved by the building of “A House of Ease”. This was similar to a “branch church” and resolved the problem of distance or sparse population. When Madison was a part of St. George’s Parish it was necessary for a “House of Ease” to be built near Wolftown. Some years later St. Mark’s Parish was formed in what is now Culpeper County. Again, after the formation of Bromfield Parish the church called “F.T.” (Frank Thornton) was built. There was another Episcopal Church four miles below present Madison Court House. This was called “South Church”. It was a frame building built on land owned by Richard Vawter.

*Essex Co. Deed Book 1736-1742*, pp 175-179 10 & 11 Dec 1740. Thomas Lilley of St. Ann’s planter and Thomas Jameson of Parrish of Brunswick, King George Co. Thomas Lilley for the sum of 8 pounds current money of VA granted unto Thomas Jameson 70 A in St. Ann’s being all that tract of land which was given in the last will and Testament of Richard Edwards late of the co. of Essex deced bearing date 13 Jun 1722 unto Thomas Lilley and now in the actual posssession of Thomas Jameson by vertue of Indenture on one year . Wit: John Vawter, Bartholomew Vawter and Richard Vawter.

Richard Vawter witnessed the will of Edward Goode of St. Ann's Parish, Essex Co., VA dated 2 Mar 1744/5. Found in *VA Genealogist* Vol. 16 p. 19, Essex County Wills 1743-1747.

Culpeper Co., VA Deeds Vol. 1, pages 119-121. 13 Mar 1849/50. William Rucker of St. Thomas’ Parish, Culpeper County, planter, to William Twyman of same. For 40 pounds current money. 123 acres… corner to Thomas Cofer….Philip Stockdale’s corner…above the fork….courses of the run to a fork of a branch that falleth into the run…. Signed Wm. Rucker, Honour Rucker. Wit: Robt. Sharman, Benja. Powell, Richd. Vawter.

15 Mar 1749. Acknowledged by William Rucker. Honour the wife of William relinquished her right of dower.

Deed dated 8 Feb 1750. John Vawter of Essex County to Richard Vawter of Orange County. Lease and release; for the love and good will he hath for his son Richard Vawter and 5 shillings….250 acres being one-half of a tract granted unto John Vawter for 700 acres by pattent 20 July 1736 (except 200 acres which John Vawter hath already given and sold to Ephraim Rucker and Margaret his wife)… to Conway’s line…line which divides this land from the other divident which is allotted for Angus Vawter son of the aforesaid John Vawter…to Kirtley’s land…to Ephraim and Margaret Rucker’s land….John Vawter. Witnesses: Bartholomew Vawter, Angus Vawter, Richard Vawter, Jr. and Augustine Vawter. 15 Mar 1749/1750. Proved by Richard Vawter, Jr., Angus Vawter and Augustine Vawter.

GJNote: In 1748 Culpeper Co. was formed from Orange Co. and in 1792 Madison Co. was formed from Culpeper Co.

In 1761 Richard and Francis sold this inheritance.

Culpeper Co. VA Deed Book Vol. II, page 524-527. 16 Jul 1761. Richard Vawter and Frances his wife of Brumfield Parish, Culpeper County, to William Stone of same. For 35 pounds current money… 250 acres in the Fork of the Conway and Stanton rivers….bounded by the lines of Francis Conway, William Kirtley and John Delaney. Signed Richard Vawter. Wit: Thos. Stanton, Timo. Holdway, Robert Appleby, jr.

16 Jul 1761. Acknowledged by Richard Vawter. A commission is awarded to take the privy examination of Francis.

This land was split up yet again as shown in the following deeds.

Culpeper Co., Deed Book Vol. III, page 304-07.

7 Dec 1763. Charles Neal and Esther his wife of Bromfield Parish, Culpeper County, to James Riddle of same. For natural love and fatherly affection to their son in law James Riddle. 100 acres in the fork of the Conway and Rappidann River….on the Conway River… by a circular line of marked trees. Wit: George Anderson, Richard Vawter, Mary Stanton

page 720-22. 14 Aug 1765. Wm. Pearce of Bromfield Parish, Culpeper Co., to Stephen Souther of same. For 21 pounds current money. 150 acres in the fork of Stanton and Conway rivers…Conway’s line….a bent of a branch below the fork….Signed Wm. and Mary Pearce. Wit: Richard Vawter, Wm. Vawter, Jeremiah Pearce and James Rucker.

