

THE GILPIN FAMILY.

IF not for heraldry, the early history of many families would have been lost, so little do they care to preserve what is recent until after the opportunity has passed. There is no subject more difficult to be dwelt upon than that of honorable descent, and none more offensive, when it is simply to confer title. The knowledge of one's own family from a remote period, will always be esteemed by those who seem to live in the persons of their forefathers. If we read of some illustrious line, so ancient, that it may appear to have had no beginning, and so worthy, that it ought to have no end, we sympathize in its various fortunes, and could we blame the humble vanity of those who are allied to the honors of its name.

We have been induced to write a short statement concerning the Gilpin family, as we have received its history and understand it, as well as print it, that it may be more generally diffused. Many may wish to learn it who would not persevere in searching for it, and there may be data for an earlier starting point, but we have not found them.

1 RICHARD DE GUYLPYN. In 1206, during the Reign of King John, the Baron of Kendal gave the manor of Kentmere to Richard De Guylpyn for his achievements in slaying a wild boar, which infested the forests of Westmoreland and Cumberland, from which the said Richard took his device;

A field or,
A sondlier or boar,
Sabled, armed, and
Tusks, — Gules.

The original of the family, in the grant of Kentmere, as given in old records, was De Guylpyn, and though there is no document earlier than the reign of King John; it is, no doubt, of Norman origin, and came with or followed William the Conquerer. Those names, to which De was added, were of Norman extraction, the surname being taken from their family estates; the ancient Saxon not using the prefix.

2 A SON whose name is not given.

3 RICHARD DE GUYLPYN of 1268, grand son of the first Richard, flourished in the time of Henry the 3d. Peter De Bruys, who married a co-heiress of William De Lancaster, the last Baron of Kendal, and in consequence of the marriage, possessed great estates in Westmoreland and Cumberland, gave the manor of Ulwithwaite to Richard De Guylpyn. The original grant in latin, with the seal annexed, is perfect and in the possession of the Rev. William Gilpin, Vicar of Boldre, near Lymington; the deed itself is on parchment, neatly engraved in the characters of the times.

4 RICHARD DE GUYLPIN of 1333, son of the last.

5 RICHARD DE GUYLPYN, son and heir of the latter, was possessed of Kentmere and Ulwithwaite and is erroneously supposed by some to have been the first owner.

6 WILLIAM DE GUYLPYN, son and heir of the last married a daughter of Thomas Airy Bail of Kentmere.

7 RICHARD DE GUYLPYN married A. Fleming of Cornestone, had 5 children.

8 WILLIAM DE GUYLPYN married R. Lancaster in the reign of Edward 4th, and had 7 children.

9 RICHARD GILPIN married D. Thornborough in the reign of Richard 3d, and had 7 children. Their son William, who was heir and was a captain, was slain in the battle of Bostworth-field, 22 Aug. 1485, in the civil wars of the houses of York and Lancaster, and dying without issue, was succeeded by his brother Edwin.

10 EDWIN GILPIN married Margaret Laton of Dalemain and had 10 children. Their son George was a very eminent man and was minister for Queen Elizabeth at the Hague, and was also distinguished in letters. Another son Bernard Gilpin, born at Kentmere 1517, and died 4th of March 1583, age 66 years, was raised a Roman Catholic, and was Rector of Houghton, but a little before the death of Queen Mary, he became satisfied with the general doctrines of the Reformation. At a time when there was incessant strife, Bernard, called the apostle of the north, wandered unharmed amid the confusion. On one occasion,

entering Rothbury church in Northumberland, he observed a glove suspended in a conspicuous place as a challenge from some horse trooper of the district, Gilpin took it down, and in the course of his sermon said, "I hear there is one among you, who has even in this sacred place hung up a glove in defiance," and producing the glove said, "I challenge him to compete with me in acts of Christian charity."

A charge of 13 articles was drawn up against him, but his uncle Dr Toustall, Bishop of Durham, found a method of dismissing them; but his enemies laid their complaints before Dr Bonner, Bishop of London, upon this he prepared for martyrdom. However, he broke his leg on his journey to London, which protracted his arrival until the Queen's death, and he was immediately set at liberty, and he returned to Houghton. He was offered the See of Carlisle, which he declined.