Culpeper Co. Deed Book Vol. 1 page 411-12. 21 Feb 1752. Bond of Thomas Rucker, William Rucker, William Offill and Shem Cook unto James Rucker and Ephraim Rucker, executors of Peter Rucker. For 1000 pounds sterling. There have been several legacies delivered out of the estate to the several legatees: To Isaac Tindsley a Negroe boy names Yorkshire, to Shem Cook a Negro girl named Jenny, to Ephraim Rucker a Negroe girl named Phillis. If Thomas Rucker, William Rucker, William Offill and Shem Cook agree with the delivery of the legacies without taking any rents, interest, then this obligation be void. Signed Thos. Rucker, Wm. Rucker, Shem Cook, Wm. Offill. Wit: Francis Kirkley and Richard Vawter.

Page 412. 21 Feb 1752. The subscribers hath received of James Rucker and Ephraim Rucker, executors of Peter Rucker, all of the estate bequeathed to me and my wife Margaret Tindsley by the said will, and discharge the executors of all debts, dues and demands or any legacy to me or my wife bequeathed by the will. Signed Isaac Tindsley and Margaret Tindsley. Wit: Richard Vawter and William Offill.

Culpeper Co. Deed Book Vol. 1 page 139-44. 23 Oct 1753. Michael Yager and Elizabeth his wife of Brumfield Parish, Culpeper County, to Thomas Oiner of same. Lease and release; for 40 pounds current money. 200 acres in the parish aforesaid and in the great fork of Rappahanock River. Being part of a patent granted to Martin Walk and Tobias Wilhite for 400 acres 17 Jul 1736…. On a hill side in a line of the patent near Teter Weaver’s corner ….crossing some branches of Deep Run… in Colo. William Beverly’s line on the south side of the German Road…. Signed Michael Yager and Elizabeth Yager, Wit: Ambrose Powell, Richard Vawter and Russil Hill.

In the early 1900’s, Henry Strother, a Vawter researcher went to VA and copied from some old Order Books of Orange Co. This material was sent to William Snyder Vawter who was doing research during the 1920’s and 1930’s for an update on the Grace Vawter Bicknell book. His research was never published but contains more than a 2000 pages of information.

Old Order Book of Orange Co., VA (no book number)

page 375, May 1752 Richard Vawter

page 251 Aug 1756 Bartholomew Vawter

page 9 May 1763, David Vawter by his deed in 14, p. 16 conveys to McFarland 300 acres in Orange Co. in full for patent granted John Vawter and Philip Slagdale.

page 447, July 1767 David Vawter was granted a road from Benj. Head and Richard Durrett to the river at Crawford’s Ford

page 140, Sept 1774 Richard Vawter.

page 48, Nov 1779 David Vawter

The *Virginia Genealogist Magazine Vol. 1 #4* Oct-Dec 1957 p. 172. Extracts from the *Virginia Gazette 1755-1756*. Richard Vauster advertises two steers taken up by him in Culpeper Co. (28 Nov 1755:31; 5 Dec 1755:41)

Culpeper Co., VA Deeds Vol.II

7-8 May 1756. Page 443-51. Richard Bryan of Bromfield Parish, Culpeper Co., and Frances his wife to Richard Vawter of same. Lease and release; for 25 pd. Current money and 1000 lb. tobacco. 143 acres in Bromfield Parish in the first fork of Rappendan River…corner to a patent granted to Michael Holt….on the Wild Hemp Branch.. in Maximilian Berriman’s line on the branch. Sign Richd and Frances Bryan

Wit: Jon Battaley, Ephraim Rucker, Mary Offill.

30 June 31st yr of George II (1756). Commission to Thomas Scott, Joseph Wood and John Battaley, Gent., to take the acknowledgment of Frances, wife of Richard Vawter

18 Jul 1756 Frances wife of Richar Bryan, declared she was willing the same should be recorded’

Culpeper Co., VA Deed Vol II

24 Apr 1758 pg 177-80. Richard Bryand Frances his wife of Brumfield Parish, Culpeper Co., to Gerrard Banks of King George Co., For 34 lb. current money. 318 acres in Brumfield Parish in the first fork of the Rappidan River…on the Wild Hemp Branch corner to Richard Vawter… on the top of hill…corner to Ephraim Rucker…corner to John Stockdale…by the spring…line of Maximilian Berryman on the Wild Hemp Branch and corner to Richard Vawter. Sign Richd. Bryan Frances Bryan

Wit: Elliott Bohannon, Thos. Stanton, Ephraim Rucker

16 Nov 1759. Proved by Thomas Stanton

19 Apr 1759 proved by Elliott Bohannon

17 May 1759 proved by Ephraim Rucker

Culpeper Co., VA Deed Vol. II

17 Aug 1758, pg 152-54. Richard Vawter and Frances his wife of Brumfield Parish, Culpeper Co., to John Ray of same. For 15.10 pd current money and 1000 pounds of crop tobacco. 166 acres in parish aforesaid, being part of a patent formerly granted to John Vawter for 700 acres 20 July 1736… in Francis Conway’s Line….William Kirtley’s line… sign Richard and Frances Vawter.

This land was sold as follows:
Culpeper Co., VA Deed Vol. IV

1 Aug 1767 pg. 489-93. John Ray and Susannah his wife of Culpeper county to Stephen Souther of same. Lease and release: for 30 pd current money. 166 acres in Francis Conway’s line…in William Kirtley’s line… in Conway’s line… John Ray and Susannah Ray Wit: Isaac Smith, George Anderson, Richd. Vawter, William Simpson, Simon Key, James Patty, William Kirtley. William Sims witness to release, Thomas Pearson wit to memorandum.

Culpeper Co., VA Deed Vol. II

16 Jul 1761. Pg 524-27 Richard Vawter and Frances his wife of Brumfield Parish, Culpeper Co., to William Stone of same county. For 35 pd. Current money. 250 acres in the fork of the Conway and Stanton rivers…bounded by the lines of Francis Conway, William Kirtley and John Delaney. Sign Richd. Vawter, wit: Thos. Stanton, Timo. Holdway, Robert Appleby junr.

22 May 1761 pg 574-77 Angus Vawter of St. Ann’s Parish, Essex Co., to William Pierce of Brumfield Parish, Culpeper Co. For 25 pd. Current money… 250 acres in Brumfield Parish in the fork of the Stanton and Conway rivers, part of a patent granted to John Vawter for 700 acres 20 Jul 1736… bounded on the lines of Francis Conway, Charles Neale, William Kirtley and John Ray… Ann Vawter wife of Angus Vawter doth surrender her right of dower. Wit: Ephraim Rucker, David Vawter, John Offill, Richd. Vawter.

Culpeper Co., Rent Rolls of 1764 Richard Vauters. Also listed David Vauters (brother) and Elizabeth Vauters (unknown)

The will of Mark Finks Culpeper Co., Will Book A p. 361-62 dated 17 Oct 1763, proved 15 Mar 1764. (Note: this is Mark Finks, father of Andrew Finks who married Lucy Vawter. Lucy the dau. of Richard Vawter (witness). *Mark Finks of Culpeper Co., in the Colony of VA. To my loving wife Elizabeth Finks, my bay mare and my horse Buck that I bought at David Vawter’s sale.*

*To my son Andrew Finks my small black horse named Jack.*

*Wit: Richd. Vawter, William Eastham, Michall Wilhoit.*

Culpeper Co., VA Deed III

14 Aug 1765, pg. 720-22. Wm. Pearce of Bromfield Parish Culpeper County, to Stephen Souther of the same. For 21 pd. Current money. 150 acres in the fork of Stanton and Conway rivers…Conway’s line… a bent of a branch below the forl..Wm. and Mary Pearce. Wit: Richard Vawter, Wm. Vawter, Jeremiah Pearch and James Rucker. Mary acknowledge her dower.