The value of Bernard's rectory was about £400 a year, he however endowed a grammar school, the expense of which amounted to £500, where he seldom had fewer than 20 or 30 children. One method he used to fill his school was, whenever he met a poor boy upon the road he would try his capacity by a few questions, and if it pleased him, would provide for his education.

11 WILLIAM GILPIN married Eliza Washington and had 12 children. His son George, and not his son Martin, inherited the manor of Kentmere and made a family pedigree. It descended two more generations and the Kentmere estate was lost during the parliamentary civil wars.

12 MARTIN GILPIN had 10 children, and died at Kendal in 1634. His grand son Richard Gilpin D.D. son of Isaac, was born 15th of Oct. 1625, died 1699, was a man eminent for his piety and learning. He first studied physic, but afterwards took a degree of Doctor of Divinity, and was presented to the rectory of Greystock in Cumberland. Not liking the conduct of the church, he embraced Presbyterianism, but was no approver of Cromwell. After the restoration, the King being desirous to pursue a more moderate policy, Dr Gilpin was fixed upon for the Bishopric of Carlisle, but he declined it.

After resigning Greystock, he purchased Scaleby Castle in Cumberland, where he lived for some time. This was a fortress of considerable consequence situated on the confines of England and Scotland, and erected by the English lords to repel the invasion of the Scots, and stands within a short distance of the wall built by the emperor Hadrian to prevent the inroads of the Picts. It extended from Solway Frith to New Castle on Tyne, a considerable part is still standing, now called the Picts wall. This Castle was besieged by Cromwell, and afterwards purchased by Dr Gilpin; it is now a mixture of ancient ruins and modern comforts, the moat, which circumscribed the walls, contained five acres, but the buildings are greatly in ruins. Numerous Roman utensils have been dug up here. He lived here, dispensing both as a minister and a physician, bestowing comforts to all around him, until invited by the dissenters of New Castle on Tyne, which he embraced and was their pastor. He died here 15th, Feb. 1699, age 74 y.

His son William was dept. vice admiral of Cumberland, and died at Scaleby, 14th of Aug. 1724. William's son Richard was born at Scaleby, 6th of Feb. 1692, and married M. Hudson. The estate of Scaleby was now vested in Governor Stephenson.

William Gilpin, son of John Bernard Gilpin, and great grand son of Richard Gilpin D. D., being the 6th generation from Martin, was the rector of Boldre parish, County of Hampshire. He was a biographer and delineator of nature's picturesque beauties, with observations on the scenery. With the profits of his pen and pencil he endowed 2 schools, and he was buried amid the scenes he so much loved, and so well described. In 1753 he published the life of Bernard Gilpin. He was born 4th of June 1724, married his cousin Margaret Gilpin, and died 4th of April 1804. Their son William lived at Cheam School, and married his cousin E. Farish.

Sawry Gilpin R. A. brother of the above, was born 30th of Oct. 1733, was a celebrated painter of horses and wild animals, and excelled in giving expression of terrible fierceness. He died at Brompton in 1807.

13 BERNARD GILPIN married D. Ayrey and had 11 children. He died 21st, of April 1636. His son Wil-

liam married Mrs. Strickland, and daughters, Caroline and Elizabeth married into the family of the Sands of Kendal.

14 THOMAS GILPIN of Mill hill had 10 children.

15 THOMAS GILPIN of Warborough, born in 1620, married Joan Bartholamew and had three sons, Joseph, Isaac, and Thomas. He was an officer of the army, and after the battle of Worcester, 3rd of Sep. 1651, joined the society of Friends. In 1661 he was detained seven weeks in the marshal's custody at Oxford for refusing to take the oath of allegiance. On May 29th, 1670, a meeting was held at his house for which the Justice fined him £20, and on the 26th of June, of the same year, another meeting was held at his house, for which the Justice authorized the officers to break open locks and bolts, and they took away his household goods, not leaving him a bed, or a pot in which to boil his food. Sometime after this he gathered his corn off of about three acres of land, which the officers took away with two pigs. In 1672, by the King's letters patent, many persons were discharged from imprisonment, some having been confined for a long time. From Oxford jail 15 persons were liberated, among whome was Thomas Gilpin.