Culpeper Co. deed book G p 36-37. 11 May 1773 between John Reynolds, planter, of Brumfield parish in Culpeper Co. & John Vawter of the same parish and county, for 40 pounds Virginia money purchased 100 acres, lying in Culpeper in the great fork of the Rapid Ann River…. Corner Thomas Portors…to line of Kilbeys….containing all houses, out houses, buildings, gardens, orchards, fences, woods, meadows and feeding ways and all water ways. Signed John Reynolds. Wit: Rich’d Vawter, Thomas Porter, Joel Wilhoit.

(GJ Note: This is believed to be John Vawter, son of Richard (witness), however, John located to NC about this time, so final proof is unknown.)

In *Culpeper Co., VA Will Books B& C* by Dorothy Ford Wulfeck, 1965. p. 18 - Will of John Simpson of Culpeper Co., Dated 22 July 1776 Proven 16 Dec 1776. Dau: Elenor Booten and others, Wit: Richard Vawter.

1787 Census of VA Culpeper Co. shows Richard Vawter 00033, 3 horses, 3 cattle, Not tithable. Richard was probably too old for taxation by this time.

Will Henry Garnett of Essex Co., VA (in part) I also give to Maria Washington and Finton Mariner, son and daughters of Ann Mariner, forty nine acres of land bounded by Robert Parker, Richard Vawter and Margaret Dishman, to be equally divided among them. Signed 27 Aug 1804. Witness Paul Micou, James L. Cox, William Logue, John Jones, M, Fisher, John P. Lee, March 1807.

The Will of Richard Vawter found in Will Book #1, Madison Co., VA 1793-1804 p. 386.

*In the name of God, amen, I, Richard Vawter, of the County of Madison and State of Virginia, being weak in body but perfect in mind calling to mind the uncertainty of life and the certainty of death, doth make this my last will and Testament revoking all others by me heretofore made. Imprimis, I bequeath my soul to God who gave it and my body to be decently buried in a Christian-like manner; and as to my worldly goods, I give and bequeath the following:*

*Item, I give and* *bequeath unto my son-in-law Elijah Wilhoit, the tract of land where he now lives on condition of his paying unto my three daughters, Margaret Breedlove, Lucy Finks and Tabitha Rouse the sum of $100 each in three annual payments, the first payment due 1st. day of January after my decease.*

*Item, It is my will and desire that the one acre of land on which the church stands in its appurtenances be sold to the highest bidder by my executor and the money be divided to my daughters Anna Vawter and Alpha Shelton, now citizens of the State of Kentucky.*

*Item, It is my will and desire that my two sons John Vawter and Russel Vawter be satisfied with the part of my estate I have already given them.*

*Lastly, I constitute and appoint Elijah Wilhoit, Sole Executor to this my last Will and Testament. I have set my hand and affixed my seal this first day of March one thousand eight hundred and three. Signed. Richard Vawter Test: John Bradford Whitfield Early William Early.*

*At a court held for Madison County, the 24th day of March 1803, this last will and Testament of Richard Vawter, dec’d., was exhibited and proved by the oaths of John Bradford, Whitfield Early, and William Early, witnesses thereto and ordered to be recorded; and upon motion of Elijah Wilhoit, the Executor, therein named a probate thereof in due form is granted him; he having made oath thereto and entered into bond with Security according to law. Teste, John Walker, Jr. D. M. C.*

*page 387: Know all men by these presents that we, Elijah Wilhoit and John Wilhoit, are held and firmly bound unto Merry Walker, Daniel Field, Daniel Gaines, and Joshua Leather, gentlemen Justices of the Court of Madison County now setting in the sum of two thousand dollars to which payment well and truly be made to the Said Justices or their successors for the time being; we bind ourselves and each of our Heirs, Executors and Administrators, jointly and severally firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seal and dated this 24th day of March 1803, and in the 27th year of the Commonwealth. The condition of this obligation is that if the said Elijah Wilhoit, Executor of the last Will and Testament, with the Will annexed of all goods, chattles and credits of Richard Vawter, dec’d., do make a true and perfect inventory of all and singular , the goods, chattles and credits of the said deceased which have or shall come to the hands, possession or knowledge of the said Elijah Wilhoit or into the hands or possession of any other person for him and the same so made to exhibit into County Court of Madison at such time as he shall be thereto required by the said Court and the same goods, chattles and credits do well and truly administer according to law and make a just and true account of his actings and doings therein, when thereunto required by the said Court and further do well and truly pay all and deliver all the Legacies contained and specified in the said Will as far as the said goods, chattles and credits will extend according to the value thereof and as the law shall permit him, then this obligation to be void or else remain in full force. Elijah Wilhoit, John Wilhoit. At a Court held for Madison County on Thursday, 24th day of March 1804, the above Bond was acknowledged and ordered to be recorded.*

*Page 396: Inventory of Richard Vawter - In obedience to an order of the worshipful Court of Madison County to us directed, we the Subscribers being duly sworn have proceeded to appraise the Estate of Richard Vawter, dec’d., as follows:*

*1 small chest, 1 small stand & old bedstead £ 1.75*

*1 old man’s saddle & old saddle bags £ 1.00*

*2 jugs, 4 bottles, 1 wine glass, 1 lantern £ 1.00*

*1 case razor & hone, 2 books £ 3.00*

*Total £ 6.75 Signed John Bradford, William Early, Whitfield Early, At a court held and continued for Madison County, the 29th of Apr 1803, the account of appraisement of the Estate of Richard Vawter was exhibited into Court and ordered to be recorded. Test. John Walker Jr., C.M.C.*

The Will of Frances Vawter

*In the name of God Amen, I Frances Vawter (widow of the late Richard Vawter, deceased) of the County of Madison and state of Virginia, calling in word the certainty of death and the uncertainty of life after death dothe make and ordain this my last will and testament revoking all other wills by me before made - Insomuch to bequeath my soul to God who gave it and my body to be buried in a decent and Christian like manner and as to my worldly goods my will and desire is that after my decease my Executor sell the whole of my estate and the money arising from the sale those together with that debts as owing to me and all the money I have in hand be divided in the following manner first pay to my daughter Frances Alpha and Omega Shelton thirty six pounds lawful money of Virginia and the balance to be equally divided between by three daughters Francis Alpha and Omega Shelton above mentioned. Ann Vaughter and Nancy Wilhoit and their lawful heirs- I leave my estate in this manner for my conviction that my children herein named have received less from there Father Richard Vawter dece'd than my other children, lastly I appoint my friend Joseph Early executor to this my last will and testament. In witness where of I have set my hand and seal this 11 day of November one thousand eighty hundred and eleven. by Frances Vawter. In the presence of John Harrison Elizabeth (?) and Adam Rouse.*

*At a court held for Madison County the 16 day of December 1811. This last will and testament of Frances Vawter deceased was exhibited in Circuit Court and proved by the oaths of John Harrison and Adam Rouse two of the witnesses therein and ordered to be recorded and of the notice of Joseph Early Executor so named certificate of probate thereof is granted here in ..........*

The Children of Richard and Frances Vawter:

In the book *Vawter Family in America* some of Richard’s children are listed under the name of Beverly Vawter. Also, the book indicates that one of the girls married a Mr. Hill, but this connection is not yet found. It also shows a son Beverly but this is believed connected to another John Vawter (see Beverly4, unknown file)

+1. Frances Alpha and Omega Vawter m. 2 Nov 1790 to Robert Shelton

+ 2. Nancy Vawter m. 17 Nov 1795 at Madison Co., VA to Elijah Wilhoit b. 18 Mar 1775 Culpeper Co., VA. (Nancy and her sister Tabitha married together on the same day).

+ 3. Margaret Vawter m. John Breedlove

+ 4. Lucy Vawter m. Andrew Finks

+ 5. Tabitha Vawter m. 17 Nov 1795 Madison Co., VA to Adam Rouse

+ 6. John Vawter b. ca 1750 m. (1) Frankee Ward m. (2) Joanna Vernon

+ 7. Russell Vawter b. 22 Jun 1755 m. Mary Sparks (cousin)

+ 8. Anne Vawter b. 14 Nov 1758 m. 1779 Rev. Philemon Vawter (cousin)