The Gilpin family frequently had to suffer on account of their religion.

“The race that once went bravely forth
To beard the wild boar in his den,
Now meets the bigots in their wrath,
And boldly claims the rights of men.”

16 JOSEPH GILPIN, born in 1664, married Hannah Glover in 1691, and with his wife and two small children, emigrated to America in 1695, and settled in Birmingham Chester (now Delaware) County, Pa. Joseph being a Quaker, and seeing his fellow members treated with contumely by the government, and being a young man with a small family, he naturally desired to be released from the exactions of others, and determined to try what relief the then wilds of America would afford. He was to be a frontier settler; the forest still waved over the spot that was to be his future home, the trees of large size were to be hewed down to make room for the cereals, that were to furnish his

future bread. To accomplish this, he had to rely upon his own exertions, each settler had his home to prepare, and could not greatly assist his neighbor. One of the first considerations necessary, on arriving at the new home, was to provide shelter for his family, so he constructed a cave by the side of a rock, and in which he continued to reside for a considerable time. There is much to be said in favor of a cave on a dry subsoil for its warmth and healthfulness, and this the first settler found to be the case, for in it 13 of his children were born, and all of them lived to marry, and no doubt found it warmer than a rude structure raised entirely above the earth. We are unacquainted with the extent of his landed possessions, one account says, Joseph Gilpin and Co. owned 700 acres. John D. Gilpin, who owns a part of the original tract, still retains a small memento of his predecessor in a pair of silver candle-sticks, and has upon his land the original site of the cave.

Joseph Gilpin and family had for the companions of their voyage to America, the ancestors of the Coats and Morris families of Philadelphia. He died, 9th of Nov. 1741, at which time he left 15 children, and 45 grandchildren. At the death of their mother in 1757, there were living 12 children and 62 grandchildren, and in 1763, there were 10 children, 64 grandchildren, and 70 great grandchildren.

HANNAH GILPIN. Alice Lamball, sister of William Lamball of Reading, England, married first ——— Glover, and second, John Brunsden. Her daughter, Hannah Glover of Fishingwell, in the parish of Kingsclere, in the county of Southampton, was born in 1675, and died, 12th, Jan. 1757, married Joseph Gilpin at Baghurst, in Southamptonshire, England, the 23d, Feb. 1691.

William Lamball purchased 625 acres of land in Birmingham Chester Co. Pa. of this he gave his sister Alice 100 acres during her life, and the land was then to go to her daughter Hannah Gilpin. It is not known that William Lamball ever came to America, but his brother-in-law John Brunsden we presume did, as he acted as agent for William Lamball, and on Holmes' map of the early settlement of Pennsylvania, the name of John Brunsden appears at the part afterwards occupied by Joseph Gilpin. We do not recollect having seen any evidence that Alice Lamball was ever in America.

Hannah Gilpin appears to have been a very active member of Concord monthly meeting of Friends, and lived to the advanced age of 82 years.

17 THE CHILDREN of Joseph and Hannah Gilpin were; A Hannah, B Samuel, C Rachel, D Ruth, E Lydia, F Thomas, G Ann, H Joseph, I Sarah, J George, K Isaac, L Moses, M Alice, N Mary, and O Esther.

A Hannah Gilpin, born in England, 15th of 12th mo. 1692, died in 1746, emigrated with her parents to America and married William Seal, the 31st of 8th mo. 1718; they settled in Birmingham, Chester Co. Pa. on Brandywine, and their land remained in the family until quite recently. Their children were, Rachel, Joseph, Hannah, William, Joshua, and Caleb. We notice that the wills of Joseph and Rachel were dated on the same day, 17th, of 7th mo. 1746, and that the wills of Hannah and Joseph were proved on the same day, Sept. 29th, 1746, and that Rachel's was proved, Feb. 25th, 1746-7, from which we infer that some mortal disease was prevailing in the family.

Caleb Seal lived in Wilmington, and died at the age of 93. His son William succeeded him and died at advanced age, he was long President of the bank of Wilmington and Brandywine, and repeatedly member of the Del. legislature

B Samuel Gilpin, born in England, 7th, 4th mo. 1694, and died, 7th, Dec. 1767, emigrated with his parents, and married Jane, daughter of John Parker of Philadelphia, 25th, 11th mo. 1722, and settled in Concord. In 1733 he removed to Nottingham, his children were, Mary, Joseph, Thomas, Hannah, Samuel, Rachel, and George. Their son Thomas, a Quaker, declined to do military service during the revolutionary war, was with about 20 others in Philadelphia, similarly circumstanced, exiled from the city, the 9th, 11th mo. 1777, and taken to Winchester in Virginia, where Thomas died, 2nd, 3rd mo. 1778, and was buried at Hopewell in Fairfax County. His brother George was at the same time Colonel of the Fairfax militia, and endeavored to intercede for his liberation. Thomas had two sons, Thomas and Joshua, who in 1787 had a paper mill, on the Brandywine two miles above Wilmington, Del. and here they introduced the improvement of manufacturing by machinery, sheets of paper of continuous length, the first

operated in America. The machinery was made upon the spot, and put in operation in Aug. 1817; a patent was taken out in 1816. On an elevated situation stood the neat cottage of Joshua Gilpin, which he called Kentmere, and where he resided until the close of his life in 1841. While Joshua was in Europe, he collected the material for the Geneology of the Gilpin family in England, which was made into a chart by his brother Thomas Gilpin in 1845. Thomas also prepared a chart of the descendants of Samuel Gilpin, son of Joseph, in 1852.

C Rachel Gilpin was born in Birmingham, 12th, of 12th mo. 1695, and married Joshua Peirce of Kennett, the 15th of 9th mo. 1722, as his second wife. Their children were, Joshua, Joseph, and Caleb. Her grandsons, Joshua and Samuel Peirce, planted the well known Garden or Arboretum in Marlborough, Chester Co. Pa.

D Ruth Gilpin was born, 28th, 6th mo. 1697; married Josep Mendenhall, 30th, 8th mo. 1718, and settled in Kennet; their children were, Isaac, Hannah, Joseph, Benjamin, Ann, Stephen, and Jesse. Her descendants are quite numerous in Chester Co.

E Lydia Gilpin was born, 11th, 11th mo. 1698, married William Dean, 15th, 9th mo. 1722, and settled in Birmingham, on lands adjoining William Seal their brotherinlaw. Their children were, Isaac, Caleb, Hannah, and possibly others. In 1728 she became a minister among Friends, and in 1742, visited Friends in New England, and also, those of New Jersey and Maryland. In 1749, she with her husband and children removed to Wilmington in Del. She died the 2nd, 10th mo. 1750, and was buried at Wilmington, aged 52 years, and a minister 22 years.

F Thomas Gilpin, born, 23rd of 5th mo. 1700, married Rebecca Mendenhall, the 12th of 2nd mo. 1726. He afterwards married Hannah Knowles of Philadelphia, 26th, 7th mo. 1728, and after her death, he married Ann Colwell of Marlborough. In 1728 he moved to Philadelphia, in 1730 returned to Concord, in 1740 removed again to Philadelphia, and in 1743 again returned to Concord, and in 1746 he removed to Wilmington, Del. and died, 25th of 10 mo. 1766, and was interred at Wilmington. The mill built in Concord by Nicholas Pyle and afterwards owned by a company, was at first rented by Thomas, and was called Gilpin's mill.

G Ann Gilpin, born, 5th of 11th mo. 1702, married Joseph Miller of New Garden, Chester Co. 31st of 10th mo. 1724; their children, Joseph and Isaac. Joseph the father died, 30th, 7th mo. 1724, and Ann afterwards married, on the 10th, of 3rd mo. 1739, Richard Hallett of New Town, Queens County, Long Island. He was a Quaker preacher, their children were Thomas, Lydia, and Israel. Thomas and Israel married two daughters of Abraham Shotwell of Rahway, N. Jersey, and said Abraham married Lydia Hallett, sister to his sons-in-law, for second wife. Thomas had 8 children, Lydia had children, only 3 of her sons grew to manhood, and Israel had 4 children. This makes a complication of relationship difficult to express. Ann Hallett died, 15th of the 9th mo. 1759, and was interred at Flushing, Long Island.

H Joseph Gilpin, born 21st of 1st mo. 1704, married Mary Caldwell, 17th, 10th mo. 1729, and settled at Birmingham, but in 1761, removed to the neighborhood of Wilmington, Del. he died, 31st, 12th mo. 1792, and was interred at Wilmington. His children were, Ruth, Orpha, Vincent, Gideon, Israel, Betty, Joseph, Hannah, Mary, and Thomas. His son-in-law, Joseph Shelleross lived near Wilmington, he was a Quaker, but much interested in the cause of independence; a woman, meanly attired, called on him with a letter from General Washington, quilted in her petticoat, wishing to obtain intelligence of the enemy.

A whale ship was sent out from Wilmington some years ago, and after three years returned, bringing an inhabitant of New Zeland, a sprig of Royalty. He received many presents, and Mary Lovering, a daughter of Joseph Shelleross and a very estimable woman, gave him a box of little articles to take home with him. After two years the young prince returned and brought a handkerchief full of beautiful shells, and as Mary Lovering and her daughter were sitting in the parlor where he had before taken leave of them, he entered and threw the shells down at the old lady's feet.

I Sarah Gilpin, born 2nd, 4th mo. 1706, married Peter Cook, the 26th, 9th mo. 1730, and settled in New Garden, Chester Co. 4th, 10th mo. 1730; they afterwards removed to Warrington, York Co. Pa. Their children were, Jesse,

Joseph, Samuel, Hannah, Ann, Sarah, and Peter. Sarah Cook (the mother) died, 7th, 6th mo. 1783, and was buried at Warrington, age 76 years.

J George Gilpin, born the 16th, 2nd mo. 1709, married Ruth Caldwell, 7th, 1st mo. 1736-7, he afterwards married Sarah Woodward (widow) 9th, 4th mo. 1760. Children, George, Betty, and Isaac G. He died Oct. 15th, 1773.

K Isaac Gilpin, born 23rd, 1st mo. 1709, married Mary Painter 21st of 8th mo. 1736, and settled in Birmingham. Children, Hannah who married James Bennett, and two sons who died minors. Isaac died in 1745.

L Moses Gilpin, born 1st, 3rd mo. 1711, moved to New Garden in 1738, and returned to Birmingham in 1742, he married Ann, the widow of Thomas Buffington, 10th, 9th mo. 1742, and in 1760, they removed to Sadsbury.

M Alice Gilpin, born 7th, 10th mo. 1714, married Richard Evanson, 11th, 2nd mo. 1739, and the same year moved to Goshen, Chester Co. She was buried at Birmingham.

N Mary Gilpin, born 16th, 11th mo. 1716, married Philip Taylor, 27th, 8th mo. 1736, they settled in Concord and then removed to Newlin, on the west branch of Brandywine, 2nd, 2nd mo. 1730. Children, John, Stephen, Philip, Lydia, Ruth, Phebe, Mary, Rachel, and Hannah. She afterwards married George Strode, but out-lived him, and returned to Concord in 1761. She died, 17th, 4th mo. 1806, at her son-in-law's, Samuel Carter, and was buried at Eastland, in Little Britain, Lancaster Co. Pa. Her descendants are numerous.

O Esther Gilpin, born 9th, 1st mo. 1718, married Samuel Painter, 5th, 6th mo. 1741, and settled in East Bradford, Chester Co. near her sister, Hannah Seal. Children, James, George, Joseph, Samuel, Thomas, Hannah, and Lydia. She died the 10th of 1st mo. 1795, aged 77 years, and was buried at Birmingham.

THE WEST FAMILY.

ANN GILPIN, daughter of (14) Thomas Gilpin of Mill-Hill, married Thomas West of the family of Lord Delaware. They had three sons, William, Thomas, and